

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, moved that the Convention take up for consideration the motion made by him on yesterday, relative to reconsidering the vote of the Convention relative to districting the city of Baltimore and the several counties of this State.

Mr. CHAMBERS said that several gentlemen, in common with himself, still desired to record their votes upon the simple question of districting the city of Baltimore, without districting the residue of the State. After that they were willing that the Convention should take such votes as they pleased. He understood that a proposition would be offered to district that portion of the State in which the counties were not restricted to two delegates each. He would willingly vote upon that proposition, but wished his own to be first voted upon. He had only to say that so long as this Convention should last, the effort would be continued to discover whether there be or be not a majority of the members of this body willing to district the city of Baltimore, although the counties should not be districted. When that vote should be taken, if it should be decided against them, he would admit that they were fairly beaten, but not till then.

On motion of Mr. BUCHANAN,

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

On motion of Mr. BROWN,

The Convention resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the Treasury Department.

The question pending being on the amendment offered by Mr. BOWIE, this morning, by striking out after the word "Comptroller," in the second line, first article, to the word "of," in the fourth line, and inserting in lieu thereof, the following:

"The Governor for the time being, and."

Mr. DONALDSON proceeded to explain the report of the committee, and to show the necessity of such an officer as provided therein, as a check upon the Treasurer. There was an average surplus in the Treasury of \$300,000, while the bond of the Treasurer was only \$200,000. The Treasurer having no check upon him, and it must be constant to be of any value, could make his account appear whatever he pleased, and it would be impossible for the Governor to detect the error.

Mr. D. proceeded to read the bill which he had prepared in 1847, in illustration of his views. The saving to the State he believed would be from ten to fifteen thousand dollars annually.

Mr. SPENCER said that he had ascertained the sum paid to Messrs. Baring & Company for percentage, to be nearly \$2,500. Large amounts of money were constantly being invested in the bonds of the State, on account of their being exempt from taxation, the holders being beyond the reach of the collector. Still the Barings received as much commission as if every cent was to be paid in London. This could be avoided by having a Comptroller.

Mr. DONALDSON remarked that the State taxes would be paid by the holder, being reached by the presentation of the coupons; but the city and

county taxes might be evaded. The Treasurer purchased a great many of these bonds for the sinking fund. There was now nothing in the world to prevent his passing these off. The State had been depending for years upon individual honesty; and although thus far they had not misplaced their confidence, they had no right to depend upon that for the safety of the Treasury.

Mr. DORSEY replied to his colleague, [Mr. Donaldson.] When the Commissioner of Loans was appointed, he had insisted upon the necessity of having a check upon that officer. The necessity of a check in the latter case was comparatively small. His bank book, and his published statements would betray him. But what security was there against fraud by the Commissioner of Loans?

The Doorkeeper returned and reported that he had notified the absent members that their attendance in the Convention was required.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the motion of Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, to reconsider the vote of the Convention in relation to districting the city of Baltimore and the several counties of this State.

Mr. RIDGELY desired that the whole subject should be reconsidered. He could not vote for any proposition now on the table, except that offered by the gentleman from Frederick. He proposed, after all the propositions now under consideration should have been voted upon, to submit a distinct proposition for himself and those who had acted with him.

Mr. JOHNSON was in favor of taking up the whole subject, as a general aggregate. He would not divide Baltimore city into ten districts, although he considered the principle correct. He was in favor of the proposition to be submitted, to divide every county having more than two delegates, and to divide Baltimore city into five districts, making each district, as near as practicable to consist of two counties, or of four wards in the city of Baltimore.

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, waived his motion, and

Mr. DENT moved to reconsider the vote of the Convention on the substitute offered by Mr. THOMAS, and to be found on page 705 of journal.

Mr. JENIFER agreed with the remarks of the gentleman from Frederick, [Mr. Johnson.] The time had now come when every man desirous of districting the State of Maryland and the city of Baltimore upon fair and true principles could come up to the mark. He had no hesitation in saying that he considered the plan now proposed the true ground. Baltimore city being divided into five districts would be placed upon the footing of the counties; and there they should stand. He was unwilling to draw distinctions between Baltimore city and the counties where it could possibly be avoided. If the State should be districted upon the plan proposed by the gentleman from Baltimore county, [Mr. Ridgely,] he believed it would be carrying out the true republican principle that every minority could be heard; and at the same time no party ends would be obtained. He had, himself, given no vote in this Con-