

that not one could be found who would restore slavery in Maryland.

It had been charged that the conservatives of Maryland are a pro-slavery party in disguise; that they are not honest in their acceptance of the emancipation of the negroes. He wished this point settled. If any room is left for doubt or misconstruction, it would inflict the heaviest and most dangerous blow on the work of our hands which we are capable of giving. As statesmen, engaged in a great work, we should let the article stand as it is, because it asserts the policy which we have determined to adopt, and because it is expedient as well as right that that policy should be plainly announced.

Mr. Garey spoke in favor of the retention of the article in the Bill of Rights.

Mr. Ritchie responded.

Messrs. Denson and Barnes asked leave to have it entered on the journal that they were unavoidably detained from the session of the Convention yesterday. Had they been present, they should have voted against striking out the prohibition against the poll-tax.

The Convention then, at 3 P. M., adjourned.

[A caucus of the members is called for tonight at 8 o'clock.]

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

ANNAPOLIS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 1867.

Convention met at 11 o'clock. Prayer by the Rev. Father Burke.

The President laid before the Convention a communication from the clerk of the county commissioners for Queen Anne's county, stating that the aggregate amount of assessable property in Queen Anne's county, under the late assessment, is \$8,826,656.

On motion of Mr. Seyster, it was

Ordered, That the clerks of the county commissioners of the several counties in the State be, and they are hereby respectfully requested to furnish to this Convention, at as early a day as practicable, a statement of all moneys