

These facts, I now beg leave respectfully to submit to the enlightened judgment of the Senate, with the earnest desire, that they will give to a grave and important public measure; that consideration which the interests of the loyal people of the State imperatively demands.

Nor can I close this report without reminding the Senate that it was for the preservation of the whole State we have suffered. It was to save your hearth-stones from sacrilege, your fields and firesides from the ruthless tread of the invader, it was for the common benefit, that we are to be made to bear the whole burden; and it was to save your proud capital from the torch of the incendiary; and your great and glorious Union from the unspeakable horrors of Dismemberment; that the heart of our native county has been perforated with bullets, her people prostrated in the dust, and her loyal bosom scarred and seared all over with the shot, and shell, of a pitiless, and powerful foe.

We entreat the Senate therefore to take a calm and dispassionate view of the whole subject; seriously to consider whether it is not the sworn duty of the Legislature of Maryland, to come to the rescue; and by a generous appropriation to our loyal, but injured and suffering people; to take them by the hand, and pour into their wounded, but honest hearts, the balm not only of your sympathy, but of speedy and effectual aid.

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS P. FIREY.