

the whole would have to be re-enacted and published at length. He could not see any propriety in this. It was an inconsistency which he thought ought to be avoided.

The question was then stated be on the amendment of Mr. SCHLEY.

The hour was now growing late, when

A motion was made that the House adjourn, but was withdrawn, and renewed.

The motion by yeas 30, nays 39, was rejected.

A call of the House was ordered, and

The call of the roll had been commenced, when

A motion was made, that further proceedings on the call be dispensed with.

A motion was again made, that the House adjourn; and

By yeas 34, nays 34, was rejected.

So the House refused to adjourn.

After some conversation,

The Convention adjourned until to-morrow at ten o'clock.

FRIDAY, Feb. 21st, 1851.

The Convention met at ten o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH.

A quorum being present, the Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

#### RULES OF THE CONVENTION

Mr. RICAUD, Chairman of the select committee appointed to revise the rules submitted the following

#### REPORT :

Strike out the seventeenth rule and insert :

The previous question shall be always in order in Convention, that shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present, and its effect shall be to put an end to all debate and to bring the Convention to a direct vote upon pending amendments and the section of the Constitution then under consideration. On a motion for the previous question, and prior to the seconding of the same, a call of the Convention shall be in order; but after a majority shall have seconded such motion, no call shall be in order prior to a division of the main question.

#### RULE EIGHTEENTH.

On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the previous question and pending such motion shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

The rules from eighteenth to twenty-eighth, to be altered numerically so as to correspond with this report.

Rule twenty-ninth to be repealed, and the following rule to be substituted :

A motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, to determine the priority of business or to lay on the table, shall be decided without debate.

#### RULE THIRTIETH.

Every amendment or motion may be divided into as many parts as it is susceptible of, and separate votes taken on each if required.

Which was read.

On motion of

Mr. MORGAN, it was

Ordered, That it be entered upon the Journal that Mr. Hopewell is detained from his seat in this Convention, in consequence of the indisposition of a member of his family.

Mr. KILGOUR offered the following order :

Ordered, That when this Convention shall adjourn, it stand adjourned over to Monday, the 24th inst., at twelve o'clock, in honor of the anniversary of the birth day of the illustrious George Washington.

The order having been read,

Mr. KILGOUR said :

Mr. President—To-morrow is the twenty-second of February, the birth-day of the illustrious Washington.

It has always been customary, I believe, for bodies of this kind, to suspend business for that day, to pay that respect which is due to his memory. But more particularly has it been determined, by all the Conventions, and Legislative bodies, now in session throughout the country, to pursue this course, on the approaching anniversary of the father of his country, and to make it a day of thanksgiving to kind Heaven for the peace and harmony which now pervade our beloved Union—under the operation of the compromise measures, adopted by Congress, after the tremendous and powerful crisis through which it has passed. I hope the resolution will be unanimously adopted.

Mr. SMITH briefly opposed the adoption of the order, on the ground of the difficulty of procuring a quorum after the adjournment, and of the necessity, in view of the approach of Spring, of proceeding as rapidly as possible with the public business.

Mr. FIERY moved that the resolution be laid on table.

Mr. SMITH asked the yeas and nays which were ordered and, being taken, resulted as follows :

*Affirmative*—Messrs. James U. Dennis, Hodson, Phelps, Stephenson, McHenry, Nelson, Thawley, Gwinn, Schley, Fiery, Harbine, Weber, Smith, Parke, Shower, Cockey and Brown—17.

*Negative*—Messrs. Chapman, President, Morgan, Blakistone, Dent, Ricaud, Chambers, of Kent, Dorsey, Wells, Randall, Sellman, Weems, Merrick, Bell, Welch, Dickinson, Sherwood of Talbot, John Dennis, Williams, Goldsborough, McCullough, Miller, Tuck, Sprigg, McCubbin, George, Wright, Jacobs, Thomas, Shriver, Bi-