

pathy felt by a large portion of our people for our Southern brethren in the present crisis.

Although many of the incidents and circumstances referred to were regarded in different lights by the undersigned and the Federal Government, even to the extent of a difference of opinion as to some of the facts involved, yet in regard to the general principles at issue, a concurrence of opinion was reached.

The President concurred with the undersigned in opinion, that so long as Maryland had not taken, and was not about taking a hostile attitude to the Federal Government, that the exclusive military occupation of her ways of communication, and the seizure of the property of her citizens, would be without justification, and what has been referred to in this connection so far as it occurred, was treated by the Government as an act of necessity or self-preservation.

The undersigned did not feel themselves authorized to enter into any engagements or arrangements with the Federal Government to induce it to change its relations to the State of Maryland, considering it proper under the circumstances to leave the entire discretion and responsibility of the existing state of things to that Government, making such representations as they deemed proper to vindicate the moral and legal aspects of the question; and especially insisting on its obligation to relieve the State promptly from restraint and indignity; and to abstain from all action in the transportation of troops that can be regarded as intended for chastisement or prompted by resentment.

The undersigned are not able to indicate to what extent or in what degree the Executive discretion will be exercised in modifying the relations which now exist between the State of Maryland and the Federal Government, and in the particular matter of the commercial communication between the city of Baltimore and other parts of the country, brought to the attention of the General Assembly by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore; but they feel authorized to express the opinion that some modification may be expected. The undersigned feel painfully confident that a war is to be waged to reduce all the seceding States to allegiance to the United States Government, and that the whole military power of the Federal Government will be exerted to accomplish that purpose; and though the expression of this opinion is not called for by the resolutions of your Honorable Bodies, yet having had the opportunity to ascertain its entire accuracy, and because it will explain much of the military preparation and movement of troops through the State of Maryland, it is proper to bring it to your attention.

OTHO SCOTT,
ROBERT M. McLANE,
W. J. ROSS.