

The bill was then read a second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

W. Hollingsworth Whyte, Esq., appeared and delivered the following communication from his Excellency the Governor.

Which was read.

And on motion of Mr. Gill, ordered to be entered on the Journal.

ANNAPOLIS, January 27th, 1874.

Hon. JOHN LEE CARROLL,

*President of the Senate, and*

Hon. JESSE K. HINES,

*Speaker of the House of Delegates.*

GENTLEMEN:--I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, at your hands, of an official notification, that on Tuesday last, 20th inst., I was duly elected, by the General Assembly, a Senator in the Congress of the United States, to represent the State of Maryland for six years from the 4th of March, 1875. No citizen of Maryland could fail to estimate most highly the tender of this important trust; and I beg you to believe, it comes to me freighted with double honor, bearing with it, as it does, the assurance that the feeble service I have rendered my native State, as its Chief Magistrate, has met the approval of the representatives of its people.

Recognizing the right of my fellow citizens to transfer my labors to another field of duty, and gratified beyond expression at their partiality, I accept the post of Senator.

A child of Maryland, I trust I shall never lose sight of her honor, nor fail to seize every opportunity to advance her interests; while, as her Representative, I shall hold true allegiance to the Constitution of the United States, and be faithful to the Federal compact, lending my best energies to promote the prosperity and happiness of all sections of our common country. In accepting the distinguished position now conferred upon me, I feel it to be my duty, at once, to resign the office, to which I was called two years ago, by a generous and confiding constituency, in order that the General Assembly may, in conformity with the terms of the Constitution, elect my successor.

I have, therefore, this day, filed in the office of the Secretary of State, my formal resignation of the office of Governor, to take effect at twelve o'clock, Meridian, on Wednesday, the 4th day of March, 1874.

In separating from my official associates, and from the