

loyalty,—as a contempt of the house, and a Chap. breach of its rights and privileges :—as tending ^{xxiii.} to destroy harmony, and to render useless the 1822. endeavours of the assembly for the general welfare—adding, as an apology for their proceedings, that, “it is the incontestable right of this house to repress such attempts by every constitutional means in their power.”

The messengers who had taken up the humble address on this matter to the castle, immediately afterwards, also laid the complaint of the assembly before the legislative council ; which, viewing the steps that body had adopted with respect to one of its members, for language used in debate, within its own walls, as a flagrant breach of its privileges, refused to compromise its own honour, or the rights of its members, by any measures on the subject, until reparation were made by the assembly, for the actual breach by them, of the privileges of the legislative council in the same matter.*

* Mr. Richardson, when the subject was taken up before the legislative council repeated the substance of his observations in the debate which had given such offence. There was some unimportant variance between his statement and the reports given of them, arising probably from imperfect recollection or misunderstanding by the persons examined before the committee. He did not repeat his observations for the purpose of retracting them, he said, but rather to show more clearly than ever his meaning, if there could have been any doubt about it, intending fully to confirm, on further reflection, all he had then said, and which the assembly, by their proceedings in this matter, had strikingly justified.

There were no debates in the legislative council on the subject.—Mr. Richardson, after these observations withdrew, when the following resolution was unanimously adopted :—“ That an answer should be sent to inform the assembly, that the legislative council were extremely desirous to preserve a good understanding between the two houses, and were willing to inquire into the subject matter of the message of the assembly and do right therein ; but that the house