

MR. MILLS'S SPEECH

In the Senate of the U. S. on introducing his proposition to amend the Constitution of the United States.

MR. MILLS, of Massachusetts, rose to ask leave, in pursuance of notice which he had given on Friday last, to introduce a joint resolution, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States in regard to the election of President and Vice President.

Previously, however, to the question, on granting leave being put, Mr. M. said he would, by the indulgence of the Senate, state the substance of his proposition, and very briefly, some of the reasons which had induced him to offer it.

The Constitution should be approached with great caution. He deprecated too frequent attempts to amend it, as calculated to derange its nicely adjusted powers, and to lessen the respect and veneration which all should cherish for that instrument.

It was the work of men's hands, and therefore not perfect; but still ought not to be subjected to all the varying changes which temporary inconveniences may suggest, nor should alterations be made as an expedient to effect a momentary and perhaps imaginary good.

For several successive sessions of Congress Mr. M. said, efforts had been made to procure amendments in relation to this subject, and at the present session, those efforts had been avowed with renewed zeal, and multiplied beyond all former example.

Upon this subject, the original provision for the choice of President and Vice President of the United States. This, Mr. Mills said, was the whole of his proposition. It had met the sanction of the enlightened assembly to which he had alluded, and the conventions of the several States, it had been tested by experience, and seemed better calculated in time to come to effect a choice by the Electors appointed for that purpose.

for the first office, and presumed to be capable of discharging its high and important duties. If this was the object for which he was elected, Mr. M. contended, that reasoning a priori, that object would be much more likely to be effected; and with greater facility and security, in the mode originally pointed out in the Constitution.

But, Mr. M. said, the propriety of the original mode of election, was not only evident from the deductions of reasoning, and the voice of experience, but it was fully confirmed by the prospect of the future, and especially by the prospect immediately before the nation.

Mr. M. said that, if the view which he had just presented was correct, the event, so much and so justly deprecated, would be much less likely to occur, under the constitution as originally adopted, than in its present shape.

Mr. Mills said, that the object which he mainly had in view, was to reinstate in the constitution the mode originally prescribed for the electors to give their votes.

He begged leave, however, to submit a few remarks upon those parts of other plans which might be connected with or hostile to his own proposition.

Great inequality would be produced. The state of Rhode Island, for instance, with a population of a little over 80,000, is entitled to four Electors, and would, therefore, be divided into four districts, each district containing about 20,000; while the state of New York, entitled to thirty-six Electors, and divided into thirty-six electoral districts, would have a population of 40,000 in each district.

It is obvious that a majority of the Electors might be chosen by a minority of the people.

So in regard to the amendment proposed by the Hon. Member from Missouri, (Mr. Benton,) giving the election of President and Vice President immediately to the people, by which each state is to be divided into districts, and each district to have one vote, and that vote to be decided by a majority of the people, in their primary assembly.

Mr. M. said, that, to illustrate the truth of this position, the more familiarly, he would again take the example of a small state. The state of Delaware would be divided into three districts, each district having one vote.

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Maryland Gazette.

Annapolis, Thursday, Jan. 15, 1824

THE GREEKS.

The feeling, in favour of the suffering Greeks appears to be common throughout the United States. Scarcely a paper reaches us from distant cities and villages, which does not contain notices calling meetings to take into consideration the propriety of affording them succour, or accounts of collections made for them.

William Hayward, esq. a Representative in Congress from this state, concludes his letter to the Governor, tenning the right of our Legislature to instruct him on the subject of a congressional caucus, with the following sentence:

But I have determined to give to the preamble and resolution above mentioned that construction only, by which, alone, this objection, it would always be productive of great public excitement, if the election should be given immediately to the people, without the intervention of Electors.

The Bill relative to Negroes and Slaves. The supplement to the act relative to Negroes and Slaves, passed the house of delegates on Monday, and was sent to the senate for its concurrence.

On the 7th instant, the Legislature of Delaware elected the Hon. Nicholas Van Dyke, a senator to represent that state in the senate of the United States.

It appears from the report made to the Secretary of the Navy, by the Navy Board, that the United States have now on the stocks five ships of the line, and five frigates of the first class.

For the Maryland Gazette. To the Members of the General Assembly of Maryland.

GENTLEMEN.—It has gone abroad to the world, that influenced by a deep and heartfelt interest in the struggle of the Greeks against the relentless oppression of Infidel persecution, you had generously resolved to appropriate the fund heretofore expended in midnight dissipation, to the heroic relief of this once renowned and free people.

Leave was accordingly granted, and Mr. Mills introduced the following resolution: That the constitution of the United States be proposed to the legislatures of the several States; which when, ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the state, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of said constitution.

The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons who voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate.

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operation that this law can have, as experience has proved, is to prevent the circulation of small notes of our own banks, to encourage the circulation of foreign small notes, and to assist the adjoining states and territory in withdrawing our specie from us, and to enable them to keep their own. Can the continuance of this law be justified upon any principle of sound policy? MERCATOR.

COMMUNICATED. SENATOR E. LLOYD, OF MARYLAND.

The dignity, firmness, and spirit, shown by this gentleman in his letter noticing the receipt of the anti-congressional resolutions of the Legislature of this state, entitles him to the applause of his citizens. That letter makes known that he is not to be blown about by every blast which the political Ariels of the day may put in motion, and that he is not to be deterred from doing what he conceives to be right, through fear of offending those who have been instrumental in exalting him to the high station which he occupies.

One of the Multitude. For the Maryland Gazette. To the Farmers and Labourers of Maryland.

As it were generally admitted, that the rights which have been pursued by the present chief magistrate of this country, has been in such full accordance with the views and wishes of the enlightened men both of the democratic and federal parties, that nearly all jarring and discordant feelings have subsided, and that the loaves and fishes have become much oftener subjects of dispute, than any point of governmental policy.

Mr. Fenwick appeared in the senate, qualified and took his seat. The bill entitled an act to provide for an assessment, and to appoint collectors of county tax, in and for the city and county of Baltimore, was read a third time, and returned to the house of delegates.

Monday, Jan. 12. Mr. Quinton from the committee to which was referred the bill for the benefit of Paul of Dorchester County, reported the committee had the same under consideration, and were of opinion that it should pass. The bill was then read a third time, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Tuesday, Jan. 13. The bill to confirm certain official proceedings of Richard B. Mitchell, was a third time, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Wednesday, Jan. 7. Mr. Howard presents a petition from Job Hobbs, of Anne Arundel county, for support, referred.

ABSTRACT Of the Proceedings of the Legislature of Maryland SENATE.

Wednesday, January 7. The further additional supplement act, entitled, An act for the erection of a new market-house in Hager's town, in Queen Anne's county, was read a second time, passed.

Thursday, Jan. 8. The bill for the relief of Elizabeth of Talbot county, was passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Friday, Jan. 9. The clerk of the house of delegates delivered a resolution in favour of Cloud, which was read the first time, referred.

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