

votes in one day. And there are some other districts in the county of Washington which poll larger votes. They are spread over considerable territory, and I think a fuller vote would be obtained if two days were allowed. And I think further, that it would accommodate the voters in the country districts, because it might not be convenient for them to come in on one day, and they could come in on the other. In Virginia they have kept the polls open for three days; it is true the vote there was *viva voce*. I do not suppose there will be any danger of anybody running away with the ballot-boxes, for I suppose the judges would exercise proper precaution in putting them away and guarding them.

The question was upon the amendment proposed by Mr. CHAMBERS, to change the time of closing the polls from six o'clock to five o'clock.

Mr. STIRLING. I think it would be better to take the vote first upon the amendment reported by the committee on revision. If we are to have two days for the election, I think every one will agree that the polls better be closed at five o'clock.

The PRESIDENT. If no objection is made, the question will be first taken upon the amendment reported by the committee on revision, to assign two days for taking the vote in the counties upon the constitution.

The question was then taken upon the amendment recommended by the committee, and upon a division—ayes 34, noes 23—it was concurred in.

The amendment moved by Mr. CHAMBERS, to close the polls at five o'clock, instead of six o'clock, was then adopted.

Mr. EARLE. The committee next recommend a verbal change in the eighth section of the article schedule. It is simply to insert the word "for" after the word "provided," in the eighteenth line.

In the sixteenth line of the ninth section, insert "this constitution" for "the constitution." And in the eighteenth line of the same section after the word "State," insert the following words, "including the soldiers' vote hereinafter provided for." And in the twentieth line of the same section insert "this constitution," for "the constitution."

At the end of section nine of this article, add the following, as

Section 10. And the governor shall exclude from count the votes of any county or city, the return judges of which shall fail to certify in the returns as provided by this schedule, that all persons who have voted have taken the oath prescribed to be taken, unless the governor shall be satisfied that such oath was actually administered, and that the failure to make the certificate has been from inadvertence or mistake.

SOLDIERS' VOTE.

In the first line of the eleventh section of this article, which is the first section of the subdivision "soldiers' vote," strike out the words "any of the qualified voters," and insert "any qualified voter." In the twentieth line of the same section insert the word "no" before the word "officer," and in the same line of the same section insert "voters" for "votes."

In the twenty-sixth line of the same section strike out the words "in writing." And in the twenty-seventh line of the same section, strike out the word "new" in two places, before the word "constitution."

At the end of the eleventh section insert the following as

"Section 12. Any qualified voter of this State, who shall be absent from the city or county of his residence on the day for taking the vote on the adoption or rejection of this constitution by reason of his being in the military service of the United States, but shall be at some hospital or military post, or on duty within this State, and not with his company, may vote at the nearest polls to such place, on satisfying the judges that he is a legal and qualified voter of this State."

In the first line of the thirteenth section strike out the word "or," and insert therefor the word "as." And in the seventh line of the same section after the word "governor" insert the words "at Annapolis."

In the ninth line of the same section, after the word "for" insert the words "the constitution."

The committee further report that they have rearranged the different sections of this article. This became necessary, inasmuch as one section was stricken out, two were transferred to the legislative department, and several new ones added.

And now the committee have the honor of reporting to the convention, that they have completed their revision of the different articles of the constitution. The work has been performed with too much speed to be thorough, but it will be remembered that most important articles of the constitution have been referred to the committee within the last few days, and the convention is evidently determined to close its sessions forthwith. Under the circumstances a more thorough revision was impossible.

To-morrow the committee will be prepared to present to the convention, for its final action, an engrossed copy of the declaration of rights and constitution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE EARLE, Chairman.

On motion of Mr. HEBB, all the above amendments recommended by the committee of revision, were concurred in by the convention.