

of the government and calculated to destroy the fair fabric of American liberty. The old abolition party, which in the days of peace and union was considered a disunion party, and whose sole purpose, as declared by their leaders, was to overturn all the compromises of the national compact, has gained such accessions of strength, since and during the late war, as to have virtually taken possession of the government. Under the name of "radical" this party has assumed the existence of a revolution in our form of government, and by a series of acts and laws, at variance with all experience and precedent, have absorbed the power of the executive and threatened to destroy that of the supreme judiciary. Leaders of that party do not blush to appeal to expediency and policy in legislation, those arguments of tyrants, as sufficient to dictate the rights of the people under the guise of the law. States of the original thirteen, never in rebellion, have been put under ban and charged with treason to the government for the attempted exercise of rights inalienable from the citizen. Foremost in the ranks of the defamers of true Americans are the so-called "radicals" of the State of Maryland. This local junto, composed of disappointed politicians, office holders and their satellites, and a few honest but misguided fanatics, are making open war upon your rights. It is not sufficient that Maryland has been staunch for the Union; that she has emancipated her slaves; that many of her sons have died in battle; that she has registered and sworn her legal voters under the most stringent laws of a radical Legislature; but because she has chosen to regulate her affairs under the sanction of those laws; to elect conservative and Union-loving men to her General Assembly; to forget and forgive; and above all, because she has chosen to inaugurate a peaceable revolution by the ballot, these men have by open menaces threatened to deprive her citizens of the rights of American freemen. But for the connection of these men with the ruling party in the country, those threats would be but "the tale of an idiot." Composing less than one-fourth of our voting population, they are harmless at the polls. Besides, the antecedents of many of them are notoriously such as to deprive them of either the confidence or respect of any party. Some of them were openly hostile to the government at the beginning of the war, and all were so conservative since the war that they openly repudiated the policy of negro suffrage at the Philadelphia Convention of the Southern disloyalists.

But since, by the patriotic efforts of the Governor of Maryland, the system of fraud and violence practiced by this minority to exclude the legal and loyal voter from the ballot, was defeated, and the people have rejected their rule, they have dropped their mask, and appear in their true colors of mere placemen and demagogues, who would sell their birthright "for a mess of pottage;" they are fully understood, and there need be no fear that they will ever "rule or ruin" the free State of Maryland. The thoughtful men of their party in other States know them well, and have no true sympathy for them, for while "they may love the treason they hate the traitors."

The object of the Conservatives and Democrats of Bal-