

Mr. STIRLING. I move that this subject be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, demanded the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question being taken, the result was—yeas 44, nays 28—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Brooks, Carter, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Earle, Ecker, Galloway, Hatch, Hebb, Hopkins, Hopper, Keefer, Kennard, King, Larsh, Markey, Mayhugh, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Ridgely, Robinette, Russell, Schlosser, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Worcester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Todd, Wickard, Wooden—44.

Nays—Messrs. Belt, Berry, of Prince George's, Billingsley, Blackiston, Bond, Briscoe, Brown, Chambers, Clarke, Crawford, Davis, of Charles, Dent, Duyall, Edelen, Gale, Harwood, Henkle, Hodson, Horsey, Jones, of Somerset, Landsdale, Lee, Marbury, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Parran, Smith, of Dorchester, Turner—28.

As their names were severally called, the following members explained their votes:

The PRESIDENT said: I have some difficulty in voting upon this question. I have always evinced every disposition to give gentlemen all the information upon any particular subject that they may desire; but from the tenor of the debate it seems that gentlemen of the opposition do not ask this as a matter of favor upon the part of the convention, but demand it as a matter of right. It might be to some extent a matter of right, were this a properly constituted body authorized to make the demand; but I do not conceive that the convention, having been assembled for a specific purpose, has strictly anything to do with this question. I would have been perfectly willing to vote for the proposition of the gentleman from Allegany, considering it a concession upon the part of the majority toward the minority. That concession I conceive has not been met in a proper spirit; and conceiving that this discussion may have some ulterior object not directly indicated by the proposition, I am constrained to vote for the motion of the gentleman from Baltimore city. There is such a thing as killing a proposition by talking it to death, and I think this has been effectually killed. I vote "aye."

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, said: I did not offer this proposition with a view of creating any ill-feeling in this convention. If I had supposed that any ill-feeling would have been created, I would not have offered the proposition. I thought it was a fair one. It was acknowledged yesterday to be a fair and just one. But I did not regard it as a favor of the majority, but as a right which I took for granted, that the majority of this convention as sensible and honest men, desiring to render to every one justice, would accord

to the minority. I shall vote against the motion of the gentleman from Baltimore city to postpone indefinitely. I think the minority of this convention have a right to complain of the action of the majority. I vote "no."

Mr. BILLINGSLEY said: I believe that St. Mary's county has not received the credit she is entitled to receive. Believing that this order is calculated to accomplish that object, I am in favor of it; and any disposition to postpone indefinitely an act of that character, I deem gross injustice to the people whom I represent. If we have slaves in the service of the United States, for which we have not received a credit; and we can by any possibility through the action of this convention obtain that information, it is your duty as honest and as honorable men, to accord it to us. So far as I am concerned, I seek not to accomplish any other object than justice to the people of Maryland. I have no other principle in this, or in any other vote which I have ever cast in this convention. I vote "no."

Mr. BRISCOE said: So far as my vote is concerned, gentlemen upon the other side may take the responsibility of their position, and I take mine. I do not care whether the proposition be killed by talking it down, or in any other way. I know what I consider right. I know that the governor of the State of Maryland has been treated in the past with ignominious contempt by the President of the United States, even on the matter before the convention. He went and saw the President personally, and he says:

"I complained of these proceedings to the President of the United States, and was informed that no orders upon the subject had then been given, and that it was under consideration. After the lapse of a month, the practice still continuing, no order relating to it yet appearing, and continued complaints from loyal owners still reaching me, I addressed a written communication to the President, remonstrating against the practice, and invoking his interposition.

"This led to another conference with him and the secretary of war, the result of which, as I thought, was the suspension of the practice until an opportunity could be offered to the owners to voluntarily offer their slaves to the government at a certain rate of compensation, and to meet by that means its supposed necessities. But the suspension did not take place, and the practice still continued with as little system as ever on the part of the recruiting officers."

The governor has already been there and complained of this injustice, and no practical good resulted from it in any way. I should be willing to put it into such a shape that I could hope it might accomplish the object, and I shall vote against the postponement. I vote "no."

Mr. CHAMBERS. I repudiate all untold,