

Mr. MILLER. As I understand it, the plates that are not changed will be used in publishing the new edition.

Mr. STIRLING. The slightest change may change the whole thing. You cannot tell how many plates you could keep.

Mr. SOULEY. The change of one section might throw out many pages.

The amendment was rejected.

Section 16 was read as follows:

"Section 16. Any bill may originate in either House of the General Assembly, and be altered, amended or rejected by the other; but no bill shall originate in either House during the last three days of the session, or become a law, until it be read on three different days of the session in each House, unless three-fourths of the members of the House, where such bill is pending, shall so determine."

Mr. CHAMBERS moved to amend by striking out "three" and inserting "ten," so as to read—"no bill shall originate in either House during the last ten days of the session."

Mr. MILLER. I would like to inquire how this section will now accord with section 6, adopted yesterday. I think that section allows the Legislature to sit as long as the public interest may require it. How then can we make a provision that no bill shall originate within the last three days or the last ten days of the session? All that will be necessary to introduce new matter will be to postpone the day of adjournment. So this is no check upon the Legislature in fixing any time whatever.

Mr. CHAMBERS. The difficulty is remedied in this way. The effect will be that the Legislature must ten days before they adjourn, resolve so to do. They never adjourn without a joint resolution to that effect, and they have only to pass that resolution at least ten days before the final adjournment. On the 1st day of March, for instance, they determine that they will adjourn on the 15th. I do not see that the objection is a serious one at all.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. SCOTT moved to amend by inserting after the word "other," at the end of the first clause, the following:

"But, public general laws shall always have precedence over local laws, and the latter shall have precedence over private bills."

Mr. SCOTT said: I offer that amendment to avoid the difficulty so forcibly portrayed by gentlemen as occurring in the latter part of the session, when the public business is crowded out by the greater importunity of private business, and the more active agents who press forward private claims. Whatever motives there may be to act hastily, they will be obliged to push forward the public business in order to be able to get at the local laws or the private bills.

The question being put, no quorum voted.

On motion of Mr. CHAMBERS,

The Convention adjourned.

FORTY-FIFTH DAY.

MONDAY, July 11, 1864.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Owen.

The roll was called, and the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Baker, Brown, Chambers, Clarke, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Dent, Earle, Ecker, Edelen, Galloway, Hebb, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hopkins, King, Mitchell, Mullikin, Murray, Pugh, Purnell, Russell, Scott, Sykes, Thomas, Todd, Wickard, Wooden—31.

Mr. PURNELL. It seems that there are not a sufficient number of members to constitute a quorum in the city. It is very evident as affairs now stand that we shall not have more than we have already; and I therefore move that the Convention adjourn.

The Convention adjourned.

FORTY-SIXTH DAY.

TUESDAY, July 12, 1864.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Patterson.

The roll was called, and the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Blackiston, Briscoe, Brown, Chambers, Clarke, Cunningham, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Dent, Earle, Edelen, Galloway, Harwood, Henkle, Hollyday, Hopkins, Jones, of Cecil, Markey, Mitchell, Mullikin, Murray, Parran, Purnell, Russell, Scott, Sykes, Todd—30.

There being no quorum present—

On motion of Mr. TODD,

The Convention adjourned.

FORTY-SEVENTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, July 13, 1864.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Owen.

The roll was called, and the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Briscoe, Brown, Dent, Earle, Harwood, Hopkins, Scott—8.

There being no quorum present,

On motion of Mr. SCOTT,

The Convention adjourned.

FORTY-EIGHTH DAY.

THURSDAY, July 14, 1864.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Patterson.

The roll was called, and the following members answered to their names: