

ADDRESS.

SENATORS:—It is my pride and pleasure, upon the threshold of the new duties I am about to assume, to congratulate you, as I do most cordially, upon the auspicious prospect which, at the opening of the present year, is revealed to our gratified vision.

A long and sanguinary civil strife has been attended by the usually chequered fortunes of war, and, at times, clouds of gloom have hung heavily around the hearts and homes of the loyal citizens of the republic, as disaster upon disaster has followed the march of the brave armies of the Union; but, in the darkest hour of the nation's peril, faith in ultimate triumph has continued to animate the breasts of patriotic men, both in council and field, until the realization of hope and the result of self-sacrificing effort have dawned at length, to be succeeded by the full splendor of perfect success. The dwellers in the vales of Alpland linger in the shadows of night, while far above them the morning sun gilds the summit of Mount Blanc; and thus we, in the oft-gathering gloom, have been enabled to descry, above and beyond the clouds surrounding us, the dawning glory of a restored nationality.

Living, as we in Maryland do, under the old flag, anchored, as we still are, thank God, to the beneficent Government of our Fathers, and, therefore, presumed to be solicitous for the safety and perpetuity of our time-honored and blood-bought institutions, the prospect of a peace, not compromised or patched up, but conquered and enduring, must be a subject for the most fervent congratulation, as well as of heartfelt gratitude to the Great Disposer of human events.

But the war is not concluded; and the zeal, sacrifice and energy which have been so lavishly bestowed upon the cause of the Union, must not be, for a single instant, remitted. We shall be deeply and inexcusably culpable if we fail to use every proper means within our reach to bring to a speedy end this frightful revolt, and re-establish the nationality at which it strikes. Every agency must be exhausted, every personal sacrifice offered, before we should be willing to entertain, as possible, the fact of dismemberment; the dissolution of the bonds of the Union; the final decline and overthrow of the