

Peter J. Campbell was declared elected President of the Senate.

Senators Cooper and Zihlman were appointed to escort President Campbell to the Chair.

Upon taking the Chair, the President delivered the following address:

*Gentlemen of the Senate of Maryland:*

I appreciate more than words can express the honor of election as your presiding officer for the session of 1916. Coming as it has, without a single solicitation on my part to anyone, high or low, I feel in greater measure the responsibility incurred, and that because of the many positive expressions of kindness and courtesy on your part, irrespective of politics, which I shall treasure as long as life lasts. You will pardon a personal note when I say that I am proud to be a citizen of the State of Maryland, and that I love with every beat of my heart my native city of Baltimore and exult with you in proclaiming her the metropolis of the South, the Queen of the Chesapeake. I yield to her your tribute of honor and place it at her gate, as one of the native few called and chosen to this position. Forty-seven citizens of the State have been selected for the high honor of President of the Senate since Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, of Charles county, brought his gavel down on a call for order in the year 1777. The city of Baltimore was then a mere village; it is the youngest of Atlantic seaports today, yet in 1794 Daniel Carroll, of the Carrolls of Carrollton, of Baltimore city, was selected; he resigned and a Revolutionary hero, whose name is emblazoned on two proud streets and whose statue adorns our parks, was selected as his successor—John Eager Howard. Many years passed before the State called to its service in this branch another resident of the city, yet in the stress of war Lieutenant-Governor Christopher C. Cox, in 1866, extra and the regular session of 1867, presided over the deliberations of this body.

In 1872 Henry Snyder was selected, and in 1896 the gifted, brilliant and talented William Cabell Bruce, in a memorable session, added to the fame of Baltimore as President of the Senate of Maryland. It is not a long record of six in 139 years, yet it is consistent. As Baltimore has grown, so has the State. A native son of Harford county as mayor, with an energy and ability unparalleled in the history of municipalities, has raised the biggest crop of enemies and at the same time put Baltimore in the first place in the front rank of cities of the first class.