

tion under State authority. I feel that I ought not to officially proclaim that to be a fact which personally and individually I do not believe to be true, nor to give my official sanction to that which I believe to be both untrue and unjust.

“I feel that my duty forbids my blindly accepting and acting upon the figures given out without official investigation, and this enumeration, being begun, should be made thorough and complete and cover the whole State, so that there can be no mistake anywhere, and no ground for complaint of disproportionate representation from any section whatever. The value of accuracy and fairness in so vital a matter as this is well worth the moderate expense of a State census.

“This situation, in my opinion, clearly presents an ‘extraordinary occasion,’ directly covered by the provision of the constitution declaring that the Governor shall convene the Legislature or the Senate alone on extraordinary occasions.

Further reflection has confirmed me in the correctness of these views and the necessity for taking this census.

A bill providing for the appointment of the necessary number of enumerators, fixing their compensation, providing the time within which their work is to be done, the method of their appointment and making a sufficient appropriation for the expense of the work will be submitted to you.

I invite for it your prompt consideration.

#### 2nd. AMENDMENTS OF OUR ELECTION LAW.

These proposed amendments do not contemplate the passage of an entirely new election law, nor the alteration of any of its material provisions which have stood well the test of experience. But there are very serious defects in it which should be promptly and thoroughly remedied and it is for the correction of these defects that the proposed legislation is urged,

Notwithstanding the high hopes which were entertained at the time the Australian ballot system was first adopted in Maryland, that it would ensure the secrecy of the ballot and put a stop to bribery and corruption in