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The Council proceeded to fix the allowance of an Agent pursuant to the Direction of the Act of Assembly concerning the Stock in the Bank of England belonging to this State, and it being moved to fix and ascertain the Allowance to be made to the said Agent, the Question was put on 2 per Cent. Determined in the Negative. -

The Question was then put on 4 per Cent. -

Affirmative	Negative
His Excellency the Governor	The Honble } Stoddert
The Honble } Duwall	} Stone -
} Chase	
} Brice	

So it was Determined in the Affirmative. -

Discontent,

Because the Commission now agreed to be given, exceeds a reasonable Compensation for the Service to be performed. Because there are Gentlemen of competent Talents and known Attachment, who would cheerfully give all the Security, and execute all the Duties required by the Act, for less than one Agent. And because the Solemnity of sending a Gentleman of distinguished Character, with high appointments; for such is the Principle upon which this Commission is given; mostly to Negotiate with Merchants, a common Mercantile transaction; may create doubts whose name was before entertained; and impress an Idea, that we ourselves have not the most favorable opinion of the Justice of our Claim.

Altho' the Act contains a positive direction to appoint a Gentleman of Ability and Address, the Legislature could mean no more than that he should be well qualified to discharge the trust (i.e.) that he should possess the ordinary essential qualifications of a Merchant. It is not in the Character of an Ambassador that he is to appear - nor can he possibly be engaged in any measure as Agent, in which exalted talents, a refined skill in Politics, the insinuating address of a Courtier, or a profound knowledge in the Law, can be drawn into Service. The line of conduct to be pursued by him, is clearly this. He discloses his Commission to the Trustees, and Demands a transfer, or Assignment of the bank Stock. - if they refuse, the only remedy then is, an application to the Chancery; (perhaps the Act does not even empower him to take this step) the solicitors of that Court, must then transact the Business; and the determination will be conformable to the Law of the Land, and not to the Arbitrary Will of a Minister - if as was suggested in the Legislature, a Minister could be found, weak enough to interpose in a case whose interposition could not possibly have the smallest influence. -

Ben. Stoddert