

commend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved.* That it being no longer necessary to retain in this Convention the services of the whole number of committee clerks heretofore appointed, the following only be and are hereby retained, that is to say, John W. Rider, Geo. S. King; Samuel Peacock and Joseph Morrirtz.

J. SAPPINGTON, *Chairman.*

Mr. CRISFIELD, from the minority of said committee, submitted the following

REPORT :

The undersigned, a member of the committee to whom was referred the enquiry, "whether or not it would be expedient to discharge some of the doorkeepers and committee clerks," begs leave to report, that he finds there are three doorkeepers; two for the Hall of the Convention and one for the Senate Chamber, which is daily used for the accommodation of the members of the Convention and its committees. He is of opinion, that two doorkeepers are necessary for the Hall, and that, as long as the Senate Chamber is used as it has been during the whole of the session, a doorkeeper for that apartment is absolutely necessary for the protection of the public property, and for the accommodation of the committees and members of the Convention. The undersigned, therefore, thinks it would not be expedient to discharge any of the doorkeepers.

The undersigned finds that there are in the employment of the Convention a Post Master and seven committee clerks, one of whom performs the duties of clerk to the President as well as those of clerk of the committee on accounts, and keeps all the accounts of the Convention. His services are indispensable in the opinion of the undersigned.

The labor to be performed by the committee clerks of the Convention, has not been great or arduous at any time, and it might well be doubted whether the number originally employed was not greater than was necessary; but, however that may have been, it is certainly true, the labor for which committee clerks are necessary, is now over, or nearly performed. The undersigned is of opinion that there is not now, and it is not likely there will be during the residue of the session, labor to employ more than one half of the present number of committee clerks. He is therefore of opinion, that the public business would not be injured by dispensing with the services of three of the present clerks. The undersigned, however, wishes it to be distinctly understood, that in announcing this opinion, he does not intend to depreciate the characters and services of these officers; as far as he knows, or has been informed, each of the clerks of this body has faithfully performed every service which has been required of them. The undersigned thinks a portion of them may be dispensed with, not because they are incompetent or unfaithful, but because their services are unnecessary.

The undersigned thinks it no part of the duty of the committee to indicate which of the clerks

can best be discharged. The resolution does not require the expression of any opinion on that subject.

J. W. CRISFIELD.

Which was read.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. TUCK moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Mr. CHAMBERS suggested, whether it would not be the better course to have a day fixed for the discharge to take place, in order that those who will be discharged, may make their arrangements for leaving.

Mr. BRENT said, he would now offer a substitute for the resolution, and would ask that it should be laid on the table with the reports and resolution, and that they may all be taken up tomorrow. He did not think that any of these clerks should be discharged.

The substitute was read as follows:

*Ordered.* That on and after Monday next, no clerk, doorkeeper, or other officer be entitled to compensation when absent, unless upon leave of absence, granted by the Convention.

Mr. TUCK, again moved to lay the reports, resolution and substitute on the table.

The question being put, the motion was decided in the negative.

Mr. HICKS moved to postpone said reports and substitute until the first Monday of May next.

Determined in the negative.

Mr. BROWN moved to postpone said reports and substitute until to morrow.

Determined in the negative.

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, moved to amend the report of the majority committee, by adding at the end of the resolution, the following:

"And that the persons whose services are dispensed with, be allowed their per diem to Monday next, the 17th inst."

Mr. HICKS moved as a substitute for said reports and substitute, the following:

*Ordered.* That the reports of the committee appointed to enquire into the propriety of discharging some of the clerks and doorkeepers, be recommitted to the said committee, with instructions to said committee to write the names of each committee clerk and each doorkeeper, upon a separate piece of paper, and placed in a hat or box, and that the first three names drawn out be the clerks or doorkeepers to be discharged.

The PRESIDENT ruled the substitute to be out of order.

Mr. PRÉSTMAN moved the previous question, and being seconded.

The question was put on the adoption of the amendment as offered by Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, and

Determined in the affirmative.

The question was then put,

"Will the Convention accept the substitute as offered by Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city?"

Mr. SAPPINGTON moved the question be taken by yeas and nays, and being ordered, appeared as follows:

*Affirmative*— Messrs. Blakistone, President,