

On motion of Mr. NEGLEY,
The further consideration of this subject
was postponed until to-morrow.

BOUND COPIES OF THE CONSTITUTION.

The convention then resumed the consideration of the following order from the committee on reporting and printing:

"Ordered, That the comptroller of the treasury be authorized, and is hereby directed to contract with Mr. Richard P. Bayly, of Annapolis, printer to the convention, for the printing and binding of five hundred copies of the constitution when adopted by the people of Maryland; said copies to be printed in the same style, on such quality of paper, and bound in like manner to the edition of the present constitution, published by Murphy & Co., of Baltimore, in 1855."

The pending question was upon the amendment of Mr. GREENE, to strike out all after the word "ordered," and insert the following:

"That the State librarian be and he is hereby directed to purchase of James Wingate three hundred copies of the constitution passed by this convention, when adopted by the voters of this State; said constitution shall contain an elaborate index, prepared with references to articles and sections, and also to the page; said constitution shall be printed in the best style (with side notes,) on fair white paper with large fair type and well bound, and shall contain the names of the members of this convention; said constitution shall contain the certificate of the clerk of the court of appeals, that it is a true copy of the constitution passed by this convention; and the indexing and publication of said constitution shall be approved by the president of this convention; and the State librarian shall distribute said copies of the constitution, as follows: One copy to each member of convention; to the governor, lieutenant governor, comptroller, treasurer, attorney general, adjutant general, superintendent of public education, and commissioner of the land office, each one copy; to the judges and clerks of the circuit courts, and the courts of Baltimore city, each one copy; to the judges and the clerk of the court of appeals, each one copy; to the orphans' courts of the State, each one copy; to the State's attorneys, each one copy; to the register of wills, each one copy; to the boards of county commissioners, each one copy; to the mayor of Baltimore city, one copy; and fifty copies to the governor for distribution to the governors of the several States; and the remaining eleven copies shall be retained in the State library, subject to the disposition of the general assembly; and the president of this convention is hereby authorized and directed to pay James Wingate one hundred dollars, for preparing said carefully elaborated index and side notes to said constitution, and also two

dollars per copy for said constitution, when published by James Wingate."

Mr. AUDOUN. I desire to state for the information of the house that the committee on printing have already made provision for the indexing of the constitution by Mr. Moore, who has contracted to prepare an index for the debates, proceeding, and constitution. I therefore can see no necessity for paying one hundred dollars to some one else for doing the same work. Mr. Moore is compelled under his contract to do the indexing of the constitution. We have already voted an extra sum to Mr. Moore for doing this work, and I see no necessity of paying one hundred dollars, as proposed by the gentleman from Allegany (Mr. Greene) to some one else to do the same work.

Mr. GREENE. My proposition is not merely to make an index. It contemplates a careful and elaborate index prepared with reference to articles and sections, and also complete and carefully prepared marginal notes and references. That certainly is not embraced in the contract with Mr. Moore.

Mr. AUDOUN. The very same thing, precisely. The committee would not make a contract with the party unless he contracted to do the entire work. They do not propose to have it half done, or that the convention shall pay an extra sum to some one else to do the very work they have already contracted to have done. We have already agreed to pay for that work, and expect it will be done in good style, and will see that it is done. There is no necessity to pay any one else to do that work.

Mr. VALLIANT. There is one thing, perhaps, which the convention ought to know; and that is, that the regular printer of the convention proposes to print an edition precisely similar to the edition published by Murphy & Co., of Baltimore city, in 1855. A specimen copy was before the convention this morning. The proposition is to have it printed on precisely the same kind of paper, and if in the judgment of the comptroller and the convention it is desired, he proposes to use the same kind of type; and have it bound in the same manner. We stated to Mr. Bayly, it may be well enough to say, that it had been proposed to the convention that these copies should not cost more than two dollars each. And we asked him if he could make it less expensive to the State by getting up this work at less cost. He made an estimate and then said he would guarantee that they should not cost over one dollar and ninety cents each, how much less I do not know. I felt it my duty to state this fact to the convention, to assist them in making up their judgment. I have the kindest feelings in the world towards the reporter of the Baltimore Sun (Mr. Wingate,) but think this proposition of the committee is better for the State.

Mr. WICKARD. I would like to know how