

for their city, I hope the proposition will be rejected, and the gentlemen from Baltimore city will learn to do to others what they would have others do to them. Our court at its last term never reached the contested cases on the civil docket, the term of the court being wholly occupied in trying criminals, and appeals from magistrates. The judiciary system as arranged in this Constitution is a gross perversion of what is due to every citizen of the State—"speedy justice."

Mr. TUCK withdrew the motion to postpone the further consideration of this subject until to-morrow.

Mr. RANDALL would state a single fact with regard to this district—it is to compare its equity business in the Court of Chancery, with that of the city of Baltimore, and he states this from the record furnished this Convention by the Register. Within the last five years there were five hundred and twenty-one suits brought in that court from Baltimore city. During the same period, this district of which we constitute one of the four counties, brought into that court two hundred and seventy-two cases.

Thus more than half as many cases as were brought from the city of Baltimore into the Court of Chancery, were brought there by this judicial district; and yet this district is to have only one judge for all its criminal, civil, and equity business. While Baltimore city has three separate courts secured by the Constitution, with the right in the Legislature to give them a fourth Court; a right which, with their ten delegates, no doubt they can obtain from the first Legislature meeting after the adoption of this Constitution. He did therefore insist, that if there is to be any change in this judicial system, the people of this and the adjoining counties, require additional judicial facilities much more than the city of Baltimore.

Mr. JENIFER. I did not expect to vote on this subject, because I feared my health would not allow me to be present, but as I am here and shall vote, I wish to make a single remark in explanation of the vote I intend to give. There has not been a single question that has come before this Convention, from its commencement to the present time, in which my constituents take a greater interest than that in relation to the judiciary system in general.

So far as regards the judicial bill reported by the committee on the judiciary, it is one in which I have felt much anxiety, believing that my constituents have taken a greater interest in this question, than any other before the Convention, save the subject of representation. So far as regards the city of Baltimore, there is no man from that city who is disposed to go farther than I am, to give her a judiciary suitable to all her wants. It is well known that the substitute which I laid on your table intending to call it up at a proper time, embraced every thing for the city of Baltimore which was supposed to be required by the representatives from that city. But further, I then stated, that any additions or alterations which might be required in any plan to give to

Baltimore a sound and efficient judiciary, would meet my support; and there has been a disposition evinced here to give to Baltimore whatever was required for that purpose. Certainly it has been the disposition of the lower counties. It is, therefore, with surprise that I have witnessed a disposition on the part of at least some of the delegates from the city of Baltimore, a determination not to extend to those counties a similar act of justice and courtesy. Gentlemen seem to think that they and they alone are the judges of what system is applicable to the city, and also to all the various sections of the State. In the circumscribed limits of a populous city, a single judge may efficiently administer justice to thousands, whereas in the extensive circuits in the country, one judge to three and four courts, extending from seventy to ninety miles, to perform all the duties of common law judge and chancellor, will be found to be more than can be done. You propose to abolish the High Court of Chancery—that independent of the loss the State will sustain in so able a Chancellor and so desirable a Court, will greatly enhance the inconvenience and difficulties to suitors in Chancery.

To three-fourths of the citizens of the lower counties it would be more convenient to go Annapolis or Baltimore for the transaction of business in equity, than to seek a Chancellor fifty, seventy, and ninety miles through the country and then not know where he may be found. This Constitution if ratified, is to continue for ten years, no part in the meantime can be altered or amended. However prejudicial it may act they are without remedy. True, it has been intimated that if the Constitution does not, upon trial, suit the city of Baltimore and the large counties, they having a majority, will call a Convention when they please. This doctrine has been advocated here. But we of the lower counties desire no revolution; we desire to frame a peaceful Constitution for the benefit of the whole State, and should, upon proper representation, be required to make all necessary alterations and amendments under the forms of the Constitution and laws of Maryland. If gentlemen are determined to fix upon us a system incompetent to accomplish the object for which it is intended, they cannot expect that we of the lower counties should tamely submit to those injuries alone—we desire that Baltimore should have a judiciary to suit her wants. Is it asking too much to claim for the counties such as their wants require?

I do not hesitate to pronounce that, if the city of Baltimore has not such a judiciary system in all its parts as is required for the business and police of that emporium of Maryland, it will be indebted to the course of policy pursued by its own representatives, demanding all for themselves, yielding nothing to others. This is the more to be regretted, because there are one or two of her delegates who have not, upon all occasions, considered Baltimore as the only part of Maryland.

Mr. GWINN. I only desire to say to the House that they will understand this as a test question as to the number of courts that shall be allowed