

gested by the gentleman from Baltimore county. There was no better way than to sit as a committee of the whole on the great work which was before them.

Mr. Wickes argued in favor of the proposition of Mr. Barry. He challenged the gentleman from Baltimore to point to one single instance in which the organic law of any community had been changed in the manner proposed by him.

Mr. Archer spoke in favor of the substitute.

Mr. H. F. Garey was sorry to differ from the opinion of his colleague, (Mr. Gill.) If there were only certain provisions to be struck from the constitution under which we were now living, it could be done in one day. It was seventeen years since the constitution of 1850, and there were numberless exigencies now to be provided for which had not and could not have been anticipated at that time. Many of the States of the Union had changed their constitutions to conform to the change in the times. The State of New York was about to change her constitution. This Convention was here to frame such a constitution as would conform to the necessities and exigencies of the occasion, and it was their duty to perform the work which had been allotted to them thoroughly and carefully, whether it would take a day, a month or a year. The questions which they were to pass upon would have to be sent to committees at last, and it had better be done now.

Mr. Albert Ritchie was fully impressed with the necessity of economy of time, but was unwilling for the sake of time to hazard any lack of perfection on the momentous work which was before them. It was a great duty to revise the organic law of the State, and it should be done with due circumspection and attention. For this reason he was in favor of the plan submitted by the gentleman from Baltimore county. The time to be occupied did not depend on this or that mode of proceeding, but on the spirit with which the members addressed themselves to the work. In every instance in which the committee of the whole had been adopted it had proved too unwieldy.

Pending discussion, the Convention adjourned at 3.30 P. M. to 10 o'clock tomorrow.