THE TIMES.

PORT TOBACCO, MD.

Thursday Morning, January 31, 1861.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

Election on Tuesday, the 5th of February.

MR. EDITOR: It is important, in selecting Delegates from this County to represent us in a State Convention, that the names of such men should be presented to the Voters of the County as to fully represent the various wishes and interests of those who are called upon to cast their votes. It is also important that they should be sound, practical, experienced, and well-judging men; and that they should have the interest of their county, their State and their country at heart. It is thought no better or stronger ticket could be proposed than one containing the names of Messrs. JOHN HAMILTON,
THOMAS A. MILLAR, and
GEORGE P. JENKINS.

It is well known that these gentlemen can be trusted as honest, upright and just; that they are duly impressed with the importance and necessity of the South having its rights, and are true to the Constitution and the Union.

It is earnestly hoped they will allow their names to be used, and consent to oblige and serve their fellow-countymen as delegates to a State Convention. MANY VOTERS.

MR. WELLS: You will please announce F. B. F. BURGESS, GEORGE BRENT and R. S. REEDER, as candidates to represent this county in the State Convention.

MIDDLETOWN.

[Judge BURGESS and R. S. REEDER, Esq., we understand, positively decline being candidates; it will be seen by a card in another column, that GEORGE BRENT, Esq., also declines.—*Ed.*]

☞All Voters in Charles County, who concur in the Resolutions adopted by the County Convention on the 21st, and are in favor of the voice of Maryland being heard through a State Convention, in the present crisis, are invited and earnestly requested to meet in Port Tobacco, at 12 o'clock, M.,

On Monday next, the 4th of February, for the purpose of recommending three suitable persons, to be voted for on the FIFTH OF FEBRUARY, as Delegates to said State Convention.

CITIZENS.

☞If "A Subscriber at Allen's Fresh" had complied with our *invariable* rule and furnished his real name, his communication, though rather personal, might have appeared this week. The statement which appeared in the *Sun*, referring to the vote in this county for a Convention, is noticed in a short editorial this week.

☞Some little stir arose last week in our county, owing to the commission of G. W. Robey, Esq., as Sheriff, having come to hand, while the bond of Mr. Wheeler was on file in the Clerk's Office. Mr. Wheeler's friends felt some anxiety in the matter, lest it should injure that gentleman. Of this, however, there is no fear. Mr. Wheeler's bond was signed and filed with the Judges of the Orphan's Court *on* the first day of January, the first meeting of the Court for two weeks, and immediately approved by them and ordered to be recorded. The law, [illegible] to be done *before* the first day of January. Thus occurs the difficulty. A numerously signed petition has been forwarded to the Governor, setting forth the facts of the case and praying the continuance of Mr. Wheeler under the circumstances. We understand this is in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Robey also.

☞In the *Sun*, of Tuesday last, a correspondent, signing himself "A Member of the Convention," seems inclined to give the *Times* a punch, for publishing a statement of the County Convention, which was calculated "to do great injustice to the unanimity which prevailed among our people." We are not aware of one single word in our editorial referred to, calculated to do such injustice. The *Sun*, it is true, did not copy the editorial fully, which, had it done, would have perhaps been clearer to "A Member of the Convention." Our report speaks for itself and is *fact*. As to the great "unanimity" alluded to, we confess we do not understand it. Perhaps that accounts for the very small vote cast. The Convention, *after the big split*, was a unit, and if we have rightly construed the resolutions passed, there was no reasonable ground for any dissension, unless it had been on the part of ultraists. We endorsed the resolutions, and so we said in our editorial referred to.

☞The press, except, of course, the Abolition press, is rejoicing in Rhode Island's restoration of herself to "the Constitution and the laws," in taking off her statute books the unconstitutional personal liberty bill, excitement and passion had put on. Let other Northern States follow her example; instruct their Congressmen to forego coercion; give a hearty support to the measures likely to do justice to the constitutional rights of the South, and they will soon find out that "peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."

The above, taken from the Baltimore *Sun*, is the cream of our own position in a nut-shell. If other Northern States would follow the example of Rhode Island, what can prevent an adjustment of our difficulties and a perpetuation of the Union for which we so earnestly pray? Nothing, unless all the Southern States take the stand of South Carolina and refuse all concessions.

☞James Barbour, Esq., a member of the Virginia Legislature, has received the following from Washington:

SENATE, January 25, 1861.

My Dear Sir:—Mr. Crittenden is not present, but I can say with confidence that there is hope of adjustment, and the prospect has never been better than now, since we first assembled.

Very truly, your friend,
S. A. DOUGLAS.

We concur in the opinion that there is hope of an adjustment.
J. J. CRITTENDEN,
A. R. BOTELER,
JOHN T. HARRIS.

Hon. J. S. Millson, M. C., from Virginia, also writes to Mr. B.:

"For myself I say that I have never had so confident an expectation, *as I have at this time*, of such a termination of the present controversy as would be satisfactory to me, and I believe to a large majority of the people of Virginia."

The Richmond *Whig* states that ex-President Tyler writes from Washington to the effect that there is a fine prospect of a settlement of the pending difficulty—or, in other words, that he himself entertains good hopes of a settlement.

☞The most important, and also most satisfactory intelligence we have this week, is the apparently entirely reliable statement that letters have been received in Washington from Mr. Lincoln, the President elect, urging his friends to conciliation and compromise and indicating the Border State agreement as a reasonable basis of adjustment. It is also said that after the formal counting of the electoral vote on the second Wednesday in next month, Mr. Lincoln will consider himself in a position to make the public formally acquainted with his views in relation to the National crisis. The response that has already been made to Virginia's call for a National Convention is also regarded as an encouraging sign.

☞The South Carolina Legislature on Monday unanimously rejected the mediation of Virginia, as proffered through her Commissioner, Judge Robertson, declaring that the State does not desire any new Constitutional guarantees, that the separation from the Federal Union is final, and that the only negotiations she can hold with the Federal Government are as to their mutual relations as foreign States! The Legislature further declared its want of confidence in the Federal Government, &c. She therefore, with high considerations of respect for Virginia, declines entering into the negotiation proposed.

☞Governor Hicks has appointed the Hons. Reverdy Johnson, Augustus W. Bradford, William T. Goldsborough, John W. Crisfield and J. Dixon Roman, Commissioners on the part of Maryland to meet the Commissioners appointed by the Legislature of Virginia, in Washington, on the 4th day of February, "to consider and co-operate in the adoption and recommendation of efficient measures to adjust the present unhappy controversies in the spirit in which the Constitution was originally formed."

☞The members of the Chicago and Milwaukee Boards of Trade, on a visit to Washington, on Monday paid their respects to the President, Senators Douglas and Seward, and Gen. Scott. In the course of his conversation with them, Senator Seward said "that the question of slavery is not now to be taken into consideration. We are to save the Union, and then we will save all the rest that is worth saving."

☞The Louisiana State Convention passed the Ordinance of Secession on Saturday. The intelligence was received at New Orleans with the display of "Pelican" flags and the firing of cannon.

☞The desire for holding a State Convention, to take in consideration the national crisis and define the position of Maryland, is becoming somewhat general, and we little doubt but that a response will be had from the whole State before long. The election for delegates in our own county takes place on next Tuesday, while St. Mary's and other counties have appointed their day of election. The Convention then is a fact, we presume, and it becomes us as citizens interested, to look well to the matter, and select such men to represent us in that Convention, as will best represent our true interests and reflect our real sentiments. This is no frolic, no [illegible] day, no merry-making and season for jollification, as some would seem to suppose; but the fate of a nation, the weal or woe of thirty millions of people, the liberty and happiness of Maryland, the prosperity of one of the mightiest and certainly the most prosperous nation under the sun, hang upon a thread which is to be strengthened or snapped in twain, by the act of Maryland at this particular juncture. Never in all her history, say men who ought to know, did Maryland occupy so responsible a position as now. We are told that if the Union is to be reconstructed, saved, perpetuated, Maryland must do it. If civil war is to be averted, if peace and plenty is to bless our land again, it must depend upon the action of Maryland in this crisis. How responsible then is her position, how bright her glory when the heaven-born work is done.

But one of the important questions, which, in the train of common reason, presents itself, is, what shall Maryland do? That's the question. Shall she secede at once and thus sever the last tie which binds us together as one people? Shall she disown the law and the government which she has heretofore held so sacred, and identify herself with that which recognizes it not? Or, shall she firmly plant herself upon her rights, and, if necessary, her sons to die in their defence? Demand of the North and of the South an observance of that law, than which there is none higher, and which is meet alike for all sections? And when neither will listen to her remonstrance or demand, say to each go thy way, I am determined to deal justly with all though I perish. In fine what must or will Maryland do? What will the Convention do? This Convention when assembled will not be sovereign, in fact cannot be, except by usurpation, therefore an act of the Convention is of no import until referred back to the people and endorsed by their *sovereign vote*. Should the question of Maryland's position come up, this Convention will have precisely the same authority to declare it as we have. Their power and our power in this matter are equal, save in numbers. The question then comes back to the people, and at the ballot-box they make a *sovereign* decission from which there is no appeal. A decission based upon popular sentiment, which, not all the machinery of tricking politicians, when brought to bear, can move from its firm base. Politicians may deceive and mislead the people for a time, but when once they arouse in their might, the people are truly *sovereign*. The voice of the people is mighty, and though it may be curbed and subdued for a time, will eventually speak for itself from Maine to Florida, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and not alone in Maryland. If then, the voice of the people is so mighty, if it is really sovereign, as set forth, under all circumstances, how much more potent that voice when proclaimed in accordance with existing and established government and rule? This indeed we opine is one of the reasons why professional politicians and designers are so fearful of trusting to the voice of the whole people of the nation in the adjustment of our national difficulties and the perpetuation of the Union. Could the people of this country, both North and South, both East and West, be allowed their say in this awful crisis, not one more break would be found in our beautiful fabric, but all the old wounds would speedily be healed. When we speak of the people we do not refer to a handful of rabid Abolitionists, nor yet to a squad of fire-eating disunionists, we refer to the whole people of the whole country, the conservative and Union loving people who have as much, perhaps more, at stake than the extremeists of either side. Why should they not be heard? Is it impracticable, or only impolitic? If not by direct vote—if the powers that be will not permit direct expression of sentiment on the part of the people, can they not, will they not so soon as another election rolls [illegible] upon the willing mind of the politician, who is plotting the ruin of their common country, the conviction that the people are determined to preserve and perpetuate this Union in its original purity? Will they not call down from their high position these enemies to the country's good? We firmly believe it; we almost know it. What are the people's expectations of gain by disunion? In what are they to be benefitted? Is it breaking up the proudest nation of earth and rendering brother enemy to brother? What can Maryland expect to gain by a disruption of the government and the establishment of two or confederacies? Nothing! Nothing! What may she what will she loose by such disruption? Alas, what?

Much indeed depends upon the action of the Convention soon to assemble, and upon the question to be submitted to the people. We sincerely hope there will be no hasty measure proposed which might tend to a disturbance of our State peace. The men who compose that Convention will have a responsible duty to meet, and it becomes us to select such as are in our judgment most likely to meet it with coolness and deliberation. Men of firmness, yet not hasty. Men of judgment, without prejudice; men, in fine, who reflect our own sentiments, so that should a question be submitted to the people for their decission, it may not be one which would render one portion of our State antagonistic to another; but peace, harmony and good will result to all the people, from the action of the Convention.

The duty of Maryland is then to our mind clear. To strain every nerve, make every effort to preserve the Union—call back the South States which have left the old family altar—claim, if possible, the North from the mist of fanaticism in which she has fallen, and bind together the broken fragments in a firmer union than ever. This is the clear duty of Maryland in this her only real course towards happiness and peace.

PUBLIC MEETING—POLICE REGULATIONS.

In pursuance of the suggestion, at the P. S. County Convention, a public meeting was held in the court-house, in Port Tobacco, on Monday, the 28th, 1861, for establishing general Police Regulations for the county.

On motion of GEORGE BRENT, Esq., the meeting was organized by selecting Capt. JAS. NEALE, Chairman, and J. G. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

Gen. MITCHELL offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the citizens of Charles county, in view of the situation of the affairs of the country and the circumstances of the times, deem it an active and efficient Police system necessary for the preservation of order, and the execution of laws enacted for that purpose.

Resolved, That we recommend the establishment of a Police in each school district in the county, to consist of not less than five citizens, who shall elect a Captain of Police, and institute a system of patrols, which shall be conducted regularly and in order, and at such times and in such places, as the preservation of the peace, and the protection of person and property require.

Resolved, That said Police shall have power to summon to their aid any assistance, any citizen or citizens within their patrol districts, whenever a majority of the members shall deem it necessary.

Resolved, That the members of any two or more police districts, may unite and act together wherever in their judgments circumstances may require.

Resolved, That the citizens of the county be earnestly requested to afford every facility in their power to every police force throughout the county, for the thorough and efficient discharge of their duties, and that the citizens of the county be requested to furnish a list of names of all servants they have on and around their premises to the members of the police of their respective districts.

Resolved. That the citizens in each school district, be requested to meet at their respective district school houses, on SATURDAY, the 9th of February, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to elect their Police, and to make such by-laws and regulations, as in their judgment may be necessary and the exigency of the times may require.

Resolved, That every citizen of the county be requested, as much as possible, to keep their slaves on their own farms, both night and day.

Resolved, That the citizens of each village and the keepers of each and every store throughout the county, be requested not to permit slaves or free negroes to remain within the limits of villages or in or about their stores after sundown; and that the constables and other public officers be requested promptly to disperse any collections of such wherever found.

Resolved, That we request and recommend that voluntary contributions be made in each school district, for carrying out effectually the purposes of these resolutions.

Resolved, That the County Commissioners are respectfully requested to levy a sum sufficient to pay the Police organized in accordance with the above resolutions, if in their judgment they consider they have the power under the law to do so.

In submitting the above resolutions, General MITCHELL urged in a clear and forcible manner the importance of a general system of police throughout the county, and GEORGE BRENT, Esq., in seconding the resolutions, heartily endorsed the system and thought a more efficient one could not be suggested, as by having them in each school district there would be some 36 or 37 in the county; that the duties of the police would not be onerous and could be well attended to, as the area for each would be small, and that it would afford a nucleus around which a rally could be made at short notice in time of danger.

Major STONE and Gen. MITCHELL were informally requested to draft Rules and Regulations, defining the duties and powers of the Police, in order that there might be uniformity of action throughout the county.

On motion, it was determined that the Port Tobacco Times be requested to publish these proceedidgs.

JAS. H. NEALE, Chairman.
J. G. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

THE PURCHASE OF ARMS FOR THE STATE.

The following statement from the Adjutant General of the State has been elicited by certain misrepresentations in reference to the quality and character of the arms purchased for the State under the appropriation made at the last session of the Legislature:

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 22, 1861.

I have understood that certain persons, for motives best known to themselves, have made complaints in regard to the quality of the arms purchased in pursuance of the act passed by the last General Assembly appropriating $70,000 for that purpose. I have also understood that the same persons charge that there was collusion between the contractors and H. C. Hicks, Esq., the agent of the State, appointed to inspect, receive and deliver the arms and accoutrements. In consequence whereof I deem it my duty to make the following statement:

After the passage of the act referred to, I had a consultation with the Governor, and we determined to purchase the arms, &c., of the General Government; because we concluded that by so doing we could obtain better arms and at more reasonable prices than if we should purchase from individuals or companies. Accordingly I addressed a letter on the subject to Colonel H. K. Craig, of the Ordnance Department. He replied, under date of April 14th, 1860, that he had no authority to sell us arms; that a bill was then pending in Congress to give such authority; that when such a law should be passed he would afford us every facility. That bill, much to our regret, did not pass, and we were compelled to look elsewhere.

Accordingly, we invited proposals for furnishing the arms and accoutrements from the most prominent manufacturers in the United States. The proposals were received, with samples of the articles to be furnished. Not trusting to our own knowledge, we invited the assistance of Lieut. Wm. T. Magruder, a distinguished officer of the United States Army, and other prominent and competent military men. The samples were opened in the Executive Department, and fully and thoroughly examined. We thereupon awarded the contract for furnishing the muskets and revolvers to Eli Whitney, of New Haven, Connecticut, and the contract for sabres to the Ames Manufacturing Company, Chicopee, Massachusetts. The contract was given to these parties because they offered as good and efficient arms as were offered by any other parties, and on terms which we considered more advantageous to the State.

In these contracts it was expressly stipulated that all defective or unserviceable arms should be replaced by good ones at the expense of the contractors, so soon as they should be notified thereof. So that if any Companies have received such arms, it is only necessary to return them to me, and good ones will be sent instead, unless they have been injured by the carelessness or ignorance of the persons who have used them, which I believe is the case in many instances where complaints have been made. And I may add that the complaints made to me have so far been of the most trivial character, and such as are incident to the purchase of a large quantity of any species of merchandise.

In reference to the charge of collusion between H. C. Hicks, Esq., and the contractors, I have to say that such a thing was impossible, for the reason that Mr. Hicks had nothing to do with making the contracts, further than procuring samples of arms, &c. The contracts were made by the Governor and myself; we are alone responsible therefor; and we hold ourselves in readiness to exhibit the proper vouchers for every dollar of expenditure. For his arduous services, Mr. Hicks is to receive but $500—a sum, in my opinion, totally inadequate to compensate him for his labors.

In conclusion, I have to say that if any gentlemen desire to know anything further in reference to the matter, by calling on me they can be fully satisfied that everything has been done by the Governor and myself, to the very best of our ability, to subserve the interests of the State.

N. BREWER of John.
Adjutant General.

[COMMUNICATED.]

MR. EDITOR:—As I find you have inserted in your paper, by request, the opinions of distinguished men, as wholesome, I request you to insert the views of Mr. Jefferson, which I send you. This gifted and distinguished, though in some respects, somewhat erratic man, was once the oracle divinity of the Democratic party, and even now they will quote his opinion when it suits their purposes, and act directly against it when it is adverse to them. There was a time when party spirit ran enormously high, warred against with fierceness at the South; and when in the heat of that fierce rabies, for which the Democracy has at all times been noted, Virginia, as the leader, threatened all sorts of terrible things against the Union. Men will get mad when they cannot have things their own way; men will, through the enactments of treason, seek a historical renown, when they cannot obtain it by the due and legitimate exercise of virtue and talents; and so, there are thousands who will acquire fortune by the highway of theft, or robbery, or fraud, rather than by labour, care and honesty. For posthumous fame a man once burned down a magnificent and renowned temple, and he was immortalized. Guy Faux has won for himself an eternal place in history by an attempt to blow up a Parliament. The companion and friend of Charles the 5th of Spain, once meditated the throwing of his master from the top of the dome of St. Peter's church at Rome, and he was in this mode in search of immortality; and thousands have become notorious robbers and expiated their crimes on the gallows, that they might be gazed at and applauded by the multitude as heroes. No free government has perhaps lived, without treasonable attempts to overturn it, and no free government has lived which has not at times been shaken by violence of passion, fierce delusion, or been corrupted by unprincipled wickedness. One of those seasons of passion and delusion, was once discoursed upon by Mr. Jefferson, as follows:

"In every free and deliberating society there must, from the nature of man, be opposite parties and violent dissensions and discords; and one of these, for the most part, must prevail over the other for a longer or shorter time.—Perhaps this party division is necessary to induce each to watch and delate to the people the proceedings of the other. But if on a temporary superiority of the one party the other is to resort to a scission of the Union, no Federal Government can ever exist. If to rid ourselves of the present rule of Massachusetts and Connecticut we break the Union, will the evil stop there? Suppose the New England States alone cut off, will our nature be changed? Are we not men still to the south of that, and with all the passions of men? Immediately we shall see a Pennsylvania and a Virginia party arise in the residuary Confederacy, and the public mind will be distracted with the same party spirit. What a game, too, will the one party have in their hands by eternally threatening the other that unless they do so and so they will join their Nothern neighbors! If we reduce our Union to Virginia and North Carolina, immediately the conflict will be established between the representatives of these two States, and they will end by breaking into their simple units. Seeing, therefore, that an association of men who will not quarrel with one another is a thing which never yet existed, from the greatest Confederacy of nations down to a town meeting or a vestry; seeing that we must have somebody to quarrel with, *I had rather keep our New England associates for that purpose than to see our bickerings transferred to others.*"

I believe Mr. Jefferson is regarded by some in this day of conservatism and wisdom, as a fool; while for disorganizing purposes, he is quoted as authority by others and particularly for *secession*. He shows here that the passions of the extremists of our country should expend themselves upon one another, for they will act upon some object, and it would be well if the sections would expend their fury in words rather than in acts; and if a permanent disunion takes place and the border slave States should go with the South they will be in the contemptible position of a mere battery to defend their abusive majesties King Cotton and Queen Sugar; and unless their majesties were fully protected, so as to leave them in undisturbed tranquility, depend upon it the borber slave States would be immersed in the foam of their divine, and filthy wrath.—Already have we had some premonitory symptoms of what will be in the language of contempt and reproach heaped upon us. But as you have already had some wholesome extracts furnished you, from the death-bed repentance of Gen. Andrew Jackson, I beg you will accept some others equally wholesome perhaps from his Proclamation. Every man who has had the capacity to understand our government, has expressed, either orally or in writing, a hope of its peaceful perpetuity, and that it should be perpetuated without force, violence or bloodshed; but when the practical hour did come that the law was resisted, all the fathers who ruled over us legitimately and in obedience to the due forms of the Constitution, resorted to force to maintain the Constitution and preserve the integrity of the law. As I have said, you have already had an extract from the death-bed repentance of the old General; but when, what was called the law, was resisted, how then spoke he?—

"He shook his ambrosial curls and gave the nod
As the stamp of fate and the sanction of a God,"
and thundered as follows:

"This right to secede is deduced from the nature of the Constitution which they say is a compact between sovereign States who have preserved their whole sovereignty, and therefore are subject to no superior; that because they made the compact, they can break it, when in their opinion it has been departed from by the other States. Fallacious as this course of reasoning is, it enlists State pride, and finds advocates in the honest prejudices of those who have not studied the nature of our government sufficiently to see the radical error on which it rests.

"The people of the United States formed the Constitution, acting through the State Legislatures in making the compact to meet and discuss its provisions, and acting in separate conventions when they ratified those provisions; but the terms used in its construction, show it to be a government in which the people of all States collectively are represented. We are ONE PEOPLE in the choice of the President and Vice-President. Here the States have no other agency than to direct the mode in which the votes shall be given. The candidates having the majority of all the votes are chosen. The electors of a majority of the States may have given their votes for one candidate, and yet another may be chosen. The people, then, and not the States, are represented in the Executive branch.

"In the House of Representatives there is this difference, that the people of one State do not, as in the case of President and Vice-President, all vote for the same officers. The people of all the States do not vote for all the members, each State electing only its own representatives. But this creates no material distinction. When chosen, they are all representatives of the United States, not representatives of the particular State from which they come. They are paid by the United States, not by the State, nor are they accountable to it for any act done in the performance of their legislative functions; and however they may, in practice, as it is their duty to do, consult and prefer the interests of their particular constituents, when they come in conflict with any other partial or local interest, yet it is their first and highest duty, as representatives of the United States, to promote the general good.

"The Constitution of the United States, then, forms a government, not a league, and whether it be formed by compact between the States, or in any other manner, its character is the same. It is a government in which all the people are represented, which operates directly on the people individually, not upon the States—they retained all the power they did not grant. But each State having expressly parted with so many powers, as to constitute, jointly with the other States, a single nation, cannot, from that period, possess any right to secede, because such union is not a league, but destroys unity is not only a breach any injury to that from the contravention of a compact, but it is an offence against the whole Union. To say that any State may at pleasure secede from the Union, is to say that the United States are not a nation, because it would be a solecism to contend that any part of a nation might dissolve its connexion with the other parts, to their injury or ruin, without committing any offence. Secession, like any other revolutionary act, may be morally justified by the extremity of oppression; but to call it a constitutional right, is confounding the meaning of terms, and can only be done through gross error, or to deceive those who are willing to assert a right, but would pause before they made a revolution, or incur the penalties consequent on a failure.

"Because the Union was formed by compact, it is said the parties to that compact may, when they feel themselves aggrieved, depart from it; but it is precisely because it is a compact, that they cannot. A compact is an agreement or binding obligation. It may, by its terms, have a sanction or penalty for its breach, or it may not. If it contains no sanction, it may be broken with no other consequence than moral guilt; if it have a sanction, then the breach incurs the designated or implied penalty. A league between independent nations, generally, has no sanction other than a moral one; or if it should contain a penalty, as there is no common superior, it cannot be enforced. A government, on the contrary, always has a sanction, express or implied, and, in our case, it is both necessarily implied and expressly given."

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"The States severally have not retained their entire sovereignty. It has been shown that, in becoming parts of a nation, not members of a league, they surrendered many of their essential parts of sovereignty. The right to make treaties, declare war, levy taxes, exercise exclusive judicial and legislative powers, were all of them functions of sovereign power. The States, then, for all these important purposes, were no longer sovereign. The allegiance of their citizens was transferred, in the first instance to the government of the United States; they became American citizens, and owed obedience to the Constitution of the United States, and to laws made in conformity with the powers it vested in Congress. This last position has not been, and cannot be denied."

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"The laws of the United States must be executed. I have no discretionary power on the subject—my duty is emphatically pronounced in the Constitution. Those who told you that you might peaceably prevent their execution, deceived you—they could not have been deceived themselves. They know that a forcible opposition could alone prevent the execution of the laws, and they know that such opposition must be repelled. Their object is disunion; but be not deceived by names: disunion, by armed force, is *treason*."

But it would seem that our discreet, judicious and patriotic Governor has come in for his full share of abuse; not of reasoning against his course and policy, but of abuse and in some instances of commisseration and pity. The brainless and half-witted boy would hang him, but the aged and more venerable have it, he is poor Hicks—poor Hicks. Perhaps the idea is intended to be conveyed that he has a poor or mean intellect. I believe it is generally conceded that heretofore, in his official capacity, he has been noted for his judgment, prudence and fine sense; and why is it he has experienced so sudden a transition in views and conduct? Is the error really in him, or is such language the offspring of the peculiar medium through which he is viewed. "Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of this people," is the precept of inspiration; and we need not wonder that brainless or inexperienced boys should "speak evil" or abuse, for they know no better, and in reference to them we may quote another immortal precept—"forgive them, for they know not what they do;" but we might be somewhat surprised when aged and venerable men utter the language of abuse or contempt. He is, I should think, neither a knave or a fool, nor is his character or career deserving either pity or contempt. He started a poor boy, and the first office to which he attained was that of constable, and by labor, industry, integrity and native talent, he has attained to the highest office in the gift of the sovereign people of his native State. He was born with a pewter spoon in his mouth, and such has been the success of his honest and honorable labor that we now find a golden substituted for the pewter spoon. He has never dishonored any office he has filled, but has adorned them all; and it is more than probable that all his detractors have not retained the golden spoon in honor and dignity, nor have all perhaps rendered very renowned the places they may have filled. We first pitty and then hate, and the position of some of these detractors might well be illustrated by this passage from the gifted and sublime poet. One of them would cast his grieved look—

"Sometimes towards Heaven, and the full-blazing Sun,
Which now sat high in his meridian tower:
Then, much revolving, thus in sighs began.
'O thou, that, with surpassing glory crown'd,
Look'st from thy sole dominion like the God
Of this new world; at whose sight all the stars
Hide their diminish'd heads; to thee I call,
But with no friendly voice, and add thy name,
O Sun, to tell thee how I hate thy beams,
That bring to my remembrance from what state
I fell, how glorious once above thy sphere.'"

It so happened that a dutiful and conservative angel of light beheld this miserable creature, while he was thus engaged in the act of apostraphising the sun; and he is represented as having used the most violent gestures—scowling hideously,—his knees smiting together—his breast heaving and sinking like the earth when smitten by an earthquake. Such were the passions which agitated the breast and tormented the conscience of this creature, thus fallen from his lofty estate by his own acts of folly and iniquity; and such are the passions which torture the disappointed, who by their own avarice, folly or vicious errors have failed in their brightest hopes and dashed to the dust the most splendid future. Reasoning is wholesome, forbearance with judgment is charitable and healing; but pity with hate, envy and violence of prejudice or passion are hellish and are so often the lot of man that we are forced to be mindful of him. Z.

Piscataway P. O. Jan 26, 1861.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

AT a meeting of the Medical and Chirurgical Society of Charles County, held at the Court House, in Port Tobacco, on Tuesday the 22d January, 1861, among other business transactions, the following resolutions were passed:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Divine Providence to remove from this world our late Vice President, Dr. FRANCIS MATTHEWS; and whereas, by his death this association has been deprived of the services and counsels of one of its most eminent, useful and influential members, and the community of one of its most worthy and exemplary citizens. Be it

Resolved, That this association has heard with profound sensibility and deeply laments the death of Dr. FRANCIS MATTHEWS, and tenders to his family a sincere sympathy in this afflicting bereavement.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate a copy of the foregoing resolution to the family of the deceased.

The Society then adjourned to meet on the first Tuesday of MAY Court next.

FRANCIS R. WILLS, M. D., President.
BEN. FRANKLIN, M. D., Secretary.

OBITUARY.

Died, at his residence in this county, on 14th instant, after a lingering illness, Dr. FRANCIS MATTHEWS, aged 54 years.

"Whatsoever I can desire, or imagine for my comfort, I look not for it in this life, but hereafter."—*Following of Christ.*—Chapter XVI.

In the death of the subject of this sketch, our midst one of our most esteemed and cherished fellow-citizens. [illegible] ness, from the testimony of those who witnessed his last moments, did he meet his fate; striving, to the last moments of his existence, to render himself worthy of appearing before his Creator. As there is a blissful habitation for the shades of the virtuous—as the Christian soul does not perish with the body—may he repose in peace! and call an afflicted family and his friends, from vain regret and lamentation, to the contemplation of his virtues, which allow no place for mourning and affliction. Let us rather strive to adorn his memory by imitating, as far as our natures will permit, the bright example he has left us. Beloved wife, cease to weep; but venerate your husband's memory!—Beloved children, cease to weep; but venerate your father's memory! This is truly to honor the dear departed; this is Christian picty; this is the piety for every near relative. W.

A CARD.

MR. EDITOR: I was pained and mortifyed, a few days ago, to learn that the authorship of a communication which appeared in the "Times" over the signature of "S" had been attributed, in certain quarters, to my very humble self. At ordinary times this would give me but little concern; now, however, when the wise and patriotic, irrespective of former party divisions, are taking solemn counsel together, to secure, if possible, the safety, and to redeem the already-tarnished honor of the State, every man's opinions and sentiments should be known.

I am loyal to the Constitution as framed and adopted by our fathers, and have ever loved that Union of which it is the bond. I would have the State demand of the North all her rights under the Federal compact, nor be satisfied with less than all; failing to obtain these rights, I undoubtedly wish the State to secede from all union with the North,—securing them, to devote every energy to the reconstruction of our already dismembered Confederacy. In this connexion I will add, the "Crittenden propositions" demand the minimum Maryland should be satisfyed with. I have no more doubt of the right of a State to secede, than I have of the right of the people of a State to call a Sovereign Convention, a right necessary to the very idea of a popular government. Respectfully,

T. D. STONE.

Gleenboro, Jan. 23d, 1861.

A CARD.

MR. EDITOR: I have just learned that my name, with others, will be presented in your paper as a candidate for the Convention.

Always ready, if possible, to answer any call that may be made upon me, I regret exceedingly that circumstances imperatively prevent my acceptance of this nomination. If elected, it would be impossible for me to leave home at this time and attend the sittings of the Convention.

Thankful to those friends who have regarded me as worthy of a seat in a Convention, upon whose proceedings so much for weal or woe may depend,

I am your obedient servant,
GEORGE BRENT.

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1861.

FOR HIRE.

I HAVE THREE NEGRO WOMEN FOR HIRE. R. S REEDER.
jan 31—3t

LOST! LOST!

STRAYED OFF, or was stolen, on the 12th of January, a POINTER SLUT, about six months old, well grown, white, with very light yellow mottled legs, and some larger yellow spots on her head and body. Any one returning her, or giving information, so that I get her again, will be liberally rewarded. She answers to the name of "Jennie." J. ALEX BRAWNER.
Port Tobacco, Jan. 31, 1861—tf

NOTICE TO OUT-PENSIONERS.

BY a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Poor, the names of all to whom Pensions have been granted for the current year, (1861,) unless the respective Drafts in their favor be called for on or before the 1st day of July next, will be stricken from the list of Out-Pensioners for the said year 1861; and the Overseer of the Poor is authorized, upon application, to deliver said Drafts at any time before the said 1st day of July.

By order of the Board of Trustees,
THOS. M. WELCH, Overseer.
Jan. 31, 1861—tf