

On motion of Mr. Brewer, the Convention then resolved itself into committee of the whole, Mr. Dent, of St. Mary's in the chair.

The unfinished business in committee being the article on the judiciary department, was then taken up, the third section being under consideration, and the question being on the amendment of Mr. Archer, to make the term of the judges fifteen years instead of during good behavior.

A debate then ensued, in which Messrs. Ringgold, Gill, Garey, Barnes, Marbury, Cosgrove, Dobbin and Archer participated.

Mr. Dobbin moved to amend by making the term twenty years and making the judge ineligible for re-election, which was disagreed to.

Mr. Tarr, of Worcester, moved to make the term ten years, which was disagreed to.

Mr. Tarr, of Caroline, moved to make the term twenty years, and the judge to be re-eligible. Disagreed to.

Mr. Dobbin moved an amendment that after reaching seventy years while in office, a judge may be continued in office by resolution of the Legislature for such time as they may see fit, by a resolution to be passed at the next session preceding such period, such time not to exceed the limit of his term. Agreed to.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. Archer as amended, when it was agreed to. Mr. Archer's amendment fixes the term of office at fifteen years.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the committee then rose, reported the section as amended, and asked leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

The section now stands as follows:

"Section 3. The judges of the said several courts shall be elected by the qualified voters in their respective judicial circuits, as hereinafter provided, at the general election to be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November next. Each of the said judges shall hold his office for the term of fifteen years from the time of his election, and until his successor is elected and qualified, or until he shall have attained the age of seventy years,