

Messrs. Broom and Phippard and Mr. Carter.—I need hardly assure you, that in endeavouring to provide this temporary relief, I am far from assenting to the arguments which have been put forward by the Assembly for throwing upon the Government of the Mother Country the burden of their retired allowances : on the contrary I feel compelled to state that after an attentive perusal of the address of the House of Assembly, transmitted in your Despatch No. 15, the arguments of my predecessor upon this subject appear to me to be still unanswered. But considering the advanced age and long services of those Gentlemen I cannot without pain contemplate a decision which should now throw them upon the world entirely unprovided for ; and I entertain a confident hope that the House of Assembly will in the next Session take a different view of this question. In the meantime, and to mitigate the embarrassments to which they might otherwise be exposed, I shall be ready to recommend to the Lords of the Treasury that out of the present Parliamentary Grant a gratuity should be made to them.

It only remains for me to notice the vote on account of the Colonial Vessel.—I have already informed you that this vote includes, not only the charge for the present year, but also the arrears for the year 1834. This latter sum will, according to Mr. Cunard's application, be paid to his agents in this Country ; but on account of the vote for the present year you will be at liberty to draw upon the Lords of the Treasury.—It is, however, necessary to apprise you that no application can hereafter be made to Parliament upon this account ; and you will therefore refrain from renewing the existing contract with Mr. Cunard. If any Vessel is indispensable for conducting the Public Service of the Colony, I cannot doubt that the House of Assembly will be ready to provide the funds necessary for its support ; if it is not so, the expenditure must for the future be done away with. To their local knowledge and experience the question may be safely entrusted, and I am confident that the interest which they and their constituents have in the welfare of the Colony will be the surest guide in determining their decision.

No. 5.]

Downing Street, }
22nd August, 1835. }

SIR,—I have had under my consideration your despatch of the 17th April, No. 11, transmitting an address from the House of Assembly of Newfoundland to His Majesty, on the subject of the payment by Sir T. Cochrane, from the Colonial Treasury to the Military Chest, of a sum of £853 6 11 for expenses incurred in the establishment of a Legislature in the Island.

I have had the honor to lay this address at the Foot of the Throne, and I have also communicated on the subject with Sir T. Cochrane.

His Majesty commands me to express to the House of Assembly, his regret that such an occasion of complaint should have arisen. He admits in the most unequivocal terms that the course adopted by Sir T. Cochrane of issuing a warrant upon the Colonial Treasurer without a previous communication to the House of Assembly, was inconsistent with the rights of that body ; at the same time he disclaims, for his confidential advisers, any intention of authorizing such a proceeding.—Sir T. Cochrane acted, it would appear, on a misunderstanding of the Minute of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, enclosed in Mr. Spring Rice's despatch of 26th July, 1834.—On reference to that document you will perceive that no instruction was intended to be conveyed to Sir T. Cochrane. He was merely informed that the sum of £853 6 11 had been disallowed in his accounts, and that "it must be provided for from Funds