

speak. We conversed sometime until the time of meeting and I arose to go with him. Judge Chambers, Mr. Hanson Thomas, General Mitchell, I think, and, perhaps, Mr. Norris, had come into the room during the conversation with Mr. Cropper, and when Mr. Cropper and myself arose to go, some one of the gentlemen remarked, "suppose we all go and hear what Mr. Pryor has to say," I did not go as one of a committee from Maryland, sympathising with the secession of Virginia, so far as I know, not one of the committee with whom I served on that occasion had any idea of the secession of Virginia. On the contrary, we distinctly understood that a large majority of the convention of Virginia, then in session, were decidedly opposed to the secession of Virginia, and the committee of which I was a member, went to Richmond fully impressed with this fact, and the sole purpose of that committee so far as I knew, was to concert measures to prevent secession and to preserve the Union. When we reached the house where Mr. Pryor was to speak, it was very much crowded, and Mr. Cropper exerting himself to find us seats, invited us to occupy seats upon the stand. Mr. Pryor's speech, was a very violent and inflammatory appeal for secession, and after we left the meeting, we all regretted we had gone and had witnessed such an exhibition, and especially as Mr. Pryor in his speech, had plainly intimated to the Maryland gentlemen present, that their company was not wanted, for he said Virginia was quite able to take care of herself without the aid of a Maryland delegation.

4th. Did you or not, upon your return from Richmond, on that occasion, state to a gentleman in the cars that Virginia would certainly go out of the Union and that Maryland must follow?

A. I have not the slightest recollection of such an occurrence and I think it impossible, because at that time I thought Virginia would not secede.

5th. Did you or not, in the year 1861, in the city of Baltimore, in Potatoe Neck district, in Somerset county, and in the town of Snow Hill, in Worcester county, make public speeches, wherein you stated that the States which had then seceded had the right to secede, were justifiable in so doing, and as Marylanders we were prompted by every motive of honor and interest to unite our fortunes with the South?

A. I attended one or two conferences of citizens of Maryland, publicly held in the city of Baltimore, in January, February and perhaps March, in the year 1861, the object of which, according to my present recollection, was to aid in the preservation of the Union by urging the adoption of the