

THURSDAY, February 13th, 1851.

The Convention met,

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Graff.

The proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion of Mr. John Dennis, it was

Ordered, That it be entered upon the Journal that Mr. James U. Dennis, is detained from his seat in the Convention by the illness of a member of his family.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the order of the day, being the report submitted by Mr. Johnson, chairman of the committee on the Legislative Department, on the 25th ult.

The question pending before the Convention on yesterday, being on the motion of Mr. Merrick, to fill the blank in the 2d section, 2d line, with the words "one year;"

Mr. Merrick, withdrew said amendment.

Mr. Sprigg, then moved to amend said section by striking out all after the word "term," in the 2d line, where it secondly occurs, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"Of one year from the day of the general elections, the General Assembly may continue its first session after the adoption of this constitution, as long as in the opinion of the two Houses the public interests may require it, but all subsequent regular sessions of the General Assembly shall be closed on the fiftieth day from their commencement, unless the same shall be closed at an earlier day by the agreement of the two Houses;"

Which was read.

After debate thereon,

Mr. Brent, of Charles, moved the previous question, that is:

"Shall the main question be now put?" and it was

Determined in the affirmative.

The question was then put on the adoption of the amendment as offered by Mr. Sprigg;

Mr. Dirickson, moved the question be taken by yeas and nays, and being ordered appeared as follows:

**AFFIRMATIVE.**—Messrs. Tuck, President, pro tem., Morgan, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Randall, Kent, Sellman, Merrick, Buchanan, Welsh, Constable, Chambers, of Cecil, McLane, Bowie, Sprigg, McCubbin, Spencer, George, Wright, Shriver, Biser, McHenry, Magraw, Gwinn. Brent, of Baltimore city, Presstman, Ware, Davis, Anderson, Parke, Shower and Brown—33.

**NEGATIVE.**—Ricaud, Chambers, of Kent, Mitchell, Dalrymple, Brent, of Charles, Bell, Ridgely, Lloyd, Dickinson, Sherwood, of Talbot, Colston, John Dennis, Dashiell, Williams, Hicks, Hodson, Eccleston, Phelps, Miller, Bowling, Dirickson, McMaster, Hearn, Fooks, Jacobs, Thomas, Gaither, Annan,