

of the whole land to-day is statesmanship—the infusing into our legislation, and into all the public departments, of that practical advancement in the cause of freedom and progress that the whole nation is yearning for. And with this want supplied, what land so promising and so full of hope as ours? Rich in the memories of a Past, whose history has thrown the brightest lustre upon our national escutcheon, and standing to-day at the very threshold of a civilization that, even in its incipiency, is dispersing the mists of ages, may we not reasonably look forward to a Future more dazzling in the splendor of its achievements, and more beneficial in its results, than any people have ever been permitted to behold.

The promptings of patriotism and the solemn obligations we have taken, alike demand that we shall give to the general interests of the people our time and attention, in preference to subserving the purposes and projects of mere individuals.

I should be untrue, gentlemen, to the feelings that now animate me, should I fail, on this occasion, to repeat my very sincere acknowledgments for the generous support I experienced at the hands of the members of this House, in my efforts at the last session to discharge the duties devolving upon the Chair. Feeling assured that I can safely anticipate similar kindness and co-operation, in the same direction, for the short space of time we shall be together this session, I shall very cheerfully resume the duties imposed upon me, and endeavor to faithfully and impartially discharge the same. And here, at the beginning of our labors, let us all, determine that under no circumstances shall passion or prejudice find a dwelling place in this Assembly. Appreciating, as all of us must, the necessity for prompt and harmonious action, each member can contribute to the attainment of such results by devoting his energies to assist the Chair in its efforts to preserve order and maintain the dignity of this House.

But, gentlemen, remembering that all human efforts must be vain unless supported by Him who rules over all, let us not forget to appeal to Him for the support that will be necessary for a proper discharge of duty.

Earnestly invoking the blessing of Almighty God upon all our deliberations, I now declare the House of Delegates of Maryland, ready to proceed with the business of the Session.

On motion of Mr. Barron,

The Speaker's Address was ordered to be entered on the Journal.