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Fellow Citizens:

I have had a very short period to prepare myself to address you on this very important occasion. Elected day before yesterday, and called to stand before you today. But as you have thought proper to place me in the highest office of your Government, I must say something.

The trust is a great one, and there are many persons whose bosoms would swell with gladness on account of being thus distinguished by their fellow Citizens. Mine heaves, but not from joy. The weight of the duties of so responsible a situation, prepares such

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853—April 1855

1854