

W. W. Miller
JOURNALS *Red River*

OF THE
J. H. McAllan
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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SECOND LEGISLATURE.

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1848.

The election for Speaker being next in order, Mr. Burroughs nominated Mr. M. B. Lamar.

Mr. Mosely nominated J. W. Henderson.

There being no other nominations the House proceeded to ballot.

The Secretary of State appointed Messrs. Mosley, Burroughs and Anderson, Tellers.

Mr. Lamar having received 24 votes and Mr. Henderson 34 votes,

Mr. Henderson was declared duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

On motion of Mr. Rayner,

A committee was appointed to conduct the Speaker elect to the chair.

The Secretary of State appointed Messrs. Rayner, Pease and Miller of Houston said committee.

The Speaker was conducted to the Chair and addressed the House as follows.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

Having been selected to preside over the deliberations of this body, by the voice of a majority of its members, I feel, and sensibly feel, that you have imposed upon me a high and responsible trust. One, in the discharge of which, the most experienced will often fail to give entire satisfaction. I therefore approach the station to which your partiality has called me, doubting my ability to bring to it that *efficiency* which may be expected. Intricate and difficult questions may, and doubtless *will* arise, upon which it will be my duty to decide, and upon which I may fall into unintentional error; but from which, I shall always expect to find a ready correction in the intelligence of this House—upon which I must be permitted to draw in all such events.

Gentlemen! When I look around me, on my right and left, I behold the faces of but few, with whom it has been my pleasure and pride to have acted heretofore, in a legislative capacity; and to have received *this mark of your confidence*, under any circumstances, could but be gratifying to me; but it becomes doubly so, when I reflect that you have thought proper to confer it upon one whose experience has been but limited.

Gentlemen! For the honor you have conferred, I return you my heart-felt thanks; and can only assure you in return,

that I shall endeavor to discharge the duties of my station, in accordance with the rules that you may adopt for your Government.

We have important duties to discharge, and they can only be accomplished with satisfaction to ourselves, and with interest to the people we represent, by *unity of action* and good understanding between the members of this House. To accomplish which, you will always have my hearty co-operation.

In conclusion, permit me to indulge the hope, that a kind Providence will shield and protect the interest of our State from all harm: and so direct our deliberations that they will be conducive to the advancement, happiness and honor of the people, to whom we all owe a strict accountability.