

pointed by the levy court of Montgomery county; provided, that no one shall be entitled to vote at any election, who shall not have resided twelve months in the State or District.

Mr. Cottman offered the following to be appended to the foregoing resolutions,

And whereas, the constitution of the United States has wisely provided, that Congress shall have power to exercise exclusive *legislation* over such district, (not exceeding ten miles square,) as may, by cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States; and whereas, the territory north of the Potomac river, a portion of the domain of Maryland, has been apparently and ostensibly ceded to the United States, by an act of the Legislature of Maryland, which was not ratified and confirmed by a succeeding Legislature, and the ostensible cession of the domain being such a modification of the constitution, as requires the action of two successive Legislatures, in the mode provided by the constitution of Maryland,—Therefore,

Resolved, That the territory professed to have been ceded to the United States, was not ceded in conformity with the constitution of this State, and now is, and of right ought to be, a part of the territory of Maryland.

Mr. Bowie submitted the following as a substitute for the said resolutions,

Which was read:

Whereas, the State of Maryland, by an act passed in 1791, ceded and forever relinquished to the United States of America, all that territory lying on the north side of the river Potomac, within the lines now known as the District of Columbia, with power to exercise "exclusive legislation" over the same, pursuant to the sixteenth clause of the 8th section of the constitution of the United States, which territory was accepted by the United States, as the "permanent seat of government;" and whereas, a territory under the supreme and exclusive control of Congress, and remote from any large masses of population, under the sovereignty of a State, is essential to the independence of the general government and integrity of the Union; and whereas, the permanency of the seat of government of the United States, may be jeopardized by a manifestation on the part of the State of Maryland, of a desire to reclaim a part of the District of Columbia, before Congress has declared its willingness to relinquish the same.

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That while the State of Maryland feels a deep interest in the prosperity and advancement of the District of Columbia, (particularly in that part which formerly belonged to this State,) and laments the depressed condition of commerce and manufactures, complained of in the memorial of the citizens of Georgetown; this Legislature, regards it as premature on the part of the State, to declare its readiness to receive into its limits