

is treasonable, the remarks of the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Abbott), are not in order. It is the right of each member to think what he pleases of remarks made here; but it is for the House to determine whether matter is treasonable or not. Of course the Chair does not suppose the gentleman from Baltimore city intended any reflection upon the Chair or upon the House.

Mr. ABBOTT. It was not my intention to offer any insult to the House or to the members who see fit to use such language. I understood the other day that it was the decision of the Chair that every member had a right to characterize the remarks made here, as they thought proper; and it was not my intention to transgress the rule.

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman must certainly have misunderstood the Chair, who stated that no gentleman had a right to use language reflecting upon other members; but each member had a reserved right to respond to remarks referring to him, to decide for himself as to their character.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. The gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Abbott) has characterized something said here as treasonable. Would it be in order for me to demand of him who used that treasonable language?

Mr. DAVIS, of Charles. If it were in order, I could name both the member and the language.

The PRESIDENT. It is not in order. The Chair having called the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Abbott) to order, will not permit the discussion to go any further.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL THURSDAY.

Mr. SMITH, of Carroll, submitted the following order:

*Ordered,* That when this Convention adjourn to-day, it stand adjourned until Thursday next, 9th inst.

Mr. SMITH said: I offer this order in the belief that the business of the Convention will not be delayed by its adoption. We have barely a quorum, and there is a general impression prevailing in the minds of members that the Convention will adjourn this morning until some day next week, or perhaps over next week. A number of gentlemen, members of this body, have official connection with the Convention to assemble at Baltimore next week, the business before which is of so important a character as deeply to interest us all, and perhaps may have an important bearing upon the future destiny of this country. I think the minds of members who may remain will hardly be in that equable frame which ought to exist in the discussion of the questions before this body. I am as much in favor of bringing our work to a close as any one else. I profess myself heartily tired of this place and of the Convention, being afflicted with a sort of disease called home-sickness, which I have never got over since I was a boy. We shall probably

accomplish nothing by remaining here; for there will probably not be a quorum on Monday, and all that can be done will be to adjourn over from day to day. I think it is fairer to all concerned to adjourn, and when we meet again go on with the business regularly.

Mr. DANIEL. For the same reason that I opposed the motion yesterday, I oppose it to-day. I know there is complaint of the non-attendance of members here in the transaction of the important business that devolves on us. I can see no reason why this Convention is not of as important a character to the people of Maryland as the Convention which meets at Baltimore next week. It certainly is the duty of every member to be here rather than there. Nevertheless, at the proper time, if it should seem necessary to adjourn over a day or two, I do not say that I should oppose it. At present I am opposed to any adjournment, and think I shall be until the Convention adjourns finally. Gentlemen claim that there are questions before us which will require time for debate. We have been here about five weeks, and we have not got through with the Declaration of Rights. I do not say that these questions do not require deliberate consideration. But how are we to consider them, if we are to adjourn over from time to time, for four or five days at a time? When will the debate end? When shall we be able to submit to the people this Constitution? I say, therefore, let us work steadily. If we have not a quorum next Monday, let those of us who want to work come here and test it. If we are here ready to discharge our duty, the responsibility will rest upon those who stay away and do not come. It seems to me we ought to have some means of enforcing attendance, that we may go on regularly with our business. There is soon coming a time, when it will be more important to adjourn than now. Two or three weeks hence those of us who are engaged in agricultural pursuits will be in the midst of their harvest, and perhaps no plea for adjournment will come so strongly as that. In view, therefore, of the reasons which may be pressed upon us hereafter, I say that we ought to work as steadily as possible for the present; and I am opposed to all adjournments.

Mr. PUGH. I understood the question to be upon the postponement of the order of the day.

Mr. PETER. I think it is due to all the members of the House that they should have the advantage, so far as possible, of the arguments which are made; and therefore, the attendance being so small, hardly a quorum, I moved the postponement.

The PRESIDENT. The motion was not seconded.

The motion was withdrawn, and the Declaration of Rights was postponed informally.