

It was certainly from the first an office extremely obnoxious to many citizens of this State, who were justly alarmed at seeing an individual invested with powers apparently so foreign from the intention of those who framed our constitution; and although the multiplicity of business, arising from our system of finance, might at that time appear to justify such an appointment, it ought undoubtedly to cease with the necessity that gave it birth.

On the 15th of January, the House of Delegates finished their consideration of the report of the committee and the Intendant's defence, when the gentlemen of the committee were repayed with interest for their censures on that officer, by his staunch supporter, Mr. Chase, who made them feel the effects of that species of eloquence in which he stands unrivalled, and of which he is seldom sparing when any opportunity offers for its exertion.

Some reply was made by one of the committee, and the question was put, "that it does not appear to this House that the conduct of the said Intendant merits their censure or disapprobation; and that as far as they have considered the general conduct of the said Intendant, it is their opinion that great advantages have been derived to this State, by a faithful discharge of the duties of his office with integrity, zeal and ability." This was carried by 32 against 22, so that for this time the Intendant enjoyed a triumph, though but of short continuance.

A bill was soon after brought in and passed as usual, appointing the Intendant, which was sent to the Senate and there dissented to by a majority of 6 against 2.

This was no doubt a severe blow though it was not quite unexpected.—The dispute which had taken place at the beginning of the session, respecting the advance made to Mr. Chase, and the acquittal of the Intendant, by the House of Delegates, for conduct which was manifestly repugnant to the wishes of the Senate, might naturally be supposed to have created in that body an aversion to the office.

The subject involved a dispute of privilege, and it appeared that the House of Delegates had the sole right of judging, though on a charge of acting in contradiction to a law of the General Assembly. It was natural to conclude from this circumstance that the Senate, thus abridged of any judicial power, would