

The Honorable Mr. Saunders, sitting as President of the Legislative Council, then spoke as follows :—

“ Mr. Johnson,

“ I am commanded by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to assure you, that he is fully sensible of your zeal for the public service, and of your sufficiency to execute the duties of the office to which you have been elected by the House of Assembly, and that he doth most readily approve of their choice, and allow and confirm you to be their Speaker.”

That he, Mr. Speaker, then addressed His Excellency in the following words :—

“ May it please your Excellency,

“ Your Excellency having been pleased to approve the choice of the House of Assembly in electing me to be their Speaker, it now becomes my duty, in the name and on behalf of the Assembly, to claim and demand that they have all their ancient and accustomed rights and privileges; especially freedom from arrest—freedom of speech in debate—access to Your Excellency when they may think the public service requires it; and that the most favourable construction be put upon all their proceedings: And on my own behalf I have to request that any error of mine may not be imputed to the House of Assembly.”

To which the Honorable Mr. Saunders, sitting as President of the Legislative Council replied—

“ Mr. Speaker,

“ His Excellency hath the utmost confidence in the loyalty and attachment of this House of Assembly to Her Majesty's Person and Government, and in the wisdom, temper and prudence which will accompany all their proceedings; and he doth most readily and willingly grant and allow them all their privileges in as full and ample a manner as they have at any time heretofore been granted and allowed.

“ With respect to yourself, Sir, though His Excellency is sensible that you do not stand in need of such assurance, His Excellency will ever put the most favourable construction on your words and actions.”

Mr. Fisher moved for leave to bring in—A Bill relating to Corporations.
Leave granted.

The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

On motion of Mr. Montgomery,

Resolved, That the Reverend Charles G. Coster, A. M., be the Chaplain to this House.

Mr. Speaker then further reported—That when in attendance on His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in the Council Chamber, His Excellency had been pleased to make a Speech to both Houses, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, for greater accuracy, obtained a copy, which he read to the House, and is as follows :—