

calm down the public passions, and direct the undivided energies of the people, to the payment of their honest debts. If there are vices in our political institutions which require correction, they have been borne too long and too patiently, to induce the belief, that they are of that aggravated and intolerable character, to demand correction now, at the hazard of consequences so fearfully portentous. Surely these evils real, or imaginary, are not so pressing and urgent, that the reviving honor of the commonwealth shall be immolated to redress them. When the State shall be placed on the platform of her ancient honor, and justice done to her suffering creditors, then, if needs be, the situation of our domestic concerns may be examined, and the proper remedy applied where grievances are found to exist. But until this is done, until Maryland can stand up amidst the Confederate States of the Union, and without blot or blur upon her escutcheon, can proudly proclaim that all her pecuniary engagements have been fulfilled, surely it were unwise to cast the torch of discord among her people. To this noble purpose, so essential to the lasting welfare and honor of the commonwealth, let her undivided energies be directed with unflinching resolution. Let this great object be kept constantly in view, as the goal which must be attained before we shall attempt the accomplishment of any other good, however desirable it may appear. Let no "retiring ebb" drive us back from the consummation of an effort upon the success of which, everything that is worth cherishing in life depends, and in which failure is unutterable degradation.

Let us keep "due on" in the fixed and unchangable determination to succeed, and success is certain. If however, unhappily, other counsels shall prevail, and questions so exciting as the redistribution of political power among the different portions of the State are thrown among us, the fatal consequences which we think would ensue from the exasperated feelings that would too surely be kindled, must rest upon the heads of those by whom the fire-brand is wielded.

The undersigned and the public cannot overlook the fact, that these movements to grasp at more political power, proceed from those sections of the State which have enjoyed the largest degree of prosperity under the existing government. It has been for their aggrandisement, and by their counsels, that the enormous debt of the State, now pressing with its mighty weight upon the resources of the people, was contracted—whilst other portions of the State have felt the effect of these measures only in the periodical and exhausting visits of the tax-gatherer. Under this state of things, the effort to strip the less favored portions, of the only security which remains to them, seems to the undersigned particularly ungracious, and they cannot recommend it; they think that the influence of numbers, and accumulated wealth, added to the direct political power enjoyed by those portions of the community in which those elements are found, ought to be satisfactory—and when they cast their eyes over the history of our legislation, and