

were under plug-ugly rule for so many years, and deprived of their rights, who gave them relief? who gave them the metropolitan police bill? The members from the counties who represented the popular will. Suppose the Governor had had the veto power at that time, could that relief have been afforded them? Again, when groaning under radical tyranny and oppression for the last five years, who came to their rescue again? The last Legislature, the county members. Suppose the Governor had the veto power then, and had used it to restrict the action of the Legislature? Suppose hereafter the Governor should veto measures intended for the relief of the people he did not mean the present incumbent, but we might have a Governor who would do it.

Mr. Tarr, of Caroline, said he had listened with great pleasure to the interesting debate which had taken place, and the views of the distinguished gentlemen who had spoken on the subject, but he had yet to hear an argument which tended to convince him that the section, as reported by the committee, should not be adopted. The gentleman from Kent (Mr. Wickes) had argued that it was a departure from time-honored principle. He (Mr. T.) had as much respect for antiquated memories as any one, but they were here to address themselves to the present and to the future, and to throw safeguards around the rights of the minorities. He was not willing to tie himself down to everything which was recognized in the past, but must live up to the exigencies of the present.

The gentleman says that all legislation is deferred until the heel of the session. It is to prevent that very difficulty that this power is to be conferred. It will compel the Legislature to pass the laws and present them to the Governor in time, and for this very reason he was in favor of conferring this power. It will break up these night sessions, when one-half the members are asleep and the other half not in the House, and two or three members rush important bills through *ad libitum*.

He asked what would have been the state of the country if it had not been for this veto—this rod of power, as it was called? The iron heel of oppression would have pressed much heavier upon that desolated and ravaged section of our country, and confiscation bills would ere