

section which was interested in this matter? Was the man who owned one slave less to be considered than the man who lost a hundred? The gentleman from Charles, (Mr. Stoddert,) had told them that the people voted down the constitution of 1864, and it was fastened upon them by the will of one man. Why, then, should the people of Maryland be called on to pay for this property? Because he had lost some slaves was he to demand payment from his neighbor who had none?

The gentleman from Prince George's who had first spoken (Mr. Lee) based his figment of an argument upon the fact that the Governor had proclaimed the constitution adopted, when it was defeated; that the proclamation was not true, and therefore the provision taking this property was not lawful. But because the Governor was recreant to his trust, recreant to the constitution of the State, recreant to the constitution of the United States, that was no reason for this claim. Why were they powerless to resist the wrong? Because they had to yield to the law of force, and they had to yield now the same as then. There had been no contract by the State of Maryland to make restitution for the despoilment. He (Mr. C.) had suffered much personally by the agents of the government, regular and irregular, but he claimed no redress from his neighbor.

Mr. Marbury replied to the arguments of Mr. Carmichael, and maintained that as the State promised to protect and defend the rights and property of her citizens, it was a contract to compensate them for the robbery which had been committed upon them by the rump convention of 1864. To go into the matter of dollars and cents, it would not cost the State of Maryland one dollar to pay for the slaves.

How was it now? The hammer of the sheriff was now heard in every nook and corner of Southern Maryland; their houses were dilapidated, their barns tumbling down, their dear old churches going to pieces, and even their graveyards were left open to the herds. Those people looked with streaming eyes to this Convention for relief. But he was met with the cry that it will cost too much money, that the men who are worth millions will not be able to pay it. If the money which was now sent to New