

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Annapolis, December, 1830.

*Gentlemen of the Senate,
and of the House of Delegates:*

The period has arrived, when we have to present a narrative of our proceedings in the course of the current year, and we take advantage of the occasion, to offer our congratulations upon the distinguished evidence of public confidence, which you have received from the hands of the people.

To you has been entrusted, by your constituents, the high responsibility of protecting their rights, and of devising such measures as will advance their welfare and happiness, and coming as you do, recently from them, acquainted with their interests and their wishes, you are well prepared to commence your duties, and to perform them in such manner, as to promote the great purposes for which you have been selected.

In meeting on this interesting occasion, it behoves us to tender our unfeigned acknowledgments to a kind and beneficent Providence, for the many blessings bestowed upon our country. Among them, there are surely none more calculated to call forth the effusions of our gratitude, than the enjoyment of peace with all nations. By His bountiful hand, we have been abundantly supplied, also, with the productions of the earth. He has blessed us with a form of Government, the wisest and the best, the world ever saw; and he has allowed us in conformity with it, the inestimable privilege of thus assembling to represent the interests of freemen.

The accountability of public officers, we hold to be one of the wise features of our republican government. It is the salutary check which the people, from whom only, all power is legitimately derived, have over those entrusted with the management of their concerns. In accordance with