

A Commission under the Great Seal, appointing the Honourable *Jonathan Bliss*, *John Saunders*, *Ward Chipman*, and *John Murray Bliss*, Esquires, or any one or more of them, Commissioners for the purpose of administering the oaths prescribed by Law, being produced---when the Honourable *John Saunders*, one of the Commissioners named therein, attending, the following Members took the oaths and subscribed the declaration, to wit : *Peter Fraser*, *John Allen*, *John Dow*, *Stair Agnew*, *Hugh Johnston*, jun. *Harry Peters*, *Ward Chipman*, *Andrew S. Ritchie*, *John M. Wilmot*, *Charles Simonds*, *William Botsford*, *Rufus Smith*, *Joseph Crandal*, *Benjamin Wilson*, *Hugh Mackay*, *John Campbell*, *Peter Stubbs*, *Joseph N. Clarke*, *John Cougle Vail*, *David B. Wetmore*, *Samuel Scott*, *William Peters*, *Elijah Miles*, *Amos Perley*, *Hugh Munro*, Esquires, who took their seats.

*Xenophon Jonett*, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, delivered the following Message :

“ His Excellency the *Lieutenant-Governor*, commands the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the Council Chamber.”

The House attended accordingly---when the Honourable *Jonathan Bliss*, Chief Justice, spoke as follows :

“ *Gentlemen of the Council and Assembly*,

“ His Excellency has been pleased to command me to acquaint you, that he doth not think fit to declare the causes of summoning this General Assembly till there shall be a *Speaker* of the House of Assembly : It is therefore His Excellency's pleasure, that you, Gentlemen of the Assembly, do repair to the place where the Assembly usually sit, and there choose a fit person to be your *Speaker*, and that you present the person who shall be chosen, to His Excellency, for his approbation, immediately.

The House having returned---Mr. *Agnew* rose, and addressing himself to the Clerk, said,

“ Mr. *Wetmore*,

“ The *Speaker* of the House of Assembly ought to be, if possible, a professional character of the Law : He ought, Sir, to be a man of fortune, with urbanity, sufficient to make acceptable, an enlightened understanding, and firmness enough to maintain the order and dignity of the House. With these sentiments, I move that *William Botsford*, Esquire, be *Speaker* of this House.”

Which motion being seconded by Mr. *Peters*, and the House appearing to be unanimous, Mr. *Botsford* was taken from his seat, and conducted to the Chair ; and when on the steps, he said, “ That he was deeply impressed with the confidence reposed in him by the House, in electing him to one of the most important situations that could be held by a subject. In the expectation that his conduct would at all times meet with the indulgence of the House, he would cheerfully submit to their wishes.”

A Message from His Excellency, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, requiring the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the Council Chamber---

Whereupon Mr. *Speaker* elect, with the House, attended His Excellency the *Lieutenant-Governor* ; and being returned, Mr. *Speaker* reported that he had addressed His Excellency to the effect following :

“ May it please your Excellency,

“ The House of Assembly of this Province, in obedience to your Excellency's command, and in the exercise of their acknowledged right, have proceeded to the choice of their *Speaker* ; and now humbly attend to present me to your Excellency as the person elected. Being conscious of my own inability to perform the duties of so important and arduous a station, I trust that your Excellency will be pleased to disprove of their choice, and command them to elect a person more capable.”

When the Honourable Chief Justice, spoke as follows :

“ Mr. *Botsford*,

“ I am commanded by His Excellency to acquaint you, that he hath so good an opinion of your integrity, diligence, and sufficiency for executing the important office