

DEDICATION.

TO THE MEMBERS OF

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

OF THE SESSIONS OF 1838 AND 1839.

GRATITUDE and a sense of duty, alike render it proper that this work should be dedicated to you. Without the patronage of the Legislature of 1838, this compilation never could have been put to the press. Without the liberality of that of 1839, the compiler would have been involved in loss.

It has been my ambition, so to compile this work, without the slightest regard either to the intellectual labour, consumption of time, or expenditure of money bestowed on it, as to make it eminently worthy of that unprecedented unanimity and approbation, which it has received in every aspect in which you have been called to act on it.

The members of 1838 enjoy the satisfaction of giving to their constituents the means of acquiring a knowledge of those laws by which their liberty, their persons and their property are guaranteed.

The members of 1839 gave to the State an assurance that those who devote their time and experience in benefitting its people, will receive from their servants, in the discharge of the supreme power, an enlightened liberality, equal to what they shall deem consistent, with a due regard to the fiscal ability of the State.

Be assured, that I shall prize among the most gratifying reminiscences of my life, the deep interest which you exhibited for the completion of the work, and the kind feeling which you manifested towards me, during the whole period of my intercourse with you, upon the subject of this compilation.

That each and every of you may enjoy every earthly blessing, is the wish of

Your obliged and humble servant,

CLEMENT DORSEY.

JULY 24, 1840.