

her 12 648 shall also go for nothing! A very magnanimous proposition! And this is Allegany generosity!

Mr. President, it was once my good fortune to have had for clients, two elderly gentlemen, both in good standing in the church, and zealous members of the same class. They were pious men, and gifted in prayer. While they realized with a lively sense, the importance of garnering up treasures where moth nor rust do not corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal, they also had a strong appreciation of the value of earthly treasures, and felt it to be a religious duty, never to allow any, with whom they dealt, to get the better end of the bargain. These two gentlemen on the occasion referred to, came to adjust the partition of a farm which they held in common. The negotiation was quite protracted, and they found great difficulty in coming to an agreement. At last one of them left the room; and the other thus spoke of him: "Brother Daniel is a very clever man; he is a good man too; but Brother Daniel is never satisfied, unless he gets a little of the advantage." [Laughter.] Sir, my friend from Allegany is a very clever man, and a good man too; but my friend is never satisfied, unless he gets a little of the advantage. [Laughter.] He is very generous, when he expects to be paid for it!

The gentleman from Allegany, (Mr. Weber,) and the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Gwinn,) have presented us with a great variety of statistics, for the purpose of showing that the upper counties and the city, have more population and wealth than the lower counties; and they claim the benefit of their larger numbers and greater wealth, in the distribution of political power. These gentlemen are somewhat at cross purposes but to a certain extent they have a common object, and that is to depress the smaller counties.

My friend from Allegany, (Mr. Weber,) is unfortunate in his statistics. He has produced them for the purpose of showing that the smaller counties, are not entitled to the privileges they now enjoy; but unfortunately for him, they lead him into a train of difficulties, from which he will find it hard to escape. Let us look a little at his figures. Allegany, he says, pays taxes to the amount of \$19,481.89, made up of \$9,031.89 direct, and \$10,450 indirect or miscellaneous taxes; Carroll county, pays a tax of \$19,481.83, made up of \$16,541.83 direct, and \$2,900 indirect taxes. Allegany has a gross population of 22,584; Carroll a gross population of 20,220, which is about one-tenth less; and yet he would give to Allegany one delegate more than Carroll! His argument is, that wealth and population are the basis of representation; his practice is, to give Allegany with only one-tenth more of population, and wealth no greater than Carroll, one-fourth more power! How is the gentleman to reconcile his practice with his argument? It will require more ingenuity than even he possesses, to assign a satisfactory reason for this discrepancy. Either his rule is wrong, or the gentleman seeks to evade it, when applied to his own county. But this is not all. The

gentleman says to us of the smaller counties, We have more wealth and population than you, and you must therefore stand back. True, we answer; but Baltimore city has more wealth and population than either of us, and must her representation be in equal proportion? Oh no! answers my friend from Allegany; Baltimore must not have a veto on the legislation of the State; that would be ruinous to the counties! Now, Mr. President, if the rule be a good one, let us work it out. If it be founded in justice and propriety, and be fit to control the action of this body, can the gentleman from Allegany, assign any objection, founded in reason, to giving Baltimore city all she asks? Sir, the gentleman from Baltimore city, (I mean the Attorney General,) is the only man on that side of the question, who is consistent with his principles. He says, that population and wealth are the true basis, and he is for carrying out his theory into practice. How is the other gentleman, (Mr. Gwinn?)

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city. Why, he argued the same way

Mr. CRISFIELD. But he will vote the other way.

Mr. GWINN must beg that the gentleman would confine himself to the case before us. When he had cast his vote, it would be time enough to animadvert on his course. How could the gentleman know how he would vote?

Mr. CRISFIELD. I confess to no knowledge, except what has transpired here before us. But, Mr. President, I can put two and two together, and putting two and two together, I feel warranted in expressing the belief, that the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Gwinn,) will vote for the proposition of the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. GWINN. And what has the gentleman to say to that?

Mr. CRISFIELD. I say it cuts the throat of his argument. Does the gentleman say he will not vote for it?

Mr. GWINN said his conduct was within his own control, and the gentleman from Somerset had no authority to call his course in question. And he, (Mr. G.,) said tearlessly and boldly, that if the gentleman could make any distinction between the vote and the argument he made then, then he might be open to the charge of inconsistency. If in resisting, as far as he could, the tyranny of the smaller counties, he should fall short of perfect success, and be constrained to take what was less than the due of the populous sections, it would not be his fault. He stood there in hopes that a starting point for a future struggle might be obtained; and he cared not what was the basis they were about to establish, he would return to his constituency prepared to renew that agitation, upon which this Convention may place only a temporary check.

Mr. CRISFIELD resumed. I did not intend to give the gentleman from Baltimore city, so much trouble. My predictions are founded on what has transpired in this body. I heard the gentleman speak—I heard his denunciations of the proposition now being considered, and his alleged