

tier, Fournier, Fourquin, Gugg, Guillet, Hall, Holmes, Jobin, Johnson, LaFontaine, Laterrière, Laurin, Lemieux, Leslie, Lyon, Macdonald of GLENGARY, Marquis, M'Connell, M'Farland, Merritt, Morrison, Nelson, Notman, Papineau, Price, Richards, Sauvageau, Scott of BYTOWN, Scott of TWO MOUNTAINS, Smith of DURHAM, Smith of WENTWORTH, Taché, Thompson, Watts, and Wetenhall.—(54.)

So it passed in the Negative.

Mr. Augustin
Norbert Morin
chosen Speaker

The Question being then called for, and the Clerk having put the same, "That the Honorable Augustin Norbert Morin do take the Chair of this House as Speaker;"—it was resolved in the Affirmative, *Nemine contradicente*.

And the Clerk having declared the Honorable Mr. Morin duly elected, he was conducted to the Chair by the Honorable Mr. Baldwin and the Honorable Mr. LaFontaine, where, standing on the upper step, he returned his humble acknowledgments to the House for the great honor they had been pleased to confer upon him, by choosing him to be their Speaker; and thereupon he sat down in the Chair, and then the Mace (which before lay under the table) was laid upon the table.

Then, the Honorable Mr. Robinson, addressing himself to Mr. Speaker, moved, seconded by Mr. Smith of Frontenac, that the House do adjourn until Monday next, at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon.

And the House accordingly adjourned until Monday next, at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon.

Lunæ, 28° die Februarii.

ANNO 11°, VICTORIÆ REGINÆ, 1848.

Message to attend His Excellency.

A MESSAGE was brought by Frederick Starr Jarvis, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:—

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the House, went to the Legislative Council Chamber:—

Mr. Speaker's Speech.

And there Mr. Speaker spoke to the following effect, viz.:—

May it please Your Excellency,

The Legislative Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, though I am very little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Assembly, whose servant I am, and who, through me, humbly claim, to enable them the better to discharge their duty to Her Majesty and their Country, all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Excellency's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favorable interpretation.

Speech of the Speaker of the Legislative Council.

Then the Honorable Speaker of the Legislative Council said:—

Mr. Speaker,

I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General, to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the Assembly to Her Majesty's Person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper, and prudence, he grants, and upon all oc-

casions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favorable construction.

The House being returned;

Mr. Speaker reported, That the House had been in the Legislative Council Chamber, and that he had informed His Excellency that the choice of Speaker had fallen upon him, and also that he had, in their name and on their behalf, by humble Petition to His Excellency, laid claim to all their rights and privileges; that they may enjoy freedom of speech in their debates, and have access to His Excellency's person as occasion shall require, and that all their proceedings may receive from His Excellency the most favorable construction; to which His Excellency had been pleased to say that he readily and willingly granted and allowed them their constitutional privileges, as well as ready access to His Excellency on all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as their words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favorable construction.

Mr. Speaker reports having attended His Excellency.

Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Sherwood have leave to bring in a Bill for indemnifying Public Officers who may not have taken the oaths of office within the time prescribed by law.

Bill relative to oaths of office.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker then reported, That when the House did attend His Excellency the Governor General, this day, in the Legislative Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a Copy, which he read to the House, as followeth:—

Mr. Speaker reports His Excellency's Speech.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I have called you together at the earliest period after the dissolution of the last Parliament, in order that I may avail myself of your advice and assistance in the administration of the affairs of the Province.

During the recess I made an extensive tour through the Province; and I have much satisfaction in informing you that I met with the most gratifying indications of general prosperity and contentment in all the Districts which I visited.

With the view of maturing a plan for placing the Post Office in British North America on an improved footing, Commissioners from the several Provinces assembled lately at my suggestion in Montreal. I trust that it will be in my power before the close of the Session, to bring under your consideration a measure for effecting this important object.

The information which I have received enables me to state that a good and practicable line of Railway between Quebec and Halifax has been discovered by the Officers to whom this exploration was confided.

The distress and suffering by which last year's Immigration to the Province was attended, have occasioned me the deepest concern. Her Majesty's Government have bestowed on the subject the most anxious consideration, with a view to the introduction of such provisions into the Imperial Passengers' Act, as may afford a security against the recurrence of these disasters. It will be for you to determine