

ed to approve of their Choice, when he spake to the following effect.

*May it please your EXCELLENCY.*

**T**HE House of Assembly for this Province having done me the very high Honor to elect me their Speaker, it becomes my Duty in their behalf, to request of Your Excellency as the privileges of this House, that the Members thereof during this Sessions may be freed from all Molestation; that they may have Freedom of Speech in their Debates; that they may have the Power of punishing their own Members; and have free and favourable Access to your Excellency as His Majesty's immediate Representative on all Occasions.

Mr. Speaker's  
Speech to His Ex-  
cellency.

“ His Excellency replied, that he would to the utmost of his Power secure the Rights and Privileges of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and that they should have Access to him on all Occasions.

His Excellency's  
Answer.

After which his Excellency was pleased to make the following  
S P E E C H.

*GENTLEMEN of the Council and House of Assembly.*

“ **T**HE Dissolution of the late *House of Assembly*, and the calling of you together, I have been obliged to defer until this Time, from unavoidable Necessity.

His Excellency's  
Speech to the House

“ Several Matters, well worthy of your Attention will at this time, present themselves to your Consideration, which from the Progress of Agriculture and Commerce, did not before appear.

“ In respect of the latter, the Prospect of an Establishment of the Whale Fishery here, particularly affords a well founded Expectation of great Benefit and Advantage: And I am confident you will not fail to give every suitable Encouragement to a Matter of so much Concern, as far as you shall think it necessary, and consistent with the Condition and Circumstances of the Province.

“ The Year being so far advanced, I recommend to your particular Attention the re-enacting of those Laws which will expire at the End of it, and must be continued and to defer to a more convenient time, those matters which are not immediately pressing, and require a full and mature Deliberation.

“ I earnestly recommend Unanimity in your Proceedings, and that you will give the publick Business the Dispatch necessary at this Season to prevent the Inconvenience, which a long Session may Occasion in your Return to your Respective Homes and to your private Affairs.

“ The proper Officers will lay before you all Papers necessary for your Information, and you may be assured, GENTLEMEN, that my utmost Wishes, will be satisfied in giving my Assent, to every Proposition, which may promote or secure your Happiness and Welfare.

HALIFAX, 5th Dec. 1785.