

ants, or any of them, have or has been or will be damaged by any of the acts or undertakings of these respondents in the premises, or by "the carrying out of the undertakings" in said bill alleged to these respondents with respect to the election aforementioned. If the said complainants are qualified voters and will vote against the call of said convention, they will not be under the necessity of procuring any person to act as delegate to said convention, or be compelled to vote for any such delegate, and their fears of exposure to the risk of criminal prosecution for "seditious conduct" will thereby be greatly relieved, if not entirely dissipated. If they should, unfortunately, be in the minority, and the majority of the voters of the State should vote for the holding of said convention, and also for delegates thereto differing from said complainants in political opinion, it will, perhaps, have been a grievous error on the part of said majority not to have been governed by the wiser views of the complainants; but it will, nevertheless, be one of those errors necessarily incidental to popular governments, and which, however unfortunate, have not heretofore been considered as within the preventive jurisdiction of courts of chancery.

And as to the charge of confederacy, combination and conspiracy in the said bill made against these respondents, they deny that there is any foundation for the same except in so far as these respondents, constituting the Board of Police, as alleged, have officially and collectively acted in the discharge of their duty. That they have "confederated" therein with any other person or persons is wholly false. These respondents have sworn and undertaken to discharge their official obligations themselves, and propose to do so. The allegation that they have wasted or expended, or intended to waste or expend, moneys of the State of Maryland, in furtherance of the election aforesaid, is also false and gratuitous. These respondents have no moneys of the State in their hands, and are not officially entitled or able to expend any. Their requisitions are by law required to be made on the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, and the slightest examination would have disclosed this fact to the complainants, if they had desired to confine their allegations to the truth.

These respondents, further answering, say that even if