

thereof, with a view to accomplish this desirable object, and the result of his examination was that the most convenient and just mode by which the two districts could be formed, would be to unite Baltimore and Harford counties and the city of Baltimore into one district, which would contain a population of 229,000, and all the other counties on the Western Shore into another district, which would contain a population of about 225,000. This was the nearest approximation to perfect equality of numbers that could be obtained, and produced more harmony and unity of interest in the several parts of the same district that could be attained by any other process by which the districts could be laid off.

He agreed with the gentleman from Frederick that there were objections to any formation of gubernatorial districts in the state, but there were counteracting benefits, and the greater the number of the districts, the greater were those objections; and consequently he was decidedly opposed to the proposition of the gentleman from Frederick intended to constitute four instead of three districts.

Now if the principle was correct as asserted by the gentleman from Frederick, that because the conventional nominations preceding an election were made by the whole state, and the election was the result of the votes of the whole state; therefore it could not matter to which district Baltimore city or county was attached.

Suppose there were on the Western Shore eight districts, of which the city of Baltimore was one, and the other districts were composed of two counties each, would it be the same thing to St. Mary's should it be united with Baltimore county, that it would be if St. Mary's and Charles were united? Looking to the peculiar and local interests of each, and that when Baltimore county was united, the city of Baltimore would virtually select one of its own citizens as the governor. Baltimore would in effect enjoy the advantages of constituting two districts, while St. Mary's would lose all the benefits of being a component part of any district; and so if in forming the two districts, Baltimore city and county were separated, Baltimore city would in effect enjoy all the advantages intended to be conferred on both districts.

Mr. JENIFER said that he had expressed his opinion at the beginning of the discussion of this subject as being wholly opposed to the districting system for governor. And the question now was, whether they would adopt the districting system or not. The argument of the gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Dorsey) was, that the manner proposed of districting the state was not such as in his judgment ought to be adopted. But he (Mr. J.) would say that if they were to adopt the districting system at all, he believed that the plan proposed by the gentleman from Frederick was at least the most equal for the whole state.

Mr. BUCHANAN said, he felt satisfied on yesterday that the remarks which the honorable gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Dorsey) then made had no bearing on him; and he [Mr. B.] so

expressed himself in the debate which then took place. To-day, however, (said Mr. B.,) I have heard the honorable gentleman again, and I have been constrained to change the opinion which I had previously formed. My friend does not always make direct attacks, but he has a habit of insinuating, and intimating and hinting his views, in a manner which, to those who are present, leave but little doubt of his real design.

He [Mr. B.] had said in the debate on yesterday that he had felt highly gratified that his friend from Anne Arundel was becoming day by day more and more liberal in his views. The opinion he then expressed he sincerely entertained. He had listened to the speech of the honorable gentleman delivered a few days before, on the subject of the rights of the naturalized citizen, and was deeply and favorably impressed with its strength, its justice and its liberality. That speech had gone far to convince him that the gentleman was becoming liberal in all things appertaining to his duties here.

It gives me pain now to be compelled to admit that I have changed, in a great degree, the favorable opinion I had formed of the liberality in all things of the honorable gentleman. He [Mr. B.] here maintained, with all respect for his friend, that there never had been furnished stronger evidence of illiberality (not to say selfishness) than he had this day evinced in the speech delivered by him.

From the beginning of the session down to the present hour, it is known to the Convention that most of the speeches of the gentleman have been interspersed with attacks on Baltimore—that Baltimore would manage the elections just as she pleased, and bring all the rest of the State under her dominion and control. And now what does the honorable gentleman propose? Why, after having asserted the omnipotence of Baltimore—her determination and capacity to govern the State—the recklessness and depravity of a portion of her people, he modestly proposes that the pure inhabitants of Baltimore county shall be brought immediately within her grasp, by adding the county to the city, and constituting the two one district—a connection which, according to his own showing, would completely annihilate the political existence of the county. The propriety of this arrangement, according to the honorable gentleman, rests upon the ground that the people of the county deal with the people of the city, and some of the lawyers who live in the county practice in the city. Their interests, therefore, according to the gentleman, are identical, and they should be joined together.

Now, (said Mr. B.,) according to this doctrine, the district in which my honorable friend himself resides, should be added to Baltimore also. Howard district is in as close proximity to the city of Baltimore as Baltimore county is. Her people deal with the people of Baltimore. Her lawyers, or some of them, practice there. Why not, then, add Howard district to Baltimore? Is the gentleman indisposed to the association himself, and yet so ready to drive us into it against our wishes and in disregard of our protest? How can the gentleman reconcile this doctrine to a