

by the gentleman from Kent (Mr. Chambers,) I am constrained, for the first time in my life upon this question, to vote "aye."

Mr. HESS said: Deeming the proposition carried by the convention to-night one that could not be carried in a full house, and believing this an attempt at coercion by the minority now present, I vote "aye."

Mr. SMITH, of Carroll. While I perfectly understand the object of the motion to adjourn, I am not so wedded to any theory of my own as to desire a small majority to decide it. Believing that this proposition is one for the public good, and one which ought to commend itself to a majority of a full convention, and that it may be carried to-morrow by a larger vote than to-night, I vote "aye."

Mr. STIRLING. I vote to adjourn because there are eight or ten members absent to-night who I think may be here to-morrow, and I do not wish a vote taken to-night. I vote "aye."

Mr. THRUSTON. Believing that this is the best judicial system suggested, and that it will meet the views of the majority, I vote "no."

The convention accordingly adjourned.

EIGHTY-FIRST DAY.

THURSDAY, August 25, 1864.

The convention met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Owen.

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

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Billingsley, Blackiston, Bond, Briscoe, Brooks, Brown, Carter, Chambers, Crawford, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Dent, Duvall, Ecker, Edelen, Farrow, Gale, Gallo-way, Greene, Hatch, Hebb, Hodson, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hopkins, Hopper, Horsey, Johnson, Keefer, Kennard, King, Lansdale, Larsh, Lee, Markey, Mayhugh, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Negley, Nyman, Parker, Parran, Peter, Pugh, Purnell, Ridgely, Robinette, Russell, Sands, Schley, Schlosser, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Dorchester, Smith, of Worcester, Sneary, Stirling, Swope, Sykes, Thomas, Thruston, Todd, Turner, Wickard, Witmer, Wooden—75.

The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

USURY LAWS.

Mr. WICKARD, moved to reconsider the vote by which the report on interest and usury laws was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. THOMAS. I would like to hear from the gentleman from Allegany the reason which induces him to move a reconsideration.

Mr. WICKARD. Because I greatly prefer

the report of the committee. I am in favor of the parties making their own contracts; and at the same time I would have the legal rate of interest fixed.

The motion was not agreed to.

CIRCUIT COURTS.

The convention resumed the consideration of the report of the judiciary committee, on its second reading. The pending section was as follows:

"Sec. 19. The State shall be divided into eight judicial circuits, in manner following: The counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's, shall constitute the first circuit; the counties of Calvert, Anne Arundel and Montgomery, the second; the counties of Allegany, Washington and Frederick, the third; the counties of Baltimore, Howard and Carroll, the fourth; the counties of Harford, Cecil and Kent, the fifth; the counties of Queen Anne's, Talbot and Caroline, the sixth; the counties of Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester, the seventh; and the city of Baltimore, the eighth."

The question was upon the following amendment, being the amendment of Mr. HESS as amended by the adoption of the substitute submitted by Mr. MILLER:

"Section 19. There shall be a judge for each county in the State, who shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters of the several counties. He shall be a resident for one year in the county for which he may be elected next before the time of his election, and shall reside in the county for which he is elected while he continues to act as judge."

Mr. SCHLEY submitted the following amendment to the amendment:

Add to the amendment the words "the salary of the circuit judges shall be levied and paid by the respective counties, in which they act."

Mr. STIRLING. I shall vote for this amendment, because upon the examination I have made since last night I find that the entire taxation of some of the counties is not equal to the salary of the judge. If they want a judge, let them pay for it by local taxation. Otherwise the whole State revenue will be absorbed by the judiciary.

Mr. CHAMBERS. I hear with great surprise the proposition made and receiving a second, which is now before the house. I ask every member of this body if he ever heard of such a state of things; the government providing a judicial system for the State, and looking to each county to pay the costs of that system? Such a thing never was heard of in the State. I say there has never been such a proposition before.

Mr. STIRLING. The judge of the orphans' court is paid by the counties. Is not that a part of the judicial system?

Mr. CHAMBERS. Yes, sir; but I am not speaking of the orphans' court. I challenge