

to sell intoxicating liquors to any person in any part of the State, except on the condition that his application to sell the same was approved by a majority of the voters in the district where the liquors were to be sold. The petitions were referred to a special committee; but no report was made. One member made the proposition that every member of the convention should join the temperance society.⁸⁸

Mr. Hicks proposed an amendment which would make it unconstitutional for a member of that convention to accept any office or an appointment under the constitution until ten years after its adoption. This amendment was rejected by a vote of 39 to 32.⁸⁹

The convention, after a session of more than six months, adjourned *sine die* on the 13th of May, at 1.30 A. M. The constitution was not adopted as a whole by the convention. That a majority of the members present at the final session would have voted for its adoption, is doubtful. The final adjournment took place rather unexpectedly. The reports from several committees had not been considered.

There was a general feeling of disappointment throughout the State with the convention, and a demand for its adjournment. The last scene was one of confusion and disorder. A gentleman, who was present at the final session, and whom the *Baltimore American* assures the readers was an authentic and responsible person, said that there were some things connected with the constitution of 1851 which properly belongs to its history, but which would never appear in the official proceedings as published. A few days before the adjournment it was announced by several of the leading and most influential men of the "reform party" that a final vote of acceptance on the constitution as a whole would be taken, when all the parts were completed and arranged. At this time there were some eighty or ninety members in attendance. It soon

⁸⁸ Debates, vol. ii, p. 605.

⁸⁹ Debates, vol. i, p. 205.