

promptly distribute the same among the people, the copies to be furnished by the contractor for printing the same within one week after the final adjournment of this convention."

Mr. VALLIANT. It seems to me that the pamphlet form is decidedly the best form for the distribution of the new constitution. If distributed in sheet form, they will not be preserved longer than the first week; while if distributed in pamphlet form, every man will like to be in possession of a copy of the constitution, although every man does not like to incur the expense of paying for it. "So that if printed in pamphlet form they will be much more likely to continue in the possession of the people of the State.

As to the cost there will be no material difference. If there is any it will be very trifling indeed. And the distribution can be made in the form prescribed by the gentleman. I see no reason why we should print it in newspaper form, when we can print it in pamphlet form, suitable for preservation, at the same cost, or very nearly the same.

Mr. WICKARD. I think that 5,000 German copies will not be sufficient. I move to increase the number to 10,000.

The amendment was agreed to.

The question recurred upon Mr. STOCKBRIDGE'S amendment, and it was agreed to—ayes 40, nays 21.

The order as amended was agreed to.

RECALL OF CONVENTION.

The convention proceeded to the consideration of the following resolution submitted by Mr. ABBOTT on Saturday:

Resolved, That in view of the uncertain condition of affairs in this State, owing to the possibility of an invasion by the public enemy, which may interfere with the expression of the popular will on the day to be fixed for voting on this constitution, that this convention, when it adjourns without day, will be adjourned subject to the call of the president, and in case of the death or disqualification of the president, (H. H. Goldsborough,) Frederick Schley, of Frederick county, Joseph B. Pugh, of Cecil county, Henry Stockbridge, of Baltimore city, Wm. T. Purnell, of Worcester county, be and they are hereby authorized, in the order in which they are named, to act as president, and call the convention together."

Mr. ABBOTT modified his resolution so as to read:

Resolved, That in view of the uncertain condition of affairs in this State, owing to the possibility of an invasion by the public enemy, which may interfere with the expression of the popular will on the day to be fixed for voting on this constitution, that this convention when it adjourns, for the purpose of taking the sense of the people on this constitution, stand adjourned subject to the call of

the president, and in case of the death or disqualification of the president, (H. H. Goldsborough,) Frederick Schley, of Frederick county, Joseph B. Pugh, of Cecil county, Henry Stockbridge, of Baltimore city, Wm. T. Purnell, of Worcester county, be and they are hereby authorized, in the order in which they are named, to act as president, and call the convention together; but should the day appointed for the adoption or rejection of this constitution pass without interruption, then the president shall declare, through the public press, the final adjournment without day of this convention.

Mr. RIDGELY. What effect will that have upon the question of the *per diem* of members? Would members draw their *per diem* for the interim?

Mr. CUSHING. It would cease on the adjournment.

Mr. RIDGELY. But the convention does not adjourn. It is still a convention. It is doubtful, in my mind, whether there would not be such an obligation to pay members; although I have no idea that that formed any part of the gentleman's intention.

Mr. ABBOTT. No, sir. I will add the words, "and no *per diem* shall be allowed for the recess."

Mr. DENNIS. I confess that I do not see clearly the reason for this. The resolution as it now stands differs from the form in which it was originally submitted. I feel some curiosity to learn from the gentleman from Baltimore who offered this resolution (Mr. Abbott,) how it was that we could adjourn *sine die* subject to a future call. But that part of it is changed.

Mr. ABBOTT. The resolution was drawn up very hastily.

Mr. DENNIS. It is to be hoped that such a resolution as that was drawn hastily. But as it now stands I do not understand why this body should continue in session. The legislature meets, performs its work, and adjourns subject to the constitutional limitations and provisions. The convention which has met here has been in session for four months performing its work, made its constitution, printed it in the English, German, High Dutch and Low Dutch, and put it before the people; and yet it seems that this body is still to be continued, *cui bono*? Why is it to be continued? Is it on account of interruption on the day of taking the vote? What kind of interruption? Where is the interruption? How is it to take place? Is it to be from a foreign enemy, or from a domestic foe? Is it to be from rebels abroad or from traitors in our midst? Is it to be from a drunken spree? Or what is to be the interference which is to require six, eight, or a dozen gentlemen seriatim to be authorized to call the convention together again? And when called together again, for what purpose is it? To revise and amend the new constitution