

Governor Thomas, and inform him that the general assembly were ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make, retired from the senate chamber, and after a time returned and reported, that they had performed the duty assigned them, and had been requested by his Excellency to say, that he would make a communication this day at half past 12 o'clock.

The following message from his Excellency Governor Thomas, with the accompanying documents, was communicated to the Senate by the hands of Thomas Culbreth, Esquire, clerk of the council.

It was read, and

On motion of Mr. Hughlett,

Ordered to lie on the table; and the documents referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

#### EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

Annapolis, January 1, 1835.

*Gentlemen of the Senate, and of the*

*House of Delegates.*

Prompted, alike by duty and inclination, to render to you, in your high character of immediate Representatives of the People, an account of the manner, in which we have discharged the duties of the important trusts confided to us, as well as to make such suggestions as reflection and experience may have dictated, it may be permitted us, first to offer you individually and collectively, our sincere congratulations upon your safe arrival, in good health, at the seat of government, and to felicitate both you and ourselves upon the generally prosperous and happy condition of our fellow citizens throughout the state.

Although there is much to admire in the annual accounting of those, who have been entrusted with the Chief Executive power, with the more immediate Representatives of the People, and through them, with the people themselves, as a beautiful, practical commentary upon the theory and principles of our happy form of government; yet confined as we are, chiefly to the circle of our domestic relations, it is not to be expected, nor indeed desired, that there should often be much that is of new or of awakening interest in this or similar communications.

Based, as our government is, upon written constitutions and laws, carefully protecting the rights of every citizen, and wisely distributing and clearly defining the