

suffering or delinquent nationalities, and in this particular case. Great Britain denying the political or national existence of said *flag* and *seal* of Ireland, and insisting from the year 1800, that they had no existence—being brought before you, as part of one of the great nations of the earth, to be tried at the bar of public opinion, and failing in presenting you with an unbroken chain of Constitution, Parliamentary and international facts and law, in support of her pretensions, and relying solely on her ability to exercise jurisdiction by “brute force;” you certainly have the natural right to give expression to your opinions, as citizens, individually or collectively in Convention, and to take any reasonable steps in spreading your conclusions and desires before the world, not conflicting with the international laws as received or with the Constitution and laws of the United States.

But the semi-official or official admission by the State of Maryland, and all the other States of the Union as individual States of the *legal status* of “the Irish flag” and “seal” *within each State*, would certainly be followed by a similar admission on the part of Congress, which admission would be tantamount to an international legal decision. That the Act of Union between England and Ireland, dating from the year 1800, has never been legally accomplished, the international obligation of the national vote of the people of Ireland being wanting to complete the connection.

Should the State individually, and Congress afterwards declare that *the flag* and *seal* of Ireland previous to the year 1800, represents the Irish Government, their declarations would be followed by other independent governments, and *the belligerent rights* of the Irish people claiming under this strong title universally admitted.

Your petitioner would respectfully suggest that the prompt action of the State of Maryland in acknowledging “the Flag” and “Seal” of Ireland, is at the present time of immense moment to Ireland. Many of our sister States are holding their Constitutional Conventions, others are holding their Legislative sessions, and each of them will be asked for the recognition of “the Flag” and “Seal.” The Constitutional Convention of the State of Michigan, has a copy of this document before it for disposition, and it is desirable that each and all should express themselves promptly, and in terms of affirmation on a question of such vital importance.

In conclusion, your petitioner regards “this Flag” and “Seal” question as the turning point of Irish Independent Legislation, and asks the State of Maryland and the other States of the Union, for the practical sympathy and assistance which the free and prosperous should be always willing