

think, for saying that he would be necessitated on the ground of business, to return to Ellicott's Mills. I understand he is State's Attorney, and therefore as much an officer of the State as the gentleman from Baltimore county; and if that was not a sufficient excuse for him to absent himself from the Convention, and not a sufficient excuse for him in wishing to get nearer home in the sittings of the Convention, I cannot possibly see why it should be a reason for the gentleman from Baltimore county to urge. I think he wound up his speech yesterday with saying that the very reason why he did not wish to move from here was a personal reason. The reason why the gentlemen from Howard urged the removal to Baltimore was a personal reason, and he was censured for it, and that very identical reason was urged for retaining it here.

Since I am here, I want to go on with the work as rapidly as possible. I have no idea that we of Washington county can get home. We came here to work; and we have no idea, since we are penned up in this place, of voting for any leaves of absence or any adjournments. We want to keep to our work.

Mr. CUSHING. I hope the House will not begin its session, so far as the work is concerned, for we are now just beginning to work, by adjourning from Thursday over to Tuesday morning. If this Convention is every week to adjourn over from Thursday until Tuesday, I do not see any limit to the session before us, at all. Already we have done that once. Then there was a good reason, that we had no work to do. But I think the motion of the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Abbott) comes up to-morrow, and when that is taken up there will be enough to do, to read over the Constitution and refer it to the committees. Or if the Convention itself does nothing the committees can meet, whereas if we are all out of the city, excepting two days and a half each week, I do not see how we shall make any progress.

Mr. Todd demanded the yeas and nays, and they were ordered; and the question being taken, the result was—yeas 15; nays 60—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Miller, Harwood, Bond, Henkle, Hatch, Brooks, Barron, King, Larsh, Briscoe, Purran, Hodson, Peter, Belt, Lee—15.

Nays—Messrs. Scott, Goldsborough, President, Hebb, Thruston, Wickard, Robinette, Kennard, Stockbridge, Abbott, Cushing, Thomas, Audoub, Berry of Baltimore county, Hoffman, Parker, Smith, of Carroll, Ecker, Swope, Wooden, Jones of Cecil, Earle, Scott, Pugh, Turner, Todd, Carter, Noble, Keefer, Markey, Annan, Baker, Cunningham, Schlosser, Galloway, McComas, Hopper, Russett, Hopkins, Sands, Sykes, Chambers, Blackiston, Hollyday, Landsdale, Clarke, Berry of Prince George's, Marbury, Wilmer, Morgan,

Horsey, Valliant, Mullekin, Dellinger, Nyman, Negley, Mayhugh, Davis, Sneary, Purnell, Farrow, Murray—60.

So the amendment was not agreed to.

The question recurring upon the motion to adjourn, it was agreed to; and the Convention adjourned.

SIXTH DAY.

FRIDAY, May 6, 1864.

The Convention met.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Davenport.

The Convention proceeded to the consideration of the following resolution submitted by Mr. Abbott on Tuesday last:

"That this Convention take up the Bill of Rights and Constitution, commencing a careful reading of the same by the clerk; that as the sections are read each member of the Convention be required to propose in writing such alterations or amendments as he may desire, which shall be submitted without argument or debate during the reading, all said propositions to be printed and referred to appropriate committees, upon whose report ample opportunity shall be given for discussion. When the reading shall have been finished and each member has handed in his proposition to alter or amend, all further proposition to alter or amend shall be deemed out of order."

Mr. BRAX of Prince George's. It appears to me that the object of that resolution would be fully met by referring it to the Committee on Rules. It seems to be a resolution as to the manner in which we shall proceed with the business of the Convention. A committee has been appointed to prepare rules for the conduct of this body, and I move that the resolution be referred to that committee.

Mr. ABBOTT. I have no objection to that course. My only object in offering the resolution was to bring something before the Convention that we could act upon, and the plan indicated by the resolution seemed to me to be the proper plan for the Convention to pursue. I presume that every member here has some ideas of his own, and some derived from conference with his constituents before coming here, as to certain alterations and amendments proper to be made in the Constitution. I desire that each member shall present these views, and that they shall then be considered by the various standing committees.

The motion to refer was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. MARKEY, it was ordered to be entered on the Journal that Frederick Schley, of Frederick county, is detained from his seat in the Convention by indisposition.

On motion of Mr. MORGAN, it was ordered to be entered on the Journal that Chapman Billingsley, of St. Mary's county, is detained from his seat in the Convention by indisposition.