

The question was then taken and decided as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Blakistone, President, *pro tem.*, Dent, Hopewell, Chambers, of Kent, Mitchell, Donaldson, Wells, Randall, Kent, Sellman, Weems, Sollers, Brent, of Charles, Jenifer, Buchanan, Bell, Welch, Chandler, Lloyd, Dickin-son, Sherwood, of Talbot, Crisfield, Williams, Hicks, Hodson, Phelps, Chambers, of Cecil, Miller, Bowie, Tuck, Grason, Shriver, Biser, McHenry, Magraw, Gwinn, Stewart, of Baltimore city, Brent, of Baltimore city, Presstman, Ware, Kilgour, Brewer, Waters, Hollyday and Brown—45.

*Negative*—Messrs. Lee, Dorsey, Dashiell, Eccleston, Dirickson, McMaster, Fooka, Gaither, Sappington, Nelson, Carter, Hardcastle, Schley, Fiery, John Newcomer, Harbine, Webber, Slicer, Smith, Parke, Shower and Cockey—22.

So the 21st section as amended was adopted.

Mr. DORSEY moved to reconsider the vote just taken, for the purpose of moving to amend the section as follows—to strike out in the third line, an annual salary of “thirty-six hundred dollars,” and insert in lieu thereof the following words: “as shall hereafter be prescribed by the Legislature.”

Mr. DAVIS said, he felt no particular interest in the exact amount at which the Governor's salary might be fixed, but it seemed there were gentlemen now occupying high positions in the State, who had felt an interest in the subject—whose aspirations and success showed that they had felt an interest in it—and who had taken occasion to place upon record their opinion as to what the exact amount ought to be. He held in his hand the Journal of the House of Delegates of December session, 1845, at which time Mr. Lowe, the present Governor of Maryland, was a member from Frederick county.

Mr. McHENRY called Mr. DAVIS to order.

Mr. DAVIS. The gentleman from Harford will please to reduce his point of order to writing.

Some conversation followed, and

While Mr. McHENRY was reducing his point of order to writing, the chair decided Mr. DAVIS to be in order.

Mr. DAVIS resumed: All he had proposed to do, he said, when interrupted, was to read from page 327 of the Journal of the House of Delegates, where it would be seen, the report from the Committee on Retrenchment being under consideration, and the question being upon the section fixing the Governor's salary, that Mr. Lowe moved to strike out 3000 and insert 2000. The question was taken by ayes and noes, and resulted as follows: Ayes 53, noes 21—Mr. Lowe voting in the affirmative. At a subsequent period of the consideration of that report, the section fixing the salary of the Secretary of State being under consideration, Mr. Lowe moved to strike out 1200 dollars and insert 1000—determined in the affirmative. So it seemed that Mr. Lowe, who doubtless then looked forward to the

Gubernatorial chair, which he now fills, thought that 2000 dollars was a sufficient salary for the Governor of Maryland, and 1000 dollars enough for the Secretary of State.

He (Mr. D) had only risen to present this recorded evidence of the opinion of the present Governor of Maryland, which certainly ought to be entitled to some weight; and he commended it to his friends, who now thought that the salary of the Governor ought to be fixed at 4000 dollars, and the salary of the Secretary of State at 1500 dollars. He would not further occupy the time of the Convention.

Mr. DORSEY did not think this a proper tribunal to fix the compensation for the Governor. It was a fit subject for the Legislature to act on. He thought that the sum now fixed was excessive. The gentleman from Queen Anne's [Mr. Grason] had stated that a good deal of public property had been taken away from the Government House when in charge of the steward, by visitors in the absence of the Governor and his family. If so, that was the fault of the Governor. He ought to have selected a more vigilant steward, who would have taken more care of the property. We ought not to set up the Government House as a palace open to public inspection; and the Governor should have placed the charge of the property in more faithful hands. The people would not be willing to pay a negligent steward, nor a Governor who neglected his duty. He did not think the Government House, in the absence of the Governor and his family, ought to be thrown open to visitors to inspect it, and as is alleged, abstract or destroy its furniture. The gentleman from Queen Anne's also says that he took great care of the public property and plate, and handed it over to his successor. But it ought to be known that in most cases, either from wear and tear, or from some other cause, it passed into the hands of the successor in a worse condition than if it had even passed through the hands of the steward. And the accounts of the Treasurer will show that the appropriations for furnishing the Government House have been larger since the Governor has been compelled to reside here, than they were before. It appeared, therefore, that the residence of the Governor here had increased, not diminished, the appropriations after every new election of a Governor.

Mr. SHRIVER asked what the course of Mr. Lowe in 1845, had to do with the question before that Convention?

Mr. DORSEY said, that as the legislature have had the power to raise the salary of the Governor, they ought also to have the power to reduce it. Ought they not to have the power to diminish it? He thought the vote should be reconsidered that the matter may be left to the legislature.

Mr. GRASON said, he had voted for the \$4,000, and he had also voted for \$3,600. The legislature could not raise or diminish the salary after this provision shall have gone into operation. We have provided that members of the legislature shall receive four dollars a day. He thought it better that the provision should remain as it is.