

## LICENSE LAW.

Mr. ANNAN, presented a petition of sundry citizens of Frederick county, praying that provision may be made in the new Constitution to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, except the same shall be approved of by a majority of the votes in the election district where the same is to be sold.

Which was read, and

Referred to the select committee appointed on that subject.

On a request to that effect made in his behalf, by the PRESIDENT, (pro tem.,) Mr. BLAKISTONE.

Leave of absence for Wednesday and Thursday of this week, were granted to HENRY G. WHEELER, official reporter of the Convention.

## THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the special order of the day, being the report heretofore made by Mr. GRASON, chairman of the committee on the executive department of the government.

The pending question was the eighth section of the report:

Section 8. And in case of any vacancy in the office of Governor during the recess of the Legislature, the President of the Senate shall discharge the duties of said office till a Governor is elected by the two Houses; and in case of the death or resignation of said President, or of his removal from the State, or of his refusal to serve, then the duties of said office shall, in like manner, and for the same interval, devolve upon the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the Legislature may provide by law for the case of impeachment or inability of the Governor, and declare what person shall perform the executive duties during such impeachment or inability; and for any vacancy in said office, not herein provided for, provision may be made by law, and if such vacancy should occur without such provision being made, the Legislature shall be convened by the Secretary of State for the purpose of filling said vacancy.

On motion of Mr. GRASON,

Said section was amended by striking out in the 3d line the words "by the two Houses," and inserting in lieu thereof "as hereinbefore provided."

And the section, as amended, was adopted.

The ninth section of the report was then read as follows:

Section 9. The Governor before entering upon the duties of his office, shall take the following oath:

Mr. GRASON moved to amend said section by adding at the end thereof, the following:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm,) that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Governor, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of Maryland."

The question was put,

Mr. DENT suggested that no quorum was present.

The PRESIDENT, *pro tem.*, directed the Secretary to count the Convention.

The count having been made,

A quorum was declared to be present.

The question having been stated to be on the amendment of Mr. GRASON,

Mr. G. explained that he had not inserted the words "the Constitution of the United States," because that was a separate oath which all officers of the United States were obliged to take, when they entered upon their duties.

Mr. DORSEY enquired whether, under the old Constitution, the oath did not include the oath to support the Constitution of the United States. If not, it was a very appropriate oath, and both, he thought, should be embraced.

Mr. GRASON said, he did not recollect the exact legal provisions. But he knew that separate oaths were taken, first to support the Constitution and laws of the State. There was then a separate oath to support the Constitution of the United States and another in relation to the belief in the Christian religion.

Mr. DORSEY invited Mr. GRASON to refer him to the clause of the old Constitution. It seemed to him that the oaths might be put together in a few words.

Mr. GRASON said, the Convention should bear in mind, that this provision looked to the oath to be taken by the Governor of the State of Maryland, as such, and he. (Mr. G.,) thought that the oath should not be blended with the oath to support the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution of the United States, required every State officer, before he entered upon the discharge of his duties to take an oath to support that Constitution. It was not necessary, therefore, to insert it here. Still he had no particular objection to it.

Mr. DORSEY enquired, whether there was not another oath, which required the incumbent to swear that he would not receive the profits of any other office held by any other person? To give an opportunity for examination of these several oaths, he suggested that the section should lie over informally.

Mr. GRASON said, he thought there was in the bill of rights a provision requiring such an oath, as the gentleman referred to. He hoped, however, that the Convention would not put in this executive oath, every thing which might be required by other parts of the Constitution. The effect would be so to complicate and extend the section as to make it cumbersome.

Mr. DORSEY said, he would not ask any delay but, if he should hereafter deem it necessary, he would move a re-consideration.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. GRASON.

But no quorum voted.

Mr. GWINN asked the yeas and nays.

Mr. DONALDSON suggested, that some time since the gentleman from Kent, (Mr. Chambers,) had proposed that a general form of oath should be adopted for all officers. This, Mr. D. thought, was in the legislative report—and the question had gone over so that the whole matter might be made to accord. His impression was that such