

We met here as a Convention, strangers to each other, nearly a hundred men to become acquainted with each other. Committees were to be formed and to meet. Questions were to be discussed; and they are discussed out of the House more than in the House. I venture to say, that there is not a mess of boarders in town, where two of our members are together, that the questions do not come up how the judges shall be appointed, what shall be the jurisdiction of the Courts, and other matters which we are to decide. Those questions are discussed and views are interchanged, and they form the foundation of action here. It takes time for men to argue upon such questions and ascertain each others views; and there is a great deal of discussion in private conversation out of the House, obviating the necessity of so much discussion in the House as would otherwise be necessary.

It so happens that there is a very exciting Convention to be held in Baltimore during the coming week; and a great many gentlemen will feel it to be their privilege to be there whether this Convention adjourns or not. I do not see that it is a very unreasonable expectation that they should have the opportunity to indulge their desire. I have no desire to be there. I am perfectly willing to stay here all next week. But I know other gentlemen will have their convenience and wishes gratified by being allowed an opportunity to attend there. I am willing to gratify them. I think it is a reasonable gratification. I am willing to take the responsibility upon myself. I deny that the majority are responsible for these adjournments more than the minority. I am willing to take our full share before the people, and let each man answer to his own constituents and to his own sense of duty. Whenever a case arises where a member thinks it proper to go or that the Convention should go, each must determine that question for himself.

While he is in his seat each member is obliged to exercise the best faculties of his mind to serve the people for whom he came here, by aiding in the formation of the best Constitution for the State of Maryland that he can possibly devise. That is my idea of the responsibility of members of the Convention, to their own consciences and their sense of duty.

I do not believe that on Thursday or Friday we shall be likely to have a quorum; and I think if the Convention is to adjourn at all, it will be better to adjourn to the Monday following. I am personally willing to take any day members may select. I do not expect to visit my home in the mean time; and I am willing to stay here. But I vote for the adjournment believing that a great many members have gone away, not expecting a session next week. They have gone to visit their homes, from which they have been absent two or three weeks. I think that a rea-

sonable indulgence. I would not serve a constituency that would grumble at a man's going home to see his family occasionally. I do not believe they would. I know that grumblers exist everywhere. It is constitutional with some men; and if they did not have something to grumble about, they would be the most miserable people in the world. They will find something or hunt up something to grumble about, in any event. It is a great relief to them to see the doings of this Convention in the papers in the morning, for it furnishes them just what they want—something to grumble about. I say of them as the man said of his wife's opinion, it does not hurt me and it pleases her. I have no objection to their grumbling to their hearts' content. Let us enjoy the pleasures of social intercourse precisely as if there were no such people, for we may be sure it will be a relief to those who have this unfortunate constitutional disability to be pleased with anything that comes along, to have something to grumble about.

Mr. CUSHING. As the yeas and nays may not be called, and I may not therefore have an opportunity to explain my vote, I am under the disagreeable necessity of saying now that while I was converted from voting for the adjournment by one member from Prince George's, by another member from Prince George's I am converted back; and I now intend to vote for the adjournment until Thursday.

One word to the gentleman from Prince George's who said with reference to Baltimore city, that the minority did not expect any good out of Nazareth. I remember that that same thing was said once before, and that was also said by a minority, the minority of one man against the Almighty. Perhaps, for aught he knows, there may come out of Baltimore city that which may be to the party that he represents, the same thing that came out of Nazareth for the Jews, a savior for them, I will only add a single sentence—"Jew, I thank thee for that word."

Mr. MILLER. I dislike to say a word upon the question of adjournment at any time; but the circumstances under which we meet to-day induce me to vote for the adjournment. There is just one member more than quorum here this morning. Whether we vote for the adjournment or not, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will find this body without a quorum. We know perfectly well that members will leave whether we vote for the adjournment or not. I will not come back on those days. When a portion of a deliberative body manifest by so large a number of their members, a disinclination to be present on particular days or on a particular occasion, it is always best gracefully to yield to that disinclination, and not keep a few members coming here day by day merely for the purpose of adjourning over for the want