

The witness being an illiterate man, and incapable, without assistance, to judge what questions are calculated to criminate himself, hopes that the house of delegates will allow him to have the assistance of counsel, with whom to advise, and by whom to be directed. If denied this privilege, the house will be sensible of the embarrassing situation in which he is placed, and he must therefore, in protesting against this course of proceeding by the house of delegates, as a violation of the rights of the freemen of the state, leaving it to those who now would decide upon his privileges to determine if the house can demand of him that he answer any question designed to prove either that he voted, or for whom he voted. And at the same time he must be allowed to express his regret, that situated as he is, and called upon as he conceives that he is to maintain constitutional rights and privileges, never before assailed, so short a time has been afforded to prepare the protest, which he now offers at the bar of this house.

JAMES J. BOWEN.

We the undersigned, attending as witnesses at the bar of the house of delegates, also request that we may be considered parties to the protest, and to object, upon the same grounds, to the right of the house to inquire of us how we voted, or whether we voted at all.

JOSEPH S. WILSON,
SAMUEL GRAY,
his
HENRY X COCHRAN,
mark
JOHN ROBERTSON,
WILLIAM DOSSEY.

Was laid on the speaker's table contrary to one of the rules of this house, Ordered, That it ought not to have been received

On motion by Mr. Montgomery, it was so amended as to read, "Whereas a paper, purporting to be a protest signed by James J. Bowen, and others," &c.

The question was then put, That the house assent to the same? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Hayward, the following order was read.

James J. Bowen, William Dossey and James Gray, witnesses produced at the bar, and sworn according to the form prescribed by the house, having refused to answer the questions put to them as to who they voted for at the late Calvert election; and it appearing from a certain protest signed by them, that the said witnesses are misguided and ill-advised, and that the constitutional right vested in this house, upon consideration ought not to be exercised, and that the next best evidence ought to be received, therefore Ordered, That evidence will be received by this house of the acknowledgments of said witnesses as to the persons for whom they voted at the last Calvert election.

On motion by Mr. Lecompte, the question was put, That the same have a second reading on to-morrow? Determined in the negative.

Mr. A. H. Price reports a bill, entitled, An act relating to the Baltimore and Harford turnpike road.

Mr. Maffett reports a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of George W. Lightner, of Cecil county; which were severally read.

Mr. Blakistone reports a bill, entitled, An act to authorise John Cole, late sheriff and collector of St. Mary's county, to complete his collections; which was read the first and second time by especial order, passed, and sent to the senate.

The house proceeded to the second reading of the order proposed by Mr. Hayward, relative to the Calvert election. On motion by Mr. Maulsby, the words "from a certain protest signed by them," was stricken out.

On motion by Mr. Key, the question was put, That the words "so far as the same was derived from them on oath," be added to the same? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Forrest, the question was put, That the following be added to said order? "And the memorialists and sitting members may produce any testimony they may be able to obtain touching the matter in dispute." The yeas and nays being required appeared as follow:

AFFIRMATIVE.						
Key	J F Browne	Jenifer	Polk	Lucas	Warfield	Washington
Millard	Spencer	Dorsey	Dennis	Griffith	Ross	Forrest
Blakistone	Weems	Garner	King	Jackson	Gaither	Blair
Plater	Stonestreet	Dashiell	Lecompte	Somervell		26
NEGATIVE.						
Mr Speaker	C Stewart	Wroth	Duvall	Jiams	Hardcastle	Keller
E Browne	Hayward	Mackey	Boyle	Hawkins	Willis	Gabby
Brooke	Stevens	Maffett	Harrison	Maulsby	Whitely	Kennedy
Marriott	Orrick	Patten	Hollingsworth	Norris	Montgomery	Tomlinson
T W Hall	A H Price	Cross	Nicholson	H Hall	Breckenridge	W Price
Wyvill	Showers	R T Hall	Quinton	Forwood	Schnebly	Greenwell
						42

Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Forrest, the question was put, That the following be added to the said order? "And any testimony may be produced touching the general character and credibility of witnesses to be examined." The yeas and nays being required appeared as follow:

AFFIRMATIVE.						
Key	J F Browne	Jenifer	Dashiell	Lecompte	Warfield	Washington
Millard	Spencer	Dorsey	Polk	Griffith	Ross	Forrest
Blakistone	Weems	Garner	Dennis	Jackson	Gaither	Blair
Plater	Stonestreet	Hayward	King			25
NEGATIVE.						
Mr Speaker	C Stewart	Mackey	Boyle	Hawkins	Willis	Gabby
E Browne	Stevens	Maffett	Harrison	Maulsby	Whitely	Kennedy
Brooke	Orrick	Patten	Hollingsworth	Norris	Montgomery	Tomlinson