

member, and seconded by two others who voted in either the affirmative or negative."

Now, if gentlemen will just take the pains to examine the language I have just read, they will see that the rule as it now stands, places it in the power of the minority to move a reconsideration of any minority report or article which the minority may offer, after the convention has refused to accept it. And there is no telling the amount of trouble the minority can give the majority, under the operation of such a rule. I do not mean to say that the minority will avail themselves of this power. But I do undertake to say, that it is wrong for the majority to place such a power in the hands of a minority.

The question was first upon amending the forty-second rule by striking out the words "except those otherwise herein provided for."

The question being taken, the motion to strike out was agreed to.

The question then recurred upon amending the forty-fourth rule by striking out the following:

"But should a report or article on its final passage be declared rejected, for the want of a majority of the members elected, the motion for reconsideration may be made by one member and seconded by two others, who voted in either the affirmative or negative."

The question being taken upon the amendment, it was adopted.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS, &C.

The convention then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday, being the following report of a special committee:

"The undersigned members of the special committee, to whom was referred the thirtieth section in the report of the committee on the legislative department, and the proposed amendments thereto, beg leave to submit the following majority report, recommending the following, as section thirty-nine in the aforesaid report:

"Section 39. The governor, comptroller, and treasurer of the State, are hereby authorized conjointly, or any two of them, to exchange the State's interest in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, for an equal amount of the bonds or registered debt now owing by the State, and subject to such regulations and conditions as the general assembly may from time to time prescribe, to sell the State's interest in the other works of internal improvement, whether as a stockholder or a creditor, also the State's interest in any banking corporation, and receive in payment the bonds and registered debt, now owing by the State, equal in amount to the price obtained for the State's said interest; provided, that the interest of the State in the Washington branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad be reserved and excepted from sale; and that at the election to be held for

the adoption or rejection of this constitution, the sense of the people shall be taken for or against the selling of the State's interest in all the works of internal improvement or other corporations."

The pending question was upon the amendment of Mr. CLARKE, as amended upon the motion of Mr. STIRLING, as follows:

Strike out the latter part of the proposed section, reading—

"And that at the election to be held for the adoption or rejection of this constitution, the sense of the people shall be taken for or against the selling of the State's interest in all the works of internal improvement or other corporations."

And insert in lieu thereof, the following: "Provided further, that the State's interest in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, and the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal, shall be exempt from said sale."

Mr. NEGLEY. I find that the amendment of the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Stirling) goes far beyond what I think he intended, and far beyond what those who voted for it, meant it should go. At least it goes far beyond what I supposed, and what I know the gentleman from Baltimore county (Mr. Ridgely) supposed. It goes to the extent, not merely of leaving to the legislature the subsequent ratification of any sale that may be made of the State's interest in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, and the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal.

Mr. PUGH. I rise to a question of order. The amendment upon which I understand the gentleman from Washington (Mr. Negley) to be now speaking, has been adopted by the house.

Mr. NEGLEY. I presume it is competent for me to speak upon the amendment proposed by the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Clarke,) as amended on motion of the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Stirling.) The question is upon agreeing to the amendment as amended. It is to that I am about to address myself, and I presume I am in order.

Mr. PUGH. That is all I desired to know. The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Purnell.) The amendment to the amendment was disposed of at the last session.

Mr. NEGLEY. The amendment to the amendment was adopted. The question is now upon the amendment as amended. After that is disposed of, then it will be upon the section as reported by the select committee, whether amended or not. We must have two votes upon this subject yet, and I propose to address myself to the amendment as amended; whether that should pass or not.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Purnell.) The chair is of opinion that the gentleman is in order.

Mr. NEGLEY. Now if the convention will turn to that amendment to the amendment,