

“Provided, that nothing, herein contained, shall operate to prevent the Legislature from placing by general appropriation a contingent fund at the disposal of the Executive;”

Mr. Spencer, moved to amend said amendment by adding at the end thereof these words, “not exceeding six thousand dollars per year;”

Mr. Spencer, withdrew said amendment.

The question was then put on the amendment as offered by Mr. Ridgely, as a proviso to the end of 19th section, and

Determined in the affirmative.

The question then recurred upon the adoption of the 19th section as amended.

On motion of Mr. Sprigg,

Said section was further amended by adding at the end thereof the following :

“And the Governor shall report to the Legislature at each session, the amount expended and the objects and purposes for which said amount was incurred;”

The said 19th section was then adopted as amended.

The 20th section was then read and adopted.

The 21st section was then read,

Mr. Ridgely, moved to amend said report by striking out the 21st section and substituting in lieu of it the following :

“The credit of the State shall never be given or loaned in aid of any person, association, municipality or corporation, nor shall the Legislature contract any debt, which shall singly, or in the aggregate exceed a half million of dollars, for which purpose a vote of three-fourths of all the members elected to both branches of the General Assembly shall be necessary, provided that the State may contract debts exceeding that amount to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, and if threatened, to provide for the public defence;”

Which was read.

Mr. George offered as a substitute for said section and substitute, the following :

Article, 1. The amount of debts, hereafter contracted by the Legislature, shall never exceed one hundred thousand dollars, except for the defence of the State, unless such debt shall be authorised by a law providing for the collection of an annual tax or taxes sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to discharge the principal of such debt within fifteen years from the time of contracting the same. And the taxes laid for this purpose shall never be repealed, or applied to any other object, until the said debt and the interest thereon shall be fully discharged.

Article, 2. The assent of two thirds of the members elected to each branch of the Legislature, shall be requisite to every bill