

persons from their debts or obligations to the State, unless recommended by the Governor or officers of the treasury department.

The question being taken, it was adopted. The next question was upon the clause prohibiting the legislature from passing special laws "establishing, locating or affecting the construction of roads."

On motion of Mr. KEEFER, The clause was amended by adding the words, "and the repairing and building of bridges."

The clause as amended was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. BOND,

The convention took a recess until 8 o'clock, P. M.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The convention reassembled at 8 o'clock, P. M.

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

Messrs Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Belt, Chambers, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Dent, Earle, Ecker, Edelen, Greene, Hebb, Henkle, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hopkins, Hopper, Jones, of Somerset, King, Lee, Markey, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Parran, Pugh, Russell, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Wooden—47

No quorum present.

The PRESIDENT. The President deems it his duty to call the attention of the convention to the absence of the sergeant-at-arms on this occasion, as he has been absent on several other occasions when the convention has been in session. He mentioned to the President that he designed being absent to-night, but the President gave him no authority to leave. When there is a fuller attendance, the President will deem it his duty to call the attention of the convention again to this subject.

Mr. MILLER. I understand that there were but sixty-six members in attendance this morning. I learn from the secretary that some nineteen members left the city this afternoon. As it is therefore evident that we can get no quorum to-night, I move the convention now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to—

And the convention accordingly adjourned.

#### FIFTY-SIXTH DAY.

SATURDAY, July 23, 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:

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Andoun, Belt, Brooks, Carter, Cushing, Dail, Daniel, Davis, of Washington,

Dent, Drvall, Earle, Ecker, Edelen, Farrow, Greene, Hebb, Hoffman, Holliday, Hopkins, Hopper, King, Lee, Markey, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Parran, Pugh, Ridgely, Russell, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Dorchester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Todd, Valliant, Wickard, Wilmer, Wooden—52.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

#### LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

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

Mr. RUSSELL gave notice that at the proper time he should move the following as an additional section:

"Section — The general assembly shall pass laws providing that the rites of marriage between any persons legally competent to contract marriage may be celebrated by any minister of any religious denomination, by any mayor of a city, by any justice of the peace, or in such manner as is usually practiced by the society of people called Quakers; and providing for the registration of all marriages, however solemnized in this State."

The section under consideration was section nineteen, which had been amended to read as follows:

"The legislature shall not pass local or special laws in any of the following enumerated cases, viz:

"For the assessment and collection of taxes for State or county purposes, or extending the time for the collection of taxes;

"Providing for the support of public schools, the preservation of school funds, the location or the regulation of school houses;

"Granting divorces;

"Relating to fees and salaries;

"Relating to the interest on money;

"Providing for regulating the election or compensation of State or county officers, or designating the places of voting, or the boundaries of election districts;

"Providing for the sale of real estate belonging to minors or other persons laboring under legal disabilities, by executors, administrators, guardians or trustees;

"Giving effect to informal or invalid deeds or wills;

"Refunding money paid into the State treasury, or releasing persons from their debts or obligations to the State, unless recommended by the Governor or officers of the treasury department;

"Or establishing, locating or affecting the construction of roads, and repairing and building of bridges."

Mr. CHAMBERS submitted the following additional amendment to section nineteen:

"And the general assembly shall pass no