

Bill, and that they prepare reasons to be laid before the House for not concurring with the same.

The House then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, the 5th day of MARCH, 1814.

Mr. Attorney General from the committee appointed to prepare reasons, in answer to the proposed amendments of the Council to the Militia Bill, presented a draft of the same, which was read as agreed to, and are as follow, viz.

The House direct their committee of conference upon the subject of the amendments of the Militia Bill, to state to the committee of conference on the part of the Council, that although the House are always desirous to listen with all possible attention to the amendments proposed by the Council to Bills which the House have passed; they cannot consent to concur in the present proposed amendments, which leave to the discretion of the Commander in Chief to call the Militia out (if His Honor may think it expedient) the whole number of six days by Battalions.

The House have the most perfect confidence in the judgment of the present administrator of the Government, and of His Honor's disposition to promote by every possible means the interest of the Province; but it can hardly be necessary to observe to the Council, that it is altogether uncertain, while the present arrangements continue, who may have the execution of the Law. Besides the House consider it their indispensable duty to reduce to all possible certainty the burthens which are to be imposed upon their constituents; and that in the present case it is highly expedient that the people should be informed and assured by the Law, in what manner they are to be called upon to perform their military duty; without which they might be exposed to be assembled and kept together in a way which both Houses have agreed in opinion, would be too burthensome for the Country, and which might under particular circumstances operate greatly to the inconvenience of the people.

In making provision for drilling of the Militia for four of the six days by Companies, the House studied how far they could alleviate the public burthen, while they prepared for the instruction of the Militia in a way, well calculated in the opinion of the House for rendering them efficient, and such as the House trusted would be acceptable to the Commander in Chief.

The House are still confident that the representatives of the people are the constitutional judges of the extent of the burthens which their constituents can bear, but they are not disposed to press this point further at present than may be necessary to assert this their unalienable right and privilege.

The committee of conference are further instructed to return the bill with the proposed amendments to the committee of conference on the part of the Council, in confidence that upon reconsidering the subject, the Council will consent to wave their amendments and concur with the House in passing the Bill. And the committee went to the conference and being returned, the *Attorney General* reported, that they had given the committee of the Council the reasons for disagreeing to the said amendments, and left the Bill and amendments with the committee of the Council. Message from the Council.

Council Chamber, 5th March, 1814.

Mr. Robinson delivered the Message.

" Mr. Speaker,

"The Council do request a free conference on the subject of the last conference"