

by political purposes. They may think so, but he believed the number was small, in or out of this Convention, who entirely concurred with them in this opinion.

In the nature of things, it is impossible that we, (at least, as to nineteen-twentieths of us,) possess no personal knowledge upon the subject, can make as fair and correct a division of the counties into districts—as sworn commissioners, residents of the county, and reviewing or intimately knowing every portion of it could do.—If this districting system by the Convention, was designed to be carried out, it ought to have been submitted for our consideration at a much earlier period of our session.

It was utterly impossible to do justice or satisfy the community, if we should undertake to carry out this project under existing circumstances.

Mr. BUCHANAN said:

That he did not comprehend the argument of the gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Dorsey.) The proposition, he understood, was not now to commit them to districting the State; for if this was proposed, he would vote in the negative, because he was unwilling to commit himself.

Mr. DORSEY. That was the reason given for lithographing the map.

Mr. BUCHANAN understood it to be a mere proposition to publish the map for the information of the Convention.

Mr. THOMAS. That's all.

Mr. BUCHANAN said:

That it was a map in reference to which he did not think he could consistently with honor, vote against lithographing. When this matter was just spoken of, the gentleman from Frederick, (Mr. Thomas,) was not in his place. He had spoken of a proposition to set up the map. A proposition was made to postpone it in consequence of his absence. Upon the subject of that proposition debate arose, in which, the prospective value of the map was talked of by members of that body.

It was said by individuals, that the map would not cost much. Indeed, there was some probability that it would cost nothing at all, and that it could be obtained gratuitously. Upon that occasion he said, that he thought the laborer was worthy of his hire.

If the map was worthy of consideration, it ought to be well done. He understood from a friend that the gentleman who prepared the map did not desire compensation. He thought the least they could do for him would be to publish it, with the understanding that he was not to be pledged or committed to the districting of the State of Maryland, with a view to apportionment. He should vote for the lithographing of the map, as the object was information.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the order,

And it was agreed to.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the order of the day, being the several reports of the committee on representation; the question pending before the Convention on Saturday, being on the substitute offered by Mr. JENIFER, as a substitute for the amendment offered by Mr. JOHNSON, as the second section of the report.

Mr. JOHNSON gave notice that when his proposition should come up, he would move to strike out seventy-five, as the number of the House of Delegates, and also the ten delegates which he proposed to give to the city of Baltimore, leaving both blank, so that the Convention might be able to vote upon the counties as specified in the residue of his proposition, leaving them to give to the city of Baltimore, whatever number they might think proper.

Mr. MITCHELL gave notice that he should tomorrow move to reconsider the resolution restricting debate to five minutes, to the mover of amendments.

On motion of Mr. JENIFER,

The Convention was called, and the door-keeper sent for the absent members, who after a short time had elapsed, returned and reported that he had notified the absent members that their attendance in the Convention was required.

Mr. JENIFER. Before the question is taken, I desire to avail myself of the few moments allowed me, in explaining the amendment. The question now before the Convention is the amendment I submitted the other day. I wish most sincerely that some other gentleman had submitted it, who could give it greater force and character. But I propose it as a matter of principle, believing that in so doing, I am consulting the best interests of all the various parts of the State. Upon reviewing the votes that have been given upon the great questions which have been proposed, I think this plan approximates more nearly to that which will give general satisfaction, than any other plan which has been submitted. It is precisely the plan of the gentleman from Washington county—which was lost by a single vote—except that it gives an increased representation to the smaller counties. It gives to Baltimore city ten; and to the larger counties the number they require—and I will say here that delegates from the smaller counties who are opposed to that plan, because it gave Baltimore ten delegates, owe it to themselves and their constituents, now to agree to this compromise. It gives to Frederick, precisely the number that she claims; to Baltimore county the same, also to Allegany and Washington. If our friends from Allegany reject this proposition, let them remember the responsibility which will rest upon them. Now I will say to my friends from Caroline, Calvert, Talbot, Queen Anne's, and from Kent, that if they reject this proposition, they vote against the interests of their counties. The proposition of-