

correct an error in Mr. STEPHENSON'S resolution, was approved.

Mr. PRESSTMAN offered the following order which was adopted:

"That the committee on the Judiciary inquire into the propriety of reporting a provision that the rights and interests of parties to a suit shall not be affected by any law passed during the pending of said suit in any court of law or equity in this State."

The PRESIDENT announced that reports of committees were now in order.

No reports were made.

Mr. MICHAEL NEWCOMER, presented a petition of sundry citizens interested in the inspections of Tobacco, Flour, Liquors, Fish, Lumber, Wood, Anthracite and Bituminous Coal, Plaster of Paris, Lime and Guano, praying that the principles of a free inspection may be engrafted in the Constitution.

The petition was read and referred to the committee on Inspections.

#### HOUR OF MEETING.

The PRESIDENT announced the unfinished business of the morning hour to be the resolution offered by Mr. STEPHENSON yesterday, (as amended,) which provided that from and after Monday next, the daily hour of the meeting of the Convention, shall be ten o'clock.

Mr. SAPPINGTON, suggesting some doubts as to the presence of a quorum, moved that there be a call of the Convention.

The motion was agreed to.

And the roll was again called.

A quorum having been ascertained to be present,

On motion of Mr. BROWN, all further proceedings on the call were dispensed with.

And the question recurring on the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER asked the yeas and nays, which were ordered, and being taken, were yeas 43, nays 26.

So the Convention decided that from and after Monday next, the daily hour of the meeting of the Convention should be ten o'clock.

Mr. BROWN said that as there seemed to be no morning business before the Convention, he would move that the Convention resume the consideration of the unfinished order of yesterday.

The motion was agreed to.

#### THE BILL OF RIGHTS.

The Convention thereupon resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the declaration of rights of the State of Maryland.

The pending question was on the amendment offered by Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, to the amendment of Mr. PRESSTMAN.

Mr. FIERY said, that if the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Ridgely,) did not desire to speak, he, (Mr. F.,) would move the previous question.

Mr. SPENCER suggested that as he understood, the gentleman from Worcester, (Mr. Dirickson,)

was entitled to the floor, that gentleman having yielded to a motion to adjourn by the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Brent.)

Mr. DIRICKSON. I believe that the gentleman from Queen Anne's (Mr. Spencer,) is correct; but if there is a great anxiety on the part of the Convention that the question shall be taken, I have no desire to delay its action by any remarks of mine.

Mr. RIDGELY. I have not entirely closed the remarks which I intended to make yesterday. But a suggestion has been made to me, that the Convention is anxious to take the question; and, if so, I will not trouble it with any additional remarks. If not, I should be glad to have an opportunity of concluding my remarks. I shall, however, be perfectly satisfied that the previous question shall be taken, if such is the disposition of the Convention.

Mr. FIERY. No gentleman in this body is more anxious to accord to every member the privilege of speaking upon every question than myself. But what is the condition of things here? For the last three months, we have been discussing different propositions, and up to this hour, not one report has been adopted by the Convention.

Mr. MORGAN, interposing. I rise to a question of order? "Is the previous question debateable?"

The PRESIDENT. The previous question has not yet been moved, because the gentleman from Washington county, (Mr. FIERY,) is not in a position to move it, until it is ascertained whether the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Ridgely,) desires to conclude his remarks.

Mr. FIERY. I understood that I had the consent of the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Ridgely.)

Some conversation followed.

Mr. FIERY (resuming.) I simply desire to set myself right before the Convention. I do not wish to be discourteous. I state, upon the pledge of all the honor I possess, that I am solicitous to afford every gentleman an opportunity to do justice to his own views and to the sentiments of his constituents. But gentlemen will bear in mind that, by the very act of moving the previous question, I deny to myself, as well as to others, the privilege of discussion. But I do not desire to speak on every subject. I want action—immediate action. It is my firm belief that if we do not place some limit upon the discursive and latitudinous debates which continually take place in this body, we can never arrive at any successful result. I am conscientiously of opinion that it is my duty to enforce the necessity of action by all proper means within my reach. My constituents demand it, and when my duty directs, I shall not hesitate as to my course. Whatever may be the odium which I may bring upon myself, in this body or out of it, I shall not skulk from responsibility here or elsewhere. I take this course in good faith, and with no feeling of ill-will to any member of this Convention. My sole object is to expedite the transaction of its business. As to the question which we have had under discussion for a day or two past, the principle involved in it must come up for future dis-