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Pennsylvania Gazette

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*Extract of a letter from Baltimore, dated April 24, 1783.*

"We had our elections a fortnight ago, and 64 federalists are chosen out of 76, if all keep the promises made at the hustings. Baltimore and Harford counties alone are clearly antifederal, in which are many powerful and popular men, who have speculated deeply in British confiscated property, and for that reason are alarmed at shutting the door against *State Paper Money*. The same men, their relations and particular friends, are more violently antifederal, because they paid considerable sums into the treasury in a depreciated continental currency, and are scared at the sweeping clause---" All treaties made and to be made, and laws enacted in pursuance thereof, shall be the law of the land, however repugnant to the constitution and laws of any particular state,"--- which may bring about a due execution of the treaty between Great-Britain and America, to their loss. All those men are unanimous against the federal government; they are here called the *Black List*, by way of emphatical distinction. Anne-Arundel county, though naturally federal, have elected four antifederalists, owing to the popular electioneering talents of Mr. Chase, who has represented them for twenty years. I am sorry he kept out Mr. Carroll, of Carrollton, one of our first rate characters. Messrs. Peca and Martin were obliged to go to Harford to be chosen, for neither they nor Mr. Chase could possibly have been chosen in their own places of residence. Dr. M'Henry was chosen by a large majority of votes for this town, because of his federalism, altho' opposed by Messrs. M'Mechan and Sterett, two very popular men, but unfortunately on the wrong side of the question. Mr. Chase is antifederal, both from ambition, because he cannot expect to be so powerful in the general government as he is in the state, and because his shattered circumstances render him interested in discord and a civil war. Not a single antifederalist is chosen from the whole eastern shore, or any other county except the three abovementioned. You can have no conception of the low arts made use of in those three counties to poison the commonalty-- Standing armies, whipping the militia, and all the other inflammatory reasons so copiously held up to public view in the dissent of your turbulent Minority.

"The Convention met on Monday, chose Col. Plater, a warm federalist, their President, appointed several committees, and carried the question, that the federal constitution should be taken up as one question, and not by sections and paragraphs, by a majority of 58 to 5; and also that no member should speak more than twice upon any one subject, and then only half an hour at any one time, in order to avoid the endless garulity of Martin, and the inflammatory eloquence of Chase and Peca, neither of whom took their seats until to-day, being disheartened at the weakness of their party. The final question is expected to be put to-day or to-morrow.

"By my last accounts from Virginia, there will be a majority of more than twenty in their Convention. In South-Carolina we have a clear majority of three to one."