

law jurisdiction, offered by his friend from Baltimore city yesterday. The proposition which he had drawn up was in these words, and he (Mr. M.) now gave notice that he would offer it if the Convention reconsidered the 10th, 11th and 12th sections.

The city of Baltimore shall constitute the \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial District. In said city there shall be established one court, to be termed Baltimore City Court, which shall have and exercise within said city all the civil jurisdiction and authorities now vested in Baltimore County Court; and one other court, to be termed the Criminal Court, for Baltimore city, which shall have and exercise within said city all jurisdiction and authorities now vested in Baltimore City Court.

Two Judges shall be appointed for Baltimore City Court, one of whom shall be styled Chief Judge of Baltimore City Court, and the others shall be styled Associate Judges of Baltimore City Court. One Judge shall be appointed for the Criminal Court of Baltimore city; and in case of his absence, sickness, or other temporary disability, to preside in said court as the Chief Judge of Baltimore City Court shall depute; one of his associates to preside in the Criminal Court and dispatch the business thereof.

For the return of process and hearing of causes in equity, Baltimore City Court shall have and hold six regular terms in the year, to wit: on the first Tuesdays of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Baltimore City Court, from time to time, shall assign one of the Judges thereof to hold said equity terms and to exercise the equity jurisdiction of said court, and said court and the said Judge, during the term of his assignment, shall have and exercise all the jurisdictions and authorities which are now vested in the Court of Chancery and the Chancellor respectively, as well in causes in equity properly arising in said court, or in proceedings in lunacy, and during the sittings of said equity court and his necessary engagements in the dispatch of equity causes, the said Judge shall be relieved from the duty of attendance on the common law side of said court. But Baltimore City Court shall have power to provide by rule for issuing of injunctions and other remedial processes and processes of execution which now require the special order of the Judge for issuing thereof, in case of the temporary absence, sickness, or inability to act, of the Judge assigned, to dispatch the business of the court; and said court shall also have power to provide for the hearing and dispatch of causes in equity wherein the Judge assigned for dispatch of the equity business of the court may have an interest or may have been counsel, and for this cause may decline to act, and said court shall have power also to provide by rule for the adjustment of the accounts of trustees and general administration and distribution of the estates of insolvent debtors by the Judge assigned in equity as aforesaid. For the dispatch of the common law and statutory jurisdiction other than equity jurisdiction of Baltimore City Court, said court shall hold four terms annually, to wit: on the first

Mondays in March, June, September, and December; and the Criminal Courts shall hold six terms in the year, to wit: on the first Mondays in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The chief Judge of Baltimore City Court shall have a salary of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars; the associate Judges of said Court and the Judge of the Criminal Court shall have each a salary of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

This, sir, is the plan I shall offer, and I will further say—

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city, asked if that was not based upon the retaining the Chancery Court?

Mr. MORGAN replied that he did not say that the gentleman to whom he referred entertained the idea that this project would be sufficient without the Chancery Court was retained. He stated candidly that this system of two Judges would not be acceptable to that gentleman without that court.

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city. Is that project predicated upon the appointment of a Chancellor?

Mr. MORGAN. Yes, sir; it details that jurisdiction to one of the Judges of the court.

Mr. GWINN. How many Judges in all?

Mr. MORGAN explained that there were three judges in all, with the criminal judge already given, one of them to dispatch equity business. The bill then provided in the 11th section for a police court in Baltimore, and also for an orphans' court. That was the system which was provided for here. Now, this amendment was drawn up on the supposition that the judges should do their duty—should work. He would apply these remarks to the motion under consideration, and they would come in very appropriately. Where, he would ask, was the necessity of our abolishing the chancery court here, if by doing so, we had to give an additional judge? The gentleman from Baltimore city acknowledged that he could sit in his office, and yet do business at Annapolis. Now, that would be very convenient for him. Why, then, does he desire the removal of the chancery court to Baltimore, except it be for the purpose of giving Baltimore an additional judge?

He would remark, there was a great deal said against the chancery court that was needless and uncalled for. Now, it did not cost the State one cent. By reference to the treasury report, it would be seen that the receipts from that court paid into the treasury were upwards of two thousand dollars.

Well, what did most of those receipts consist of? Why, of cases in which decrees were made, and the assets were to go into the hands of the trustees, as also taxes upon original writs. If you abolished the court, you would abolish many also of those cases that would be tried there and no where else, and from which was derived some two thousand dollars a year. What was there in addition to this. The chancellor now discharged the duties of judge of the land office of the State of Maryland. Then, if you abolished