

"No member of this or any such Convention shall hold any office created, made vacant or regulated by such new constitution within five years after the new constitution shall go into operation."

The Convention then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY, April 12, 1851.

The Convention met at ten o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. GRAUFF.

The roll was called.

Mr. BISER enquired whether a quorum was present.

The CHAIR replied in the negative.

Mr. BISER moved that there be a call of the Convention.

And a call was ordered.

After some proceedings thereon, further proceedings on the call were dispensed with.

The journal of yesterday was then read.

BANKS.

Mr. BUCHANAN presented a petition of James P. Kennedy, of the city of Baltimore, in relation to the creation of banks, &c.

The petition having been read,

Mr. BUCHANAN said. It seems to me that this is quite a disinterested man—one of a thousand. He wants nothing for himself. All he does is for the public good.

Mr. BISER. Is he a resident of Baltimore county?

Mr. BUCHANAN. No—of the city. I move that the petition be referred to the committee on corporations.

Mr. DAVIS. It seems to me that it is unnecessary to refer the petition to the committee on corporations. The petitioner proposes to take care of our children's children. Any thing that we may do here, is to exist only for ten years. We are then to have another Convention which is to legislate for posterity.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. BUCHANAN, and having been decided in the affirmative,

The petition was referred to the committee on corporations.

Mr. MAGRAW presented a petition of sundry citizens of the State, in relation to the granting of licenses to sell intoxicating drinks.

Which was read, and

Referred to the select committee already appointed on that subject.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

Mr. RANDALL gave notice of his intention, when the report of the committee on the bill of rights came up again for consideration, he should move to reconsider the first article thereof.

Mr. THOMAS enquired of the Chair, whether there was any business set apart for this day?

The PRESIDENT said, the Convention had not

yet entered upon the unfinished business of yesterday.

Mr. THOMAS. I hope then we shall proceed to its consideration.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday, being the report on further amendments and revisions of the Constitution.

The pending question was on the amendment offered yesterday by Mr. RANDALL, to amend the report of the committee, by adding to the end thereof, the following:

"No member of any such Convention shall hold any office created, made vacant or regulated by such new Constitution within five years after the new Constitution shall go into operation."

Mr. RANDALL said that they had already very properly decided that this matter of altering the Constitution should not be submitted to the Legislature except once in ten years. They had thereby, [and he thought very properly,] excluded all such influences as could operate from causes other than the public good and the wishes of the people. Now, it seemed to him that this important object would be consummated by requiring all who came here to act upon this new Constitution, to do so with a single eye to the public good, that the public should be satisfied beforehand that members of future Conventions came with a view, not to create vacancies which they themselves might fill, but with a view to make such changes only as the people require and the exigencies of the public demand. It seemed to him, that by this restriction, a different class of men would be members of future Conventions. They would have men who could not be biased by any such motive, and the effect would be to recommend, with great power, and influence, such Constitutions to the people themselves. When they saw that these Conventions were composed of men who could have no other motive than the public good, there would be no foundation for suspicion of undue influence which was very often, in its effect upon the public mind, equal to proof. The probability too of the adoption by the people of Constitutions framed by such delegates, would be very much greater. It would have a wholesome influence upon the men themselves, as well as upon the public at large. Almost every Constitution in the United States, the laws of the United States, the Constitution of our own State, guarded with special care and scrutiny against all such improper motives in those who acted under them. And as was well said by the gentleman from Frederick, we are all human beings, with human frailties, prejudices, and passions—the law is not made for the perfect man, but those who have all the frailties, prejudices and corruptions inherent to our nature, and upon such men we are to operate. (Many if not all the Constitutions in the States, declared that members of the Legislature should not fill offices which they themselves created. Had it not been declared by General Jackson, as a just principle, that members of Congress,