

gentlemen who left here this morning, and who expected that the question would not be taken this week. If Friday was fixed, he did not see how they were to get here. He moved Saturday.

Mr. MERRICK hoped that a definitive vote would be taken at all events during the present week. With that reservation, he was willing to take any day on which it was probable that the greatest number of members would be present.

After a suggestion by Mr. DORSEY, the exact purport of which did not reach the Reporter's ear.

Mr. DIRICKSON enquired whether, if the Convention should determine to close debate on any fixed day, a motion to re-consider would be in order?

The PRESIDENT replied in the affirmative—adding that this question was subject to the same rules as any other.

The question was then taken on filling the blank with Saturday.

And it was rejected.

Mr. MERRICK then moved Friday at two o'clock.

Mr. HARBINE moved three o'clock, remarking that his colleagues could not reach here by two o'clock.

The PRESIDENT stated the question to be, first, on the day.

Mr. STEWART, of Caroline, moved to-morrow at twelve o'clock.

The PRESIDENT said the question would be first on the most distant day.

The question was taken, first, on the motion of Mr. MERRICK, to fill the blank with Friday.

And it was agreed to.

The question then recurred on the hour. Mr. BROWN suggested twelve o'clock.

Some desultory discussion followed on this point.

Mr. BUCHANAN, (naming an intermediate hour,) suggested one o'clock.

Mr. HARBINE said, the object of fixing a day for the termination of the debate was to give time to gentlemen to get here before the question was taken. Now, he asked this question. If members could not reach here by Friday, what was the use of taking a vote on that day, when they would certainly be here on the next? The gentleman from Allegany, (Mr. Smith,) had designated one gentleman. He, (Mr. H.,) knew of another, and there were no doubt other gentlemen to whom the same remark was applicable. He, (Mr. H.,) did not desire to procrastinate the deliberations of this body; he did not wish to see the Convention detained one day longer than was indispensably necessary for the transaction of the public business. His motion contemplated the extension of the time limited for debate only one hour. Three o'clock was the usual hour of adjournment. By terminating the debate at that hour on Friday, the voting might commence on Saturday morning, and not a single moment would be lost. He hoped that his amendment would be agreed to.

Mr. DIRICKSON said, he hoped that the amendment proposing the hour of three would be agreed to, because that was the furthest time which had

been designated. For his own part he was unwilling to fix any day for the termination of the debate.

It seemed strange to him that when one, two, and nearly three weeks had been given to the discussion of matters of minor importance, the debate on this great and vital question—upon which the representatives of the people in every section of the State ought to have an opportunity to express their sentiments—should be brought to a close in three or four days. He would not consent to fetter debate. If gentlemen absented themselves from their places, let them settle that matter with their constituents; and let them not require the Convention, for the mere sake of accommodating them, to conform their action to their wishes, when it might be at war with the peculiar wishes of their own constituents.

He would be compelled to vote in favor of the proposition of the gentleman from Washington county, (Mr. Harbine,) simply because, as he had stated, it proposed the furthest hour that had been named.

Mr. HARBINE asked the yeas and nays on the adoption of his motion, (i. e. three o'clock;) which were ordered, and being taken, resulted as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't, Morgan, Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Lee, Dorsey, Jennifer, Sherwood of Talbot, Colston, Phelps, Chambers, of Cecil, McCullough, Miller, McLane, McCubbin, Bowling, Dirickson, McMaster, Hearn, Fooks, Jacobs, Sappington, Magraw, Nelson, Thawley, Stewart of Caroline, Hardcastle, Fiery, Harbine, Davis, Kilgour, Hollyday and Smith—34.

*Negative*—Messrs. Ricaud, Mitchell, Donaldson, Randall, Kent, Sellman, Weems, Brent of Charles, Merrick, Howard, Buchanan, Bell, Chandler, Ridgely, John Dennis, James U. Dennis, Williams, Hicks, Goldsborough, Bowie, Sprigg, Grason, George, Wright, Shriver, Gaither, Biser, Annan, Stephen-on Gwinn, Stewart of Baltimore city, Brent of Baltimore city, Sherwood of Baltimore city, Ware, John Newcomer, Michael Newcomer, Brewer, Weber, Fitzpatrick, Parke, Shower, Cockey, and Brown—43.

So the Convention refused to fix three o'clock.

The question recurred on the motion of Mr. MERRICK, (i. e. two o'clock.)

Mr. DIRICKSON now moved that the whole subject be laid upon the table; and asked the yeas and nays on that motion, which were ordered, and being taken, resulted as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Morgan, Dent, Hopewell, Ricaud, Lee, Weems, Dalrymple, Bond, John Dennis, James U. Dennis, Hicks, Goldsborough, Phelps, McCubbin, Dirickson, McMaster, Hearn, Fooks, Jacobs, Kilgour, and Waters—21.

*Negative*—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't, Blakistone, Mitchell, Donaldson, Dorsey, Randall, Kent, Sellman, Brent of Charles, Merrick, Jennifer, Howard, Buchanan, Bell, Chandler, Ridgely, Sherwood of Talbot, Colston, Williams, Chambers of Cecil, McCullough, Miller, McLane, Bowie, Sprigg, Bowling, Spencer, Grason, George, Wright, Shriver, Gaither, Biser, Annan, Sappington, Stephenson, Magraw, Nelson,