

Governor means any thing, (speaking with all respect) it must mean a neutrality armed and resolute—prepared to assert its policy, and able to vindicate it on the field. Otherwise it would be nothing and would come to nothing. It would only irritate both parties and stay the arm of neither.

And yet although this is the result and the only practical result of the recommendation of the Message, it is difficult to reconcile such a conclusion with the other views which the Governor announces. Upon the authority of "our most learned and intelligent citizens," he admits the right of the Government to transport its troops across our soil. He recognizes the unbroken relation and the continuing loyalty of Maryland to the Union. He does not impeach the constitutionality of the action of the Federal authorities. His protests against the landing of the troops, and the seizure of the railroad at Annapolis, are based upon no denial of the right. They amount to remonstrance and advice, but to nothing more.

His theory is, and he has always steadfastly maintained it, that nothing has occurred to alter the reciprocal rights and obligations of this State and the General Government. The Constitution he believes is still over both, and the old bonds still unite them together. If all this be true, then the State of Maryland can hold no neutrality when the Union is at war. She is part of the Union; at war when it wars; at peace when it is peaceful. She "takes sides" against it the instant that she fails to take sides with it. Neutrality, in such a case, is nullification pure and simple, and an armed neutrality is merely rebellion and not union or peace. The position of his Excellency in the premises is, therefore, in the judgment of the Committee, wholly untenable, and it is not surprising that it should have placed him at so obvious a disadvantage, in the correspondence which he has furnished the House between himself and the astute officers of the Government. Differing from the Governor in opinion as to the course and rights of the Federal authorities, to the wide extent herein before indicated, the Committee have no hesitation in asserting and maintaining the right of the State, and its duty, to protest against the unconstitutional action of the Administration, and refuse obedience to its unconstitutional demands. Recognizing, however, to the same extent as the Governor, the fact that Maryland is still a State of the Union, the Committee cannot counsel this honorable body or the people whom it represents, to assume, under the guise of "neu-