

Carter, Crawford, Cunningham, Cushing, Dail, Daniel, Davis, of Charles, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Dent, Earle, Farrow, Gale, Galloway, Greene, Hatch, Hebb, Hollyday, Hopper, Horsey, Jones, of Cecil, Jones, of Somerset, Keefer, Kennard, King, Lansdale, Larsh, Lee, Marbury, Markey, Mayhugh, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Parran, Peter, Pugh, Purnell, Ridgely, Russell, Schley, Schlosser, Scott, Smith, of Dorchester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Thomas, Todd, Turner, Valliant, Wickard, Wilmer, Wooden—73.

On motion of Mr. Aoudon,

Further proceedings under the call were dispensed with.

The PRESIDENT. The constitution having now been read through, the question is upon its adoption, which will be taken by yeas and nays.

The question was then taken by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 53, nays 26—as follows:

*Yeas*—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Aoudon, Baker, Barron, Berry, of Baltimore county, Brooks, Carter, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Earle, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Greene, Hatch, Hebb, Hoffman, Hopper, Jones, of Cecil, Keefer, Kennard, King, Larsh, Markey, Mayhugh, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Ridgely, Russell, Schley, Schlosser, Scott, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge Swope, Sykes, Thomas, Todd, Valliant, Wickard, Wooden—53.

*Nays*—Messrs. Belt, Bond, Brown, Chambers, Crawford, Dail, Davis, of Charles, Dent, Duvall, Gale, Henkle, Hodson, Hollyday, Horsey, Jones, of Somerset, Lansdale, Lee, Marbury, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Parran, Peter, Smith, of Dorchester, Turner, Wilmer—26.

Absent and not voting—Messrs. Berry, of Prince George's, Billingsley, Blackiston, Briscoe, Clarke, Dennis, Edelen, Harwood, Hopkins, Johnson, Mace, Noble, Robinette, Sands, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Worcester, and Thruston—17.

The constitution as engrossed and read, was accordingly adopted.

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

Mr. DENT. I shall vote against this constitution for the following reasons:

First. Because I believe that the election by which this convention was called, and its members elected, was not free for the legal voters of the State, but was held and conducted in clear violation of the legal rights of voters, in consequence of which a majority of the legal voters of the State was excluded from the polls.

Second. Because by this constitution the

cardinal principles of the rights of the State have been repudiated, and a rapid stride is taken towards centralization of power in the Federal government.

Third. Because by this constitution citizens of the State have been unjustly deprived of millions of dollars worth of property by the abolition of slavery, and no compensation to the owners has been provided; and not only so, but the legislature is expressly prohibited from providing compensation hereafter.

My fourth objection is because the right of suffrage is so impaired, or attempted to be impaired, by the provisions for submitting this constitution to the voters of the State, that there cannot be a free exercise of the invaluable right of suffrage on its adoption or rejection.

Besides these cardinal objections, I have many comparatively minor objections to this constitution, and believe that, taken as a whole, it is an instrument of wrong and oppression, unparalleled in the history of American constitutions, and ought not to be adopted. I vote "no."

Mr. JONES, of Somerset. I have urged my objections to various parts of this constitution, from time to time, as they have successively come before the convention, as will appear by the debates. I desire now to urge an additional reason why I cannot vote to adopt it. This convention was called "to frame a new constitution and form of government." The sixth section of the law authorizing this convention provides "that the constitution and form of government adopted by the said convention, shall be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection." The existing constitution declares that "every free white male person of twenty-one years of age or upwards, who shall have been one year next preceding the election a resident of the State, and for six months a resident of the city of Baltimore, or of any county in which he may offer to vote, being a citizen of the United States, shall be entitled to vote in the ward or election district in which he resides, in all elections hereafter to be held." These are "the legal and qualified voters of the State" to whom your proposed constitution must be submitted. I understand that during my absence the convention have decreed that their work shall be submitted to those only of said voters who shall submit to take a detestable oath, purging themselves of a long catalogue of supposed political offences against the United States government, and even then they are not to be allowed to vote unless the judges of election shall choose to permit them. I protest against such an attempt to subvert the present government of Maryland, as a revolution by usurpation.

In addition to the objections I urged against the oath, on a former occasion, one of the of-