

the whig party, are in favor of annual sessions. This was one of the questions which was not agitated before the people. When things are in this condition, and these conflicting opinions cannot be reconciled, is it not prudent to submit the question for a separate vote of the people? Every gentleman here knows the sentiment of his constituents on the subject of representation. Why then should the question of representation be submitted separately? He concluded with saying that he is not wedded to this proposition. If a proposition should be made for the Legislature to meet annually for the next three years he would prefer it.

Mr. DIRICKSON asked the yeas and nays on the adoption of the second section as amended—which were ordered.

Mr. DORSEY moved to amend the section, as amended, by striking out the words "general election."

Mr. D. thought that the language, as it now stood, was vague and uncertain, and that the amendment would make it more definite.

The question was taken, and the amendment was agreed to.

The question then again recurred, and was taken, on the adoption of the section as amended, and the result was as follows :

Affirmative—Messrs. Morgan, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Kent, Merrick, Buchanan, Welsh, Chambers of Cecil, Miller, Tuck, Sprigg, Spencer, George, Wright, Shriver, Biser, Stephenson, McHenry, Nelson, Stewart of Caroline, Prestman, Ware, Brewer, Anderson, Weber, Hollyday, Fitzpatrick, Cockey, Parke, Shower, and Brown—32.

Negative—Messrs. Chapman, President, Ricaud, Chambers of Kent, Mitchell, Dalrymple, Howard, Ridgely, Lloyd, Dickinson, Sherwood of Talbot, John Dennis, Williams, Hicks, Hodson, Phelps, Bowling, Dirickson, Hearn, Jacobs, Thomas, Gaither, Annan, Carter, Schley, Fiery, Neill, John Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Waters and Smith—31.

So the second section, as amended, was adopted.

And thereupon the Convention adjourned until Monday morning.

MONDAY, February 17th, 1851.

The Convention met at eleven o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH.

The roll was called; and, after some time, a quorum being present,

The journal of Saturday, (with the exception of reports, the reading of which, on motion of Mr. Brown, was dispensed with,) was read and approved.

Mr. WELLS, chairman of the committee on accounts, made the following report:

The committee on accounts respectfully report that they have examined and passed the account of Hayward, Bartlett & Co., for repairs, to the furnace, herewith filed, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

G. WELLS, Chairman.

Resolved, That the President of this Convention, draw on the Treasurer in favor of Hayward, Bartlett & Co., for one hundred and forty-six dollars and thirty-one cents.

Which was read and adopted.

Mr. HARBINE moved that the Convention proceed to the order of the day, but waived the motion at the request of Mr. SOLLERS.

THE CONVENTION AND ITS BUSINESS.

Mr. SOLLERS said he had risen for the purpose of making a motion, which perhaps would come with better grace from another member of the Convention, than from himself. He proposed that a committee should be appointed to examine and consider the rules of the Convention, and to report such alterations and amendments as, in their opinion, would facilitate the business of the Convention.

Mr. GWINN. I second the motion.

Mr. SOLLERS continued. He had hitherto taken occasion, he said, to refer to the jarring and discordant elements of which this Convention was composed, and to state that they were such as to prevent any human being predicting when it would be possible for it to adjourn. No programme of settled principles, upon which this body should base its action, had been discussed before the people; and gentlemen had met here without knowing what the people wanted, or what they wanted themselves. What had been the consequence? The Convention was afflicted with that curse which, in olden times, had been visited upon a rebellious people, who attempted to build a tower which should reach to heaven—a confusion of tongues. For his own part, he was opposed to nearly all the reforms, which were contemplated by this Convention, yet he felt that something was due to the wishes and the interests of a disappointed and indignant people. Well might they exclaim, in the language of the Roman orator, "quosque tandem abutere patientia nostra?" From one end of the State to the other, a dissatisfied feeling pervaded the public mind, in regard to the condition of the business of this Convention. They had been three months in session, and were but just upon the threshold of the business for which they had assembled. All the difficult and intricate questions claiming the attention of the Convention, yet remained to be discussed. There was a defect somewhere. It was evident that there was too much speaking. There lay the difficulty, and his object was that a committee should be appointed to revise the rules, with a view to obviate that difficulty.

He thought that if a rule was adopted providing that, if any subject should be referred to the committee of the whole, the debate should terminate