Dec.Ses.1823. competent person or persons for reporting and publishing the said decisions in the manner which to them shall seem most expedient, *Provided*, that the state shall not be pledged by such contract for more than two hundred copies of the saidreports at a price not exceeding the usual price of legal publications, and those copies to be at the future disposal of the legislature.

No. 51.

Passed Preamble. The Legislature of Maryland will view with concern any attempt to controul the election of president and vice president of the United States, by means of a congressional caucus. The constitution of the United States has assigned to congress certain rights and duties in regard to that election, concerning the performance of which at the proper time and in the proper place, it is unwise and injudicious for members of congress previously to pledge or commit themselves. To the people, the same instrument has assigned other rights and duties, which the legislature of Maryland believe they are perfectly competent to perform without the agency of any tribunal not specifically authorised by themselves, and more especially of that which of all others should be most free from the influence of preconcerted arrangement; when the people shall have failed to make the election, then and not till then, will the period arrive for the members of congress, acting as the representatives of the America people, to decide on the qualifications and merits of the respective candidates—therefore,

Disapprove of caucus. *Be it resolved, by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That they disapprove of, and will discountenance any congressional caucus nomination of president and vice president of the United States, and that the senators and representatives of this state in congress, be requested to use their influence to prevent the same; *Resolved*, that a copy of this preamble and resolution be forthwith transmitted by his excellency the governor, to each of our senators and representatives in congress.

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