

The question then recurred on the amendment of Mr. SPENCER.

The yeas and nays were asked and refused.

The question was then taken, and by ayes 32, noes 21, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. DONALDSON moved to amend the second section, (the object of which was to make the elections uniform.)

Mr. D. explained, that his object in offering this amendment was to make the elections uniform. Now they will occur, some in one year, and some in two years, after the adoption of the Constitution. He desired to concentrate all the elections, so as to save expense, which would defeat the object of biennial elections. It would be necessary that the first delegates elected, should be for one year. The Senate would hold on. In the year 1852, the new House of Delegates would meet; and then the elections afterwards, would be every two years. In this way the elections would all take place together, and there would be a considerable saving of expense.

Mr. PRESSMAN said, that as this was a question which would lead to long discussion, he would like to have it postponed until we get on the subject of biennial sessions. If the proposition should be amended too much, it might be broken down. It is the last straw which breaks the camel's back. Rather than endanger the amendment, if the gentleman from Anne Arundel was a friend of the annual system, he had better withdraw his proposition for the present.

Mr. DONALDSON then withdrew his amendment, indicating that he would hereafter offer it in another form.

And then the Convention adjourned.

SATURDAY, February 15, 1851.

The PRESIDENT of the Convention resumed the duties of Chair this day.

The Convention was called to order by the PRESIDENT at eleven o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. GRAUFF.

The roll of the members was called.

The Journal of yesterday was read, and having been so amended as to state the fact that the previous question, called by Mr. Spencer on his amendment, had been withdrawn by him, and that it had then been called by Mr. SHOWER, was appended.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, ETC.

Mr. SHRIVER, Chairman of the Committee heretofore appointed on the office of Attorney General and his Deputies, said he was instructed to make a report.

In presenting it, Mr. G. stated, that the committee were unanimously of opinion, that the office of Attorney General and the present mode of appointing Deputies, should be abolished, and that, in lieu thereof, the Governor should be empowered to employ counsel, when, in his judg-

ment, the interests of the State required it; and that in each county, Howard district and the city of Baltimore, respectively, the legal voters should elect a Prosecuting Attorney for the term of three years.

The report was read, as follows:

REPORT.

Section 1st. The Governor shall have power to employ counsel for the State, when in his judgment the public interest requires it; and make suitable compensation from the contingent fund placed at his disposal.

Sec. 2nd. There shall be an Attorney for the State of Maryland in each county, Howard district and the city of Baltimore, respectively, to be styled "the Prosecuting Attorney," who shall be elected by the plurality vote of the qualified voters of each county, Howard district and the city of Baltimore; and who shall hold his office for three years from the day of his election, and until his successor be elected and qualified; and shall be re-eligible thereto, and be subject to removal from office for disqualification, wilful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office, by preceptment of the Grand Jury, and conviction of a Petit Jury of the county, Howard District or city of Baltimore, in which he shall have been elected.

Sec. 3rd. The fees and commissions to the Prosecuting Attorney shall be the same, as now by law, allowed to the Attorney General and his Deputies, subject to such change, from time to time, as the Legislature shall provide; and to receive any other fee or reward than such as is allowed by law, shall be, upon conviction, sufficient cause for removal from office.

Sec. 4th. That in case of vacancy in the office of Prosecuting Attorney, by death, resignation, refusal to act, disqualification, removal from the county, Howard district, or city of Baltimore, in which he shall have been elected, or upon conviction, as hereinbefore specified, the said vacancy shall be filled by the Judge or Judges of the court having criminal jurisdiction in the county, Howard district, or city of Baltimore respectively, in which said vacancy shall happen, until the next general election thereafter, when the plurality vote of the qualified voters of the county, Howard district or the city of Baltimore, in which said vacancy shall occur, shall elect a suitable person for the residue of the term thus made vacant.

Sec. 5th. No person shall be eligible to the office of Prosecuting Attorney, who has not been admitted to practice the law in this State, and who has not resided for at least one year in the county, Howard district, or the city of Baltimore, in which he may be a candidate for election.

Sec. 6th. All elections for Prosecuting Attorneys, shall be certified to, and returns made thereof by the clerks of the respective counties, Howard district, and the city of Baltimore, to the Judge or Judges of the court having criminal jurisdiction in said counties, Howard district, and the city of Baltimore, and by whom the oath of office shall be administered.

Sec. 7th. The election of Prosecuting Attorneys