

On motion of Mr. Fiery,

The Convention 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 on yesterday, before the Convention being on the adoption of the 16th section as amended.

Mr. Dorsey, moved to strike out the whole of said section, and insert in lieu thereof the following :

“The Legislature of Maryland, shall at its next session, if then practicable, and if not, as soon thereafter as it can be done, contract with two learned jurists of this State, distinguished as well for their industry, as professional ability, to codify or digest and abridge the public acts of Assembly then in force.”

Mr. Spencer, moved as a substitute for said amendment, to strike out the 16th section and insert in lieu thereof the following :

“The style of all laws of this State shall be: Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, and all laws shall be enacted by bill only, and no law enacted by the Legislature shall embrace more than one subject, and that shall be described on its title, and the Legislature shall at its next session after the adoption of this constitution, or as soon thereafter as it can be done at the expiration of every five years thereafter, contract with two learned jurists, distinguished for their industry and professional ability, to digest, abridge and condense and codify, the statute laws of this State, and with two other equally distinguished jurists, to simplify and abridge the rules and practice and pleadings, and proceedings of the courts of record of this State, abolishing all special pleading, subject to the approval of the Legislature;”

Which was read.

Mr. Schley, moved to amend said 16th section, by adding at the end thereof, the following :

“The Legislature at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall appoint one or more commissioners, learned in the law, whose duty it shall be to revise and codify the Statutes of this State, and one or more commissioners, learned in the law, whose duty it shall be to revise, simplify and abridge the rules and practice, pleadings, forms and proceedings of the courts of record in this State, and report the same to the Legislature for adoption, and it shall be the duty of the Legislature at the expiration of every subsequent period of ten years after the adoption and promulgation of the code of laws, to have published and promulgated all the Statute Laws of this State then in force;”

Which was read.

Pending the question on this amendment, and

After debate thereon,

At 5 minutes past 3 o'clock, P. M.,

Mr. Merrick, moved the Convention adjourn;