

MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate,

and House of Delegates :

It is my privilege again to congratulate you on the prosperous condition of the State. That heart would be indeed callous, and that intellect obtuse, which could not appreciate, or would not acknowledge the extraordinary blessings conferred upon this State and Nation, by a Merciful Providence. The people of Maryland have escaped the perils of their financial struggle—they have filled their treasury from the proceeds of a well-remunerated industry—they have enriched their State with the most valuable products of Labor, and the greatest revelations of practical Art—they have seen their vast Agricultural Interest expand with a steady development—they have witnessed the wonderful strides of their Commercial Metropolis to greatness and power—and, all of these results have been accomplished as unconsciously, almost, as the silent growth of the oak, or the swelling of the tide; whilst national peace, domestic happiness, and the innumerable joys of social life have brightened the pathway of their progress. Nor, does their motive for gratitude end here; here, it only begins. The serpent of discord, which had glided unperceived, into the very sanctuary of the National Liberties, has been crushed; the triumph of Reason and Justice has quelled the agitations of Fanaticism; and the whole people have crowded around a common altar, to offer up their discordant interests and their conflicting opinions, as a holocaust to Freedom and Humanity. Such a spectacle exceeds, in sublimity, the grandest exhibitions of inanimate Nature, in pro-