

that may be under consideration. Some two or three gentlemen obtain the floor and make their speeches, and then the previous question is sprung upon us. Now I submit it to the justice of the convention to say whether that is fair. If all the gentlemen who desire to speak had spoken, I should vote to sustain the previous question. But I shall vote against it now, because I think that each gentleman who wishes to avail himself of the brief time allowed under the rule, should have that privilege. And injustice is done to every gentleman who is cut off by the previous question. I vote "no."

Mr. EDELEN. I shall vote against sustaining the call for the previous question, although I am not influenced at all by any desire to prolong this discussion to any considerable length. I tried to get the floor to make a remark or two in reply to the gentleman who last spoke (Mr. Daniel.) I shall vote "no" on this question, in order that I may have the opportunity of correcting one or two errors into which I think he has fallen.

Mr. MILLER. I will say that having been one of those who have participated in the privileges of debate upon this question, under the twenty minute rule, I cannot vote to cut off any gentleman who desires to debate this question, from the privilege of doing so. And I cannot see how common courtesy and common honesty can allow any gentleman who has spoken upon this question, to vote for sustaining the previous question.

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Miller) is out of order.

Mr. BARRON. That is twice we have had such language applied to us this afternoon. Once we were called robbers, and now we are told that we have not got common honesty.

Mr. MILLER. I said nothing about common honesty.

Mr. BARRON. Yes, you did; you said those very words.

The PRESIDENT. The president will not permit any member to impugn the motives of this convention.

Mr. MILLER. I did no such thing.

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman used the expressions "common courtesy" and "common honesty." No gentleman can be allowed to occupy the floor for the purpose of imputing improper motives to members of this convention, as if gentlemen were voting here with a view to deprive members of their constitutional rights.

Mr. MILLER. If I used the words "common honesty," I did so unintentionally. I meant common courtesy.

The PRESIDENT. It was the manner of the gentleman more than anything else, which attracted the notice of the chair.

Mr. MILLER. I disclaim any intention of using such language. I vote "no."

Mr. PETER. I do not desire to exercise any

right upon this floor which I am not willing to extend to others. And as I have had an opportunity to speak upon this question, and other gentlemen desire to do the same, I shall vote "no."

Mr. PUGH. Being one of those who have not spoken upon this question, I feel much less hesitation in voting than some of the gentlemen who have spoken. I might possibly, if the opportunity were afforded me, have somewhat to say upon this question. But I would long since have voted "aye" on a call for the previous question, had it been made, for the reason that I think everything has already been said upon this question that can be said. Further debate is only going over the same old ground, and I am tired of it. I vote "aye."

The question was upon the amendment of Mr. DENT, to strike out the following words:

"The judges of election shall administer to every person offering to vote, the oath or affirmation prescribed by this constitution, and should any person offering to vote refuse or decline to take said oath, he shall not be permitted to vote at such election, but the taking of such oath or affirmation shall not be deemed conclusive evidence of the right of such person to vote."

Mr. DAVIS, of Charles. I now rise to a personal explanation.

The PRESIDENT. It is not in order at this time. The ordering the previous question compels the house to proceed and take a vote upon the pending amendment and upon the section. After that is done the gentleman will have ample opportunity for explanation.

Mr. DENT called for the yeas and nays upon his amendment, and they were ordered.

The question was then taken by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 25, nays 35—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Belt, Billingsley, Blackiston, Brown, Chambers, Crawford, Dail, Davis, of Charles, Dent, Duvall, Edelen, Henkle, Holyday, Horsey, Johnson, Lansdale, Lee, Marbury, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Parran, Peter, Smith, of Dorchester, Turner—25.

Nays—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbot, Annan, Audoun, Baker, Barron, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, DeLinger, Ecker, Galloway, Greene, Hebb, Jones, of Cecil, Kennard, King, Markey, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Russell, Schosser, Scott, Smith, of Worcester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Todd, Wooden—35.

The amendment was accordingly rejected.

The question then recurred upon the section as reported by the committee.

Upon this question Mr. DUVALL called for the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question was then taken, by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 35, nays 25—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Goldsborough, President.