

than one fifth of that of the largest county in the State and little more than one half of that of Charles, Montgomery and St. Mary's counties. The census of 1830 being out of the library, for that reason he had not been able to refer to it or further trace the population of those counties. During all this time, a period of more than forty years, Allegany county had possessed a representation in the Legislature far beyond that to which its population numerically entitled it. Yet, not a breath of complaint against her being permitted to do so was heard from any portion of the State. But, as shown by the census of 1850, Allegany has now obtained a population of 22,873, which, however, is much swollen beyond its natural and proper numerical limits by the temporary adventitious sojourn in it of the immense number of laborers and their families at work on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio rail road company, and which has attained its extraordinary increase in population in consequence of a debt incurred by the State, in principal and interest now amounting to upwards of \$11,000,000, in the construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, and in consequence of the extension of the Baltimore and Ohio rail road towards the Ohio river through Cumberland, on the credit and expenditures of the city and citizens of Baltimore and of the State of Maryland, for which debt and expenditures, incurred in a great measure to develop and make available the mineral resources of Allegany county, and for which all other counties in the State are measurably impoverished and exhausted, by an onerous system of taxation imposed, not for their benefit, but to pay the immense liabilities of the State incurred in the construction of a canal now so conducted as to advance, in the highest degree, exclusively, the interests of Allegany county and her dear friends the district cities, and a small portion of the State immediately bordering on the canal, whose share in the spoils is too inconsiderable to be worth mentioning.

And this is not the worst feature in this unsightly picture. This Canal as now conducted, is made an engine by which the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road is to be deprived of its usefulness; and the commerce and prosperity of the city of Baltimore, and the vital interests of the State, are to be undermined and sacrificed; and for what? To confer incalculable benefits on Allegany county, and her allies. Under such circumstances, upon the ordinary springs of human action, it might have been supposed that the people of Allegany, feeling some sense of gratitude to the counties for past favors, and for past and present and continuing sacrifices made for them, would have been content to repose on their existing and most enviable condition, and would have looked down upon the other counties with some feeling of kindness and gratitude for favors received and being received, for sacrifices patriotically made and to be continued in their favor. But no such feeling operated in Allegany county, if they are to be judged as fairly represented by their delegates in this Convention. Having glutted its appetite for wealth by being permitted to consume and appropriate to its own use and

that of its allies, as far as they were valuable, the entire interests of the State in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, it appears to have made the most systematic, subtle and determined assault upon the political rights and influence of the other counties of the State that human ingenuity and thirst after power could have devised. Our admiration cannot but be excited at the astuteness, tact and reach of intellect displayed by those delegates in the consummation of their designs: but our approbation of their course for liberality and justice to the other counties of the State cannot, be so readily given. Had human ingenuity been taxed to its extreme limits to devise a scheme apparently in some respects fair and just, but in reality conferring on Allegany county the greatest number of delegates, it was that on which the representation in the House of Delegates has been by us established; and in this respect, doing to many other counties of the State the most manifest injustice. Allegany with a population of 22,873, and contributing annually to the payment of the public debt but \$9,034 89 has four delegates. Baltimore county, with a population of 41,569 and paying annually on account of the public debt, \$33,516, and Frederick county, with a population of 40,941 and paying annually on account of the public debt, \$45,365 84 have each six delegates. Montgomery county, with a population of 15,860 and payment annually on account of the public debt, \$13,045 02, and Charles county with a population of 16,162, and paying annually on account of the public debt, \$8,280 21, and St. Mary's, with a population of 13,681, and paying annually on account of the public debt, \$9,728 72. Talbot, with a population of 13,811, and paying annually on account of the public debt, \$10,966 08, and Queen Anne's with a population of 14,485, and paying on account of the public debt, \$9,737 49, have each a representation of but two members in the House of Delegates. These facts are enumerated to show that Allegany county, regardless of past and present favors, will expect the uttermost farthing; and even at the sacrifice of her benefactors and friends, will grasp at, and hold fast to all she can get. The other counties of Maryland were, therefore, under no obligation, were upon no principle of reason, justice, or liberality, called upon to surrender the rights and interests of the State in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company for the especial benefit and aggrandisement of the county of Allegany and its allies, or to suffer those rights and interests any longer to be controlled for their exclusive use and benefit.

He regretted having consumed so much time in what some might regard as a digression, he would therefore proceed to state what ought, in his opinion, to have been the course pursued by the State's agents, before reducing, as they have done, the tolls on the Chesapeake and Ohio canal. They knew the representations made to the Legislature, that the demand for the coal was such, owing to its very superior quality, that sales of it in the District, would be easily effected to a very large amount, and that the lowest toll upon it ever suggested to the Legis-