

May I not be allowed to hope, that under the guidance of these views, and with an abiding sense of our high responsibility, we have labored assiduously to preserve the rights and advance the interests of our fellow-citizens. To develop the resources of our widespread and growing State, to give it that rank in this free Republics which God and nature designed it should take, even to meet the annual wants of our active and enterprising people by wise and just legislation, calls for knowledge and foresight of no ordinary character. It is not for us to say how well we have performed our part.

We are not the final Judges of the wisdom of our decisions upon the various subjects which have been presented for our consideration. To another tribunal we are amenable—Before our constituents we must stand or fall; and while we invoke them to throw the mantle of charity over all that is incident to human frailty, let us be willing to receive strict justice at their hands.

Mr. President: This occasion naturally produces mingled emotions. Home with all its endearments, the beloved society of our families and friends, and the sweets of private life, rush upon the mind and fill our hearts with joy and delight. And yet it is painful to part with <sup>our</sup> associates at this Board. True we met as strangers, have often differed in opinion, and have ~~often~~ contended in the arena of debate. But our contests have been to enforce our own views, and to obtain correct conclusions, rather than to gain a victory and enjoy a triumph. No poisoned arrow has ever been thrown; our harmony has not been seriously disturbed by party or personal asperities; and if they have ever existed, at this hour of parting, all jarring and discordant feelings will be hushed and forgotten.

Sir, we cannot all expect to meet again in