

sire to place a safeguard about every portion of that Constitution. When it is submitted to the people of the State for their ratification, I want it to appeal to their judgment in such a way that they will have some respect for our judgment, and know that it required at least 49 or 50 members to put each and every article into the Constitution. But I do not want the business of this Convention to be unnecessarily delayed. Already there are complaints arising that we are sitting here too long without doing the work we were sent here to do. Our citizens are constantly asking members—"when are you going to get through?" And they are told by some of their representatives that it will take us at least a month, perhaps six weeks longer to complete our labors, and if we do not commence soon it will take six months.

If there shall be any good reason why this report cannot be taken up to-morrow at one o'clock, I will go for postponing it still longer. But do not let us put it out of our power to take it up at that time by postponing it to a week hence. The chairman of the committee who made this report (Mr. Stirling) is not here to-day, and out of due respect and courtesy to him I move to postpone it until to-morrow, and if he shall not be here to-morrow I will cheerfully go for a further postponement. And when the time comes, if any gentleman in the minority on that committee shall not be here, or shall not be prepared to go on with the discussion of the subject, I will cheerfully consent to grant the same courtesy to him. But I do want to have this Convention get to work; and I therefore must insist upon my motion.

Mr. KENNARD. I am anxious to have the rules completed and adopted, as preliminary to the business to which the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Daniel) has referred. I, therefore, call for the previous question.

The call for the previous question was seconded, and the main question ordered.

The PRESIDENT stated the first question to be upon the longest time, being the motion of Mr. Berry of Prince George's to postpone the order of the day until Thursday of next week, at one o'clock.

The question being taken the motion was not agreed to.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. The motion I submitted was to postpone the order of the day until the Convention shall have completed its action upon the report of the committee on the rules. The gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Daniel) moved to amend my motion so as to postpone until to-morrow at one o'clock. I suppose the question now recurs upon the amendment to my motion.

The PRESIDENT. The question should be first taken upon the motion involving the longest time. It is a little uncertain which motion that is. But the Chair will assume

that the motion to postpone until the Convention shall have acted upon the rules is the motion involving the longest time, and will therefore put the question for it on that motion.

The question being then taken upon the motion of Mr. Stockbridge, it was agreed to.

RULES OF THE CONVENTION—RESUMED.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the 43d Rule, which was declared to be still open to amendment.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE moved to amend the last clause of Rule 43 by striking out the words "subject matter voted upon," and inserting "article;" so that the rule would read—

—"and unless it shall thus appear that a majority of the whole number of the members elected to the Convention have voted in the affirmative, the article shall be declared rejected."

The question being taken, the amendment was agreed to.

No further amendment being offered to the 43d Rule;

The 44th Rule was then read, as reported by the committee.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. In order to make this rule correspond to Rule 43 as amended, I move to insert after the word "report," in the fifth line, the words "or article;" so that it will read—"but should a report or article, on its final passage, be declared rejected," &c.

The question being taken on the amendment, it was agreed to.

Mr. CUSHING. I move to further amend this rule, by striking out, after the word "negative," in the eighth line, the words, "and no motion for consideration shall be postponed or laid on the table."

My object in proposing this amendment is to cut off the indefinite number of motions for reconsideration; so that should the Convention desire to cut off motions to reconsider, by laying them on the table, it will have the power to do so.

Mr. PUGH. I feel like objecting to the proposed amendment, for the reason that we have already provided, by Rule 43, that every article of the Constitution shall receive the affirmative votes of a majority of the members elected to this Convention. Now it may happen that we shall want a reconsideration after we have adopted an article, or a motion; we may want it two or three times. That is my objection to the proposed amendment.

Mr. CUSHING. If the majority want a reconsideration they can vote down the motion to postpone, or the motion to lay on the table. The amendment I propose still leaves it in the power of the majority to do what it pleases. But, according to the rule as reported, the majority may vote down a motion to reconsider forty times, and the motion can still be renewed. But as I pro-