

the adoption of the plan, Maryland in this its worst aspect would be benefited \$180,000 annually--by the reduction of her direct tax from \$600,000 to \$420,000. Another argument upon this hypothesis of the Executive has weight with your committee. The interest on the debt of Maryland to a considerable extent, is payable in London and on the Continent; the balance of exchange is against us--to meet this foreign payment of interest specie must be exported, or bills of exchange purchased, the latter mode increasing the debt in the ratio of the exchange against us, while the exportation of specie reduces the capital upon which every industrial interest depends. By the plan proposed (and such too would be the effect of the direct taxation by the Government,) the interest would be payable in Washington, and of itself constitute a capital beneficial to the laborious employment of the country: because the foreign creditor would find it more to his advantage to export his interest in the shape of our products, than either in specie or exchange; thus to the very extent of the interest or tax the circle of competition, for our products would be widened, and the farmer, planter, manufacturer paying the tax, would have a portion returned to him in the increased price of the results of his labor. Again if the facts stated by his Excellency be correct and your committee admit them, and the policy indicated by him of avoiding any attempt at a more profitable tariff be the rule of the government; the abstraction of the land fund from the national revenues would not hasten, nor its continuance retard the necessity for direct taxation. His Excellency adopting the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, estimates the accruing excess of expenditure over revenue in the General Government at \$14,772,976 88, (the land fund combined in the revenue account,) take from this the land fund estimated at \$2,500,000, and the deficiency would be \$17,272,976. However, if the land fund be yielded, is the \$14,772,976 88 of deficient revenue to be supplied. What other source of revenue has the National Government, save this fund and the custom's? but both under the existing tariff system are inefficient--to borrow money, except as a temporary expedient, would but increase the difficulty and swell the volume of encroaching indebtedness. The tariff must not be touched lest sectional jealousies should endanger united integrity: repudiation so boldly and eloquently denounced in the message as applied to the State, would scarcely be recommended to the General Government. No alternative then remains under the hypothesis of the Executive, whether the land be left as national supply or applied as its legitimate direction to the aid of the States, whose right it is but a resort to direct taxation by the General Government to relieve the existing deficiency in the national revenue. But we respectfully differ from his Excellency, we apprehend no such result as the consequence of assumption--the land fund sought to be applied to the purposes of this proposition, we believe, will be fully adequate to the eventual discharge of the debts assumed, and the regular payment of the interest. True the fund at this period would not suffice, nor is its present revenue a fair