

Miller, Scott and Bowie, be a committee to prepare and report the same.

The president laid before the senate the following letter, which was read.

Washington, 25th Jan. 1826.

SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the resolution of the honorable the general assembly, requesting the senators and members of the house of representatives of the state in congress, to use their exertions for obtaining amendments of the constitution, that will make the system of electing a president and vice-president, uniform, and by districts throughout the union; that the people in their districts shall vote directly for those offices, and to prevent their election from devolving on the representative house of congress.

I have the honor to assure the honorable the senate through you, that every exertion in my power will be made to promote their views, and the gratification to know, that they accord entirely with my own.

I have the honor to send you by this mail a printed copy of the report and amendment proposed by the committee of senate on the subject, in which you will perceive that there is an extreme case provided for, which devolves the election ultimately on the house of representatives. It is not probable that such a case will ever occur, but as it is possible, it ought to be provided for, and I know of no better mode than that proposed. Believing that a provision so indispensably necessary, will meet the approbation of the honorable the general assembly, I shall think it my duty to vote for it, unless otherwise instructed.

You will perceive that a plurality is to govern on the second election. That provision is bottomed on the presumption, that more than two candidates may be sent to the people for their second election. One candidate may have a greater number of votes, (but not a majority of the whole,) and two or more may have equal numbers, so that three or more candidates may be sent back to the people for their second election. This is, also an extreme case and not probable to happen, yet being possible, it is proper to provide for it.

I have the honor to be,

With the highest respect,

Your most obed't servant,

S. Smith.

The Honorable W. R. Stuart,  
President of the Senate.

The resolution relative to the correction of a patent, was read a second time, and laid on the table.

The resolution for a stay of execution on judgments obtained by the state against George Dashiell, former sheriff and collector of Somerset county, and his securities; and also on judg-