

England on his private affairs, by his Excellency's leave, and to present the member chosen for his Excellency's approbation.

Mr. Millidge then proposed to the House, John George Pyke, Esq. member for the town of Halifax; and Mr. Morris proposed William Cottnam Tonge, Esq. His Majesty's Naval Officer, and member for Newport, for their Speaker: and the choice of the House having fallen upon William Cottnam Tonge, Esq. he stood up in his place, and, expressing the honor proposed to be conferred on him by the House, submitted himself to their choice, and he was taken out of his place by Charles Morris, and James Moody, Esquires, and conducted to, and placed in, the Chair accordingly, and thereupon Mr. Speaker elect addressed the members as follows:

GENTLEMEN,

I FEEL this to be the most honorable day of my life, the exalted station in which your favorable opinion has placed me, has long been an object, and I trust a laudable object, of my ambition, but to succeed, as I have done, without intrigue, without personal solicitation or the influence of party, by the voice of so great and respectable a majority, is highly gratifying to my feelings. Gentlemen, I am fully conscious of wanting numerous qualifications necessary for filling worthily the honorable seat you have given me, but I trust, my exertions to promote the honor of the House, and support its just rights, and my strictly impartial conduct, may prove me in some measure worthy of the distinguished mark of confidence you have conferred on me, so that those who have favored me with their voices may not repent their choice, and those who have not, may be finally satisfied with that which is made.

A message was delivered from his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by the Deputy Secretary, 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. Northup, upon which his Excellency approved of the choice the House had made.

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 gracious approbation of the choice of the House, confers on me the highest honor, and demands my most grateful acknowledgements, which I humbly request your Excellency to accept.

Your Excellency having, at the first Session of this Assembly, confirmed to the House and its Members all their ancient and accustomed privileges, I have, at this moment, nothing to ask in their behalf.

For myself, I have to solicit from your Excellency a large share of candid and indulgent consideration: deeply conscious of my deficiency in those qualifications necessary for filling with dignity, and public advantage, the exalted station in which I am so honorably placed, I trust that my zealous and loyal attachment to my Sovereign and His Government, and the warm interest I have in the welfare of this my native country, may compensate, in part, for that deficiency, and that in your Excellency's goodness I shall find excuse for the rest.

Relying on this, I expect, with humble confidence, a favorable construction of my conduct, that it may be attributed to those pure and upright motives which shall ever direct it, and that any errors I may fall into, may be considered merely as such, and not as proofs of any design to do wrong.

Finally, I beg your Excellency to receive my solemn assurance, that in my present important office it will be my pride, as I feel it my duty, to promote, with the utmost of my ability, the honor of His Majesty's Government, the ease of your Excellency's