

dent and Vice President. Compare the weight actually exercised in the elections by the latter with what Maryland has exercised:—

Virginia in 1796 gave one vote for Adams, and 20 for Jefferson; her clear vote was therefore

In 1800—undivided vote			19
1808	“	“	21
1812	“	“	24
1812	“	“	25
1824	“	“	25

114

Thus Virginia gave at the five contested elections 114 clear votes. Maryland, by persuing the same policy in choosing electors, might have given at the same elections 55 votes, being within a fraction of half the votes given by Virginia; whereas by the policy she did persue, only 15 clear votes were given by the state at those elections, being less than one eighth of the number actually given by Virginia.

It is not in the nature of things that a result so unkind to the influence of the state, as a member of the Confederation, is without its effects. Maryland, in consequence of it, has not her due weight in the voice of the nation. These calculations prove that the state has paid already a severe price for her attachment to what she deems the best method of choosing electors. It is hardly to be expected that she will persevere in making such great sacrifices when the object for perseverance becomes evidently hopeless. It is