

would soon become so bad that they must begin to mend. In short, it appeared that he and his friend had done their best to hasten on so desirable a crisis.

The next day two Marylanders, one of them the driver of the stage coach, declared that if the State should impose a property tax, they would resist payment. As funds are now wanted to pay the dividends on the public debt, the open avowal of such opinions in a country where all have votes, sounded in my ears as of ominous import.

In our passage over the Alleghanies, we now followed what is called the National Road to Cumberland and Frostburg, crossing a great succession of parallel ridges, long and unbroken, with narrow intervening valleys, the whole clothed with wood, chiefly oak. The dogwood, with its white flowers, was very conspicuous. The north-western slopes of the hills were covered with the azalea in full flower, of every shade, from a pale pink to a deep crimson. They are called here the wild honeysuckle. Had not my attention been engrossed with the examination of the geological structure of the numerous parallel chains, the scenery would have been very monotonous, the outline of each long ridge being so even and unbroken, and there being so great a want in this chain of a dominant ridge. There is a remarkable absence of ponds or lakes among these mountains, nor do we see any of those broad, dead flats so common in other chains, especially the Pyrenees, which seem to indicate the place of ancient lakes filled up with sediment. Another peculiarity, also, of a negative kind, is the entire absence of the boulder formation, or drift with transported blocks, which forms so