

cost so much of men and treasure, privation and borrow, and the enhanced price of everything essential to the subsistence and comfort of the people, that we shall prove unfaithful to our trust if we fail to strike a blow at the cause of it to the extent of our power. That power is confined, as you know, to the State of Maryland. Further than this we cannot go. Slavery being that cause, it behooves all who would save the country from a similar sanguinary and destructive strife in years that are to come, to remove it as speedily as possible. Regarding its removal as a thing already determined upon by a majority of the people, upon a full and a fair vote, we are next to consider whether our people will, in the end, be gainers or losers by it.

The disturbance of the relations between masters and slaves, traceable to nothing but this causeless rebellion, has necessarily greatly diminished, for the time being, the products of the soil of our otherwise highly favored State. The loss of labor caused by the withdrawal of so many slaves from their long-accustomed fields of operation, may not be fully remedied till the close of the present war. True, that great corrective of all inconveniences and evils, will, in good season, bring to us thousands of farm laborers from the ranks of the army and future European immigration, in spite of all the casualties of the numerous battle-fields. The non-slaveholding States, ever ready to meet all emergencies, have sent to their fields and forests, during this war, a heavy laboring force, which, *previously*, might be classed as partially unproductive. They, therefore, suffer but little from the drain of men required for the prosecution of the war. They are becoming accustomed to the dispensing with the labor of the latter. Consequently, when this cruel secession war ceases, there must be thousands and tens of thousands of applicants for labor on the farms of Maryland and other Border States, from the ranks of our discharged soldiers and the foreign immigrants seeking more happy and prosperous homes in the United States.

Now, that is common sense; that is the way I look at it. The question is not what people away back in the world did then, but what am I to do to-day. I have no business with what a long line of ancestors did; my business here to-day is to do what I have to do, without regard to what my grandfathers and grandmothers did away back ever so many years ago.

Why, then, should any of our people indulge in feelings of bitterness and malignity towards the Government, because of the temporary inconveniences to themselves growing out of the determination of that Government to get entirely rid of the cause of such a war with the war itself? If they will have a little patience, they will, in quite a brief pe-

riod of time, be more than compensated for their present losses and inconveniences, in a supply of a more reliable and productive laboring force, and in the increased value of all their real estate.

Now, Mr. President, let us see about that; let us take Washington city for an example. Whilst entirely under the control of the slaveholding interest, if not a slaveholding people, its increase in population was slow, and there were but few signs of activity and enterprise in its business circles. Since the inauguration of President Lincoln, and the commencement of this slaveholders' war, hundreds of the hardy sons of the North and Northwest have gone there, and not *all* in pursuit of office, by any means, but quite a large number to engage in business operations. I grant that this war, with its hundreds of thousands of combatants who tarried so long in Washington, or not very far from it, has had much to do in imparting new life and activity to that once sluggish place; but it must be remembered that the trade with these large armies is very limited in Washington compared to that of New York and Philadelphia, and even Boston and Baltimore. Its population has, therefore, been more than doubled within three years, and its business operations increased fully tenfold within the same time by the introduction of the enterprising element of the North and the progressive spirit which exists in all quarters where freedom is general. Real property has advanced in value there to a degree which utterly surprises some of the youngest as well as the oldest inhabitants who claim that city as the place of their nativity. Houses and tenements command rents which sound fabulous, and though this may be unwelcome to the laboring population, it is a source of immense profit to that class of her people who occupy a rank in society similar to the leaders in this rebellion, against our Government. It was the property holders—the aristocracy—of the South who gave birth to this wicked rebellion; and it is almost entirely that class of men in Maryland who sympathize with the rebellion and hope for its success. The friends of the Government are anxious to see every section of this State flourish and blossom like Washington. We do not wish to see all the signs of progress and improvement confined to the northern tier of our counties. We are tired of looking upon the antiquated, unprogressing and often decaying towns and villages of a State which nature has so highly favored. Nearly all along the line of that greatest public thoroughfare of its country—the Baltimore and Washington Railroad—very few signs of tasty and productive farming and gardening are to be seen, and travelers from all *five* countries notice it and speak of it to our reproach. Every acre of land on that road for at least a mile or two