

nition of the natural right of property in man. I deny that any one man has a natural right to hold another as a slave. My principle reason, and I think I may safely say my only reason, for voting in favor of this proposition is, that I stand pledged to my constituents to do it. I am indifferent as to whether this resolution is adopted or not. If I have any feeling one way more than the other, I believe it is against it. I think it would be gratifying to my feelings to have it rejected. But standing pledged to my constituents to vote for a proposition of this character in case it came up, I feel bound to comply with that promise; and therefore I vote "aye."

The PRESIDENT subsequently announced the following committee in accordance with the above order:

Messrs. Goldsborough, (chairman,) Berry, of Baltimore county, Purnell, Negley, Todd, Smith, of Carroll, and Hopper.

#### ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS EXTRA MILEAGE.

Mr. BELT. Last night there was an order under consideration providing for the compensation of the president of this convention, as one of the officers of this house, to which an amendment was offered looking to the instruction of the committee on accounts in relation to the mileage of members. They were defeated by a small vote. I now move to reconsider the vote by which they were rejected.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. That matter has been pretty thoroughly canvassed a dozen times in this convention. I therefore move that this whole matter be indefinitely postponed.

The PRESIDENT. The question before the house is the motion to reconsider. Rule forty-four says: "No motion for reconsideration shall be postponed or laid on the table."

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. Then I call for the yeas and nays on the motion to reconsider.

The yeas and nays were accordingly ordered.

The question was then taken by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 39, nays 29—as follows:

*Yeas*—Messrs. Abbott, Audoun, Barron, Belt, Berry, of Baltimore county, Bond, Brooks, Carter, Chambers, Crawford, Dail, Dellinger, Dent, Duvall, Gale, Hatch, Henkle, Hodson, Hollyday, Jones, of Cecil, Jones, of Somerset, King, Lansdale, Larsh, Lee, Marbury, Mayhugh, Miller, Morgan, Negley, Peter, Ridgely, Smith, of Dorchester, Swope, Sykes, Turner, Wickard, Wilmer, Wood—39.

*Nays*—Messrs. Annan, Baker, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Charles, Ecker, Farrow, Greene, Harwood, Hebb, Hoffman, Horsey, Keefer, Kennard, Markey, McComas, Mitchell, Mullikin, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Russell, Schley, Schlosser, Scott, Stirling, Stockbridge, Thomas—29.

The motion to reconsider was accordingly agreed to.

Pending the calling of the yeas and nays, the following explanations were made by members as their names were called:

Mr. ECKER. As I understand it, this is a motion to reconsider the vote by which the convention refused to allow each of its members to steal a hundred dollars. Now I have nothing to say more than I have already said on this subject. This question has been already decided by the convention two or three times. I have the floor now, and if the chair decides that I can hold it until eleven o'clock (the hour for the special order, the reading of of the constitution,) I shall most certainly do it.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Purnell.) The gentleman cannot do that. He must vote.

Mr. ECKER. Then I vote "no."

Mr. JONES, of Somerset. I changed my vote to the negative last night, because there was a very thin house, and there seemed to be a very great indisposition upon the part of some gentlemen to vote in the affirmative, although many of them avowed that, after the exposition of the law as it stood, they had no sort of question but the law fixed the mileage at one hundred dollars in addition to the usual mileage. That, I admit, is a very unequal distribution of the mileage. But it is the law. And those who think they ought not to take the money can leave it in the treasury, where it ought to be left. I trust they will not withdraw it from the treasury, and then bolster up a character for charity by giving it to somebody else. The committee on accounts, as I understand, are embarrassed to know what the law is in reference to mileage, and they want the instruction of the house upon the question. The house must either say that the committee shall disregard this part of the law fixing the mileage, and act as if it did not exist; or else they must affirm this to be a part of the law regulating mileage, and instruct the committee on accounts accordingly. The committee certainly ought to have some expression of the opinion of the house upon this subject. I shall therefore vote for the reconsideration, in order that we may have an opportunity of fixing what the committee on accounts shall regard as the mileage of members. I vote "aye."

Mr. SCHLEY. This appeal to the cupidity of members, for I regard this proposition in no other light, has been solemnly decided adversely three times by this convention. I had hoped that there was an end to it. I had hoped that we had arrived at something like a definite decision of this matter. I had hoped that the temptation to appropriate this money would be finally resisted. I was very much surprised last night to hear it laid down as law, by gentlemen learned in the law, that we had a clear right to this appropriation.—With all deference to their arguments, and I do defer to gentlemen of the law, I must insist that it is at least not just to take this