

They had at first tried three, and got along very well; but by and by, it had been proposed to enlarge the number to five, seven, etc. At last, upon full investigation they had come to the conclusion that three was quite sufficient, if not a little more than sufficient, for the duties of the largest county in the State. Baltimore county only wanted three commissioners. Other counties, if they desired more, might have as many as they pleased.

On motion of Mr. WELLS,

The Convention postponed the further consideration of the report for the purpose of enabling him to make sundry reports from the committee on accounts.

Mr. WELLS, chairman of the committee on accounts, submitted the following report and accompanying resolution:

The undersigned report that they have examined sundry accounts for making and lithographing map and for newspapers, &c., amounting to sixteen hundred and fifty-six dollars and thirty-four cents, (1656,34,) which were referred to the committee by several orders of the Convention and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

G. WELLS,  
W. WILLIAMS,  
EDWARD LLOYD,  
ALEX. NEILL, JR.,  
ELIAS WARE, JR.,  
Com. on Accounts.

*Resolved*, That the accompanying claims amounting to \$1,656 34, the vouchers for which are herewith filed, be paid by the orders of the President of the Convention on the Treasurer of the State, in favor of the persons entitled to the same.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. WELLS, chairman of the committee on accounts, to which were referred sundry accounts from clerks of courts and commissioners of tax, amounting to \$490, stated that the committee had had the same under consideration, and had directed him to report the same back to the Convention for instructions.

Mr. GWINN moved the Convention be discharged from the further consideration of the same;

Which motion was agreed to.

Mr. WELLS, chairman of the committee on accounts, submitted the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the librarian be paid such sum for his services in purchasing stationery, etc., as the committee of accounts may certify to the President, ought to be allowed.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. NEILL from the committee on accounts, submitted the following order:

*Ordered*, That the President of the Convention pay to John W. Rider, clerk to the committee on accounts, the sum of seventy dollars, for making out a balance sheet of all the accounts on the journal of accounts.

On the question being taken on the adoption of the order,

Mr. STEPHENSON moved that the question be taken by yeas and nays;

Which being ordered,

Appeared as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't, Morgan, Blakistone, Dent, Donaldson, Wells, Randall, Kent, Buchanan, Bell, Lloyd, Colston, John Dennis, Williams, Hicks, Hodson, Goldsborough, Eccleston, Phelps, Constable, Bowie, George, Wright, Dirickson, Hearn, Fooks, Jacobs, Johnson, McHenry, Magraw, Gwinn, Ware, Neill, Kilgour, Waters, Anderson and Smith—37.

*Negative*—Messrs. Lee, Mitchell, Sellman, Sherwood, of Talbot, Miller, Tuck, Spencer, Shriver, Gaither, Biser, Annan, Sappington, Stephenson, Carter, Thawley, Schley, Fiery, John Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Brewer, Weber, Fitzpatrick, Parke, Cockey and Brown—26.

So the order was adopted.

Mr. DENT submitted the following order, which was agreed to:

*Ordered*, That the committee on Accounts, be directed to settle two accounts rendered for expenses amounting to \$14, and which was incurred in sending to Washington city, for the maps ordered by the Convention.

Mr. DONALDSON, having been excused from serving on the committee on Printing;

The President substituted Mr. PHELPS in his place.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the report submitted by Mr. TUCK, as chairman of the committee respecting the appointment, tenure of office, duties and compensation of all civil officers, &c.

The question then recurred on the adoption of the substitute of Mr. McHENRY, from the fourth section of the report.

Mr. TUCK suggested to the gentleman from Harford, that he had better fix the number of Commissioners each county should have, that the system might be uniform. Five Commissioners were enough for any county. Washington county had three, but he did not think five would be too many. They ought to fix the number by the Constitution, so as to prevent the Legislature, at the instance of party men, hereafter arranging the number in the different counties, so as to suit particular parties, or to promote special objects.

He would move to insert five.

Mr. BUCHANAN was opposed to the proposition. His friend had said that he could not imagine how three men could do the duty. He should like to know how three judges of the Orphans' court could perform the duties of his county, or one judge of a county court could perform the business of eighty thousand people? Washington county, it seemed, had tried the experiment, and so had they, and they found that they could get along infinitely better, not only with less cost, by having three than seven. At the proper time he should move an amendment, that the number of the Commissioners should be the same as they were now.