

that there is not time to get through with this question, even with afternoon sessions, by this time the recess should be taken. There are a number of gentlemen here who desire to be heard upon this, the most important question to come before this Convention. At the rate of two or three speeches a day, they would occupy a week at least to get through this discussion. If that be so, then the adjournment for harvest must come before this question is settled, or it will be too late for our agricultural members. I urge that as a reason why there is no necessity for pressing these afternoon sessions with that view.

Mr. KENNARD. I shall vote for an evening session, but I want it understood that, if that proposition is carried, and I am not here to-night, it is in consequence of indisposition. The question was upon the motion of Mr. STIRLING, to take a recess until half-past seven o'clock to-night.

On this question Mr. HARR called for the yeas and nays, which were ordered.

The question being taken, by yeas and nays, it resulted—yeas 41, nays 34—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Baker, Berry, of Baltimore county, Brown, Carter, Cunningham, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Earle, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Greene, Hebb, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hopkins, Hopper, Kennard, King, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Robinette, Russell, Sands, Schlosser, Scott, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Worcester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Sykes, Valliant, Wooden—41.

Nays—Messrs. Audoun, Barron, Berry, of P. George's, Billingsley, Blackiston, Bond, Briscoe, Chambers, Crawford, Davis, of Charles, Dennis, Duvall, Edelen, Gale, Harwood, Hatch, Hodson, Horsey, Johnson, Jones, of Cecil, Jones, of Somerset, Larsh, Lee, Mace, Marbury, Markey, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Nyman, Parran, Smith, of Dorchester, Turner, Wickard—34.

The Convention accordingly took a recess until half-past seven, P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention re-assembled at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

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

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Baker, Berry, of Baltimore county, Berry, of P. George's, Billingsley, Blackiston, Bond, Brown, Carter, Chambers, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Washington, Duvall, Earle, Ecker, Edelen, Farrow, Gale, Galloway, Greene, Harwood, Hebb, Henkle, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hopkins, Hopper, Lee, Marbury, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Mullikin, Murray, Nyman, Parker, Parran, Pugh, Purnell, Robinette, Russell, Sands, Schley, Schlosser, Scott, Smith, of Carroll,

Smith, of Worcester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Sykes, Turner, Wooden—59.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS—EMANCIPATION.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Declaration of Rights, which was on its second reading.

Article 23 was under consideration, as follows:

"That hereafter, in this State, there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; and all persons held to service or labor, as slaves, are hereby declared free."

The pending question was stated to be upon the following amendment submitted by Mr. Clarke:

Strike out all after the word "that," and insert—

"From and after the first day of January, 1865, there shall in this State be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free from and after the first day of January, 1865: *Provided*, The Congress of the United States shall, before the first day of January, 1865, make an appropriation to the State of Maryland of not less than \$20,000,000 to aid the State of Maryland in providing compensation to the owners of slave property; and the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States shall certify to the Governor of this State that the said sum of money is subject to the draft of the Treasurer of the State of Maryland, to be disposed of by the Legislature of the State to pay the owners of slaves for their slaves hereby declared free; and *provided, further*, That unless Congress shall make the said appropriation as hereinbefore provided, this resolution shall be null and void, and it is hereby declared that it be of no effect whatever."

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. I would ask the Convention to postpone the consideration of this amendment until my colleague (Mr. Clarke) can be heard upon it. I move to postpone it until to-morrow.

Mr. PURNELL. I may be in error, but I am under the impression that it was the understanding that this amendment should lie over until the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Clarke) returned.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. The gentleman is correct.

The PRESIDENT. If the amendment is postponed until to-morrow, it will carry the whole subject with it.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's. As I understand that my friend from Cecil (Mr. Scott) desires to address the Convention, I will withdraw my motion to postpone.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I have no par-