

Mr. MICHAEL NEWCOMER. I adhere to my motion.

The PRESIDENT put the question on the motion.

Fifteen members not voting in favor thereof, (as required by the rule.) the Convention refused to send the Sergeant-at-Arms to bring in the absent members.

A pause followed.

Mr. WEBER then moved that there be a call of the Convention.

The call was ordered.

The roll of the members was then called,

And the names of the absentees were again called.

The PRESIDENT announced that a quorum was now in attendance.

The journal of yesterday was then read.

On motion of Mr. FIERY,

It was so amended, as to state the fact, that the motion to lay on the table the amendment of Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city, in relation to the homestead exemptions, was made by Mr. WARE, and not by Mr. FIERY, as erroneously stated.

And then the journal was approved.

EXEMPTION FROM EXECUTION.

Mr. RIDGELY moved a reconsideration of the vote, by which the following proposition offered by himself, had yesterday been adopted:

"Laws shall be passed by the legislature to protect from exemption, a reasonable amount of property of a debtor."

It has occurred to me, (said Mr. Ridgely.) upon reflection that the word "reasonable" amount, is a very indefinite term. The legislature would be under no restraint whatever in fixing the amount to be exempted under this provision. If the motion to reconsider should be agreed to, I shall propose to amend the article by inserting the words, "not exceeding in value the sum of five hundred dollars."

He designated this as a limitation upon the legislature, beyond which they shall not go.

Mr. WELLS desired to call the attention of the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Ridgely,) to the fact, that the gentleman from Kent, (Mr. Mitchell) had yesterday given notice of his intention to move a reconsideration of the vote; that gentleman was not now in his seat. He, (Mr. W.) would suggest to the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Ridgely,) that it would be better to waive the motion until the gentleman should be present.

Mr. RIDGELY said, he had no objection. If the House should agree to reconsider, he would then offer his amendment, and it could lie on the table for the present.

Mr. DORSEY enquired of the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Ridgely,) what he proposed to do with the fund—leave it in the hands of the debtor, or what disposition would he make of it?

Mr. RIDGELY. I leave that matter in the hands of the legislature.

The question was then taken,

"Will the Convention reconsider the said vote?"

No quorum voted.

Mr. WARE asked the yeas and nays,

Which were ordered, and

Being taken, resulted as follows:

Affirmative—Messrs. Chapman, President, Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Ricaud, Weems, Buchanan, Bell, Welch, Ridgely, Lloyd, Colston, James U. Dennis, Dashiell, Chambers of Cecil, Miller, McLane, Grason, Wright, Shriver, Annan, Ware, Schley, Fiery, Neill, John Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Weber, Hollyday, Shower, Cockey and Brown—34.

Negative—Messrs. Lee, Chambers of Kent, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Jenifer, Hicks, Bowie, Sprigg, McMaster, Hearn, Fooks, Biser, Sappington, Stephenson, Thawley, Stewart of Caroline, Hardcastle, Gwinn, Stewart of Baltimore city, Brent of Baltimore city, Presstman, Slicer and Smith—25.

So the vote was reconsidered.

Mr. MITCHELL now being in his seat—

Mr. RIDGELY moved to amend the said amendment by adding at the end thereof, the words:

"Not exceeding in value the sum of five hundred dollars."

Mr. HOLLYDAY moved to strike out "five" and insert, "three" hundred.

The question was taken, and

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. HICKS moved to strike out "five hundred," and insert "one thousand" dollars.

Mr. MITCHELL. I regret very much that this question has been brought up to-day. I gave notice yesterday of my intention to move a reconsideration of the vote, when the Convention should be full. As things are now, we may go on voting upon sums of two hundred, and five hundred, and one thousand—and nothing will be decided.

The question was stated to be on the amendment of Mr. HICKS.

Mr. HICKS asked the yeas and nays;

Which were refused.

The question was then taken, and

The amendment of Mr. HICKS was rejected.

Mr. THAWLEY moved to strike out "five hundred," and insert "one hundred."

Mr. STEPHENSON called a division of the question, on striking out;

Which was ordered.

Mr. PRESTMAN desired to offer a substitute.

The proposition was not now in order.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER desired to offer an amendment.

The PRESIDENT said, it was not in order at this time.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER. The gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Ridgely,) has fixed the *maximum* limit of five hundred dollars. I desire to have a *minimum* limit, and I will say one hundred dollars. I give notice of my intention to offer this amendment, when it is in order.

The question was taken on the motion to strike out, and

Was decided in the negative.