

placed Maryland in an attitude of hostility to the General Government, and her Union-loving people in a false and unwarrantable position. I say apparently, because the votes of the people on the 13th of June, and again on the 6th of November, have declared in most emphatic tones, what I have never doubted, that Maryland has no sympathy with rebellion and desires to do her full share in the duty of suppressing it.

Looking, therefore, to the evil done by your predecessors, and deeming it impossible to mistake the wishes of the people, as expressed at the ballot-box, I have not hesitated to convene your Honorable Bodies in special session, in order that you may, at once, perform the will of the people, by taking such steps, as will, in your wisdom, seem most effective to vindicate the honor and loyalty of our State.

I have such confidence in the courage, ability, and patriotism which I know to exist in this Senate and House of Delegates that I might well here conclude this communication. I feel sure that no topic on which you should take action will escape your discernment. But in accordance with custom, and with the requirements of my duty, I herewith respectfully offer some brief suggestions in regard to the more prominent topics which demand your immediate and careful attention.

The tax-payers in Maryland are looking with great interest for your action in regard to the best method of raising the money which is required to pay our proportion of the National Tax levied by Congress to aid in defraying the expense of the war, and also the other sums which will be necessary to enable this State to follow her own former patriotic example and that of her loyal sisters.

Our proportion of the National Tax amounts to the sum of four hundred and thirty-six thousand, eight hundred and twenty-three dollars, and thirty-three cents; and Congress has allowed 15 *per centum* of this sum to be retained by us to defray the costs and charges of collecting the same.

It is impossible for me to offer any estimate of the amount that will be necessary for the other purposes I have indicated. But I look upon the whole subject as one in which dollars and cents should not be regarded. The rebellion is to be put down, no matter at what cost. Our State must bear her share of the expense and our people have shown their desire to do so by casting an overwhelming majority of their votes in favor of the maintenance of the Union.

Yours, then, should be no niggard hand. In this case, liberality will be economy; and the people look to you thus to vindicate their devotion to the Government.