

## DEFERRED DEBATE.

## ELECTION OF JUDGES.

*Remarks of Mr. Spencer, Thursday, March 20th.*

Mr. SPENCER observed that his whole object was to reform and to correct abuse, generally—and among other things, to correct the abuse in allowing party considerations to control judicial appointments. He (Mr. S.) was not, at that time, going into a statement in relation to the manner in which the Judges were appointed, and to point out how the evil might be corrected; but certainly those who went for electing them by the people, entertained the opinion that the people would discriminate, and select none other than competent men. One of the great arguments in favor of electing the Judges was, that the people would discriminate and not be influenced by political preferences. And, in proof that the system had worked well, and for the purpose of showing, that notwithstanding all the machinery of party, the people had discriminated and were not influenced by party. Its advocates instanced Mississippi, New York, and other States, where it had been tried. But the gentleman, because this political evil had existed, was now for fixing it permanently upon the State instead of avoiding it. He was for saying, "You shall elect these officers, and make politicians of them," while he (Mr. Spencer) was for removing them as much out of political excitement as possible, and electing them at a time, if elected, when party spirit and feeling did not run so high as on other occasions.

## CAUCUS CONSULTATIONS.

*Remarks of Mr. Spencer, Tuesday, March 25th.*

Mr. SPENCER regretted that the effects of caucuses had not been more propitious; but he had come as one of the representatives of the people for the purpose of making a Constitution, and he lamented that so much time had been lost in making one. In considering the diversity of opinion which existed in the Convention, it seemed sufficient to authorize members having ardently at heart the settlement of the great questions at issue, if they could not do it here, to do it by agreement and consultation out of the House. He considered the remarks of the gentleman from Kent as intended for no other purpose than to throw reproach upon any measure which had received the sanction of a caucus outside of the House. He was surprised that there should be an effort made in this body to produce such an effect; because, if he was not grossly misinformed, this very Convention had taken its inception in a caucus, in which the gentleman from Kent had been a prime mover. When organizing this body, and when delayed from time to time in regard to the election of officers of this body, caucuses had been nightly held for a week in different wings of the capitol, in which the gentleman from Kent had taken part; and was one of a sub-committee appointed for the purpose of ascertaining whether by any mode the Convention could be organized. All the officers down to the door-keeper, had

such manner, as may be required by law. The Legislature shall provide a suitable annual salary in lieu of fees and perquisites, as at present exists.

Sec. 27. The High Court of Chancery shall continue as at present established, with such modifications as may be made by law, until the year 1860.

Costs of the present Judiciary of Maryland under the old constitution, as estimated by the Judiciary Committee:

12 associate judges of county courts at \$1,400 per annum, . . . . .	\$16,800
6 chief justices of county courts at \$2,200 per annum, . . . . .	13,200
1 chief judge of the court of appeals, extra pay allowed by law, . . . . .	300
Extra pay allowed to judges of Baltimore county and city, . . . . .	8,000
The chancellor's salary, . . . . .	3,000
66 judges of orphans' courts in the counties and city of Baltimore, at an average, by actual returns, of \$300 to each judge, . . . . .	17,800
Salary to the commissioners of insolvent debtors for the city of Baltimore, at \$2,000 to each, . . . . .	6,000
Salary of the judges of Baltimore city court, . . . . .	4,100
<b>Total costs of the present system, . . . . .</b>	<b>\$71,200</b>

Costs of the judiciary system, reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, under the new constitution:

3 judges of the court of appeals, at \$2,500 to each . . . . .	\$7,500
20 judges of county courts, at \$2,000 each . . . . .	40,000
4 judges of law and equity for Baltimore city, at \$2,500 to each . . . . .	10,000
1 judge for orphans' court business for the city of Baltimore, at \$2,000 . . . . .	2,000
1 police court judge for Baltimore city . . . . .	1,500
<b>Total cost of system under new constitution . . . . .</b>	<b>\$61,000</b>
<b>Add for one judge for Howard county . . . . .</b>	<b>2,000</b>
	<b>\$63,000</b>

Costs of the system, as here proposed by Mr. Jenifer:

4 judges of court of appeals, at \$2,500 . . . . .	\$10,000
8 judges of inferior judicial districts, at \$2,000 . . . . .	16,000
8 chancellors for the eight districts, at \$2,000 . . . . .	16,000
4 judges of law and equity for Baltimore city, at \$2,500 . . . . .	10,000
1 judge for orphans' court for same, at \$2,000 . . . . .	2,000
1 police court judge for Baltimore city . . . . .	1,500
	<b>\$55,500</b>

At half past three o'clock, P. M.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.