

justify. The reception of \$20,000 from the Treasury of the State for time which has not been given to the State is something which moral science will not justify. We have precedent as well as the moral law to justify us in docking members for their absence from this Convention. Such was the custom, if my information is correct, in the old colonial Legislature, and I apprehend they understood what is right as well as we do. I do not think that Sunday ought to be deducted, for reasons which I consider it unnecessary to assign. I would remark that the \$15 for the three days allowed, will pay members the amount of money they pay for their board during the five days the Convention is not sitting, and also the amount they expend in traveling from Annapolis to their homes and from their homes back again, with perhaps a few exceptions. I had inserted in the order "two days," but at the suggestion of some gentlemen around me I made it "three days."

Mr. PURNELL. I do not desire to oppose an adjournment of this body, if it be the sense of the Convention to adjourn; but I wish to say in reference to the suggestion of the gentleman from Talbot (Mr. Valliant) that while I concur with him fully in the necessity of economy and in not allowing compensation for services which are not actually rendered, yet he does not seem to me to take so comprehensive a view of this subject as the facts justify. So far as I am concerned, I am compelled from necessity to remain here, and I suppose other gentlemen are similarly situated. It seems to me the very refinement of cruelty to require us to remain here at our own expense when other gentleman in proximity to the capital can go home and remain with their families. This is a small matter, it is true; and I am willing to make personal or pecuniary sacrifice if it is right; but it seems to me unjust to deduct from me my *per diem* in consequence of the adjournment of the body, although I shall be here from day to day, every day during the deliberations of the Convention.

I think that much can be gained by keeping the Convention together, for the reason that if an adjournment occurs those members who wish to visit their homes will of course go, for that I suppose is the object of the adjournment, and consequently there can be no meeting of the committees, and no business can be matured, considered or deliberated upon preparatory to reports. Those members remaining here will have to spend their time in the Library, or in their rooms, or in other places, wherever they can best while away the time. I am not disposed to object to adjournment if it is the sense of the Convention; but I think it would be exceedingly impolitic to adjourn before to-morrow. If it meets the views of the body to adjourn to-morrow over to Tuesday or to Wednesday, so far as I am

concerned I shall not oppose it, whether there is a restriction or not with regard to the *per diem*.

Mr. NEGLEY. I move to add the following: *Provided*, The hotel keepers and boarding-house keepers of this ancient city of Annapolis will remit their charges for board of members during said recess.

The PRESIDENT ruled the amendment out of order.

Mr. BARRON. I think the latter branch of the order is out of order. The Convention bill says:

"The compensation of the delegates to said Convention shall be \$5 per day, and the mileage allowed to members of the General Assembly of this State."

What is the use of our arguing here all day what our compensation shall be? I venture to say that when these debates go out before the people, and go to the different States of the Union, they will think that \$5 a day is an emolument as large as a four horse government team. I have never heard in all my life so much talk as I have heard here about \$5 per day; and I suppose there are not ten members of the body that cannot do better at home.

Mr. SANDS. I do not suppose it is of any use talking about \$5 a day or anything of the sort. If there are no reports made by Committees, it is of no use to remain here. If gentlemen have reports to make, let them say so and I am willing to remain. We are all here this morning—the House seems very full, and if any gentleman is ready to submit a report I would suggest that he say so, and that we stay here or go home accordingly. I do not think we ought to waste our time, and if no gentleman is ready to report I see no use in staying.

On motion of Mr. HEBB,
The order was laid on the table.

ORDERS, &c.

On motion of Mr. HEBB,
It was ordered to be entered on the Journal that Albert C. Greene is absent from his seat to-day in consequence of attendance upon his official duties as Director of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company.

Mr. THURSTON asked to be excused from serving as a member of the Committee on Militia, being a member of three other committees; and was accordingly excused.

Mr. ABBOTT submitted the following order: *Ordered*, That the President of this Convention be requested to use all the power that is or may be vested in him to secure the attendance of members both to the sittings of the Convention and meetings of the respective committees.

On motion of Mr. JONES, of Somerset,
The order was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. HEBB,

Ordered, That the President of the Convention be requested to appoint two additional