

tion, providing a General System of Free Public Schools for this State.

Endorsed, "Passed by yeas and nays."

The Senate bill entitled an Act for the protection of Partridges, in Anne Arundel county.

Endorsed, "Passed by yeas and nays."

On motion of Mr. Steiner, it was

Ordered, That the thanks of the Senate, are hereby tendered to the Hon. John Lee Carroll, the President, for the courteous and dignified manner in which he has performed the arduous duties of his office.

Mr. Steiner, addressed the Senate as follows :

*Mr. President and Senators.*

The close and intimate relations that have existed between the members of this Senate, are about being sundered by the termination of the Session, and in accordance with the wishes of my associates, I offer the order which has just been read, doubting not that it will receive unanimous support. It has been pleasant to have one in the President's Chair, bearing the honored name of one of the Revolutionary Sires of this State, whose courtesy and dignified demeanor have not been unworthy of his venerated ancestor.

Coming from all parts of our dear old Commonwealth, and sent here by its citizens to represent and defend their interests, common duties have brought us into such close contact with each other, that the formalities of mere acquaintanceship have gradually disappeared before the more attractive ties of genial fellowship and true friendship. Most of us met in this chamber as strangers, but the hour of parting finds us friends; rivals in debate and entertaining antagonistic views on many subjects demanding our consideration, we are still able at parting to grasp each others hands warmly, and to utter with genuine feeling "the good old word good bye."

In reviewing the history of the past Session, whose close, the slow moving pendulum before me, (alas! now moving in fact all too rapid!) is steadily marking, memory recalls as in one extended panorama all its incidents and scenes, and recalls but little said that was not genial and kindly meant at the time of its utterance, and nothing that has left a painful cicatrix upon a wounded sensitiveness. Where it was impossible to be in complete accord, we have agreed to disagree, and each has cheerfully recognized the right of independent thought, and independent action on the part of the other leaving the judgment of that action and the motives that have prompted it to the constituencies we severally represent.