

THE MARYLAND REPUBLICAN.

"FREEDOM IS THE BRILLIANT GIFT OF HEAVEN;—TIS MEANON'S SELF,—THE KIN OF DEITY."

Vol. I.]

ANNAPOLIS, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1809.

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JOHN WEST BUTLER,
OPPOSITE THE CHURCH,
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CONDITIONS OF THE MARYLAND REPUBLICAN.

THE MARYLAND REPUBLICAN is published twice a week during the annual sessions of Assembly, and once a week during the remainder of the year. Its regular day of weekly publication is Saturday; and, during the Session of Assembly, Tuesday and Saturday.

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All communications (post-paid) from literary gentlemen, will be thankfully received; and, if admissible, shall receive immediate attention.

Political.

We recommend to our readers an attentive consideration of the following extract from Cobbett's Weekly Register, published in this paper.—It is plain and intelligible. It is necessary to add that Cobbett is retained as a writer by persons high in the British government; that his language is mostly tuned to their designs, and from it may always be collected something of the sentiments of those over him, who will not venture to speak as plain. Absolute maritime dominion he says, is what it must come to.—"IN REALITY IT NOW IS.—We do exercise a maritime dominion."

An alliance with the British government they have determined to make at all costs.—They will force us into such a situation that we are to make the first proposition for their assistance—and, seemingly to us we have done all we can do to injure them! Federalists read it!—we feel an assurance in requiring you to read this extract, because you must remember that it proceeded from the pen of the same man who was supported by your patronage and countenance in publishing three thousand papers daily in Philadelphia to denigrate his opinions to the people of America—the same man who was the associate of Pickens; the same scoundrel who first preached the doctrine of *francs rousseux* in America, and who first denounced President Adams for his accommodation with France, and was followed by Hamilton, and all his unfeeling minions of the day.

The people of Maryland may well remember him for his interference in their election in the year 1793—it was this man who led the hue and cry of that day against General Smith;—his paper (Porcupine's Gazette) was then filled every day, at the Federal Republican now is, with bilious charges and falsehoods against that stern republican, who stood in the way of their views as he now does—no name—no epithet—no insinuation, thought of by his fertile genius, but he loaded upon General Smith.—No assurance was spared of his overthrow and disgrace.—But G. Smith rose in the estimation of his constituents in proportion to the corrupt abuse lavished by this foreign incendiary upon him;—and the citizens of Baltimore re-elected him by an immense majority.—Then it was that the polluted writer of the following extract, commenced his abuse of Baltimore, which is well corroborated by its citizens—and is now humbly copied by John Hanson Thomas, his hopeful friends, and the federal papers throughout the continent.

Porcupine swore in his wrath that the name of Baltimore should never disgrace his columns again—but should forever be stigmatized by the epithet of *Sauvagine-Ville*.—Federalists who mean well—remember these things, and read the following!

MASK OFF!!

From Cobbett's Weekly Political Register.

When the Ministers found, that the American government was determined not to settle the affair of the Chesapeake, unless the settlement included a renunciation on our part of the right of searching their merchant vessels for our deserters, they resolved upon sending a special envoy to offer atonement for the attack on the Chesapeake, but not to permit him to negotiate upon any other point whatever; and at the same time, they issued a proclamation, in which the king declared that he never would give up the right in question. It is therefore, probable, that the negotiation between Mr. Rose and Mr. Madison, would, if it had been commenced, have soon been broken off; but it was, as the reader will perceive, prevented from beginning by the refusal of the American government to rescind their hostile proclamation, which our Ministers justly considered as an act of retaliation, and the rescinding of which they demanded as a step previous to their tendering any reparation at all.

The demand was refused, and of course Mr. Rose came back as he went. The reader will perceive, that the Ameri-

cans now choose to represent the hostile proclamation, not as an act of retaliation but an act of precaution. As if they were afraid that we should send in our ships to burn their towns! Believe them who will; for my part the contrary is evident to me; and so it, at first, was to them; for they, in all their newspapers, called it an act of retaliation. See the proclamation itself, in page 240, vol. XII. and say whether it be an act of mere precaution. It was the mildest measure they could adopt, Mr. Madison says; and I say it was the harshest, because they had it not in their power to injure or annoy us in any other way. It was the worst they could do. It was not a blow, for a blow they were unable to deal us; but it was spitting in our faces. It was, too, a measure still in existence, at the time when Mr. Rose arrived in America; and, therefore, to have offered reparation, until it was rescinded, would have been disgraceful to us in the highest degree. It would have been begging pardon with a cane suspended over our shoulder. It would have been going one step further than the late Ministers, who entered upon a negotiation touching the right of search while the Americans had a non-impertation act passed for the avowed purpose of compelling us to give up that right, and kept suspended over our heads ready to be put in execution, in case we refused to accede to the terms proposed.

The result of this negotiation, or rather the total failure of it, proves the truth of what I told the ministers at first—that is, that every step in the way of concession, would but cause the difficulties to thicken. If they had stood firm upon the ground of MARITIME DOMINION, there would have been a loud outcry for a few weeks; but what could the Americans have done more than they have done now? They have now done their worst, and they could have done no more. There would have been an end forever to all claims and disputes about searching ships.—And to this it must come at last.—In reality it is now.—We do exercise an absolute Maritime Dominion. We must exercise it, or we cannot remain independent of France. It would therefore be better to do it at once, bravely, and not encumber the thing with orders in council and other trappings, which only serve to rob the principle of its simplicity and dignity.

The alarm of Mr. Alexander Baring, and his brother wise-acre, Mr. Rowce, that the open avowal of such a principle would rouse and unite the world against us, is curious enough, at a moment when all the world is actually so roused and united. America is as much our enemy as she can be. Nothing can possibly make her more so.—She would declare war, but she dare not. There is no fear of throwing her into the arms of France.—She is there already as much as she can be. Our ships of war keep the two dear friends asunder.—What the revolution of Spain may do, by placing the countries joining the United States, under the immediate control of France, I know not.

If the Americans were not such miserable slaves to their envy and hatred of England, this event would at once produce an alliance offensive and defensive between us and them; but, I am of opinion that it would produce no such effect, until severe sufferings (which is in store for them) shall have taught them justice and modesty. The Floridas are inhabited by Spaniards—Louisiana by Spaniards and Frenchmen—he key of the Mississippi in their hands. Without the aid of England it is impossible for the Southern and Western States of the American Union to maintain themselves against France, if attacked by her—and to avoid being attacked, there is but one way; that is, by doing whatever Napoleon shall command—in other words, yield to him without resistance. What a fine field would, by this revolution in Spain, be opened for a grand operation of England and America, were it not for the sauciness of the leaders in the latter country. The way for them to proceed is so very plain, that it needs not to be pointed out.

How natural, how glorious, would such a co-operation be!—But it is not for us to endeavour to hasten it. The first motions towards it must come from the other side; and they will not come until the people, the real people of America, shall rouse themselves, trample under foot the slaves of France, and resolve to act for their own interests.—This event can be at no great distance. They know what French armies are. They personally hate the French—and when once they begin to have them in their neighbourhood, they will begin to think seriously of their means of defence.—Drive them from the continent of N. America they must—if they must themselves become subjects of France. There is no other alternative. They cannot drive them away without the aid of England—and the giving of that aid will naturally and necessarily lead to a connection, which may have a wonderful effect on the world.—But, it cannot be too often repeated, that the first movements towards such a connection "must not be made by us."

From the Whig.

The federal editors are in woeful plight since the people have begun to enquire into the enormity of the "Church Bill." They fret, foam, and call hard names,—the only resort of men who advocate a rotten cause. Affecting to find precedents for the late invidious and sweeping Church Bill, which would have inevitably established a dangerous hierarchy, that in the course of time must give law to the legislature itself, since the Episcopal convention would possess all power and wealth; affecting, I say, to find examples in past laws for the monstrous church bill, they exclaim, "Look at Killy's Laws of Maryland!"—We join in the reprobation.—Look at Killy's Laws: we echo and re-echo it. Look at Killy's Laws, and you will find these

PLAIN DISTINCTIONS

BETWEEN

FORMER LAWS AND THE LATE CHURCH BILL:

Former laws were mostly to incorporate individual churches, whose property was to be limited.

The Church bill gave power to acquire wealth and property to an UNLIMITED extent; and to dispose of that property in any way the Convention should think proper.

Former laws were as a drop of water; the Church bill is boundless and unfathomable as the ocean.

(This bill was as dark as it was deep; and for this reason a few democrats voted for it, not knowing its awful purpose. They are excusable, for they were simple and honest; they knew not the trap laid for the people of Maryland—but now they know it, and are thankful that the Senate saved the State from this ruin.)

Former laws corresponded with each other, one resembled another; but

This Church bill is "unmatchable"—it stood like a Colossus—its limbs stretched over Maryland; its head among the clouds.

Former laws were calculated to facilitate the religion of Christ.

The late Church bill was to promote the power, augment the wealth, and increase the arrogance of man.

FROM BARTON'S REPUBLICAN GAZETTE.

Citizens you have been on the brink of ruin! A Whig Senate have saved you!

We stated in the Harriet of March 1st, that the reader was put in possession of 6 or 8 references to laws passed for the incorporation of individual churches of congregations, and requested that he would turn to these laws and ascertain for himself, whether each did not contain a limitation as to the amount of property each particular incorporated body is permitted to hold. Fearful however, that the subject may not be properly enquired into by some of our readers, who have not the laws to turn to, and deeming the attempt made by our delegates to introduce into this state an aristocratic body under the semblance of promoting religion, as clearly demonstrable, we have thought it best to give one general view of limitations in the works of the several laws—to this end we shall take them up in the order of time in which they have passed the legislature; and

1. The law to secure certain property in the Roman Catholic monasteries, passed in 1792, Chap. 55, relates entirely to certain specified property, and is wholly irrelevant to the subject before us. We know not for what this law was quoted by the delegates, unless it was thought that the *ipse dixit* of these men would be taken as matter of fact without examination.

2. The law to incorporate the Roman Catholic congregation in Baltimore, passed in 1795, Chap. 15, grants them a capacity to hold any property "which may be acquired and held by religious societies" in this state. Thus restricting this incorporated body to the limitation of other "religious societies," although but a single congregation. You will now see what those limitations are.

3. The law to incorporate the German reformed congregation in Baltimore, passed in 1795, Chap. 16, grants only a limited capacity to the incorporated body, although but a single congregation, to hold property in the words following, viz. "and shall be able and capable to purchase, take, hold, receive and enjoy, any estate, real, personal or mixed, not exceeding in the whole the clear yearly value of 12,000 pounds."

4. The law to incorporate the Evangelical reformed church in Baltimore, passed in 1797, Chap. 52, relates but to a single church or congregation, and grants a capacity to hold property, cautiously limited in the words following, viz. "and shall be able and capable hereafter to purchase, receive, hold and enjoy, any estate or donation, real, personal or mixed, not exceeding 6,000 dollars."

5. The law to incorporate the Baptist church in Baltimore, passed 1798 Chap. 30, relates but to a single church or congregation, and grants a capacity to hold property, carefully limited in the words following, viz. "the said corporation shall be able and capable hereafter to purchase, receive, hold and enjoy, any estate, real personal or mixed, not exceeding 6,000 dollars."

6. The law for incorporating the Methodist Episcopal Church, known by the name of the Light street and Old town churches in Baltimore, passed in 1800, Chap. 57, incorporates into one body po-

litical two churches, which have been and hereafter are to be under the superintendance of the minister. The capacity granted to this incorporation to hold property, is carefully limited in the words following, viz. "that the said incorporation shall be capable of purchasing hereafter, real and personal property, not exceeding in value the sum of 6,000 dollars."

7. The law to incorporate the Roman Catholic congregation worshipping at St. John's church in St. Mary's county, passed in 1801, Chap. 51, relates but to a single church, and has limitation fixed on its capacity to hold property, in the words following, viz. "Provided, that the lands which shall be acquired by, and vested in, the said corporation by virtue of this act, shall not exceed the quantity of 200 acres; and provided also, that the real and personal property acquired by and vested in the said corporation, shall not exceed in the whole, the yearly value of 200 pounds."

8. This is a law which puts it in the power of every christian church or congregation in the state, to be incorporated without applying to the legislature. It passed in 1802, Chap. cxi, and empowers any individual congregation to draw up a system of church government, and by acknowledgement and record thereof, in the manner that deeds are recorded, to become to all intents and purposes an incorporated body. But the legislature, with their usual caution, have very carefully restricted the capacity to hold property of these incorporated bodies, in the words following, viz. "And provided also, that the clear yearly value of the estates, rents, annuities, or other hereditaments of any church, society, or congregation thus incorporated, shall not amount to more than the clear yearly value of 2,000 dollars."

These are all and singular the laws cited by the delegates upon the subject, whereby to afford any shadow of justification for their conduct. The legislature having by the passage of the last law, put it into the power of any congregation to incorporate itself upon principles fair and proper; having declined all further legislation of the kind since the session of 1802—though indeed, the federalists in the house of delegates at the last session did all they could to pass the monstrous bill under consideration.

It is now worthy of enquiry, why and wherefore have the legislature been so cautious in prohibiting incorporated bodies from holding property beyond a certain amount? Is it not from a fear that a body thus organized might acquire funds that would endanger the government? And if this be so as relates to the incorporation of a single congregation, is it not abundantly more to be feared from the Episcopal Convention controlling as it does at least 50 churches? Reader look at the bill.—The 3d Section authorizes the convention to pass and enforce what by laws they please; the 4th gives the convention an unlimited capacity to hold and acquire property, and 5th and 6th repeatedly introduces the word "parish," to effect different provisions all important—one of which prescribing the duties of a committee to be raised, goes on to direct the committee in certain specified cases, "to take possession of any church or churches, and other property, belonging to the parish or congregation; and that the said church or churches, and other property thereto belonging, shall, from the appointment of such committee, be vested in the said committee, who may, if necessary, sue for and recover the same by action at law." To this, add the Episcopal definition of the word "parish," to wit: "A limited extent of country, comprehending ALL the inhabitants of it;" and let us ask, whether an insidious and monstrous plot against the liberties or the people does not open to the readers view?

Almost every man knows that the nature of interest on money, particularly when regularly taken up from time to time, and let out again—becomes like a snow-ball, compound in its operation, every motion of which produces an increased accumulation. This operation, commenced and continued on the part of the Convention, by a profitable application of wealth, together with the absolute disposal of property by enabling them to pass and carry into effect any bye-laws they please, a much shorter space of time would be necessary on their part than many might imagine, to elevate their funds be on those of the state government. Upon such a result, it requires but little reflection to perceive, that the government would be moulded by their wishes: the would follow a practical application of the word *paroch*, dreadfully oppressive to the good people of his state. Thus an hierarchy would be off of it, commanding at pleasure every foot of real property, and exercising uncontrollable power in church and in state. All history witnesses the rivers of human blood produced by such an union.

As the people are greatly interested to know the extent of this scandal on religion and nefarious attempt on their rights, we now call on John H. Thomas whether

he has, or has not been a member of the Episcopal convention for some time past.

By a calculation of the N. York Gazette, in two months from the 18th of April, 1835, say 2,000 vessels sailed from the U. States, averaging 200 tons, with 10 seamen each, and making a total of 400,000 tons, and 20,000 seamen. Now suppose we estimate each vessel and cargo to be worth only 20,000 dollars; we then find American property worth *forty millions of dollars* thrown upon the ocean in two months, and exposed to the orders, the blockades and the adjudications of the British government; a government whose pressing wants will be relieved by the supplies from this source, and whose late breach of its blighted faith proves (if a thousand other instances were wanting) to be capable of any outrage and any violation of private contract or public law.

Hudson Bee.

When the recent intelligence of British perfidy reached our shores, one universal sentiment of indignation was witnessed, one common language of merited execration was heard. Those mercenary minions of England, who had been uniformly the boldest and most impudent in their doings, did not on this occasion dare to open their lips to justify or even aliate her conduct. But they already judge the favor of the public mind to have abated, and already have Coles and Park stepped forth as the unshifting vindicators of an act which no government on earth besides Britain and the pirates of B. Bay, is capable of committing. Their humane eyes are followers in the same course, and we shall soon see every fair paper on the continent renewing its comments on the covetousness of the United States, and vilifying its treatment of the United States, and vilifying our own government for its attempt to defend our rights.—Is it possible that America contains such monsters? Is it possible that the purest republic ever existing, nourishes such vipers in its bosom? When we contemplate such depravity, and reflect that it is not confined to any trifling number, we are almost ready to exclaim with the "Herald" of their infamy "I could rather be a dog and bay the moon than own myself an American." But think God, the citizens of New England can no longer be deceived. The vulgarity of our clerical enemy is too glaring to be disguised. The voice of an awakened people will be heard, consigning the band of traitors to public and never ending scorn and censure to the administration of affairs, men who have never vindicated encroachments on our rights, or the prostration of our independence—men of whom no one can say they encourage foreign aggression.

VALUABLE LANDS.

For Sale, a few Tracts of Land, in the county of Berkeley, Virginia, which being situated in one of the most fruitful counties of that State, and near Martinsburgh, Winchester, Shoppers-town and Charlestown, and almost on the borders of the river Potomac, by which produce at a small expense might be sent to Washington, Alexandria and Georgetown, and not much more than one hundred miles from Baltimore, hold out great advantages either to speculators, or actual settlers.

1st. A tract of 500 acres, about fourteen or fifteen miles from Martinsburgh, the county town, and six or seven from the Potomac, on which are a number of springs, one remarkably large and good.

2d. A tract of four hundred acres, about eighteen miles from Martinsburgh, and only seven or eight from the warm Springs at Bath; this lot has the peculiar advantage of being within a mile or two of the Potomac.

3d. A tract of three hundred and seventy or eighty acres, part of which is intervale; through this lot, runs a stream of water judged capable of turning a grist mill; its distance from Martinsburgh and the river much the same as the first tract. The above lands are in general heavily timbered.

4th. One tract of about one hundred and twenty acres which has been partly improved, and is about half cleared, most of this lot intervale.

These tracts will be sold separate or together, as may suit purchasers. For the terms, which will be accommodating, please apply at this office.

August 26

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Tammany Society.

A stated monthly meeting of the Tammany Society, or Columbian Order, will be held at the Council Fire of their Great Wigwam, on the first Thursday of the Month of Corn, year of discovery 317, precisely at the going down of the sun.

By order,

Louis C. Gassaway.

S. T. S. C. O. A. M.

Month of Fishes, }
22d day, 317. }

American Patent Shot,

From the manufactory of Paul Beck, junior—Philadelphia:

Warranted EQUAL to any made in this country. An assortment always for sale, by

NATH'L. F. WILLIAMS,

No. 15, Broyle's wharf,

Baltimore, August 11, 1809. 4w*