## THE STAR ad North Carolina Gazette, PURLISHED, WEEKLY, BY

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re ceals for each continuance.

STATE CONVENTION. DEBATE. Friday, June 19.

he articles fixing the number of bers for the Senate and House of mons, being under consideration. . WILLIAMS said, he did not eve of the article in relation to the te, which provides that in the 1841, and, every ten years therethe General Assembly should if the State into Election districts. hought once in twenty years would flicient, and moved to strike out nd insert twenty. . r. SHOBER was opposed to the

on. He thought it would be well e up the subject once in ten years, fter every new Census was taken ongress. If no changes had taplace since the last arrangement made, no new regulation would ecessary; but if otherwise, such would be taken as might be deem-

B. WELLBORN thought it best t the ten years remain. He wish-to retain the power. It could be or not, according to circumstan-There might be great changes in

erent parts of the State, in relation xation, in the course of ten years. Ir. MEARES thought it might that circumstances would it advisable to have districts ly arranged once in ten years; but, ther times, when no material changes taken place, it might seem to inve unnecessary trouble to have nges made so frequently. With pect to taxation, which had been itioned by the gentleman from lkes, he thought the amount of taxnight not to be determined by whatbeen paid into the Treasury in any year - the average of five or ten sucsive years ought to be taken; othere, a few wealthy men in a small nty, in order to obtain a Senator. ht join together and put up a Bild Table or two, in order to effect lical injustice to other counties.

Gen. SPEIGHT agreed with t'e ntleman from Pitt, that once in 50 that the regulation respecting the ouse of Commons should stand as it

He thought also, with the gentlein from Sampson, that in arranging election districts for Senators, the angement of the taxes for several ars ought to be taken. Indeed, the manent taxes, such as the land-tax I pull-tax, ought principally to be ten into account. What was raised Billiard Tables, Natural Curiosi-&c. were transitory and uncer-He was therefore, in favor of

amendment, and would be willing the first arrangement should be de in 1851, instead of 1841.

Ir GUINN, from Macon, rose and oppos the motion, on the ground that the land is county, is at present principally owned Indians, that in a few years, it will bene the property of the citiz ns, and the inty would then become more wealthy and oulous, and would expect to have a larger presentation in the Councils of the State hoped therefore, that so long a period as enty years would not be allowed to elapse, ore their rights could be taken into con-

Gen. SI EIGHT said the Eastern coun s as well as the Western might suffer great ary by extending the period to 20 years, fore any new arrang ment of efectoral new arrangement of tricts were nade; they owned immense uld soon be drained, and become very nable, and add great wealth to that porn of the State.

Governor SWAIN did not contemplate considerable increase in the Revenue of State for some time to come, except what Marise from a more correct system of givin the land of the State for taxation, acrding to its real value. He thought by attention being paid to this subject, and the correct management of the poll-tax, cen per cent in five years. There can be doubt that the black polls are not fairly ven in. A single example will serve to es olish this remark. The aggregate numof slaves in this State .462. At least one half of these were be een the ages of twelve and fifty years, d at the rate of 20 cents each, should have tributed to the Public Treasury, 24 646 While the entire amount of poli-tax ceived in that year from this source, and the same rate of taxation impos ery free male between the ages of 21 and in a population of little less than half s ion, was \$28,211, exclusive of the six cent, commissions retained by the She.

It would be seen that the Treasury Dement suffered greatly for want of more iciness in the collection of the Revenue.e improvements have been made since election of the Sheriffs by the people d when it is seen that the influence which ery county will have in the legislative ncils of the State will depend upon the ant of taxes which they pay into the tittled each to send a member,

Sheriff does his duty. After the year 1741, when the system of taxation shall al districts for our own Legislators, as for those for electing Members to Congress.

Judge DANIEL observed, that the motion thought with him, that all our fundamental negatived 76 to 52 laws should be of a permanent character, and

retain the power. Great changes had ta-not be persisted in since it appeared there then place within the last ten years, great was a decided majority for retaining the changes are every day taking place, and no highest number for the House of Commons, one can for tall a historical significant. one can forctell what events may occur, with be hoped no further attempt would be made in the next ten or fifteen years, to make a to reduce the number of either House. fresh arrangement necessary.

Dr. SMITH observed, that the Convention

Act directed that the election districts should to 4. be laid off at convenient and prescribed periods. He doubted whether my of the States deferred this business for twenty years. He believed that changes in most of the The present provision is ten years, which agrees with the time of taking the Census of all the States, and when we have to make regulations as to our Congressional-districts. if an incresse in our population renders it necessary. This matter might very well be as they may judge proper. In 1841, the other gentleman seemed disposed at this mo-General Assembly will have to act on the subject, and will make to act on the subject, and will make such regulations as

Dr. WILLIAMS did not wish to see the State upset every ten years where there was esperienced by postponing the change for ten years longer? It is said, the power had better be left with the people, to make a change, if necessary. He did not wish to hold out any encouragement to the people to make such changes; because he wished

in ten or twenty years. The latter period would afford time for becoming acquainted with the local feelings and wishes of the prople. I would be well, at all events, to have the system well adjusted in 1841, as the present mode of taxation seems to need amend

Mr. FISHER was opposed to this motion in all Electoral districts, whether for mem bers of Congress, or members of Assembly, leading men are apt to league together for the purpose of promoting particular views, and it is well, once in ten years, to break up those political associations.—So that the ob-ject which the gentleman from Warren dreads, would be in favor of the article as it

less trouble, and produce less excitement.
He had thought an intermediate course might He had thought an intermediate course might be best. He offered a suggestion on the subject. It would be necessary, he said, to make some temporary arrangement before the Convention adjourns, to continue in force for about five years. Would it not be expedient the temporary arrangement before the convention adjourns, to continue in force for about five years. Would it not be expedient them to the seatherness of North Carolina were made on the seatherness of these parties, but it may help us in making peace between them, briefly to advert to the causes which brought them into the seatherness of North Carolina were made on the seatherness of these parties, but it may help us in making peace between them, briefly to advert to the causes which brought them into the causes which brought them into the cause of these parties, but it may help us in making peace between them, briefly to advert to the causes which brought them into the causes which the causes which because which is the cause sessment shall take place in 1841, the se-cond in 1851, by which period, time will have been size as was de-manded by local causes. As the population swelled, its title flowed up into the interior to ars would be often enough to make bave been given for testing by experience the efficiency of the plan adopted, and make were of course much more extensive than those setting of Senators; but was of opinection of Senators; but was of opin- all succeeding ones, every twenty years to the East because of the sparseness of their thereafter

Judge G. mentinned some of the reasons which induced him to auggest this amendment. From the information which the gentleman from Macon had laid before the Convention, it was seen that it became necessary to make some provisions in their case. Contemplated improvements in some of the Eastern Counties have also been brought to

Whatever arrangements are deemed necessary for duly arranging the Senate, should be applied, if practicable to the House of

He made these suggestions neither as an Eastern nor a Western man. He came here to make peace between them.

The question was taken on Dr. Williams' Dr. WILLIAMS then moved to fill the

Judge GASTON then offered his amendment, observing, that it was his wish, in forming the bass of representation, to make

it as generally acceptable as practicable, and not that it should be particularly agreeable from the adjoining counties many local parties deal more. The first part of this act, provides to one section of the country, and exceptions were thus created and these finally settled down a mode for secertaining whether it be the will able to other sections. He hoped that what a into two, an Eastern and a Western party; the ever changes in the Constitution were adupt- one for meeting on the scaboard, the other for ed by this Convention, might prove accepta- meeting in the interior. It is immaterial for ble to every portion of the State, for treese, any great improvement fir the salve of property, in the Eastern portion of all the operations of the Legislature, and was

the state. He was obliged to acknowl dge that the value of real property in the county in which he resided, within the last fen years, had depreciated 33½ per cent., and he enter tained no hope of an increase of value in any tained no hope of an increase of value in any given time from the draining of Swamp ands or otherwise; but there was a satisfactory reason offered by the gentleman from Macon to expect that a great increase would in a few years, take place, in the value of lands in his county, as well as in its population, which ought to be provided for. There were other reasons for adopting this amend-ment. It is generally believed that our system of taxation is not as productive as it ought to be. Means will be taken by the Legislature, it is expected, to render it more so. It may then be proper to make arrange ments to meet the improved system of col feeting the revenue. After the year 1851, he would be willing that the arrangement of the election districts should take place but

ice in twenty years.
Mr. GUINN said, the estimation of the va ie of the lands in Macon was about 300,000 dollars He expected the titles to these inds would be obtained in a few years, so hat their taxes would amount to 25.0

The amendment was carried 77 votes to Gen. SPEIGHT proposed that the Convention should now proceed to the consider-

tion of the next Article. Mr. BRYAN wished some provision made relation to the borough towns before this Article was finally disposed or, and proposed an amendment, including the towns of Edenton, Newbern and Wilmington, as being en.

Judge GASTON silvised the gentleman from Carteret to withdraw his amendment for the present; that the committee who had he properly arranged, he should not be very the subject of borough representation under anxious whether future changes were made consideration would shortly report on it, every ten or twenty years, but he thought when a fit opp runity would be offered for it was as necessary to look after our electors pressing the claims of the towns in question Mr BRYAN did not withdraw his motion. A question was taken upon it, and it was

negatived. The question was then taken on striking of the gentleman from Pitt, would have no The question was then taken on striking effect on the floure of Commons. He out the words one hundred and twenty, and

Mr. HARRING FON then moved to strike out the word ffly as the number of members

was therefore in favor of his motion.

Gen WELLBORN repeated his desire to for the Senate.

Tetsin this provision. He thought it best to Gen. SPEIGHT hoped the motion would retain the power. Great changes had tannot be persisted in since it appeared there

Mr. HARRINGTON being unwilling to withdraw ha motion, at was negatived 120

Judge GASTON then proposed an amendment, which, he presumed, would not be objected to, which went to make the reading of the Articles in relation to both Houses a-States were made every five or ten years - gree with each other, which was made accordingly without objection.

The Convention then adjourned.

Thursday, June 18. The Convention being in Committee of the Whole, on the Artisles reported for regulating Representation in the Senate and House of Commons, Mr. GASTON rose and said, that as no ment to claim the attention of the Committee, he would avail himself of the opportunity to submit his views on this deeply interesting autoid not wish to see the jeet. Sensible as every member of this body to cars where there was What injury would be poning the change for tis said, the power had the negotie to make a constitution of the State, all must perceive that no part of their duty presented auch difficulties as that of reforming the basis of representation in the General Assembly. represe-entation in the General Assembly. We were now employed in altering the foundation on which our political temple had res ed and settled for more than half a century; and it will not be easy, with all our skill and caution, to to see more stability given to our establishments.

Mr. EDWARDS said, the present was a question of mere expediency, whether it will be best to district the State anew, once in ten or twenty years. The latter period would afford time for becoming acquainted with the level for become acquainted to the former and with the level for the contract of t members in the Legislature. The Convention has been called into being by the votes of the freemen of the State, but it was constituted upon this principle of equal power in the counties. A majority of the people had willed the Cona majority of the people had willed the Convention, but a majority of the counties was decidedly opposed to it. The delegates, said Mr. G. were chosen immediately after the decision of the people was made, and it cannot be doubted but that they bring into the Convention the opinions. Serious interests and projections. opinions, feelings, interests and prejudices en-tertained and felt by their respective consti-tuents. A large portion, a majority of them probably, have some with a strong dislike of the Judge GASTON said, he had been greats by embarrassed by this question. To make an assessment every ten years, would probably be the most correct course; but to have it made once in twenty years, would give less trouble, and produce less excitement. He had thought an intermediate course might

time laid off of such convenient size as was detion, when the existing Constitution was formed, the State was found distributed into counties small towards the seaboard and large toward the West, but with no very marked in the numbers which they respectively containgarded as equal, and to the inhabitants of each was given the power to elect one member to the Senate and two to the House of Commons of the General Assembly. The large counties soon breame more populous, and for a time there was no difficulty with the Legislature in dividing size when the number and convenience of their enizens required it; nor was the Legislature importuned by petitions for this purpose except when a reasonable cause existed for the application. But by the Constitution no seat of Government was established. The Legislature held amendment for striking out, and carried 63 its session every year at such place as the Legislature of the previous year appointed by Reblank with the word twenty, which was car- place of its sitting became a question on which the greatest excitement was test. The members towns which were solicitous to get the benefits of a Legislative session, exerted themselves with to say to us, you shall consider certain proposed zeal in supporting their respective pretensions amendments to the Constitution, and you may This zeal was communicated to the members consider others. Sir, they have done a great

the Pederal Constitution, to fix the permanen sent of Government for the State. After severe contentions and by a very small majority, the spot on which this City has been since built was selected for the purpose. Complaints of management, intrigue and bargaining were preferred against the majority by the unsuccessful justy—years passed by before the necessary laws could be enacted for carrying into execution the judgment of the Convention-and after they were passed, fears were expressed and indications occasionally made of a purpose by another Convention to change the seat of enment. It is not wonderful that under these circumstances on a mathematical or ideal line unning through the State a little to the West of this City was regarded as divading it into two sections with dissimilar interests, opposite purposes and all nost hostile feelings. The most untounded suspicions and jealousies were en-tertained on both sides. Who does not know that when any class of men is opposed by others us a class, whether it be a sect in religion or a party in politics, the vilest slanders and the most stupid falschools are mutually circulated and accredited? Who that has long been engaged in public life, and calmly reviews his course, does not feel remorae for the injustice which he has done to the motives of his advertaries? If under any circumstances the West applied for the admission of a new county or for the division of an old one, the East had no question but that the sole motive was a solicitude for more power. The West not having their fair share of power, were anxious to forcess it in the only way by which, under the Constitution, it could be suggested, and sometimes pressed for the areas and sometimes pressed for the agreement, and sometimes pressed for the areas of counties when the wants of lowed as to others. The cost commands the performance of the duty as explicitly as it for-bids the transgression of the power. Some party in politics, the vilest slanders and the most stupid falschoods are mutually circulated

their people did not perceptorily require it.—
But right or erong, necessary or unnecessary, it became a maxim in party politics that no new county should be made in the West unless it sould be induced by a new county also in the East. With a great superiority of unmbers on their side, the West—the decaded majority of the people—were thus entrolled and kept down in this party warfare by a ninority of the people in the East. It could not but happen, as it has happened, that this majority should become deeply dissatisfied with the political institutions of these country and valencementy demand such a shange in them as would correct this artificial inferiority. Nor could it well be otherwise, that those who had so long struggled with success by means of their every maintings, against the purpose of the Convention act to bury happened, which can be adopted in practice. The Legislature have unquestionably endeavored, and always will endeavor to make the contributions of their country and valencement ruch a should have industed in such a curre. It led to their adoption of the section of the State, as about the purpose of the Convention act to bury hyperity, should feel an almost panie, lear at being called on to surrender the sceptre of powering called on to surrender the sceptre of powering and profitics as at the lart here being called on to surrender the sceptre of powering the purpose of the command of the People it is, that the original causes of afference have a second to the command of the People in it, that the original causes of afference have a second to the manual of the People in it, that the original causes of afference have a second to the command of the People in it, that the original causes of afference have a second to the command of the People in it. So could be taken as the criterion of property.—

Taxation is not indeed an uncring the second of the post and to abstain from what its command of the people in the best which can be adopted in practice. The Legislature have unquestioned the people of t it is, that the original causes of difference have it is, that the original causes of difference have disappeared. The permanent seat of Government is unquestionably fixed, and there is prostably not a man in the State who entertains a wish or an apprehension that it will ever be disturbed. But the fears and mistrusts of each other—the miserable jealouses and suspicious thus engendered and long entertained—cannot be immediately banished. When he who gave to the sange, whether the terms of combining to us of the sange, whether the terms of combining to which representation was apportioned. If the gentleman to the sange with a sange with the dual content of the sange whether the terms of combining to which representation was apportioned. If the gentleman to the sange whether the terms of combining to which representation was apportioned. If the gentleman meant only to declare his opinion that should not pass, his commandment hals it "be ty should be performed to show that in truth, still," it quaits at his voice and instantly sinks the terms are fair and equitable. still;" it quaits at his voice and instantly sinks the terms are fair and equitable.

A espitions eritisism may perhaps consure the subjects of taxation, he human passion, like the billows of the ocean, appeared to him efficult to had fault with the continue to swell and to rage long after the great principles on which it was based. There storm has subsided which lavited them into tary.

not reason to lear, that too many of us oere, come tather as negociators for conficting parties, charged with the duty of upholding their respective pretensions and of resisting to the se which may be advanced on the The most perplexing difficulties do then st-tend the task of anisfactorily adjusting this vex-ed question. But the path of duty is always obed question. But the path of daty is newly to structed by obstacles, and he who because of them, shrinks from the performance of what he owes either to his God, his fellowmen, or himself, adds cowardled to guilt. The difficulties are such as to call for the exercise of wisdom, moderation, justice, candor, and femoness—as should nerve us for high efforts, intellectual and should nerve us for high efforts, intellectual and should nerve us for high efforts, interfectual and moral, and keep down as far as the frailty of our imperfect nature will permit, every prejudice, passion and unworthy influence. But they are not insuperable. They can be overcome—they ought to be overcome—and we shall fail, miserably fail, in what our country demands and our consciences enjoin, if we do not overcome them. An omission to settle this question now, in such should regard as no ordinary calamity. He did should regard as no ordinary calamity. He did not anticipate indred, in that event, the result predicted by the distinguished gentleman from Honombe, (Governor Swain) a gentleman for whom he took pleasure in testifying the highest affection and respect. That gentleman, not in the language of menance, for he was perfectly ture not menance was intended by its meaning the language of menance, for he was perfectly sure no menace was intended, but in carnest language had predicted, that if a satisfactory arrangement were not now made, the People of the West would rise like the strong man in his unshorn might and pull down the entire political edifice. Sir, said Mr. G., the strong man of Zorah, the son of Manoah, was brought from his prison-house into the Temple of Dagon to do honor to the impious feast and to make sport for the enemies of his country. Bowing down with all his might, he tugged and shook the with all his might, he togged and shook the massy pillars which upheld the ponderous roof till he buried all beneath one hideous ruin. It was a glorious deed. He fell a martyr and a heavy retorious among the alsin. But should our brethren of the West, in a moment of excited passion because of a deferred hope or blasted passion because of a deferred hope or blasted that every day's experience, must convince us, expectation, violetaly upturn and overthrow the existing Constitution, the mad triumph will be a triumph over order and law, over themselves triumph over order and law, over themselves the mixt of passion, often tempters to the men, unand their friends and their country. This surely would be their very last resort, their ultima 
ratio, which nothing but hopeless oppression 
could excuse and which they will never adopt 
ed as to bring the steasty influence of interest in 
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the revenue disbursers. It was unimpossible to deny that they have cause of complaint. It is impossible to insist that on any principle of free government, the present distrihution of political power can be longer up-held. They have urged their complaints abmost as one man, and have assented to terms of adjustment, much rate and reasonable, the rejection of which now must exasperate resentment, and raise yet higher their demands. No government ou earth can be long insceable to the tess of a majority of its citizens. The despot sometimes, and often to his own destruction, attempts to keep it down by the bowstring or the aword: but in a mural and free government it must be allayed, and it can be allayed only by concession. We are not only urged to complete the proposed adjustment by a very consideration of pariotism, but bound by the obligation of a solemn oath scems strange that there can be a difference of opinion in constraing the explicit injunctions of the Act which was ratified by the People, and

which called this body into being. Some gen-themen are disposed to think, that in calling this Convention, the People have done on more than

consider others. Sir, they have done a great deal more. The first part of this act, provides

directly or indirectly evade or disregard the duclares that in voting for a Convention, the pen-ple shall be understood as having pronounced their will that the Convention thall frame and devise amendments by which the members of the Senate shall be reduced to a number not less than 34, nor more than 50, to be elected by disricts and according to the ratio of taxation, and shall trame an amendment whereby to reduce the members of the House of Commons, to not less than 90 nor more than 120, to be elected by counties or districts or both, according to Federal numbers. If the people command this to be done by the Convention, is it not the duty of the the duty of each delegate, honestly and in carnest to contribute his exertions to the fulfilmen of this command? Should be act otherwise, does be not evude and disregard the duties enjoined on him? This section then proceeds to point out several other proposed amendments, which the Convention may, or may not, at its discretion make in the Constitution. The 14th section designates the limits which the Convention is forbidden to transcend, and which, therefore, no member is to evide or disregard. The limits

this resolve than to find toult with the command taken as the criterion of property.—
He who enters upon a prescribed task with a The gentleman from Greene, had e-

We know not each other as we ought, and we the Senate, and lederal numbers as the ratio of ness might be found —but the objection need not here with the dispositions which we representation in the other house —The gentleshould have. Children of the same common form firetne, (theneral Speight,) had objectto the amount of the revenue thus colcountry, having in truth but one and the same oil to the first as not giving its due weight to the lected being considered in the taxation interest; and alike desiring only what is right, East, and had objected to the second as not givmeterest; and alike desiring only what is right, we ought to meet as members of the same family of the countries, seemed to him rather of the good of all. But is there not reason to lear, that too many of us bere, for exam were it well founded, unless the support of last-finding, could not be complained of as unjust come taker as negociators for conflicting parties, charged with the duty of unholding their ed cach other and left the arrangement to the East, as the tax seconding is posed wrongs were unequal, they counterbalance to the East, as the tax according to ed each other and left they arrangement tair. If our returns, was collected there only; equal weights be taken out, or put into apposite scales of the same balance, the equilibrium is not accept the same balance, the equilibrium is not disturbed at all.—As there is then no unharmosa vice and dissipation, it still indicated shown of a sectional character, let us see if there

The necessity of two houses of legislation as checks upon the liste, improvidence, sudden im-pulse, and intemperate excrement of either, is so universally admitted, that it may be regarded so universally admitted, that it may be regarded as a political axiom. In the constitution of these two houses, it is desirable that they should not be liable to feel at the same moment that impurise or excitement which leads to luste and impro-vidence. In the federal Constitution, one broach of the Legislature is chosen by the respective States, as co-ordinate in impers of the Union-and the other branch is cloven by the people in the different States according to population. the different States according to popul The propriety of this arrangement arises from the peculiar nature of that Constitution which binds together, as well the States as the people of America. It is to many purposes a confederacy of the States, and to all others, it is a government operating directly upon the eithers, it is a government operating directly upon the eithers of the Unit-ed States. To keep up the behavior between its federative and national character, the Senate is framed as fitted to protect the former, and the House of Representatives, constituted so as to secure the latter. To every law the concurrent action of these bottles is indispensible—and thus the two great principles of the Constitution are upheld. upheld, as checks upon cheh other. In the Constitution of a State, all the operations of whose government are not only direct upon its citizens, but wholly confined to matters of interior concern, the only interests likely to be often arrayed against each other, are those of property and of persons. Such a government is formed for that every day's experience, must convince us, that a fancied immediate advantage, magnified by the mist of passion, often tempts us to lovego our our Legislature, is intended especially, to repre-sent and protest property. He had heard it ob-jected to the constitution of this body, that a pour man was often as estimable as a rish man, and that it was a departure from Republican and trait it was a departure from Republican and trait it was a departure from Republican and trait it was a departure from Republican and representation should go hand in principles, to allow the latter to vote for a Senntor and not to permit the former to vote us as a to should be borne in mind, that governments are formed tor practical purposes, and not to present themes for the exercise of schoolmen and de-

"Horth makes the man; want of it the fellow; the country in assessing the value of land, and each country seems to strive." The rest is all but Leather or Prunella It is not because of his personal de- with its neighbor in bringing down the sert, that the privilege of voting for a assessment, so as to lessen its share of Senator has been secured to the Free-contribution to the public necessities. holder, but that the rights and inter- The Sheriffs in the respective counties ests of Freeholders, as such, should have also temptations to overlook not be invaded and broken down, subjects of taxation, and facilities in The most exciting principle of action withholding what is actually received of the people that a Convention shall be called in civilized society, is the desire of for taxes. It is not unusual to see the for amending the Constitution, in the particulars gain. Regulated, it is the great contribution of a county to the public tion shall be called and county in the event stimulus to industry, order and temperature vary litty per cent, when a Once formed, men accustomed to act together that the majority of the People shall have the perance—uncherked, it leads to plun-change is made from an incapable of der, violence and outrage. It is at careless Sheriff to an officer of a differdelegate that take his seat in Convention until der, violence and outrage. It is at carcies section These matters cersecuring to every one the fruits of tainly require Legislative remedies; What are the duties which he is thus living to execute, and the limits which he is those whose acquisitions have been will result from adopting taxation as clares that in section dethis principle, as it operates in our inspire the people and the magistrates country, an aristocratic principle. - of every county with an animated :: From the ease with which property is terest in the fair assessment, collection acquired, and the rapidity with which and payment of the taxes of their counit is spent, there are here no permanent orders of rich and poor. The poor of yesterday, are generally the rich to-day, and the rich of this day, will probably be classed among the poor to-morrow. If these changes weight. Laws are always most faithshould not happen among those who now do or do not hold property, it is very certain that they will take place among their children. The Scnate, therefore represents the interests which spring from the possession of proper- proach of being unjust to the East, ty, and the rule for its apportionment, let us see whether that laid down for as laid down in the Convention act, the other House has not been improas laid down in the Convention act, that is, the ratio of taxation, seems to be peculiarly suited to the constitution of such a body. The principle which the gentleman from Greene (Gen. Speight) proposes, that of equal representations by counties, is supported by nothing but existing usage—stands condemned by the People, and has had its day.

ue according to which representation was apportioned. If the gentleman meant only to declare his opinion that these tables should be suppressed, and not made the subjects of taxation, he cordially concurred with him. He thought that other and much more fit vice and dissipation, it still indicated an ability to pay.

But there are peculiar reasons why

taxation should be made the basis of representation in one branch at least of the Legislature. Alarm is express-ed, and no doubt is honestly felt, by a portion of the intelligent and reflecting community near the sea-board, lest the West, on getting the ascendency, might be tempted to embark in wild schemes of Internal Improve-ments. He verily believed these fears were extravagant. He believed that the best interests of the country called aloud for some energetic plan by which the hidden resources of ou country might be brought to light and its sleeping energies roused into action. He felt a strong conviction, that the cautions habits of this people afforded a reasonable security that wild and expensive schemes would not be speedily adopted, whether the balance of power remained in the East, or should be divided between the East and West. The great danger was of continued inaction, and not of rash enterprise. But it was fair and reasonable to reserve a check boon im-providence, in case this lethargy should be thrown off and the State determine to improve its physical condition. This reasonable check would be found in requiring for every plan hand.

There is no individual acquainted with the administration of the financial themes for the exercise of schoolmen and de-claimers. The poor man may be personally, for more meritorious than the man of property. Personal merit depends on intelligence, integri-ty, firmness, and temperance. He who were a tow shirt, or no shirt at all, may, in all that respects personal merit, be infinitely superior to the profligate rich man, or the narrow heart-ed and unfeeling miser. Nothing can be more true than the sentiment of our great didactic Po-et, that