

**Extract to the Editor of the Saturday  
Evening Post, dated**

*Washington City, 6th March, 1832.*

Dear Sir,—In the House of Representatives yesterday, as you will perceive by the papers which left Washington this morning, a memorial from citizens of New York City was offered by Mr. Adams of Mass. praying the interference of Congress in the case of the missionaries imprisoned in Georgia. A most animated debate ensued, and before the matter is finally adjusted, we may expect serious and important results. The decision of the Supreme Court is considered, and doubtless is, a most important one, involving principles of vital interest to this country. In the minds of many, great discontent prevails, and loud and deep-rooted murmurings at the decision of the court may be heard. The dismemberment of the Union is confidently predicted by some, who are doubtless men of profound knowledge in national affairs; and by others it is thought the matter may quietly sink to rest. \* \* \*

The decision involves all the principles of state sovereignty; and upon it must depend, in a great measure, the future success or the present defeat of the state rights doctrine, and the principles advocated by the state rights party. No one, I presume, who has given those principles their proper consideration, will deny that the preservation of the Union, and the perpetuation of republican institutions, rests upon the success of these principles. They cannot be too rapidly or too widely disseminated. Separate them from all party considerations, and you will see that they contain the genuine spirit of democracy, and the soul of the Constitution. They provide against the usurpations and oppressions of an unchecked majority—they form an insuperable barrier to consolidation—and they provide for a fair and equal distribution of power.

In the Senate, yesterday and to-day, the apportionment bill is creating great interest. Mr. Webster, upon that



an able argument, which put him entirely on the back ground. It was continued to-day by Mr. Tazewell, of Va. and Mr. Clayton, of Delaware; both able men. In the House the memorial from New York continues to occupy their attention.

The Vice Presidency forms the subject of a great deal of conversation at the metropolis. A meeting of the citizens of the District of Columbia is called this evening for the purpose of nominating Col. Johnson, of Kentucky.—The President strongly recommends the nomination of Martin Van Buren by the Baltimore convention in May.—I am very much afraid that the President stands in his own light, in that matter. It was no doubt a great *sham* for the Senate and John C. Calhoun to reject Mr. Van Buren; but I doubt very much whether his friends will mend the matter much by taking him up for the Vice Presidency; for Pennsylvania being determined to run a candidate, I am very fearful that the party will lose their choice.

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Our angry folks appear to be getting in a better humour. It is time; for there were none but *privately* armed men—and mad men—and *foolish* men, to be seen in the streets. Besides, we have a great many strangers in town now, and it is a bad affair for the constituents to see their representatives look so angry.

We had yesterday a melancholy accident in the War Department. A number of officers had accidentally met there, and while they were in social converse, Capt. Maurice, on being asked how he was, replied "never better in my life," and immediately was taken ill, and in less than five minutes expired.

P. S. A meeting was held this evening for the purpose of nominating Col. Johnson for the Vice Presidency.—It was a mere abortion. The Chairman and Secretary both left their places and the meeting broke up in confusion.