

the President and Directors to obtain a contract for the building of the whole road, and that the proposed modification would, in effect, be a repeal of the charter.

The people, resident in the section of country through which this road is proposed to be built, have never derived directly, or indirectly, any advantage from the magnificent system of internal improvements inaugurated by the State—they alone have been literally the hewers of wood and drawers of water—to them alone has belonged the poor privilege of paying, without a murmur, the taxes levied by the State to meet the interest incurred upon money advanced for similar improvements in *every other* part of the State. The undersigned submits that, unlike the roads and other improvements made for the benefit of all the rest of the State, the charter of the road upon which the war is made, appropriates no money to aid in its construction. It simply confers the power to make the road from Baltimore to the Potomac, with the privilege of making such branch roads as the President and Directors may authorize; and this naked privilege of building these roads, with their own money, the Legislature is now invoked to take from them, not because it would injure the the people in any part of the State, but because it would conflict with the monopoly or exclusive privilege of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company to carry passengers and freight between the city of Baltimore and the city of Washington. Power and magnanimity usually accompany each other; but here, this wealthy corporation, whilst using its funds (properly the undersigned will not question) in buying and extending roads in other States, thus conferring benefits to others than our own people, not content with all the the elements of power which it possesses, or is exercising—not content that its own charter is left intact, and its exercise of powers uninquied of, actually asks of you to repeal a charter, not because it is about to be, or has been violated by the corporators, but because the company is about to build roads in literal conformity with the express power conferred by the charter, and intended to be so conferred. The case must be a strong one which would justify this act of flagrant injustice, and you will not cause the calamitous consequences which would flow from this action, even at the request or quasi command of this potent memorialist.

The undersigned proposes to show that the author of this memorial (certainly not the Preident of the Baltimore and Ohio Road) is in error in every material fact alleged in that paper, and that no one of the deductions from such alleged facts are logically true.

The memorial under consideration first asserts, that the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad Company are about to pervert their charter to very different objects than those contemplated by those who obtained its passage, and in conflict with the