

important office the Honorable John Wesley Weldon, a Gentleman who had the honor of being unanimously elected thereto during the last House, and the duties of which he discharged with great ability and impartiality.

"I therefore move that he take the Chair."

Mr. Rankin, a Member from the County of Northumberland, then addressed the Clerk, and said—

"In seconding the nomination of Mr. Weldon for the honorable situation of Speaker of the House, it affords me much pleasure to add my testimony to the efficient and disinterested manner in which he filled that Chair during the existence of the last House; I therefore confidently trust that he will be again elected."

The Honorable Mr. Weldon being the only person placed in nomination, was then taken from his seat by Mr. Partelow and Mr. Rankin, and conducted by them to the Chair; and when standing on the step, addressed himself as follows:—

*"Gentlemen,*

"In this expression of your confidence, I return you my sincere thanks.

"In entering upon the discharge of those duties which your kindness and partiality have assigned me, I can only promise you the zealous, and, I trust, the honest devotion of such powers as I possess, to the performance of the duties of the Chair.

"I rely with unreserved confidence upon the kindness, the forbearance and candour of the House; not doubting that in the exercise of those high and generous qualities will be found an efficient remedy for the numerous unintentional errors which my experience admonishes me I shall probably commit.

"Again, accept my thanks with the assurance that I entertain a deep sense of obligation for the honor you have conferred upon me."

Mr. Weldon 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 he had addressed His Excellency to the effect following:—

*"May it please Your Excellency,*

"The House of Assembly having received Your Excellency's commands, returned to the place where their sittings are usually held, and in the exercise of their undoubted right immediately proceeded to the choice of a Speaker: They have chosen me to fill that important office, and I am presented to Your Excellency for Your Excellency's approbation."

The Honorable Mr. Black, President of the Legislative Council, then spoke as follows:—

*"Mr. Weldon,*

"I am commanded by His Excellency 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."

That he, Mr. Speaker, then further addressed His Excellency in the following words:—

*"May it please Your Excellency,*

"Your Excellency having been pleased to approve of the choice which the Assembly have made in electing me to be their Speaker, it now becomes my duty, on their behalf, and in the name of the Assembly, to claim and demand that they have all their  
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