

Council in carrying out what they deem best for the interests of the colony. They have no power or control over the revenue, which in reality is under the supervision and direction of the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's treasury.

The Governor is not allowed to expend any sum over £200 for any one service, (unless under very urgent circumstances,) without the previous sanction of the home government; and although at liberty to draw that amount, it is on his own responsibility; he must account for it, and show the absolute necessity for its use.

The estimates for the ensuing year are made in June, and forwarded for approval. The expenditure must be limited by this estimate, and no further disbursements applied for on account of that year, unless under circumstances entirely unforeseen.

The estimate, after undergoing the supervision of the colonial legislative body, must also undergo the scrutiny of the commissioners of the treasury officers, before any instructions are given by the Secretary of State.

The estimates for taxation follow the same course, and the Council has no control over the funds arising from the property or droits of the crown.

The Governor, in transmitting his accounts for audit, sends them accompanied by certified copies of all estimates of expenditures to which the accounts relate, and of all ordinances for the imposition of taxes, with copies of the despatches sent him by the Secretary of State, conveying the sentiments of her Majesty's government upon them; and it is required that full detailed statements of the revenue and expenditures of the colony be published in the Colonial Gazette immediately after the accounts are transmitted.

These are some of the regulations, which will tend to show how great is the authority still retained by the crown, or in reality by the ministers, and how little discretionary power the Governor has. He is required personally to superintend or authorize things of such small concern that it almost approaches the ridiculous; for instance, a wheelbarrow cannot be mended without an order in writing attested by his signature. Such an order may be necessary, but one would think that other persons might be authorized and trusted to perform such acts. The colony is treated as though it were a den of rogues, and required the constant supervision of the ministry at home. I was told that no one could conceive the mass of despatches containing instructions that a single year produced, and these are often found conflicting with those that had gone before, and thus require a reference back to the Secretary of State. The practical inconvenience is apparent, and it is not