

years when we reflect on our course, our condition, and the circumstances by which we are surrounded, and the impulses by which we are governed, the majority will have a little more responsibility than they will like to be burdened with. I am therefore inclined to give them all the credit; not only to render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, but to render to the gentlemen all the credit they may be entitled to from the people or from the nation at large for their course of action here. For one I am here to take the responsibility of my own action. I do not speak for Buncombe. I know that my people are so enlightened and so generous, that having sent me here as their special agent to discharge for them any special duty, I shall take the responsibility of discharging that duty in my own way.

Mr. CUSHING. I wish to express my dissent from the views expressed by the gentleman from Cecil, (Mr. Scott), who seemingly adopts the theory of the gentleman from Prince George's, that no converts will be made on either side of the House; and to bring to the notice of the House a practical refutation of that theory. I came into the House this morning perfectly willing to vote for an adjournment until Monday; but the eloquence of the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Berry) in favor of adjourning until Monday, has convinced me that I ought not so to vote. I therefore bear testimony to the skill with which the gentleman has advocated his views; for although coming here from my constituents with the expectation of pursuing a certain line of action, so strong have been the arguments advanced, that I have been constrained to an open recantation of the view with which I came into the House this morning.

I have no reason particularly to bless the getting up on the Sabbath day, because it is a morning on which I particularly delight in staying in bed. The argument of the gentleman therefore in regard to rising on Sunday morning in the midst of his family, did not reach my case. I like to be at home, but it is to lie in bed; not in the bosom of my family, for I am an unmarried man; but to lie in bed and enjoy the ease of a Sabbath morning. That I may do here as well as at home; the only difficulty being that the breakfast hour does not suit me as well.

In the more serious view of the adjournment, I agree with the gentleman from Washington county, (Mr. Negley). It is a very delightful thing to come here and feel yourself free to consult only your ease, like the gentleman from Prince George's. (Mr. Berry). I would like to feel in a similar position, and to feel that no matter what may be the verdict of history upon what may be done here, I shall go scot-free. But he assumes that the historian will agree with him in his views, and attribute no blame to him for ad-

vocating them here, and trying to make converts. I think if we adjourn now for this political Convention, then a few weeks hence for the farmers to gather in their harvest, then for the lawyers to attend to certain cases they want to argue; if we are to adjourn for every particular trade represented here, every time a doctor wishes to go home to bury his patients,—I believe most of them have gone home already,—every time a lawyer wishes to go home to cheat his clients—

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. Does the gentleman intend —

Mr. CUSHING. I had no personal reference to any one; I was not aware that my colleague was present. If we are to adjourn for merchants, and every class of men represented here, the summer will come, the harvest will have ended and we shall not have been saved. In a moral view, the gentleman from Prince George's will have entirely failed.

Mr. THOMAS. I am in favor of the order of the gentleman from Carroll, (Mr. Smith). Like my colleague who has just taken his seat, I have been converted too; for I voted against the adjournment yesterday. I know there were many members of the Convention who voted with me against an adjournment yesterday; and a majority of them are absent from their seats to-day. They are recorded as having voted against the adjournment; and their very absence has almost created a want of a quorum of this body this morning. I am perfectly satisfied that if the Convention does not adjourn over until next Thursday, when we come here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, we shall find ourselves in the same predicament we are in to-day, and shall be discussing empty orders amounting to nothing, it may not be for the sake of Buncombe, but for the sake of getting adjournments from day to day. I am satisfied that a large majority of this House will be absent Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, if not Thursday. It is incumbent on them, while they are responsible for the legislation of the House, to be here at all times in full numbers to watch the minority. I do not say that the minority would do anything wrong in our absence, and of course I have no suspicion we would do anything wrong; but they have come here to vote for one thing, and we have come here to vote for another. The best rule of warfare is that which the good general adopts, to bring his forces up in a square and have them all together. Those were the tactics of Stonewall Jackson; and that is the reason he was so successful. Unless we keep our forces here while in session, mark my word, the ingenuity and eloquence, and acquaintance with rules of order, will defeat the objects for which the Convention was called. I am therefore in favor of the adjournment until next Thursday.