CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE.

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"THE END OF EVERY GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE."

NEW SERIES--VOL. I. — CAMBRIDGE, Md.---Saturday Morning, June 24, 1837. — NUMBER 4

BY D. P. HOGE.

—TERMS.—

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In cases where the number of insertions is not limited, advertisements will be continued until direction to omit them is received, and charged accordingly.

POETRY.

From the United States Gazette.

A DAUGHTER'S LAMENT.

For the absence of her father, and her expressive solicitude for his speedy return to the bosom of an anxious family.

My father, if thou didst but know,
The anguish we have felt,
Thine eyes with tears would soon o'erflow;
Thy sympathetic heart would melt.
Our days passed in silent grief,
Our nights in dreams of sorrow:
'Tis but thyself can bring relief—
Return then on the morrow.
Many months have passed away,
Since I have climb'd my father's knee;
Or heard thine own sweet voice to say
Come children—come to tea.
Why this protracted stay from home,
With strangers so to dwell?
I'm very sure, where thou art gone,
There's none can love thee ne'er so well.
Our mother's deep drawn sighs we hear,
Her care worn brow we see;
Her smiles are often forced through tear,
When we unthinking speak of thee,
Each night for thee our prayers ascend,
In concert to our heavenly friend;
His strength we ask, his love we seek,
For all that's humble, mild and meek.

E. B. H.

From the Baltimore Chronicle.

The following verses, the conjoint production of an eminent Irish bard and the wife an American officer, will, I am sure, be welcomed in print by many of your readers.

Through Erin's Isle to sport awhile,
As Love and Valor wandered.
With Wit a sprite, whose quiver bright,
A thousand arrows squandered:
Where e'er they pass, a triple grass
Looks up with dew drops streaming
So sweetly seen, as emeralds green,
Or purest crystals gleaming.

Oh, the Shamrock,
The green immortal Shamrock,
The chosen leaf of bard and chief,
Old Erin's native Shamrock.

Says Valor 'see, they spring for me,
The leafy gems of morning;'
Says Love 'no, no—for me they grow,
My fragrant paths adorning.'
But Wit perceives the triple leaves,
And cries 'O do not sever
A type that blends three godlike friends,
Love, Valor, Wit, forever.'

Oh, the Shamrock, &c.

So firmly fond, may rest the bond
That binds the three together,
May never fall one drop of gall
On Wit's celestial feather,
May Love entwine the flowers divine,
Of thorny falsehoods weed them,
May Valor ne'er his standard rear
Against the cause of freedom.

Oh, the Shamrock, &c.

DR. JOHN ERSKINE.—The late Rev. Dr. Erskine was frequently very absent. In the course of his wanderings one day in the Links of Edinburgh, he stumbled against a cow. With his usual politeness, he took off his hat, made a low bow and a thousand apoligies, and then walked on. A friend, who wittnessed what had happened, accosted him, and inquired why he had taken off his hat.—He replied, that he had accidently jostled a stranger, and he was apologizing for his rudeness. His amazement may be conceived, when he was informed that he had been offering his excuses to a cow!—On another occasion, he met his wife in the Meadows. She stopt, and he did so too; he bowed, hoped she was well, and bowed again, and went on his way.—Upon his return home, Mrs. Erskine asked him where he had been. He answered, in the Meadows, and that he had met a lady, but he could not for the world imagine who she was.

REMARKS OF MR. PEARCE OF MARYLAND MADE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

ON THE 25TH JANUARY, 1837.

MR. SPEAKER—

IT is with great reluctance that I participate at all in the discussion of the theme which has occupied the house for the last four hours. I do not mean the bill for the admission of Michigan into the Union; for that seems to have been "in the deep bosom of the ocean buried."

The domestic controversies of Maryland are again the subject of debate here. We are not allowed the repose of victory; but have to fight over here the battle which we fought and won, last fall, before the people of Maryland. I am not responsible for the introduction of this foreign topic. I deprecate now, as I had occasion to do at the last session of Congress, any debate upon our domestic feuds. This is not the tribunal before which such matters are properly triable. The hall of the National Legislature is the very last place where State constitutions should be arraigned, and the internal action of State governments be made a theme of invective, or a subject of investigation. Before the people of Maryland, whose sovereignty I recognize, and practically respect, I have discussed these matters fully and freely; and they are the only tribunal whose jurisdiction I admit.

It is curious to trace this debate to its origin. I had not the good fortune to hear the speech of my colleague, the chairman of the committee on the Judiciary, on the introduction of the bill for the admission of Michigan into the Union; but I understand it to be the general sense of the house, that it had no necessary or direct connexion with the Michigan question; and that, although the name of Maryland was not mentioned, and no immediate appliaction of his theories to our controversies was made by him, yet it was almost universally supposed to be intended to apply, solely, to the state of Maryland. It was considered a masked battery—a sort of Maryland war in disguise. Under these circumstances, it was not unnatural for my other colleague (Mr. Jenifer,) to reply, and endeavor to repudiate such of these doctrines as seemed to him unsound, and to shew the misapplication of others to Maryland politics. Much as I regret it, I must say that it was a necessary and inevitable consequence that my colleague should go somewhat into detail, in relation to these matters. Now, sir, I have heard, in the rejoinder of the honorable Chairman, the constitution of Maryland violently, and, as I think, unnecessarily denounced; while the recent condition of things there has been stated very vaguely, and to me unsatisfactorily, I desire to say a few words in reference to that vilified constitution, and to state accurately, according to my views, the condition of Maryland during our late convulsions. In doing this, I shall endeavour to follow the example of my colleague, who represents the city of Baltimore, to speak dispassionately, and not to fall into "King Cambyse's vein," and tear the passions to tatters.

The constitution of Maryland which has been denounced here as so odious, so atrociously oppressive upon the people of the State, that they would be justified in rising, with arms in their hands, to destroy it by violence, is no royal charter, conceding to the people a few poor privileges—nor an admission of Rights extorted by rebellion from despotic power. Neither was it the work of the mushroom politicians of the present day, who are springing up all over the land, ready and anxious to engage in a patriotic scuffle for those spoils of victory, which are too often the object of conventions, and such reforms as aim at whole systems of government. Agitators, in all periods of the world's history, have generally had an appetite for office which swallowed up their zeal for principle. It was not by such men that the constitution of Maryland was formed; but by the heroes and sages of 1776, the conscript fathers of our State, who pledged life, fortune, and sacred honour, for the achievement of their country's freedom, and who nobly redeemed that pledge.

When this traduced constitution was formed it received the general approbation of the gallant men, who were then engaged in an unequal and perilous strife for the vindication of those rights of the people, which my colleague seems to think they misunderstood so strangely. When its provisions were read to one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and particularly that one which fixes the organization of the Senate, he exclaimed, "it is virgin gold."

The framers of our constitution did not consider political power as the sole end and aim of government. They endeavoured to establish such institutions as would secure the welfare of society, and maintain inviolable the rights of person and of property. Under the constitution thus formed, with occasional alterations, the State has flourished for sixty years, with as few, perhaps fewer abuses of government, than have fallen to the lot of other communities in the same period. The people have been insensible of any thing like tyranny, or oppression. In general, mild and wholesome laws have been enacted; the executive has been guilty neither of corruption nor of extravagance—while justice has been equally dispensed by an honest, able, and independent judiciary.

Suddenly, an attempt is made to subvert this form of government—not by pursuing the constitutional method of change—not by the free, spontaneous, unforced action of the people, nor by representatives elected for that purpose by a commanding majority of the people—not because of any grievances too intolerable to be borne; nor because of a universal, or very general sentiment, that the good of the community imperatively required it. No, sir; this revolution was attempted by nineteen individuals elected for a far different purpose. How many of these nineteen were the dupes of the bolder and more talented Electors—how many were coerced, by threats of party vengeance, into an acquiescence in the schemes of the factions, I know not; nor can I tell who first planned this conspiracy against the people of Maryland. But the public voice has already pronounced, that the recusant Electors were guilty of a gross abuse of power; of a shameful perversion of their trust; of a reckless and arrogant assumption of the rights of the people, whose servants they were for a special purpose, and whose master they assumed to be for the highest of all political purposes. Let me give you, sir, a true history of the transaction. In September last the people of Maryland, by counties and cities, chose forty electors to appoint a Senate. The constitution requires that the electors chosen by the people shall meet, at the city of Annapolis, on the third Monday of September next ensuing their election, and proceed to the appointment of fifteen Senators. Any twenty-four of the electors constitute a quorum for that purpose; but before they can act they must qualify in a prescribed manner, part of which is the taking an oath to support the constitution. The election of a Senate having been completed, their duties cease, and their offices expire.

In the late Electoral college twenty one members, composing the majority, happened to entertain opinions as to the National Executive distasteful to the minority; and these "immortal Nineteen," as they have been called, because they could not wield the government to the purpose of their faction, determined to paralyze or destroy it.

They refused to enter into the college, and qualify according to the constitution. They assumed that the minority of the college had a right to control the majority. They had the audacity to demand of the majority, who were true to their duty and to their constituents, that they should surrender their judgments and consciences to the dictation of the minority. With an effrontery unparalleled in the history of arrogance, they required that the majority should give a pledge, to select as members of the new Senate, eight persons to be nominated by themselves, so as to give to their party the ascendancy in the Senate—upon the penalty, that otherwise, they would not qualify as electors, and would thus prevent the formation of any Senate at all. Thus they claimed that right of election which the constitution *expressly* vested in the majority, and undertook to destroy the existence, or defeat the operations, of that government, which it was the *sole* purpose of their appointment to preserve, and continue in regular action.

These gentlemen belonged to a party whose scrupulous political morals could not bear the least suspicion of bargain and corruption. Without proof, and contrary to evidence, they had clamoured for eight years, against the gentleman from Massachusetts and the Senator from Kentucky, and charged them with a dishonorable compromise to obtain power. How circumstances alter cases, and *principles*, too, sir. What was charged upon suspicion only, as a scandalous bargain between the eminent statesmen to whom I have alluded, as a disgraceful fraud upon the people—a gross violation of constitutional duty, and republican virtue, was openly and boldly attempted by themselves. They even endeavoured to vindicate it, as evincing immaculate purity, patriotic honesty of purpose, strict fidelity to their constituents, the highest and most exact regard to the limits of delegated power.

Sir, the twenty-one knew too well their duty, to listen for a moment to so flagitious a proposal. They were not to be menaced into intimidation—not to be *bargained* into a compromise—not to be seduced by any consideration into a desertion of their duty. They knew that the organic law, under which they held their appointment, had prescribed, in the plainest manner, the single specific purpose which they were to fulfil, and how they were to fulfil it. They refused, therefore, to enter into the political traffic proposed to them, and left it to the others to look beyond the single object of their duty, and pretend to an enlarged guardianship over the general good.

Besides, the Nineteen had not qualified, and were as yet clothed with no official authority. They had failed in the very first step of their duty. They had not even begun to fulfil their constitutional obligations. No proposal, of whatever description, therefore, could be received from them; least of all, such as would have led the majority to betray their constituents, and violate their constitutional oaths.

These were among the men who considered nullification as the great political heresy of the times. They thought it at least moral treason in a sovereign state to pass an ordinance nullifying an act of Congress. Yet it was no crime in them, who were invested only with a little brief authority, to play the fantastic trick which I have described, upon the sovereignty of their own State.

When they became candidates for the electoral college they pledged themselves, expressly, or impliedly, "to serve if elected." This service, thus promised, was the performance of the duty enjoined upon them by the constitution; nothing less, and nothing more. That duty was evaded, their pledges violated, and the constitution nullified for a time, by the next step they took. They affected to resign their seats in the body which they were not qualified members, to the people, whom they insulted and betrayed, by this mockery of a resignation. I call it a mockery, because they could not resign. They had no right to disorganize the government by so flimsy an artifice. They could not cast off the duties they had undertaken, because there was no provision for supplying their places. It has been well said, that they had no more right to resign the offices they had assumed, than the suicide has to avoid his parental duties, by surrendering his obligations into the hands of his creator. That this resignation was a mockery is true in another sense; since some of them, when rebuked by the people, found it quite as convenient to reassume their trusts, as it had been to lay them down. This pretended resignation they attempted to justify in a manifesto abounding with shallow sophistry, and miserable subterfuge. They alleged that they were chosen to bring about a change in the form of government; whereas they were appointed for the single and obvious purpose of continuing the government, as it had existed for sixty years. It was not true that all the counties which elected the recusants, were in favour of any radical change in the constitution. Some of them were notoriously opposed to such change, and had repeatedly voted against it by their delegates in the Legislature. In none of them was the revision of the constitution made a test question. The parties had been marshalled every where on the ground of presidential politics. In some counties, indeed, the Van Buren party brought into their electioneering speeches, as collateral topics, the State's appropriations for internal improvement, and the bill indemnifying the sufferers by the mob at Baltimore—while, in other places, some clamour was raised about the tenure of offices. But in no one county were parties drawn off upon the question of reform. There are many reformers among the whigs—many who conscientiously believe that the constitution makes a wrong distribution of political power among the counties. For our system of government presents the appearance of a confederacy of counties, in which each has equal representation, and equal power. I know that much complaint has been made on this score for a considerable period—that those counties which have advanced most rapidly in wealth and population, desire, and claim as their right, a proportionate increase of power, This is not a matter of surprise. Their wish is as natural, as is the reluctance of the smaller counties to part with any portion of their weight in the government. Yet, notwithstanding this reluctance, they have not been unreasonably opposed to any modification of the constitution.

The very last Legislature passed a bill providing for the formation of a new county, with equal representation, out of the fragments of other and larger counties; and at the same session, by another bill, authorised an increase in the representation of the city of Baltimore: thus making a considerable alteration in the distribution of power in the House of Delegates. As for any thorough, radical change in this respect, the reformers themselves have never been able to agree. They have held two conventions, which, if they have not been dissolved in their own weakness, have certainly not succeeded in reconciling various theories, and concentrating the opinions of their members and constituents upon any one, specific, plan of reform. Let this be done. Let some know, fixed scheme be deliberately presented to the people for their consideration, and if it obtain the general sanction, my life upon it, the smaller counties, who know what is due to public opinion, will yield their peculiar interests to the general good. But they have no idea of being tricked into an abandonment of the constitution, by a set of men not authorised constitutionally, or otherwise, to meddle with such matters, and one of whom, at least, as a member of the Legislature, had always before recorded his vote against it.

My colleague (Mr. Thomas) seems to claim for the minority of the college, as they did for themselves, an amount of power not granted by the constitution, because they represented a portion of the State, containing a much larger population, both white and federal, than the residue of the State represented by the twenty-one. It is scarcely necessary to expose this fallacy; but surely he does not mean to claim the support of the very large minorities in that section, whose votes were cast against the nineteen. I will only say, on this head, that when the constitution is set aside, and numbers are to be counted, the arithmetic should be exact, and all the due substractions be made. At all events, I believe, Sir, that at the November election, a majority of the "white population" of the counties represented by the nineteen, put the seal of condemnation upon the doctrines and pretences of their unfaithful electors.

As to the right of the people to change their frame of government, no one denies it. It needs no parade of authoriteis to satisfy the people of Maryland of those unalienable right which every sciolist understands, and the knowledge of which is as common to them as the very air they breathe. They know, too, that between revolution & consitutional change, there is no middle course. A revolution may be peaceful and bloodless, where there is a general acquiescence in it. Where there is not such common consent, where parties are equally arrayed in opposition, it must needs be forcible and violent; and whichever party succeeds, the triumph must be a melancholy one, which all good men will deplore. The right of change can present but two aspects—the one above and beyond the constitutional charter, which is revolution—the other under, and in strict accordance with the constitution. A different theory contradicts the wisdom of ages, and endangers the only safeguards of regulated liberty. If the irregular action of the popular will can be substituted for constitutional proceedings, we have new constitutions worked up by every fresh ferment, and laws enacted and repealed amidst the tumult of primary assemblies. This would throw society into wretched confusion, and benefit no one, except, perhaps, the demagogue who had boldness and address enough to "ride the whirlwind and direct the storm." It is to regulate and steady the popular will that constitutions are formed, and laws enacted; and if delegated agents may violate them with impunity, upon such pretences as those of the nineteen, there will soon be an end to law, order, peace, and freedom.

That the minority of the electoral college considered their course as destructive of the government is apparent from the address which they put forth to the people. In this, they recommend the immediate appointment of a convention, with power to continue the commissions of all civil and military officers, until a new government could be formed.—Who gave them this authority? What freeman at the polls ever dreamed that he was voting for *dictators*, which would destroy the constitution under which they were appointed, and command the people to construct another? What citizen imagined that his country was about to be plunged into a revolution—that all the checks and forms of freedom were about to be violated—the constitution to be laguhed to scorn—the bulwarks of the law, which protect and defend all alike, to be swept away in a moment, and popular excitement and partizan fury to take place of that calm deliberation, that sober moderation, and conscientious jugdment, without which, no safe or good government can be formed. Sir, the people, of whatever political caste, saw the whole drift of this proceeding. A portion of the Van Buren party reprobated it openly and frankly—others condemned it by a silent vote at the polls; and many, who could not break their party ties, yet joined in the general condemnation. The result has given me increased confidence in the virtue & sagacity of the people. They will not "see the right, and yet the wrong pursue," and though they may be deceived for a time, by artful politicians, they are certain at last to shift the wheat from the chaff.

I regret, Sir, that I have been compelled to say thus much on a subject, not directly of national concern; and to consider Michigan as being almost terra incognita, during this debate. I have not the least objection to her admission into the Union; although the procedings have been irregular; and should not be permitted to grow into a precedent. The population of the Territory is sufficient, certainly. Congress has I think the right and the power to prescribe her boundaries, and has exercised that power definitively. But the bill, on which we are now about to vote, recites the performance of a condition, which, in my opinion, has not been performed; and I am not willing to give my assent to the doctrines by which it has been attempted to justify hese irregularities.

SLEEP.—It is a mistaken idea that much sleep is conducive to health. In infancy two thirds of the time may be spent in this state, and no injury arise from it; and in extreme old age the system requires much rest; but in middle age, when the frame is robust, one-third of the time, that is, eight hours, is generally fully sufficient to keep the body in health and vigor. Many people do not require more than 5 or 6 hours, & some people have for the greater part of their lives, required but three. Students and all men who exert the *mind*, require more than those who only fatigue the body.—It also requires a longer time for the mind to fall asleep when it has been excited than for the body. This may seem strange, but it is certain that some of the senses sleep sooner than others. Many persons are no sooner upon their pillows than they are lost in slumber, while others always require hours to lull the excitement of the mind. Generally speaking, a man of lethargic temperament will sleep sooner than one more sanguinely constituted.—*N. Y. Sun.*

In texas emigrants are now entitled to 640 acres of land if single men, and to 1280 if married.

BY AUTHORITY.

LAWS OF MARYLAND.

Made and passed at December Session, 1836.

CHAPTER 294.

An act relating to the third and fifth Congressional district of this State.

WHEREAS, the erection of Carroll county, has interfered with the lines and boundaries of the said congressional districts:—Therefore,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the lines, boundaries and limits of the third and fifth congressional districts of this State, be and remain the same as they were before the erection of Carroll county.

SEC. 2. And be it enacted, That the voters residing in that part of Carroll county which lies within the said third congressional district, shall vote for a member of Congress for said third congressional district, and that the voters residing in that part of Carroll county which lies within said fifth congressional district, shall vote for a member of Congress for said fifth congressional district, at the same time and places, and before the same Judges of election respectively, at which and before whom, they vote for Delegates to the General Assembly of Maryland.

SEC. 3. And be it enacted, that in all cases where a portion of the said third congressional district and a portion of the said fifth congressional district shall be contained in one election district of Carroll county, the Judges of election of said district, shall keep a separate box in which the ballotts of the voters of the third congressional district shall be deposited, and that the pole be kept open, and that all other formalities and requisitions be complied with as regards said elections that are now required by law in the election of Representatives in the Congress of the United States from this State.

CHAPTER 301.

A supplement to an act entitled, an act for the appointment of Lime Inspectors, for the City of Baltimore.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the first day of March next, all such parts of the act passed at December session eighteen hundred and thirty-two, chapter two hundred and sixty-nine, as require the inspection of Lime brought to the city of Baltimore by land or water, shall also apply to all lime made within the limits of the said city.

CHAPTER 305.

A further supplement to an act, entitled an act to establish Magistrates Courts in the several counties of this State, and prescribe their jurisdiction.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the passage of this act it shall and may be lawful for the several district courts, established by the original act to which this is a supplement, to issue summons for witnesses residing in different counties, to testify on trials to be had before such courts, which summons shall be directed to a constable residing in the district where such courts are held, and returned to the court before which the trial is to be had.

SEC. 2. And be it enacted, that all witnesses summoned as aforesaid shall, in case of non-attendance, be liable to attachment and fine in like manner as if such witness resided in the county where such trial is had.

SEC. 3. And be it enacted, That in all cases hereafter tried before single justices of peace, either party shall be allowed an appeal to the county court or district court of the district in which any such cases may be tried, where they shall be tried de novo and all such appeals shall be taken in such manner, and subject to like provisions with cases of appeals to the county courts of this State, from judgments of justices of the peace.

SEC. 4. And be it enacted, That whenever an appeal shall be demanded from the judgement of the district court, the appeal may be refused if the party demanding the appeal does not first tender the costs to the court, which have accrued on the judgment from which an appeal is demanded.

SEC. 5. And be it enacted, That whenever from any cause any one of the associate justices shall preside at the holding of any district court, he shall be entitled to the per diem now allowed by law to the presiding justice of said court.

SEC. 6. And be it enacted, That in all cases pending before the said district courts, the parties may appear either in proper person, by attorney, or by agent, and the name of any person entered upon the docket of the presiding justice, at the request of either party, or who shall be named by either party in open court, or who shall exibit a request in writing from either party for that purpose, shall entitle such person to appear to defend