

Your Committee have diligently perused and examined the Constitution, and they have yet to learn from what source the Legislature derived the authority to empower the people of a part of Baltimore and Frederick counties to change the Constitution: Such authority is a stranger to the Constitution, opposed to its express provisions, and its exercise consequently illegal.

Your Committee would beg leave further to remark, that the Constitution, prescribing a certain mode in which it is to be changed, does, in effect, negative and impliedly prohibit any alteration in any other mode; and that all interventions of third parties not recognized, are innovations of the Constitution. Again, this bill so to alter, &c., is required to be published at least three months before such new election of delegates; this bill had no existence (if it has any existence at all) until it was brought into existence by a majority of the people of Frederick and Baltimore counties, respectively, within the limits of Carroll county, because the very act itself makes it inoperative, unless a certain contingency shall arise, which could not happen until the first Monday in October. Here then is the Constitution requiring a certain thing to be done, and the Legislature, by its act, dispensing with the Constitutional obligation, by making an absolute condition precedent depend upon a condition subsequent; for it cannot, at least it is presumed it will not be contended, the Constitution ever designed by the notice which it requires to be given, the publication of a bill for the consideration of the people, in its character uncertain, useless and inoperative, and upon which the expression of their opinion, by possibility, could have neither an affirmative or negative influence. By the sixth section of the act, the delegates elect from Baltimore and Frederick counties respectively, being within the limits of Carroll county, are to be considered as the delegates from Carroll county, and warrants are to be issued to fill up the regular num-