

er and with divers persons (to these orators as yet unknown) to appoint certain persons (to your orators unknown) to be judges and clerks of election at and for the general election in this State, and are now doing divers acts and things towards and for the purpose of the holding of the said election, &c. And your orators further charge that the said pretended law and the amendment thereto, passed by the General Assembly of this State, and hereinbefore set forth, are in manifest violation of the now constitution of this State and of the laws of the same, to wit, of the 45th article of the Declaration of Rights, wherein the "people of the State of Maryland, for the sure foundation and more permanent security of the existing Constitution of this State," declare as follows: "That the Legislature shall pass no law providing for an alteration, change or abolishment of this constitution, (meaning the constitution whereunto said declaration is prefixed, except in the manner therein prescribed and directed, and of the 11th article of said constitution, entitled "Amendments of the constitution, sections 2 and 3."

[Here sections 2 and 3, &c., of article 11 of the constitution are quoted.]

The bill further alleges that the said violation is especially clear and patent in these respects. First, the said pretended law (and the amendment thereto) prescribes that the citizens of this State shall vote on the question of a call of a convention to frame a new constitution and form of government on the second Wednesday of April, in the current year, whereas the Constitution of this State provides that the citizens shall vote in that behalf only at the regular biennial election for members of the General Assembly next following the passage of a law by two-thirds of each branch of the General Assembly providing for so voting. Secondly, said pretended law (with the amendments thereto) prescribes that at the said self same election, on the second Wednesday of April, the citizens qualified to vote shall vote for and elect delegates to the said convention; whereas the Constitution provides that if a majority of all the electors voting at the regular biennial election aforesaid shall have voted "for a convention," then the General Assembly shall at their next session provide by law for calling the said convention. The memorial