

"That it shall be the duty of the Legislature so soon as the public debt shall have been fully paid off, to cause to be transferred to the several counties and city of Baltimore, stock in the internal improvement companies, equal to the amount respectively paid by each towards the erection and completion of said works, at the then market value of said stock. It shall further be the duty of the Legislature after the public debt shall have been fully paid off, or the sinking fund shall be sufficient to redeem the same at maturity, to appropriate such portions of the annual revenue of the State stocks in the internal improvement companies of this State, (after deducting so much, together with the other annual revenues of the State as may be necessary to meet the current expenses, and any sudden exigencies that may arise:) equally among said counties and the city of Baltimore, having a just regard to the several amounts paid by each into the State Treasury; and the advantages and disadvantages resulting to each respectively from the construction of said works of internal improvement. The said stocks and revenue when paid over, to be under the direction and control of the county authorities of the several counties, and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, respectively to be by them applied to purposes of education, and such other purposes as the said county and city authorities may deem proper."

The amendment having been read—

Mr. **WELLS** said, that it presented two propositions, and he called for a division. He desired also to ask the gentleman from St. Mary's, (Mr. Blakistone,) who had offered the amendment, by what rule he determined the appropriations which the relative parts of the State should receive, from the revenues derived from the public works?

Mr. **BLAKISTONE** said, he proposed to leave that matter, exclusively to the Legislature to be decided, he presumed, by a sort of compromise, or conciliation from one part of the State towards another, like the Constitution which this Convention might adopt. He presumed that Baltimore would receive more than other parts of the State, because she had paid more. So with the large counties. He thought, however, that St. Mary's ought to receive a little more in proportion, because she had derived no benefit from the construction of the works.

Mr. **SPENCER**. I have risen merely to indicate the vote I shall give. I shall vote against the proposition. And I shall vote against all kinds of prospective legislation.

Mr. **DENT** demanded the previous question.

There was a second,

And the main question was ordered, (being on the amendment of Mr. Blakistone.)

Mr. **WEEMS** asked the yeas and nays,

Which were ordered.

And the question was then taken on the first branch of the amendment in the words following:

"That it shall be the duty of the legislature so soon as the public debt shall have been fully paid off, to cause to be transferred to the several counties and the city of Baltimore, stock in the inter-

nal improvement companies, equal to the amount respectively paid by each towards the erection and completion of said works, at the then market value of said stock."

And the result was as follows:

Affirmative—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't, Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Dorsey, Wells, Randall, Kent, Weems, Dalrymple, Bond, Jenifer, Bell, Welch, Ridgely, Colston, Dashiell, Hicks, Hodson, Goldsborough, Eccleston, Chambers of Cecil, Miller, Bowie, McCubbin, Bowling, McMaster, Fooks, Gaither, Annan, Stephenson, Thawley, Presstman, John Newcomer, Michael Newcomer, Weber and Slicer—37.

Negative—Messrs. Ricaud, Lee, Chambers of Kent, Donaldson, Lloyd, Crisfield, Sprigg, Spencer, Grason, George, Thomas, Shriver, Biser, Sappington, McHenry, Hardcastle, Gwinn, Ware, Schley, Fiery, Neill, Davis, Hollyday, Parke, Ege, Cockey and Brown—27.

So the first branch of the amendment was adopted.

And the question recurred on the second branch of the amendment.

And the result was as follows:

Affirmative—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't, Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Chambers of Kent, Randall, Kent, Weems, Dalrymple, Bond, Jenifer, Colston, Dashiell, Hicks, Hodson, Goldsborough, Eccleston, Bowie, Sprigg, McCubbin, Bowling, McMaster, Fooks, Stephenson, Thawley, Hardcastle, John Newcomer, Michael Newcomer and Davis—29.

Negative—Messrs. Ricaud, Lee, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Bell, Welch, Ridgely, Lloyd, Crisfield, Chambers of Cecil, McCullough, Miller, Spencer, Grason, George, Thomas, Shriver, Gaither, Biser, Annan, Sappington, McHenry, Gwinn, Sherwood of Baltimore city, Presstman, Ware, Schley, Fiery, Neill, Weber, Hollyday, Slicer, Parke, Ege, Cockey and Brown—37.

So the second and last branch of the amendment was rejected.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

Mr. **PRESSTMAN**. In the early part of the session, I was instructed by the committee on the legislative department, to report certain provisions, as additional articles to the report now under consideration. It is rather remarkable that every one of these provisions, with one exception, has already been adopted. The article which concerned the abolition of the relation of master and slave as it now exists in this State, was taken possession of by the gentleman from Charles, (Mr. Jenifer.) I have no desire to reclaim it under the fugitive slave law. [Laughter.] All I have to say, is, that I am glad it has been adopted.

The next article directed the legislature at its first session after the adoption of the Constitution, to appoint a commissioner to revise, digest and arrange the statute laws of the State, civil and criminal, and a commissioner to revise, simplify and abridge the rules and practice, pleadings, forms and proceedings of the courts of record of this State.