

*particular five*, whom he mentioned by name, who, together with such as the Lieutenant Governor should think proper to send for, were to compose his Council, under the new and assuming title of the Privy Council; the rest of the Council, though honoured with the King's appointment, were to get it approved by the Lieutenant Governor, who was the Governor's private secretary, before they were to presume to enter the new Council. This was attended with very bad consequences, some confidence reasonably might be, and was placed in a Council that was to consist of not less than seventeen, and might be composed of twenty-three of the principal persons in the Province; but all confidence was lost when it was seen, that by the Governor's act, five, or even three, out of three and twenty, and those a packed three, might decide, contrary to the more wholesome opinion of the twenty; that these five members were substituted in the room of the Council for the affairs of the Province, constituted by the Act, and appointed by the King; and that this culled Council were often called to decide finally in matters of the greatest importance, and sometimes in affairs of a legislative nature, with the sole cognizance of the expenditures of all public monies; and all those about the Governor were not equally exempt from the suspicion which naturally follows mystery and concealment in affairs of a public pecuniary nature. In