

to be granted, or security for the peace awarded; and Quakers, Dunkers, or Menonists, ought also on their solemn affirmation as aforesaid to be admitted as witnesses in all criminal cases not capital.

37. That the city of Annapolis ought to have all its rights, privileges and benefits, agreeable to its charter and the acts of assembly confirming and regulating the same; subject nevertheless to such alterations as may be made by this convention or any future legislature.

38. That the liberty of the press ought to be inviolably preserved.

39. That monopolies are odious, contrary to the spirit of a free government, and the principles of commerce, and ought not to be suffered.

40. That no title of nobility or hereditary honours ought to be granted in this state.

41. That the subsisting resolves of this and the several conventions held for this colony ought to be in force as laws, unless altered by this convention or the legislature of this state.

42. That this declaration of rights, or the form of government to be established by this convention, or any part of either of them, ought not to be altered, changed or abolished, by the legislature of this state, but in such manner as this convention shall prescribe and direct.

Agreeable to the order of the day the convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to consider further of the form of government for this state; Mr. T. Wright in the chair. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Wright reported, that the committee had according to order taken into consideration the form of government for this state, and had come to several resolutions thereon, which they had directed him to report, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the table where they were again read, and are as follow:

THE CONSTITUTION AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

1. "That the legislature consist of two distinct branches, a senate, and a house of delegates, which shall be styled the General Assembly of Maryland.

2. "That the house of delegates shall be chosen in the following manner: All freemen, residents of this state, above twenty-one years of age, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to vote, or having property in this state above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the county in which they offer to vote one whole year next preceding the election, shall have a right of suffrage in the election of delegates for such county; and all freemen so qualified shall, on the first Monday of October, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and