

'rality," a hostile relation to the Government, or attempt by any policy whatever, to "force" it from the position in which it is entrenched. If no better argument existed against such a project, a sufficient one would be found in its hopeless futility.

The present—and the only possible present attitude of the State towards the Federal Government is, in the judgment of the Committee, an attitude of submission—voluntary and cheerful submission on the part of those who can persuade themselves that the Constitution remains inviolate and the Union unbroken, or that the Union can survive the Constitution—unwilling and galling submission on the part of those who think and feel differently; but still, peaceful submission upon both sides. It is not for the Committee to ignore this state of things, because of the humiliation which comes with it. They feel it their duty to confess the inexorable logic of facts, and leave the future to be shaped by the people of Maryland, to whom, exclusively, that prerogative belongs, and who, doubtless, will exercise it in their own way and at their own good time.

This expression of the views of your Committee, at so much necessary length, leaves very obvious the recommendations which they ask leave to report, upon the two leading subjects submitted to their deliberation: the calling of a Sovereign Convention of the people, and the re-organization and arming of the militia of the State.

At the time when the Legislature was called together, there was certainly but little difference of opinion among its members, of all parties, as to the propriety of speedily adopting measures to secure both the objects referred to.— Since that time, the rapid and extraordinary development of events, and of the warlike purposes of the Administration; the concentration of large bodies of troops in our midst and upon our borders, and the actual and threatened military occupation of the State; have naturally enough produced great changes of opinion and feeling among our citizens. The members of the Committee, judging from their own correspondence and that of their fellow members, of all shades of opinion, as well as from the memorials and other expressions of the public will, which have reached the House, have no hesitation in expressing their belief, that there is an almost unanimous feeling in the State against calling a Convention at the present time. The reasons for this conclusion are doubtless various, in different portions of the State, and the opinions of individuals as