

Mr. TODD. Is not Anne Arundel county about three times as large as Caroline county?

Mr. HENKLE. Still Anne Arundel is allowed only the same representation in the legislature as Caroline.

Mr. TODD. And are there not six, or eight, or ten times as many slaves in Anne Arundel as in Caroline?

Mr. HENKLE. And yet the difference in the white population is not so great as to justify the difference in the amount of taxable property. The tax paid by Caroline is \$5,304.05; by Anne Arundel \$18,488.88.

Now the changes effected by the apportionment that is likely to pass this convention, are very radical, and it seems to me perfectly indefensible upon any rules of justice. The committee on apportionment and representation in the last convention took into consideration every interest of the State. But here there is no regard paid to the property in the State of Maryland, or to the actual population of the State. All legislation has for its object the security and protection of both persons and property. Property is an object of governmental provision to almost the same degree that persons are. Now if you will look at the table of estimates, it will be found that this apportionment of representation bears no proportion whatever to the amount of taxable property in the different counties. Property should be represented and protected; and should be taken into consideration in graduating any scale of representation as well as the aggregate number of inhabitants in the different counties.

In many of the States, in some of the eastern States, which are continually held up to us here as paragons of excellence in every thing that pertains to governmental matters—taxation is the basis upon which representation is based. But in Maryland you are to pay no attention whatever to the amount of property in the several counties. Now in comparing Caroline county with Kent county, we find that Caroline county has but a little over two millions of dollars of taxable property, while Kent county has over five millions; yet Caroline county is allowed two delegates, while Kent county gets but one. The gentleman from Caroline (Mr. Todd) says that Kent county lacks but a little over one hundred white population to entitle her to two members. Well, sir, suppose she lacked only ten, it would be ten years before she could obtain that other representative, no matter what might be her increase in the meantime.

The former apportionment took into consideration all the interests of the State, property and the aggregate population. This is a great change to be effected. If this article is passed as proposed, it will effect a radical change; one portion of the State will be stricken down to a very small and diminu-

tive proportion, while another portion of the State will have its representation increased to an enormous extent. And how is that effected? Simply by making the white population only the basis of representation.

And why is it that all this is to fall upon the southern counties of Maryland at once? When Maryland was first settled the whole State started together in the onward march of progress and improvement; the southern counties and the western counties were all upon an equal basis. They have gone on and improved and developed themselves. Unfortunately it happened to be the fact that slavery existed in southern Maryland and did not exist in western Maryland. As these counties progressed and advanced, slave labor was employed in the southern counties, through no fault of theirs, by the force of circumstances, while in western Maryland free labor was employed. The western counties have become very populous and very wealthy. So have the southern counties on the eastern and western shores of Maryland. They have been developed in all those resources that make a people great and prosperous. The two portions of the State have gone on *pari passu*, and been equally represented in the legislature of the State, in proportion to their vast interests.

But now at a single stroke a death blow is aimed at this fair portion of the State. Suppose that slavery had not existed in southern Maryland; then its population would have been made up of free white labor, and it would have been represented here. But because they have had slaves, and that slave population now made free is to remain there, and they are to be deprived of representation to that extent, you force them back into a primitive condition; and now all that section of the State has to start as it were *de novo*, while the western portion of the State goes on with increased representation. It seems to me that this is most iniquitous and unfair. I cannot reconcile it with any principles of justice. That section of the State has gone on improving as well as the other section. Each has its class of laboring population, and heretofore each has had its laboring population represented. But now, simply by a piece of legislation enacted in this convention, one portion of the State continues to have its laboring class represented, while the other portion is to be deprived of that representation.

The gentleman from Caroline (Mr. Todd) has said, in referring to this county, that in those portions of Anne Arundel through which he has passed, he has seen nothing very favorable. I do not know how it is about property in Caroline county, for I have never been there. But I have heard that they have no real estate there; their property is all personal, and their farms are transferred annually, when the March winds