

GENTLEMEN,

In offering you my Thanks for the Confidence you have this day reposed in me, it is not easy for me to find words adequate to the expression of the sentiments I cannot but feel on the occasion ; to obtain the highest Elective Office in the Country must, at all times, be gratifying to its Possessor ; to have obtained it by your unanimous choice, affords me a gratification more easily understood than described : It shall be my unceasing endeavour to deserve the confidence so liberally bestowed, by honestly, and to the best of my abilities, performing the duties that belong to the important office in which you have placed me. I will only add, that I will, upon all occasions, use my utmost exertions to preserve the Privileges of the House, by guarding the Rights that exclusively belong to it : holding it to be equally my duty, at all times, to guard the House against any act that may encroach upon the Prerogatives of the Crown, or interfere with the Rights of the other Branches of the Legislature.

A Message was delivered from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by Mr. Secretary George, commanding the attendance of the House in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker-Elect, with the House, went up to attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber, where Mr. Speaker-Elect was presented to His Excellency, by Mr. Poole, Member for the Town of Yarmouth, who addressed His Excellency, as follows :

May it please Your Excellency,

The House of Assembly, agreeably to your Excellency's Commands, have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and have unanimously elected SIMON B. ROBIE, Esq. His Majesty's Solicitor-General, to that Office, and, by their direction, I beg leave to present him for your Excellency's approbation.

After which, His Excellency was pleased to say :—

I approve of the Speaker, which the House of Assembly have chosen.

The House being returned, and Mr. Speaker having taken the Chair,

Mr. Speaker reported, that the House had been in the Council Chamber, where His Excellency had been pleased to approve of the choice the House had made of him to be their Speaker, and that he had spoken to the following effect :—

May it please your Excellency,

Your Excellency having been pleased to approve of the choice of a Speaker, made by the House of Assembly, I may hope, with confidence, that the same favorable construction will be extended by your Excellency to their future proceedings : knowing, from the experience of the past, how much it is the wish of the Assembly that the result of their deliberations for the public good should obtain the approbation of the Representative of their Sovereign.

It is my duty, on the part of the Representatives of His Majesty's loyal Subjects in Nova-Scotia, and in their Name, humbly to demand the enjoyment of all their accustomed Rights and Privileges : that they may have freedom of speech in their debates ; that they, and their Servants, may be free from arrests ; and that, whenever His Majesty's Service and the Interests of the Province require it, I may have free access to your Excellency's Person.

Mr. Speaker also reported, that His Excellency, in reply, said :

MR. SPEAKER,

I most cheerfully grant your request, conformably to Ancient Usage, the Law of the Land, and the Royal Instructions.

After which, Mr. Speaker said, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech, of which, Mr. Speaker said, he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a Copy, which he read to the House, and is as follows :

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council ;

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

HIS Majesty having been most graciously pleased to confide to me the Civil Government of this Province, I have great satisfaction in meeting you in General Assembly.

In my Administration of the Government, I shall humbly endeavour to follow the wise and impartial course pursued by my noble and distinguished Predecessor : exercising the powers vested in me in a constitutional manner, and promoting, to the best of my ability, every measure conducive to the general prosperity of the Province, and to the comfort and happiness of all classes of its People.