

ber. When New York had thirty-six representatives and Maryland six, the large State electing *en masse* will entirely overpower the smaller State. I have no sort of fear of the awful consequences which my friend apprehends from the adoption of this district system, that it will lead to representation according to population. We have a sufficient security in the manifest sentiment of this body, and in the interests of the people of the State at large, of all the counties, both large and small, to be safe and secure. Representation according to population is not likely ever to be adopted in this State. The time will never come when the people in Maryland will consent to give to that concentrated mass of population the right of representation according to population. Still less, when we adopt a system of electing by districts, is there any possibility that such a system can be adopted. I have signified my desire and intention, in voting for this motion, and I hope it will prevail, in order that the small counties may be saved from the evils resulting from the apportionment we have made.

Mr. SPENCER made some remarks, which will be published hereafter.

Mr. SHERWOOD, of Baltimore city, also, made some remarks.

Mr. BOWIE regretted that the discussion had taken this turn. He regretted to hear appeals made to partisan feeling simply. The gentleman from Baltimore, (Mr. Sherwood,) had spoken of Baltimore city as a unit, and had appealed to mere partisan feeling, that she should remain such. He would commend to the gentleman the term, harmony. He was glad to hear that harmony existed in that city. As for himself, he would not address the Convention as a politician. He never had, and he never would do it. Yet, when his feelings as a politician came directly in harmonious action with all his feelings and opinions, and principles as a citizen and a man, he congratulated himself upon it. But when his judgment came in conflict with party, he would put party under his foot, and take that cause pointed out by justice. He did not desire to district the city of Baltimore upon the ground of party. All the opinions he had ever formed upon political economy, would show that he had other motives. There was now, and there would always be a conflict between the producing and the consuming classes. The agricultural classes would necessarily have interests antagonistic to those who bought of them for purposes of consumption or profit. There was a distribution of power by law between these conflicting interests, the commercial power on the one hand, and the agricultural and mechanical power on the other. A man who would think of party upon such a question as this, and at a time like this, was either a mad man, a knave, or a dupe, to be seduced from his allegiance to the great and cardinal principles which should govern him in the distribution of power.

Mr. SHERWOOD inquired whether Mr. B. alluded to him in these remarks.

Mr. BOWIE disclaimed any such intention or idea.

The PRESIDING OFFICER, (Mr. Buchanan.) The Chair would have called the gentleman to order instantaneously, if there had been any personal allusion.

Mr. BOWIE continued. In an emergency like this, he desired to neutralise the controlling influence of one of these two great classes over the other. Baltimore city came here as a unit—a commercial unit—acting in direct opposition to the interests of the producing classes of the whole state, from the tops of the Alleghanies to the sea-beaten shores of Worcester county. Upon questions of vital interest to the whole agricultural population of the State, the question of the inspection of raw materials, for example, Baltimore city would be against the grower, and in favor of the New York system of free inspection. Instead of the protection against frauds now furnished by the laws of the State, the merchants of the city of Baltimore would desire to have the right to employ inspectors for themselves.

Mr. BRENT. I enquire if the gentleman is in order. He is discussing the inspection laws.

Mr. BOWIE. I am discussing the influence of Baltimore city upon the legislation of the State.

The PRESIDING OFFICER overruled the point of order.

Mr. BOWIE remarked, in a low tone of voice, that the ruse of calling him to order was unsuccessful.

Mr. BRENT replied that he had raised the point of order *bona fide*, and he would presently show where the "ruse" was.

Mr. BOWIE resumed. This very question of the inspection laws was one of the most vital and important questions which ever presented themselves to the producer of the raw material. Upon this question the merchant and the producer had antagonistic interests, between which the Legislature must decide. But the whole delegation from the city of Baltimore was as a unit against the producer, who ought to have the right to control the prices of his own products. Let Baltimore city be divided, and she would not have that preponderating power over the producing classes. They now had four more than the largest county—they had ten delegates. He would appeal to the producing classes, irrespective of party, whether that delegation ought not to be divided, to prevent such a power as they would possess when united. He wished to restrict this commercial power; to divide this concentrated unit. When that should be done, something would have been done to subserve the interests, the happiness, and the good of all the people of Maryland, beyond the limits of Baltimore city.

The gentleman from Frederick had asked him, after a night's sleep upon it, to go with him in districting the State generally. He could only say that he had come to a very different conclusion, after very severe reflection. The gentleman from Charles [Mr. Merrick] had appealed to the instinct of self preservation, in calling upon the smaller counties, and Charles county among the number, to vote for this proposition. The same principal carried out would lead by a reg-