

*May it please your Excellency,*

“ The House of Assembly, in Obedience to your Commands, and according to ancient Usage, have proceeded to elect a Speaker, and I have the Honor to acquaint your Excellency that their Choice hath fallen upon me.”

His Excellency approve of the Speaker elected.

Then the Secretary of the Province by his Excellency's Command declared his Approbation of their Choice.

Then Mr. Speaker said :

Mr. Speaker's Speech to His Excellency.

“ Your Excellency having been pleased to approve the Choice of the House of Assembly, confers on me the highest Honor, and fills me with Sentiments of Gratitude, which I feel myself at a loss for Words to express.

“ The high and important Office, which I am now about to discharge, fills me with great Apprehension, lest I may not at this early Period of Life, have acquired that accurate Knowledge of Parliamentary Proceedings, as well as that quickness of Discernment, necessary to form a Speaker of the House of Assembly ; but when I consider, the very great Favor and Indulgence, which I have on all Occasions experienced from your Excellency, I am led to hope, that the Errors which I may commit, will meet on your part, a favourable Construction and gracious Pardon.

“ I cannot begin the discharge of my Duty, without assuring your Excellency, that it shall be my constant Endeavour to prove myself on all Occasions, a dutiful and faithful Subject to our most Gracious King, as well as a zealous Supporter of the British Government in this Province, and I flatter myself, with the pleasing Hope and Expectation, that the same Unanimity and Loyalty, which has heretofore on all Occasions distinguished the Representatives of the People of this Province, will continue to appear in all their future Deliberations.

“ I most humbly intreat your Excellency to pardon my Boldness in thus publicly addressing you, although I may be deficient in Words to express my Feelings on this Occasion, I trust, and hope, I shall never want a grateful Heart, to remember and acknowledge your great Favour and Kindness.

“ It is with the greatest Pleasure, and fullest Confidence in your Excellency's Government, that I proceed in the discharge of my Duty, by humbly demanding in the Name of the House of Assembly, a Continuance of their usual and accustomed Privileges, that they have Freedom of Speech in their Debates, with power of punishing their own Members, that they may be unmolested in their Persons, and when the public Good shall require it, I may by Direction of the House have free Access to your Excellency's Person.”

His Excellency's Answer.

To which the Secretary by His Excellency's further Command, said, His Excellency most willingly granted what was desired.