

and nobody else possessed. It is their special, their exclusive privilege, to vote for whom they please, for what they please, and whether they know any thing about it or not!

It was thought of old that *labor viginti annorum* was requisite to know the law, but it is now ascertained, that every man, whatever have been his capacity or his means of information, or his want of either, is perfectly competent to decide the relative of those who are proposed to fill your highest judicial stations. If they know nothing about the man or his duties, it is their *inesestimable privilege* still, to decide. He could allow no encroachment on this exclusive right of the people.

Mr. JENIFER said, the gentleman from Kent was evidently trying to run him down in the race of popularity. But he, (Mr J.) was determined not to be beat. He intended to run neck and neck with the gentleman from Kent to the end of the session, and to prove himself a better republican.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. DASHIELL, and decided as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Blakistone, President, *pro tem*. Dent, Hopewell, Lee, Buchanan, Bell, Dashiell, Hicks, Eccleston, Phelps, Miller, Dirickson, McMaster, Gaither, Sappington, Nelson, Carter, Ware, Fieriery, John Newcomer, Harbine, and Smith—22.

*Negative*—Messrs. Chambers of Kent, Mitchell, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Randall, Kent Sellman, W. Weems, Sollers, Brent of Charles, Jenifer, Howard, Welch, Lloyd, Dickinson, Sherwood of Talbot, Crisfield, Williams, Hodson, Chambers of Cecil, McLane, Bowie, Tuck, Grason, Forjaks, Shriver, Biser, McHenry, Magraw, Harcastle, Gwinn, Stewart of Baltimore city, Brent of Baltimore city, Prestman, Davis, Kilgour, Brewer, Waters, Weber, Hollyday, Slicer, Parke, Shower, and Brown—45.

So the Convention refused to accept the substitute.

Mr. DIRICKSON made some remarks, which will be published hereafter.

Mr. MITCHELL had but a single word to say. He had made enquiry on this subject this morning, and he had satisfied himself that it was impossible for the Governor to discharge his duties without assistance, and he ought to have a confidential officer, who should be well paid, and appointed by himself. If you abolish this office, and as you have already fixed the salary of the Governor at thirty six hundred dollars, and being obliged to spend that sum or more, in entertaining his personal and political friends, he will have no time left to do the work of his office.

Mr. SHRIVER said the Convention had had a lecture from the gentleman from Worcester on the subject of retrenchment, but it came from that quarter with a bad grace. The gentleman from Worcester was himself prominent in fastening upon us this batch of officers at the beginning of the session. And only yesterday, when he was appointed on a Committee to enquire into the propriety of dispensing with some of the superfluous clerks, he asked and was allowed to decline

the service. The Secretary of State, a gentleman of as much purity of character and industry as any gentleman of the Convention, is busily employed, and without intermission. He works every day from nine o'clock in the morning until nine at night, writing letters in reply to applications to the Governor.

Mr. DIRICKSON. Why does not the Governor answer them himself?

Mr. SHRIVER replied that he had not time.—Copies are kept of all letters which are written. If the gentleman from Worcester chose to call at the office of the Secretary, he might see for himself that it was no sinecure. There is a great variety of duties to perform. As he believed the subject had been sufficiently discussed, and every gentleman's mind was made up as to his vote, he would ask for the previous question.

He withdrew the call for the previous question at the request of the gentleman from Worcester, Mr. DIRICKSON.

Mr. DIRICKSON made some remarks, which will be published hereafter.

On motion of Mr. GRASON, the twenty-second section was further amended by striking out the word "the," in line one, and inserting in lieu thereof, the word "a."

The twenty-second section, as amended, was then agreed to.

#### REDUCTION OF CLERKS.

Mr. SAPPINGTON asked leave of the Convention to make a report from the special committee to whom was referred the resolutions offered by him yesterday.

Mr. CHAMBERS moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of enabling the Convention to receive the report.

The motion was agreed to,

And the rules having been suspended, Mr. SAPPINGTON made the following report, which was read.

The committee appointed to enquire and report to this House whether or not it would be expedient to discharge some of the committee clerks and doorkeepers, ask leave to report, that in their opinion, from the advanced condition of the business of this Convention—most of the committees having made their reports—it is no longer necessary or expedient to retain the services of the whole number of committee clerks. For this reason they recommend that the number be reduced. They conceive further, that the duty implied devolves upon them to designate who of said committee clerks should be retained—Mr. John W. Rider was appointed by a separate order of this Convention clerk to the President and also to the committee on Accounts. His services will be required during the entire session of the Convention. Of the other committee clerks, they recommend that Messrs. Geo. S. King, Samuel Peacock and Joseph Morrirtz, be retained.

They do not think that any of the doorkeepers should be discharged, as their services are still required.

In accordance with the above views, they re-