

the nation's fourth-largest city was unmistakably Northern, the character of her citizenry more traditionally Southern. One historian portrayed the contrast by noting how the city's "Northern characteristics of finance and commerce . . . greatly resembled Philadelphia, New York or Boston, but culturally and socially Baltimore had Southern ties which were most evident."¹ The city's unskilled and lowly paid laborers included free blacks and recent European immigrants, many from Ireland and Germany. Western Marylanders, including a large number of pro-Union, anti-slavery Germans, worked small farms and mined coal.

The state, founded on principles of religious toleration, seemed poised for great things. The nearly completed Baltimore and Ohio Railroad linked Baltimore with western Maryland and the Ohio Valley, making the city a major center of trade. The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal reached its western terminus in Cumberland in 1850, connecting the Maryland coal region to the District of Columbia, while the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal between Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, and Havre de Grace enabled Maryland to tap the rich harvests of the Susquehanna River valley. Since 1850, ship tonnage had grown almost 30 percent, to more than \$11.7 million, and the value of improved Maryland farmland had almost doubled, to \$146 million.² Police reform had finally curtailed the decades of election violence inflicted on Baltimore by political gangs that had given the city the moniker "Mobtown"³

A clash in Baltimore on April 19, 1861, between the Sixth Massachusetts Infantry Regiment en route to Washington, D. C., and a mob of Southern sympathizers, secessionists, and street thugs left fourteen people dead and scores injured. Three days of lawlessness and civil unrest ensued. Mobs seeking arms sacked gun shops and warehouses, while Unionists were terrorized and looters grabbed what they could. An outbreak of civic pride mobilized Baltimoreans of all persuasions to collaborate to prevent more federal troops from passing through their city. Both Unionist and Southern militia companies rushed to their armories. Squads of men galloped to the city's perimeter to erect barricades against the Northern hordes; some rode farther to burn railroad bridges that spanned the rivers north and east of the city. A viable secession movement in the state might have exploited this episode, but an absence of leaders and organization and a hastily enacted solution to move troops to the nation's capital by water, avoiding Baltimore, precluded further strife. The door to secession slammed shut.

Maryland would not come close to leaving the Union to which, in June 1788, she had bound herself in perpetuity. To be sure, Gov. Thomas H. Hicks had for months resisted intense pressures to summon the state assembly into special session so that the state's "course of action" might be determined, but when he relented late in April 1861, lawmakers promptly refused to consider secession and buried the concept for good. Proposals for Maryland neutrality went nowhere. Winter and spring brought widespread indigenous opposition to a Maryland secession from diverse

interests that encompassed, well before the nation, well before the nation. Nonetheless, the unconscious vitality of young Baltimore and occupied Baltimore promised to answer General-in-Chief Winfield Sherman's call for more troops could travel to suspected disloyalists, per editors, and other frustration at indefinite liberty, and principled complexities of the Jun opposed both secession and confused many of abstract and irreconcilable need to choose sides. The term "occupations. Disagreement persists in parts of Maryland and rule. Second, "occupation Maryland soil. Major Antietam and Gettysburg Baltimore at the Battle of Washington.

The story of slavery redemption, as the slaying institution. Slavery of the southern and European consistent production the middle of the century Maryland, and the sea had helped make Maryland, the largest number of blacks, the largest number