

bill, which they believe, substantially embraces the views entertained by them. They present it to the House, and to the people of the State, in the discharge of what they conceive to be their duty under all the circumstances, and respectfully ask that it may be considered.

THOMAS F. BOWIE,  
H. WILLIAMS DELLINGER.

An act to alter and amend the fifty-ninth article of the Constitution and Form of Government of the State of Maryland.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the fifty-ninth article of the Constitution and Form of Government of the State of Maryland, be and the same is hereby altered, changed, and amended, as follows, to wit:—

The Constitution and Form of Government of this State, and the Declaration of Rights may be altered, changed, or abolished by the General Assembly, provided, a bill so to alter, change or abolish the same, shall pass the said General Assembly, and be published at least three months before a new election, and shall be confirmed by the General Assembly after a new election of Delegates, in the first session after such new election; but the General Assembly may also provide by law for the call of a convention of delegates, to be elected by the people, to alter, change or abolish the said Constitution and Declaration of Rights, or to amend the same; provided, the said convention shall be composed of the same number of delegates as the several counties and cities of this State may, for the time being, be entitled to send to the Senate and House of Delegates, respectively, and which convention when called shall consist of an upper and lower house, each county of the State and the city of Baltimore, to send to the upper house of said convention one delegate as for territory, and to the lower house of said convention the same number of delegates as they may respectively be entitled to for the time being in the House of Delegates, as for population; and no act or proceeding of said convention shall be valid or effectual, unless it shall pass both branches of the same; and provided also, that the relation of master and slave in this State shall not be abolished by the said convention, or in any manner impaired, unless by a unanimous vote of the delegates of each branch of the said convention, nor then, without full compensation to the owner for the property of which he or she shall be thereby deprived; and provided further, that nothing in the form of government, which relates to the Eastern Shore particularly shall at any time, be altered, by the said convention, unless by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates of each branch of said convention.

Section 2. *And be it enacted,* That if this act shall be confirmed by the General Assembly after a new election of delegates, at the first session after such new election, agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and Form of Government, then, and in such case this act and the alterations and amendments of the Constitution therein contained, shall be taken and considered, and shall constitute and be valid as a part of said Constitution and Form of Government, any thing in the said Constitution and Form of Government to the contrary notwithstanding.