

mittee on the subject of licenses, stated to the Convention, that they had considered the various memorials referred to said committee on that subject, and were of opinion, that it was a subject more properly belonging to the legislature, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration thereof.

Mr. WEBER, in behalf of himself and Mr. FOXES, the minority of the committee, proposed to report the following:

"At the time when the votes of the qualified voters shall be taken for the adoption or rejection of this Constitution, the additional section, in the words following, to wit: 'No license to traffic in intoxicating liquors shall be granted in any ward of the city of Baltimore, or any of the election districts in either of the counties of this State, after a majority of the votes of such ward or election district, at any general election, shall vote against granting such licenses and until such decision shall be reversed at a subsequent general election,' shall be separately submitted to the voters for adoption or rejection, in the form following, to wit: A separate ballot may be given and deposited in a separate box. Upon the ballots given for said separate section shall be written or printed, the words 'for the license section;' and upon the ballots given against said section, in like manner, the words, 'against the license section.' If a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the section, it shall be a part of the Constitution, and the General Assembly at its first session, shall pass such law or laws as may be necessary to give it effect and operation."

Mr. WEBER said:

That as a member of the minority of the committee, he thought it would be proper to say on behalf of himself and those composing the committee, that they were desirous of reporting a section on the subject of licenses, conformable to the prayers of numerous petitioners. He did not know whether it would be in order to submit a minority report on the subject or not.

Mr. WRIGHT observed, that he concurred with the honorable chairman of the committee in all the views set forth in the report of the majority. He had seen the blighting influence of all the temperance movements when they attempted to call to their aid the legislative power. The only successful method of stemming the tide of intemperance, was by a resort to moral suasion. Such was the make and organization of the American people. They were not ripe at this time, for that sort of action.

There had been temperance societies in Queen Anne's county, and a bare appeal on their behalf to the legislature, had had the most blighting consequences. He was, therefore, as a temperance man, for those reasons, opposed to the insertion of a provision in the Constitution on the subject of temperance.

Mr. SMITH expressed a hope, on account of a very general wish on the part of the people of his section of the State, that this Convention would adopt an additional section on the subject of licences, to be voted upon at the same time

as the new Constitution. Should the section, in question, receive a majority of the votes of the people, then it should be incorporated in the Constitution.

Mr. BUCHANAN, president, *pro. tem.* The motion made as the Chair understood, was to discharge the committee from the further consideration of the subject. If the object contemplated by gentlemen is not intended to affect the Constitution, the chair is at a loss to know how it can be brought before the Convention.

Mr. WEBER. It is true a motion was made to discharge the committee, but I wished to know whether it would be in order for a minority of a committee to propose a specific article.

The CHAIR. Certainly, sir.

Mr. WEBER. I will read the section we propose to be voted for outside of the Constitution.

Mr. HOWARD rose to a point of order—that the order adopted on the eighth instant, in relation to the origination of new business; it was not competent to receive the report of the majority and minority of said committee.

The CHAIR ruled the report and substitute out of order, on the ground that under the existing order, no report could be made, except from the revisory committee.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the order submitted by Mr. THOMAS, on Saturday night, that the order of the Convention moved by Mr. HOWARD, and adopted on the eighth instant, shall not be construed as applying to the report on the elective franchise and on the colored population.

The order was then adopted.

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, moved a call of the Convention;

Which was ordered, and

The Doorkeeper was despatched for the absent members.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. HOWARD rose and said:

With the permission of the Convention, I will avail myself of this moment of leisure in order to propose the discharge of a duty, which is very agreeable to myself, and which I am sure will be satisfactory to the Convention.

It is one of those duties we will have to perform before we adjourn, and I think may be as well done now as at any other moment; and, I have great pleasure in being the organ of the Convention on this subject—I therefore beg to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be, and they are hereby tendered to the Hon. JOHN G. CHAPMAN, for the dignified, impartial and able manner in which he has discharged the arduous and responsible duties of the chair during its protracted session.

Which was read, and

On motion of Mr. HOWARD,

Was unanimously adopted.

The Doorkeeper having returned, reported that in obedience to the order, he had notified the absent members that their attendance in the Convention was required.