

He could not agree to fritter away the power and influence which was given to Baltimore city, by giving her a delegation of only ten—much less than any other portion of the State, according to population. It would be dividing her population against itself. Therefore, he, (Mr. B.,) had nothing more to say to the argument. It was, as he had said before, too late for argument. The Convention was not in a temper to receive argument.

He had merely risen to state his views, and announce for himself and his colleagues that they would vote indignantly against the whole scheme.

THURSDAY, May 8th, 1851.

The Convention met at 9 o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. GRAUFF.

The roll was called, and

A quorum having been ascertained to be present.

The journal of yesterday was read.

THE BUSINESS OF THE CONVENTION.

Mr. HOWARD rose and said:

That he held in his hand a resolution which he proposed to offer, and which was read as follows;

“Ordered, That after the tenth instant, no article or section of the proposed Constitution shall be adopted considered, and no article or section adopted on or before that day shall be afterwards reconsidered without the unanimous consent of the Convention; but after the tenth instant, the Convention will proceed without debate to receive and finally dispose of the several reports from the revisory committee.

Mr. HOWARD said:

That the resolution looked towards carrying out the order of the Convention passed a few days ago, closing its business on the twelfth instant, and he had moved it for the purpose of executing that declared will of the Convention.—He thought that they ought to adjourn by that time, and that they could if they made up their minds, that it should be done. It required nothing more than a little energy of purpose. It was manifest to every body that they had run their session into the latest possible period, and they had barely sufficient time to notify the people of the Constitution they were about to submit to them, and allow them time to exercise their judgment upon it. He was extremely unwilling to adopt any other day on which to submit the Constitution to the people, than that named in the act of Assembly.

He would be found to be one of those who would exercise every nerve in his power to avoid such an evil as he thought it would be. Having now stated the object of the order, he thought it would not be amiss to say to those gentlemen of this body, who were more anxious

for the new Constitution than others, (he would not say that all were not, but some were more anxious than others,) that he thought it become them, (and he classed himself among them,) to get through their business here in the shortest possible time and then adjourn, so that the Constitution which they were about to submit to the people, might not be strangled in its birth. The means by which he proposed in this order to accomplish the final disposition of their business was this. That on Saturday night they should close their debates, and employ Monday by receiving reports from the revisory committee, and act upon them alone, and no other business, so that by Monday night they would be prepared to adjourn, and would have accomplished their work. Between this and Saturday night they had three days, and he for one was perfectly willing to devote as much time in the twenty-four hours as any other gentleman, in order to enable them to dispose of their business. He was willing that they should have a recess, and to set as long as gentlemen liked, if the public business required it. With this very brief explanation of the object he had in view, he would submit to the Convention the order.

Mr. BOWIE, was anxious to bring this Convention to a close, and he had no doubt, that the Convention had made up its mind to adjourn on Monday, according to its order heretofore passed. He had seen no disposition on the part of any of the members of the House, looking towards protracting the session beyond that time. He thought it would be unwise in them to adopt any particular rule of action. He believed now, ten minutes were only allowed to the mover of an amendment, and five minutes to others. It was his opinion, that if they went to work in earnest, they could adjourn by Monday.

Mr. BISER was in favor of the proposition, but he proposed to offer an amendment to strike out the word “unanimous,” and insert, after the word “consent,” the words “of two-thirds.” He was not willing to put it in the power of a single member of this House to prevent a change in some feature of the Constitution which might be discovered to need alteration in its final adoption; but he was perfectly willing to trust to two-thirds. There might be some feature that nearly every member would be desirous to see changed on account of some error made in the hurry of business, and yet on the objection of one member it could not be done. To prevent this, he had moved his amendment to strike out the word unanimous, and insert two-thirds.

Mr. HEARN moved to lay the order and amendment on the table.

Mr. HARBINE moved that the question be taken by yeas and nays, which were ordered;

On motion of Mr. PHELPS,

The Convention was called, and the doorkeeper sent for the absent members.

Mr. DAVIS moved to dispense with further proceedings under the call;

Which motion was not agreed to.

On motion of Mr. TUCK,

The Convention took up for consideration the