

If he were overburdened with business; if he could not get through with the business; if justice could not be dispensed to every citizen of the county, I would readily yield to the change contemplated by the gentleman from Somerset. But really it is not the fact. I speak with reference to my own county; and I believe the same parity of reasoning will apply to the other counties.

In the county of Worcester the court rarely sits more than a week, twice a year, there not being business enough to engage the court longer, criminal, common law and chancery business all combined. That shows that it would be utterly inexpedient to make any change. It is true that we have four terms during the year, a spring and fall term, and two intermediate terms; but the latter are merely formal assemblings of the court, there being no jury, and of course no jury trials. A few traverses before the court, and a little chancery business, constitute the whole business of the intermediate term.

I can see no reason then for the change. Our people do not require it; for I think I understand their views on that subject.

Therefore I shall oppose the amendment as proposed by the gentleman from Somerset, on the ground of inexpediency. I do not think the exigencies of the occasion require any such change. Under the old system the county of Caroline belonged to our circuit; but even then the business was despatched with facility without imposing any great labor upon the judges, under the old system of three judges. Since the change of 1850, when the labors have devolved upon one, he has with equal facility and promptitude and satisfaction, and in a manner entirely creditable to him, despatched the business, so as to meet the convenience and the interests of the people. Under these circumstances, I oppose this amendment; and I will add that our delegation are unanimous in that conclusion.

Mr. THOMAS. When I submitted a proposition as an amendment to the nineteenth section of this report, I was under the impression that that would meet the views of the majority of the convention; that the only change that was necessary was to put Baltimore county into a separate and distinct circuit. I am perfectly satisfied from what I have heard from the western counties, that Allegany, and Washington, and Frederick, require themselves to be erected into separate circuits; and for that reason I am perfectly willing and satisfied to vote for the proposition of the gentleman from Allegany (Mr. Hebb.) I think his proposition is better than the one offered by the gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Miller,) for more reasons than the one which I have given. The arrangement is not only better, less complex than the one submitted by the gentleman from Anne Arundel, but since this convention has

shown that it does not intend that the counties shall pay for their own judicial systems, but that the State shall, it rids Baltimore city of that additional taxation which she would be obliged to pay in case the one-judge system were adopted.

There is another reason why I shall support it; and that is that it leaves the orphans' court just where it is, and where it should remain. And I think that those gentlemen who have been voting with us upon these propositions should come in now and sustain the proposition of the gentleman from Allegany, believing, as I do, that it is satisfactory to a large majority of the representatives of the State, and will be perfectly satisfactory to the people.

Mr. DENNIS. I have but one word to say in response to the gentleman from Worcester (Mr. Purnell;) and it is that this is not a question as to how the judicial duties of the Worcester district have been performed. I concede to the gentlemen that the present occupant of that bench is one of whom any man in the limits of this land may well be proud. But the gentleman has a queer way of showing his love for his own people, and has a most astonishing way of showing his extreme friendship for the judge of whom he is so very proud. He is for imposing upon that judge the discharge of duties where 53,254 people are concerned, and leaving the adjoining district with 21,460. One ought not by any means to be burdened with a duty so much heavier than another man. The convention must see at once that it is desirable to equalize these districts. The amendment I propose separates Dorchester from the twelfth district, and leaves the two districts thus equalized:

TWELFTH DISTRICT.	ELEVENTH DISTRICT.
Worcester.....17,013	Talbot.....11,070
Somerset.....19,903	Caroline.....10,396
	Dorchester.....16,338
Total.....36,918	Total.....37,798

This brings the population very nearly equal; while, as provided by the amendment, the twelfth district will have 2½ times as many as the other. I leave the convention to say which is the best.

Mr. CHAMBERS. I have but little to say on the subject of the proposed amendment, and probably should not have said a word but for the recurrence to the question of expense. Do gentlemen recollect that 19-20ths of the business of the court of appeals is from the city of Baltimore? When they open an account of that sort they ought to pay 19-20ths of the salaries of the court of appeals, upon a mere arithmetical calculation, disregarding everything like the principles which should regulate the administration of justice by the organic law of the State.

With regard to this amendment, I person-