

ble of satisfactory explanation, nor only withheld, and with regret, because the attitude of Maryland is regarded as hostile or menacing.

Your Committee have been unable to discover any thing in the proceedings of Maryland which could suggest the idea of *menace*, nor does it seem to be at all applicable to the intimate relations existing between the members of this confederacy; certainly nothing could be more foreign to the intentions of Maryland than to assume such an attitude in relation to Virginia, one of her earliest and most glorious allies, not nearer geographically than in consanguinity and affection. Her great strength we know with joy, not envy; and in her glory we have always felt the keen interest of participation.

Maryland had never a hostile feeling towards Virginia; cannot wish to do her violence or wrong, but on the contrary, desires the removal of the only source of disagreement, in order that if possible their union may be more intimate, and established forever on the best and surest foundations.

The southern and western boundaries of Maryland have never been adjusted and defined by compact with Virginia. We hold by charter, a charter which has been fully and solemnly recognised by the State of Virginia, but in the interpretation of that instrument the two States have not been agreed. It is right, even *indispensable*, that the interpretation should be settled, and the limits of the States ascertained, and our sister State cannot but sometime perceive that in that settled her voice (admitted to be equal) is not entitled to preponderating influence.

The State of Maryland seeks or desires nothing which is not her's of right, and it is necessary for her honor, that in her controversy, though amicable, and with her sister, the terms of adjustment shall not be dictated to her.

A brief review of the proceedings of Maryland would demonstrate that she has from time to time mildly reminded her sister State of her claims, and sought to refer them to the examination of Commissioners, to be appointed by the parties from among their own citizens respectively; desiring only to provide for the appointment of an umpire by one of our disinterested sister States, in the event of disagreement among the Commissioners. In such propositions Maryland has evinced her confidence in the justice of her cause, but has suggested nothing incompatible with the dignity of Virginia. She has desired and still desires the peaceful ascertainment of her rights, never doubting but Virginia would deem it necessary to her true glory to do right at