

under any circumstances any possibility of a fraud by any of the officers of the government, yet it certainly puts them in a position where it might be for the interest of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, for instance, to offer them a very large gratuity to sell to them the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal for a very small sum. I think it is injudicious always to make it possible that any inducement should be offered to officers of the government, to make a pecuniary profit from the sale of any of these public works. I approved therefore of the resolution of the gentleman from Kent, which made it obligatory upon the officers whom the legislature should appoint to sell, provided only that they could at the same time close up an equal amount of the public debt of the State. The public school fund would be at the same time provided for, of course. I also desired that the bank stock should be sold—

SEVERAL MEMBERS called the gentleman to order, for making a speech instead of an explanation of his vote.

Mr. CUSHING. I was giving reasons why, although I entirely approve of the amendment in some respects, yet taken as a whole, I must vote "no."

So the amendment was adopted.

Mr. DUVAL submitted the following amendment, which was agreed to :

Amend by adding to the end of section the words, "Provided, however, that no such sale shall be binding on the State until the same shall have been ratified by the general assembly, after having been duly reported to the same."

Mr. HEBB submitted the following amendment :

Amend by adding to the end of the section the words, "And provided further, that the State's interest in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, shall not be sold for less than \$5,000,000."

Mr. PUGH moved to amend by inserting \$8,000,000.

The amendment to the amendment was rejected.

The question recurred upon the amendment submitted by Mr. HEBB.

Mr. RIDGELY. That is subject to the same objection, that it is contradictory to and in conflict with the amendment itself, which gives the control,—the entire discretion to sell on the best terms they can,—to the persons authorized to sell.

Mr. HEBB. The very object of the amendment is to limit that discretion.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. DANIEL moved to reconsider the vote adopting the amendment submitted by Mr. DUVAL.

Messrs. VALLIANT and TODD seconded the motion.

Mr. RIDGELY. If the house will consent to reconsider, I will not press the vote upon the

proposition to-day. I am very willing to defer that until we get a full house.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question being upon the adoption of the amendment submitted by Mr. DUVAL.

On motion of Mr. VALLIANT,

The convention adjourned until Monday next, at 12 o'clock, M.

FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY.

MONDAY, July 25, 1864.

The Convention met at 12 o'clock, M.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Owen.

The roll was called, and the following members answered to their names :

Messrs. Goldsborough, President ; Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Bond, Brown, Carter, Chambers, Crawford, Cunningham, Cushing, Dail, Daniel, Davis, of Charles, Davis, of Washington, Dent, Duvall, Earle, Ecker, Edelen, Farrow, Hatch, Hebb, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hopkins, Jones, of Somerset, Kennard King, Larsh, Lee, Markey, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Mullikin, Murray, Nymann, Parker, Parran, Pugh, Purnell, Russell, Sands, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Smith of Dorchester, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Thomas, Todd, Valliant, Wilmer, Wooden—55.

The proceedings of Saturday were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. TODD,

It was ordered to be entered on the journal, that the continued absence of Mr. Noble, of Caroline, from his seat in this Convention, is occasioned by his serious illness.

On motion of Mr. FARROW,

It was ordered to be entered on the journal, that the absence of Mr. Farrow from this body has been occasioned by his necessary attendance upon the circuit court for Worcester county, and had he been in his seat here he would have voted for all the resolutions and orders adopted by this convention in relation to the late rebel invasion, &c.

On motion of Mr. AUDOUN,

It was ordered to be entered on the journal, that William Brooks, of Baltimore city, is absent from his seat on account of being engaged as one of the board of enrolment and draft in the drawing of the draft in said city.

Mr. SYKES submitted the following order :

"Ordered, That no member shall speak more than once on any question before the house, and then not longer than fifteen minutes."

The PRESIDENT. The chair has already ruled that to make any limitation of the time contrary to the rule adopted by the convention, it will be necessary to reconsider that rule.

Mr. SYKES. I will withdraw that part of the order.