

tion was going to give. It was not that time was wanted by the Committees—but that it was wanted by the Convention. There was already business enough before them to occupy them three months, and before that time had elapsed, other business would be presented for their consideration.

He cordially sustained the resolution, and hoped it would meet with the favor of the Convention.

Mr. KILGOUR said that in voting against this resolution, as it was his intention to do, he obeyed the voice of at least one of his constituents, who told him before he left home to take care of his health. (Laughter.) And he had promised her that he would do so. (Renewed laughter.) Was it not enough to kill any man to sit here six or seven hours a day? Especially hard was it as concerned the reporters. Some little regard certainly ought to be shown to them. Yet so great was the labor, and so apprehensive was one of them (Mr. WHEELER) as to the result, that it was understood he was already in negotiation with an undertaker as to the expenses of a decent christian funeral in the city of Annapolis. (General laughter.) Now, after the discussion had been carried on for a short time, it would be found that the Convention would grow tired of it; and the result, he thought, would be that a Constitution would be framed at an earlier date than some gentlemen anticipated.

Mr. STEWART, of Caroline, said, he did not rise so much for the purpose of saying any thing for or against the resolution immediately under consideration, as to suggest to the Convention the necessity of giving their vote only after mature reflection. How often had the rules been already changed? The whole system, as regarded the hour of meeting, had been one of constant, ceaseless change. But the procrastination which had marked the proceedings of this body, grew not so much out of the speeches that were made, as out of the want of concert of action in and out of the Convention. It was necessary that there should be such a concert of action by a majority of the Convention somewhere, either in or out of doors. He cared not how that end was to be brought about. He was ready now to go into a Reform caucus, and ascertain who were Reformers, and who were ready to do the business of the Convention. Here they were floating recklessly about on the broad waters of speculation, every man entertaining his own views and adhering to his own pre-conceived opinions; and if things were to go on in this way, it was easy to foresee that the session would be protracted to an indefinite period. He would vote for this resolution, just to try it.

Allusion had been made to the probable loss of health by the members of the Convention. He thought every gentleman looked pretty well. (Laughter.) But it was not because they sat here too long, or deliberated too intensely that danger to their health was to be apprehended. It was to be feared from the fact, that gentlemen lived too high—(general laughter)—Gentlemen came here accustomed to plain diet

(renewed laughter)—and to regularity of meals. As to the latter difficulty, this resolution would set all that matter right. As to the diet, gentlemen knew very well that many of them get better here than they were accustomed to at home. (Roars of laughter.) Among this class, he had no hesitation in placing himself.

He thought that the labor of the mind should be done out of the Convention—that gentleman should reflect upon the matters before them—and that when they came here, they should be prepared to act. But he called for concert of action. Mr. S. illustrated the condition of things in the Convention, by some similes which created much amusement.

In concluding, he referred to the change which had taken place this day in the operation of the previous question. That change had been made without reflection, and would, he thought, seriously retard the action of the Convention. The one only remedy for all these difficulties was that which he had designated—concert of action.

The hour of twelve having arrived, the Convention passed to the orders of the day.

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, moved that the Convention resolve itself into committee of the whole, but waived the motion to enable

Mr. MERRICK presented a communication from Joseph C. G. Kennedy, Esq., superintendent of census, covering a statement of the population of the State of Maryland.

The communication was read and, on motion of Mr. MERRICK, was ordered to be printed.

#### THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

On motion of Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent,

The Convention resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. BLAKISTONE in the Chair, and resumed the consideration of the report submitted by the former gentleman from the Committee on the Elective Franchise.

The pending question was stated to be on the amendment heretofore offered by Mr. WEBER, to add to the end of the amendment, offered by Mr. CHAMBERS, the following words:

“Provided, That the voter, if required, shall make affidavit, that he did not move into the election district to affect the election then being held.”

Mr. BUCHANAN said, he believed he was entitled to the floor, but as there was no question pending upon which he desired to be heard, he would yield his right to any gentleman who desired it.

Mr. CHAMBERS, of Kent, said he was about to offer a proposition, which he supposed would constitute the first section, so far as the Convention had, by its votes indicated what that section should be. After conference with several gentlemen, some of whom voted on one side, and some on the other, in relation to the various propositions, which had been offered, and after hearing some difficulties expressed in relation to the effect of the vote on the proposition of the gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. DORSEY) which had been adopted yesterday; difficulties arising from an apprehension, that that proposition would not effect the object designed; he (Mr. C.)