

At 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, P. M., the House having returned from witnessing the Inauguration of his Excellency, Governor James B. Groome, resumed the business of the session.

Mr. Buchanan announced the death of his colleague, the Hon. Robert Fowler, a member of the House of Delegates from Baltimore county, as follows:

Mr. Speaker:—It becomes my painful duty to announce to this House and the State at large, the death of our distinguished fellow-member and colleague, Hon. Robert Fowler. To us who have been associated with him in the most intimate relations in the discharge of our duties as representatives of Baltimore county, it is indeed a sad occurrence; and when I look around this House and see the many sorrowing countenances, it gives unmistakable evidence of the esteem and regard in which he has been held, and suggests to me that a "great man hath this day fallen." I do not rise to make any extended remarks upon the life and character of the deceased. His charitable hand that has so often relieved the wants of the needy, and his friendly and loving heart, in which there was always room for a friend, and his generous and noble nature, that prompted him to the deeds that have won for him the brightest color of his fame, speak his character in better terms than I can employ. In consequence of the suddenness of his demise, and the inauguration ceremonies of the day, I merely state a formal announcement of his death, and I now move you, sir, that a Committee of eight members of this House be appointed to attend the funeral obsequies, and that a Committee of five be appointed to prepare suitable resolutions touching the life and character of the deceased.

Mr. Henkle seconded the motion submitted by Mr. Buchanan, and spoke as follows:

Mr. Speaker:—I arise to second the motion with emotions that I have never before experienced on a similar occasion, but I would do violence to my own feelings and sense of duty, as reflecting in part the sympathies of a large and sorrow-stricken community in and around the Capitol of the State, did I not speak a word of sympathy, and drop a tear of sorrow, to the memory of Robert Fowler.

The announcement of his death this morning, fell like a thunder-stroke upon our ears, and has cast an expression of gloom and sadness over every face.

His death has left a vacant place that none can fill. In all the high and responsible positions of public trust that he filled in the course of his public career, he was faithful, just, diligent and courteous to all that approached him. In his social relations and qualities, he was pre-eminently conspicu-