

THE PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

of debates. It appears to me, therefore, that it is unnecessary for the purpose of our understanding his position, that any such protest as this should be entered upon the journal of proceedings. He has stated his objections very clearly, and they are already on the journal of debates. And it appears to me that it is rather out of place to attempt to put such a protest upon the journal of proceedings. I shall therefore object to it going upon the journal. If his objections had not already been properly put upon the journal of debates, I would not make any such objection to it.

Mr. JONES, of Somerset. I desire to ask the gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Schley) whether he voted in the affirmative to enter upon the journal the protest of thirty-five members of this house. If he did not, will he ask a courtesy for himself, which he refused to extend to thirty-five gentlemen here?

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Schley) asks the consent of the house to have this protest entered upon the journal. Objection being made, the chair will put the question to the house.

The question was then taken, and the request of Mr. SCHLEY was refused.

Mr. BARRON. I shall offer no protest. But if I get this hundred dollars, I shall lay it out in a proper channel. I was here last winter.

Mr. DENT (in his seat.) You are not in order.

Mr. BARRON. The gentleman from St. Mary's (Mr. Dent) tells me I am not in order; so I will not go on.

COMPENSATION FOR SLAVES.

Mr. AUDOUN submitted the following:

"Ordered, That before any person shall receive the benefits to be derived from the resolution offered by the gentleman from Baltimore county (Mr. Berry,) they shall take and subscribe to the oath as prescribed in this constitution, in the article on elective franchise."

Mr. BERRY, of Baltimore county. Will the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Audoun) so amend his order as to state what the resolution was, that it was in regard to compensation from the general government for losses sustained in consequence of the abolition of slavery?

Mr. AUDOUN. I have no objection to that. The order was modified accordingly.

The PRESIDENT announced that the hour had arrived for taking up the order of the day.

On motion of Mr. GALLOWAY,

The order of the day, (being the reading of the constitution,) was postponed until twelve o'clock.

The order of Mr. AUDOUN was passed over informally.

On motion of Mr. NEGLEY,

The convention then proceeded to consider the following resolution, which was reconsidered yesterday, and then postponed until to-day:

"Ordered, That the chair appoint a committee of three to contract with the Baltimore American, or some other newspaper or newspapers, for the publication of the constitution entire in extra newspaper form, ten thousand copies in the German language, and fifty thousand in the English, to be distributed as follows: two hundred copies to be furnished to each member of the convention, and the remainder to be equally distributed by said committee among the various county newspapers and postmasters, who will 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."

The pending question was upon the motion of Mr. NEGLEY to amend by striking out "ten thousand," and inserting "five thousand," and striking out "fifty thousand," and inserting "twenty thousand."

Mr. NEGLEY. If this amendment is adopted, I will then move an additional amendment, providing for giving the publication of this constitution to the newspapers in the several counties, in addition to this. I think this constitution should be brought generally before the people; and I feel certain that will not be done, unless it is published in at least one newspaper in each county. This proposition to distribute did not work well in regard to the last constitution. A great number of copies were sent to our county, and long after the adoption of the constitution they were lying about and being used as waste paper by the parties to whom they were sent; they were really not distributed at all. I think you cannot better bring this constitution before the people, than by publishing it in the newspapers. My colleague (Mr. Sneary) says he does not think the expense of publishing it in the county newspapers, will be any greater than publishing it in the other way.

Mr. STIRLING. I hope this amendment will not be adopted. I think the gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Schley) has an order, which he has shown me, which he desires to introduce, and which I shall be very happy to support. I would be very willing to vote for some provision to publish the constitution in the county newspapers. But I am opposed to cutting down the number provided by this resolution. These copies can all be distributed. The reasons assigned by my friend from Washington (Mr. Negley) are not applicable to this constitution, because the condition of things now is very different from what it was in 1850. It is perfectly well known that the last constitution was sub-