

this life. The shafts of death fly thickly around us, and we know not how soon the rank grass may wave over the turf that may cover us. Should a kind Providence spare us yet longer, let us all, whether in public or in the private walks of life, strive to promote the happiness of our fellow man, and to be prepared to meet again in the bright mansions of eternal rest.

Mr. Secretary: I hold in my hand a Resolution which I ask leave to read and lay upon your table.

Resolved — That the thanks of the Senate be given to the Hon. John C. Talbot for the impartial, honest and able discharge of the duties of the Chair, and for his uniform kindness and courtesy to the Members of this Board.

Which Resolve, being read by the Secretary, was Unanimously passed.

Mr. Talbot then addressed the Senate as follows.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

When at the commencement of this session, you were pleased to designate me as your presiding officer, and by a unanimous vote called me to this Chair, which had, so many times, been filled with men distinguished for their talents and legal learning, I did conscientiously distrust my qualifications to sustain the office, in any degree, with that dignity, which was maintained by my predecessors, and especially with that which the high station demands, I did not expect to discharge its high duties satisfactorily to myself or acceptably to you. Believing that the Resolution you have just adopted, is not intended merely as a formal compliment of him