

shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the Senators."

Determined in the negative.

The question then recurred and was taken on the adoption of the amendment to the report offered by Mr. SPRIGG, as the 19th section, and amended on the motion of Mr. WEEMS; and

Determined in the affirmative.

Mr. BROWN gave notice that on to-morrow he should move to reconsider the vote of the Convention on the 17th section of the report.

The twenty-third section in the report, which had been passed over informally, was then read.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER moved to amend the section by filling the first blank in the section with "fifteen thousand;" which was

Determined in the affirmative.

Mr. PHELPS moved to amend the section by filling the second blank with "twelve thousand."

Mr. McMASTER was opposed to the formation of a new county out of Worcester and Somerset, and so were the people whom he had the honor to represent.

Mr. PHELPS hoped the amendment would not prevail. The gentleman, [Mr. McMaster.] limited the number to 15,000, thus cutting off the erection of counties having a less population. Now, that would be unjust, therefore, he, [Mr. P.] wished to make the arrangement uniform, and without making any invidious distinctions.

Mr. McMASTER moved to fill the second blank with "fifteen thousand;" which was

Determined in the affirmative.

Mr. PHELPS then moved further to amend the section, by adding at the end thereof, the following offered by him on the 4th:

"But new counties may be established by the Legislature containing the requisite population composed of parts of two or more counties, whenever a majority of voters in each of said counties, shall at any election for delegates to the Assembly, desire such new county to be erected. Provided, that no new county shall be established unless a bill for that purpose shall be passed at two successive sessions of the General Assembly.

Mr. PHELPS, (with the consent of the Convention,) amended his amendment by striking out in the 2d line thereof, the word "two," and inserting "one."

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER moved to reconsider the vote of the Convention on the amendment offered by him to the section, filling the first blank with "fifteen thousand."

Mr. PHELPS did not see why the Convention should make distinctions in relation to the numbers requisite to form a county in one portion of the State and not in another. They had done so in the case of two new counties, neither of which had a population of 10,000. He saw no good reason why one county should have 10,000, another 12,000, and another 15,000. He thought the argument of the gentleman from Caroline, (Mr. Stewart,) was conclusive, not only as to the counties on the Eastern Shore, but the Western also. Why make these distinctions? There were numerous counties, with a population of

less than 15,000. Montgomery, for instance, had less; and yet this Convention had declared that they would erect two counties, the one having a population of but 10,000, and the other 12,000. And whilst they did this, they at the same time had said that no new county should be erected, unless it had a population of 15,000. What, he asked, would be the consequence to that part of the State from which he came?—They had long suffered. (he meant the remark in no offensive sense.) and been shorn of their power and their strength. They were powerless at the footstool of the majority, and he would ask if they were now to suffer a greater wrong? Why were they to be deprived of the same privileges enjoyed by other sections of the State? It was unjust and wrong in whatever light the matter was viewed. He concluded, by moving a call of the Convention.

Which was agreed to, when, after the call on his motion, all further proceedings therein were dispensed with.

Mr. BOWIE agreed with his friend from Caroline, (Mr. Stewart,) that the effect of raising the number from 10,000 to 15,000 of a population, in order to the erection of new counties hereafter, would be favorable to the Western Shore—for at least two to one would be formed there, if at all, than on the Eastern Shore. In the western part of the State the population was increased rapidly. He thought that the true policy of the State was to go back and reconsider the McHenry county bill, which had been passed, requiring 10,000, and put the population up to 15,000. We should best consult our own interest, by throwing impediments in the way of the creation of new counties.

Mr. BROWN was opposed to fixing upon a low basis for the formation of new counties, as absolute injury must result from it. If this principle should be adopted, the result would be that three or four new counties would be erected on the Western Shore, where there would not be more than one on the Eastern. The more you reduce the basis, the more counties there would be on the Western Shore. He thought the number ought to be at least 15,000 of a population. He concurred with what the gentleman from Prince George's had said in relation to reconsidering the vote on the passage of the bill erecting the county of McHenry.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER expressed himself as decidedly opposed to the creation of new counties, and especially upon a low basis. He preferred 15 or 20,000 population to a county, than any number under it. He was averse to cutting up old counties, and did not desire any more, except upon the terms he had indicated.

Mr. SMITH was in favor of filling the blank with ten thousand, because there were some counties that contained a less number, and he designed offering a further amendment to require, also a certain extent of territory. His county, [Alleghany,] contained more than double the amount of territory possessed by any other county in the State. He could see no good or suffi