

respectively, as you may deem necessary and proper.

The several Laws and Resolutions of the last General Assembly, conferring authority and directing the performance of specific duties, by the Executive, have been duly attended to, and the wishes of the Legislature complied with.

By a Resolution of the Legislature my predecessor in office was directed to procure (amongst others) which have been desired as a sword with suitable device, to be presented to the late gallant Captain George W. Rogers of the Navy, for his good conduct during the late War. Before the sword was completed this Gentleman departed for a foreign station to take command of a Squadron - he alas! was destined never to return, and this memorial of his service, and worth still remaining in the Executive Chamber awaiting the direction of the Legislature, I did not feel myself authorized to make any disposition of it after the decease of the individual for whom it was intended.

I have thus endeavored rather to prompt your action upon some important subjects, than to urge them for adoption in accordance with my views. Some of my ideas are perhaps totally erroneous, but at this period when there is about the cooperation between us, I hope that you will draw the veil of charity over all the errors in this communication, and permit me to state, in concluding this message, that I do not wish to be considered a candidate for re-election.

In making this declaration I do it with deep humility, but do not mean supposing that any will have cause for regret, but I do so merely from the necessity of making known to you my determination. I have not the vanity to suppose that such a declaration would be necessary, but as custom seems to have fixed the period of re-election to the extent of the legal term of qualification, I may be allowed to think that the partiality of some friends would wish my continuance in office. In taking leave if you permit me to return you my thanks for the high honor you have conferred upon me, and condemn me not for saying that throughout my administration, I have acted with a single eye to the advancement of the honor, dignity and prosperity of the State.

I have the honor to be  
with the highest consideration  
Yours Obedient Servant  
Geo. Howard