

The Clerk reported, that when in the Council Chamber, the Honorable John S. Saunders, sitting as President of the Legislative Council, said—

*“Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and*

*“Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

“I am commanded by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to inform you that he doth not think fit to declare the causes for which he has summoned 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 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, for his approbation, at the hour of four o'clock this day.”

Mr. John M. Johnson, a Member for the County of Northumberland, then addressing himself to the Clerk, proposed the Honorable John H. Gray, a Member for the County of Saint John, to fill the office of Speaker, and moved that he do take the Chair; which motion was seconded by John Farris, Esquire, a Member for Queen's County.

The Honorable Mr. Gray being the only person placed in nomination, was then taken from his seat by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Farris, and conducted by them to the Chair; and when standing on the step, addressed himself to the House as followeth:—

*“Gentlemen,*

“I thank you for the confidence you have placed in me in electing me to the honorable position of Speaker of this House. I shall endeavour to discharge the duties of the office fairly and impartially, and I feel assured I can rely on the kind consideration of this House to aid me in expediting the public business.”

Mr. Gray then took the Chair.

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, requiring the immediate attendance of the House in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker elect, with the House, went up to the Council Chamber;

And being returned—

Mr. Speaker reported, that when in the Council Chamber, he had addressed His Excellency to the effect following:—

*“May it please Your Excellency,*

“Your Excellency having communicated your pleasure to the Assembly, they returned to the place where they usually deliberate, and 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, sitting as President of the Legislative Council, replied—

*“Mr. Gray,*

“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