

my views to you on some of the leading topics which may command my attention as your executive officer. While I shall rely upon the wisdom of the Legislative branches of the government to aid me in an honest and judicious administration of the public affairs, I shall, under the guidance of an over-ruling power, endeavor to meet all the requirements of the Constitution at my hands, fearlessly, faithfully, and without partiality. I mean to know no controlling influence in the discharge of my duties, save that which in my judgment is legitimately recognised by the Constitution which you have laid down as my guide, and that of the sacred interests of the people, in whose virtue and patriotism, and impartial judgment, I place profound reliance.

Invoking the continued blessings of Providence on our State and its citizens, who have been so signally favored in the past, in all that appertains to their true and lasting interests, and sincerely actuated by the sentiments I have thus advanced in your presence, I assume the duties of the station to which, by your free voice, I have been called.