

H. Kemp for the able, dignified and impartial manner in which he has discharged the onerous duties of the Chair during the present Session of the Legislature ;

Which was adopted.

Whereupon, the Speaker delivered the following address, which was ordered to be entered upon the Journal :

ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates :

The complimentary resolution adopted by you evidence to me beyond merit, the high appreciation you have of my endeavors to impartially and faithfully serve you in the honorable position to which you confidently and generously elected me at the commencement of this session.

Inexperienced as I was, when you conferred upon me the very distinguished honor of selecting me your presiding officer, I greatly mistrusted my ability to satisfactorily perform its arduous duties, and this testimonial of your generous liberality for all errors I may have committed in my efforts to serve you is very flattering to me, and I possess no language adequate to return you the gratefulness of my heart for it.

It affords me pleasure to bear record to the fact that you have sustained every decision I have made, for which I return you my sincere gratitude. I bear testimony, gentlemen, with much pleasure to the uniform courtesy of each and all of you in the discharge of your official duties to me, to each other, to the officers of this House, and whomsoever you have had business relations with, and to the industrious application you have each and all made in the discharge of your official duties. No legislature since the adoption of our present constitution has performed so much labor in the same length of time, nor done so much work. This industry has not been alone confined to the members of this House, but its officers are entitled to their full share.

To be able, gentlemen, to bear testimony to your courteous bearing and kind feeling towards each other in your discharge of official duties, and in your private intercourse, is one of the most hopeful and significant omens of the future union of our beloved, but bleeding and distracted country. While ever we retain even that much of the American character there is hope for the future of our nation ; that country we all so much admire and wish the success, peace and prosperity of.

I congratulate you, gentlemen, upon the accomplishment of the duties you were sent here to perform, and unite my prayer with yours, to the Great God of us all, that they may