

Mr. GWINN said he could obviate the difficulty suggested by his colleague, as to his, (Mr. G's,) amendment, in a moment. And he modified his amendment with that view.

Mr. PRESSTMAN suggested to his colleague that the amendment might perhaps be better introduced at another time and in another form.

The object and construction of the section were further explained by Messrs. CHAMBERS, of Kent, PRESSTMAN, DORSEY and GWINN.

Mr. GWINN expressed his intention to insist on the amendment here, because, he said, he knew of no other place in which it could properly be introduced.

But Mr. G., on the suggestion of Mr. PRESSTMAN, decided to offer the amendment as an additional section.

Thereupon, the Convention adjourned until tomorrow at ten o'clock.

SATURDAY, March 1, 1851.

The Convention met at ten o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH.

The Roll of the members were called.

#### LICENSE LAWS.

The PRESIDENT announced the following gentlemen as the members composing the select committee of seven, yesterday ordered to be appointed on the subject of the license laws:

Messrs. DORSEY, HARBINE, FOOKS, WRIGHT, DENT, WEBER, and DASHIELL.

Mr. DORSEY asked to be excused from service. It was usual not to put upon these committees gentlemen who were opposed to the applications. He concurred in part with his friend from Cecil in his opposition. He, (Mr. D.,) thought there should be a general law, and not a separate law for any particular district or neighborhood. As he was opposed to this and could not discharge the duty in such a way as would enable the petitioners to have their case fully considered, he hoped he might be excused from service.

The Convention excused Mr. DORSEY.

Mr. DONALDSON was appointed by the PRESIDENT to supply the vacancy.

#### THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The PRESIDENT announced the unfinished business of yesterday, being the report of the committee on the Legislative Department of the Government.

Mr. THOMAS offered the following substitute:

"The General Assembly may provide for the election or appointment of such county officers as may be required, and are not wholly authorized by this Constitution, and prescribe their powers and duties; but their tenure of office, mode of appointment, and the character of their powers and duties shall be uniform throughout the State."

The substitute having been read,

Mr. THOMAS said, he did not want to discuss the amendment. He merely submitted it. He supposed the Convention would foresee that there were many officers whose appointment the Convention would not undertake to prescribe.

Mr. SHRIVER asked the yeas and nays.

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, said he supposed that the question of electing Levy Courts, or that item in the organization of the police of the State now known to some of the counties as Levy Courts, and existing in some form in every county, must at some time be decided upon by the Convention. If there was a settled purpose, as he supposed there was, to have this done by election, why not now say so? The question had to be acted upon, and the action of the Convention was now embarrassed for the want of knowing how these tribunals were to be organized. He did not desire to introduce the question if it would lead to any difficulty. But if there was such a settled purpose on the part of the Convention as he had supposed, to adopt some plan, he thought it had better be done. With a view, therefore, of testing the sense of the Convention, he had prepared an amendment as a substitute. He did not desire to debate it, nor was he solicitous as to what the decision of the question might be.

The substitute indicated by Mr. C. was read as follows:

"The General Assembly shall avoid partial and local legislation as far as practicable; and may confer upon the Levy Court of each county, the members of which shall be elected by the people of their respective counties, by general ticket and not by districts, such powers of local legislation and administration as may be necessary, and all laws conferring such powers shall be general in their nature, and extend to all the counties of the State."

Mr. THOMAS said, that the difference between his proposition and that of the gentleman from Kent, (Mr. Chambers,) was very material.

Mr. CHAMBERS. Oh, very.

Mr. THOMAS proceeded to state that his amendment proposed to leave to the Legislature the passage of laws providing for the appointment of such county officers as the Convention might not expressly authorize. Mr. T. specified some of them.

His reason for desiring the adoption of this amendment was, that in the past legislation of the State, there had been a continual change in the mode of appointing even the Levy Court Judges. At another stage of the proceedings, he desired to go to the extent which the gentleman seemed to contemplate in another particular. He, (Mr. T.,) would be glad to see a provision in the Constitution denying to the Legislature the power to make that a crime in one county which was a mere misdemeanor in another.

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, suggested that the proposition of the gentleman from Frederick, (Mr. Thomas,) so far as it went, was precisely his proposition.

Some explanatory conversation followed between Messrs. THOMAS and CHAMBERS, of Kent,