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pleasing and harassing to an unusual degree; and I shall be able to leave them with no ordinary amount of pleasure. Whatever may have been my shortcomings in their performance, I am persuaded you will believe me when I assert that, in every case, I have endeavored to do that which I thought was right.

For whatever of good the Great Disposer of events has made me the instrument, and for whatever of error the fallibility of my judgment has led me to commit, during my term of office, I am content to await the just verdict of my fellow citizens, when peace and sober councils, experience and calm reason, shall enable them to approve without partiality and to condemn without prejudice.

It affords me great satisfaction, in closing this communication, to be able to congratulate the General Assembly, and the people of the State, that, in these perilous times, the duties of this office are shortly to be discharged by one whose discretion, ability, courage and patriotism insure that he will guide the fortunes of the State with safety and honor to her people.

I earnestly pray that Heaven will abundantly help him and you in the fulfillment of the duties allotted to you; and that, through your united efforts, no harm may come to the Commonwealth.

Thomas H. Hicks.

January 3.

The Governor transmitted to the Senate the names of those officers who have been appointed during the recess of the General Assembly, and to fill vacancies which have occurred since the adjournment. And on the same day he was notified that the Senate had advised and consented to the same.