

an example that should be highly prized by every Marylander? Born in the capital of his State, trained at one of her **oldest collegiate institutions, and acquiring the rudiments of law at the hands of her own lawyers,** he entered upon his profession with an intelligent zeal, and unflagging energy possessed by few. He toiled on under all the difficulties that beset the path of the young, until by bold strides he planted his feet on higher and still higher ground, reaching the plane that is only trod by the master mind, and then boldly ascending still higher, until he attained the highest place among his peers. But all this was the work of labor, and **of many years, a progressive work, ever onward, and upward,** with no retrograde movement, no step backward, ever climbing fresh heights, and gaining new victories. From law, as studied by such a votary, to legislation, the step was a slight one and easily taken. The Constitution of his Country naturally became an object of careful study to such a mind, and long familiarity with its language and spirit fitted him to become an expounder of its significance, so that in the halls of legislation, he speedily took position among the great statesmen, who have shed peculiar lustre upon our national history. In the National Senate he moved among his peers, and was recognized as one that had the right to be **considered an authority among Statesmen.** He recognized the Nation, not as a bundle of discordant States, but as an organic union, from which no part could be severed without detriment to itself and serious injury to the whole.— Hence he clung to the Union when others, under the infatuation of another idea, strove to break the bond which bound all together, he labored with those who felt that to destroy the nation was to strike a blow at the grand structure that our fathers had reared, and to destroy the hopes of the future. He loved the union as one only could love it, who had been reared under its favoring protection, and had spent years in the study of its Constitution.

And when transferred from the councils of the nation to another still more extended sphere, the lustre of his reputation gave him recognition in diplomatic circles, equal to that he had obtained in the departments of law and legislation. He was a diplomat because he was a statesman, and a wise legislator because he had become learned in the law of his country. And thus, in whatever sphere of mental labor employed, Reverdy Johnson won for himself respect and renown, obtained by but few of his fellow men.

Without the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with this illustrious son of our native State, from my childhood his name was familiar to me as that of one of the foremost men