

## REPORT.

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**THE** Committee, to whom was referred the Message of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, respecting the Fees and Salaries of the Custom-House Establishment, have agreed to report as follows :—

IN considering the important subject referred to the Committee, their enquiries have been, beyond the more immediate object of the Message, necessarily extended to the construction of the late Acts of Parliament, and their operation on the Revenue and Commerce of the Province. This investigation has also rendered essential the examination, upon several points, of Merchants conversant with the Trade to Foreign Countries, and the existing Custom-House regulations;—in order that the Honorable House might be possessed of all possible information upon the question for its decision—and the results are now respectfully submitted.

The Committee first refer to the new Colonial System, which commenced in 1826—and, after examining it in its general operation, agree in opinion, that it was both intended to confer, and has actually procured to this Province, very great and essential advantages. Until that time our Shipping had, with Foreign Countries, an intercourse only of the most limited kind. ---Now it is general, and without restriction. Formerly the circuitous voyages, now very advantageously pursued, could not be attempted-- and the produce of our Fisheries was principally exported to the West