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The object of the present publication is to give a historical account of the principal transactions of the General Assembly at their last session, drawn up in the plainest manner and calculated to inform the people of the conduct of Delegates in the many important matters which engaged attention.

It may be observed that hardly any period could have selected more proper for the commencement of such an undertaking than the present—the uncommon length of the session—the many new and important objects which came under consideration—with the great contrariety of sentiment which prevailed in their discussion, must form a subject of the highest consequence to the public, and of which they ought to obtain most clear and satisfactory knowledge.

I can hardly flatter myself that I have been able to effect all the objects of this plan—the novelty and difficulty of the task—the necessity I have been under of collecting some information from others, in addition to what I had myself an opportunity of observing—and many other causes, must unavoidably have concurred to render the execution far from perfect.

I have, however, endeavoured to give the most candid and impartial representation of facts; and though I have made use of my remarks and observations on the conduct of the different members I have, wherever it was possible, preserved that decency of expression, which men in public characters have a right to expect.—

On Monday the seventh of November, the day appointed by the constitution and form of government for the meeting of the Legislature, several members of the House of Delegates appeared, but not having a sufficient number, they adjourned from that day till the second Monday in that month, when, by the constitution for the election of a Governor, when a sufficient number being convened, they proceeded to qualify by taking the oaths and subscribing their belief in the Christian religion, as prescribed by the form of government. After which the House was proceeding to the election of a Speaker, when Mr. Chase (a member for the city of Annapolis) rose, and in a speech of some length, objected to the continuance of the gentleman who had for some sessions past filled the chair, dwelling on the dignity and importance of the station.