

experiment—sanctioning inane profuseness, and destroying the equilibrium of finance by its fluctuations—at one time throwing into the Treasury twenty-five millions, the next year receding to six—alternate irregular ebb and flow.

In 1835 the expenditures of the General Government were \$17,575,141 56, and in the same year the revenue from the public lands suddenly swelled from four millions to fourteen—such accretion of revenue, only prompted national extravagance, and in 1836 the expenditures reached the enormous amount of thirty millions—the still increasing revenue from this fund stimulated increased disbursements, until in 1838, they enlarged to near forty millions of dollars, a larger appropriation of public monies, than was made in 1814 when struggling with our most potent enemy. We in vain look over the face of the country, for evidences of improvement, that would explain this expenditure—none exist, and we can only add it as another instance of the rule which teaches, that national economy is only to be attained by limitation of means.

We claim then that the aid sought from the Government finds an argument additional to the relief of the States in the interest of the Government itself, that by the withdrawal of this eccentric and uncertain source of supply, we limit that national extravagance that never can be indulged in with safety to the Republic—because in its train are ever found venality and sycophancy, corruption of public morals, dependence upon the executive, by extended and lucrative official patronage, rallying around its encroachment a subsidized guard, who find in the reward of appointment a motive for the desertion of the people. We claim it because the debts by which Maryland has become involved, were for works which appropriately belong to the National Government, to project and complete, and which by direct action, prompting and profering of aid on the part of the General Government, she has been induced to undertake. (K.)

We claim it as in our foreign relations, regarded as a unit, defalcation of any one State affects the National character and prostrates the credit of the Government. We claim because the Government resting for permanency and strength upon the prosperity of the people, will find in this constitutional extension of relief to them, that reacting energy, which will pour into its coffers, those internal revenues, that form the “easy and constitutional source” of means to the Government. We claim it because it will make the property in the Public Lands more fruitfully available to the States, by making it the interest of the Government to encourage their sale, without reference to collateral objects of policy by which in the history of this Government, their productiveness, have been for some time in the opinion of your committee, impaired—efforts made by restricted sales to reduce its apparent value, so as to make its disposition seem unimportant to the popular judgement—at one period, made to serve the purposes of an agent of exchange, in transporting specie to the interior and impairing the sales, by limiting the facilities of their purchases.