

of pleasure, there also accompanies it a great apprehension that I may not be able to meet all the requirements of the position. Whatever I may lack in ability I hope to make good with the earnestness of purpose that I shall bring to the discharge of every duty.

To the majority of the members of this body I want to say that the recent political contest in this State has resulted in sending to this body a large majority of members of our political faith, and upon us will rest the responsibility of all legislation. We will be entitled to the credit for the passage of good laws and to blame for bad ones. We are on trial before the people of this State, and it behooves us to scan closely every measure presented for our consideration, and to be assured that it is for the best interests of our people before giving it support. We should always be found standing together in the support of all measures that have for their end the public good. At the close of the session let the verdict of the people of this State be "well done good and faithful public servants."

We must be economical in the disposition of the people's money. Useless offices must be abolished, unnecessary expenses lopped off. In making appointments to office, the appointees must possess the necessary qualifications to discharge their duties. While insisting on this, I apprehend there will be no difficulty in finding such men within the Democratic ranks.

I want to assure the minority members of this Body that they will always receive that consideration, that as members they are entitled to. A well organized minority is always an aid to good government, as it is apt to keep the majority on their good behavior.

The position to which I have been called is at many times a trying one, but with the hearty co-operation of my fellow members I hope to discharge its duties in such a manner as to meet your approval.

Thanking you again for the honor, I am now prepared to take the oath of office, and will ask Mr. E. S. W. Choate to administer the same.

On motion of Mr. Lednum,

The Speaker's address was ordered to be spread upon the Journal.