

committee, was handed down to us from our forefathers from the good old times of 1776, and the committee had thought it proper to continue this article.

Mr. Barnes said the Convention was not legislating for the times of 1776. They were sent here to frame a form of government conformable to the present times.

Mr. Brown had at first been in favor of the amendment suggested by his colleague from Baltimore city. He wished to get rid of an assertion which is in fact a fallacy. The assertion that all government is founded in compact only had long since been exploded, but the amendment does not meet the case. The right asserted in article 6 is a revolutionary right; the right asserted in article 1 is a right founded on law. There might be objection to the old-fashioned phraseology of article 1, and he would prefer to exclude the fallacious assertion made in it, but, upon the whole, he thought it had better remain.

Mr. Jones said the language of this article had been fully considered in committee, and they had finally come to the conclusion to adhere to the time-honored forms.

Mr. Nelson did not believe that government originates from the people. He believed that all power emanates and is derived from the Supreme God, who rules over us all. He desired to submit a substitute for the proposition of the gentleman from Baltimore city, as follows:

“That all powers are derived from God and properly administered by the people, and that all persons invested,” &c.

After some further discussion, the Convention, on motion of Mr. Alvey, went into committee of the whole, (Mr. Dent, of St. Mary’s, in the chair.) but without taking any action, the committee, on motion of Mr. Carter, rose.

The consideration of the report on the Declaration of Rights was then resumed by the Convention.

Mr. Jones moved for a division of the motion of the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Barnes,) and the question being taken on the motion to strike out, it was disagreed to, and the amendment was then decided in the negative.