

LETTER'S ADDRESS.

to the chair, the Speaker moved in the following terms, "We take leave and dispense from the usual and customary confidence of my country, with feelings of great and unfeigned gratitude, measure that I should again deliberate. I accept the result, hope that the choice of a Clerk will prove injurious to its integrity and responsibility of this assembly to speak. It has, both in relation to its character and extent of its duties, delicate and responsible a government. Indeed the legislative business both of a nature, (occupying as it does of the year,) the number of habit of animated, protractable, have, of late, tended to the duties of the chair to the individual who fills its importance to the public. be in my power to meet the house, by an able and energetic of the duties of this high or me to say. Distrustful of I shall shrink from the duty however painful, when however severe; my time and devoted to your service, and, and steadily course which all, at least, be cheered and consciousness of the purpose, in the principles, which I shall in this arduous service. On whom, I shall expect and need full co-operation, and that be, without which all the efforts would be nugatory; and I entreat me that aid and support in established rules and orders of necessary to the character and operations, and the dispatch of the nation.

again to consider the conditioned country, I seize the opportunity my cordial congratulations and happiness, and the still virtues that await it. Whilst foreign Powers are distinctions and good will, which serve our friendship more valuable to us than our situation at influence of virtuous and peaceful, united and happy blessings are to be enjoyed by our children, must depend and intelligence of the peoples of our happy union, and the enlightened administration. Federated Republic can only ex-common interest and brotherly mutual forbearance and moderately and individually) and by devotion to liberty and union, must very candid mind; and as we their councils and their arms, blood and treasure, in support rights, and by the exertions of each, we intend to continue a free, by People, prof by their country's illustrious example.

All depend upon the conduct and the National Legislature, and the House, it is not needful that you. I need not, I am sure, remember, that we are here the representatives of our entire, the advocates of local and national legislation to us, must be just, liberal, impartial, that ours is the highest, and not a part—of maintaining the public faith—of elevating and resources of the nation, public welfare, with the same that we would our own—of us, within the pale of our country, and regulating our measures principles contained in that sacred Union of the States cannot be, or too watchfully cherished, of the great landmarks, which lies in my mind, proper to a legislative career, such as this, we shall not only render of the high trust confided to, tend to our People the prinstitutions and free institutions, sentiment of union and action, safety, glory and happiness, and common country.

effice was then administered to Mr. Newton of Virginia, (the house) and by the Speaker to us, in succession. My being ended— of Pennsylvania, submitted the motion for Mr. Clarke, was elected Clerk of the House of Representatives, and was forthwith sworn into office.

On motion of Mr. Miller, of Pennsylvania, it was resolved, nem. con., that John Oswald Dann be appointed Sergeant at Arms to the House.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, of New York, it was ordered that a Message be sent to the Senate, to inform that body that a quorum of this House has assembled, that Andrew Stevenson, has been elected Speaker thereof, that it is now ready to proceed to business, and that the Clerk do go with the said Message.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, also, it was further

ordered, that the Rules and Orders established by the late House of Representatives of Proceeding, to be observed in this House until a revision, or alteration shall have taken place.

On motion of Mr. Drayton, of S. Carolina,

it was resolved, that a committee be appointed

on the part of this House, to join such committee as have been, or may be appointed, on the part of the Senate, to wait upon the President of the United States, and inform him that quorums of the two Houses have assembled, and that Congress are ready to receive any communication which they might make.

A motion having been made for the usual order for furnishing Members with newspapers

From the U. S. Telegraph.

"...in announcing this result" (the election of Clerk to the House of Representatives) "it is due to Mr. Major as well as to the friends of that gentleman, to state, that he was absent from the city, and that his name was not in nomination, without his knowledge, or concert among his friends." 115

House proceeded in its business without that officer. In effecting the resolution, Mr. Drayton had only followed the example, set by former congresses, of electing the Clerk immediately after the choice of Speaker. And, he added, that the question of postponement should be taken by yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were accordingly ordered upon the question.

In reply to a question put to the Chair, whether the late Clerk would be considered in service until an election of clerk took place, the Speaker answered that he presumed that he would.

This motion was negatived, and the resolution for continuing the usage, was agreed to without a division.

Mr. Cambreleng, of New York, suggested the postponement of the election to to-morrow evening of Thursday.

Mr. Johnson proposed Wednesday, as the median between to-morrow and Thursday. The object of his motion for postponement, and the only object of it, was to obtain time to make up his mind upon information which he might receive as to the relative merits of the several candidates for this office. To-morrow Mr. Tucker reported that Mr. Birch had received 156 votes (a large majority of the whole number) and was consequently chosen.

On motion, it was then resolved, nem. con., that Overton Carr be appointed Assistant Doorkeeper, to which day, therefore, he was moved to adjourn to this House." And then

The House adjourned to 12 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Burges, of Rhode Island, said that if the old clerk could continue to act as clerk for several days, without an election, why not for the whole session? When was his service to end?

The Speaker said that that was a matter for the discretion of the House.

Mr. Burges said that the mere necessity of the case, made it proper that the Clerk to the old House should assist organizing the present. But, when the House had gone so far as to choose a Speaker, it appeared to him that the necessity was over, and that the House would be without a Clerk unless one should be immediately chosen. Without a clerk thus chosen, he did not see how the House was to transact any part of its transactions.

Mr. Alston of North Carolina thought that difficulty could arise from a postponement of the consideration of the resolution. He thought the resolution improper in itself, and when the gentleman from Kentucky rose, he was about to have risen himself and propose that the House should proceed to an election by ballot. He preferred that the whole question should lie upon the table for the present, and that whenever the House should proceed to the election of Clerk, it should be by ballot.

After a resolution introduced by Mr. Taylor respecting the appointment of Chaplin to Congress, the House adjourned.

Tuesday, December 8, 1829

Col. Drayton reported from the committee appointed to wait upon the President that they had performed the duty assigned them; and that he had stated, in reply, that he should submit a communication to Congress at noon.

The message of the President was accordingly presented by his Private Secretary, Mr. A. J. Donaldson, and read by the Clerk, after which, upon the motion of Mr. Connor, ten thousand copies of it, and the documents by which it was accompanied, were ordered to be printed.

After a resolution introduced by Mr. Taylor respecting the appointment of Chaplin to Congress, the House adjourned.

Wednesday, December 9, 1829

Mr. Condict, of New Jersey, observing that it seemed proper, before proceeding to discuss among committee the several subjects of the President's Message, that the Standing Committees of the House should be appointed.

Therefore moved the following order.

Ordered, That the Standing Committees be now appointed pursuant to the Rules and Orders of the House.

Mr. Buchanan said that there was, he believed, an unusual number of new members in the present House of Representatives; and it was certain, certainly, that the Speaker, who has appointed these committees, should have time and opportunity for enquiry before no appointed them. It was not probable, he said, that any Legislative business would be done in the course of the present week, and for that reason he moved that the motion lie upon the table to give the Speaker a better opportunity of becoming acquainted with the new members, &c.

Mr. Cambreleng suggested to Mr. Condict the expediency of withdrawing his motion for the present, and renewing it to-morrow or another day.

Mr. Condict said, the practice heretofore had been to adopt a similar order before the Message was considered; and, as the Committee were not announced until the reading of the Journal on the day following the adoption of the order, a whole day was thus given to the Speaker for the selection of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker said that it had been the practice, at the opening of a new Congress, to allow the Speaker three or four days for a selection of the committees.

Mr. Buchanan said he should not have moved to postpone his motion for now appointing them, if he had not known that to be the fact.

Mr. Mallory said, that, should the order be now made, if would, he presumed not necessarily, that the committees should be announced to-morrow.

Mr. Speaker said, if the order was now made, the committees must be announced to-morrow.

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Mr. Mallory said, that, should the order be now made, if would, he presumed not necessarily, that the committees should be announced to-morrow.

On this question the House divided—aye 54, no 54, the noes being a large majority.

The motion to proceed directly to a balloting was then agreed to. Mr. Ramsay then nominated Mr. Clark and Mr. Johnson nominated Virgil Mazy, of Maryland.

The votes having been collected, and counted by Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Buchanan, it appeared that the whole number of votes for Clerk was 192—97 being necessary to a choice; and that of these votes there were

For Mr. Clark 155
For Mazy 54
Scattering 3

On Matthew St. Clair Clarke, was elected Clerk of the House of Representatives, and was forthwith sworn into office.

On motion of Mr. Miller, of Pennsylvania, it was resolved, nem. con., that John Oswald Dann be appointed Sergeant at Arms to the House.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, of New York, it was ordered, that at 12 o'clock tomorrow, the House will proceed to the election of a Chaplain to Congress on its part.

And then the House adjourned to meet at twelve o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, December 10, 1829.

The house proceeded to ballot for a Chaplain to Congress on the part of this House.

The Rev. Mr. Danforth was nominated by Mr. Wickliffe, of Ky.

The Rev. Mr. Trott, by Mr. Randolph, of N. Jersey.

The Rev. Mr. Culpeper, by Mr. Desha, of Tennessee.

The Rev. Mr. Post, by Mr. Swift, of Vermont.

The Rev. Mr. Burnap, by Mr. Richardson, of Massachusetts.

Upon counting the ballots, the vote stood:

For Mr. Post 95 votes.

For Mr. Danforth 45

For Mr. Trott 15

For Mr. Culpeper 13

For Mr. Burnap 10

Mr. Post having a majority of the whole ballots, was declared duly elected.

The Speaker laid before the House two communications from the first Comptroller of the Treasury, accompanied by the annual lists of the balances from the books of the Register of the Treasury and the third Auditor of the Treasury, which were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Storrs, of New-York, the House agreed that, when it adjourned, it should adjourn to Monday next. Adjourned.

It is over by mutual assent.

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