

Mr. Kilbourn then proceeded to discuss the present school system.

The fifteen minutes allowed having expired before Mr. K. concluded,

Mr. Mitchell moved to suspend the rules in order to allow the gentleman from Anne Arundel to finish his argument.

Objection was made, and after some discussion Mr. Kilbourn moved to postpone the further consideration of the subject until tomorrow.

Mr. Ringgold opposed any postponement. There was no subject which was better understood than this subject of education, and the universal desire of the people was that the miserable system which had been foisted upon us should be abolished. They wanted no statistics on the matter; they all knew about the Rev. Mr. Van Bokkelen, and that his system was rotten to the core. Too much time had been consumed already in discussing questions which were already thoroughly understood, and sixty days was ample time enough to complete the work of this Convention.

Mr. Brent said this subject was one which deeply concerned the people of his county (Charles) and the whole people, and he thought it very necessary that the matter should be discussed at length, and therefore moved to go into committee of the whole.

The motion was agreed to, and the Convention resolved itself into committee of the whole, with Mr. Jones, of Somerset, in the chair.

Mr. Kilbourn then resumed the floor, and read from the reports of the State Superintendent (Rev. Mr. Van Bokkelen) that universal freedom demands universal education. It had been charged that there was a disposition to drag this system into the political arena. This was not so—they found it there. He had a duty to perform to his constituents, and it was the opinion of nineteen-twentieths of the people of his county (Anne Arundel) that this system should be abolished as soon as possible, so as not to interfere with existing contracts.

The same ideas had been infused into the subordinate