

their unnatural', that they pine under the neglect of an irresponsible Congress of strangers, who cannot know or sympathise with their wants, and will not stretch out a ministering hand for their relief; and that they yearn to be restored to the protection and fostering care of their natural parent.

Another reason for seeking thus to be restored, as stated, in the request of the citizens of Georgetown to the Mayor of that City, asking him to assemble a town-meeting, is, the improper, and wanton interference with their property and constitutional rights on the part of the people of some of the States, as evinced by the petitions daily thrust upon Congress, seeking the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia.

The memorial further sets forth that, to the State of Maryland, the measure offers a considerable accession of territory, with a moral and industrious population of about ten thousand souls, and a valuable port, the only eligible one that the State can ever command on the tide water of the Potomac. This port is situated at the termination of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. It holds the keys of that great work, and through it must always command a large share of the tributary inland Commerce, that can be secured to the State through no other channel. It possesses an almost unlimited water power, conveniently situated for manufacturing purposes, such as the State can no where else command. The memorialist consider that in commerce and population this city would always be the second in the State, whilst under the fostering care of an interested Legislation, it may be made to rank in manufactures among the first in the Union.

In their deliberations upon this subject, the select committee were naturally led to consider the circumstances, under which, the territory in question became a part of the District of Columbia, and withdrawn from the jurisdiction of Maryland.

The propriety of having the seat of the National Government under the exclusive control, and legislation of Congress, and sufficiently remote from any large mass of population, under the jurisdiction and sovereignty of a State, will not be questioned.

The necessity of having the permanent seat of the National Government thus situated, gave rise to that article in the constitution of the United States, which provides that Congress shall have power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may by cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of Government of the United States.