

His Excellency informed your Committee that he had nothing further to offer for the consideration of the General Assembly.

JAS. L. CLARK,
A. G. CHAPMAN,
TRUSTEN POLK.

Which was read.

Mr. Coles (the rules being suspended) submitted the following order :

Ordered, That the thanks of this House are due to Milton Y. Kidd, Chief Clerk, and Thomas H. Moore, Reading Clerk, for the faithful and diligent discharge of their respective duties, and for their uniform courtesy and kindness towards the members of this Body during the present Session.

Which was adopted.

The Speaker delivered the following address :

GENTLEMEN:—This moment, anxiously looked for, now that it has arrived, is the most painful which has occurred during the Session.

Brought together by the voice of the people, it has devolved upon this General Assembly to frame and pass such laws as we, in our best judgment, believed to be for the best interest of the people, and to me, as I am sure it is to each of you, a pleasant thought, that, though there are different political views represented here, yet we have had no measures which have been tested by party-lines, but every vote has, I am sure, been given with a view to advance the best interest of the State.

On an occasion like this, it is proper to allude to the part your presiding officer has taken in the proceedings of the Body:

Called, as I was, one of the youngest members of your Body, it could not be expected but that the embarrassments attending my position would be numerous, and though I may have erred in many of my decisions, the great consideration and kindness shown me, on all occasions, are gratefully remembered. While I can assure you in my every act I have endeavored to fully and impartially discharge every duty pertaining to my position, I cannot omit to state here that my duties have been much lightened by the promptness and fidelity of the various officers of the House; and especially would I commend the punctuality and zeal of the two principal Clerks, with whom I have daily been brought in immediate contact.