

of the powers and resources of the State, and the establishment of liberal principles in her political economy, Maryland cannot be an indifferent spectator, in the midst of the fearful agitations, which have threatened, and still may again threaten the peace of the Union. She cannot forget her ancient honors, and the memories of her forefathers. Though inferior in size, population and wealth, to many of her younger sisters in the confederacy, she is nevertheless entitled, in an eminent degree, to a deferential consideration, in this war of passions. Her voice should be heard, and her counsels respected; for she speaks from the mausoleum of revolutionary heroes, whose blood was shed, with equal profusion, upon the bleak hills of the North, and the sunny savannas of the South, to secure a nationality, which the Union alone can preserve. Though allied to the South, in feeling and interest, by the habits of her people, and the nature of her domestic institutions, she nevertheless occupies a peculiar position, which should command for her, in this crisis, an especial weight and influence. Maryland is a border State, - the immediate link between the North and the South, - identified with the latter, yet familiarized, by constant intercourse with the virtues and weaknesses of both. Upon her soil there is no resting place for an ultraist or fanatic. Her people are calm, deliberative and patriotic. Neither the rude boreas of Northern fanaticism, nor the hot sirocco of Southern impetuosity can move her temperate people from the even tenor of their way, in the plain path of duty. And, apart from their natural temperament, which leads to calmness and wisdom, in this fierce sectional strife, Marylanders are not unconscious of the terrible certainty, that should fratricidal folly and wickedness plunge this Nation into civil war, their State must be the battle-ground, for contending armies of Cain-like and God-accused destroyers. Let Maryland, then, speak the words of wise counsel and brotherly conciliation. Let her speak, plainly, the unvarnished truth; that traitors may be abashed, and unreflecting patriots may arouse their energies, in time to save the country. Although, no man, whatever may be his political position, for the time, can presume to speak for the people of a State, yet, if I may be allowed the expression of my individual opinion, I would say that, the people of Maryland will value the Union, beyond all other temporal blessings, so long as they regard it as conducive to perfect freedom, and the accomplishment of our national destinies. But, it cannot be supposed that the confederacy alone, is the beginning and the end of our hopes and affections. It is but the means, through which, we aim at the attainment of a defined object; and that is, the promotion of a national happiness, and a national power, which would be unattainable to any one or more of the States, less than the whole, if organized into a separate republic. How can such results be reached? By intersectional jealousies? By injustice? By the rude oppression of brute force, or the still more offensive tyranny of legislation which cannot be peaceably resisted by the oppressed? Certainly not. No Union of republican States can possibly stand upon such a foundation. The arch of this federal constitution must forever rest upon the mutual confidence and love of the whole people; or, we shall see it crumble into the dust, before the eyes of rejoicing Kings, and amidst the lamentations of hopeless humanity! Shall it be said that it is ineffectual moral treason, to weigh the chances of the continuance of this Union, and to deliberate upon its end, and its value? The day for such dangerous timidity has past. Would to God, that the whole Nation was still governed by "the instincts of old reverence," - that the name of Washington had become a political myth or apothosis, - and that the constitution, like the tables of the Mosaic law, was beyond the impious daring of profane criticism! Then, indeed, this would be a Republic of confederate hearts, where the impulses of a sublimated nature