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Maryland Day, September 12, 1893

at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago.

A number of Maryland's well-known citizens came to represent her at this time, including Governor T. Russell Brown and staff. Senators Gorman and Gibson, and Cardinal Gibbons. The official program, at Music Hall, was opened with an invocation by Cardinal Gibbons.



Music Hall

Governor Brown made a few introductory remarks, and then introduced John B. Findlay, the orator of the day, whose theme was given him by the event celebrated—the bombardment of Fort McHenry in 1814 by the British fleet, and the consequent writing of The Star-Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key as he lay a prisoner on board one of the attacking vessels. A recitation of this poem formed an incident of the exercises. The fireworks in the evening presented the bombardment of Fort McHenry, the inside pier of the Lake Front taking the place of the fort, and lines of boats on both right and left representing the British fleet. When the smoke cleared away, the Star-Spangled Banner appeared in lines of fire above the victorious fort.