

any attack upon Maryland, or any other State or power. Finding unexpectedly the public property and archives, and the national existence threatened and imperilled, the President called the great body of the national militia to the defence of the nation's capital. The troops whose progress was resisted in Baltimore, and those whose progress was arrested at Cockeysville, constituted a part of this force. They who resisted, opposed and arrested the progress of those troops, were the other party; and if in arms, were in armed hostility to the United States, or the lawful authorities thereof.

There was, and could be no such thing as *an armed neutrality* at such a time. Towsontown was not threatened and placed in a position to require defenders. Yet the Baltimore County Horse Guards and Mr. Grason were under arms, with pistols and rifles, and sabres ground for use. They were under arms with an object—that object was not the rendering of aid and assistance to the troops or lawful authorities of the United States. No act, word, or slightest demonstration of that company, or any member of that company has been given us in evidence, showing any sympathy with the Government of the United States, or readinass or desire to aid or co-operate with the friends of that government. They did not, nor did any member of them, hold any friendly intercourse with Col. Wynkoop's Corps at Cockeysville. On the contrary, their position was a position of hostility to that Corps, while it remained, and their actions in following its retirement by the destruction of the bridges, which might prevent its return, was palpable and unmistakable hostility to the United States Government and its lawful authorities. Nor does it relieve it of the difficulty, to say that it was by command of the State authority, or Gen. Steuart. Whoever commanded the "Horse Guards" performed, and the history of the last four years furnishes but too much proof that State authority may be in hostility to the United States, and its lawful authorities. The Constitution of our State settles the question, that no State action can absolve any citizen from the allegiance which he owes to the United States. At that time the great questions at issue, and arrayed in hostility to each other, were national power or right on the one hand, and State sovereignty or right on the other. The former had as its emblem, the flag of the nation, the latter, the banner of the State. And the single fact that this company, engaged as it was, and at such a time, appeared nowhere with the nation's flag; did not protect or uphold the one which, for months, had floated at Towsontown, but instead bore a part—as Mr. Grason is clearly proven to have done in its suppression—that it moved with State badges displayed upon its members, and with the State banner raised by it and floating above its headquarters, proves that the company was not act-