

dred dollars, in every such case, the sum of five hundred dollars shall be provided by the Legislature for the support of his family."

The Convention then proceeded to the consideration of the 21st section.

The question before the Convention being on the amendment offered by Mr. Merrick, on Friday the 28th ult., to come in at the end of said section.

Mr. George withdrew the original amendment offered by him as the 21st section, and substituted in lieu of it the following :

"No debt shall hereafter be contracted by the Legislature 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 thereof within fifteen years from the time of contracting the same; and the taxes laid for this purpose shall not be repealed, or applied to any other object, until the said debt and the interest thereon shall be fully discharged; and the amount of debts so contracted and remaining unpaid, shall never exceed one hundred thousand dollars. Nor shall the Legislature hereafter appropriate the public money, or pledge the public faith for the use of individuals, associations or corporations; or make appropriations, loans, or subscriptions to any work of internal improvement; but the Legislature may, without laying a tax, borrow an amount never to exceed fifty thousand dollars, to meet temporary deficiencies in the Treasury; and may contract debts to any amount that may be necessary for the defence of the State;"

Which was read.

Mr. Merrick, moved to amend said amendment by adding at the end thereof, the following :

"And they may at any time, when it may become practicable to do so, redeem and pay off the whole or any portion of the outstanding stocks or bonds of the State, by an issue of other stocks or bonds for no greater amount than the stock or bonds redeemed and bearing a less rate of interest."

Mr. Chambers, of Kent, moved to amend said amendment offered by Mr. Merrick, by adding at the end thereof, the following :

"Provided, That such new bonds or stock shall be made redeemable within seven years from the time of their being issued."

This amendment Mr. Merrick accepted.

Mr. Dorsey, moved to amend said amendment by striking out "seven years from;"

Determined in the negative.

The question then recurred and was put upon the adoption of the amendment as offered by Mr. Merrick, and