

to ascertain the wishes of the meeting. There was no determining by the sound, as it was impossible to decide from the number of voices on each side of the question; but the chair declared that a majority of the meeting were opposed to hearing Mr. Semmes. A motion was then made to adjourn, which a number of Van Buren men (among them the officers of the meeting) *practically* carried by blowing out the lights, and leaving.

A call was now made, for all who wished to hear both sides of the question, to stand fast. A large number of both parties remained, and the meeting was immediately reorganized by calling SINGLETON TOWNSHEND, esq. to the chair, assisted by ISAAC McCARTY and GEORGE W. DEVECMON, and appointing NORMAND BRUCE and HANSON B. PIGMAN, secretaries. Mr. Semmes then went on at length to reply to the addresses of Messrs. Matthews and Perry. After he had concluded, H. B. Pigman addressed the meeting. Dr. S. P. Smith then made some appropriate remarks with regard to subjects connected with the reform for which the Van Buren party contend, and the manner in which they have identified it with the revolutionary movement of the eighteen electors. In conclusion, Mr. Townshend, the chairman, made some very happy and interesting remarks, and was frequently interrupted by the cheers and applause of the meeting.

On motion of Joseph Shriver, it was *resolved*, that the proceedings of this meeting, signed by the officers, be published.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned.

SINGLETON TOWNSHEND, *president*.

ISAAC McCARTY, } *vice*

GEO. W. DEVECMON, } *presidents*.

Norman Bruce, } *secretaries*.

Hanson B. Pigman, }

IMPORTANT EXPOSE.

The following correspondence is published with the view of informing the people of the manner and means resorted to by the disorganizers of our state government, to carry their schemes into effect. It is upon a subject that most vitally interests the welfare of the whole state. In attempting to bring Allegany into their measures, however, these revolutionists have widely missed their object. The letter of Mr. Buchanan is highly creditable to him, and there can be no doubt, that in relation to this revolutionary movement and the conduct of the eighteen recusant electors, it expresses the sentiments of the people of Allegany county. Mr. Buchanan is a Van Buren delegate elect from this county.

Correspondence.

Cumberland, Oct. 17, 1836.

SIR: In a casual and friendly conversation between us this morning, you mentioned having received a circular from some gentlemen in Baltimore, in reference to the call of a provisional convention, and that you had replied thereto. You did not say distinctly what was the purport of that reply, nor was I sure at that moment that I had a right to ask. A little reflection, however, convinces me, that on a subject so vitally important to the whole people of the state, and more especially to the citizens of this county, it is both right and proper that the correspondence should be exposed to the public view. Convinced then, as I am, from my knowledge of your views on that subject, that you will at least not sink in the estimation of your constituents, by such exposure, may I not ask the favor of you to furnish me with a copy of that correspondence for publication? With sentiments of regard, I am yours, &c. M. C. SPRIGG.

To J. M. Buchanan, esq.

Cumberland, Oct. 17, 1836.

DEAR SIR: Your polite note of this date, requesting me to furnish you with a copy of the correspondence which has taken place between myself and certain gentlemen of Baltimore, has been received. The correspondence was not intended by me for the public eye, nor can the sentiments of one so humble and obscure, even in the ordinary walks of life, as myself, be of any effect at this time; but the peculiar relation in which I now stand to the citizens of Allegany county, will certainly be a sufficient apology for me in furnishing you with a copy of the correspondence alluded to, to be disposed of in any manner you may see proper. Very respectfully, your friend, &c.

JOHN M. BUCHANAN.

To hon. Michael C. Sprigg.

Circular to Mr. Buchanan.

Baltimore, Oct. 9th, 1836.

SIR: It will be recollected that the nineteen electors who refused to meet with certain of their

colleagues to form a senate, in their address to the people of Maryland made the following recommendation:—"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 powers 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."

In pursuance of the above, meetings have already been called in the several counties, and delegates to a provisional convention will have been nominated before this reaches you. For the purpose of deliberating upon the just demands of the whole people, and the best means to obtain a reform of present abuses, it is very desirable that the friends of a republican constitution in every county in the state should make a common effort in the cause, and elect delegates to said convention. You are therefore respectfully requested to use your best exertions to further the object recommended by the nineteen republican electors, by calling meetings immediately, and putting in nomination such gentlemen as the friends of reform in your county may judge best able to represent their views on the subject in agitation, and to carry out the measure recommended in the foregoing extract from said address to the people. It will be necessary that some arrangements be made in reference to the judges of election.

On behalf of the friends of reform, we are, with high respect, your obedient servants,

William Krebs, Geo. Gordon Belt,
John Jas. Graves, Cornelius McLean,
T. Parkin Scott, B. H. Richardson,
Joshua Vansant, John S. Tyson,
Albert Constable, Joseph White.

Mr. Buchanan's reply.

Ellerslie, near Cumberland, Oct. 15, 1836.

GENTLEMEN: I received your circular communication dated 9th inst. informing me that "the nineteen electors who refused to meet the twenty-one and elect a senate had recommended to their fellow citizens throughout the state to proceed forthwith to elect, on the 1st Monday of November next, six delegates from each county and city to meet in convention at Annapolis," &c. &c. and to "use my best exertions to further the object recommended," &c. &c.

Could I imagine that any possible advantage would be derived to the interests of this, the county of my adoption, to the honor of my native state, or to the welfare and happiness of the citizens thereof, by adopting the course recommended by the nineteen electors, I would most cheerfully and cordially yield my feeble but zealous exertions to promote the object of your communication.

But inasmuch as I conscientiously believe that, should the course recommended by the nineteen recusant electors be carried into effect, it will be destructive of the best interests of the state, and will inflict a stab upon our institutions, and present happy and prosperous condition as a state, which neither time nor the ingenuity of man will ever be able to heal, I cannot, of course, co-operate with you in carrying the proposed convention into effect.

In thus refusing to lend you my aid, I trust I will not lay myself liable to the imputation of having changed my sentiments upon the all-absorbing subject of state reform.

Those who know me personally will not for a moment entertain such an idea. It is well understood here that I have been a principal pioneer in Allegany in propagating the principles of reform; but I never for an instant supposed that the good work was to be accomplished by means of a revolution, and at the sacrifice of the honor of the state, and thereby bringing upon us all the calamities of a civil war, anarchy, confusion, bloodshed, and a train of evils too horrible to imagine. This is no ideal picture. Before the proposed project can be consummated, we will be witnesses of the sad reality, and those who are foremost and loudest in advocating this nefarious scheme will be the first to fall victims to their mad and ruinous indiscretion.

I entreat you, gentlemen, by that love which I know you all entertain for your country, by the tender and endearing ties by which you are connected with your wives and children, to abandon your present wild and visionary scheme, (to call it by no harsher name), and let us all, at this important crisis, unite, cordially and heartily, in one common effort to save the constitution of the state and her laws inviolate, from the perfidious hands of AMBITIOUS DEMAGOGUES, AND THE MACHI-

"REFORM OR REVOLUTION" IN MARYLAND.

ALLEGANY COUNTY.

A meeting of the Van Buren party, attended by many Harrisonians, was held at the court house, on Friday evening, the 14th instant. As the notice for the meeting was of a party character, THOMAS PERRY was called to the chair, and HENRY HAMMILL appointed secretary. After the meeting was organized, William Matthews, esq. addressed the audience, and gave his reasons for supporting Martin Van Buren in preference to general Harrison. When he had finished, a call was made upon Mr. Perry, by some of his friends, to give his views also. To this call Mr. Perry acceded; and when he had concluded, S. M. Semmes, esq. asked permission to address the meeting in reply. To this some objection was made, and Mr. Semmes requested the question to be taken, on a motion made

NATIONS OF WICKED, CORRUPT AND ABANDONED POLITICAL KNAVES.

I am now, as I always have been, the decided and zealous friend of reform, and will cheerfully go as far as those who step the farthest to remedy the grievances complained of in our present form of government, according to the mode indicated by the sages who framed our constitution. To any other mode I would object at this time, as being dangerous alike to the stability of our institutions, to the interest and honor of the state, and to the peace and happiness of her citizens.

Under the present very excited state of public feeling, I doubt very much whether any form of government could be adopted which would prove at all acceptable to the whole people, or give peace and quiet to the state.

I humbly pray, however, that a season much more propitious to a calm discussion of the interesting subject of reform is not far distant, when we will all see "how sweet and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity and love"—when the feuds and angry bickerings of party strife will have died away, and floated down the stream of time, no more to be remembered, or remembered only to be condemned and regretted, when we will be able to set down together as our fathers did of old, intent only on forming such a system of government as will advance the prosperity of the state, the honor and happiness of the people, and enable us to hand down to the latest posterity, unimpaired, the advantages and blessings of a free government. With sentiments of respect, I am, gentlemen, your friend, truly,

JOHN M. BUCHANAN.

To William Krebs, John James Graves, &c.

From the Republican Citizen extra.

FREDERICK COUNTY.

The meeting was organized by calling Gideon Bantz, esq. (the late whig senatorial electoral candidate), and col. John H. Simmons, V. B. to the chair, and appointing Mahlon Talbott (late sheriff of Frederick county, a whig) and John Sifford, esqrs. as secretaries. The hon. Henry R. Warfield, hon. W. C. Johnson, hon. Francis Thomas and col. John H. McElfresh addressed the meeting in eloquent speeches, which were responded to by frequent, animated and enthusiastic cheers.

On motion of the hon. Wm. C. Johnson, the chair appointed the following gentlemen, as a committee to draft resolutions: Wm. Cost Johnson, whig, Washington Burgess, W. Dr. Robt. C. Cummings, W. Mahlon Talbott, W. L. P. W. Balch, W. Jacob Markell, Van Buren, Madison Nelson, V. B. John Rigney, V. B. John Brunner of J. V. B. John B. Boyle, V. B. Christian Getzendanner, V. B. col. John McPherson, V. B. Dennis Dorsey, V. B. who after retiring a short time, reported the following resolutions—which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, As the opinion of this meeting, that no good end can be gained by the continued reiteration of an unfounded assertion, that life and property are in danger in Maryland. However widely men may differ as to the character of our institutions, and the best means of altering and reforming them, there cannot be found, we solemnly believe, any respectable number of persons in this state, who would not cheerfully aid to protect life and property, if seriously in danger.

Resolved, That this meeting is fully satisfied that no senate will be formed, by a compromise, between the conflicting claims of the two branches of the electoral college, and that it is therefore the duty of every lover of order and peace, to devise some other means, by which the duties devolved under the present constitution on the senate alone, or the senate and house of delegates united, shall be performed.

Resolved, As the sense of this meeting, which we believe to be in accordance with the opinions of an overwhelming majority of the voters of this county, that the only way of providing a substitute for the senate and house of delegates, and effecting reform of the present constitution of Maryland is by a convention, elected fresh from the people, for that specified purpose—and, that we regard all attempts at reform by the legislature, passing two successive enactments as futile and impracticable, so long as a majority of the legislature may be elected by seven thousand out of fifty thousand of the voters of the state, and cannot therefore be considered responsible to the great body of the people for their acts.

Resolved, That we will never cease our exertions to reform the present constitution, until a convention has been organized and a republican constitution has been submitted to the people at the ballot box, and by them either rejected or adopted.

Resolved, as the opinion of this meeting, that four-fifths at least of the voters of this county, desire to see a convention of delegates assemble with full powers to revise, remodel and amend the existing

constitution; or abolish the same, and substitute in its stead a form of government not unworthy of the age.

Resolved, That the chair appoint a central committee, composed of one hundred members of both parties, with power to make such arrangement as may be necessary, to aid the people of Frederick county in the great undertaking which four-fifths of them have at heart, to restore to the majority their right to rule.

Resolved, That these proceedings be signed by the chairmen and secretaries, and published in all the papers in the state, friendly to conventional reform.

GIDEON BANTZ, }
JOHN H. SIMMONS, } chairmen.
MAHLON TALBOTT, }
JOHN SIFFORD, } secretaries.

FACILITY IN TRAVELLING.

From the American Almanac

Internal improvement; increased facilities of intercourse and travelling in the United States.

The great and rapid improvement which has taken place in the condition and circumstances of the people of the United States, since the American revolution, is strikingly illustrated by the increased facilities of travelling and intercourse between the different parts of the country, by means of turnpike roads, canals, rail road cars, all of which were, at that time, wholly unknown here, with the exception of stage coaches, which had been established on two or three short routes. But it is since the close of the last war with Great Britain, that the spirit of enterprise, with respect to internal improvement, has been chiefly manifested; it is, at the present time, especially active, and promises, should nothing happen to check its progress, to accomplish much more in the ten succeeding years, than has been effected in twice the number of any years that are past.

The present facilities of intercourse are altogether beyond what not only the first settlers of the country, but also the inhabitants no more than fifty years ago, could have conceived to be possible.—

The following statement of gov. Everett, at the late centennial celebration of the settlement of Springfield, Massachusetts, is scarcely an exaggeration. "Such was the difficulty of crossing the pathless wilderness which lay between them [the first settlers of Massachusetts] and the coast, that a man may now go from Boston to New Orleans, by way of Pittsburgh, a distance of more than 2,500 miles, in about as many days as it took the first settlers to reach the banks of Connecticut river."

In the year 1754, a convention of delegates from the English American colonies met at Albany, for the purpose of forming a *plan of union*; and it was proposed that, if the plan were carried into effect, Philadelphia should be the place of meeting. The reasons in favor of the city were stated by Dr. Franklin, a member of the convention, who was evidently disposed to give the most favorable representation of the facilities of intercourse which the case admitted, as follows:

"Philadelphia was named as being nearer the centre of the colonies, where the commissioners would be well and cheaply accommodated. The high roads through the whole extent are, for the most part, very good, in which forty or fifty miles a day may very well be, and frequently are, travelled. Great part of the way may likewise be gone by water. In summer time, the passages are frequently performed in a week from Charleston to Philadelphia and New York; and from Rhode Island to New York, through the sound, in two or three days; and from New York to Philadelphia, by water and land, in two days, by stage, boats and wheel carriages that set out every other day. The journey from Charleston to Philadelphia may likewise be facilitated by boats running up Chesapeake bay, three hundred miles. But if the whole journey be performed on horseback, the most distant members, viz: the two from New Hampshire and South Carolina, may probably render themselves at Philadelphia in 15 or 20 days; the majority may be there in much less time."

But such a change has now taken place, that one may travel with ease from Concord, the capital of New Hampshire, to Philadelphia, or from Boston to the city of Washington, all the way in rail road cars and steamboats, a distance of about 450 miles, in less than 48 hours; and the passage between New York and Philadelphia is performed in from 7 to 8 hours.

Stage coaches were very little known in this country till a period subsequent to the close of the revolutionary war; and for some time after they were introduced, they did not often go more than about 40 miles in a day. In England, in 1706, the stage coach was four days in going from London to York, a distance of about 200 miles, which has, for

some years past, been travelled in about 20 hours. The first stage coach drawn by four horses in Massachusetts, of which we have any knowledge, was established in 1774, running between Boston, Salem and Newburyport. An intelligent gentleman, who travelled in the first stage coach from Boston to Worcester, makes the following statement: "Lemuel Pease, of Shrewsbury, established the first line of stages between Boston and Worcester, in 1782; afterwards extended to Hartford, and subsequently to New York. Before that time, the public mail was carried on horseback by Messrs. Hyde and Adams, alternately, every thing being conveyed in a pair of saddle-bags, and one mail a week only coming from the south. After New York was evacuated by the English, in 1783, the mail was extended to that city. But the principal intercourse from the north was by water. In 1786, Mr. Ballard set up the first hack in Boston. It was a chaise, and was stationed by the old statehouse. A coach was soon after added."

The first turnpike corporation in Massachusetts was granted in 1795; the oldest canals in the United States of any considerable magnitude are the Santee canal and the Middlesex canal, the former of which was completed in 1802, and the latter in 1808. The oldest canal which has been much used for conveying passengers is Erie canal, which was completed in 1825. The oldest rail road in the United States, the Quincy rail road, in Massachusetts, only three miles in length, was finished in 1827. The rail road which was first used in the United States for conveying passengers is the Baltimore and Ohio rail road, (not yet finished), which was opened for passengers from Baltimore to Ellicott's Mills, 13 miles, in 1830. The first steamboat that was used in any part of the world for conveying passengers was one which commenced sailing on the Hudson, between New York and Albany, in 1807.

The first post office in America was established at New York in 1710. In 1790, the number of post offices in the United States, was only 75, and the extent of post roads 1,875 miles. In 1835, the number of post offices was 10,770; the post routes covered about 112,774 miles. In daily, or less frequent trips, the mails were carried on these routes about 25,869,486 miles, viz: 16,874,050 miles in four horse post coaches and two horse stages; 7,817,973 miles on horseback and in sulkies; 906,959 miles in steamboats; and 270,504 miles in rail road cars.

The rivers and waters of the United States present a vast field for steamboat navigation, which is more in use here than in any other parts of the world. This mode of navigation has produced surprising changes with respect to facilities of intercourse, especially in the extensive region which is watered by the Mississippi and its tributaries. In the western country, the present century has witnessed extraordinary changes and wonderful improvement in the arts of civilized life; and a system of internal improvement is now in progress there, which, considering the recent settlement of the country, may be justly regarded as magnificent.—The following account of "things seen by a young son of the west," originally published in the "Cincinnati Register," is extracted from the "People's Magazine," for July 13th, 1833:

"I have seen the time when the only boat that floated on the surface of the Ohio was a canoe, propelled by poles used by two persons, one in the bow, and the other in the stern.

"I have seen the day when the introduction of the keel-boat, with a shingle roof, was hailed a mighty improvement in the business of the west.

"I remember the day when the arrival of a Canadian barge (as the St. Louis boats were called at the head of the Ohio) was an important event in the transactions of a year.

"I remember the day when a passage of four months from Natchez to Pittsburgh was called a speedy trip for the best craft on the river, and when the boatmen, a race now extinct, leaped on shore after the voyage, and exhibited an air of as much triumph as did the sailors of Columbus on their return from the new world.

"I remember the time when the canoe of a white man dared not to be launched on the bosom of the Alleghany.

"I remember the time when a trader to New Orleans was viewed as the most enterprising amongst even the most hardy sons of the west, on his return from his six months' trip, he was hailed as a traveller who had seen the world.

"I remember the day when the borders of the Ohio were a wilderness, and New Orleans was 'toto orbe divisa,' literally cut off from the whole world.

"I have lived to see the day when the desert is flourishing as the rose;—when the race of boatmen has become extinct, and their memories only preserved in the traditional tales of our borderers.