

since saw was approaching, the young people now advancing to mature years will honor and bless our memories for ridding our State of the slave-labor system.

Now, Mr. President, I had this thing fixed just exactly so I would submit it properly. I did not think it was the manner—I did not care about the manner—it was the matter I cared about. I just offer this as a platform of my own.

And here I want to make a little explanation. Mr. President, there has been a great deal said about Massachusetts upon this floor during the session of this Convention and the last Legislature, concerning the wrongs that she has committed. Well, she may have committed a great many faults for aught I know, but the question arises, whether we have not committed some wrongs also, in the State of Maryland? Well, sir, I make the assertion that we have, and to prove it to your satisfaction is the transaction of April, 1861; and by the record you will find that the soldiers of Massachusetts were murdered on the soil of Maryland, who were peaceably marching to the front to keep this inhuman war from our doors.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. In Baltimore city.

Mr. BARRON. Yes; that is in Maryland, I believe. And I would ask you, Mr. President, when in your life's history before was it denied to the soldiers of the United States to tread any portion of her soil? But, Mr. President, there has never been one of the soldiers of Maryland murdered upon the soil of Massachusetts during this rebellion, and if either should complain, it should be Massachusetts.

Mr. President, I love Massachusetts, because under her soil in Springfield a portion of my ancestry are buried. I love her, because upon her soil a Warren fell, and a portion of my ancestry fought with him. And I also love her, because she has a Bunker Hill. And I love her for her democratic institution of free education.

Now, the gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Henkle) said here the other day, that he was a native of Maryland, that he was born upon the soil. Well, all I have to say is, that I do not think the soil brought forth a very wonderful crop that time.

Mr. BILLINGSLEY. I rise to a point of order.

Mr. BARRON. Go ahead, and state your point of order. [Laughter.]

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Barron) can proceed.

Mr. BARRON. Well, I have not come in here with one of those speeches, that, like, the things children play with, you can fold up and put in your pocket, and then take out and string out as long as your arm.

Mr. President, I love Maryland, for under her soil rest the bones of my father and my

mother. Now it may be that this is a wrong expression; it may be that, according to the fashions of the day, I ought to have said my pa and ma. [Laughter.] But, however, I prefer the former, as it is what I was used to. And I love Maryland, sir, because upon her soil the issue of my loins were born, and a portion of them are buried. And I love her, sir, for her city that has plenty of monuments. Mr. President, because within her borders I first learned to ask the Lord for my daily bread. I love her, because she has been to me a father, and a mother since I was six years old. And now, Mr. President, there are gentlemen upon this floor who say there is a desire on our side of the House to humiliate Maryland. Why, I would just as soon humiliate my own household. Why, sir, I would just as soon suck my mother's milk, and whip her afterward for giving me the nourishment that I could not have done without when I was a child. Nay, more; I would rather take my first-born and sacrifice it upon the altar of Maryland, than to ever humiliate her by any act of mine.

Now, Mr. President, I am confident that it does not make much difference to me, so far as slavery is concerned, for in a very few years, or months, or days, I may be in that land where the Master of us all suffers neither treason or rebellion to exist at any time or under any circumstances. I do not know whether I shall live to see the fruit of the orchard I am trying this day to plant—whether it shall be good or bad. But I want to see Maryland a free State. I do not want to see her a free State, and have any persons injured by it. I do not want to make the city of Baltimore pay out of the forty millions of dollars—that I believe is what gentlemen say their slaves are worth—two-thirds of that sum.

I did intend to say more. But I think I have said just about as much as I need say for the present. I have a few notes here, but as long as the gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Henkle) is not now in his seat, I will not reply to him. But I had intended to pinch him a little.

Now, Mr. President, I have said about all I wish to say upon this question at this time. But, sir, I have a few words to offer to my Divine Master in prayer, and I will say it right here: that the Lord of hosts may so regulate the course of events that wherever man, independent of color, shall be compelled to labor for his daily bread, he shall have pay for his labor and universal freedom.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE obtained the floor.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, moved that the Convention do now take a recess until 8 o'clock this evening.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. I have no choice. I wish to offer a few observations to the Convention before this article is passed over. I