

Mr. Stevens presented the following :

BALTIMORE, January 31, 1876.

*Dear Sir :*

Having been appointed by the President of the United States, on the nomination of His Excellency, the Governor of Maryland, Commissioners, on the commission authorized to be constituted under and by virtue of the act of Congress to provide for celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence, by holding an international exhibition of arts, manufacturers and products of the soil and mine ; and having seen that in accordance with the suggestions of Governor Carroll, a committee of the Legislature of Maryland, of which you are chairman, has been appointed, in view of having Maryland properly represented on this occasion, we have thought that it would not be out of place to address you, in anticipation of the action of your committee.

Although ranking, in point of size, among the smaller States of the Union, there is perhaps not one, whose arts, manufacturers, and products of the soil and mine, are more varied, or which would more reputably and honorably contribute to the coming exhibition in Philadelphia.

In the commercial world the credit of Maryland stands second to none. In the great European money markets, her public securities are well known, and as highly valued. But this world, that we refer to, is a very narrow one compared to that which will be represented from all quarters of the Globe, during the ensuing summer, at the Centennial Celebration ; and it is to this wider world that we would have Maryland make known the resources which have given her the credit due to the energy, ingenuity, skill and perseverance ; which have turned to such good account the happy circumstances of her soil and climate.

The present is an opportunity never to occur again. Other exhibitions, similar in character may take place ; but they will want the attractiveness of this. The two hundredth anniversary may be the next, there can be none before it. It is a remote, and may be an uncertain future for coming generations ; but we have hold of the present, we are sure of *that*, and Maryland would not be true to her good name and fame, were she not to be represented in a manner corresponding to her means, her opportunities, and her patriotism.

One of the commissioners, in a recent visit to Philadelphia, obtained information that is not without interest, looking to the probable expense of such a representation of Maryland, as would be proper under the circumstances, and the conclu-