

before the convention except by a decision of the chair, and an appeal from that decision?

Mr. BARRON. If it is for the convention to decide, let us vote on it. Give us votes now; not so much talk. I am willing to take the yeas and nays on it, if it is necessary; but let us vote.

Mr. DAVIS of Charles. I think it is the duty of the president to decide whether this is divisible or not. If any member differs from that decision, then let him appeal.

Mr. STIRLING. If it is distinctly understood that this preamble is to be divided into but two parts, and no more, I will withdraw my point of order.

Mr. BELT. The gentleman cannot withdraw it upon any such understanding with me.

Mr. STIRLING. I meant with the understanding of the chair, I do not want any understanding with the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Belt.)

The PRESIDENT. As the chair understood the proposition of the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Belt,) it was to divide the preamble into two parts; and the chair so directed the secretary.

Mr. STIRLING. Then I withdraw my point of order.

The question was upon the first clause of the preamble, which was read as follows:

"Whereas, There is in Maryland a class of persons whose desire for the success of the rebel arms is a matter of public notoriety, who have been demonstrated more clearly by the recent invasion to be the inviters of rebel raids, the guides, welcomers and entertainers of rebel soldiers, who have rejoiced at the burning of our houses and the plunder of our property, who only want the opportunity to place the lives and property of loyal people at the mercy of their rebel friends, by pointing them out for destruction, and under the protection of the rebel army usurp the government of the State."

Mr. DAVIS, of Charles, called for the yeas and nays, which were ordered.

The question was then taken by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 42, nays 14—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Barron, Brooks, Carter, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Earle, Ecker, Galloway, Greene, Harwood, Hatch, Hoffman, Hopkins, Hopper; Keefer, Kennard, King, Larsh, Markey, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Pugh, Russell, Sands, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Wickard, Wooden—42.

Nays—Messrs. Belt, Chambers, Crawford, Davis, of Charles, Dent, Henkle, Hollyday, Johnson, Jones, of Somerset, Lee, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Smith, of Dorchester—14.

That portion of the preamble was accordingly adopted.

The question recurred upon the second clause of the preamble, to wit:

"And whereas, the experience of the past two weeks now clearly shows that the presence of such persons in our midst in time of war is no longer to be tolerated, and justice to ourselves, our families and our country, no less than to weak-minded disloyalists themselves, the only hope of whose reclamation is in a vigorous policy, requires that the sternest justice should at once be meted out to those who persistently refuse to obey the laws, and the active and dangerous class be separated from the peaceable and loyal, by the exercise of the undoubted power of the Government, to arrest and detain dangerous persons during times of war."

The question being taken, it was adopted.

#### LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the reports of the committee on the legislative department, which was on its second reading.

#### BANKING.

The section under consideration was section forty-two, which had been amended to read as follows:

"The General Assembly shall grant no charter for banking purposes, or renew any banking corporation now in existence, except upon the condition that the stockholders shall be liable to the amount of their respective share or shares of stock in such banking institution, for all its debts and liabilities upon note, bill, or otherwise; and on the further condition that said charter or renewal of such existing corporation, shall not authorize the issue of paper money as a circulating medium so long as the United States shall provide by law a national paper currency. The books, papers and accounts of all banks shall be open to inspection, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law."

The pending question was upon the motion of Mr. RIDGELY to amend, by inserting after the word "shall" in the first line, the words: "after the expiration of all the existing bank charters," so that the section will then read:

"The General Assembly shall, after the expiration of all the existing bank charters, grant no charter for banking purposes, or renew any banking corporation now in existence," &c.

Mr. STIRLING. I do not care to argue this proposition. But I would suggest to the Convention that if this amendment is adopted it will amount practically to destroying our work of yesterday; and we might just as well go back and undo that work as to adopt this amendment. If we adopt this amendment we will be legislating for something that cannot take place for twenty years, and we might just as well leave the whole matter