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I was proposed by Captain Butterfield, and seconded by Mr. Nelson. The purport of my address as well as I can recollect, was as follows—Congratulating the country on the multitude of persons assembled either to support or oppose me;—threats, I understood, had deterred some of my well-wishers from attending, and there were many persons present who had come from different parts of the Island, for the purpose of hearing argument on both sides. I entreated that those who might hear arguments would treasure them in their memory, report them as far as practicable through the country; and induce other persons again to repeat that report in order that thus the meeting and opposition of the day might be the means of informing the Colony at large of its real state, which had been artfully concealed from many of its inhabitants.

I said that my opponent, as a candidate, was a gentleman little known to me, but of whom I had heard a most favourable character: I believed him to be a man of ability, and if I thought that in the present alarming state of the Island he could render it more service in the House of Assembly than myself, I should be the first man to support him, but never were practical experience and minute local knowledge more necessary to be used than at this critical period, when our public finances stood at a melancholy ebb, unexampled in this Colony; when our taxes, improvidently raised, had been lavished away, our treasury drained and groaning under monstrous incumbrances, and our private resources each day becoming more inefficient. This opinion was rapidly spreading in the country at large; it was testified by the signatures of several thousand persons to a petition which would shortly be presented to his Excellency, praying for a dissolution of the present House of Assembly. At a future period, I should very probably be anxious to support Mr. Lewellyn, but