

printing and reporting both—at a cost of \$6,500, and yet the committee had contracted to give \$8000 for reporting and printing sketches; and now, after the lapse of a few months, it was proposed to give two thousand dollars additional to the reporter, and in a short time, no doubt, the printer would ask an additional sum, for so he had been informed by the chairman of the committee. He voted for it, and why? Because the gentleman from Kent, [Mr. Ricard,] one of the committee, had stated, at least he understood him so, that the printing would not cost over \$2700, which would thus leave \$1300, and that it would not absorb the whole \$4000. Then taking the \$1300 from the \$2000 which they were about to allow to the reporter, and it would only make an additional sum of \$700—that was, \$8700. But, in place of this, he now found that the printer come in and asked an extra allowance, which should certainly be allowed.

He concurred entirely with the gentleman from Allegany, [Mr. Smith,] and was willing to pay liberally, and what it was worth. When the statement was made that the printer would not absorb the \$4000, the chairman of the committee sat silent, and gave them no details. The gentleman from Kent (Mr. Chambers,) had given them an argument on courts of justice, and had said that the people being the jury that were to decide upon their acts, it was right that they should have the evidence submitted to them. But Mr. S. thought that the evidence would go before the jury after the case had been decided, because the speeches which were delivered on the twenty-first of March, were not printed until the tenth day of April. Thus the speeches delivered on the twenty-first of April, could not be published until the tenth of May.

MR. BOWIE. That is the fault of the printer, not of the reporter.

MR. STEWART desired to know what was the use of reporting without having them printed? Who could read them? The argument used to get this enormous sum was, that it was a science that could not be understood without great trouble. After they had adjourned, and after the constitution had been submitted, and either rejected or ratified, then, and not till then, would the people get the reports of the debates from this time out. He could demonstrate it. Suppose they should sit until some time in May. The Constitution was to be submitted on the first of June. The printing was twenty-two days behind. Now it was evident, that if the Convention should sit till the middle of May, which he believed would be the case, the people would not get the debates until after they had either ratified or rejected the Constitution; then the evidence would not be worth paying for as evidence, though supposing that it would be worth paying for as evidence, which he believed it would be, were the debates printed in time.

The gentleman from Kent, (Mr. Chambers,) had alluded to the people of Caroline, in a handsome and complimentary way, for which, on the part of that people, he tendered him their sincere thanks, and he felt grateful that a gentle-

man of so much distinction had acknowledged the character of that people to be fair and respectable, and worthy of the greatest admiration. He had said that there were an independent class of people in Caroline. Now, he must say, that he did not believe in their character and their habits, their economy, intelligence and industry, they were surpassed by any portion of the country. They were a people who paid as they went. They did not indulge in extravagance at others expense, and it might well be that his colleagues thought it was an enormoussum to give a man thirty or \$40 a day, when he must toil from morning till night, and then at the end of the year have a few bushels only of corn to sell. Yet, he would venture to say, there was not a county in Maryland, where the people were more independent than in Caroline. It might be something strange to lawyers what he was about to relate, which was this: That he had been practicing law for some six years, and had never had occasion to put his pen to paper in order to charge a fee. What did that speak? Why, that when they employed a lawyer, they paid him, and they did not engage his services unless they needed them. When the delegates from Caroline and Washington counties came here, they did so with a determination to protect the treasury of the State, and give reform to the people of the State. He regretted to say, that in their efforts to do so they were not met in this Convention, by fair argument. So strenuously had the delegates from Washington, insisted on proceeding with the business of the Convention, with economy and dispatch, that they had been styled by the gentleman from Kent, [Mr. Chambers,] the Washington county screw, alluding, he supposed, to the call for the previous question. He wished that we had more screws of the same kind here. He wished that the people had a screw and a lever in their own hands, and then this Convention would have found a screw that would not have permitted many things to have gone on here. [Laughter.] But it had been said that we should pay the reporter. He would have no objection to that—none in the world; but he knew it might be said that he was going to make capital for the people of Caroline—for Buncombe. [A laugh.] Ah! but that charge was not made when he voted for the basis of representation that was adopted.

Now, he knew it was said in private, if not here, that he would ruin his popularity at home. And yet, notwithstanding that warning, he followed the bent of his own sense of right and justice; and he trusted that what he now said, would not be regarded as for Buncombe, or intended to tickle the ear of Caroline county—for he had no motive in doing so. He would say, then, that if they had been more prudent, more cautious, more attentive to business, there might have been some show of plausibility to give the reporter the proposed sum. Why, he asked, was he in favor of employing a reporter? Because he saw here men of talent, of ability, and of standing, who would, in all probability, enlighten the people on many subjects, and furnish