
Friday, 11th March, 1904.

PRAYERS.

A Message was brought by Captain Ernest J. Chambers, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod :—

MR. SPEAKER :

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the Senate Chamber.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker, with The House, went up to the Senate Chamber, and there Mr. Speaker spoke to the following effect, viz. :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

The House of Commons have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but 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 Commons, whose servant I am.

Then the Honourable the Speaker of the Senate said :

MR. SPEAKER,

I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to assure you that your words and actions will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

And the House having returned :—

Mr. Speaker reported, That The House had been in the Senate Chamber, and that he had informed His Excellency that the choice of Speaker had fallen upon him ; and also, in the name of this House, and on its behalf, he had laid claim to all their rights and privileges, to which His Excellency was pleased to say that he readily and willingly granted and allowed the Commons their constitutional privileges.

Ordered, That Sir Wilfrid Laurier have leave to bring in a Bill respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read the first time.

Mr. Speaker informed The House, that he had received from the Judges selected for the trial of Election Petitions pursuant to "The Dominion Controverted Elections Act," Certificates and Reports relating to the Elections :

For the Electoral District of the North Riding of the County of Grey ; and
For the Electoral District of the North Riding of the County of Ontario.