

other compensation beyond that received by them in virtue of their respective offices of Governor, Comptroller and Treasurer.

Sec. 3. The commissioners of public works and property shall exercise diligent care and supervision over the property of the State, of whatsoever kind, appoint directors in the incorporated companies, for which the State is entitled so to make such appointment, represent the State at the meetings of stockholders of the corporations in which the State is interested, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law."

The Convention then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, April 16, 1851.

The Convention met at ten o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH.

The roll of the members was called, and

The journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. RIDGELY presented a petition of sundry citizens of Baltimore county, praying that provision may be made in the new Constitution restricting the privilege to sell intoxicating liquors in small quantities, except the same shall be approved by a majority of the voters in the county or election district where the same is to be sold.

Which was read, and

Referred to the select committee already appointed on that subject.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the order of the day, being the substitute heretofore offered by Mr. THOMAS, creating a board of public works.

The question pending before the Convention on yesterday, being on the amendment offered by Mr. HOWARD, on the 14th instant, to insert after the word "stockholders" in the fifth line of first paragraph, the following:

"And shall appoint the directors in every rail road or canal company in which the State has the power to appoint directors. It shall also be the duty of this board to review, from time to time, the rate of tolls adopted by any company, and use all legal powers which it may possess, to obtain the establishment of a rate which may prevent an injurious competition with each other to the detriment of the interest of the treasury of the State, and report their acts annually to the legislature."

Mr. DORSEY concluded his remarks, (as embodied in yesterday's report,) and submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. HOWARD:

Insert after the words "directors," these words "where such power can be constitutionally exercised," and after the word "annually," in the last line, insert "or biennially as the case may be," and strike out the words "of the treasury."

Mr. HOWARD accepted the amendments, and modified his proposition accordingly.

Mr. DORSEY moved to amend the report of the committee, by adding at the end thereof, the following:

"And it shall be the duty of the said commissioners to keep a journal of their proceedings, and at each regular session of the Legislature, to make to it a report, and if they deem it necessary to recommend such Legislation as they shall think requisite to promote or protect the interests of the State in the Public Works hereinafter mentioned."

Mr. THOMAS accepted the amendment, stating that he took no exception to it, although he did not consider it necessary.

Mr. SPENCER then obtained the floor, but yielded to

Mr. DAVIS, who said that when he left the Hall yesterday, he congratulated himself that he was done with this subject. His intention then, was to take no further part in it. He was prepared to acquiesce in whatever decision the Convention might come to. But his venerable and highly respected friend, [Mr. Dorsey,] had thought proper to make some personal allusions to himself, which, with all the respect and veneration he entertained for him, he deemed it his duty to reply to.

Mr. DORSEY. If the gentleman means that I made any disrespectful allusions to him, I declare that I had no such intention.

Mr. DAVIS was sure his venerable friend had not so intended—but the remarks had been entered upon the journal and would go forth to the world, and there his reply must go also.

To those members of the Convention who knew the intimate relations which it had been his happiness for so many years to hold to his venerable friend, to the great respect and deference in which he held his matured judgment and great ability, he need not say that he stood in an embarrassing position, and needed their sympathy, when it became his duty in such a body as this, to defend himself from personal allusions from such a quarter. Yet painful and embarrassing as it was, he must attempt it.

His venerable friend for whom he entertained a devotion which he hoped ever to bear to him, and to whom he did not hesitate to say, he owed more personal obligation than to any other person, except him who now peacefully rested in the grave, had made an insinuation that he could not but feel.

He had said that he, [Mr. D.,] was so biased with his personal interests and position, "that he would not trust him,"—"that his interest and relations to the District of Columbia, were such that he would not trust even him;" and this, too, after all the encomiums of respect and confidence he had been pleased to heap upon his unworthy head.

Mr. DORSEY said:

That he only stated that he would not place the interests of the State in a situation where the people could be led to suspect that any thing wrong would be done. He would not trust that