

ordonance published in this city, by order of Mr. Ulloa, of the 6th of September 1766, the interlocutory decree issued yesterday, upon the requisition of the king's attorney-general, orders and directs, that before the decision of the court, the said representations shall be put into the hands of Messrs. Attre Uchet, esquire, lord of Knion, and Piot Deraunay, titular counsellors, to be by them examined, and afterwards communicated to the king's council; that what the law directs may be enacted concerning them. All these particulars being taken into consideration, the king's attorney-general stood up and said,

“ Gentlemen,

“ The first and most interesting point to be examined is the step  
 “ taken by all the inhabitants and merchants in concert, who,  
 “ being threatened with slavery, and labouring under grievances  
 “ which have been enumerated, address your tribunal, and re-  
 “ quire justice for the violations of the solemn act of the cession of  
 “ that colony. Is your's a competent tribunal? Are these com-  
 “ plaints just? I shall now shew the extent of the royal authority  
 “ vested in the superior council. The parliaments and superior  
 “ council are the depositaries of the laws, under the protection of  
 “ which the people live happily; they are, by their rank and  
 “ dignity the patrons of virtuous citizens, and they are established  
 “ for the purpose of executing the ordonances, edicts, and decla-  
 “ rations of kings after they are registered. Such was the will  
 “ and pleasure of Lewis the well-beloved, our sovereign lord, in  
 “ whose name all your decrees to the present day have been issued  
 “ out and carried into execution. The act of cession, the only  
 “ title of which his catholic majesty's commissary can avail him-  
 “ self, to make his demands *auctoritate & proprietate*, was ad-  
 “ dressed to the late Mr. D'Abbadie, with orders to cause it to be  
 “ registered in the superior council of the colony, to the end that  
 “ the different classes of the said colony may be informed of its  
 “ contents, and may be enabled to have recourse to it upon occasion;  
 “ this