

As respects the higher class of society, it is in all respects the same as is met with in England and America, among well-educated persons. Perhaps as to fashion it is a little more colonial, but not more so than the distance from whence fashions originate would account for. The cordial welcome and hospitality we met with could not be surpassed any where.

The Governor is appointed by letters patent, under the great seal of the United Kingdom; but he acts under the direction of the legislature.

The Legislative Council consists of a number not exceeding fifteen, and not less than ten; the members are appointed by the King, and are all residents within the colony.

The Governor is president of this council, and is entitled to vote as a member upon all questions; when it is equally divided, he has an additional or casting vote. To the Governor and Council is delegated the power to make laws for the peace, welfare, and good government of the colony, not repugnant to any act, charter, &c., which may have been issued, or to the laws of England; and no law or ordinance can be passed, unless first laid before the Council by the Governor.

The Governor is, by statute, invested with the right of property in the services of offenders or convicts who have been transported, and he may assign this right to others. He is captain-general and governor-in-chief, and has full control over all the military and civil authorities. He is empowered, and required, to administer oaths to the Chief Justice, and the members of the Executive Council; to keep the public seal; and is invested with authority to suspend members of the Executive Council, and to supply their place, as well as to appoint temporary members to fill vacancies.

He appoints all justices of the peace, coroners, constables, and other necessary officers.

He has the power to grant pardons, reprieves, &c., and to remit punishments for offences, treason, or wilful murder, only excepted; for which upon extraordinary occasions, he can reprieve until the pleasure of the crown be known. His power to shorten the time of transportation is limited, by the condition that all instruments in writing for that purpose are to be approved by the crown.

With the advice of the Executive Council, he is empowered to divide the territory, and its dependencies, into districts, counties, towns, &c., to fortify and erect forts, and provide for the defence of the country.

All public moneys are issued for the support of the government by warrant from the Governor, but only for purposes particularly pointed out.