

people who adopted, the Constitution did an act of which passion, and not reason, was the cause, is only equalled in its absurdity by the demand which follows it—that the qualifications of the right of suffrage which that Constitution prescribes must be repealed by the very first Legislature which has met under the Constitution.

The assertion and demand both come with such bad grace from the mouth of the spokesman of the memorialists, who uttered no such opinions when the Constitution was adopted, and are so inconsistent with his former sentiments, that we cannot grant to either the merit of sincerity. It suited the interests of the spokesman then to support the disfranchisement of those who supported the rebellion—it does not suit his interests now.

The address makes the deliberate statement, that the Constitution disfranchised the majority of the citizens of the State. This assertion is in defiance of all fact, and the spokesman of the memorialists has himself time and again asserted the loyalty of the majority of the people of Maryland. He has objected several times, and many of the very members of the committee who presented the petition have objected publicly, to divers measures of the Government while the war was going on, on the ground that the people of Maryland were loyal, and that such measures were a reflection on their loyalty. How is it, then, that the Constitution affects thus a majority of the people? But the elections in this State are the best test of this question. In June, 1861, an election was held throughout the State for Members of Congress; no military force anywhere interfered; no oaths were anywhere asked for; in Baltimore City the election was held under the auspices of Marshal Kane and his police; and yet at that election one of the largest votes ever taken here was polled.

Members of Congress were elected in every district but one, who were men advocates for the prosecution of the war; and Mr. May, the Member from the Third District, then equivocal about the war, and talking a great deal about peace, had been, all through the month of April and in the very midst of the riot of the 19th, an outspoken opponent of all treasonable sentiments. A majority of the whole vote of this State then declared for war to suppress the rebellion.

When Governor Bradford was elected, the sympathizers of with the rebellion then complained of interference in Baltimore city and county; still Governor Bradford's vote was a large clear majority of the whole vote of the State. It is not to