

insomuch that after a few months' experiment General Banks had to issue a general order that that class of colored persons, those freed, must engage as laborers and have regular employment, that they should work by the month, and he went so far as to regulate the wages, that first class hands should have eight dollars per month and certain rations, food and clothing; the second class six dollars per month, and the third class four dollars per month, and the provost marshals were to see that they worked according to the contract which was made—if we are to deny the Legislature the power to make such regulations as these, which could not be made applicable to white laborers, if the hands of the Legislature are to be tied up so that they can organize no such system of police regulations applicable to this unfortunate class in the community, who, it seems, are to remain with us at all hazards, whether they work or not; if the Legislature is to be restricted merely to the punishment of actual crime, we should be in a much more lamentable condition than any State ever yet has been in this country.

Wherever this system of emancipation has been tried, it has been found necessary to have a rigid system of discipline requiring these parties to have regular employment and work. General Banks tried it, and Wendell Phillips denounced General Banks for having with one hand set them free and with the other put taskmasters over them. As we may not have the benefit of General Banks' experience in Maryland, unless, having restored Louisiana to the Union, he should have no further employment and should be sent to this Department, and, even in that case, it would not be permanent, I think it will be best to entrust to the Legislature the enactment of such police regulations as may be necessary here, and as were shown to be necessary in the experience of General Banks in Louisiana. I think then that we ought to add to the present Constitution the proviso moved by the gentleman from Prince George's, (Mr. Clarke.) I think that would be safe, and I do not think it would be liable to abuse. All that would be necessary would be that the rest of the State should be protected from the improvidence as well as the criminality of this class.

Mr. CLARKE demanded the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question being taken, the result was—yeas 20; nays 37—as follows:

*Yeas*—Messrs. Billingsley, Bond, Brown, Chambers, Clarke, Crawford, Dail, Davis of Charles, Edelen, Harwood, Hollyday, Johnson, Jones of Somerset, Lee, Mace, Mitchell, Miller, Parran, Smith of Dorchester, Turner—20

*Nays*—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Baker, Barron, Carter, Cunningham, Cushing, Davis of Washington,

Dellinger, Earle, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Hatch, Hebb, Hopkins, Keefer, King, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Noble, Nyman, Parker, Purnell, Robinette, Sands, Schlosser, Scott, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Sykes, Todd, Valliant, Wickard—37.

So the amendment was rejected.

Mr. CHAMBERS moved to amend the article by striking out the word "man," and inserting in place thereof, the word "citizen."

Mr. BILLINGSLEY demanded the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question being taken, the result was—yeas 20; nays 38—as follows:

*Yeas*—Messrs. Billingsley, Bond, Brown, Chambers, Clarke, Crawford, Dail, Davis of Charles, Edelen, Harwood, Hollyday, Horsey, Johnson, Jones of Somerset, Lee, Mitchell, Miller, Parran, Smith of Dorchester, Turner—20.

*Nays*—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Baker, Barron, Carter, Cunningham, Cushing, Davis of Washington, Dellinger, Earle, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Hatch, Hebb, Hopkins, Keefer, King, Mace, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Noble, Nyman, Parker, Purnell, Robinette, Sands, Schlosser, Scott, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Sykes, Todd, Valliant, Wickard—38.

So the amendment was rejected.

The 23d article was read as follows:

Art. 23. That hereafter, in this State, there shall be neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude except in punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free.

Mr. STIRLING. I suggest that the 23d article be passed over as the 4th article was, informally, until we get through the rest.

Articles 24 and 25 were read, and no amendments were offered.

Article 26 was read as follows:

Art. 26. That no conviction shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture of estate.

Mr. STIRLING. I wish to make a slight change in that article. I do not know that it will alter the meaning of it; but it is the form in which it is placed in some other Constitutions. I find by the debates upon the former bill of rights that this is the form which was preferred by the chairman of the Committee on the Declaration of Rights in that Convention; and it is to prevent a misconception which I do not wish to see placed upon it, that I move to strike out the latter clause, "or forfeiture of estate," and insert:

"Nor shall there be any forfeiture of the estate of any person for any crime except treason."

Mr. CHAMBERS. That is an entirely new proposition I thought the committee had reported that unanimously. That is a long standing doctrine of this State; and I should like to know why that alteration is proposed to be made. I think we are entitled to hear