

delegates or the court of appeals. Let him fulfil his duties, and not look to the bodies assembled here for his reappointment, and not be distributing the perquisites of his office to certain favorites of the political parties to influence them. Let him be free from such influences; and let his term of office be such as to enable him to make himself a competent officer.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. KING. I think the salary of this officer was fixed at the time our present constitution was adopted, and that this is not a proper time to raise it. I move to strike out "fifteen" and to insert "ten;" so as to give him a salary of one thousand dollars. I do not see that the duties of the office are very arduous; and he is entitled to an assistant at fifty dollars per month, and other perquisites amounting to—I do not know how much. He is in attendance during the session of the legislature about sixty days, and during the session of the court of appeals; but I think that at other times the duties are so light as not to require his attendance.

Mr. STOCKRIDGE. Will the gentleman tell us to what perquisites he alludes?

Mr. KING. I called for the information once, but the gentleman was one of those who refused to let me have it. I remember one amount of seventy-five dollars. I demand the yeas and nays upon this amendment.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. DANIEL. The committee did not think that even the addition of five hundred dollars to this salary would make it anything like what it had been. We did not consider fifteen hundred dollars equal to one thousand dollars a few years ago. I am really very much surprised to hear the gentleman from Baltimore county say that this office of librarian was one which did not involve personal attention and labor. I think that since we have been here we have found it to require the continual attendance of the librarian and his assistant; and we have seen the obliging character of that gentleman, how he has furnished us with books and stationery, and it is the same for the legislature, as for the convention. It is a great deal of labor, care and responsibility. And there is not attached to the office one cent of perquisites. What he gets for his salary is all that he gets. I have that from the gentleman himself, who I know will not state anything that is false. The seventy-five dollars the gentleman referred to is I believe the sum allowed for purchasing stationery for the legislature. It does not go, one cent of it, to the librarian. He is allowed an assistant at fifty dollars per month. And he waits upon the court of appeals, upon every gentleman who has a right to go into the library and ask for books; and when the legislature or the court of appeals is in session his constant attendance is required.

Certainly, it is an office of a good deal of care, labor, and responsibility.

Mr. KING. The time of the attendance upon the legislature is sixty days in two years. I see no necessity for his presence except during the session of the legislature; for as regards the court of appeals, I presume his assistant can attend to the duties at that time and at other times. I do not suppose there are three applications made in a day during the whole year except when the court of appeals is in session, or the legislature. I admit that when the legislature is in session there is a pressure; and so there is now that the convention is sitting. But that is the only time it is necessary.

Mr. DANIEL. He must take care of the books.

Mr. KING. Cannot the assistant do that? He has an assistant who gets his salary of fifty dollars every month.

The question being taken the result was—yeas 13, nays 50—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Annan, Briscoe, Dennis, Eckler, Gale, Hopper, Horsey, Johnson, Keefe, King, Parran, Wickard, Wilmer—13.

Nays—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Audoun, Baker, Blackiston, Bond, Brown, Carter, Chambers, Cunningham, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Earle, Farrow, Greene, Harwood, Helb, Hopkins, Jones, of Cecil, Kennard, Lansdale, Larsh, Lee, Marbury, Markey, McComas, Miller, Morgan, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Parker, Peter, Pugh, Purnell, Robinette, Russell, Sands, Schley, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Worcester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Turner, Valliant, Wooden—50.

As their names were called,

Mr. BRISCOE said: If the operation of this clause was not to extend throughout all time, as a constitutional proviso, I should vote against the amendment. Looking at the present times, and the increase of expenses, and applying it to the present incumbent only, I should be willing to vote for the amount proposed by the committee. But as it is a question for all time, so long as this constitution shall be in operation, I vote "aye."

Mr. MILLER. I shall vote against this amendment. And I hope the convention will remember, when we come to the more important offices, the judicial offices especially, that we are raising the salaries of comparatively subordinate officers; and I shall expect them therefore to go with me, to give to the judges of the courts salaries commensurate to the duties they are called upon to perform. I vote "no."

Mr. NEGLEY said: I should have preferred a sliding scale suited to the times. These times will not last forever; the circulating medium of the country will get back to a specie basis, and then this provision will be here. I vote "no."