

Excellency's pleasure, that they do forthwith attend at the Bar of this House; who being come thereto, the President of this House said—

*"Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and*

*"Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"I am commanded by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to inform you, that he doth not think fit to declare the causes for which he has summoned this General Assembly, until there be a Speaker of the House of Assembly. It is therefore His Excellency's pleasure that you, Gentlemen of the House of Assembly, do repair to the place where the sittings of the House of Assembly are usually held, and there choose a fit person to be your Speaker, and that you present the person who shall be so chosen to His Excellency in this House, forthwith, for his approbation."

The House of Assembly retired, and after some time was again commanded to attend, and being come—

Mr. Simonds said—

"May it please your Excellency,

"The Assembly having received your Excellency's commands, returned to the place where they usually sit, where, in the exercise of their undoubted right, they immediately proceeded to choose a Speaker: they have elected me to that important and honorable situation, and they now present me to be approved of by your Excellency. Aware however of my insufficiency, I pray that your Excellency will be pleased to disapprove of their choice, and command them to elect a more fit person."

Then the President of this House said—

"Mr. Simonds,

"I am commanded by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to acquaint you, that he approves the choice which the House of Assembly has made of you to be their Speaker, and that relying on your integrity, discretion and ability, he doth allow and confirm your Election."

Then the Speaker of the Assembly said—

"May it please your Excellency,

"I submit with due humility to your Excellency's will and pleasure, and it now becomes my duty, in the name and on behalf of the Assembly, to lay claim, by humble Petition, to all their ancient and undoubted rights and privileges, more especially those of freedom of debate, freedom from arrest, free access to your Excellency whenever occasion may demand, and that the most favorable construction shall be put upon all their proceedings; and on my own behalf, I have to intreat your Excellency that any error which I may commit, may not be imputed to His Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects the Assembly."

Then the President of this House said—

"Mr. Speaker,

"His Excellency has commanded me to assure you, that he hath the greatest confidence in the loyalty and attachment of this House of Assembly to His Majesty's Person