

1864

January 7th

The Governor issued the following Requisitions viz:

1. To Hon David K. Carter Chief Judge Supreme Court of the District of Columbia for rendition of Terry Brooks Slave of Wilson No. 22 of Howard County charged with the crime of assault and battery committed in Howard County.

2. To Same for rendition of Henry Piles charged with the crime of assault and battery committed in Montgomery County on the body of John W. King of said County and appointing the Sheriff of said County agent

3. To the Governor of Pennsylvania for the rendition of Joseph J. Shepherd charged with the crime of Horse stealing committed in Carroll County and appointing the Sheriff of said County agent for the return of the fugitive

Same day the Governor having been waited upon by a joint committee of the Senate and House of Delegates informing him of the organization of the General Assembly of Maryland and of its readiness to receive any communication he might be pleased to make informed them that he would make a communication in writing and thereupon transmitted to the General Assembly the following

Message

Gentlemen of the Senate and
of the House of Delegates

You have assembled in obedience to the command of the Constitution to consider such subjects as require Legislative action and looking back upon the time that has intervened since your predecessor in office last assembled it may be safely affirmed that no similar period since the foundation of our government has been crowded with events of such magnitude and importance.

Although these events are easily calculated to vary the usual tenor of the congratulations with which the Executive has been accustomed to greet the General Assembly at the opening of every session we can no longer as of old recur to the peaceful and prosperous career of the Country as evidence of the almighty favor, although the reckless ambition of unprincipled politicians instigating a wicked rebellion has involved us in a civil war of frightful extent compelling a sacrifice of the best and bravest of the nation to maintain its existence that a war deplorable as it is, has developed elements of national power hitherto scarcely comprehended and furnished substantial cause of thankfulness to Almighty God and congratulations to each other.

Such a record of the rapid resolute and successful production from domestic resources of all the means and material of war as the history of the last two years exhibits is not to be found in the annals of any nation whilst the success with which these material have been wrested in restoring the peace