

within two years, from the respective dates thereof.

Sec. 22. The credit of the State shall not, in any manner be given or loaned to, or in aid of any individual, association or corporation.

Sec. 23. This State shall never embark in works of internal improvement, nor in pecuniary adventures of any kind.

And then the Convention adjourned until tomorrow at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, February 26, 1851.

The Convention met at ten o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH.

The roll was called, and the journal of yesterday was read and approved.

ALLEGANY COUNTY.

Mr. SMITH, from the select committee on new counties, submitted the following

REPORT:

When that part of Allegany, lying south and west of a line beginning at the summit of Big Back Bone, or Savage Mountain; where the Mountain is crossed by Mason and Dixon's line, and running thence by a straight line to the middle of Savage river, where it empties into the Potomac river, thence by a straight line to the nearest point or boundary of the State of Virginia; then with said boundary to the Fairfax Stone, shall contain a population of ten thousand, and the majority of electors thereof shall desire to separate and form a new county, and make known their desires by petition to the Legislature, the Legislature shall direct at the next succeeding election, that the judges shall open a book at each election district in said part of Allegany county, and have recorded therein the vote of each elector, "for or against," a new county, in case the majority, (or two-thirds) are in favor, the said part of Allegany county, to be declared an independent county, and the inhabitants whereof shall have and enjoy all such rights, and privileges as are held and enjoyed by the inhabitants of the other counties in this State.

Mr. SMITH said, he made the report, with the concurrence of the committee, at this time, because it was connected with the report of the committee on the Legislative Department now under consideration.

The report was read, and ordered to be printed, and laid on the table, to be called up hereafter.

INTOXICATING DRINKS.

Mr. HARBINE, presented a petition of sundry citizens of Washington county, praying that provision may be made in the new Constitution, that the privilege to sell intoxicating liquors shall not be granted to any person in any part of the State, except the same shall first be sanctioned, or ap-

proved of by a majority of the votes in the election district where the same is to be sold.

Which was read, and

On motion of Mr. HARBINE,
Referred to committee No. 14.

THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the Legislative Department of the Government.

THE FINANCES.

Mr. JACOBS inquired of the Chair, whether it was now in order to move an additional article? The PRESIDENT said, it was in order.

Mr. JACOBS moved to amend said report by inserting as the twenty-second section, the following:

"The present financial system of this State, shall remain inviolate until the State debt and interest thereon are fully paid; or the sinking fund be sufficient for the payment thereof, after which the Legislature shall provide by law for the annual distribution amongst the counties and city of Baltimore of this State, of the nett revenues of the several works of Internal Improvements, in the proportion which by taxation they shall have contributed to the same."

The amendment having been read—

Mr. JACOBS said that his motive in offering it was to show to the people the sincerity of the purposes of this Convention, that they intended to adhere to the present financial system until the debt was paid—and that it was intended, after the debt should have been paid to secure to them something in return for the taxes they had contributed. The people whom he represented looked to the adoption of some such provision with great solicitude; and good faith to the people, generally, required, he thought, that something of this sort should be inserted in the Constitution.

Mr. DONALDSON called for a division of the question.

The PRESIDENT said, in the judgment of the Chair the amendment was susceptible of two divisions.

Mr. BROWN suggested that the amendment, in his opinion, went further than the gentleman from Worcester, (Mr. Jacobs,) designed that it should go. If the gentleman designed that there should be no reduction of taxes until the entire debt was paid, then it would follow that there must be a large surplus in the Treasury. The system, it seemed to him, (Mr. B.,) would not work well. He should be compelled to vote against it.

Mr. JACOBS I do not propose that the present system shall continue in force beyond the time when the sinking fund shall be swelled to an amount sufficient to meet the payment of the State bonds, as they may, from time to time, become due. Immediately after the debt shall have been paid off, the distribution, proposed by my article, will commence. Hence, after the debt is paid, there can never be any surplus in the