

gentleman came to congratulate me on the occasion with a good sprinkling of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, their ages ranging from seventy years to one week, with a fair prospect of an additional [one] in a short time.

I would have been very happy if you had been here to make one of the company, to hobnob with me in a glass of champagne or sherry. Sufficient for this letter, for I have many other matters interesting for the time when I shall again have the honor of addressing you. My best regards to your honored father, with kind remembrance to those who may inquire after me, and believe me, my dear friend, to be your sincere friend,

P. S. More anon.

NAPHTALI PHILLIPS

VICTORY IN MARYLAND

[After a generation of struggle for political equality in Maryland, the Jews were finally enfranchised in 1826. In the following letter to a Jewish friend, Solomon Etting of Baltimore, Benjamin Chew Howard described how the battle was won. Howard at that time was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. In later years he served in Congress. The original of this letter is in the possession of The Library Company of Philadelphia. — EDITOR.]

Annapolis, Jan. 5th, 1826.

Dear Sir:

The Jew Bill passed the House this morning, having previously passed the Senate. The act of last session is therefore confirmed, and I give you my hearty congratulations thereon. [Delegate John S.] Tyson made a beautiful and able argument upon it. It was the best speech I ever heard him make.

I held myself ready to reply to any one who might take the field against him, but no one stepped forth in such a miserable cause. I thought it therefore unnecessary to come out. The stain upon the Constitution of Maryland is blotted out forever, for in the march of the human mind it is impossible to recede.

Accept my sincere congratulations and believe me,

Yours truly,

BENJ'N C. HOWARD