

I respectfully suggest the propriety of the re-enactment of former laws for the summary punishment of persons in Maryland who shall be convicted of aiding or abetting, in any manner, those who are in arms against the Government.

It is undeniable that, notwithstanding the careful watch kept by the Federal Officers, there are, in our midst, sympathizers with and abettors of the rebellion, who in some way, keep up communication with and give aid and comfort to the Confederates.

Let us endeavor to put an end to these nefarious practices by inflicting severe punishment upon these offenders against the peace of this State as well as against the United States. Such a course will, also, measurably relieve loyal citizens, in many parts of the State, from the numerous annoyances and persecutions, to which they have been so long subjected, at the hands of their secessionist neighbors; and which have undoubtedly increased to their present embarrassing proportions, because of the impunity with which men have heretofore been allowed to act treasonably.

The object and intention of the Government in the war forced upon it in defence of the Union, as declared in the patriotic proclamation of General Dix at restoring the flag in the counties on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, and of Gen. Sherman, in South Carolina, are entitled to and will receive the support of our people.

The condition of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road, and of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal requires action on your part. The re-opening of these great works to traffic and travel is of immense importance, not only to the people directly, but as bearing upon the future of our financial resources.—The Statement made by the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company is herewith submitted.

Other topics, of less importance, not necessarily requiring immediate attention, will be presented in detail in my communication to you at the opening of your regular session.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I congratulate you, and the people of the State, upon the immunity we have enjoyed from the dreadful evils which have fallen upon some of the other States. While carnage and desolation have stalked through Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, we here in Maryland have had no battle fields, no wanton destruction of homes, no outrages upon helpless women and children.

True, in every section of the State rancor and deadly hatred, and in some cases, even judicial persecution—have been openly indulged against those whose only offence is loyalty to the