

wenty-five votes of the one state, and the twenty eight of the other, all *tell* in the general election, and each of those large states are considered as having the scales in their own hand. Maryland, which by the same method of choosing electors, would be equal to about half the weight of Virginia in the election, has had in fact seldom more than one twentieth part of her weight in the election, in consequence of persevering in the district system. It remains to be determined by Maryland statesmen, whether, with a knowledge derived from the late vote of congress, that the larger states will not abandon the advantage ground on which they stand, it would be wise in this state to continue to adhere to a mode of choosing electors, which so materially detracts from her real political consequence, or whether a sense of their own interest will not induce, however reluctantly, a change, by which her federal numbers will tell for their full value, and by which, instead of remaining one of the last states, or the very last, as she has repeatedly been, in political weight, in a choice of the executive, she will take her station amongst the larger states, as her population entitles her to do.

Facts afford the best illustration of this subject. Compare the political weight of the state of Maryland, actually operating in the contests for choosing the executive of the nation heretofore, with the weight of the small state of Delaware, which elects electors by legislative