

Mayhugh, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Parran, Pugh, Purnell, Robinette, Russell, Sands, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Worcester, Stirling, Swope, Sykes, Thomas, Thurston, Turner, Wooden—60.

#### CIRCUIT COURTS.

The convention resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the judiciary department on its second reading.

The pending section was the following:

"Sec 19. The State shall be divided into eight judicial circuits, in manner following: The counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's, shall constitute the first circuit. The counties of Calvert, Anne Arundel and Montgomery, the second. The counties of Allegany, Washington, and Frederick, the third. The counties of Baltimore, Howard and Carroll, the fourth. The counties of Harford, Cecil and Kent, the fifth. The counties of Queen Anne's, Talbot and Caroline, the sixth. The counties of Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester, the seventh. And the city of Baltimore, the eighth."

To which Mr. HEBB had submitted the following amendment:

Strike out all after the word "the," in the first line, and insert:

"State shall be divided into twelve judicial circuits, in manner following: The counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's shall constitute the first circuit; the counties of Anne Arundel Calvert and Montgomery, the second; the county of Frederick, the third; the county of Washington, the fourth; the county of Allegany, the fifth; the counties of Carroll and Howard, the sixth; the county of Baltimore, the seventh; the counties of Harford and Cecil, the eighth; the counties of Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot, the ninth; the counties of Caroline and Dorchester, the tenth; the counties of Somerset and Worcester the eleventh; and the city of Baltimore, the twelfth."

To which Mr. MILLER had submitted the following amendment:

Strike out section 19, and insert:

"Sec. 19. There shall be a judge for each county in the State, who shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters of the several counties. He shall be a resident for one year in the county for which he may be elected next before the time of his election, and shall reside in the county for which he is elected, while he continues to act as judge."

Mr. MILLER. I am sorry that the chairman of the committee (Mr. Stockbridge) is not present this evening, and also that the gentleman from Baltimore county, who seemed to take a great deal of interest in this matter when the convention adjourned this morning, is absent. I thought he was inclined, although he made an objection to the additional ex-

pense of this system as reported by the committee, after the very able remarks made by the gentleman from Baltimore city, to think that we ought to adopt this system I have proposed, of having one judge to each county, or the system as reported by the committee.

This question of additional expense is one we ought to look at calmly and dispassionately. If there is to be any enormous increase of expenditure from this judicial system, we ought to take that into consideration and give it a fair weight. But let us look at it in the first place in the light figures will present it. Adopting the same increase of salaries, and increase in the number of the judges of the court of appeals, which would be necessary in any event, I think I shall be able to show conclusively to the convention that the actual increase in the expense will not be more than twelve or fourteen thousand dollars per year. In comparing the two systems together, as was said by the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Stockbridge,) we must look to what will be the system as modified, if we take the old system and give these judges such increase of salary as is necessary to be given to them in order to make up their salaries to what we have given other officers, and what is conceded on all hands to be necessary. There is to be one more judge of the court of appeals. That is conceded on all hands to be necessary whether we adopt the present system or the old system. That will give an increase of \$3,000 dollars a year. That is not to be attributed to the new system at all. Then we must increase the salaries of these judges \$500 per year. We have fixed the salaries of the judges now at \$3,000, an increase of \$500 to each of them over and above what the present constitution fixes it at. That will make for the five judges of the court of appeals alone, \$2,500 a year. Then if we increase the salaries of the circuit judges in the same way, if we adopt the present system of circuit judges, giving them an increase of \$500 each, would be an increase of \$4,000. And then the increase in the salaries of the judges of Baltimore city, if we increase them, as we probably shall, and as in justice we are bound to increase them, that will be \$2,000 more. That will amount to \$11,500 increase, which we must have if we take the old system. I do not suppose there is a member of this convention that does not see that if we adopt the old system there must be an increase of \$11,500 in the salaries of the judges.

Now the actual salary of the judges under the present system is \$33,500. This will make the cost of the system of judges \$45,000, if we take the old system and modify it as we have modified the salaries of all the other officers, and which is not to be attributed to the additional expense of the new system the committee propose.

In addition to that, a report made to the