

all look again with fond delight upon the same gorgeous emblem of our nationality still floating over us, affording equal protection to the rights of all, at home and abroad, not a star erased, nor a stripe obscured.

*Representatives of Maryland*—Freemen of a central State of a once proud galaxy of States—citizens of a National Government, unequalled in its fostering protection by any other upon earth, your hearts and mine I know beat responsive to a wish for the restoration of our Federal Government, and a return of that period when we shall all, irrespective of geographical lines or sectional parties, recognize “the Constitution and the laws and treaties made in pursuance thereof, as the supreme law of the land.” Is there a man so indifferent to the blessings of republican liberty, as not to cherish a hope of a speedy realization of such a result? Who does not desire a peace—permanent substantial peace—a peace commanding the obedience of all men, in all parts of our common country, to those who have been or may be chosen to administer the Government? Who will not hail with pleasure the end of scenes of blood and desolation, if it can be obtained by an unconditional submission of those proud domestic foes, wherever located, who have been and are now engaged in plotting our destruction, and whose treasonable schemes, I hope, in the providence of God, may be defeated, whether sought to be accomplished by the sword or by a surreptitious use of the ballot? “The union of the States, the majority must govern, it is treason to secede,” is as truthful now as in the earlier days of the Republic, or even in the Madisonian era of unsuspected State Rights Republicanism. The will of the people must be respected. It must be enforced, and although we may cry “peace, peace,” there will be no peace until every armed foe shall be made to acknowledge the paramount authority of our Federal Government.

In the momentous struggle which has for the past three years agitated this State, your President has not been an inactive participant. He has witnessed the rapid change of public sentiment in relation to a domestic institution heretofore protected by law to such an extent as almost to suppress all freedom of speech and freedom of action. In an evil hour, initiated by the loss of place and in the full-blown pride of power, its supporters sought to extend and perpetuate its rule, even though it involved the destruction of the best Government on earth. Scarcely awaiting the announcement of the result of the Presidential canvass, they openly proclaimed their fixed determination to disregard the popular will as expressed in the choice of a Chief Magistrate, and mocking all the ordinary restraints of law, proceeded in