

He recollected the great conflicts in the council on this subject, when nearly fifty years ago he was its clerk to that body. He recollected that Deptford Hundred, which embraced a larger portion, perhaps the whole of what was the eastern part of the city, called Fell's Point, considered themselves in quasi hostility to the interests of the western portion of the city.

The people of Deptford Hundred thought that it was unjust and oppressive on them that the basin of Baltimore should be deepened and kept navigable, by means drawn from the general treasury of the city, because if in the ordinary course of events it became unnavigable, (of which there was great danger, that the whole commerce of Baltimore would be transferred to Fell's Point and its vicinity; and that their property would thereby become of immense value, become the centre of commerce; whilst western Baltimore would measurably sink into ruin.

Therefore, they were opposed to the general interests of the city, and had a clause inserted in the charter that no taxes should be laid upon the Deptford Hundred for deepening the harbor of Baltimore. At that time perhaps the population of Fell's Point was not one-fifth part of the population of Baltimore. All interests were then provided for and protected, when the city, thus controlled, was divided into wards.

It never was intended that the whole population of Baltimore, as a mass, should vote for the legislative officers of the city. It never could have been intended, had the population then been, as it now is, for the city of Baltimore, comparatively speaking, constitutes a State or Commonwealth within itself. Thus the city was divided into wards, that every interest might be protected, and this was the object of thus territorially dividing the city.

He was for carrying out this principle, and thought that it was the duty of the Legislature to protect all the interests of the city of Baltimore; and much more so is it the duty of the Convention to do so. He had a personal interest in the precincts of the city, and he would be very unwilling to trust his property in the precincts if the whole population were to vote upon every measure that affected his property, because they might lay taxes so as to ruin and destroy all precincts property so called, though within the city limits, with a view of having all buildings erected upon property in the thickly settled portion of the city. Justice, then, required that each portion of the city should have the same weight in representation; for, if the densely populated portion of Baltimore, containing a majority of the whole city, were to vote *en masse*, the vote of the thinly settled parts of the city would be sacrificed. Those who imposed taxes had a right to say upon what principles within their chartered powers, the taxes should be levied. If they should enact that taxation should be regulated by popular vote, they might destroy the means of improvement and prosperity of the sparsely settled portions of the city. They should take care to see that representation was, from every part of the city of Baltimore, fairly expressed as well in

respect to territory as to population of each particular part of the city.

Mr. PRESSTMAN. Why not so in regard to the counties?

Mr. DORSEY. I cannot say I have a very great objection to that.

Mr. PRESSTMAN. Will you go for it?

Mr. DORSEY. I am not prepared to say.

Mr. D said, that in the counties, he had never heard of the representatives being taken from one particular part of the county; they were taken from every part of it. There was no dense population in any part of the county as existed in one particular part of Baltimore.

Population was spread all over the county. He would venture to say that the delegates from the city of Baltimore were not spread over the city as the delegates from the county were scattered over the county. With the number of votes that Baltimore would bring into the House of Delegates, their influence would be such that a great portion of the city would have no chance for protection. The delegates would look to the interests of the locality from which they came, which was usually the densely populated portion.

The identity of interests was very important. If it should be found necessary for the purpose of carrying a measure in the Legislature, that the Delegates should be taken from one particular section, the rest of the city would be left without representation.

Mr. SHERWOOD, of Baltimore city, hoped the gentleman would give way to enable him to submit a motion that the Convention adjourn until Monday morning at twelve o'clock.

Mr. SHRIVER desired to ask the Convention to postpone the further consideration of this subject until Tuesday. He was compelled to return home on account of sickness in his family, and it would require him to ride all day and night to arrive here on Tuesday morning.

Mr. DORSEY referred to the precipitancy in which this measure was taken up, even before the Convention were prepared to act upon it, when

Mr. SHRIVER waived his request.

Mr. MERRICK hoped the subject would be postponed until Tuesday.

Mr. BOWIE said, that no vote would be taken on Monday.

Mr. MERRICK then moved to postpone the further consideration of the subject until Tuesday.

Mr. SHERWOOD, of Baltimore city, said that his motion was to adjourn until Monday morning at twelve o'clock, and he did not intend to qualify it.

Mr. McMASTER, rising to a question of order, inquired whether a motion to adjourn did not take precedence over any other motion.

The PRESIDENT so decided.

And the question being put, on the motion of Mr. SHERWOOD, it was agreed to.

And the Convention accordingly adjourned until Monday morning at twelve o'clock.