

other reports still pending, upon which we can act, I suppose. But if there are not, let us wait for other reports to come in, and defer any action upon this at present. I do not like to express all that I feel on this occasion. I trust there will be no disposition to press or urge this matter so far as to make it seem to be expressly in opposition to the will of the minority, which I know is of very small account. Yet we wish and hope to be fairly treated in the consideration of this report, which we consider of such vital importance to the constituency which we represent.

Mr. STIRLING. I should be very much indisposed to do anything upon a matter of so much importance, which might seem to friends upon the other side to be going too fast; but I do not feel the force of the objection of the gentleman from St. Mary's for this reason. Although the house is not as full as it is sometimes, we have sixty members here, which is certainly a very considerable attendance. This report will take some time. It will take up the afternoon. We may have the afternoon and night session upon it. If we wait and take it up to-morrow, it might take up the whole day, which would throw us still further forward. I hope the convention will be able to adjourn by Friday, or at most by Saturday. We have all the reports of the committee on revision to consider, which are not ready yet. This report will take up some time. I cannot see the hardship of beginning upon it this afternoon. Gentlemen have all read it. The gentleman from St. Mary's (Mr. Dent) has expressly said that he has considered it so much as to form a very definite opinion upon it. I see here representatives of the minority who are abundantly able to take care of all their interests. If gentlemen wish to explain their views, they can do it just as well now as at any other time. There are enough gentlemen on the floor to take care of the interests of the minority. And besides, if gentlemen do not choose to attend, they have no right to expect us to delay our business upon their account.

Mr. DANIEL. If there was any advantage to be taken in this thing, I would certainly not press it. But, as has been said, our session is coming fast to a close. We have but a day or two left. The chairman of the committee informs me that it is probable he shall have to leave to-morrow afternoon; and I do not believe we shall get through this report in one day; especially if gentlemen are spreading themselves and have so much pent up wrath with reference to this schedule, as one of them tells you he has. I think it would be better to get clear of some of that this afternoon; and then they will not have so much on hand to-morrow. It does a man good sometimes to get clear of it. We know that these gentlemen vote against us on the most simple things. Gentlemen

have opposed upon the third reading, reports which were exactly like the articles in the old constitution; upon the treasury department, and others which had nothing political in them. They are so afraid of us that they will not vote with us if they can help it. Anything we may say will not change the vote at all. These gentlemen will all vote against us, and we shall all vote one way.

Mr. DENT. I hope not.

Mr. DANIEL. Yes we will. We shall come to an agreement, and our side of the house will vote one way and the other the other way. We have got enough present, I suppose, to carry out our views now; and if we wait for a fuller house, we shall only have a few more votes added to it. The gentlemen who are in the minority this evening, will be in the minority to-morrow just as much. I do not see that it will change the result a particle; and we may just as well go forward thus much with our work. We may as well go on with this report this afternoon and to-night.

Mr. CHAMBERS. It is very true that we are the minority; and it is very true that we shall be the minority to-morrow. But will any gentleman look at our empty seats, and then pretend to say in the face of this body, that we are not here without our friends?

Mr. DANIEL (in his seat.) Whose fault is it? Mr. CHAMBERS continued: Any man with eyes must see it, and must acknowledge that they are absent. We hold, at least I do, that among all the enormities committed by this body towards the minority here and their constituency, there is nothing to be compared with this. That is the view I take of it. We are told that there are gentlemen here of the minority who can protect themselves. In a matter of the utmost importance, when we wish our friends to be here, at its consideration, are we to be treated as if it were a two-penny affair? It is said that we vote against all your bills, and make no distinctions. That is a fact so far as I am concerned; for I will not vote for your bills when I have no opportunity of knowing what they are, you go with such railroad speed. I shall not vote for them when I have not seen the contents of them. When gentlemen are making such political changes, I certainly am not ready to vote for your treasury reports or your attorney general reports, or anything else, which they may not see any harm in. They put political matters in a report, and do not presume that those political matters are offensive. Offensive? That is not a term which will half designate this report, in my judgment.

All I ask is to wait until our friends are here to-morrow; that you will not be in such hot haste in a matter of this sort. You drive us here from nine, three and eight o'clock. Gentlemen must have some time to themselves. My two neighbors have gone on business of ur-