

Within a few years, men of high standing under this despotic power, and assemblies of the Delegates under this power have published that all the decrees and laws under which they oppressed Europe in past ages are in force in this country.

Facts have been presented in this State which show that they are in force here; that individuals have been confined in prison for long years, in violation of their personal rights, their property taken from them, and they subjected to hardship and punishment, under jailors who are the agents of this foreign power, and according to those oppressive laws.

A particular case, out of a number, was singled out, which had occurred in the City of Baltimore, the name of the person, the place, the time and the circumstances attending it. This individual was a woman, born in the State of Maryland. The fact was mentioned that she had twice escaped from the prison. That when out the second time she declared that she had no friends to whom she could apply for aid, and *appealed to the public for protection.*

After being rescued and for a season placed in the hospital, she was removed to Mount Hope, a private mad house, under the agents and keepers, who are appointed by this same foreign despotic power. Here she was professedly maintained on their charity. But in truth they had many years before compelled her to give up to them all the property which she had inherited, and for nineteen years kept her under rules which border on starvation, and which would be most effectual in reducing the body and mind to a state of the greatest feebleness.

Your memorialist would respectfully represent to your Honorable body, that this fact was confirmed by the Hon. Mr. Merrick and Mr. Harris, in the speeches which they made in the last assembly, against the memorial. If the facts as stated by Mr. Merrick and Mr. Harris be true, this is a case of most lamentable character, and is fraught with a cruelty and probable fraud, which, as legislators, you are bound to consider.

1. They said, she was *insane* and had been so from her youth. If this be true, why was she not put into an hospital, instead of a convent prison?

2. The rules of the prison in which she was placed were such that they would induce insanity in the strongest mind.

3. She was confined there nineteen years and would have been there until the present time, if, when she escaped the second time, the people had not interfered and said she should not return.

4. It was not until the second escape, and the determination of the people not to permit her to return, that it was rumored that she was of weak mind.

5. If she was of weak mind and insane, how could she have been competent to give herself or property to the convent? If so, the