

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

His Excellency the Governor commands your attendance immediately in the Council Room.

Members attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly, the Members present, with the Clerk, went up to attend His Excellency in the Council Room; when the Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Council said :—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor to inform you, that His Excellency does not think fit to declare the causes for which he has summoned this Colonial Parliament, until there be a Speaker of the House of Assembly :

Members directed to choose a Speaker.

It is, therefore, His Excellency's pleasure, that you, Gentlemen of the House of Assembly, do repair to the place where you are to sit, and there proceed to the choice of some proper person as your Speaker, and that you present such person whom you shall so choose here for His Excellency's approbation, in one hour from this time.

The Members then returned to the Assembly Room, and having taken their seats,

Mr. Bennett proposed as Speaker.

Mr. MARTIN addressing himself to the Clerk, and seconded by Mr. CARTER, moved that Thomas Bennett, Esquire, Member for the District of Fogo, be chosen as Speaker.

Mr. Carson proposed as Speaker.

Mr. PACK, also addressing himself to the Clerk, and seconded by Mr. PETER BROWN, moved that William Carson, Esquire, M. D., Member for the District of St. John's, be chosen as Speaker.

Whereupon,

Mr. Carson minutes exceptions to Mr. Hoyles, Mr. Cozens and Mr. Kough voting for Speaker.

Mr. CARSON addressing the Clerk, directed him to note that he Mr. Carson, excepted to Mr. Hoyles, Member for Fortune Bay, voting in the election of a Speaker, as being disqualified by virtue of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 6 Anne, cap. 17 ; also, that he excepted to Mr. Cozens, Member for Conception Bay, voting in the election of a Speaker, as being disqualified by virtue of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 52 Geo. 3d, cap. 144 ; also, that he excepted to Mr. Kough, Member for St. John's, voting in the election of a Speaker, as being disqualified by virtue of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 22d Geo. 3, cap. 45.

Mr. Peter Brown excepts to Mr. Martin's voting for Speaker.

Mr. PETER BROWN also directed the Clerk to note, that he excepted to Mr. Martin, Member for St. Mary's Bay, voting in the election of a Speaker,—not being sufficiently qualified as a Householder ;—which exceptions were minuted by the Clerk accordingly.

Thomas Bennett, Esq., chosen Speaker.

And the choice of the House having fallen on the said THOMAS BENNETT, he was taken out of his place and conducted to and placed in the chair by Mr. HOYLES ; and, thereupon, Mr. Speaker Elect addressed the Members as follows :

Gentlemen,

Mr. Speaker addresses the House.

I beg to offer you my most sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me by placing me in the highest elective situation in this Colony ; and I assure you it shall be my unceasing duty to merit the confidence you have reposed in me, by a strict attention to the many duties of the important Office with which you have been pleased to invest me. I shall most anxiously guard the privileges of the House on all occasions, and I trust, by your assistance and support, those privileges will be at all times exercised, consistent with the prerogatives of the Crown, and the rights of the other Branches of the Legislature.