

The indignation of the people was justly aroused by this outrage on the right of suffrage, and the "Allegany fraud" stands condemned by the judgment of posterity, side by side with the "Hartford Convention." A similar disregard of the popular rights in the case of John Wilkes, made an unprincipled politician the most popular man in England.

The practice in such cases is perfectly settled in this country. In the case of *Macfarlan vs. Culpepper*, contested elections, p. 223, the committee say: "We are of opinion that even presuming the votes in Moore and Cumberland counties to have been legally taken, it would be improper to deprive the other three counties of their representation for the fault of their election officers; they therefore think it most proper to give the citizens of that district an opportunity to have another election, and they submit a resolution to that effect." In the case of *Whyte vs. Harris*, where frauds and riots were alleged to have occurred in part of the Congressional district, such a course of action as that recommended by the majority in this case was not hinted at. The majority of the committee reported to the House of Representatives that the sitting member was not entitled to his seat, and that a new election should be held; but even that resolution, as we have stated, was voted down by the House. That the House of Delegates could, in any view of the testimony, adopt the recommendation of the majority of the committee, the undersigned cannot bring themselves to regard as within the range of possibilities.

The undersigned regret that they have been obliged, in the hasty preparation of this report, to extend it to this length. The testimony taken before the committee not yet being printed, we have thought it proper to make more extended reference to it than need have been done, if it was before the House at this time.

If a further justification is needed for these extended remarks, it is to be found in the vast importance of the subject under consideration.

They recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this House, William H. Purnell is entitled to retain the office of Comptroller of the Treasury.

JOSHUA WILSON.
A. MEDDERS.