

prevent the very thing that the gentleman was afraid of. With a view to meet the views of the gentleman and his colleague, and at the same time those of the gentleman from Frederick, he would withdraw his amendment, and move that wherever the word "county" appeared in the report, to insert "judicial district." This would give them a seat of justice, and remedy the evil complained of by the gentleman from Frederick.

Mr. DAVIS said that having, a few days ago, indicated a plan of adjustment for the settlement of this question of representation, which contemplated the division of Allegany county, he thought it was due to himself to explain the considerations which would influence his vote on the present occasion. He then proposed, as an article of adjustment, that she should be divided whenever she should have a population of 9,000 souls. He put it at this number, because that was about the population of the smallest county in the State. But it would be recollected that this was only a *part* of the entire plan—a plan combining population and territory together.

He wished to say now that he must vote against the proposition, and for this reason: because the plan had been superseded by another, which was cruelly unjust to the county which he had the honor in part to represent, as well as to many other counties in the lower portion of the State. He could not point out one single object of liberality towards them in the adjustment of the question of representation. He could not, then, consent to vote now for this proposition singly, after the material part of the plan with which he was willing to combine this had been superseded.

Mr. FITZPATRICK said that if the amendment last proposed by the gentleman from Charles, should be carried, he certainly would vote against the bill. He did not wish to see a new county come into the State deformed and crippled. He wished to see her placed on a footing with the other counties.

Mr. JENIFER was very glad the gentleman had expressed this view of the subject. He (Mr. J.) did not believe that such an object was contemplated merely for the purpose of obtaining increased representation. He was under the impression that they desired to form this new county for convenience in the transaction of the business of the district. He found the object was now to make a new county for the purpose of obtaining an increase of representation. Allegany as she now stands, having less than a moiety of the ratio, it was proposed to give four delegates, while Prince George's, having a trifle less, was cut down to three. Now the cloven foot was shown, and it could be seen that that portion of the State was now determined to hold out injustice. They wished this new county formed for the benefit of Allegany, upon the principle that this was a growing county, and was entitled to more representatives. This being the object, as developed by the gentleman who had just taken his seat. Mr. J. said he would withdraw his amendment and vote against the bill.

Mr. THOMAS signified his willingness to take the bill in the form proposed by the gentleman from Charles. He would yield his individual opinions upon that ground; but he should vote for the formation of this new county. He would have taken it in the form proposed by the gentleman from Charles, because he knew the difficulty of adjusting all these questions, and the great hardship which was imposed upon the people of a county in making them go sixty or seventy miles to the seat of justice. He hoped the alarm raised by the gentleman would not prevail to deny the people of that portion of Maryland, so very humble and reasonable a request, as that would in the present form of the bill.

He repeated again, that it could not be too well remembered by the Convention, that this bill, if amended in the manner proposed by the gentleman from Charles, that the whole county of Allegany, after it shall be divided, should have no representation until after 1860, greater than the county of Allegany is now allowed, would not accomplish any thing. There was no cause whatever for any thing like dread of an increase of representation from that part of the State, if divided, because, under the new apportionment bill, that whole portion of Allegany county would have representation in the Legislature in proportion to its population. He would vote with the delegation for the bill as it now stood.

Mr. FITZPATRICK said that the gentleman from Charles had misunderstood him altogether. He would have voted for the amendment first proposed by the gentleman; but if the second amendment had prevailed, he would have voted against the bill. He disclaimed any design to obtain an increase of representation, because after 1860 they were to receive a delegation in proportion to their population.

Mr. McMASTER said that the call which he made for the yeas and nays, indicated the vote he intended to give on the proposition before the House. He came there as a representative of the entire State of Maryland, but more particularly as a representative of the constituency which sent him there. The constituency whom he had the honor in part to represent, were a high minded and honorable people, were jealous of their rights, and particularly of their political rights. They were opposed to the political influence of the Western portion of the State, and he should feel himself recreant to the interests of those whom he represented, if he did not oppose this bill. He therefore should vote in opposition to it.

Mr. BOWIE hoped that the gentleman from Charles would press the amendment last offered by him, because if the bill should pass at all, it was very clear that the representation of Allegany county should not be increased at least before 1860.

Mr. THOMAS moved to amend the bill by adding thereto the following proviso.

"Provided, that the whole representation in the General Assembly of the county when divided, shall not exceed the present delegation of Allegany county, allowed under this Constitution until after the next census.