

Lieut. Governor in answer thereto, did "most willingly grant them all their privileges in as full a manner as they have at any time been granted or allowed by any former Governor of this Island."

One of these most important privileges is the granting supplies to the Crown, and limiting and appointing the uses, ends, and purposes of such grants, with the assent no doubt of his Majesty's Council; and the House cannot offer a better proof of all grants of money being the gift and grant of the Assembly, than the ancient practice of such bills being presented by the Speaker to the Lieut. Governor for his acceptance.

That it is now, for the first time, proposed to this House, that it should regulate its proceedings by the usages and practices of another Colony, of which it knows nothing, and were it to accede to what his Majesty's Council is pleased to suggest, it would draw the Legislature of this Island into an ignominious dependence on the usages of another Colony, of which it is, and hath been, quite independent.

That the House of Assembly does not believe that it claims any higher powers than many other Colonial Assemblies, and that it knows of no practice of any existing Assembly, except that of Nova Scotia, which affords the least support to the pretensions of his Majesty's Council.

It has been further urged in the message from his Majesty's Council, that the House does originate money votes without recommendations from the King's Representative, and therefore exercises a greater power in that respect than the House of Commons possess.

The House of Assembly thinks it necessary most explicitly to deny the assertion of his Majesty's Council in this matter; it neither claims the power nor exercises it, of voting any supplies, unless these are either approved of, or suggested by the King's Representative; and the House trusts, that it will never encroach on his Majesty's prerogative, where-in it holds the liberty of the subject to be as much interested, as in the upholding of the privileges of this House.

That the House considers the remark of his Majesty's Council, that it is their duty to guard against any appropriations however desirable, which may exceed the disposable funds of the Island, and thereby lead to embarrassment—as quite inapplicable, and containing, by implication, a censure on this House.

The House of Assembly considers the observation of his Majesty's Council as uncalled for and unfounded, more particularly when it is borne in mind, that all the experience the House has yet had, has confirmed its calculations of the produce of the supply, and that it has been fully adequate to the appropriation; and the House entertains no doubt, that the bills passed by it during the present Session, would, if assented to, raise a revenue equal to all its appropriations.

The House of Assembly, in claiming the right to appropriate the monies which it has raised, exercises no novel privilege, for from the earliest period of the Colony the practice of this House has been, either to vote the supply and the appropriation in the same bill, or to vote the supply in one bill and to appropriate it in another bill. The charge of novelty, therefore, belongs not to the House, but to the claim of his Majesty's Council alone.

The House of Assembly seeks for no more than the ancient undisputed usage which hath been exercised in granting supplies to the crown, from the earliest period of its Legislature down to the last day of the last Session of the House of Assembly.

This House cannot conclude its observations on the

message of his Majesty's Council without this remark, that it will ever feel a satisfaction and pride, that from the commencement of the Legislature, the British Parliament has been adopted and followed as its model, and that though the House owes its existence to the benevolence of his Majesty, and knows that it is part of a subordinate Legislature, yet it equally bears in mind, that his Majesty's Council is so too, and that if the House exercises no higher powers, in matters of supply, than the House of Commons, so it is hoped, that his Majesty's Council might have rested satisfied with such authority as the British Peers have in a like matter.

The House of Assembly most deeply laments, that his Majesty's Council should have originated this novel claim, from which it is feared that no public good can arise, and that it may interrupt, if insisted on, that harmony between the two branches of the Legislature, which is so essential to the public service; and the House must here observe, that its good disposition to grant the requisite supplies has not been confined to words, but has been proved by its acts in the present Session. A bill of supply granting £1700* has been passed by the Assembly, of which it knows nothing further than that a public newspaper gives it the information that it has been rejected by his Majesty's Council. A bill of supply of 2½ per cent upon Goods, Wares, and Merchandize, imported into the Island, is in the course of being lost by the present unhappy claim of the Council.

There are two other money bills passed by the House, which it is still willing to hope may not be ultimately lost, and which comprehend the main supplies of the year.

Although these two bills were originally incorporated in one, yet at the suggestion of his Majesty's Council, at a conference, it was agreed that it should be rejected, and that two other bills might be brought in, which the Assembly readily agreed to, although attended with considerable labour, it being unwilling to stand upon punctilios, and ready to concede all minor matters, which did not touch directly its rights and privileges, and which might tend to conciliate his Majesty's Council.

Whatever may be the fate of these bills, the House of Assembly will, after a Session of much application, have the consolation to know, that it has left nothing undone to afford liberal aids and supplies to the crown, for the use of the Colony.

C. DESBRISAY, Clerk H. A.

Assembly Room, May 5th, 1827.

Mr. Cameron was directed to carry up the said message to his Majesty's Council.

A message from his Majesty's Council, by *Mr. Carmichael*, their clerk, with the following bills, agreed to, viz.

A bill intituled "an act to revive, alter and continue an act made and passed in the 6th year of the reign of his present Majesty; intituled an act for encreasing the Revenue by levying an additional duty on all Wines, Gin, Brandy, Rum, and other distilled spirituous Liquors, imported into this Island, and to repeal and amend certain parts of an act passed in the 25th year of his late Majesty's reign, intituled an act to amend, render more effectual, and to reduce into one act, the several laws made by the General Assembly of