

"In all cases where the head of a family shall die or become insolvent owning a dwelling house or homestead furniture in a dwelling house or other property, not exceeding hundred dollars, said house, homestead furniture or other property shall be exempt from administration or liability to creditors, but shall thereupon belong in equal parts to the family of said deceased or insolvent, and in the event that said dwelling house, homestead furniture or other property, shall exceed the value of dollars, then there shall be a preferred lien on the said property to the amount of dollars, for the equal benefit of his or her said family."

The amendment having been read,

Mr. BRENT said, the object of his amendment was to exempt furniture or dwelling houses. It seemed to him that this could be done effectually in seven or eight lines in the Constitution, without referring the matter to the legislature. He thought the amendment would dispose of the whole question.

Mr. JENIFER said, if he understood the amendment it was confined exclusively to persons owning houses or furniture. To supply the defect which, he thought, existed in the amendment, he offered an amendment to this effect:

"Or other property owned by the decedent at the time of his death."

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city. I accept the modification.

The PRESIDENT. Does the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Brent,) move to fill the blank with any particular sum?

Mr. BRENT. Not now, sir.

The PRESIDENT. It will be too late when the question has been taken.

Mr. BRENT. I move to fill the blank with five hundred dollars.

Mr. HEARN rose to a question of order. He was understood to enquire whether this was not essentially the same proposition which had been already voted down. If so, he submitted that it was not in order.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thinks the proposition is different from that which has been already voted down, and that it is in order.

The question then recurred and was taken on the motion of Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city, to fill the blank with \$500.

But no quorum voted.

Mr. SCHLEY. I would like to hear the whole proposition read; [and it was read.]

The question was then again taken on the motion to fill the blank with \$500—and by yeas 24, noes 31, it was rejected.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER moved to fill the blank with \$300.

Mr. HICKS. I move to fill the blank with \$2000.

The question was taken first on the highest number.

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

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Chambers of Kent, Bond,

Crisfield, Hicks, Phelps, Hearn, Fooks, and Gaither—8.

*Negative*—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't., Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Lee, Mitchell, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Weems, Jenifer, Buchanan, Bell, Ridgely, Colston, James U. Dennis, Dashiell, Constable, Chambers of Cecil, McLane, Sprigg, Bowling, Grason, Wright, McMaster, Jacobs, Shriver, Biser, Annan, Sappington, Stephenson, Thawley, Stewart of Caroline, Hardcastle, Gwinn, Stewart, of Baltimore city, Brent of Baltimore city, Sherwood of Baltimore city, Pres'tman, Ware, Schley, Fiery, John Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Kilgour, Weber, Hollyday, Slicer, and Smith—49.

So the Convention refused to fill the blank with \$2000.

Mr. WEEMS moved to fill it with \$600.

Mr. CRISFIELD asked the yeas and nays.

Mr. WARE moved that the whole subject matter be laid upon the table.

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city, asked the yeas and nays; [which were ordered.]

Mr. CRISFIELD (to the Chair.) To what does the motion to lay on the table apply?

The PRESIDENT. To the whole proposition of the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Brent.)

Mr. CRISFIELD. Very well. If that is the case, I am ready to vote for the motion.

The question, "shall the subject matter be laid upon the table," was then taken, and resulted as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't., Chambers, of Kent, Mitchell, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Buchanan, Colston, James U. Dennis, Crisfield, Dashiell, Hicks, Phelps, Grason, Wright, McMaster, Hearn, Fooks, Jacobs, Gaither, Sappington, Stephenson, Thawley, Hardcastle, Stewart of Baltimore city, Sherwood of Baltimore city, and Ware—27.

*Negative*—Messrs. Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Lee, Weems, Bond, Merrick, Jenifer, Bell, Ridgely, Constable, Chambers of Cecil, McLane, Bowling, Shriver, Biser, Annan, Stewart of Caroline, Gwinn, Brent of Baltimore city, Pres'tman, Schley, Fiery, John Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Kilgour, Weber, Hollyday, Slicer, and Smith—31.

So the Convention decided that the subject matter should not be laid upon the table.

The question then recurred on the motion of Mr. WEEMS, to fill the blank with \$600.

Mr. THAWLEY moved \$50.

The motion of Mr. WEEMS was rejected.

The question then recurred on the motion of Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER to fill the blank with \$300.

Mr. N. asked the yeas and nays, which were refused.

And the question being taken, the vote stood—aye 24; noes 22.

No quorum voting.

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city, asked the yeas and nays which were ordered, and being taken, resulted as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't., Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Weems, Bond, Merrick, Jenifer, Bell, Ridgely, James U. Dennis, Constable, Chambers of Cecil, McLane, Sprigg,