

nents alone, did not amount to a sufficient number to form a quorum, they were not able on that day to effect their purpose. On the next day, all the members having arrived, except those whose attendance was prevented by sickness; the house met, and as soon as by the appointment of a speaker and clerk, it was sufficiently organized to take cognizance of the case, a petition was presented from Henry Fellows, claiming the seat occupied by Peter Allen; accompanied by certified copies of the returns made by every inspector of election, in every town in the county of Ontario, proving conclusively, that the claim was well founded: The friends of the administration being determined, that the right of Mr. Allen to his seat, should not be inquired into until by his assistance, they had consummated their designs, concerning the council of appointment, refused during that day, to permit the petition to be read.

But on a subsequent day, the petition and the documents which accompanied it, having been read, & brought formally before the house, the members attached to the administration, resolved to postpone the consideration of them, and in the meantime to elect a council of appointment. This resolution, they carried into effect, by the aid of Mr. Allen's vote, without which, they had not a majority; and to this end they permitted him, in violation of law, justice, and decency, to defeat by his own voice, an inquiry into the validity of his own election. A democratic council was elected by a majority of one vote, and that vote was Mr. Allen's.

This point having been gained, the speaker nominated a committee of privileges and elections, consisting of three members of principles opposed to our own, and two of our number; to whom the petition of Mr. Fellows was referred, and who, on the day after the reference, and on no other evidence than the documents which had been read before the house, unanimously reported, that Mr. Allen had no right to his seat; which report was ratified by the house, with only one dissenting voice. We subjoin a copy of this report for your information.

If proceedings like these are to be tolerated, it is obvious that any party which happens to be in power may enable themselves to hold it in contempt of the will of the people. It will only be necessary to appoint clerks of counties, who will give the necessary certificates, to a sufficient number of the partisans of the party, the holders of the certificates may by their own votes postpone inquiry into the legality of them and elect a council, who will preserve the clerks in office; and thus while the mere forms of the constitution are preserved, the whole government will in fact be vested in the hands of a few, and the rights of the people destroyed.

In the judgment of many, whose opinions merit respect, it was our duty, when we perceived that reason and argument were impotent to withstand the lust of office, and the madness of faction, to have seceded from the house. As a quorum could not have been formed without us, the legislature would then have been dissolved, and the usurpation we have exposed prevented.

This expedient was not unthought of—it was deliberately and maturely considered; and it was not rejected because we were less sensible than others to the violation which has been committed on the constitution; or to the contempt which has been manifested, as well of the understandings, as of the rights of our constituents.

But we reflected that, if the people were blind to their own interests, and regardless of their own birth-rights, no effort of ours could preserve them—That if on the contrary they felt as they ought, as we had no doubt they would feel, the insult as well as injury that was offered to them, the evil would be of short continuance—And that depriving the state of its legislature, while it left the same party in power whose machinations it was intended to defeat, would expose both the public and individuals to serious inconvenience, and would form a precedent of dangerous tendency, and by inflaming party animosities, prevent that dispassionate consideration which we wished to solicit in regard to the proceedings of ourselves and our opponents.

If, however, we have erred, we console ourselves with reflecting, that it was on the side of moderati-

on, and we have exemplified the principles on which we always acted by setting an example of forbearance and temper, and by sacrificing all other considerations to the peace and tranquility of the state.

How far our conduct or that of our opponents is deserving of approbation, and whether the latter is to become a precedent to be followed in future, and produce the momentous result which in that case must necessarily follow, are questions for the people to decide, and to you fellow-citizens, we submit them.

Peter A. Jay, J. I. Ostrander, Andrew Morris, M. Freleigh, Ed. W. Light, Jesse Smith, Thos. C. Taylor, J. Schoolcraft, Joseph Bayley, Steph. Carman, Philip Brasher, Danl. Kissum, Aug. Wynkoop, Wm. Jones, S. Whittemore, Jas. Palmer, Michael Harris, Roswell Weston, Benj. Isaacs, David Russell, Wm. Requa, John Reid, T. I. Oakley, J. Stephenson, Jno. B. Vanwyck, Wm. Hamilton, Z. Hoffman, Isaac Smith, Wm. A. Duer, N. Christie, Jas. Powers, N. Kimball, Jas. Roggen, W. Woodward, H. Livingston, E. G. Rawson, J. R. V. Rensselaer, R. Van-Horne, John Whiting, E. S. Jackson, Jas. Vanderpool, N. Hall jun, H. Knickerbacker, H. Hopkins, S. Millman, Wm. Campbell, S. I. M. Chestney, D. E. Gregory, Job. Greene, Thomas Lee, Jas. Lynch, Myron Holley, Rd. Sanger, R. Sprague, R. Morrison, Israel Chapin, Isaac Brayton, Alexd. Kelsey, J. Curtis, M. Whiting.

*Report of the Committee of Elections in the case of Peter Allen.*

"That your committee have investigated the claim of Mr. Fellows, to be admitted to his seat, as a member of the house, in the place of Peter Allen, who was returned by the clerk of Ontario, as duly elected; that Mr. Allen and Mr. Fellows, according to notice given to that effect, appeared before your committee to enforce their respective claims; that, from the documents referred to your committee, the following facts are fully and clearly proved, and were not controverted or denied by Mr. Allen: that at the last anniversary election for members in the town of Perrington, in the county of Ontario, forty-nine votes were given for Henry Fellows, by his name printed in full length: the votes were duly canvassed by the inspectors of election, and duplicate certificates made according to the act, one of which was regularly filed in the clerk's office, of that town, in which the name of the said Henry Fellows was written at full length, but in the certificate made by the said inspectors, and filed in the clerk's office of the county of Ontario, the christian name of the said Henry Fellows, was written with the abbreviation of Hen. Fellows: that in calculating and ascertaining the number of votes, given for the said Henry Fellows, the clerk of the said county of Ontario refused to allow him those given in the said town of Perrington, for Henry Fellows (and returned to him by the name of Hen. Fellows) and determined that Peter Allen was elected, and gave him his certificate accordingly.

"Your committee further report that the whole number of votes given at the said election, in and for the county of Ontario, for Peter Allen was 3695, and for Henry Fellows, including those given for him by that name, in the town of Perrington, 3825. Your committee are therefore unanimously of opinion, that the seat of Peter Allen, esq. should be vacated, and the petitioner be admitted as a member of this house."

**MARYLAND GAZETTE.**  
ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY FEB. 29, 1816.

**CELEBRATION**  
*Of the anniversary of Washington's Birth-Day.*

Thursday last being the birth-day of General Washington, a number of gentlemen met at Gambrill's tavern, on the head of Severn, where they partook of an elegant dinner, prepared by Mrs. Gambrill on the occasion. Major Philip Hammond was called to the chair as president, and Captain David Stewart as vice-president. The day was spent with great satisfaction and harmony. After dinner the following toasts were drank:

1. The memory of our beloved George Washington, the founder of the American Republic—May every future administration remember, it was the adoption of his principles which brought prosperity to our country: experience has proved the fatal result of a departure from them.
2. General Robert G. Harper—The Aristides of Maryland, and disciple of Washington—elected to the senate of the United States by the popular branch of the legislature; it was not the want of patriotism, but his talents his adversaries dreaded.
3. John Jay, the incorruptible negotiator—It was under the treaty made by him with England, our country enjoyed peace, wealth and happiness. He has lived to witness the disgrace of his calamitators.
4. The Governor and Council of Maryland.
5. John Randolph, Esquire, of Virginia, the able statesman, may his exertions prevail in the congress of the U. S. to expunge the order of the "previous question," and open the way to free and fair discussion.
6. Timothy Pickens, the statesman, the farmer, and cotemporary of our Washington: no country ever boasted a man more patriotic, more devoted to liberty.
7. John Marshall, the upright and virtuous chief justice of the United States; long may he live a pure disciple of Washington.
8. The union of these United States, "for an equality of contribution, an equality of benefits."
9. The Navy of the United States—May it be fostered as the policy of Washington, in defiance of those who "would not spit upon it were it in flames."
10. The Army of the U. States—may the government remember with gratitude, the brave officers and men who nobly fought battles for an object which the administration gave up.
11. Federalism, the rock of safety: Democracy has been obliged to desert experimental measures, and adopt the same principles which they reviled and impeached in others.
12. John C. Herbert—When poverty and misery had nearly ruined many, the people resolved, to place their trust in his talents, virtue and patriotism, as their member of congress.
13. General Jackson, the hero of Orleans—May his fame be wafted down the stream of time, and like the Mississippi roll its rich contribution to the ocean of eternity.
14. The treaty of Ghent—Had federalists been the makers of it, and signed the sheet, the blowing horns of democracy would be sounding forth the charge of tory, corruption and British gold.
15. Commodore Perry, "his victory of the Lake will be *Era perennis*."
16. Joseph Hopkinson, the member of Congress from Philadelphia—in him the sun of federalism shines with splendour, and the principles of Washington are awakened by his eloquence and reasoning.
17. The memory of John Hanson Thomas—he steadfastly supported the principles of Washington, Maryland mourns the loss of her son.

**VOLUNTEERS.**  
By Major Hammond—May all those tools of faction who have applied the epithet of "tory" to Washington and his disciples, be held in contempt by all good citizens.

By Captain Stewart—The memory of Mrs. Washington—The first time Lever saw her was in the year 1775, in this house; may her spirit dwell in the mansions of heaven.

By Dr. Snowden—Alexander Contee Hanson.

By Brice J. Worthington—The honourable Rufus King.

By Dr. Brown—The Governor of Maryland.

By Thomas Furlong—The United States, may its destinies be governed by the friends of the illustrious Washington.

By Dr. Hammond—Baltimore—she gives monuments to her brave, and graves to her enemies.

By Augustine Gambrill—Robert G. Harper—The tried friend of his country, who anticipated the wry face of democracy, in kicking a d squalling, but down it must go.

By Dr. Warfield—The late war—Although unwisely declared, federalists achieved honours both by sea and land, which democracy claims; may the pilferer be exposed and the mantle restored to its right owner.

By Thomas Cross—Thomas Jefferson—May he do penance in the Cave of Carter's Mountain for the many injuries his experimental administration has brought on his country.

By Mr. Rezin Hammond—The memory of capt. James Lawrence.

By Mr. Brice—Oceans of the federalists' best blood has been spilt in defence of their country.

By Brice J. Worthington—Jeremiah Townley Chase, Chief justice of the court of appeals of Maryland.

By Major Hammond—Charles Carroll of Carrollton—The patriot of '76, and cotemporary of Washington the frost of eighty years has covered his head, but his mind still springs forth, like verdure in the Spring.

By Mr. Benj. Brown—The army of the United States—may a moderate peace establishment be maintained to foster military science, but not as an engine of terror or oppression in the hands of the executive.

By Capt. Watson—The minority in Congress—Steadfast in the principles of Washington, and bold to assert their determination to preserve inviolate the constitution of their country.

By Mr. Benj. Brown jr.—The memory of General James Lingan—the cotemporary of Washington, & patriot of '76, altho' he was murdered by an infuriated mob, a grateful country will recollect his services to establish his liberty.

By Mr. Henry Stewart—The fair sex—May each possess a friend, a lover, and protector.

By Capt. David Stewart—Head of Severn, February 22d, 1816—Gentlemen, I hope we shall all meet here again on this day twelve months, at which time I hope we shall be able to bury democracy in the head of this great Gutter, if it will hold all.

**LAWS OF MARYLAND.**  
December Session, 1815.

*An act supplementary to an act to provide for the settlement of claims arising from the past or future employment of the militia of this state.*

1. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the governor and council shall be charged with the settlement of all claims against the state arising from the employment of the militia of this state, in place and stead of the accountants directed to be appointed by the act to which this is a supplement.

2. And be it enacted, That all such parts of the act to which this is a supplement, so far as it relates to the appointment of accountants, be and the same is hereby repealed, and the resolution passed at May session eighteen hundred and thirteen, making an allowance to each of the militia accountants, be and the same is hereby rescinded.

*An additional supplement to the act to regulate public ferries.*

1. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the passage of this act, it shall and may be lawful for the different county courts of this state, upon the conviction of any licensed ferry-keeper for the non performance of his duties, to fine such ferry-keeper, at their discretion, any sum of money not exceeding one hundred dollars in each and every case.

*A further supplement to the act, entitled, An act for quieting possessions, and securing and confirming the estates of purchasers.*

1. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all deeds heretofore made for conveying or passing any estate of inheritance, or freehold, or declaring or limiting any use or uses, trust or trusts, or for conveying any estate or estates for above seven years,

which have been taken in pursuance of the certificate of the persons lawfully authorized to take such acknowledgments, shall be and the same were made agreeably to the words or to that effect. Although it does not appear that the same were made by such *femes covert* on private examinations, or out of the presence and hearing of their respective husbands, shall be, and the same are hereby declared to be of the same validity and effect to be expressed therein, as if such acknowledgment had been taken and certified in the manner herein required by law; Provided, that nothing herein contained shall effect the decision of any suit now depending, or any case wherein a judgment hath been obtained, or which any person or persons having executed such defective deed, or claiming under them, are now in possession of the property; Provided also, that whenever it shall be found that there has been surprise, mistake, or fraud, in obtaining such deed or acknowledgment, this act shall not operate to make good the deed.

*An act to repeal all such parts of an act of assembly as require a license for retailing strong beer or cider.*

1. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That those parts of any act of assembly, which require a license to retail strong beer and cider, be and the same are hereby repealed.

*A supplement to an act, entitled, an act authorizing the justices of the orphans courts to take sheriffs bonds.*

1. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the passage of this act, shall be lawful for either of the justices of the orphans court at the time of taking the sheriffs bonds prescribed in the act to which this is a supplement, to qualify the sheriff so bonding, in the same manner as the judges of the county court are authorized to do, and transmit a certificate thereof to the clerk of their county court, to be by him recorded, which qualification shall be valid in law, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

2. And be it enacted, That the qualification of any sheriff already taken before a justice of the orphans court shall be valid and effectual in law.

*An act to authorise the sheriffs and collectors of the several counties of this state, to complete their collections, and for other purposes.*

1. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the late sheriffs and collectors of the several counties of this state, whose authority for making collections expired within the year of thousand eight hundred and fifty be and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to collect until the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy, all balances due them as sheriffs or collectors of their respective counties, in the same manner which they could or might have done within the time limited by law.

2. And be it enacted, That hereafter the sheriffs and collectors of taxes of the several counties of this state, be and they are hereby allowed the term of one year after the expiration of the times respectively elected or appointed, to collect all balances due to them as sheriffs or collectors respectively, in the same manner as they could or might collect such balances before the expiration of their respective times of serving in said offices.

3. And be it enacted, That hereafter the offices of sheriff and collector of Baltimore county shall not be united in the same person.

*From the Aurora.*

Congress has been sitting the last week—and during all that time the manufacturing interest has been active capital of which in one way or another, is valued, upon official documents at 200,000,000 dollars, is paralyzing and suspended. But such is the mode and such is the talents in the social interests; that one of the first considerations of political economy among men who have a regard against the evils of a revolution, is the alteration of demand. But objects of such a nature are either too remote or too much above the horizon of our great bank projector.

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**Notice.**  
The Commissioners of the Tax will meet on the second Monday in March next, for the purpose of hearing appeals and making of transfers.  
By order, H. S. Harwood, Clk.

**NOTICE.**  
That the Levy Court of Anne-Arundel County will meet at the City of Annapolis on the third Monday of March next, for the purpose of settling with the supervisors of the public roads, the inspectors of tobacco at the different warehouses, and for receiving and adjusting all claims against the said county for the year ending on that day.  
By order Wm. S. Green, Clk. Feb. 8.