

Annual and Delaware, upon the subject of the North Eastern Boundary between the
Merge State of Maryland and those States, and the letter upon that subject received
in reply from the Governor of Delaware is No communication upon the subject
has been received from the Governor of Pennsylvania.

The loss which the State has sustained by the death of her late Chancellor Theodorick
Blane, makes it my duty to refer to the Court over which he presided, for the purpose of suggesting
the legislation necessary to its maintenance.

The Great Seal of the State was placed in his custody, as the Chancellor of
Maryland, on the 16th day of August, 1824, and from that period to the day of his death,
the 16th of November last, he discharged the arduous & multifarious duties of that high station,
with honesty, firmness and ability.

I have committed the custody of the Great Seal to John Johnson Ego, a gentleman
whose high integrity of character, and admitted learning in this department of the law,
eminently qualify him to discharge the arduous ^{duties} of Chancellor, with honor to himself &
advantage to the public. The ability of this gentleman to hold permanently this most
important judicial appointment, must depend upon your action. By resolution
No. 41 of December session 1825, it is declared, "that the salary of the Chancellor shall
be three thousand four hundred dollars, during the continuance of the commission
of the present Chancellor, and no longer; and after the expiration of his commission,
such salary shall be provided for the succeeding Chancellor, as the legislature shall
thereupon think proper to fix and establish. You will therefore perceive, that the fate of
the High Court of Chancery of Maryland is now in your hands. If in the exercise of
shall enlighten a judgment, for which the Legislature of Maryland has been ever
distinguished, when questions of such vital importance have been submitted
for their decision, you shall establish for this officer a salary commensurable with
the laborious duties of the office, or the vast interests involved in his decisions, you
will secure to your constituents the blessings of an efficient court, & to yourselves
the honor of preserving this important branch of the State Judiciary. A lawyer
qualified to act as Chancellor, clothed with the sole power of deciding within the limits
of the whole State, upon all the rights of property, which fall under the judicial exam-
ination of a Court of Equity, must be a man of learning, probity and firmness - he must
possess energy of character and habits of industry, and above all, he must be a man, the
natural and acquired inclination of whose mind would be, to take a fair, im-
partial, straight forward view of every question submitted for his decision.

When you reflect upon the golden harvest ^{which} such a man could reap in the
practice of his profession, you must conclude, that a liberal salary or an incompetent
officer, are the necessary alternatives.

Gentlemen, as desirous as I am that this Court, the only remaining relic of
the wisdom of our fathers should be preserved - fully conscious as I am of the great
inconvenience and injury which would be occasioned by its destruction - I
should prefer its abolition, to its continuance, under circumstances which
would convert it from a blessing to a curse upon the people.

Bear in mind gentlemen, that the great convenience and utility
of this tribunal administered by a competent officer, has never been
denied by any of those who in by-gone days have advocated its abolition;
and then suffer me to inquire - for what mighty purpose are the people