

those that did not at first intend to establish an independent government, into rebellion; it alienated and estranged them, and they determined to set up an independent government for themselves. The same policy has been tried by other governments, and in other times. And the very same problem is now being solved in our country. God only knows what will be the result. I think, myself, it was a great mistake. I think that mild and peaceful measures might have produced conciliation, and avoided all these troubles, and that to-day we would have been a united nation and people, united in the bonds of interest and of love and of concord. But force has been used to win back love, and the end is not yet. Force cannot win back affection; it cannot re-establish love. Where there is a discordant feeling it must be removed by conciliation. The unity of our people is worth nothing unless we are bound together by the strong ties of interest and affection.

Now, sir, the theory and doctrine here is that there are people in this State whose interests are opposed to the Government, and who are in favor of the rebellion. In order to remedy that, violent measures are to be instituted; this property is to be wrested from their hands in order to win back their love. Now, sir, it will not have the desired effect. If there are such persons, this measure will but increase their animosity; it will even make enemies out of friends, and make those who are now enemies still more bitter in their enmity. That enmity will not die out with the present generation, nor in the generation to come. It will be handed down from father to son for ages. They will drag their children to the altar, as was done with Hannibal of old, and make them swear by all the powers above, eternal vengeance and deadly hate against the people and the power that thus robbed them of their rights.

"The flesh will quiver when the pincers tear;
The blood will follow where the knife is driven."

Mr. DANIEL. Mr. President: The importance of the subject now under consideration cannot be well over-estimated. I am aware that the change proposed will affect seriously the habits and customs of social life. That it will cancel the title to what has been heretofore a large amount of property, and has always been recognized and protected by the Constitution and laws of the State and nation as such.

I admit, therefore, there is some force in the arguments of gentlemen on the other side who speak of this protection, and of the inducements that may have been held out to them to invest therein. But when gentlemen insist so strongly upon the fact that because by the laws of the State this property has been so carefully guarded and sensitively

legislated for in the past, it is a reason that it should continue to be thus legislated for in future, I tell them that it is a sword that cuts both ways. That it is for that very reason, in part, that has caused the people in their majesty to determine that such partial, and to a large portion of them, offensive legislation shall no longer exist; and one of the great objects in sending us here, is that the State of Maryland shall no longer tolerate such iniquitous enactments upon her statute book. They have even essayed, sir, to come between a man's conscience and his God, and by a solemn statute, passed a few years since, determined that there shall be no more manumission. Thus seeking to perpetuate the institution of slavery for all coming time, and to reduce the whole race ultimately to that condition.

But before I proceed directly with my argument, I wish to reply to some remarks that have just fallen from the gentleman (Mr. Henkle) who has just preceded me. Before this, however, I desire to say that I do not question that good men have and do hold slaves. Some of the best men I ever knew were such, men of the most tender and refined feelings and the purest Christian characters—that the spirit of the laws and circumstances by which these men were surrounded, in a great measure, necessitated it. But I hold now that a man's duty is placed in a very different light from what it was formerly. "The times of our former ignorance God may have winked at, but now commands every man to repent." Every man is now called upon to act and to say whether human bondage or freedom shall be the future condition of the State. And, in my judgment, it depends upon how gentlemen now take their positions, how they meet up to the requirements of the duty of the hour, whether they can longer excuse themselves from guilt. I take my position unhesitatingly on the side of freedom.

The gentleman who has just preceded me seems to have great fears about the elevation of the negro if this measure should prevail. It seems to be a spectre continually haunting him and others on that side of the house. Yet in another part of his speech he speaks of their being such a degraded, idle and mischievous class of beings, even under the best circumstances, when free, that one can not well see how he can have any just fears about their elevation.

Much has also been said by him and others of his views, about the Southern counties aiding so materially in constructing works of internal improvement, which has made Baltimore almost all that she is. In reply I may say, first, that in helping to build up Baltimore they have only been building up a great market for their tobacco and other products. When, therefore, due consideration is given to this, and an account is taken of