

to enumerate, we have cause to be thankful for ~~its~~ <sup>its</sup> ~~kindness~~ <sup>kindness</sup> and ~~generosity~~ <sup>generosity</sup> to that Providence, which gives us the seed time and the harvest. And if the general brightness of the picture of our situation has been obscured by one cloud of calamity, if we are compelled to turn our eyes, with sorrow and dismay, to the destructive malignant fever with which our commercial city has been visited, still let not our gratitude for other blessings be converted into discontent and murmuring. Let us see in it the hand of chastening, not an avenging god, and bow, in pious submission, to his inflictions, and in gratitude for the deliverance that has been experienced. In speaking of this distressful occurrence, we should be unjust, if we did not notice, with proper commendation, the laudable and benevolent exertions of the citizens of Baltimore in the protection and support, for many weeks, chiefly by donations of private charity, of many hundreds of poor persons, exiled from their homes, and lodged in temporary barracks and tents. In aid of this plan of the corporation, the Governor in the absence of the Council, took upon himself to tender to the Mayor of the City the use of the tents and camp equipage of the State in the arsenal there; an act, which, if it was an assumption of power, he confidently relies upon the sympathy of the Legislature with the sufferers to excuse, or to sanction.

Among the subjects, which we deem it our duty to present to the attention of the Legislature at this time, the state of the revenue is, perhaps, one of the highest importance, and most pressing necessity. From various causes the revenue has become inadequate to meet the necessary annual expenses of the State. The deficit it is not, at this moment, in our power, nor is it necessary for the purpose of this address, to state with precision. It will appear, in a detailed statement, in the annual report of the Treasurer. Among the causes that have produced this unpleasant state of things, the lenity and indulgence of the State to its debtors, until many have become insolvent, has been gradually operating for many years, until the aggregate loss has, at length, become very considerable. But a more abundant source of our present fiscal embarrassments has been the great expenses inevitably incurred in the defence of the State during the late war, for which, as a usual way, source of efficient revenue was occupied by the General Government, it was