

said yesterday he would be in favor of putting the time at twenty minutes?

Mr. SANDS. I would have done so yesterday morning. But we have a great deal of debate on this question since then, and I think fifteen minutes is long enough.

Mr. DAVIS, of Charles, moved to insert the word "thirty."

The PRESIDENT stated that the question would be taken first upon the longest time, the motion to insert the word "thirty" in place of the word "ten."

The question being taken, upon a division—ayes 24, nays 28—it was not agreed to.

The question recurred upon the motion of Mr. SANDS, to insert the word "fifteen."

Mr. MILLER moved to insert "twenty."

The question being taken upon the motion of Mr. MILLER, it was not agreed to.

The question was then taken upon the motion of Mr. SANDS, to insert the word "fifteen," and, upon a division—ayes 50, noes not counted—it was agreed to.

The order as amended was then adopted.

#### EVENING SESSIONS.

Mr. CHAMBERS, in pursuance of previous notice, moved to rescind the following order adopted by the convention on July 21st:

"Ordered, That the convention hereafter hold evening sessions at 8 o'clock on the evening of every day on which the convention shall be in session, except on Saturdays."

On this question, Mr. HENN called for the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question was then taken, by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 41, nays 37—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Audoun, Barron, Berry, of Prince George's, Blackiston, Bond, Briscoe, Brown, Chambers, Clarke, Crawford, Dail, Davis, of Charles, Dennis, Duvall, Edelen, Harwood, Hatch, Henkle, Hodson, Hollyday, Horsey, Johnson, Jones, of Cecil, Jones, of Somerset, Lansdale, Larsh, Lee, Marbury, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Parran, Peter, Smith, of Dorchester, Thomas, Valliant, Wilmer—37.

Nays—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Baker, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Earle, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Greene, Hebb, Hopkins, Hopper, Keefer, Kennard, King, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Ridgely, Robinetta, Russell, Sands, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Todd, Wickard, Wooden—41.

The motion to rescind the order was accordingly rejected.

Mr. RIDGELY, when his name was called, said:

I shall vote against this motion, for the reason that although I do not usually attend evening sessions, I am willing they shall be held if a majority desire it. I vote "no."

#### BASIS OF REPRESENTATION.

The convention then resumed the unfinished business of yesterday, being the report of the committee on the basis of representation, which was on its second reading.

The third section, as amended on motion of Mr. SCHLEY, was under consideration.

To this section, Mr. CLARKE had submitted the following amendment; strike out all after the word "the" in the first line and insert:

"Legislature, at its first session after the adoption of this constitution, and at its first session after the returns of each national census are published under the authority of Congress, shall apportion the members of the house of delegates among the several counties of the State and the city of Baltimore, according to the population of each, provided the whole number of delegates shall never exceed eighty-five members, and provided that each county and said city shall be divided into separate election districts of compact contiguous territory, the qualified voters in each of which districts shall at the time and in the manner in which delegates are chosen, elect one delegate, who has for one year next before his election been a resident of the district from which he shall be elected. The apportionment of the delegates among the several counties and the city of Baltimore, shall remain the same as provided by the present constitution, until the second election held for members of the house of delegates after the adoption of this constitution, and the general assembly shall hereafter elect United States senators and all officers who are elected by the legislature, by a concurrent vote of the two houses, and not by joint ballot."

The pending question was upon the motion of Mr. THOMAS, to amend the amendment by inserting the word "white" before the word "population."

Mr. THOMAS. I desire to say a very few words in relation to the amendment I submitted last evening. The proposition submitted by the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Clarke,) is in my opinion the true theory of representation, in so far as it refers to representation according to population. But, inasmuch as this convention has acted as it has in the abolishment of slavery, I do not consider that that representation should be upon the basis of black and white population. Therefore, it was that I submitted my amendment, in case the amendment of the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Clarke) should pass, that the basis of representation should be upon the white population of the State.

I am perfectly satisfied from the temper of this house, that there is no chance of the amendment of the gentleman from Prince George's passing. I shall myself be obliged to vote against it, although Baltimore city