

Takes the Chair.

Mr. Acting Speaker elect was then conducted to and placed in the Chair by the Hon. Colonial Secretary and Mr. Barron, when he addressed the House as follows :

Mr. Speaker's Address of Thanks to the House.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to express my high appreciation of the honor you have conferred on me in choosing me to act as your Speaker. I shall ever endeavour to merit this mark of your confidence, to maintain the dignity of the office with which you have been pleased to invest me ; and I trust, by your assistance, to maintain the privileges of the House, and that my conduct shall, upon all occasions, be marked by firmness and impartiality.

Mr. Speaker and House attend His Excellency the Governor in the Council Chamber.

Mr. Acting Speaker elect and the House then went to attend His Excellency the Governor in the Council Chamber, when he was presented to His Excellency by the Hon. Colonial Secretary, who addressed His Excellency, as follows :

Mr. Speaker presented for His Excellency's approval.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The House of Assembly, agreeably to your Excellency's command, have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and have elected Robert John Parsons, Esq., member for the District of St. John's, East, to act in that office, and by their direction, I beg leave to present him for the approbation of your Excellency.

Mr. Speaker approved of by His Excellency.

After which, His Excellency was pleased to say :—" I approve of the Speaker whom the House of Assembly have chosen."

Mr. Speaker takes the Chair.

The House being returned, and Mr. Acting Speaker having taken the Chair,

Mr. Acting Speaker reported that the House had attended His Excellency in the Council Chamber, when His Excellency had been pleased to approve of the choice the House had made of him to be their Speaker, and that he had thereupon addressed His Excellency to the following effect :

Mr. Speaker requests His Excellency to grant the House the customary privileges.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

Your Excellency having been pleased to approve of the choice the House of Assembly have made of me to act as their Speaker, it now becomes my duty, in the name of the Representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the Commons of Newfoundland, respectfully to demand all their accustomed rights and privileges : that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, that they may be free from arrest during their attendance in Parliament, and that I, as their Speaker, may have free access to your Excellency's person.