

## A STRANGE DREAM.

Narrated by Mr. N. J. Hammond, of Georgia.

New York Sun.

"I had a strange dream the other night," said Representative Hammond, of Georgia, this morning, as he rode up to the capitol in a herdic with Representative Harmer, of Pennsylvania. "I dreamed," continued Mr. Hammond, who is one of the most thorough parliamentarians in the House, and a fine lawyer, "that I was sitting in my seat in the House, and the fiftieth Congress was being organized—a forcible illustration of the fact that dreams are contrary, as I will not be a member of that Congress. A great flurry was going on over the election of a Speaker. Mr. Carlisle was on the floor awaiting the formal election, he having been nominated unanimously in caucus.

During the excitement some one got up in his seat, was recognized by the chair, and moved that Mr. Danforth be elected speaker. There was intense excitement over the nomination. But the motion was put, and to the great astonishment of everybody he was elected without a dissenting voice. Nobody seemed to know who Mr. Danforth was, as no such man is elected to the fiftieth Congress, and it took some time to find him. Finally he was found—a bashful little member who sat away out on the outside row of seats on our side of the house. When first found, Mr. Banforth was so frightened he could not speak his name. Mills, of Texas, found him and escorted him to the chair. A speech was called for, and when Speaker Danforth attempted to thank the house he could not work his vocal organs. Words stuck in his mouth. I can see Mills holding him up to the work and coaching him like a young actor is prompted. Mills repeated the words to the House, like an interpreter, as the speaker could not talk aloud.

When the inaugural speech was delivered I became convinced that a great mistake had been made, and began to cudgel my brain to conjure a scheme for repairing the error. I got up and moved to reconsider the vote by which the honorable gentleman in the chair had been elected Speaker, stating to the House that it was a self-evident fact that it was only intended as a joke, which was true. To my utter astonishment the vocal properties of Speaker Danforth were instantly restored to usefulness, and in a rich, round tone he declared the motion out of order, and entered upon the regular order. I was worried beyond measure, and was so sorry for Carlisle, who stood in the center of the floor transfixed, that I became almost wild, and awakened from my dream, to find it was only a dream."