

P E T I T I O N .

To the General Assembly of Maryland:

The undersigned, citizens of Queene Anne's county, make this petition to the General Assembly of Maryland, in consequence of reported applications, by others professing to be citizens, who assume to advise the Legislature to adjourn "*sine die.*" The undersigned ask a counter hearing, and pray, and, so far as is consistent with perfect respect, insist, that the high trust committed to your honorable bodies, by the good people of the State, be maintained in your own keeping, until your successors shall have been chosen.

The plain and obvious object of those who originate petitions for your final adjournment, is to put the State back into their own keeping, where it had remained, until a few weeks ago, to the shame and dishonor of every true citizen. Conspiring with those, who, a long time have subverted the Constitution of the United States, in their section, and who had unblushingly repealed the guaranties made by their forefathers and accepted by our own, these persons, at an early stage of the existing crisis, had obtained control of the Executive will. How they abused their power over the Governor, is disclosed in the debased and oppressed condition of Maryland; at this time.

The General Assembly of Maryland is convened at Frederick. Yet the constitution of the State provides, that the seat of government be at Annapolis, and the "Bill of Rights" that the Legislature should convene there.

The General Assembly of Maryland is in session by Executive proclamation. Yet the constitution provides that they shall be convoked by the Governor to Annapolis, unless "the presence of an enemy;" or some "other cause" should render that place "unsafe for the meeting of the Legislature." An armed force—strangers to the State—occupied the seat of government, when the Executive proclamation called them