

If there was ever a period since the termination of the glorious struggle which established the independence of these United States...

The fundamental maxim of popular government is, that a majority shall rule. The maxim is founded in the principle, either that the interests of the majority are paramount to those of the minority...

adopted, a limit is placed upon the power of the majority; and in fact constitutions are expressly instituted for the purpose of protecting minorities against violations of their rights.

In the governments of cities, boroughs, townships and counties, the majority of the entire population elects its officers, and consequently a majority governs, as nearly as it can be done under the representative system.

In the choice of members of Congress, a similar departure from the principle, the majority governs, takes place. By the apportionment, there is to be a member for each definite number of inhabitants...

But besides these, there are other arrangements which more effectually destroy the principle, that a majority shall govern. The county elections may sometimes so result, that a majority of the representatives in a State Legislature, shall speak the sentiments and advocate the interests of a small portion of the whole people...

This however is an extreme case, although a possible one. Let us however try Pennsylvania. She has within her limits fifty-one counties, and a population of about 1,200,000, who send 100 representatives to the General Assembly...

Table with 3 columns: State, Population, Representatives. Lists states from Maine to Mississippi with their respective populations and number of representatives.

From the foregoing statement it will be perceived that there is some inequality of representation, — the unrepresented fractions in some States being larger than in others; but leaving that aside, let us state a possible case, for whatever is possible may happen.

Nor will a recurrence to the organization of the Senate, mend the matter. A minority of the people, through that body, has a power vastly greater than the minority has in the other branch, in enacting or preventing the passage of a law.

the destinies of all the others. The population of the thirteen smallest States is 2,028,478. Their twenty-six Senators could be elected by bare majorities of State Legislatures, themselves (that is, those majorities) elected by bare majorities of the people...

We are not prepared to say, that the majority of the present Congress, which advocates a broad construction of the Constitution, represents a minority of the people...

DR. JOHNSON'S PUDDING.

Last summer I made an excursion to Scotland, with the intention of completing my series of views, and went over the same ground described by the learned tourists, Dr. Johnson and Boswell.

"Sir, said the landlord, this inn was formerly kept by Andrew Macgregor, a relation of mine; and these hard-bottomed chairs (in which we are now sitting) were, years ago, filled by the great tourists, Dr. Johnson and Boswell, travelling like Lionel and Jackal.

"Johnson got off the pony, and the poor animal, relieved from the giant, smelt his way into the stable.—Boswell ushered the Doctor into the house, and left him to prepare for his delicious treat.

"I suppose I am to carve, as usual; what part shall I help you to? The Doctor replied, "My dear Bozy, I did not like to tell you before, but I am determined to abstain from meat to day.

"Say no more; I shall make myself ample amends with the pudding." Boswell commenced the attack and made the first cut at the mutton. "How the gravy runs; what fine flavored fat, so nice and brown too.

"You little filthy, smivelling, hound," said Boswell, "when you basted the meat, why did you not put on the cap I saw you in this morning?" "I couldn't, Sir," said the boy.

"Because my mamma took it from me to boil the pudding in!"

"The Doctor gathered up his herecain frame, stood erect, touched the ceiling with his wig, stared or squinted—indeed, looking any way but the right way.

"Mr. Boswell, sir, leave off laughing, and under pain of my eternal displeasure, never utter a single syllable of this abominable adventure to any soul living while you breathe."

JOHN LEE—THE SAILOR.

John Lee, one of the race of menalmost: sui generis, was well known to the lecturer several years ago, and his reputation stood among his fellows as the bravest of the brave.

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they issued handbills stating that their concert must be paid for, but their other performance would be gratis. This was probably made to evade a certain law made and provided for such itinerant gentry...

A writer in the Virginia Literary Museum, considering the narrow circumstances of the family of Robert Fulton to be a reproach to the nation, suggests

1st. That the proprietors of each steam boat, provide a box to receive contributions for the benefit of Fulton's heirs. 2d. That every passenger be invited, without importunity, to contribute one cent. 3d. That one cent of the passage money of every passenger be set apart to supply the deficiency.

ONE CENT BOX. LET INDIVIDUAL GRATITUDE COMPENSATE FULTON'S HEIRS, FOR NATIONAL PROGRESS.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

NEW YORK WHOLESALE PRICES, May 15. COTTON.—The demand since our last has improved, and during the week there was more spirit in the market than for two weeks preceding...

BOSTON PRICES CURRENT—May 15. COTTON.—Alabama, per lb. 10 to 11 1/2; Maranham, 15 to 16; New Orleans, 12 to 14; Sea Island, 20 to 25; Surinam, 15 to 16; Upland, 9 to 11.

NAVAL STORES.—Tar, per bbl. 1 40 to 1 50; Turpentine, Wilmington, soft, 2 25 North County, Turpentine, 2 to 2 1/2; Turpentine, hard, 1 50; Pitch, 1 62 1/2; Rosin, 1 50; Varnish, sales, 19 cts.

NEWBERN PRICES CURRENT.

Table with 3 columns: Article, Price, Unit. Lists various commodities like Butter, Candles, Coffee, Flour, etc. with their current prices.