

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates* :—As the hour of our adjournment is near at hand, I rise for the purpose of extending my acknowledgments to the members of the House for the courtesy and kindness that I have received at their hands.

In the discharge of my official duties, I have earnestly striven to facilitate the business of legislation, and to extend to all with whom I have been connected, the respect and consideration that were due from the Chair. I sincerely hope that my efforts in this direction have not been unavailing.

During the course of a somewhat protracted session, topics have been introduced which have elicited discussions that have, at times, called forth some of the bitterness of party feelings. I trust that if any unkind personal feelings were thus engendered, they have long since ceased to exist. We came here as friends; let us part as such. Let our discords die on the very spot of their origin. May we not indulge the fond hope that the laws we have enacted will have a beneficial influence upon our State and Country. Our business has been conducted in a proper and orderly manner. So far as my knowledge extends, not a bill or other paper has been lost or mislaid during the session. But with me, the most pleasant thought connected with our deliberations is the reflection that nothing has transpired to leave a single trace of unpleasant personal feeling towards any one.

Let me express the hope that before another assembling of the General Assembly takes place, our beloved country may be reunited under the flag of our fathers, and our people living together as a band of brothers.

We are about to part now, may prosperity and happiness attend each and every member and officer of this House.

The House was then declared adjourned *sine die*.

Attest:

W. R. COLE, Chief Clerk.