

Mr. CHAMBERS. The object of the gentleman from Baltimore county (Mr. Bldgely,) as I understood it, was to have a special committee raised. If it be in order, I would move that this report be committed to a special committee of nine with instructions to consider this thirty-ninth section, and report at a given time.

Mr. CLARKE. That was my first motion, but I understood the chair to decide that it was not in order.

The PRESIDENT. That was not the decision of the chair. The chair decided that a motion to commit a particular section carried with it the entire report.

Mr. NEGLY. I will modify the order I submitted, and make it a simple motion, as follows: I move—

That the thirty-ninth section of the report of the committee on the legislative department, together with all the proposed amendments thereto, be referred to a special committee of nine, with instructions to report on or before 12 o'clock, noon, on Friday next; and that the president of this convention be the chairman of said committee.

The PRESIDENT. For personal reasons the president would suggest the propriety of omitting his name from the motion.

The motion was modified accordingly.

The question was upon the motion for a select committee of nine.

Mr. STIRLING moved to lay that motion on the table.

Upon that question Mr. NEGLY called for the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question being taken, by yeas and nays, it resulted—yeas 27, nays 28—as follows:

*Yeas*—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Baker, Cunningham, Cushing, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Greene, Hebb, Hopkins, Hopper, Markey, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Nyman, Purnell, Robinette, Sands, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Sneary, Stirling, Swope, Wooden—27.

*Nays*—Messrs. Audoun, Belt, Berry, of Prince George's, Blackiston, Brown, Chambers, Clarke, Duvall, Earle, Edelen, Harwood, Hollyday, Horsey, Jones, of Somerset, Kennard, King, Lansdale, Lee, Marbury, Mitchell, Miller, Negley, Parker, Parran, Peter, Pugh, Stockbridge, Todd—28.

The motion to lay on the table was accordingly rejected.

Pending the call of the yeas and nays, the following explanations were made by members as their names were called:

Mr. ABBOTT. In explanation of my vote upon this motion, I wish to say that I was in favor the other day of committing this section to a special committee. But, since learning the decision of the chair, that it carries the whole report with it, I shall vote "no," because I am decidedly opposed to that.

Mr. AUDOUN. In my vote upon this mo-

tion, I shall be governed by a desire to get all the light I can upon this question. I have had some little experience in connection with the public works, and in connection with the little information I have thus obtained, I desire to obtain more. I think that if gentlemen of this house would wait and hear this question discussed fully, it would not be a waste of time. I therefore vote "no."

Mr. JONES, of Somerset. If this motion is carried, will the effect be to lay this whole subject on the table?

The PRESIDENT. This motion for a select committee is an independent proposition. The effect of adopting the pending motion is simply to lay this proposition on the table.

Mr. JONES, of Somerset. Then I vote "aye."

Mr. PETER. In explanation of my vote, I would say, that while I know this subject has been debated at large, I am still in the dark. I do not apprehend it. I do not understand it, and I would really like to have all the light thrown upon this subject that exists in this body. If any member in this convention desires to express his views upon this subject, I say give him full and sufficient time to do so. This subject is really one of such vital importance that I think it is necessary that it should be referred to a special committee, in order that they may investigate it fully, and that they should call to themselves all the aid they can to enable them to bring the subject fairly before the convention that we may act upon it understandingly. I shall therefore vote "no."

The question recurred upon agreeing to the motion of Mr. NEGLY for a select committee of nine.

Mr. CUSHING. I would just like to inquire if it is the object of the house to consume the time of the convention in the consideration of these propositions. Three months ago this convention met here with the expectation that before three months had passed the constitution would be completed. Yet we are not through the second reading of the second report. We have before us now a report which was considered for two months by a committee of nine selected by this house. We have been considering this report for three weeks and have come to no conclusion. Now it is proposed to send it back to another committee, who will bring in something which will fail equally with the report of our standing committee, to coalesce the sentiment of this house. It does seem to me that the only object of referring this is to consume time in this matter.

Mr. MILLER. I totally disavow as one of the friends of this measure any desire or intention to consume unnecessarily the time of this house upon this proposition. If the order is adopted, gentlemen know full well that the select committee will be instructed