

unfrequently happened that a person had to pay four or five hundred dollars before being able to get a trifling issue decided before the courts. Then, with regard to the criminal docket, he would ask, was it not cruel, and a great hardship, to keep a poor man lying in jail six months, awaiting his trial, when a jury could, had an opportunity been afforded, perhaps have declared him perfectly innocent of the charge alleged against him?

He would ask gentlemen, both from the large and small counties, whether it was not altogether wrong and inhuman to incarcerate a person that length of time, before he could be brought to trial to prove his innocence? He [Mr J.] trusted there was a disposition on the part of the Convention to mete out justice to all, and correct these abuses in the administration of justice.

Mr. McMASTER thought the amendment proposed by the gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Johnson) was unnecessary, as provision was already made in the bill under consideration, authorizing the Legislature to pass an act to enable the citizens of any of the districts to hold courts twice a year in each county, if they should think proper.

Mr. W. C. JOHNSON remarked, in reply, that he thought it was imperative that three courts should be held in each year.

Mr. THOMAS would state a fact to the Convention. When he was a member of the House of Delegates—

Mr. McHENRY objected to the gentleman proceeding further.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair rules the gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Thomas) in order.

Mr. THOMAS. I was about to say—

Mr. McHENRY. I object, sir.

Mr. THOMAS. I don't know what the gentleman from Harford (Mr. McHenry) means.

Mr. McHENRY said he would take an appeal from the decision of the Chair.

The PRESIDENT again declared that the gentleman from Frederick had a right to proceed.

Mr. THOMAS waived his right to the floor, and resumed his seat.

Mr. W. C. JOHNSON then demanded the yeas and nays, which being ordered and taken, resulted as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Donaldson, Wells, Randall, Buchanan, McCullough, Thomas, Shriver, Johnson, Gaither, Biser, Annan, Gwinn, Stewart, of Balt. city, Ware, Schley, Fiery, John Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Weber, Holliday, Fitzpatrick, Ege and Shower—23.

*Negative*—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't, Morgan, Hopewell, Ricaud, Lee, Chambers, of Kent, Mitchell, Kent, Sellman, Weems, Dalrymple, Sollers, Brent, of Charles, Merrick, Howard, Bell, Welch, Chandler, Ridgely, Sherwood, of Talbot, Colston, John Dennis, Crisfield, Dashiell, Hicks, Hodson, Goldsborough, Eccleston, Phelps, Miller, McLane, Bowie, Tuck, Sprigg, McCubbin, Spencer, Grason, George, Wright, Dirickson, McMaster, Hearn, Fooks, Jacobs, Sappington, Stephenson, McHenry,

Nelson, Thawley, Stewart, of Caroline, Hardcastle, Davis, Kilgour, Brewer, Waters, Anderson, Slicer, Smith, Parke and Brown—59.

So the amendment was rejected.

Mr. JENIFER gave notice of his intention, when the substitute offered by him came up for consideration, he should offer as an additional section to come in after section 11th, the following, which he desired should be entered on the record:

"Sec. 11. The Judges of the several inferior judicial districts shall be elected by a plurality vote of the legal and qualified voters residing therein, and all elections of judges and other officers provided for under this article of the Constitution shall be certified, and the returns made by the clerks of the respective counties, to the Governor, who shall issue commissions to the different persons, for the offices to which they may have been respectively elected."

On motion of Mr. Phelps,

The Convention then adjourned until to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY, April 25.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. Graff.

The roll of the members was called.

The journal of yesterday was read.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. STEPHENSON offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That this Convention will adjourn *sine die* on the 10th of May proximo, unless adjourned at an earlier day in consequence of having finished the business for which it was called.

The resolution having been read,

Mr. BOWIE suggested that it should be so amended as to substitute the 6th day of May for the 10th.

Mr. WEEMS called for the reading of the resolution, and it was again read.

Mr. BOWIE, in view of the qualifying clause in the last portion of his resolution, withdrew his motion to amend.

Mr. THOMAS said he thought the Convention could adjourn on an earlier day than that designated in the resolution, and he was disposed to designate the 5th of May, provided it would fall on a day of the week which would be convenient.

Several voices. The 5th of May is Monday.

Mr. THOMAS. That will do. I move to amend the resolution by substituting Monday the 5th of May for the 10th.

The President stated the question to be on the amendment.

Mr. SAPPINGTON. I accept it.

The question was then stated to be on the adoption of the resolution as thus modified, and it was adopted without a division.

So the Convention decided that it would