

Mr. Sprigg, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on the Legislative Department of the Government inquire into the expediency of engrafting in that branch of the constitution, a clause prohibiting the legislature from passing any law affecting the existing relation of master and slave in this State.

Which was twice read and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Smith, it was

Ordered, That the committee on the Legislative Department, inquire into the expediency of holding annual sessions of the General Assembly, restricting the session to thirty days, fixing the per diem of members at three dollars and allowing one half the present itinerant charges.

On motion of Mr. McMaster, it was

Ordered, That standing committee No. 7, inquire into the expediency of providing for the election of members of the State Senate for the term of four years, and members of the House of Delegates for the term of two years; that the Legislature shall convene but once in two years, unless for special reasons, convened by proclamation of the Governor; that the members shall receive a daily compensation to be fixed by law, but that no member shall receive compensation for more than sixty days of any one session, which compensation shall not be increased so as to take effect during their continuance in office.

On motion of Mr. Ege, it was

Ordered, That the committee on the Judiciary be requested to inquire into the propriety of making all judicial offices in this State, offices of fixed salaries, and that no fees or perquisites of any kind shall be allowed.

Mr. Davis submitted the following order:

Which was twice read and adopted.

Ordered, That the select committee of seven just raised, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by constitutional enactment for a moderate tax upon free negroes, the same to be applied to the use of the Colonization Society of this State.

Mr. Ridgely, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary, consider the expediency of re-organizing the local district or magistrates courts, or of establishing some tribunal between the county courts and the magistracy, to which a reasonable jurisdiction in civil actions shall be assigned, and which shall have exclusive cognizance in assaults and battery, ordinary breaches of the peace, petty misdemeanors, and in appeals from the judgment of single justices.

Which was twice read and adopted.

Mr. John Newcomer submitted the following order:

Ordered, That the Convention take a recess from Friday the 6th instant, to Monday the 30th December, instant, and that no member or officer of this Convention shall be entitled to any per diem during the recess.

Which was read, and