

about to cast. For those reasons, and those reasons only, I vote "no."

Mr. RIDGELY. For the reasons given by the gentleman from Howard, I vote "no."

The question was upon agreeing to the section as amended.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, asked for the yeas and nays upon this question, and they were ordered.

The question being then taken by yeas and nays, it resulted—yeas 47, nays 14—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Dellinger, Earle, Ecker, Farrow, Galloway, Greene, Harwood, Hebb, Hoffman, Hopkins, Hopper, Jones, of Cecil, Keefer, Kennard, King, Larah, Markey, Mayhugh, McComas, Mullikin, Murray, Parker, Pugh, Purnell, Ridgely, Robinette, Russell, Sands, Schley, Scott, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Worcester, Stirling, Stockbridge, Swope, Sykes, Thomas, Todd, Valliant, Wickard, Wooden—47.

Nays—Messrs. Berry, of Prince George's, Bond, Clarke, Dail, Davis, of Charles, Duvall, Edelen, Gale, Hollyday, Lee, Mitchell, Miller, Parran, Turner—14.

The section was accordingly adopted.

Pending the call of the yeas and nays, the following explanations were made by members as their names were called:

Mr. CLARKE. I shall vote against this section, not because I am opposed to the cause of education, but because I think the tax is too high. I vote "no."

Mr. DUVALL. For the reason assigned by my friend from Prince George's (Mr. Clarke,) I vote "no."

Mr. MILLER. I have understood that a member had an amendment to offer to this section, by which this tax would not be made a perpetual tax; providing that it should cease when the fund reached the sum of three millions of dollars. If this section is adopted as it now stands, there will be no diminution of this tax, unless something is done with the succeeding section to operate back upon this. Until I know what will be done there, I must vote "no."

Mr. SANDS. At the risk of explaining my vote too often, I wish to explain my reasons for voting against this proposition. The reasons assigned by some of my friends on the other side, remind me of the reasons given by Brutus for the deed which has made him so celebrated in history. He said it was not that he loved Caesar less, but that he loved Rome more. They vote against this section not that they love education less, but they love money more. Now for the very reason that I love money less, and education more, I vote "aye."

Section seven was then read as follows:

"The general assembly shall further provide by law at its first session after the adoption of this constitution, a fund for the sup-

port of the free common schools of the State, by the imposition of an annual tax of a not less annual amount than three hundred thousand dollars, the proceeds of which tax shall be known as the school fund, and shall be invested by the treasurer, together with its annual interest, until such time as said fund shall, by its own increase and any additions which may be made to it from time to time, together with the present school fund, amount to six millions of dollars, after which time the principal shall remain forever inviolate, and shall only be further increased by such means as the legislature may determine; and the annual interest of said school fund shall be disbursed for educational purposes only, as may be prescribed by law."

Mr. CUSHING. I move to amend this section by striking out the words "a not less annual amount than three hundred thousand dollars," and inserting the words "not less than five cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property throughout the State."

My reason for offering this amendment, after consultation, is that it has seemed to some of the members of this body that this tax of \$300,000 per annum, at compound interest, without any further addition, would accumulate a school fund within the space of fifteen years. And they seem to think it inexpedient to hurry the formation of the fund within so short a time. The tax proposed by the amendment I have submitted is about one-half the amount originally reported by the committee. It will take a somewhat longer period to accumulate the fund desired, but it will make the present amount of taxation somewhat less. It secures the principal of a school fund, which in time will amount to the sum desired, and it will not press too heavily upon the people.

The question being taken upon the amendment, it was agreed to.

Mr. DUVALL. I move to amend the section by adding the following:

"Provided, that no portion of said school fund, with the interest accruing therefrom, derived by taxing the white population, shall be applied toward the free negro population."

Mr. RIDGELY. I trust the gentleman will withdraw his amendment, as I have one which I desire to offer to the preceding part of the section.

Mr. DUVALL. I will withdraw my amendment.

Mr. RIDGELY. I move to amend this section by striking out the words "after which time the principal shall remain forever inviolate, and shall only be further increased by such means as the legislature may determine," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "when the tax of ten cents in the hundred dollars, authorized by the preceding section, may be discontinued in whole or in part, as the legislature may direct, the principal fund