

on the boat from Baltimore city, which has not arrived yet.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there any certainty that the boat will be down to-day?

Mr. BARRON. It started.

On motion of Mr. STIRLING.

The Door-keeper was instructed to go and notify absent members in the city.

After a short time, additional members having entered the Hall—

The CHAIRMAN announced that there was a quorum present.

PER DIEM OF ABSENT MEMBERS.

The CHAIRMAN stated the first business in order to be the following, submitted by Mr. HEBB on Saturday last.

*Ordered*, That hereafter no member of this Convention shall receive any per diem for such time as he may be absent, unless such absence is occasioned by sickness, or by permission of the Convention.

The question was upon agreeing to the order.

Mr. BARRON. In reference to this order, I wish to say just one or two words more. I want this Convention to distinctly understand that I do not care a great deal about this five dollars a day, I can play five days in the week, and then make that much money. Now I got hold of the Baltimore American last Monday morning, and was reading it as I was going down Camden street, I did not notice a gentleman who was coming in front of me, until he spoke to me. Said he—"You've got one conscientious man in your Convention; you've got one man who is going to keep you in your place; he will attend to you; you're not going to rob the State out of five dollars a day while he is there." I then looked at the report of Saturday's proceedings, and saw this order. Well, it did look splendid on paper; and if I had not been here, I would have thought it was the biggest thing in the world—on ice. (Laughter.)

Now, sir, the very law that called us together says that we shall receive five dollars a day. Now if any member here has a right to say we shall not receive our per diem, he has the same right to say we shall go home, that we are not members of this Convention. The way I look upon it is this: it quite exalted me when I got sent here as a member of this Convention, especially when members were so very free to tell me that this was a very dignified body; and I thought we certainly would not quarrel about our per diem. But it seems to be a great bother to us, and I want to move an amendment that our pay shall cease from yesterday.

Mr. MILLER. I am preparing an amendment on just that point.

Mr. BARRON. Well, I will vote for it, and I want the yeas and nays on it. I want all

members to have a chance to locate themselves in their proper position. I want to see if we are to come here like a parcel of school boys with excuses, if we don't happen to be here in time, or happen to miss a day now and then. A man may say he has got a severe indisposition—which may be a real painting, or only a white-washing. He may be off collecting a debt, or trying a case in court, or anything else, for aught I know or care. Now I don't come here to have anybody boss it over me. My constituents do not do that, and shall not do it. I am getting tired of this whole thing, as to the per diem, the five dollars a day, I am willing to record on the journal that I will come here for nothing during the whole session, if members want that.

Mr. MILLER. I move to amend this order by striking out all after the words "per diem," so that it will then read:

*Ordered*, That hereafter no member of this Convention shall receive any per diem."

Mr. WICKARD. The thing is becoming ridiculous, I move to lay the whole subject on the table.

Mr. BARRON. I hope not; postpone it indefinitely, because I am getting so tired of it that I do not know what to do. Such a thing as this will look well upon the journal twenty or thirty years from now, won't it.

The question was upon the motion to lay on the table.

Upon this question Mr. HEBB called for the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question being then taken, by yeas and nays, it resulted—yeas 31, nays 21—as follows:

*Yeas*—Messrs. Clarke, Cunningham, Dail, Davis of Washington, Duvall, Galloway, Greene, Harwood, Hatch, Henkle, Hodson, Hopkins, Hopper, Jones of Cecil, Keefer, Kennard, Latsdale, Larsh, Markey, Mitchell, Morgan, Negley, Noble, Nyman, Robbette, Schlosser, Stirling, Sykes, Todd, Valliant, Wickard—31.

*Nays*—Messrs. Abbott, Baker, Barron, Bond, Cushing, Daniel, Earle, Ecker, Hebb, Horsey, Jones of Somerset, Miller, Mullikin, Parker, Russell, Scott, Smith, of Carroll, Smith of Worcester, Sneary, Swope, Wooden—21.

The motion to lay on the table was accordingly agreed to.

Mr. BARRON. I hope some gentleman who voted in the affirmative will move a reconsideration. I want to postpone this thing indefinitely.

Mr. CLARKE. Well, I move to reconsider the vote to lay on the table.

Mr. STIRLING. It is impossible to get an indefinite postponement of this subject. This is a proposition to stop the pay of absent members, followed by a proposition to