

Members met.

The Members being met, a Committee waited on his Excellency the Governor, to acquaint him therewith; and that they were ready to proceed on Business; on which a Message came from his Excellency requiring the Attendance of the House in the Council Chamber, to be qualified, and being qualified accordingly, his Excellency directed, that the House would proceed to the Choice of a Speaker, the Members then returned to their House, and chose *William Nesbitt*, Esq; and presented him to His Excellency, who approved of their Choice.

Attend the Governor.

Qualified.

Speaker chosen.

Privileges pray'd.

Mr. Speaker then pray'd His Excellency that the Members of the Assembly might have their usual Privileges, to which His Excellency was pleased to answer, that he would allow them all such Privileges as His Majesty's Instructions would permit.

The Governor's Speech.

Then his Excellency was pleased to make the following Speech :

Gentlemen of the COUNCIL and HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

I Have called you together at that Season of the Year wherein you are most likely to be at Leisure for deliberating on such Matters of Public Concern, as will properly come under your Consideration.

Among these, the Provincial Funds claim your principal Attention, and the Means of providing such Supplies as are necessary to make up their Deficiencies.

I earnestly recommend to you an attentive View of the present State and Circumstances of the Province, that you may be the better enabled to discern what Means are in your Power to promote it to that Degree of Prosperity which may be expected from its natural Advantages. Your Efforts, Gentlemen, for this Purpose, shall have all my Assistance, and the Success will give me the utmost Satisfaction.

I shall direct the proper Officers to lay before you the Papers necessary for your Inspection. And I recommend