

184,000 persons and 128,000,000 of property. Have not they made a mixture of it upon the mixed basis?

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. I thought the gentleman got that unmixed.

Mr. SANDS. I am trying to get it unmixed. Now I will ask my friends if I have taken any partisan view of this subject? I have tried to treat it as any political economist would treat it, if his home was across the water and he had never been in the State, and had not a dollar's interest in it, and of course no party affiliation or interest. I have tried to view it wholly and solely from the stand-point of political economy. Republican government? You have not got it. You never have had it; and you never will have it until you get it upon the ground of some principle that approaches nearer the principle of representation according to population.

What would be the real difficulty of applying this principle even to Baltimore city? No real difficulty, I apprehend. It is urged here that the city and the counties are antagonistic. I say not a bit more than the head and heart are antagonistic, or than the brain and stomach are antagonistic. I say that any social or political disease which would affect the county would affect the city just as inevitably as any disease of the stomach affects the head. I hope we are not going to build up a system of government based on antipathies; because if we attempt such a thing we shall have eternal discord. You must erect your State government, if you want it to be stable and harmonious, not upon antipathies, but upon sympathies, not upon the theory that your interests are diverse and clashing, which they are not, but upon the theory that your interests are alike and harmonious. That is the only true principle upon which a stable government can be erected.

I have said nearly all I propose to say upon this subject. I should not have said anything about it—I had made up my mind to vote—if our friends had not seemed to have got under the impression that we had settled all this beforehand and meant to do our duty without saying our say. So far as I am concerned there is no such agreement. My vote here will be influenced by the reasons I have assigned. The very scene around us to-day is convincing proof to me that no system of government can exist in which the minority have usurped the rights of the majority; The majority will sooner or later learn its strength and its rights; and knowing them, and having power to assert them, it will do it, as it is doing it here to-day. What is this debate between the gentlemen and ourselves, other than a declaration upon the part of the majority of the rights of the majority, and the declaration on the part of the minority that they are going to hold on, if they can, to their ancient privileges? That is what it all amounts to,

nothing more nor less. If gentlemen will give me some good reason why a man in one portion of the State should have ten times the amount of representation here that I have or that any other man in the State has, I may vote for the minority report. But believing in republican government, and wishing my native State to approach as nearly as she may to the true theory of republican government, not only in theory, but in the practice and exemplification of the theory, I shall vote, with some very slight modifications for the report submitted by the majority of the committee.

One statement was reiterated by my friend from Prince George's, which I must beg for the last time to contradict. He says that we have stricken down the property of the slaveowner, and now wish to deprive him of his political rights. Neither assertion is a fact. I have not stricken down his property, nor aided in doing it. I deny it. I repudiate it. Nor am I for taking his political rights from him. The status which I aid in fixing for him is exactly my own, not one hair's breadth beneath or above it.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. I understood the gentleman that he was not a slaveowner. I am.

Mr. SANDS. I told you how I got rid of it. Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. Yes; and how you acquired it.

Mr. SANDS. No; I am not very quiet; anything else but quiet; the other side is my fault. I wish to repeat that I claim no other rights than I accord to the slaveowner. The other doctrine has been asserted, that the slaveholder has political rights that the non-slaveholder has not.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. I said no such thing.

Mr. SANDS. I did not refer to you.

Mr. CLARKE. I did not claim rights as a slaveholder, but I claimed that the emancipated slaves had rights as men.

Mr. SANDS. It is the same in my own county; so that there is an exact equality there.

Mr. CLARKE. How many slaves are there in Howard county? You have not changed at all under your basis of representation, but you have as many representatives now as before.

Mr. SANDS. If there are a great many negroes in Prince George's it is not my fault at all.

Mr. CLARKE. You have stricken down their representation.

Mr. SANDS. No, sir; the slave has not been represented upon this floor except a few years ago by Mr. Jacobs. Three-fifths of the Maryland slaves were very ably and impartially represented on that occasion. I repeat the assertion, that I have had nothing to do with striking down my friend's property or taking away his political rights. I would