

On motion of Mr. Porter, of Allegany,

The Hon. Arthur P. Gorman was declared duly and unanimously elected Speaker of the House of Delegates.

The oath of office was then administered to the Speaker elect, by Mr. Goldsborough.

Whereupon, the Speaker proceeded to deliver the following address :

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates :*

To be selected as the presiding officer of this body, composed of so many of the distinguished sons, representing the sovereign people of Maryland, is an honor of which I am deeply sensible—for this manifestation of your confidence, I return you my sincere thanks.

Whilst I accept with pride this distinguished honor, I am not without misgivings of my fitness to discharge, creditably and to your satisfaction, the arduous and sometimes trying duties it imposes.

I trust, however, you will at all times extend to me your cordial support and co-operation in the maintenance of order and decorum in our deliberations—assuring you, in return, that in my course as Speaker of this House, I will be governed by no personal or party motives, but by what I believe to be for the best interests of the State.

Let us not forget, and I am sure we will not, that as Delegates we are not the representatives of party, but of the people of the State, and that our efforts should be to promote their interests by judicious and economical legislation. Let us, above all, maintain the fair fame and honorable record of our State, entrusted as it is to our keeping, and do no act that will not redound to the peace, protection and prosperity of the people.

I shall now proceed with diffidence to the discharge of the duties pertaining to the post to which you have assigned me.

The members elect were then severally qualified by the Speaker, in the presence of each other, by taking the oath of office.

Mr. Cooper submitted the following order :

Ordered, That Milton Y. Kidd, of Cecil county, be declared the Chief Clerk of this House, and Thomas H. Moore, of Baltimore county, Reading Clerk.

Mr. Miller submitted the following amendment :

Amend—Strike out the name of "Milton Y. Kidd," and insert in lieu thereof Lewis A. McComas, of Washington county.