

Caleb Cushing Quotes

*People, House, Men, Constitution, Gentleman, Rejection, Slavery, Government,
Heart, Madison, Adoption, Rights, Principles, Voice, Mind, Driven, Pyramids,
Veins, Running, Europe*

We are laying the foundations of a government, which we hope may outlast the Pyramids.

~Caleb Cushing

Men of New England, I hold you to the doctrines of liberty which ye inherit from your Puritan forefathers.

~Caleb Cushing

Upon the Constitution, upon the pre-existing legal rights of the People, as understood in this country and in England, I have argued that this House is bound to revive the Petition under debate.

~Caleb Cushing

The right of petition, I have said, was not conferred on the People by the Constitution, but was a pre-existing right, reserved by the People out of the grants of power made to Congress.

~Caleb Cushing

Entertaining these opinions of the course to be pursued, I beg of gentlemen to look at the question, as I have done, in a calm review of facts and of principles.

~Caleb Cushing

It is impossible, in my mind, to distinguish between the refusal to receive a petition, or its summary rejection by some general order, and the denial of the right of petition.

~Caleb Cushing

I maintain that the House is bound by the Constitution to receive the petitions; after which, it will take such method of deciding upon them as reason and principle shall dictate.

~Caleb Cushing

You well know, sir, that when the Constitution was submitted to the

People of the respective States for their adoption or rejection, it awakened the warmest debates of the several State conventions.

~Caleb Cushing

I declare and protest in advance, that I do not intend, at this time at least; to be drawn or driven into the question of slavery, in either of its subdivisions or forms.

~Caleb Cushing

And if this House is to be scared, by whatever influences, from its duty, to receive and hear the petitions of the People, then I shall send my voice beyond the walls of this Capitol for redress.

~Caleb Cushing

Men of Virginia, countrymen of Washington, of Patrick Henry, of Jefferson, and of Madison, will ye be true to your constitutional faith?

~Caleb Cushing

Here, again, as I conceive, gentlemen forget that this government is a republican one, resting exclusively in the intelligence and virtue of the People.

~Caleb Cushing

The right of petition is an old undoubted household right of the blood of England, which runs in our veins.

~Caleb Cushing

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