

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

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THE PAST—THE PRESENT—FOR THE FUTURE.

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✂—In order to “*get in*” the address of the Van Buren electors to the people of Maryland, and the opinion of chief justice Shaw, in the “Boston slave case,” both of which were received at a late period in the week, we have been compelled to omit many miscellaneous articles prepared for the present sheet.

✂—The attitude in which the state of Maryland stands, in consequence of the refusal of the Van Buren electors of senate to enter the electoral college, is unprecedented in the history of this nation, and has caused much excitement, not only in this state, but in the neighboring states. That all may fully understand the subject, we have given the proceedings of the Van Buren meetings in Frederick and Cecil counties and in the city of Baltimore, which recommended the Van Buren electors not to go into an election unless certain demands were complied with, and the address of those electors to the citizens of the state in defence of their conduct, and recommending to the people “to proceed forthwith, to elect on the first Monday of November next six delegates from each county and city to meet in convention at Annapolis on the third Monday of the same month, clothed with full powers to extend the authority of all civil and military officers now in commission until a convention hereafter to be chosen, can be convened to amend the old or form an entire new government for the people.”

The Van Buren electors left Annapolis on Wednesday last, and by the last accounts from that city, the Whig electors had resolved to continue in session, adjourning from day to day, until a remedy can be found for the present deplorable condition of things. What will be the result, it is difficult to predict; for while one party appears resolved to accomplish “*reform or revolution*,” the other is equally resolute in its support of the constitution. The question thus presented is, indeed, of great interest, and will thoroughly test the character of our institutions.

Mr. Charles Dell, who left Newnansville on Saturday last, states that for some time the Indians have been in the immediate neighborhood of the fort. It seems that they have made their headquarters at San Felasco (col. Sanchez's plantation) only four miles from Newnansville, and collecting cattle, penned them there for a night, and then drove them off towards Hogtown prairie. The Indians, on Tuesday night of last week, came within 150 yards of the fort, and stripping a slip of bark from a tree, made some marks, which were interpreted by those skilled in Seminole hieroglyphicks to signify that 150 Indians were present at that place. It is impossible to say what force the infernals have, but enough to overrun Florida unless assistance soon comes.

The women and children at Newnansville must suffer incredible hardships, at night shut up in the fort, alarmed, needy and sick. The day is spent in the tents pitched around the fort. We are told that the number is nearly three hundred.

At Black creek, the people from Alachua, who sought that place for security, and are encamped on both sides of the creek for some distance along the road, are suffering greatly from sickness. Such are their exposures to the weather, their want of almost every comfort of life, that the preservation of their healths is a thing almost impossible. The measles and the whooping cough still prevail among them.

These epidemics, in addition to the fevers consequent on their exposures, place these unfortunate people in "extremis rebus." It is said two-thirds of them are now sick. What must be their suffering! houseless, homeless, lying upon the ground, exposed to the noon-day heat, the damps and dews of night, and the storms of heaven, destitute of every thing, even of medical aid, (except what is rendered by the surgeon of the post), sick, dying!

**NOVEL LAW CASE.** A case of great novelty was tried on Wednesday last, before the circuit superior court of law and chancery for Spottsylvania. Judge Lomax presiding. We allude to the case of Payne vs. Smith. The plaintiff some years ago brought an action of detinue, in Orange superior court, against his brother, in which a jury gave a verdict for the defendant. Conceiving that his attorney—Mr.—now judge—Barbour, of the supreme court of the United States, had been guilty of neglect of professional duty, or deficient in skill in the conduct of the suit, Payne brought an action against him for damages, in Orange, and had the case removed to Culpeper county. The trial came on about four years ago—Wm. Smith, esq. for the plaintiff. Judge Barbour disclaimed to defend the suit, and was not at the court, but two gentlemen of the Culpeper bar volunteered in his behalf. The trial lasted two days, and resulted (as might have been anticipated from the well known ability and zeal of judge Barbour) in a verdict for the defendant.

Payne next instituted a suit against Smith, his counsel in Payne vs. Barbour, for neglect of duty and want of professional skill. The case was continued from time to time, and was subsequently removed to this county. It came on for trial during the last term. Smith did not defend the suit, and the jury gave a verdict of one thousand dollars damages. The judge granted a new trial, which took place on Wednesday last. Plaintiff's counsel, Mr. Preston, of Baltimore—Mr. Smith appearing for himself. Verdict for the defendant.

We have never seen a case supported by less evidence. All the plaintiffs witnesses, as well as several of the jury in the case of Payne vs. Barbour, testified to the fact, that Smith had managed the case with great zeal and ability. It was also in evidence, that while the jury were in their room, Payne had expressed himself in terms of satisfaction and admiration of the efforts of his counsel.

Gentlemen of the bar at all times act under a deep sense of responsibility, but a few clients, like the plaintiff in this case, would make the profession too hazardous to be pursued as a calling. Mr. Preston acquitted himself very handsomely, and we believe his client does not intend to bring an action against him.

[Fredericksburg Arena.]

**LAW CASE.** United States district court. This court has been occupied during the last four days with a suit brought by the district attorney against J. W. Mahon, captain of the ship Union, and Wm. C. Boardman, to recover the amount of their bonds passed at the custom house, under the act of congress for the protection of American seamen. On the part of the prosecution it was alleged that the defendants forfeited their bonds in consequence of the captain having refused to bring back three American seamen, named Kenon Retou, Peter Johnson

and William Brown, whom he had taken as seamen in his ship to Liverpool. The evidence for the prosecution was directed to show that when the ship was about to sail, the three seamen went to their dinner, and returned in about twenty minutes, and that during their absence the ship proceeded into the river, but was so near the three seamen that they could be seen; that they called and made signals for a boat to be sent for them, which the captain neglected to do, and went to sea without them. For the defence it was stated that the men absented themselves without leave, and neglected to return until it was too late for the captain to take them on board. Verdict for the prosecution.

[N. Y. Jour. Com.]

#### FOREIGN NEWS.

The New York Commercial Advertiser contains the following items of news selected from Liverpool papers, to the 24th ult. received at that office.

The newspaper stamp duties bill was amended in the house of lords by the rejection of the clauses requiring the names of proprietors to be registered.—On its being returned, thus mutilated, to the commons, the chancellor of the exchequer moved that the bill be laid aside, which was agreed to. He then introduced another bill precisely similar to the first, except that the registration clauses were omitted, which was read on the 10th August, and on 11th read twice and passed. It was then sent up and passed in the house of lords on the 12th.

The Jewish civil disabilities bill was read a third time and passed in the house of commons on the 16th.

The church temporalities bill for Ireland was passed in the house of lords on the 16th.

The newspaper stamp duties bill received the royal assent on the 18th of August.

The British parliament was prorogued on the 20th August by a speech from the throne. The speech shall have a place in our next.

Mr. N. M. Rothschild's will gives £20,000 per annum to his widow, with his house in Piccadilly and that purchased by him from the princess Amelia, and all the furniture, plate and jewels; £120,000 to each of his daughters; £1,000 to each of his wife's brothers, and £500 to each of her sisters.—£10,000 to Mr. Cohen, one of his executors; some charitable donations; and the residue to be equally divided between his four sons, who are to continue the business exactly as heretofore, in conjunction with the houses in Vienna, Frankfort and Paris.

**The crops.** Report speaks favorably of the wheat crop in England and Ireland, and in the south eastern counties a very considerable portion has already been secured in excellent condition.

The prospects of the harvest in Scotland were very fine.

The people of Caucasus to the number of 60,000 are moving against the Russians. The population number six hundred thousand, and 80,000 for an adverse force to a power so much detested, can hardly be overrated. The tribes of Daghestan, and Scircuan, and the inhabitants of Mingrelia, Imernia and Georgia, are more anxious to declare their hostile feelings towards the Russians than they are to conceal them. In the mean time Russia cannot depend upon her own soldiers. They wait but an opportunity to declare their hostility. From a late number of the German Courier, we are led to anticipate a revolution among the Russians, inasmuch as an immense body of the Caucasians have combined against them. To subdue the Circassians is impossible in their primeval forest and defiles, and extermination is the only warfare Russia can hope to use successfully against such a foe. Russia, however, hopes to put down this and all such combinations in the almost undivided hostility which one tribe of the Circassians bears against another. While they hate Russia they despise each other, and here Russia expects to continue her triumph over a powerful but divided foe.

The important intelligence had been received from Spain that the constitution of 1812 was proclaimed at Madrid on the 3d of August, and that on the 5th a royal decree was issued, dissolving the national guard of Madrid. This must have been occasioned by fear or proof of disaffection among the citizens composing that body. This disaffection, however, is thought to be directed only against the existing government for its inactivity or want of success in putting down Don Carlos, and not to indicate any disposition in his favor.

A French ship of the line and corvette sailed from Brest, on the 11th of August, for the coast of Spain. A powerful intervention by France is still asserted and denied with great pertinacity. Orders had been transmitted to Toulon, to have all the ships in that harbor ready to sail at an hour's notice.

Gen. Evans is not dead, after all. A letter dated St. Sebastian, Aug. 10, says that he is very unwell, from which it may be inferred, we think, that he is still alive. The British legion was fast losing by desertion, owing to difficulties about pay, but a large reinforcement to the French legion was expected.

From the London Sun, August 22.

We have advices from Bayonne to the 17th inst. On the 14th gen. Evans proceeded to Bayonne, for the purpose of having an interview with general Harispe; but the latter was absent, and the gallant member for Westminster returned to San Sebastian. The condition of the legion is deplorable.

Another change has taken place in the Spanish ministry.

The Madrid Gazette of the 15th contains the following decrees:

"The constitution of 1812 is proclaimed till the reassembling of the cortes, which will pronounce relative to the institutions that ought to be given to Spain.

"M. Calatrava is appointed president of the council of ministers.

"M. Ferrer, minister of finance.

"M. Labuada, minister of the interior.

"General Seone replaces gen. Quesada.

"General Rodil is appointed to the command of the guard, charged with the general inspection of militia.

"The decree proclaiming Madrid in a state of siege has been recalled, and the national guard of Madrid is reorganized.

"The constitution of 1812 has been proclaimed at Santander and St. Sebastian."

**Havana.** Letters have been received at New York from the Havana, which say that in consequence of the late commotions in Spain, which resulted in the proclaiming of the constitution of 1812, great sensation has been felt among all classes of people. The majority of the inhabitants, it is well known, entertain ultra liberal opinions, and some change, it is apprehended, will ensue in the political organization of the government of the island.

The brother of governor Tacon was in command at Cadiz when the late revolution took place, and was compelled to obey the will of the people.

#### "REFORM OR REVOLUTION" IN MARYLAND!!

The late electoral election in Maryland resulted, as before stated, in the choice of twenty-one Whig and nineteen Van Buren electors. These electors were enjoined by the constitution to meet at Annapolis on Monday last (the 3d Monday in September) "and they or any twenty-four of them so met, to proceed to elect by ballot, either out of their own body or the people at large, fifteen senators; (nine to be residents on the western and six to be residents on the eastern shore)."

The 15th section prescribes, "that the electors, immediately on their meeting, and before they proceed to the election of senators, take such oath of support and fidelity to this state, as this convention or the legislature shall direct, and also an oath to elect, without favor, affection, partiality or prejudice, such persons for senators, as they in their judgment and conscience believe best qualified for the office."

The form of the oath to be taken by each elector, is as follows:

"I do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the state of Maryland, and that I will support the constitution and laws thereof, and that I will to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of elector according to the constitution and laws of this state."

On Friday the 9th inst. an editorial article appeared in the Baltimore Republican, exhibiting the result of the electoral election, and showing that the nineteen Van Buren electors represented a population of 205,922 white inhabitants, and the twenty-one Whig electors a population of 85,179 white inhabitants—and, after commenting in strong terms upon the gross inequality of the representative system of the state, and alluding to a report that the Whig party, when it was believed that the Van Buren party had a majority of electors, would not go into an election for senators, expressed a hope that the Van Buren electors would not permit their opponents to choose a senate entirely "opposed to the will of the people."

On Saturday the 10th inst. the following notice was issued in Frederick town.

#### REFORMERS, TO THE RESCUE!

NOW OR NEVER.

The people of Maryland, at the recent senatorial elections have, by a decided majority, signified so-

lently, their will, that no man ought to be placed in the next senate of the state, hostile to a radical change in its legislative and fundamental laws; and it is the duty of every good citizen, to see that the will of the people is carried into full effect; and there being good cause to fear that a majority of the senatorial electors who have been chosen, will contemptuously disregard the well known wish of those for whom they are to select lawgivers, every friend of order, and of that reform which can alone long preserve it, is earnestly urged to attend a meeting, to be held at the court house in Frederick, at early candle light this evening, to devise means to carry into effect the will of the people of Maryland in the formation of the state senate.

Frederick, Saturday, Sept. 10, 1836.

The Frederick "Citizen" of the 16th says—

Pursuant to the above call, one of the largest and most respectable meetings ever held in Frederick, assembled at the court house, and on motion of Francis Thomas, esq. organized by calling capt. GEO. W. ENT and HENRY NIXDORFF, esq. to the chair and appointing Messrs. John J. Steiner and William Tyler, jr. secretaries.

When, on motion of P. H. Brown, the chair appointed the following gentlemen a committee to report resolutions for the consideration of the meeting, viz:

- P. H. Brown, Dr. Wm. Tyler,
- H. R. Warfield, Col. John McPherson,
- John H. McElfresh Francis Thomas.
- M. E. Bartgis,

Who reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were supported most ably and eloquently, in spirit stirring addresses by Francis Thomas, Henry R. Warfield and John McElfresh, esqs. which were responded to most enthusiastically by the assembled multitude.

This meeting is deeply impressed with the conviction, that a crisis exists in the affairs of the people of Maryland, demanding the adoption of decisive and energetic measures. When the late senate of the state was chosen in 1831, our condition was prosperous and our treasury was full, now at the expiration of their term of service, we are on the verge of bankruptcy. The late senate of the state was characterized by a system of legislation highly improvident and injurious to the interests of the state, and in many instances utterly regardless of those rights of the people, which are inalienable and inestimably dear to every freeman.

In the late senatorial election a vast majority of the people have, after a calm and deliberate review of the past conduct of their rulers, expressed a fixed and determined purpose, that the places which "knew them once shall know them no more." They have emphatically declared by their votes, that the whole of the last senate, and a majority of the house of delegates, have forfeited public confidence; that they, by oppressive and ruinous legislation, have brought the institutions of the state into disrepute and made the quiet enjoyment of that property which has been accumulated by honest industry problematical. The same people have declared it to be their will, that the friends of Martin Van Buren and republican principles shall have the power to form the next senate of the state; and they have said also in the result of the senatorial election, that there shall be chosen a senate ready and willing to reform all abuses in the legislative and executive departments of the government, and to correct and amend all defects in the existing constitution and form of government. Nevertheless, by reason of the abhorrent inequalities which exist in the apportionment of delegates to the electoral college of state senators, there have been elected by a small minority of the people, (85,179, amounting to but little over one-fourth of the white population of the state), twenty-one electors forming a majority of the whole electoral college who, or a majority of whom, we have good reason to believe and fear, are deaf to the voice of the people, and who are ready to make choice of a senate, prepared to perpetuate the abuses of which the people loudly complain; and who will resist all amendments and reforms in the constitution, required by the people, and demanded by every principle of justice.

And whereas, the 15th section of the constitution declares that NO SENATE CAN BE FORMED UNLESS TWENTY-FOUR ELECTORS agree to meet for the appointment of the members of which it is to consist.

Therefore resolved, That the senatorial electors of this county, be instructed to require of the twenty-one whig electors a pledge that no member of the former senate, and no member of the house of delegates who opposed the bill calling a convention of the people, shall be elected to the next senate of the state. That at least eight of the members of

the senate to be chosen by the electoral college shall be selected from among persons known to entertain opinions and sentiments coinciding with the principles and opinions held by, and governing a majority of the people (205,922), who have elected 19 V. B. electors, and that in the formation of the senate there shall be a majority of members known to be favorable to such a thorough and radical reform of the constitution of the state as will ensure to all citizens living under it, equal political rights and privileges.

Resolved, That unless the pledges required by the preceding resolution, are solemnly given in true faith, the two electors from this county, be requested to refuse to enter into an election of senators: provided that the electors from other counties and cities, having a majority of the white population of the state therein, will co-operate with them to defeat the election of a senate, hostile to a reform in the constitution to the extent required in the first resolution.

Resolved, That our friends in the counties and cities that have elected Van Buren reform electors, are earnestly invited and recommended to join us in these measures as the only means by which we can avoid the fate of being again compelled to submit for five years at least, to the tyranny of a government, wielded and controlled by a small and aristocratic minority of the people of the state.

On motion of Mr. M. E. Bartgis the preamble and resolutions were submitted to the meeting, and unanimously adopted, and were on motion ordered to be printed in the newspapers of the state.

When on motion, the meeting adjourned to meet again at the same place on Wednesday evening next.

GEO. W. ENT, }  
H. NIXDORFF, } chairmen.

J. J. STEINER, }  
WM. TYLER, jr. } secretaries.

On Thursday the 15th, agreeably to public notice "a large meeting of the citizens of Cecil county convened in the court house in Elkton, when colonel ADAM WHANN and major JOHN N. BLACK were called to the chair, and GEORGE H. JOYCE appointed secretary.

The objects of the meeting having been explained,

On motion, a committee of six was appointed to report resolutions expressive of the sentiments of the meeting.

This committee was composed of the following named gentlemen: Rich'd C. Hollyday, col. Wm. Mackey, Benjamin F. Mackall, Thomas Richards, jr. George Davidson and J. S. H. Boyce, who, after retiring reported the following preamble and resolutions:

The citizens of Cecil county in this meeting assembled, are fully aroused to the importance of the present existing crisis in their affairs. They view this crisis as the incontrovertible evidence of a demand on the people of Maryland for their prompt and decisive action. Five years ago, when the last senate of the state was chosen, our treasury was overflowing, the condition of our state compared to what it is at present, eminently prosperous, and now the constitutional term of service of that senate has expired, we find that our finances have been improvidently squandered, our treasury reduced to the condition of bankruptcy, and our state placed upon the very brink of utter and hopeless ruin. The system of legislation which, since 1831, has been pursued and strenuously adhered to by the last senate, and which has strikingly characterized its proceedings as a legislative body, has not only been highly detrimental, peculiarly disastrous, and eminently injurious to the best and vital interest of the citizens of our state, but too often in violation of their just and constitutional rights as a republican people, and in derogation of those inalienable rights and privileges, which are ever fondly cherished by a free people, as inestimably dear. But the united voice of a great majority of the people of the state at the late electoral election, has proclaimed that the system of legislation pursued by the last senate, was altogether obnoxious to them, and in direct conflict with their views and their wishes. The voice of the people has also declared, that as freemen they can no longer quietly submit to the tyrannical government of an irresponsible and an aristocratic minority, but that they are determined to rise at once to the rescue of their republican rights and constitutional liberty. The majority of the people have declared, that even now, the rulers of our state must be changed, their rights as freemen respected, secured to them, and placed beyond the grasp of usurpers. By their votes at the late election, a vast majority of the people of the state have unequivocally pronounced the sentence of condemnation on the whole of the last se-

nate, and on the majority of the house of delegates, for their unconstitutional and oppressive acts, have declared them wholly unworthy of public confidence, and have proclaimed that as representatives, they have forfeited and abused the trust reposed in them. For these legislators have by their acts subverted the fundamental and vested rights of property, accumulated by honest industry, and have rendered its tenure by the enactment of ex-post-facto laws unsafe and insecure. It is the will of a great majority of the people of Maryland, and by their votes they have so declared, that the supporters of the republican principles of government should be chosen to represent them in the next senate of the state. It is also the firm and determined wish of a large majority of the people that a state senate should be selected, who would promptly aid in the amendment and the reform of the glaring defects in our state constitution, who would fearlessly advocate the correction of all existing abuses in the judicial, the executive and the legislative branches of government, who would relieve the people from the unequal, the unjust, the unwarranted and the oppressive burdens placed upon them, and who would, by every constitutional and republican means, ameliorate their condition, and raise the political character of Maryland from its present state of degradation. And yet, notwithstanding these considerations, in consequence of the unequal apportionment of the members of the electoral college among the counties without reference to the population of each, a very small minority of the people (85,179) comprising but little more than one-fourth of our entire white population, have elected twenty-one senatorial electors, the majority of the electoral college, men of whom, from the political principles they are known to support, we can but feel a deep apprehension that they will heedlessly turn a deaf ear to the voice of the people, and select a senate who will rivet on us the chains of oppression, and perpetuate all the monstrous abuses now loudly denounced by a vast majority of the people, and who will strenuously oppose every salutary measure of that reform in our constitution and state government which is now imperatively demanded by the necessities of the people, and by every principle of republican justice.

And whereas, the state constitution in the 15th section, declares that the electors shall meet at Annapolis, and requires the presence of at least twenty-four members in the electoral college, for the election of the senate. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the electors from this county be instructed, before entering the electoral college, to require a solemn pledge from the whig electors that no member of the last senate, and no member of the house of delegates who opposed the calling of a convention for the reform of our state constitution, be placed in the next senate of the state. That at least eight members of the new senate be chosen from among individuals entertaining the political principles which govern the great majority of the people of the state, and who have elected the nineteen republican electors; and that the senate be constituted of individuals who will promote a salutary and radical reform in our state constitution.

Resolved, That unless the pledge required by the preceding resolution be in good faith given, the electors from this county, be instructed not to enter the electoral college: Provided, the electors from the cities and the counties representing a majority (205,922) of the white population, will co-operate in the defeat of the election of a senate adverse and hostile to a liberal and judicious reform in our constitution and state government.

Resolved, That "we demand nothing which is not clearly right, and will submit to nothing that is wrong," and that the proceedings recommended in the above resolutions, are the only means by which the people can be preserved, for the next five years, from the worst of tyranny, that which is wielded by a small minority in a government constituted as our own.

The meeting having unanimously adopted the preamble and resolutions reported by the committee, on motion it was

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the chairman and secretary, and published in the Cecil Gazette, and the newspapers of the state favorable to reform. On motion, the meeting then adjourned.

ADAM WHANN, }  
JOHN N. BLACK, } chairmen.  
GEORGE H. JOYCE, secretary.

Next followed a meeting in Baltimore, the following account of which we copy

From the Baltimore Republican of Monday last. Agreeably to public notice, a meeting of the friends of state reform was held at monument square, on Saturday evening, September 17th. His

honor the mayor, general SAMUEL SMITH, was called to the chair, and the honorable BENJ. C. HOWARD and WM. KREBS, esq. were appointed vice presidents—and Henry Myers and Th. Parkin Scott, esqs. secretaries.

The following preamble and resolutions were introduced by Mr. Scott, and supported by general Howard, and unanimously adopted by one of the largest meetings ever held in this city:

Whereas, the people of Maryland have long been sensible of the oppression of the constitution of this state—and on various occasions, and by divers means have endeavored in vain to obtain a redress of their grievances through the legislative servants; and whereas, “forms of government are for the enjoyment of justice,” and by the very construction of the existing constitution this enjoyment is denied to the people, inasmuch as the majority is deprived of an equitable representation in the law-making power—and entirely excluded from a voice in the selection of their chief law-executing agent; and whereas, by the effect of this as well as other mischievous features of the constitution, the majority of the people and their rights and interests are made subservient to the accidental power of an extreme minority.

And whereas, the evils growing out of the anti-republican constitution are made palpably manifest by the many and late acts of unconstitutional or ill judged legislation—by a deficient treasury—by increasing and burdensome taxation—by the partial administration of justice—and by an odious system of bargain and influence, whereby the citizens of Maryland are made uncertain as to the free and full enjoyment of their political rights, and the peace and prosperity of the people are placed in constant and painful jeopardy.

And whereas, it is now solemnly asserted, that by these results of the constitution, “*the ends of government is perverted,*” and it is conscientiously believed from the experience of the past, “*that all other means of redress are ineffectual,*” we therefore throw ourselves upon our sacred bill of rights, and in its language proclaim that the people may at any time, and in any manner they may deem most effectual—and, under the existing circumstances, that they “of right ought to reform the old or establish a new government”—and “that the doctrine of non resistance against arbitrary power and oppression is absurd, slavish and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind:”

And whereas, the 15th section of the constitution declares that no senate can be formed unless twenty-four electors agree to meet for the appointment of the members of which it is to consist:

And whereas, the late election for such senatorial electors has proved, that 19 electors, who are a minority in the electoral college, represent 205,922 of the white population of this state—and that 21 electors who are a majority in that college represent only 85,179 of the same population—thus affording the incontestible evidence that the objects for which the majority of the people elected their agents, may be entirely subverted by but little over one-fourth of the white population:

And whereas, all past efforts have evidenced how utterly hopeless will be any future exertion by the same means to obtain redress of these grievances from the legislature; and whereas, the power is with the present electors to produce a reform of this and other outrages upon the people's rights and privileges, either by obtaining a senate friendly to reform, together with a majority, at least, in that senate who may immediately represent the majority of the voters as shewn by the late election—or upon refusal of this equitable demand then in a peaceful manner to bring about the desired result—by withdrawing from the college.

Therefore, resolved, That we heartily respond in letter and spirit to the proceedings of the friends of reform adopted in Frederick on Saturday, September 10th, and in Elkton, (Cecil), on Thursday, the 15th instant.

Resolved, That the elector of senate from this city be and he is hereby instructed to concur with the members of the electoral college favorable to a reform of the constitution of Maryland, and that if a reform senate as specified in the preamble cannot be obtained, that he refuse to meet the college, provided that the electors from other counties and cities, having a majority of the white population of the state therein, will co-operate with him to defeat the election of a senate hostile to a reform of the constitution, to the extent above detailed.

Resolved, That we most warmly adopt the sentiment of our friends in Cecil, that “we demand nothing which is not clearly right, and will submit to nothing that is wrong,” and that the proceedings recommended in the above resolutions, are the only means by which the people can be preserved, for the next five years, from the worst of tyranny, that

which is wielded by a small minority in a government constituted as our own.

SAMUEL SMITH, chairman.  
BENJ. C. HOWARD, }  
WM. KREBS, } vice presidents.  
Henry Myers, }  
Th. Parkin Scott, } secretaries.

On Monday last the whole body of electors was in Annapolis, when the twenty-one electors chosen by the Whigs proceeded to the State house and were qualified. The nineteen Van Buren electors failed to attend. The Annapolis Republican of Tuesday last says—“It was understood, out of doors, that they held a private session at the City hotel—and report adds, that a deputation had attempted to approach, at first, some member individually, and afterwards the attending electors, with propositions, which however were returned unopened in the first case, and their reception were declined in the second case.”

The following account of the proceedings of the electors who had qualified, is also copied from the “Republican” of Tuesday.

#### The electoral college.

Yesterday being the day designated by the constitution and form of government of the state of Maryland for the electors of the senate to meet, for the purpose of choosing fifteen senators for the ensuing five years, at 12 o'clock, M. a number having assembled in the senate chamber for that purpose,

On motion of col. Merrick, of Charles county, the clerk of the senate proceeded to call over the following roll of members returned, when those to whose names we have attached asterisks (\*) answered to their names—and,

On motion of Mr. Brawner, of Charles county, the electors present proceeded to qualify, by taking the oath prescribed by the constitution, and by affixing their names thereto.

There being but twenty-one members present, and it being understood that ALL the members elect were in the city, the attending members remained in session until 3 o'clock, hoping that the absent members would attend. The hour having elapsed,

On motion of Mr. Pratt,

The college took a recess until FIVE O'CLOCK, at which hour they again assembled.

On the roll being again called, the same members only appeared and answered to their names. After remaining in session some hours they adjourned to meet this morning at 9 o'clock.

St. Mary's county—George S. Leigh,\* Benedict I. Heard.\*

Kent county—George Vickers,\* James P. Gale,\* Anne Arundel county—John S. Sellman, Wesley Linthicum.

Calvert county—James Kent,\* James A. D. Dalrymple.\*

Charles county—Henry Brawner,\* William D. Merrick.\*

Baltimore county—Dr. Ephraim Bell, George Ellicott.

Tilbot county—Gen. Solomon Dickinson,\* George Dudley.\*

Somerset county—Dr. Williams,\* Samuel J. K. Handy,\*

Dorchester county—William W. Lake,\* Thomas H. Hicks.\*

Cecil county—John Evans, George A. Thomas.

Prince George's county—George W. Duvall,\* Thomas G. Pratt.\*

Annapolis city—Sprigg Harwood.

Queen Ann's county—Dr. Enoch George, John B. Thomas.

Worcester county—Thomas A. Spence,\* Henry Franklin.\*

Frederick county—Caspar Quynna, John Fisher.

Harford county—Thomas Hope, Samuel Sutton.

Caroline county—Robert T. Keene, Marcey Fountain.

Baltimore city—Joshua Vansant.

Washington county—Robt. Wason, Chas. Magill.

Montgomery county—Ephraim Gaither,\* Dr. Washington Duval.

Alleghany county—Richard Beal,\* Andrew Bruce.\*

On Wednesday last the Van Buren electors (with the exception of Mr. Sellman of Anne Arundel county who is unwell) left Annapolis for their homes—and on Friday, the following address to the people of the state, and copies of letters addressed to the majority, appeared in the Baltimore Republican:

#### TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.

Impelled by a deep and solemn sense of duty to acquiesce in the necessity which imperiously required a surrender into your hands of the high trust committed to us—it becomes us to submit fully and frankly the considerations by which our

conduct has been influenced. It is well known that, in those counties and cities which we represent, the great body of the people are unchangeably riveted in the conviction, that the government of this state is based and administered upon unjust and anti-republican principles, and that similar views are entertained by respectable numbers of our fellow citizens residing in other parts of the state. That such an opinion is well founded, seems scarcely to admit of controversy. By the existing government, the governor and members of the senate are not elected directly, as they ought to be, by the people; and many public officers who ought to be subjected to the control of those whose trustees they are, hold their respective offices, contrary to sound political principle, by a tenure for life.

In the formation of both branches of the legislature political power is apportioned arbitrarily without regard to any principle of moral or political justice, our representation in the electoral college and house of delegates, is not based upon population, nor territory nor a mixture of both. But every acknowledged and just foundation is disregarded, and an arbitrary rule substituted, by which the majority is allowed fewer representatives than the minority: thus inverting the first principles of a free government, and rendering the majority's inalienable rights of personal liberty, personal security and personal property, subject to the operation of laws, in the enactment of which, they are not permitted an equal participation.

Whatever may have been the views or principles with reference to which the government of Maryland was instituted, it is perfectly manifest that its practical operation carries out and enforces, to a most odious extent, the minority's right to rule. It pervades the whole compact and enters into the constitution of each department of the government.

By the organization of the legislative powers, the counties of Kent and Calvert, with a population of 19,401, are allowed as many representatives in the senatorial electoral college and the house of delegates as the counties of Frederick and Washington with a population of 71,056, and Kent and Calvert, each, have double the number of delegates allowed to the city of Baltimore with a population of 80,625.

The executive department is the creature of the legislature, being elected thereby, the judicial and most of the civil officers receive their appointment from the executive; so that the minority of one-fourth of the people having the right to elect a majority of the members of the legislature, controls all the departments of the government. This minority not only rules and governs in the enactment of the laws, but likewise in the appointment of those by whom they are to be expounded, administered and enforced. Can a government thus organized, be termed republican! The tenure of the rights and immunities of the majority is thus held at the will of so small a minority, that it cannot be expected, such flagrant injustice will be forever endured. We do not believe that any respectable portion of our fellow citizens, who will, without prejudice, calmly contemplate this gross inequality of political rights, can desire to perpetuate it. We have too much confidence in the high sense of justice, the virtue and patriotism of the people of Maryland to believe that they will, when well informed as to the extent of the evils we have attempted to arrest, condemn the measure which has been adopted for that purpose.

It is true, the powers of our constitution, foreseeing that amendments would become necessary, in that instrument, have authorized the legislature to correct all the evils of which the people of Maryland justly complain. And it may be asked, why have we undertaken to arrest the formation of one branch of that body with which the power is entrusted. To such an enquiry a satisfactory answer may be readily given. The present constitution was formed in 1776, and at that time the representatives in the house of delegates and in the electoral college were apportioned amongst the several counties and cities in proportion to their population as nearly as that could be done. Our fathers, then, recognized freely the binding force of that great principle that all freemen have an inalienable right to enjoy equal rights in the choice of their governors. Anticipating those changes which have occurred in the condition and location of the population of the state, those who established our constitution gave power to the legislative department to incorporate those amendments therein, which experience and time might make expedient and just.—We must say, and all candid men will express, that this solemn trust has not been faithfully exercised. Year after year, repeated, earnest petitions have been presented to the legislature, asking, praying, and at last, demanding a redress of those gross

grievances of which the majority of the people have long complained. These petitions and memorials have been again and again rejected. The minority, who rule, have persisted for near half a century to disregard the just demands of the majority who are governed. What then was to be done?—Were the republican yeomanry of Maryland to be doomed to endure the galling yoke of political bondage which has so long pressed heavily on them, and is felt to be more insufferable because the freemen of almost every state in the union delight in the enjoyment of equal and equitable political principles. Tame submission was not to be thought of with the least patience, and the undersigned proceeded to examine, with anxious solicitude, the extent and nature of the power entrusted to them, to discover a mode in which it could be peaceably and honorably exercised so as to provide an effectual remedy. We preferred that an arrangement should be made with our colleagues in the electoral college by which the rights of our constituents could be secured, and the honor and prosperity of the whole people of the state be promoted. The nature of that arrangement and the cause of its failure is disclosed in the accompanying correspondence. The first letter proposed an equitable apportionment of the members of the senate amongst the several counties and cities. It was on the day of its date, delivered by our chairman and secretary, to one of the electors to whom it was addressed, who was in the senate chamber at the time, in company with others of the 21 members of the college, with whom we desired to open a communication at an early day.

After retaining it a few minutes it was returned to our chairman by the same gentlemen, who alleged that no communication of that character could be received, until the college had been constitutionally organized.

This proceeding we could but consider unreasonable. We were known to be electors of senate and felt fully authorized to correspond with our colleagues touching the discharge of our duties, before or after the vote of office had been taken. In pursuance of this opinion, another letter was sent to the same gentlemen, through the same channel, and again a refusal to hold a correspondence was the reply. Unavailable efforts were also made, informally, by several of the undersigned, to personal applications to other of the 21 electors, to open a correspondence.

Being convinced by these repeated refusals that no senate could be formed, disposed to respond to the known wishes of our constituents, the high power reposed in us is respectfully returned to the people to whom it belongs legitimately, and by whom we are confident it will be exerted so as to secure to them and their posterity, no matter on what part of the soil of Maryland they may be located, those dear inalienable rights of man for which our fathers fought and bled. We have declined to participate in the election of a senate in the full expectation that the people of Maryland, in convention assembled, can and will provide for the election of that branch of their legislature, more wisely than we could have done, and at the same time, organize anew their whole government, subjecting all its functionaries to their sovereign will, and laying its foundations on the immutable principles of liberty, equality and justice.

We are fully sensible that an acquiescence on our part, in the purposes of our colleagues, would not have left without power to redress their wrongs, those whom we represent. We might have qualified, and thereby have afforded to those 21 gentlemen an opportunity, in conformity with the letter of the constitution, to elect a senate, and this too, they would probably have done, although they are the representatives of but 85,179 of the free inhabitants of the state, while three of the undersigned alone have been chosen by 98,419 free inhabitants, and received more votes at the polls than were given to those who claim the right, and were prepared to exercise it, to make one branch of the legislature—a body constituted for, and clothed with power to check and control all the operations of the entire government. Still, if this had been done, the people of Maryland would not have been absolutely without means of redress. The framers of our constitution have expressly reserved to them, in our bill of rights, the power "to reform the old, or establish a new form of government." But this authority, by the same instrument, is declared to exist only "whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual." It is manifestly a revolutionary remedy, inherent in all communities, and of which one generation of men cannot deprive those who are to succeed them. And it is obviously a violent mode of redress, not to be thought of until all others have

been ineffectually tried. Unwilling that evils and inequalities, oppression and injustice, should be piled, like Ossa on Olympus, on the people until sufferance would no longer be esteemed a virtue, we have taken the responsibility to exert all the power with which you had clothed us, to insure the permanent peace at the same time that we hope to have provided the means to perpetuate equal laws and equal privileges to the whole of the state, with whose destinies we are all deeply identified. The means used are neither violent nor unconstitutional.

To three-fifths of the electoral college, the constitution has given the power to form the entire senate of the state. It so happens that those who desire to perpetuate the rule of a party in Maryland, who, it is well ascertained, have forfeited public confidence, do not constitute the number of electors required. The same constitution has secured expressly to seventeen of our members, power to defeat the consummation of this purpose. This provision in that instrument was designed for the protection of the minority. If then, we were the representatives of that minority, the power to adopt the course which has been pursued, would not be denied, although this propriety might, under such circumstances, be questioned. But standing as we do, in relation to the people of Maryland, will it not be granted by all liberal, unprejudiced and enlightened republicans that our conduct, under most delicate and trying circumstances, has been prudent—and may we not, without presumption, add, patriotic.

No political principles are better established than that all public functionaries are but trustees for the benefit of those by whom they have been appointed. And it is equally undeniable that all depositories of political power are bound to surrender it to those from whom it was derived whenever it cannot be exercised for their benefit. These elementary principles have been so often sanctioned—we might say without irreverence, sanctified by the conduct of public functionaries in the country, that instances need not be adduced to show that we have not acted without numerous precedents to justify us. Senators of the United States, governor of states, legislators, judges and other officers, or trustees of the people, have repeatedly, when made sensible that they could no longer exercise advantageously the authority with which they were clothed, returned it to the great fountain of all legitimate authority to be again deposited in other hands. Resignations, surrenders of power in instances, such as we have adverted to have produced no shock, have afforded no pretexts for political panics. On the contrary, they have been hailed by the democracy of the whole country as proof, incontestible of admitted sovereignty of the people, of the patriotism of their agents, and of that firmness and durability which is fondly claimed for our republican institutions by all who would not, if opportunity offered, be aristocrats in practice, though they are republicans in profession.

Not only have individual public officers surrendered authority entrusted to them, but whole legislative bodies have done likewise. In few if any of the state constitutions formed in this country after the revolution, was there authority expressly given to the legislature to pass a law calling a convention to new model and amend them. And yet, who does not know that Maryland, alone, of the old thirteen states, has never had the benefit of a convention to impart new life and restore youthful vigor to its institutions. These conventions were assembled in pursuance of a law passed by the several state legislatures. And whence, we ask, did such laws derive this binding force and obligation? Certainly not from the words of the constitution. But undoubtedly their validity, justice and propriety had its origin in the belief of the legislators, that the time had arrived when it became their duty to surrender to the people all power necessary to reorganize this defective government. Why, we ask, should senators, governors, judges and whole legislatures be commended for a surrender of power which they believed could no longer be rightfully and beneficially exerted by them, and we be condemned for refusing to afford to others the opportunity to form a most important branch of our legislature, when we felt, and now feel, a deep and abiding conviction, that "the will and wishes, the rights and interests, of our constituents would be trampled upon and violated by our consent to be present at the unholy sacrifice. We do not anticipate that such an inconsistent judgment will be rendered by that great and just tribunal to which we appeal. Truth is omnipotent and public justice certain.

It does not become us to prescribe the manner in which the vast power now tendered to the people of Maryland, shall be exercised. We cannot, however, conclude without expressing an earnest con-

viction that there is no cause for the least apprehension or alarm, or even anxiety, as to the security of all our personal rights and civil privileges. It will be admitted that resignation of all the members of a state legislature could not endanger public liberty or private property. Such an event would only make necessary a convention to reconstruct that department of the government. With what propriety then can the alarmists (the panic makers) contend that "we are in the midst of a revolution, bloodless as yet?" True, the state senate has not been organized, but the process is very simple by which that defect in our institutions can be remedied. If we could be permitted to do so, we would most humbly and respectfully recommend to our fellow citizens throughout the state, to proceed forthwith, to elect on the first Monday of November next, six delegates from each county and city, to meet in convention at Annapolis, on the third Monday of the same month, clothed with full powers to extend the authority of all civil and military officers now in commission, until a convention hereafter to be chosen, can be convened to amend the old or form an entire new government for the people of Maryland.

By such a prompt movement on the part of the people, all apprehension would be quieted and the panic avoided which may possibly be attempted by individuals whose deep personal interest in the present form of government, renders them incapable of appreciating the great and inestimable advantages, to be derived from a reorganization of our system, and the substitution of wholesome democratic features, for its present odious aristocratic ones. For ourselves, we cannot indulge the hope of escape from censure, by some of those whose possession of power may be disturbed or expectation of office disappointed, by the course which a fervent and conscientious devotion to the public interest, constrained us to elect. It is natural that it should be so. Man's perception and acknowledgment of rights which do not accord with the tenure by which he enjoys power, are generally slow and reluctant.

This must always constitute an impediment even to the most necessary reform of existing institutions. It was the greatest obstacle which the present constitution of the United States had to encounter, "the interests of a certain class of men to resist all changes which might hazard a diminution of the power, emolument and consequences of the offices thus held under existing establishments." We trust, however, that there are but few, very few, indeed, who are not willing to surrender upon the holy altar of disinterested patriotism, power and office, with all their allureraents when the public weal demands it: and that instead of becoming alarmists, they will unite and co-operate with their fellow citizens in providing such amendments as shall plant our institutions upon the deepest and most enduring foundation, the affections of the people. This can only be done by making them just and equitable—diffusing equally their burdens and benefits.

Let but our fellow citizens put aboard our ship of state, pilots of tried skill and integrity, men who know how

To steer the bounding bark with steady toil,  
When the waves thicken and the billows boil,  
And the gallant vessel will soon be permanently  
and securely moored in a harbor of peaceful and  
abounding prosperity.

We are yours, fellow citizens,

CHAS. MAGILL,  
ROBERT WASON,  
CASPER QUINN,  
JOHN FISHER,  
GEORGE ELLICOTT,  
EPHRAIM BELL,  
JOSHUA VANSANT,  
JOHN EVANS,  
GEO. A. THOMAS,  
SAM'L SUTTON,  
WASH'N DUVALL,  
ROB. T. KEENE,  
M. FOUNTAIN,  
ENOCH GEORGE,  
JOHN B. THOMAS,  
SPRIGG HARWOOD,  
THOS. HOPE,  
WESLEY LINTHICUM,  
JOHN S. SELLMAN,

Annapolis, Sept. 19th, 1836.

GENTLEMEN: It is a duty which we owe to our constituents, that before we take our seats in the college of electors of the senate of this state, we should have a distinct and positive understanding, as to the course to be pursued by that body.

You are apprised that a crisis has occurred, when neither of the political parties of the state have elected electors, having the constitutional power to

form a senate. Of the nineteen counties and two cities, into which the state is divided, we represent the two cities and eight of the counties, having a white population of 205,922, and federal numbers 267,669. You represent ten of the counties, having a white population of 85,170, and federal numbers 138,252; and the vote of the remaining county is divided. Of the electoral body we are nineteen in number, while you are twenty-one. But, although you are a majority (the smallest possible) of the college, it is to be recollected that we represent nearly three-fourths of the free white population, and two-thirds of the federal numbers of the state, and very much the largest portion of its territorial extent and wealth; we shall therefore expect that you will concede to us the nomination of eight members of the senate to be chosen, and that you will vote for the persons whom we may nominate to the college, although they may be favorable to a convention to revise and amend the constitution of the state, if in all other respect, in your opinion, well qualified. The counties and cities we represent ought to have, upon any political principle which governs the appointment of members of a legislature, a majority of the senate to be formed, greater than that which is sought to be obtained. To force upon them, then, being the majority of the people, an entire senate against their will, would be unjust and anti-republican; and we, their agents, cannot participate in such a violation of their rights as freemen; neither can we become passive members of the electoral college, and thereby enable you to select for the people we have the honor to represent, senators residing in the districts from which we come. The people of those counties and cities have elected us to make choice of their senators, presuming that we who reside among them are better qualified than strangers can be, to choose those who know their rights and interests, and will protect them. If our constituents are to be subjected to a senate opposed to their will, it would be an aggravation of the evils they will be compelled to endure to have some of the members of that body taken from the midst of communities whose confidence they do not enjoy, and whose wants and wishes they are not willing cheerfully to gratify. From these considerations we feel compelled to take the position above assumed. Moreover, our constituents, who desire to see radical changes made in their present constitution, have a right to expect that we will not fail to exert all the powers reposed in us under our form of government to make the institutions of the state more republican and conformable to the will of those for whose happiness and safety they were designed.

The friends of reform in Maryland have sought repeatedly to obtain from the legislature, by an exertion of the powers confided to that body by the fifty-ninth section of the constitution, such amendments of that instrument as are indispensable, and it is with regret we say that all of their applications were in vain, and indeed it may be said, they were not even treated with that respectful deference to which the remonstrances of a large majority of the people are justly entitled. It would be needless for us here to spread out in detail, the several applications for reform which have been made.

You know the history of many petitions which have been presented to the legislature; and we have felt the manner of their rejection. Each instance is fresh in the recollection of our constituents, and they believe as we do, that no redress of grievances can be had through the ordinary form which the framers of our constitution provided. Under this solemn consideration, we have determined not to be willingly instrumental in perpetuating institutions that work such bitter injustice, and if, gentlemen, you will give us your pledge of honor to accede to our proposal, and give to the majority of the people a majority of one branch of the legislature to protect from future violations their rights and privileges, it will afford us great pleasure to meet you in the electoral college to-day. Should, however, your views as to our relative rights and duties not accord with ours, we shall most deeply regret it, and be compelled by a high and holy sense of duty to our constituents and to the whole state, not to meet you in college, and thereby we shall entirely avoid the odious responsibility of assisting to form a senate obnoxious to the people we represent.

We are aware that your rejection of this proposition, and the state of things which may grow out of it, will give some alarm to the timorous. But upon the most calm and deliberate examination of the whole subject in all its bearings, we can discover none of those causes for deep and lasting excitement which endanger the peace and good order of the community, if the legislative functions of the government should cease for a season, that will be found to arise, should we assist to organize a senate, which would perpetuate, possibly, all existing evils,

and secure for five years, at least, that oppressive dominion, of a small minority over the majority, which has been so long reluctantly endured by the people of Maryland. We perceive no cause for apprehension and alarm in the temporary suspension of the powers of the senate. Thereby, the whole constitution would not be abrogated. The governor would remain in office long enough to afford time to form a new constitution, and perform the functions of the executive department.

The judiciary and the officers connected with the courts would experience no interruption of their powers, and all the officers who derive their appointments annually from the executive are empowered under the forty-ninth article of the constitution, to hold their offices until they are superceded by the appointment of others.

The laws, therefore, would be administered—civil rights and private property protected, and the peace of the community preserved, by all the means now employed for that purpose. In the mean time the powers which have been delegated to us, will revert to the people, in whose integrity, virtue, patriotism and intelligence, we have the most entire confidence; and we doubt not but that they, guided by the spirit that animated our fathers in seventy-six, will provide for every exigency that may arise. Before any inconvenience can be experienced, the sovereign power of the people of Maryland will be employed, by means of a convention to reform our constitution, so as not to justify a recurrence of a similar contingency by basing all its departments on sound republican principles, so as to secure equality of political rights, and a just responsibility in all public officers to popular will.

To prevent misapprehensions, we have submitted our propositions in writing, and its manifest justice gives us every reason to expect that you will yield to it a ready assent. We hope you do not desire to leave the state without a senate, unless you are permitted to select all its members—as well for counties you represent as those counties and cities represented by us. Nor can we believe that you will ask us to join you in the electoral college, and be passive spectators of your proceedings, merely to witness the degradation of our constituents by your choice of a senate for 205,922 people, whose representatives you are not. We ask only what we think is right, and are determined to submit to nothing that is wrong. To our propositions we respectfully ask an answer at your earliest convenience.

And whatever may be your response, we cannot, doubt your concurrence with us in the perfect conviction of the competency of the people to accept a surrender of the legislative functions of the government, and that deeply imbued with the spirit of patriotism and justice, and guided by the lights of experience they will, through the instrumentality of a convention, so adjust and apportion them as to secure the inestimable blessings of a republican government. We are, very respectfully, gentlemen, yours &c.

CHARLES MAGILL,  
ROBERT WASON,  
CASPER QUINN,  
JOHN FISHER,  
JOSHUA VANSANT,  
THOMAS HOPE,  
SAMUEL SUTTON,  
JOHN EVANS,  
GEORGE A. THOMAS,  
G. ELLICOTT,  
EPHRAIM BELL,  
ROBERT T. KEENE,  
ENOCH GEORGE,  
M. FOUNTAIN,  
JOHN B. THOMAS,  
SPRIGG HARWOOD,  
JOHN S. SELLMAN,  
WESLEY LINTHICUM,  
WASHINGTON DUVALL.

To Messrs. *Heard, Leigh, Vickers, Gale, Gaither, Kent, Dalrymple, Williams, Handy, Spence, Franklin, Dickinson, Dudley, Hicks, Lake, Pratt, Duvall, Merrick, Brauner, Bruce and Beal.*

Annapolis, September 19th, 1836, P. M.

GENTLEMEN: We are anxious to elect a senate, and for the promotion of this object, we sent certain propositions to you, for your consideration, and selected colonel Heard as the organ of communication, knowing him to be an old member of the legislature, and an elector returned for the county of St. Mary's, which is always first called from priority. Col. Heard returned this paper stating that he had no authority to act, and therefore declined presenting it to his political associates. We have therefore to request of you, whether you will receive any communication from us—and to indicate

the manner in which you would prefer to receive communications from us. We are gentlemen, very respectfully yours, &c.

CHARLES MAGILL,  
ROBERT WASON,  
CASPER QUINN,  
JOHN FISHER,  
G. ELLICOTT,  
EPHRAIM BELL,  
JOSHUA VANSANT,  
SPRIGG HARWOOD,  
THOMAS HOPE,  
SAMUEL SUTTON,  
ROBERT T. KEENE,  
M. FOUNTAIN,  
JOHN EVANS,  
GEORGE A. THOMAS,  
WASHINGTON DUVALL,  
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ENOCH GEORGE,  
JOHN S. SELLMAN,  
WESLEY LINTHICUM.

To Messrs. *Heard, Leigh, Vickers, Gale, Gaither, Kent, Dalrymple, Williams, Handy, Spence, Franklin, Dickinson, Dudley, Hicks, Lake, Pratt, Duvall, Merrick, Brauner, Bruce and Beal.*

Annapolis, September 21, 1836.

At one o'clock, P. M. the democratic republican members of the electoral college again assembled, when Charles Magill, of Washington county, resumed the chair, and George A. Thomas, of Cecil, acted as secretary, whereupon the following proceedings were had.

Contrary to our reasonable hopes and expectations, the other electors having refused even to receive or reply to the propositions which we have thought proper to submit, formally and informally, in letters addressed to all of them, and in conversations held by individual members of this meeting, with individual members of the other branch of the electoral college, and the other electors having, moreover, made to us, or to any one us, no propositions whatever, calculated to restore to the people of Maryland, through the medium of the legislature, the right to revise and amend the constitution; and this meeting being fully convinced that we have no alternative left but to adjourn, or to submit to the selection of a senate opposed to those reforms, both of the constitution and of the administration of the government of the state, which our constituents desire to see accomplished—Therefore

*Resolved*, That this meeting do now adjourn.  
CHARLES MAGILL, *president.*  
GEORGE A. THOMAS, *secretary.*

#### FROM THE ARMY—OFFICIAL.

*Head quarters, army of the south,  
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 5, 1836.*

SIR: I came hither to-day to examine into the state of the supplies on hand, and of selecting and forwarding such as may be spared from the service in this country, for the use of the troops destined for Florida.

On my way to this place I passed Wetumka, where there are about three thousand Indians, who are to cross the Coosa to-day, and take up their line of march westward. Ho-poe-thle Yo-ho-lo, whose departure I reported a few days ago, is on his way to the west, with two thousand three hundred of his band; about four thousand will move in a day or two from Talladega, if they have not moved already; and I hope to have the whole nation in motion by the 20th, except the families of some of the warriors who go to Florida, whom I have consented to allow to remain until the warriors return.

Being able to dispense with the services of the Tennessee volunteers, I directed brig. gen. Armstrong several days ago to proceed with them to Florida, by easy marches. I this day ordered the regular troops to concentrate at Fort Mitchell and Irwinton; they are dispersed generally in single companies, from Irwinton to Tallassee, a distance of a hundred and twenty miles; they will be pushed on to Florida about the 20th; and I hope to send, under captain Lane, from six hundred to a thousand Indian warriors. This force, if the Seminoles can be found, should put an end to the war there in all October. I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,  
TH. S. JESUP,  
*Maj. gen. com.*

*The hon. Lewis Cass, secretary of war, Washington city.*

#### GENERAL ORDER, NO. 61.

*Head quarters of the army, adj. gen's office,  
Washington, Sept. 16, 1836.*

I. The major general commanding-in-chief has received the official account of the attack made on