

if both branches are elected in the same mode. Some check is necessary in all legislation; and experience has shewn, and political forecast will discern, that the rights of the minority must be respected; and that territorial and sectional interests, in every well organized government, will be recognized, and, in some degree, represented. The wise men, who framed the admirable constitution, under which our union has, thus long, been so happily preserved, gave equality of suffrage to the States, in the constitution of the Senate, without regard to difference of territory, or disparity of population. And although, it is conceded, that there is no exactness of similitude, between the relation sustained by a Sovereign State to the Union, and the relation of a county, itself a mere sectional part, in reference to a State; yet the *illustration* is all that is sought by the reference, and it is aptly furnished.

Your committee have been unable to agree in the recommendation of a mode of electing the Senators. A bare majority have decided in favor of suggesting the election of a Senator from each county, and one from the city of Baltimore, by a direct popular vote of the citizens of each county and of said city, respectively. In obedience to their directions, such mode of election is now suggested. The dissenting members were in favor of the election of a Senate, by electors, and by their concurrence in this report, they do not waive their privilege, as Senators, from voting accordingly, when the subject shall come up, for the action of the Senate.

Your committee will proceed to express their views, in relation to the Executive Department. They recommend an amendment of the constitution, so as to authorize the election of the Governor, directly by the people. They are induced to make this recommendation, not because the committee, or a majority of them, perceive any impolicy or necessity for the change; but because it seems to be in accordance with public opinion, and is not only in accordance with the usual practice of the States, but is entirely in accordance with the genius of our republican institutions. It was entertained, by any member of the committee, from an unwillingness to alter any part of the constitution without an apparent necessity. It was suggested, and an election, by general tick-