

which Acts have been, from time to time, confirmed and approved of by His Majesty in Council.

It is unnecessary for us to enumerate the evils that must arise from the occurrence of this unfortunate event, which is calculated to create a feeling of dissatisfaction and discontent in the minds of His Majesty's subjects in this colony; and we cannot but view with the deepest regret, the conduct of the Legislative Council at this early stage of our proceedings, since, if the power of raising a Revenue by the Bill which has been lost, and which they have denied to us, could not be exercised, the benefits which would have accrued to us, and which His Gracious Majesty intended to confer upon this Island, by granting it a Legislative Constitution, would be lost—the public improvements which we have contemplated must be abandoned, and our endeavours otherwise to ameliorate the condition of the Colony would be cramped and frustrated.

Under the present constitution of the Legislative Council, we have also to regret, that it required a majority of three-fourths of the members present, to enable the Revenue Bill to be passed through that body; and we cannot but consider the course pursued by the

Council, as manifesting a feeling more calculated to check the early operations of the Assembly, than to promote the best interests of the Colony.

Under these circumstances, which we cannot too deeply lament, we deem it our duty to lay our situation before your Excellency, and we humbly request that your Excellency will be pleased to inform us, whether you possess any power which will enable your Excellency to relieve us from our present embarrassment.

Resolved,—That the Address be engrossed and presented to His Excellency by Mr. Speaker and the whole House.

Ordered,—That Mr. HOYLES, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. PACK do wait on His Excellency to know his pleasure, when he will be attended by the House with the said Address.

Mr. HOYLES reported from the Committee appointed to wait on His Excellency to know his pleasure when he would be attended by the House with the Address, that the Committee had waited on his Excellency accordingly, and that he was pleased to appoint Monday next, at one of the clock.

Then the House adjourned until Monday, at twelve of the clock.

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1833.

THE House attended His Excellency the Governor with the Address, pursuant to the Resolution of Saturday last, and being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that the House had attended His Excellency with the Address to which he was pleased to make the following reply: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

It is with deep concern I learn from your Address that any circumstance has occurred to interrupt that perfect good understanding which it is so desirable should exist between the two branches of the Legislature, or that any proceedings on the part of the Council have been such, as to lead you to apprehend that they will create feelings of dissatisfaction in the minds of His Majesty's subjects in this Colony.

It is a further source of regret to me to be informed that the Council has felt called upon to refuse a Bill you deem of such importance to the Island, and the rejection of which you consider injurious to its interests; and those benefits lost which you had anticipated as the result of the constitution His Majesty had been graciously pleased to extend to this colony—a measure which, I feel no doubt, has been the source of no less concern to the Council than it has been productive of disappointment to you.

The Bill to which your Address alludes not having reached me, I can form no opinion how far it is in accordance with the Laws of the Imperial Parliament or the Royal Instructions; but the same desire which (with the desire to facilitate the public business) led me in the commencement of the Session to send to each branch of the Legislature, a copy of that part of my instructions bearing upon this subject, now induces me to state that, on perusing the draft of these instruc-

tions, I observed a clause which it appeared to me tended to defeat the only means the Colony possesses of raising an adequate Revenue for the support of its Government,—that of a tax upon imports. And being most anxious that no obstacle should exist likely to impede the successful operation of the new constitution, I addressed his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies on the point, from whom I received the reply I now read to you.

“On reference to your instructions, you will perceive that the clause prohibiting the Governor from giving his assent to any tax affecting the trade or commerce of the mother country, has been omitted. It is therefore only necessary for me to desire that you will not assent to any act imposing discriminating duties on British produce, or taxes for other purposes than those of raising a Revenue.”

I have only further to acquaint you that, with the reservation above made, I shall have no hesitation in assenting to any Revenue Bill in which the two branches of the Legislature may agree; provided it be such, as, in other respects, shall meet with my concurrence; but, under existing circumstances, as represented by you, I can only lament that I possess no power to relieve you from the embarrassment under which you state you at present labour.

On motion of Mr. BENNETT,

Resolved,—That this House will, to-morrow, in committee of the whole House, take into consideration the reply of His Excellency the Governor to the Address of the House.

Then the House adjourned until to-morrow at eleven of the Clock.