

They see prosper, it is known that the large States will not agree to deprive themselves of the power to exercise the decisive weight and influence of an un-divided vote, in the primary elections, without the abandonment by the small States, of the federative principle which gives them equal weight with the large ones in contingent choice, and making the elections upon popular principles, or, at least retaining the same relative power and influence in all subsequent trials. It is, therefore, manifest, that little hope exists of the alterations desirable being obtained, without too great a sacrifice, without agreeing to other so destructive of our existing rights and power, as to forfeit our votes to them.

The Constitution of the United States, is the Work of some of the wisest heads and purest hearts that ever was devoted to the service of any people. We should be cautious in making change in an instrument, the result of the deliberations of such men; and which contains more knowledge and judgment in posing and balancing its various powers, so as to reconcile conflicting feelings, prejudices and interests, than is to be found in any other monument of human genius, the annals of the world can furnish.

The foregoing views of this interesting topic, although not very materially differing from and not in entire accord with, those expressed in the Resolutions. It is with the greatest respect and deference for the last general Assembly, that we entertain, and feel it our duty frankly to express them.

The establishment of a Naval Academy, has not yet been provided for. When such provision shall be made, we have no doubt but that the claims and advantages of the City of Annapolis, as a site for its location, will be duly considered and impartially decided upon.

By an act of Congress approved the 18th day of May last, entitled "An act authorizing the building of Light Houses," the wishes of the general Assembly expressed in the resolution no 31, have been, in the main, complied with.

We caused to be prepared and transmitted to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, such documents as we deemed, (or as was suggested by them to be) necessary to support the claim against the United States mentioned in the Resolution no 38, and we have the satisfaction to inform you that an act of Congress was passed, authorizing the accounting officer of the Treasury Department, to liquidate and settle the claim: by virtue of which the sum of \$69,569. 22, has been allowed and paid to the Treasurers of the Western Shore.

In the adjustment of the claim a wide difference of construction was put upon the act of Congress, by the Treasurers of the Western Shore, who, by our direction, furnished a statement in behalf of the State, and by the Third Auditor of the Treasury Department of the United States, on whom the liquidation of the claim was devolved. The Auditor made his objections by way of remarks upon the several items of the Treasurers statement, to which we replied to by an elaborate and able argument, by the Treasurers in support of his statement, and the principles upon which it was founded, as well with reference to the act of Congress, as to their intrinsic propriety and justice.