

ourselves with its spirit and aims, but penetrate the popular mind everywhere with the same ardor and resolve. Let there be no dalliance, no compromise, with the old wrong. The dead past must be buried; obsolete and effete ideas and dogmas thrown far behind us; and this great scheme of emancipation, so nobly inaugurated and so promising of good, pushed steadily and perseveringly forward to its true logical results. Our favorable geographical relations and undeveloped mineral and vegetable resources, so appropriately alluded to in the recent message of your present able and patriotic Governor, under the wholesome influence of free labor must at no very remote period make Maryland a powerful and prosperous State. Invoking, therefore, the blessings of that Being, whose hand has been visible in all our struggles for National life, let us, merging all differences and burying all personal animosities, unite in opening for our grand old State, a high, expanded pathway, upon which she may travel in undiminished lustre, usefulness and success for centuries to come.

To the novel position with which I am charged as President of the Senate, I bear the most sincere desire to perform its duties with promptness and precision, but, I fear, with very moderate qualifications for the task. Wholly inexperienced in the practical duties of legislation, I shall, not unfrequently, be compelled to cast myself upon your indulgence. In return, while endeavoring to act promptly and impartially, I hope never to be discovered deficient, for an instant, in the courtesy and consideration eminently due each and every member of this honorable body.

In the course of the session, conflicting opinions, upon topics of public concern, may, sometimes, lead to ardent and exciting discussion, but let it be remembered that personalities should ever be assiduously avoided. No one, I am sure, will be inclined to forget that the Senate chamber is regarded by the outside world as the model of legislative propriety, dignity and gentlemanly bearing.

Praying that you may enjoy a pleasant sojourn in the "ancient city," and find cheerful homes and happy hearts at its close; I now enter upon the prescribed duties of my office by announcing the usual Standing committees, called for by the Rules of the Senate.

The President then announced the following Standing committees:

*Finance Committee*—Messrs. Tome, Davis, (of Washington,) Whitney, Earle, Jones.

*Judicial Proceedings*—Messrs. Maund, Trail, Clarke, Whitney, Stevenson.