

On motion of Mr. Bennett, it was

Ordered, That Mr. Hearn be excused from attendance of to-day's session on account of business.

On motion of Mr. Pairo, it was

Ordered, That Messrs. Henkel and Miller be excused from attendance at to-day's session on account of important business.

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The Secretary of State appeared and delivered a message from the Executive:

March 4, 1904.

To the General Assembly of Maryland:

In pursuance of the request of His Excellency, the Governor of Virginia, I herewith transmit, for your consideration, a Joint Resolution of the General Assembly of that State, passed February 17th, 1904, relating to the proposed commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of the first Anglo-American settlement on this continent, at Jamestown, Virginia, on the 13th of May, A. D. 1607.

The Exposition proposed should appeal to the patriotism of every loyal American citizen, because it will emphasize the date of the settlement which led up to the founding of our great Republic. When we remember that "Virginia" originally embraced nearly the entire territory covered by the thirteen original States of this Union, we should revere her as the Mother of States and should unite with our sister States in commemorating the proposed Tri-Centennial of the first permanent English settlement on the shores of North America.

I therefore respectfully suggest that you adopt such measures as in your judgment may be deemed best to enable Maryland to be properly and appropriately represented at the said Exposition.

Respectfully,

EDWIN WARFIELD,

Governor of Maryland.