

temper than any other professional gentlemen he knew.

But surely error, whether of fact or reasoning, were most likely to be corrected when a number of additional intelligent men were present, capable of applying the correction. He would suggest another idea which occurred to him. There was some limit to means of corruption, and the number of its victims. Its sources were not perennial. Money was the great agent of mischief in this case, as in so many others. Now let us disperse the surface over which the same amount of means, and the same agencies, are to be employed, and we thereby weaken the violence and force of them on any particular point. If the corrupting influence comes from Washington, and infects voters for officers of the general government, why the whole force of that influence is either concentrated on that object, and then it does not effect the election of officers of the State, or it is diffused, and the intensity of the views is lessened by the dilution. He did not believe there would be more money expended, more corrupting influences used, or more bribery effected in an election of twenty candidates, than of five.

Mr. HOWARD said that he did not understand the gentleman from Queen Anne's to express himself in the manner in which both the gentlemen from Prince George's, and the gentleman from Kent had made him. He concurred with him in the opinion, but he did not understand him to place his opinion upon the ground of corruption that would take place in elections; nor did he hear him express the word "corruption" at all; according to his (Mr. H's.) view of the subject, there would be no corruption in the matter, and yet the consequence would be just exactly what the gentleman from Anne Arundel had pointed out. He (Mr. H.) supposed that most of them who had attended elections, knew full well that the more numerous the candidates were who were to be voted for, the more the judgment of the people become confused and contracted. It resulted from a principle in human nature, and they must deal with this question as a principle when looking at men as nature made them. Now if there was a Sheriff to be voted for, when members of the House of Delegates were to be voted for, and the friends of that Sheriff felt an extraordinary degree of zeal in his behalf, if they thought that more benefit would accrue to the public by his election, or even more personal gratification to themselves than injury, on the other hand, by the defeat of the candidate for the House of Delegates, did not they know that it was a matter of continual occurrence that men would promote the success of their favorite candidate by trading off their own votes with a view to obtain votes from the opposing party? If gentlemen did not know it, or were not willing to admit it, it was nevertheless a fact, and it resulted from that principle of human nature which induced men to pursue a favorite object at the expense of that which was less interesting to their feelings. They would trade away their own votes in order to obtain the votes of others for the candidate

which they supported. He need not appeal to the recollection of gentlemen; for he presumed this would be admitted as a fact. But this was not corruption. He held this to be the evil which was alluded to by the gentleman from Queen Anne's. Whether it was or not, it was the evil which was present to his mind, and which induced him to wish to separate these two elections of President of the United States, and of Governor. He would keep them as far apart as possible; but if they must be thrown together, he would let them be State officers. Hitherto it had been remarked, as one of the excellent features in our government, that the election for President of the United States was separated from all other influences. Let them keep it so.

If the election should take place on the same day, he thought that this could be the result; he did not say that it would be the result, but it could be, and might be the result; that either party in the State which chose to obtain the election of either the Governor or the President, and sacrifice all other by a consolidated movement among themselves, could do it by a general understanding amongst themselves and their friends throughout the State. If you take my candidate for Governor, I will go with you for President. In this way votes would be changed without the charge of corruption; for the people considered their votes as their individual property, and they had a right to bestow them as they pleased; and if, in the exercise of their predilection for the most important candidate before them, they chose to submit to the minor evil of seeing a less important candidate defeated, it was their privilege, and they had the right to do it. It was a choice between them, and they were now putting that choice, that temptation in their way, which he did not call corruption. He would say that it would enable either party, in his judgment to procure the election of Governor or of President, whichever they preferred, by general harmony of action among the friends of that individual throughout the State. He did not censure it, however, nor call it corruption.

It was to avoid this evil that they desired to keep the elections apart. In regard to the candidate having to address the people, which the gentleman from Kent said would be done away with by the adoption of his proposition, the same thing would happen that had happened before. It was according to popular prejudice. The gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Tuck) must recollect that in one instance, when a gentleman from his own county was before the people, that gentleman went about addressing the people of the State, which the Democratic candidate refused to do. But the gentleman who refused to do so gained no strength by it, because his opponent was elected; nor did he suppose that his course in abstaining from popular discussion gained him fifty votes, for he had no doubt it lost him five hundred. Now, he (Mr. H.) thought that the history of the State had settled the question. The desire of the people to see the man for whom they were called upon to vote was so strong that it amount-