

ture adjourns; because if the legislature does not act upon the matter the report stands *ipso facto* the law of this State. That is now fixed and certain, if anything is fixed and certain; and I insist therefore that the moment it goes into operation we of the counties should be relieved from this taxation which we are now required to pay for the support of our schools in the several counties. As I said last night I say now that the levy published in the county papers show that we are already paying a very large amount for the support of our county schools.

Mr. RIDGELY. I do not desire to enter into the discussion at all; but I wish to refer to some facts with regard to which the gentleman from Charles (Mr. Edelen) is in error. I know personally that from the national taxes his county is almost entirely exempt. I know that the national tax of the 5th collection district, is four fifths of it paid in Baltimore and Howard counties.

Mr. EDELEN. How is that?

Mr. RIDGELY. Because you have not the subjects of taxation there.

Mr. SANDS. It is a fact that nearly the whole federal taxation of the district is paid by the manufacturing interest lying along the river in Baltimore and Howard counties. I have heard that the collection of the federal taxes in the county my friend represents hardly pays the commission on collecting.

Mr. EDELEN. I ask my friends whether we are not required under the United States law to pay a tax of three per cent.; I believe now it is increased to five per cent.? I know this much that I am paying a tax upon income. I think my assessment was \$16 or \$17. I think there are taxes on carriages and yachts; but we happen to have few of them.

Mr. SANDS. I think our federal tax was hardly less than \$60.

Mr. ECKER. I rise to a question of order. Is this discussion in order?

The PRESIDENT ruled it to be out of order.

Mr. MILLER demanded the yeas and nays upon his amendment.

The question being taken, the result was—yeas 17, nays 41—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Berry, of Prince George's, Bond, Brown Clarke, Dail, Davis, of Charles, Duvall, Edelen, Gale, Harwood, Hollyday, Lee, Mitchell, Miller, Parran, Stockbridge, Turner—16.

Nays—Messrs. Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Baker, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Earle, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Greene, Hebb, Hoffman, Hopkins, Hopper, Keefer, Kennard, King, Mayhugh, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Nyman, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Ridgely, Robinette, Russell, Sands, Schley, Scott, Stirling, Swope, Sykes, Thomas, Todd, Valiant, Wickard, Wooden—41.

The amendment was accordingly rejected.

FREE COLORED SCHOOLS.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, submitted the following amendment:

In line 9, before the word "population" insert the word "white."

Mr. HEBB. I am in favor of that amendment. There are 10,287 children between the ages of five and twenty years, of whom 3,537 are white; while in Allegany the whole population is 10,761, of whom 9,038 are white. I prefer making the distribution on the basis of the white population.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. Is it the purpose of the gentleman from Prince George's to have the tax for school purposes taken off of negroes, or are they to be compelled to pay taxes to support schools for the benefit of the children of white persons only?

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. The gentleman has already by his vote assisted in freeing the negroes under this constitution, and therefore they are no longer property and their masters do not pay the tax; and they do not pay taxes, for there is no *per capita* tax.

Mr. STIRLING. Those owning property must pay taxes.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. I do not intend to give the free negroes the privilege of going to school with my children or associating with my children, and I mean to guard against it.

Mr. STIRLING. That is a very singular way to guard against it. This bill proposes to give to the slaveholding counties this school fund in proportion to their whole population, with the right to spend the whole of it in educating their white children. If they are going to refuse it I am willing to back out of it. I was willing to vote to give it to them as some little return, not to compensate them for the negroes, but to give them out of abundant charity in consideration of their having this black population among them. If gentlemen will have it, I was disposed to give it to them.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. No, sir; we won't have it; and I think the abundant charity of the gentleman is entirely gratuitous.

Mr. STIRLING. The only reason why I decline to accept it is because I want to protect the poor white people in the lower part of the State and give them money from the taxation of the rest of the State to educate their children.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, demanded the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question being taken, the result was—yeas 30, nays 27—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Annan, Audoun, Baker, Berry, of Prince George's, Bond, Brown Duvall, Edelen, Gale, Galloway, Greene, Hebb, Hoffman, Hopkins, Hopper, King, Lee, Mitchell, Miller, Mullikin, Nyman, Ridge-