

an express right to revoke, as well after as before execution, or to disaffirm the execution of the power. But such far fetched analogies only mislead, and the language of the charter is plain. Besides, the Constitution ingrafts the right to alter and repeal upon every charter. Contracts with corporations are made subject to this power and the execution of the power cannot be inconsistent with such contracts. The effect of a repeal or amendment upon rights of property previously acquired under the charter, is usually a question of the interpretation of laws rather than of constitutional competency.

But it is said that some work has been done on a part of the railroad, and that the charter cannot now be altered, equitably, without providing indemnity. This might be a subject for future consideration by the Legislature if it were less trivial or more meritorious. But it is easily perceived that the little work which has been done has been hastened during the winter to furnish an argument and to embarrass legislation.

The undersigned perceives nothing in the contract, the conduct or the designs of the parties who have obtained control of the Baltimore and Potomac charter, which should commend them to the favor of this State. On the contrary, they have made it necessary, in his judgment, for the Legislature to interpose and restrain them from the execution of a plan which is opposed to the policy, and will be ruinous to important interests of Maryland.

The undersigned, therefore, dissents from the views of the committee on this subject, and respectfully submits the following resolution for the consideration of the Senate :

*Resolved*, That the Senate does not concur in the views of the committee on Internal Improvements, as presented in their report on the memorials referred to them respecting an amendment of the charter of the Baltimore and Potomac Rail Road Company.

ELIAS DAVIS.

Pending the reading of said report,

The Clerk of the House of Delegates delivered the following message :

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

February 26, 1867.

*Gentlemen of the Senate :*

This House having granted permission to a committee of citizens of Baltimore, to appear upon the floor of this House at 12½ o'clock, for the purpose of presenting a memorial in relation to matters of importance, now before the General