

moned 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 at four o'clock this afternoon, for his approbation."

The House of Assembly then withdrew, and His Excellency was pleased to retire.

At four o'clock His Excellency The Honorable Arthur Hamilton Gordon, C. M. G., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province, came to the Council Chamber, and being seated in the Chair on the Throne, commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, through the Honorable the President, to let the Assembly know—"It is His Excellency's pleasure that they attend him immediately in this House."

Who being come,

Mr. Vail said—

*"May it please Your Excellency,*

"Your Excellency having communicated your pleasure to the Assembly, they returned to the place where they usually deliberate, and immediately proceeded to choose a Speaker; they have elected me to that important and honorable position, and I am now presented for Your Excellency's approval."

The Honorable Mr. Saunders said—

*"Mr. Vail,*

"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."

Then the Speaker of the Assembly said—

*"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 favorable 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."

Then the Honorable Mr. Saunders said—

*"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."