

page 1
Mighty consequences which now manifestly belong to this war. The brilliant victories achieved by the American Armies, unsurpassed in the annals of history, have resulted in the conquest of a large portion of the territory of Mexico, and the policy of the Federal Executive now fully developed, to annex that territory, or a portion thereof to the United States, will present a question more difficult of decision, and more pregnant with important results to the country, than any which has occurred since the organization of the Government. It will gentle-
men, be your province to examine this subject, and if you can come with any degree of unanimity, to a conclusion as to the policy which will most certainly advance the public prosperity, without endangering the perpetuity of the Union; it will be your duty to declare that conclusion, as the opinion of Maryland upon this difficult and important subject. In looking to this war apart from the national glory won by the Armies of the Republic, the talent which it has developed, will arrest universal attention. The name of General Scott has been inscribed in the written history of his country, and his recent victories will occupy a distinguished place in its future annals. The name of General Taylor but for this war, would have been unknown to many of his countrymen; it now commands the respect and admiration of other nations and fills the hearts of the American people with a devotion more ample since the days of Washington.

This intimate acquaintance with the existing relations of this country with Mexico, and the purity of purpose and sterling good sense manifested by all he has said or done, will I am persuaded fully justify the wisdom of the determination plainly evinced by his fellow citizens, to confer on him the highest office in the gift of the Republic.

I do not indulge a hope that the peace of the country will be restored, until these indications of the talents have been realized, and the Executive functions of the Federal Government have passed into other hands.

In looking to the three great interests of the State, it is gratifying to observe that no one of them has been more rapidly developed in the past few years, than her great agricultural interest. Agriculture has now become a science, to which that great class of your constituents engaged in its pursuit, are devoting themselves with a real and perseverance worthy of its pre-eminent importance.

The central position of our State, and the completion of those great arteries of trade - the works of internal improvement to which I have referred - must speedily raise her to her legitimate position in the world.