

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention met at 8 o'clock, P. M.

All the members present except the following :

Messrs. Audoun, Baker, Barron, Berry, of Baltimore county, Berry, of Prince George's, Billingsley, Briscoe, Brooks, Carter, Chambers, Crawford, Dail, Davis, of Charles, Dellinger, Dennis, Gale, Green, Hatch, Henkle, Hodson, Hoffman, Horsey, Johnson, Jones, of Cecil. Keefer, Larsh, Mace, Mayhugh, Morgan, Noble, Ridgely, Robinette, Schley, Schlosser, Scott, Smith, of Dorchester, Smith, of Worcester, Sykes, Thruston, Turner, Valliant, Wickard, Wilmer, Wooden—44.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the section submitted by Mr. Russell, as an amendment to the Report of the Committee on the Legislative Department, viz :

“The General Assembly shall pass laws providing that the rites of marriage between any persons legally competent to contract marriage may be celebrated by any Minister of any religious denomination, by any Mayor of a city, by any Justice of the Peace, or in such manner as is usually practised by the society of people called Quakers ; and providing for the registration of all marriages, however solemnized in this State.”

Mr. Belt submitted the following amendment to said section :

“Provided however, That the General Assembly shall not pass any law requiring the intervention of any Minister of the Gospel, or of any civil officer, or any registration as being necessary to the validity of any marriage which would otherwise be valid at common law, or under the existing laws of this State ;”

Which was rejected.

Mr. Sands submitted the following amendment :

Strike out all after “Assembly,” in the first line and insert :

“Shall pass laws providing that the rites of marriage between any persons inhabitants of this State, shall not be celebrated by any person within this State, unless by some Minister of religion, ordained according to the rites of his or her church, except in the case of persons members of the