

tance afforded that country by Great Britain; the emigration of the Royal Family of Portugal to the new world; the victory of the British at Vimiera, by which Portugal had been rescued from the French; and concluded by cautioning the members of the legislature against jealousies among themselves, or of the government, which could have no other object in view than the general welfare. "I regret gentlemen" said he "that I have been compelled by circumstances, to call you together at a season of the year which I am well aware, must be highly inconvenient to many of you; this consideration dwelt so strongly upon my mind that not seeing any particular object of public service that indispensibly required your immediate attention, I had it in contemplation to defer your meeting till a period of less prejudicial consequence to your private accommodation, but, on referring to the Act of the British Parliament on which the Constitution of this Province is founded, I felt reason of hesitation, at least as to the grounds on which I supposed myself able to do so; I have therefore been induced to rely on your cheerful acquiescence in the inconvenience under which you may labour, rather than give rise to a possible doubt as to my intention of infringing on a right so valuable to you as that of your annual Assembly. And this I have done under the circumstance of being precluded from giving quite that notice which has been in some degree sanctioned by custom, and which altho', not called for by any express law, is, nevertheless, a precaution for the preservation of that mutual confidence which is so desirable, by guarding against the possibility of any suspicion, as to the intention or circumstances under which you may be assembled."

The House, after an address in answer to His Excellency's Speech into which it was endeavoured to introduce an indirect reproof for the hints which had fallen from him, resumed with warmth, the question concerning the Judge and the Jew.* The more determined members were for expelling them by resolution, but a motion for the expulsion of the Judge in this mode, was negatived by a considerable majority, part of whom, though disposed to disqualify Judges from being eligible to a seat in the House, were averse to the means proposed, insisting that nothing less than an Act of the Legislature could operate such a disqualification. Others strongly urged that the Electors were, and of right ought to be, the sole constitutional judges of the

* These Gentlemen had been re-elected at the late Elections.