THE EASTON GAZETTE.

SATURDAY MORNING, - - DECEMBER 7, 1861.

EASTON, MD.

☞ We perceive a miserable attempt at an apology put forth in the last *Star* for the action of the Grand Jury in failing to present notorious violaters of the law by persons who have left here for the purpose of enlisting in the rebel army, as well as those who have aided, advised and assisted them in so doing. The Star says that "prompt in the discharge of its duty, the grand jury prolonged its session one day in order to "ventilate" these charges." Yes, they were prompt indeed, in hunting up the friends of the government, and if they had been as keen on the scent of traitors, the result of their labors would have been more ample and abundant. The Star says, a rigorous investigation of the matter was had and that we, with others were summoned before them, but that neither we nor any of our conferees "could prove a single fact or give the slightest clue" to the charges. This is the statement put forth by the editor of the Star, hoping that a credulous puplic might believe what he says, unaccompanyed by proof. The fact is we were summoned before the grand jury and when questioned as to the charges named in our editorial, we stated that although we had no personal knowledge beyond what the whole community knew there were persons here who knew of the fact. But we were told to state only what *we* knew of our *own knowledge*. Others were ready to give the names of witnesses, but they would not even suffer the evidence to be thrust upon them.—They were evidently *afraid* of the investigation and were glad to escape to their homes for fear the proof might be brought to them in such a palpable form that they could not overlook it.—The Star hopes to hear no more of these things; we know the editor has heard a good deal more than he relishes and we have no doubt he is about as deep in the mire as his mental calibre would permit; these wholesome truths are very unwelcome, but we intend to bring them out from time to time as circumstances may demand, and perhaps the next grand jury may examine the other side of the question which has been conveniently overlooked by the one which has lately adjourned.

We intended to have published Judge Carmichael's Charge to the Grand Jury in to-day's paper, or at least that portion of it which appeared in the Star on Tuesday, but matter of a more important nature, at this time, has crowded it out. However, we will try and make room for it next week or as soon thereafter as possible. As it was delivered extempore of course it was written out afterwards for publication. If the publishing of it by us will serve for no other purpose, it will prove to our readers that the remarks made by the Gazette on Saturday week were strictly true, or it may be of service as a reference at some future period.

CAPTURE OF A VALUABLE PRIZE.—Another valuable prize arrived at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on Sunday, which was captured after a three hours' chase, on the 25th ult., by the steamer Penguin, while heading for Edisto Island, near Charleston, S. C. She proved to be the schooner Albion, from Nassau, New Providence, laden with a cargo worth $100,000, consisting of salt, oil, tin, fruit, and also the suspicious articles of arms, ammunition, saddles and cavalry equipments. When brought to by the Penguin's guns she reported herself bound for New York, from Nassau, with fruit and salt; but upon searching her the additional cargo of contraband of war was found on board. The officers turn out to be citizens of Savannah.

POSTPONED SALE.—Joseph V. B. Wright, Esq., has postponed his sale of stock, &c., from Thursday, the 12th to Wednesday, the 18th inst. Persons in want of such articles as he may offer for sale may find this a rare opportunity to make purchases. For particulars see advertisement in another column.

SOMETHING WORTHY OF NOTE.—The *Star* of Tuesday informs its readers that if it can make it convenient it "intends to submit a statement of facts" to its readers.

We predict the inconvenience to be too great for the Star to go so far out of its regular line of business.

☞ THE "St. Michaels Dorcas Society," have received from the Grand Jury, by the hands of Mr. E. Covey, the sum of Six Dollars and Fifty Cents, for which they tender their thanks.

☞ WE are unable to give the usual variety of reading matter this morning that we generally give. The Messages of the President and Governor Hicks take up almost our entire space.

CONGRESS.—The first session of the Thirty-seventh Congress commenced at Washington on Monday last. A quorum was present both in the House and Senate, and as both had previously organized, they at once proceeded to business. In both Houses the subject of confiscation of slaves was introduced by resolutions.—In the Senate notice was given of a resolution to abolish the distinction between the regular and volunteer army. The House adopted resolutions declaring that as Colonels Corcoran and Wood had been placed in confinement as felons by the rebel authorities, and ordered to be treated "as prisoners convicted of infamous crimes," that the President be therefore requested to order John Slidell and James M. Mason to the same character of prison and treatment. Mr. Henry May of Baltimore, appeared and took his seat in the House.

The President's message was transmitted to Congress on Tuesday. It is brief and relates to subjects of such momentous importance that none probably will fail to read it. Whilst strongly marked by the characteristics of Mr. Lincoln's style, the message is clear and explicit in its statements, practical in its suggestions and conservative in its treatment of the exciting subjects which depend upon the political questions connected with the rebellion. The President urges no scheme of general emancipation or of arming the slaves. "In considering the policy to be adopted for suppressing the insurrection says the President, "I have been anxious and careful that the inevitable conflict for this purpose shall not degenerate into a violent and remorseless revolutionary struggle. I have, therefore, in every case, thought it proper to keep the integrity of the Union prominent as the primary object of the contest on our part, leating all questions which are not of vital military importance to the more deliberate action of the legislature."

In the Senate, on Wednesday, Mr. Saulsbury of Delaware, submitted a resolution proposing the appointment of Commissioners to confer with like Commissioners from the Seceded States "for the preservation of the Union." The resolution was laid over. Mr. Chandler offered a resolution declaring that J. C. Breckinridge is expelled from the Senate. The resolution was adopted unanimously, several Senators not voting. Mr. Kennedy, of Maryland, voted for the expulsion.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.—The Legislature assembled at Annapolis on Tuesday last. There was a full attendance of members in both Houses, but beyond the swearing in of members no business was done.

Both branches promptly organized at noon on Wednesday. Henry H. Goldsborough, of Talbot, was elected President of the Senate, and J. Summerfield Berry, of Baltimore county, elected Speaker of the House. Both gentlemen, on taking their seats, delivered addresses suited to the occasion, and strong in the assertion of the loyalty of Maryland. Mr. Goldsborough was conducted to the chair by Messrs. Smith and Sellman. The following are his remarks upon the occasion:

Senators: The vote just announced, while it conveys a flattering expression of your confidence which I highly appreciate, imposes upon me the duties of a position filled with responsibility.

Called together under circumstances unusually extraordinary, at a period the most trying since the foundation of our State, we should gravely consider the best course of legislative policy with a firm determination to adhere thereto. Distinguished for a loyalty superior to party, and for a love of the union of these States unexampled, Maryland is now called to witness scenes of fraternal strife, from which every patriot's eye would be gladly averted, and to testify anew her devotions to the eblems of our national pride and honor.

The sounds of martial music, accompanied with military array of a character never before witnessed within our borders, attest the fact that those with whom we have hitherto lived in peace and amity have, in madness of the hour, seen fit to appeal to the sword as the dread arbitrament of those questions which have hitherto been so satisfactorily adjusted at the ballot-box. However much we may have deprecated this solution of our differences, the sad alternative of *disunion or civil war* is now upon us, and we must meet the crisis as men who know their rights, and knowing dare maintain them.

The executive of your State, exerting his constitutional power, has thus far preserved us from internal strife such as exists in other central States, while the great body of the people elsewhere have voluntarily rushed to arms for the protection of the only temple of constitutional liberty now in existence. His judicious course thus sanctioned indicated that in the judgment of the people of this State no part of this noble structure should be destroyed, but that our energies should be devoted to guard, preserve, and uphold against internal as well as external foes.

Situated in the very heart of this great nation, Maryland must necessarily exercise a powerful influence on the conduct of the respective parties in this unhappy fraternal contest. A united and conservative course may do much to allay embittered feelings, and reproduce in the minds of men all over the country a sense of the importance of that full, fair and honest recognition of constitutional rights so essential to the unity and perpetuity of our national as well as State governments.

As your presiding officer, I beseech the cultivation of the most enlarged patriotic feelings; such as animated the early patriots of the State, the companions in arms, the friends of that illustrious patriot, the crowning act of whose life, in this chamber, admonish us how utterly unworthy are all selfish partisan purposes compared with our country's welfare and our country's good.

Let us cherish his oft-repeated warnings against sectional strife and geographical parties.—The scenes daily transpiring in our southern sister States strongly impress us with the motto—"United we stand, divided we fall"—threatening, as they do, the dissolvement of the most cherished rights of man.

Be prudent—firm—decided. Maryland's position is that of a loyal State. Her will must be faithfully reflected in the enactment of laws that will cause her safety to be no longer endangered by fermenters of civil discord, or aiders or abettors of those who seek for partisan purposes to destroy a constitution formed by the wisdom of our fathers, and a Union cemented by their blood.

Standing as peers in this Senatorial Chamber, I shall endeavor to administer the office with courtesy, avoiding all partisan considerations.

Thanking you for this marked manifestation of your confidence, I now assume the duties of the chair, trusting that our mutual consultations may be directed to the welfare of our beloved State and the perpetuity of that Union transmitted by our fathers, and which, if ever destroyed, no human power will be able to reconstruct.

In the Senate, Mr. Smith, of Carroll, submitted an order declaring the seat of Coleman Yellott, Senator from Baltimore, vacant, and directing the President to inform the Governor of the fact. The message of Governor Hicks was received and read in both Houses. It is eminently loyal and patriotic, and marked by the intelligent, practical good sense characteristic of its author.

The following are the minor officers of the Senate: Chapman Harwood, of Anne Arundel, secretary; E. M. Tingle of Worcester, reading clerk; Alex. Knotts of Caroline, sergeant at arms; Thos S. Herbert of Washington county, door-keeper; John T. Wright, of Annapolis, messenger; Jno. W. Rider, of Somerset and Messrs. Keenan of Frederick and Walsh of Allegany, reading clerks.

Officers of the House: T. Snowden Thomas of Cecil, chief clerk; James P. Milnor of Baltimore city, reading clerk; Oliver P. Wood, Balt. city, sergent-at-arms; Jacob Long of [illegible]ington and James H. Donoho, of Dorc[illegible] door-keepers; W. R. Hammond of Worcester, post-master; Leonard Picking of Frederick, Isaac Gibbons of Somerset, Thos. England of Montgomery, J. H. Baker of Harford, Harrison Swartzwalder, of Allegany, and Otho Shipley, of Carroll, committee clerks; Esma Lowe of Caroline, folder.

THE GREAT REVIEWS.—We do not discredit to the Periodical Literature of France, Germany and America, and numerous English, Scottish and Irish Reviews which are their contemporaries on their own soil, when we emphatically characterize "The Westminster," "The Edinburgh," "The Quarterly," "Blackwood's," and the "North British," as the great Reviews.—Each represents an estate of society, or condition of things, and brings to bear upon the questions that concern it an amount of ancient and modern learning, a force of thought and power of language, which confound with amazement even the rhetoricians and philosophers and scholars of the whole earth.

We do certainly recommend to our readers these publications of Scott & Co., as worthy of a place in their families. And as the volumes of all commence with January, 1862, that would be a good time to date from. The terms are as follows, viz:

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For any one of the four Reviews,	$3 00
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For Blackwood and two Reviews, "	12 00
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For Blackwood and three Reviews, "	15 00
For the four Reviews, "	13 00
For Blackwood and the four Reviews, "	17 00

Any of the above works will also be furnished to new subscribers for the year 1859–7, 8, and 9 at one-half the regular subscription prices, thus a new subscriber may obtain the reprints of the four Reviews and Blackwood seven consecutive years for $37, which, is but little more than the price of the original works for one year.

As they will never again be likely to offer such inducements as those here presented, now is the time to subscribe. For further particulars see advertisement in another column. Address, Leonard Scott & Co., No. 54, Gold Street, New York.

Message of Governor Hicks,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

Gentlemen of the Senate
and of the House of Delegates:

I have called together the General Assembly of Maryland, in anticipation of the regular session in January, and it is proper I should briefly recount the events and state the reasons which have led me to that determination.

About the time at which South Carolina passed her Ordinance of Secession, and during several months thereafter, I was importuned to convene the Legislature.

It was urged with great zeal, that the people of Maryland should have an opportunity of saying whether they would remain loyal to the Government framed by our fathers, or join the Seceded States in their mad crusade against the continuance of the Union.

It was alleged that if the Legislature should be convened, it would either call a Sovereign Convention, or submit to a vote of the people the grave question whether they desired such a Convention to assemble.

The strenuous effort to induce me to call together the Legislature having failed, I was then earnestly desired to submit to the people, by proclamation, the question whether or not they wished a Convention to be assembled. I declined to accede to this request, because, under the Constitution, I possessed no such power.

In thus persistently refusing to comply with those propositions I am well aware that I assumed a grave responsibility. But I was satisfied, nevertheless, that I was but performing what to me seemed to be a clear and simple duty. And for the consequences I was then, and am now, willing to rely upon the justice and good sense of my fellow-citizens; to whom it is due that I explain, as briefly as I can, the reasons which induced my course.

I believed that I was thoroughly acquainted with the proclivities of a majority of the members of that Legislature. I was perfectly convinced that they desired Maryland to leap, no matter how blindly, into the vortex of Secession. I believed the same to be true of the most of those citizens who so persistently urged the assembling of the Legislature. I was, therefore, unwilling to allow that body an opportunity so to misuse its great power; not doubting that, in imitation of the Legislatures of the Seceded States, it would exert that power to the great detriment of the people of Maryland.

It is true that I earnestly desired the people to have an opportunity of expressing their will at the ballot-box, in regard to the position of Maryland, and I would most cheerfully have afforded them such opportunity if I had possessed the constitutional power to do so in any other way than by convening the Legislature.

But I could not trust that body in so momentous a crisis. I did not believe the people could possibly have a fair and free expression of their will under the provisions of any law for that purpose which might be enacted by that Legislature. I was sure that through some juggle Maryland would be forced to secede. I need not speculate here in regard to the mode by which this would have been accomplished; whether by the bayonet or by some equally cogent or persuasive process. I merely assert that I believe the plans of the Secessionists would have been accomplished, if they had had the great power of the Legislature to aid them.

I was, during all that time, positively convinced that a majority of the people of Maryland did not wish the State to secede. They knew that the secession of Maryland would attempt to carry with it the possession of the National Capitol; and knowing, also, that our Northern and Western brethren could not be expected to acquiesce peaceably in such a step, I concluded that our people were not insane enough to wish this State to become one vast battle field and our homes made desolate.

I continued, then, to refuse to convene the Legislature. I hoped that nothing but time was needed to cause even zealots for Secession to change their opinions; or, at least, forbear their designs. In this, it appears, I did not accurately measure the extent of their madness.

But I did not know how much I erred in this regard until my eyes were opened by the occurrences in Baltimore on the 19th of April, and the subsequent events connected with that treasonable outbreak.

I then concluded that I could not hope to gain much more time in which the misguided mob might see its error. And, when Coleman Yellott, Esq., the late Senator from Baltimore city, after advising with the Board of Police Commissioners, and instigated by the more prominent of the conspirators, unlawfully issued his "Proclamation" for an assembling of the Legislature at Baltimore, where a large and active portion of the Secession element would be congregated, I knew it was time for me to act. True, I might then have called upon the President of the United States to quell the insurrection, but this would almost certainly have caused the destruction of the city of Baltimore. I might have called out the militia to endeavor to restore quiet, and indeed I did make an effort to that end. But I discovered that nearly all the officers were in league with the conspirators, and the volunteer corps of the city and vicinity, which possessed arms, were almost entirely in the same category. It is true there was a considerable loyal military force in Baltimore, but it was undisciplined and entirely unarmed. So that if I had effectively called out the militia, at that time, I should have actually assisted the conspirators in their designs.

I concluded, therefore, after anxious deliberation, that there was but one course left to me. I summoned the Legislature to assemble at Frederick city, in the midst of a loyal population, on the 26th day of April, believing that even the few days thus gained would be invaluable.

By the merciful intervention of Providence this step accomplished my full purpose. The State could not secede and bloodshed was averted from her soil.

The history of that Legislature is before the country. Not only did it fail to do its duty, as representing a loyal State, but actually passed treasonable resolutions, and attempted to take, unlawfully into its hands both the purse and the sword, whereby it might plunge us into the vortex of Secession. It was deterred from doing this latter only by the unmistakable threats of an aroused and indignant people.

Restricted in the duration of its sessions by nothing but the will of the majority of its members, it met again and again; squandered the people's money, and made itself a mockery before the country. This continued until the General Government had ample reason to believe it was about to go through the farce of enacting an Ordinance of Secession, when the treason was summarily stopped by the dispersion of the traitors.

Inasmuch as the Legislature in ordinary times is presumed to represent the people of a State, the treasonable action of the late Senate and House of Delegates has apparently 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 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 expenses 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 fifteen 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.

A direct tax, to raise the necessary amount, would, in my opinion, fall heavily upon the people at this time, because of the partial prostration of mercantile and industrial pursuits. Of course, if the money can be procured in no other way, direct taxation must be resorted to. But, as such a tax is always unacceptable, and would be onerous, under all the circumstances, I trust you will be able to devise some method by which its imposition at this time may be avoided.

The Legislature being constitutionally empowered "to contract debts, to any amount that may be necessary for the defence of the State," it seems to me that the best method of raising the required sum would be to borrow, on the bonds of the State, an amount sufficient for our purpose, after deducting therefrom a proper proportion to be reserved as a sinking-fund for their redemption.

The interest on the bonds might be met by a very slight increase of the present small rate of direct taxation; which, so increased, would not amount to the rate so long and cheerfully born by our people when no rebellion threatened the Union. By thus pledging the State's credit, the people will be relieved from paying at once the heavy debt which has been fastened upon us by the insane conduct of the rebels. We shall also be spared the mortification which would certainly ensue in consequence of our inability to collect the necessary amount by direct taxation in due time to meet our obligations to the Government.

It may not be inappropriate to suggest here that you cannot reasonably expect any assistance, to meet the exigencies of such an occasion, from the current receipts into the Treasury. The Comptroller of that Department informs me that on the 30th of September, 1861, at the close of the fiscal year, the condition of the Treasury was as follows:

Balance on hand as of Sept. 30, 1860,		$255,587,75
Receipts during the year,		960,813,08
		$1,216,400,83
Disbursed during the year,		1,046,356,41
Leaving a balance of as of September 30th, 1861.		$ 170,044,42
Probable demands upon the Treasury for the current fiscal year,		$1,000,000,00
Amount of Sinking Fund on the 30th of September, 1860,	$1,823,229,35	
Accumulation thereof during the year,	231,189,02	
Showing the actual invested Sinking Fund to be on 1st Sept. 1861,	$2,054,418,37	
Remaining to the credit of the Fund Sept. 30th, 1861,	$ 40,919,62	

More detailed information in regard to the condition of the Treasury can be readily obtained by you on application to the Comptroller.

It is undoubtedly a strict duty, and also due to the pride and honor of the State, that you make immediate provisions for raising and equipping Maryland's quota of the five hundred thousand volunteers called for by the President under the act of Congress authorizing him so to do. I believe that quota can be raised without difficulty so soon as you shall advance the money to pay the expense of recruiting and equipping the troops.

In reference to this subject, I need offer no suggestions as to details. We can find the patriotic example in our own Statute Book, at the first and subsequent session of the General Assembly of this State in 1777, by which ample provision was made for recruiting, equipping and clothing the quota of this State in the army of the United States, and for furnishing relief to the families who needed it of those who had volunteered in defence of the Government.

At the March session of 1778 was passed an act (chap. viii) for the better security of the Government to which I respectfully invite your attention. The preamble recites that the duties of protection and allegiance are reciprocal; and whereas no man is entitled to the one who denies the obligation of the other, the law prescribes the oath of allegiance to this State and to the United States, to be taken, repeated and subscribed by every citizen of this State under the penalties (in case of recusance) and disqualifications therein stated. A thorough revision of the militia law and reorganization of the State military is an imperative necessity at this time.

The anomalous condition of the Municipal Government of the city of Baltimore demands immediate action on your part. The police force of that city now receives its pay from the United States Treasury, and it is obvious that such a state of affairs should be permitted to exist no longer.

I transmit herewith a copy of a communication received from the Department of State, at Washington, in reference to fortifications within the limits of this State. I deem the subject to be of great importance, and I trust it will receive at your hands the consideration which it deserves.

I respectfully suggest the propriety of the re-enactment of former laws for the summary punishment of persons in Maryland who shall be convicted of aiding or abetting, in any manner, those who are in arms against the Government.

It is undeniable that, notwithstanding the careful watch kept by the Federal officers, there are, in our midst, sympathizers with and abettors of the rebellion, who, in some way, keep up communication with and give aid and comfort to the Confederates.

Let us endeavor to put an end to these nefarious practices by inflicting severe pupishment upon these offenders against the peace of this State as well as against the U. States. Such a course will also measurably relieve loyal citizens in many parts of the State, from the numerous annoyances and persecutions to which they have been so long subjected at the hands of their Secessionist neighbors, and which have undoubtedly increased to their present embarrassing proportion because of the impunity with which men have heretofore been allowed to act treasonably.

The object and intention of the Government in the war forced upon it in defence of the Union, as declared in the patriotic proclamation of Gen. Dix at restoring the flag in the counties on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, and of Gen. Sherman, in South Carolina, are entitled to and will receive the support of our people.

The condition of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal requires action on your part. The re-opening of these great works to traffic and travel is of immense importance not only to the people directly, but as bearing upon the future of our financial resources. The statement made by the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company is herewith submitted. Other topics of less importance not necessarily requiring immediate attention will be presented in detail in my communication to you at the opening of your regular session.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I congratulate you, and the people of the State, upon the immunity we have enjoyed from the dreadful evils which have fallen upon some of the other States.—While carnage and desolation have stalked thro' Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, we here in Maryland have had no battle fields, no wanton destruction of homes, no outrages upon helpless women and children.

True, in every section of the State rancor and deadly hatred, and in some cases even judical persecution, have been openly indulged against those whose only offence is loyal to the Government. But this hatred, bitterness and persecution have not yet culminated in bloodshed. The tread of hostile armies has not interfered with the calling of the husbandman, but the earth has yielded more bountifully than ever before.

If the thunders of artillery can be heard on our borders, if our industrial pursuits have been prostrated to some extent by the national calamity, we have yet had peace in our midst. By the blessing of Heaven we have been spared the dreadful evils and horrors inseperably connected with the war. For all this we have abundant reason to be thankful.

And in view of this we can yet afford to pardon those who shall now cease from laboring with a zeal worthy of a better cause to stir up discord within our State, to array brother against brother, and son against father.

It is with you to efface whatever disloyalty has appeared upon our Legislature records. It is also with you to prove that Maryland is not only loyal but patriotic.

Whatever aid we can afford the Federal Government should be offered liberally, promptly, ungrudgingly. The perpetuity of the Government is at stake. Maryland wishes to do her whole duty, and her loyal sons have placed her honor in your keeping. I know you will not betray that trust.

May Heaven direct your labors, and may the day be not far distant when this parricidal war shall cease; when, in peace, the morning sun shall gild the bright folds of our flag again proudly floating in every State of a newly and more strongly cemented Union!

THOMAS H. HICKS.

The Presidents' Message.

As we have not the space to publish the whole of President Lincoln's Message, we give a pretty full synopsis, taken from the Baltimore Clipper of Wednesday, which says:

As on a former occasion, the message was received by telegraph, and consequently no doubt much marred in its delivery to us—and therefore it cannot be expected that full justice can be done to it in its present state. We gather from it, however, that it is a plainly written, matter of fact document, and without any pretentions to a display of rhetoric. We will make but a brief abstract at present, leaving any comments which the subjects treated on may seem to require for another opportunity.

The President commences his message with an acknowledgment of gratitude to God amid the unprecedented political troubles surrounding us, for the unusual good health and most abundant harvests, enjoyed by our people. The disappointment of the "disloyal citizens" at the South in not receiving that "patronage" they anticipated from foreign powers in their rebellion, is alluded to, and the President thinks that if those nations could have been induced to discard their obligations to our country for the sake of commercial advantages, or the obtainment of cotton, which was mainly relied on by the South, they, no doubt, would the more readily find an easier accomplishment of their aim by aiding in crushing out the rebellion.

The correspondence with foreign powers, in connection with the derangements of commerce, caused by the blockade, is alluded to, and the President declines going into any extended discussion upon it, and refers to the correspondence itself, submitted with the message, which he hopes will prove that we have acted with forbearance and liberality. He recommends, however, as foreign dangers always attend domestic difficulties, that we should be prepared for any emergency, and recommends that our ports and harbors, particularly on the great lakes and rivers, be placed in a proper state of defence. This is in accordance with the views recently presented by Mr. Seward in his circular to the Governors of the several States.

Allusion is made to the importance to the loyal regions of East Tennessee and North Carolina, that they should be connected with Kentucky and the faithful parts of the Union by a railroad, which can soon be made, and the aid of the General Government is proposed to accomplish the object.

Some treaties have been negotiated, but of no general political importance, which will be submitted to the Senate.

Allusion is made to a correspondence with the British Minister in regard to the detention of the British ship Perthshore, in June last, for a supposed breach of the blockade. Injustice is admitted to have been done in the case, and an appropriation is advised to meet the reasonable demands of the vessel for her detention.

Instructions are asked in regard to a surplus of money received from China, after paying the claims of our citizens.

It is recommended that the commanders of sailing vessels be authorized to recapture any prizes which pirates may make of U. S. vessels and their cargoes.

It is also recommended that Hayti and Liberia should be so far recognized as that Charge d'Affaires may be appointed to each of these States, as important commercial advantages may thereby be secured.

The operations of the Treasury are considered as having been conducted with signal success. Much of the national loan has been taken by the citizens among the industrial classes—and brave as are our expenditures in conducting the war, they are not beyond the resources of the loyal people, and the same patriotism which has thus far sustained the Government, will no doubt be continued until peace and union shall again bless the land.

The patriotism of the country is highly commended in responding in so gratifying a manner to the call for troops, and the state of discipline which the army has attained and its sanitary condition are also alluded to with much appropriation. The number of troops tendered to the Government greatly exceeds the force authorized to be raised by Congress.

It is recommended that the militia be augmented upon a uniform basis, and that the number of the cadets to the Military Academy be increased.

The additions to the Navy have been so great that it may be almost said to have been created and brought into service since our difficulties commenced. Its efficiency is highly praised, and it is declared that it has performed deeds which have increased our naval renown.

The vacancies in the Supreme Court are alluded to, and the reasons advanced why they have not been filled. The valued services of the late Judge McLean are spoken of in connexion, and additional facilities are recommended to be granted to the States embracing the area of this Court.

The message suggests some action in regard to the collection of debts by military courts in the disloyal States. Also that some more convenient means should be provided for the adjustment of claims against the Government, and it is thought that the present Court of Claims could be used for the purpose, by giving it power to make its decisions final, instead of having to go before Congress for its sanction.

The Report of the Postmaster General, it says, shows that the expenses of that department exhibit an expenditure of two per cent. less than its revenue—a great change for the better over former years.

It is recommended that measures be taken to have that portion of the District of Columbia originally connected with the seat of government, including Alexandria, which was re-ceded to Virginia, be again united as in the original plat of the ten miles square.

The rebellion has materially affected the operations of the Land Office, as the large number of men who have entered the army has prevented settlements in the new States and Territories.—The receipts of the Patent Office have also declined for the same reason.

A number of persons, believed to be disloyal to the Government, are now enjoying pensions from the Government, and it is proposed that the Secretary of the Interior be empowered, upon proof, to suspend the payment thereof to such parties.

The Indian country south of Kansas is in possession of the insurgents from Texas and Arkansas, and it is reported that some of the Indians therein have been organized as a military force, and are attached to the army of the insurgents; but the Government has no official information upon the subject. It is believed, however, that on the return of peace these Indians will resume their former relations to the Government.

A strong recommendation is made in behalf of the claims of agriculture for a Department or separate Bureau, instead of connecting it, as is now the case, with another, by a clerkship only.

Unusual success has been attained in the suppression of the slave trade, a number of vessels having been captured either engaged in, or being fitted out for that traffic.

The new territories provided for by the last Congress have been fully organized, and are now under way.

The difficulties connected with the slave question, in connection with the operations of the army in entering the Confederate States, are referred to, and some suggestions made as to the disposition of those taken in the service of the rebel armies, under the act of August 16th. A suggestion is also made as to the propriety of colonizing them, and the free colored people already in the United States. In such case, it is supposed that it may become necessary to purchase territory outside of our limits for the purpose.

Quite a compliment is paid to "noble little Delaware," in the message, who "led off right from the first." Also to Maryland, who "was made to seem against the Union." "Our soldiers were assaulted," says the message, "bridges were burned and railroads torn up within her limits, and we were many days, at one time, without the ability to bring a single regiment over her soil to the Capital. Now her bridges and railroads are repaired and open to the government; she already gives seven regiments to the cause of the Union and none to the enemy; and her people, at the regular election, have sustained the Union by a larger majority and a larger aggregate vote than they ever before gave to any candidate or any question. Kentucky, too, for some time in doubt, is now decidedly, and I think unchangeable, ranged on the side of the Union. Missouri is comparatively quiet, and I believe cannot again be overrun by the insurrectionists."

"Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri," says the message, "neither of whom would at first promise a single soldier to the Union, have now an aggregate of not less than forty thousand in the field for the Union."

The possession of sundry important points, of Hatteras, Tybee, and Ship Island, is alluded to, and the reference is drawn therefrom that the Union cause is advancing Southward.

The resignation of Gen. Scott is alluded to in most feeling terms, and the appointment of Gen. McClellan as his successor is regarded not only as an appointment by the Executive, but also by the whole country, such is the entire confidence the nation has in his abilities for the station to which he has been called.

The message dwells somewhat at length upon the movements at the South to restrict the right of suffrage, &c., as indicating an approach towards monarchy, and argues the question of the supposed antagonism between capital and labor, as now mooted by the secessionists. And, after alluding to the increase of our country in population, as shown in the National census, which has been taken eight times, he thinks that if the Union is preserved there are those now born who will live to see it contain 250,000,000. Therefore, it says: "The struggle of day is not altogether for to-day, it is for a vast future also."

The message then appropriately concludes—that "with a reliance on Providence, all the more firm and earnest, let us proceed on the great task which events have crowded upon us."

No special reference appears to be made in the message in regard to Slidell and Mason's case.

The Heighth of Audacious Lying.

Messrs. Yancey and Mann, Commissioners of the Confederate States, attended the dinner of the Fishmongers' company in London on the 9th of November. The former made a speech, in the course of which he is reported as saying:

"To your institutions Americans are indebted for the chief of those vital principles which have caused them to style the republic—

The land of the free
And the home of the oppressed.

Such invaluable rights as the old English writ of habeas corpus, of a speedy trial by jury, *of freedom of speech and freedom of the press, are the main pillars of American constitutional liberty*, and I am both happy and proud to say *are observed at least throughout the Confederate American States as valid and practical rights*, even during their stern struggles to preserve their "national life."

If a specimen of more impudent mendacity than that can be found anywhere, let it be produced for the admiration of the world. "Freedom of speech, and freedom of the press, the main pillars of constitutional liberty, are observed throughout the Confederate States as vital and

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