

Mr. THOMAS gave notice that he should make no objection to the adoption of this article, but should vote for it, with a view of enabling him at the proper time to move a reconsideration of the vote of the Convention thereon.

Mr. PRESTMAN gave notice that it was his intention to have voted with a similar design, if the gentleman from Frederick, (Mr. Thomas,) had not indicated his purpose to do so.

The question was then taken,

And by ayes 43, noes 14, the forty-first article was adopted.

Mr. DAVIS offered the following amendment:

*Art. 42.* The legislature shall encourage by all suitable means, associations for the diffusion of knowledge and virtue, for the promotion of literature, the arts and sciences, agriculture, commerce and manufactures and for the general melioration of the wants and conditions of the people.

Mr. PRESTMAN moved to amend the amendment, by striking out the word "suitable," and inserting the word "Constitutional."

After some conversation,

Mr. PRESTMAN withdrew his amendment.

The question then recurred on the amendment of Mr. DAVIS.

And pending the question:

The Convention adjourned, until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, February 8th, 1851.

The PRESIDENT, *pro tem.* (Mr. Tuck, of Prince George's,) called the Convention to order at eleven o'clock.

Prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH.

The roll was called.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER said, that if there was no other business before the Convention, he would move that the Convention proceed to the orders of the day.

#### HOWARD DISTRICT.

Mr. DORSEY, chairman of the select committee respecting the formation of New Counties, submitted the following report:

The select committee appointed to consider and report respecting the formation of new counties in this State, beg leave to make the following report, and recommend its adoption as an article of the Constitution about to be formed.

THOMAS B. DORSEY, Chairman.

Article. That part of Anne Arundel county called Howard District, is hereby erected into a new county to be called Howard county; the inhabitants whereof shall have, hold and enjoy all such rights and privileges as are held and enjoyed by the inhabitants of the other counties in this State; and its civil and municipal officers at the time of the ratification of this Constitution shall continue in office until their successors shall

have been elected or appointed, and shall have qualified as such; and all rights, powers and obligations incident to Howard District of Anne Arundel county, shall attach to Howard county.

The report having been read,

Mr. DORSEY moved that it be printed, and

Made the order of the day for Wednesday next.

Mr. SPENCER, (to Mr. Dorsey.) Is it likely that any objection will be made to the report, or that it will lead to debate?

Mr. DORSEY said, he could not hear the gentleman from Queen Anne's, (Mr. Spencer.)

Mr. SPENCER repeated his question.

Mr. DORSEY said, he had no information which would enable him to answer the enquiry.

Mr. SPENCER suggested that if debate was not likely to arise, it would be better that the Convention should act upon the report at once. Were there, he enquired, any other gentlemen here from Anne Arundel, who could answer the question?

Mr. SELLMAN speaking from the frontier seats was understood to say, that, so far as his knowledge extended, the report met with the approbation of the people of Anne Arundel county proper. He had never heard any objection to the proposition.

Mr. PHELPS said, the question involved in the report, was an important one, and that he wished it postponed until after the representation question should have been settled.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. DORSEY; and

Was decided in the affirmative—ayes 44, noes 8.

So the report was ordered to be printed, and

Was made the special order of the day for Wednesday next.

#### THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. PHELPS gave notice that he would at the proper time, offer the following amendments to the report of the committee on the legislative department of the government:

Strike out sections second, seventeenth and eighteenth, and insert the following sections, as numbered, in their stead; also, insert sections thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth, and fortieth, to come in between the thirty-sixth [and thirty-seventh sections of the report.

*Sec. 2nd.* The Senators shall be elected by the qualified voters of this State, for the term of four years, and the delegates in like manner, for the term of two years from the day of the general election; and the regular session of the General Assembly shall be biennial.

*Sec. 17th.* Bills for raising revenue or levying taxes, shall originate in the House of Delegates, but the Senate may alter, amend or reject them as other bills. All other bills may originate in either House, and be amended, altered or rejected by the other, but no bill shall become a law without being read upon three several days in each House, only in cases of great urgency, two-thirds of the House in which the bill shall be