

revision of the Articles of Confederacy, done much to formulate. Serious agricultural problems remained with exhaustion of the tobacco lands. Slavery was becoming a burden, and currency problems vexed Maryland's economic life. In the formation of a new nation, Maryland did its part by sacrificing its territory and advancing money for public buildings to form the District of Columbia (1791). To offset some of the difficulties, Baltimore had grown until it was five times as great as the flourishing port of the "Golden Age", Annapolis. Early in the new century exports from Maryland ports reached the \$14,000,000 mark.

The shipping such figures represented was seriously hampered by British policy. The American protest was the War of 1812. In this conflict Maryland began by assisting the nation in Canada; but British naval supremacy soon took the war south. From 1813 Maryland stood the brunt of the war, and for a time England had all its own way. British forces routed Marylanders on their own territory at the Battle of Bladensburg and burned the public buildings of Washington. But the later attacks on North Point (Baltimore) and Fort McHenry failed. In the latter bombardment, a Marylander, Francis Scott Key, had the inspiration for the "Star Spangled Banner".

The War Between The States

After 1815 the state went on more vigorous than ever. A national "pike" was completed to Ohio, two canals and a railroad were put in operation, and Baltimore increased enormously in population. By sharing the industrial and commercial interests of the North and West, Marylanders were put in a peculiar position when the secessionist movement began. Though the very first action of the state was suppression of the rebellion at Harper's Ferry ("John Brown's Raid"); two years later the Baltimoreans showed a different spirit when they attacked the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment on its way to relieve Washington. Enraged poetical comment on this event by a Marylander resident in the deep South produced the state song, "Maryland, My Maryland".

Maryland remained in the Union, but many a Confederate soldier was also recruited in the state. Lee occupied Frederick, and later in the war occurred the Battles of South Mountain Antietam and Monocacy. Unionist sympathizers held the state government in line, and, in 1864, modified the Constitution to abolish slavery.