

a large majority of that committee were from the counties in Maryland, and it would be impossible in the face of county prejudices against Baltimore city to obtain their sanction to such doctrines. We were not speaking for the city of Baltimore, but for the whole State, and showing that it was necessary to have harmonious action. Nor was it proper to bring forward questions on which the party was divided. Let me refer the gentleman to the resolutions of the Democratic City Convention, passed during the session of this Convention for a sound exposition of our doctrines. The gentleman had said that speakers went through the State repudiating representation according to population. Had not the gentleman from Charles county (Mr. Jenifer) borne testimony to the fact that his (Mr. B's) humble self, in the anti-reform county of Charles, did in July last, in the presence of the present Governor, then a candidate, proclaim that he (Mr. B.) would himself vote in this Convention for representation according to population, in the House of Delegates, but then declared himself in favor of a compromise by leaving the basis of the Senate to stand as it now is.

Mr. JENIFER. That is all correct; but the gentleman stated at the same time that he did not know the views of his constituents.

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city, remarked that he differed with the recollection of the gentleman; he (Mr. B.) had not said that he did not know the views of his constituents.

He said that he had been nominated without instructions, but he would vote for representation according to population. He never did or could have said that he was ignorant of the views of his constituents. And the gentleman had confirmed the fact that he had avowed his own determination to vote for representation, and publicly had displayed his colors. He (Mr. B.) had never sailed under false colors. He had never repudiated representation according to population. He had always said that the people had a right to representation in both branches of the legislature; but he had said he was in favor of a present compromise between territory and population; which compromise he had advocated and explained here. But when the gentleman said that the city of Baltimore is against this thing, why not put a clause in the Constitution, and test the question in Baltimore. He challenged the gentleman who claimed to represent a certain wing of Baltimore, to put in the Constitution an article declaring that we shall have representation according to population, provided the people should so declare in June next. He (Mr. B.) would abide that issue. And he would say here publicly, that if the people of Baltimore did not cast a majority of 10,000 in favor of it, he would not undertake to preach republican doctrines again.

Mr. THOMAS said, that as he was the originator of this proposition for districting the State in the election of the judges of the court of appeals, he might be allowed to say a few words. He had never had, from the beginning of the session to that hour, a purpose or sentiment to disguise.—

He had always looked upon the judiciary as a branch of the government having nothing to do with politics, and he would not assist in giving it a political organization. And when he said a political organization, he meant to distinguish it from the office of Governor. And as some of the gentlemen on the other side of the argument, (Mr. Brent, of Baltimore, and Mr. Spencer,) were insisting that those who ascribe intelligence enough to the people to elect a Governor, ought, if they would be consistent, to favor the election of the judges of the court of appeals by a general ticket, he would inquire briefly whether there was not a manifest distinction in the cases assumed to be parallel.

The people of one section of Maryland may readily have the requisite information to elect a candidate for Governor residing in another section, because he personates a political creed or principle. The political opinions of a candidate for a political office, are known all over Maryland. His opinions entertained, in common with others, have been discussed, examined and illustrated upon every hill and valley of our wide-spread land. When the candidate is brought out, he is as perfectly at home by the fire-side of our people in one section, as he is in another. It was enough to know that he was sufficiently honest to carry out the principle for which he contended. He was a mere agent and depositary of political power. Now, carry that out, and apply it to the judiciary of Maryland. There was no analogy. You could not discover it. And if gentlemen could show him there was any analogy in the case of the judges, he would be pleased to learn. If they would show him that there was one of those great principles lying at the foundation of that political party to which he had given his youth and manhood, (and to his connection with which he looked back with no regret, having nothing to retract or to qualify,) involved in the choice of a judge, he would not be found faint-hearted in its advocacy. He stood now ready—he had always stood ready—to maintain the truth in that respect. If he had evidence to satisfy him that the court of appeals ought to be composed altogether of politicians of one class, he would be as untiring, uncompromising, and stern and steady in the maintenance of that opinion, as in his past political life.

But when gentlemen asked him to take a party course in reference to the election of Judges as analogous to the election of politicians to a political office, he would claim to have it clearly proved that they were to be clothed with political powers.

Show him what political principle they personate. Where was it? They were to be appointed to decide questions between A and B, in which the public generally had no sympathy. They were to decide questions of law. And gentlemen knew there was a wide distinction between the Supreme Court of the United States and the Court of Appeals of Maryland. In the former, great political questions were often to be decided; in the latter, it is difficult to anticipate that any question of that character will come up for determination. In our Court of