

Mr. PUGH. I am opposed to the adjournment, as well as to the postponement of the order of the day. If there is anything for us to do, let us go on and do it. So long as there is a quorum, let us not talk about postponing.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, submitted the following amendment:

Strike out the words "Thursday next, 9th instant," and insert the word's "Monday next, 13th instant."

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. I think the reasons for an adjournment until Thursday next apply with equal force to an adjournment over the whole of next week. The gentleman from Carroll (Mr. Smith) desired that the members should be in a proper frame of mind to discharge their duties here in the formation of the organic law of the State of Maryland. I understand that the Convention of the party to which the gentleman belongs is to meet in Baltimore on Tuesday next. If we are required to return here on Thursday, I doubt very much whether we shall be in that state of mind—whether we shall be either mentally or physically prepared to undergo the labors which we shall be called upon to discharge; because I have no doubt that they will be very much fatigued by the burdens of the sessions of that Convention. If we adjourn until the Monday following, we shall have a few days respite from the great charge imposed upon us. We shall know who is to be the next candidate, if not the next President of the United States; and we shall be in a better frame of mind to return to our duties here as members of this Convention. Thursday will be near the close of the week, and if there is anything in the world pleasant to a man of family, it is to be at home at the close of the week—I should like to have been at home to-day—and to wake up on a Sabbath morning at home. I like to spend a pleasant Sabbath with my family; and I have no doubt that other gentlemen like myself enjoy it. I desire, therefore, although not a member of the Convention to meet in Baltimore, that we may adjourn over the whole week. I shall then be able to-morrow week to enjoy a quiet Sabbath at home, more than any other Sabbath for the last twelve months.

Mr. SMITH, of Carroll. The gentleman mistakes my position with regard to the Convention in Baltimore. I have no official connection with it.

Mr. SCOTT. I should infer from the remarks of the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Berry) that he is in some way connected with that Convention, he takes such a lively interest in their welfare. I am very glad to see that he does. Nevertheless, I find myself obliged to oppose the gentleman's motion, considerate and kind as it is. I would vote for the original motion, if I was well assured that there would be no quorum on Monday.

But we are not responsible for other men's acts. Our business is here, and not in Baltimore city. Pleasant as it may be to be at home on Sunday morning, there are gentlemen here who cannot be at home on Sunday morning; and I am willing to enforce the Democratic rule of placing all upon a level. My own interests are there, and it is as pleasant a place for me as the gentleman's home for him, I have no doubt. With regard to the slim attendance here, I presume nothing will be done but speech making, whether the House is full or empty. As the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. ———) very truly said,—I wish all he said had been as true,—some of us have come here predetermined to vote for certain measures; and it is equally true, undoubtedly, that others of us have come here predetermined to vote against them. I presume there will be no converts made by all the speech-making done; so that we may just as well keep the House in session, and have the speeches delivered to empty benches, and have them go upon the record for the benefit of posterity.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. I am not here expecting to enlighten anybody, but to receive light from others.

Mr. SCOTT. If my friend is here, he will receive just as much light if the other benches are empty as if they were full.

Mr. NEGLEY. The majority of this House will be responsible for all the delays in the deliberations of this body. I am unwilling that the labors of this House, when they are completed, or as they are progressing, should receive the opprobrium and reprehension of our constituents and of the Union people of the State. I am opposed to our putting ourselves in that position, to be censured; because the responsibility is on our shoulders. The gentlemen of the minority have no responsibility in that respect. They can say to their constituents, we are in the minority; we can do nothing. They may go home and use this as an instrument to prejudice the minds of the people of the State against the adoption of the new Constitution. I hope that the majority of this Convention will be very careful indeed in putting themselves into the predicament of being responsible for further delay in the deliberations of this body.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. My friend from Washington county (Mr. Negley) seems very careful lest the majority of this House should lose their popularity with the people, and desires them so to frame their action as not to meet any sort of criticism from the people. He assumes the whole responsibility for the course of action of this Convention, and relieves the minority of responsibility. I do not desire for one to take the responsibility which the gentleman seems inclined to assume for himself. I willingly accredit it to the majority; because I think in after