

bers would now go with him in asking the previous question.

The call for the previous question being sustained, the question recurred on the amendment of Mr. Mitchell, when it was disagreed to by a vote of 63 to 32.

Mr. Jones, in explanation of his vote in opposition to the amendment, quoted as a precedent the fact that the law of evidence had been, to some extent, laid down in the federal constitution.

Mr. Keating, in explanation of his vote against the amendment, said that he was opposed to putting any provision on this subject in the constitution at all.

When Mr. McKaig's name was called he rose and said that he was in favor of giving the right of testimony to the negro, but not the right to sit as a juror or the suffrage. He was like Harrison when wounded in the fort by Proctor with his British regular and Tecumseh with his wild Indians. Harrison withdrew his small force from the outer bastions and made a successful fight in the inner ones. Had he attempted to hold both he would have lost both; so it was with him (Mr. McK.) The oxen of Bashor were roaring at Washington, and something should be yielded to outside pressure. He would surrender this outer bastion of the right of testimony, but he would place his back on the jury and suffrage rights and say, "Come one, come all; this rock shall fly from its firm base as soon as I." [Laughter.] This much might be done to quiet the Yankee howling, and avert the irruptions of the Puritans of the North, who, in his opinion, were the worst part of God's creation. [Laughter.]

The amendment of Mr. Peters was then disagreed to.

Mr. Tarr, of Caroline, had come to Annapolis determined to go against the consideration of anything relating to the negro. He had hoped that it was an obsolete question. This idea of negro testimony had never been agitated among the people of the State. Mr. Tarr moved an amendment that the negro shall not be competent as a witness until so declared by the Legislature.

Mr. McKaig contended that the testimony clause should be inserted in the constitution. He thought that it was better to yield this point and fight their opponents on the