

legislative choice, and thereby give an undivided vote of the whole number to which their state is entitled, for their favorite candidate, Maryland has in every instance, given a vote so divided as to render her weight of no political consequence in the scale of the union. Maryland has adhered to this method of voting from a very commendable attachment to the system which she considered to be greatly preferable as a uniform system, and with an earnest hope repeatedly expressed, that her sister states would modify their system, to one, which when abstractly considered, must be admitted to be more conformable to republican principles, than either of the other modes; besides which, it was every way desirable to obtain a uniformity in the mode of electing electors in the several states—But the subject has been recently debated at great length in the United States congress, where amendments of the constitution of the union must originate, and has resulted in a vote decidedly opposed to the alteration wished for by Maryland. The representatives of the larger states in Congress, particularly Virginia and Pennsylvania, were decidedly opposed to resigning the advantage which they hold in choosing the national executive, by giving an undivided vote. Their doctrine has been repeatedly avowed—“it is not of so much consequence to us *who* is to be chosen, as it is for whoever he may be, to know, that we are *powerful*, when a choice is to be made.” The