

The ballots having been taken and counted by Messrs. Mudd and Humphreys, tellers, it appeared that there were 26 votes cast, of which the Hon. Daniel Fields received 18 and the Hon. Lewis H. Steiner 6, and there were two blank votes.

Whereupon it was declared that the Hon. Daniel Fields is duly elected President of the Senate.

Mr. Fields was then conducted to the Chair by Messrs. Steiner and Phelps, and delivered the following address :

*Senators :*

I am truly grateful for the very distinguished honor which you have conferred upon me by placing me in my present position

I am deeply impressed with the importance and delicacy of the duties of the position which your kindness and partiality have imposed upon me, and trust that I shall ever properly appreciate the same.

In the discharge of the duties of presiding officer during the continuance of the session, I shall need your patient indulgence, and I feel assured from your partiality towards me that I shall have it at all times extended. With no other feelings toward any member of this body but the most kindly, I shall endeavor to discharge my duty without partiality or prejudice. I am here to preside over you without partisanship or favor.

The people of the State are complaining of the heavy burden of taxation, and look to us by proper legislation to relieve them, at least to the extent of economy and retrenchment, and it is our duty as their representatives to give heed to their request.

Hoping that our deliberations may be conducted in a spirit of fairness and harmony, to which I promise my cordial support, and thanking you for your kindness, I now call this Senate to order.

On motion by Mr. Joyce,

The President's address was ordered to be entered upon the Journal.

On motion by Mr. Stevens, it was

Ordered, That the officers of the Senate for the ensuing Session, shall be as follows :

*Secretary*—Augustus Gassaway.

*Reading Clerk*—Wm. H. Hiss.