

Executive Department  
Annapolis January 4<sup>th</sup> 1834

Gentlemen of the Senate, and  
of the House of Delegates:

The recurrence of the stated period has again brought together the Representatives of a free, enlightened and happy people.

Honoured, as we have been, by the high trust reposed in us, by your immediate predecessors; bound as we are to you and our common constituents, by our tie known to the virtuous, bound, we cannot but feel and occasion us to express, upon meeting you, the most profound sentiments of gratitude to the giver of all good, for the abundant shade of his favour, with which he has been pleased to bless our State during the past season.

Plenty has crowned our harvests; enterprise, industry and skill on the part of our individual citizens, have added largely to our wealth and prosperity, and the blessings of health were never more generally enjoyed. It is truly gratifying to contemplate such scenes, and the pleasure of this interesting retrospect is heightened by the opportunity now afforded of congratulating you upon it, and by the confident reliance to be placed upon your wisdom, patriotism and virtue, to preserve and perpetuate these blessings, so far as depends upon you, to us and to posterity.

By an ancient and approved custom, it becomes our duty upon the assembling of the Legislative representatives of the people of Maryland, to render an account of our proceedings with the discharge of our Executive duties, and to make such suggestions upon the general interests and concerns of the State, as appear to us to be called for, and proper for your consideration.

In relation to the special duties enjoined upon us by Laws and Resolutions, we beg leave to state, in general terms, that they have all received our respectful attention and Substantion upon them, respectively, as appeared to us necessary and proper for carrying into effect the intentions of the General Assembly. And we proceed to a more particular notice of such of them, as from their importance or character seem to require it, or as relate to subjects proper for your attention and for further Legislative action.

By the Resolution of the last General Assembly, in relation to the bounds which run parallel with the Sea Coast, between Cape Charles and Lewis Town Creek, with a view to their connection by such Canals as may be found necessary to effect a safe and direct navigation through the said bounds, it seems to have been considered very desirable to obtain the aid of an experienced Engineer from the United States Corps, to aid in making the contemplated survey. An application had been made to the President of the United States in January 1831, for the services of such an Engineer, and although at first refused, a communication was subsequently received from the Secretary of War

tendering,