

[*Explanation.* The view expressed by Mr. DIRICKSON, in relation to double voting should read as follows:

"The chief evil which this amendment is designed to prevent is that of double voting—to render it impossible for the same voters to deposit their ballots at different polls on the same day. It had been further urged, that even if persons did not vote in the same ward or district in which they lived—still, provided they voted but once, no harm could result—it being only the expression of public opinion in the aggregate. But when this practice is carried into the Congressional districts in the State or in the Commissioners' districts in the county, the crime of such a practice became exceedingly glaring, tending as it did to destroy the whole character of our general government as well as our internal political institutions and regulations."]

WEDNESDAY, January 15th, 1851.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. GRAFF.

The roll of the members was called; and

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS.

The President announced the unfinished business to be the consideration of the order offered yesterday by Mr. DORSEY, and which is in the following words:

Ordered, That the rule adopted as to the attendance of members of this Convention, shall not apply to members who shall state that the cause of their absence was their necessary attendance to the business of the Convention.

And the pending question was on the adoption of the said order.

Mr. DORSEY said, he should move to lay his own order upon the table. He did so in the hope that the members of the Convention might see the necessity of reconsidering the order which had yesterday been adopted.

The order of Mr. DORSEY was laid upon the table.

Mr. HICKS remarking that he was convinced that no good could result from this order, he would move that the vote by which it had been adopted, should be reconsidered.

The PRESIDENT stated the question to be on the motion to reconsider the vote by which the following order had been adopted:

Ordered, That on and after Monday next, the Secretary shall enter on the journal of each day, the names of all members absent at the call of the roll, without leave, unless they shall on the same day before adjournment, report themselves in person to the Secretary.

Mr. BRENT of Baltimore city, asked the yeas and nays on the motion to reconsider, which were ordered.

Mr. DAVIS called for the reading of the order, which was read.

Mr. WILLIAMS moved that there be a call of the Convention, which was ordered.

The roll was called and the names of the absentees were then called.

Mr. BROWN moved that further proceedings on the call be dispensed with. There were, he said, only two or three members absent which were known to be in the city.

Mr. WILLIAMS. I hope they will be sent for.

Mr. BRENT of Baltimore city. Well, I withdraw the motion.

Mr. DORSEY suggested that if a member of the Convention were to fall in the street and break his arm, he could scarcely come in under the order which had been adopted, and report himself to the Secretary.

Mr. BRENT, of Baltimore city, said that if a member broke his arm, or met with any similar accident, the fact might be stated by any gentleman, and the Convention would, of course, grant leave of absence.

A pause of some ten minutes followed in the proceedings of the Convention, the absent members having been sent for.

Mr. BROWN then said, that he believed every member was in his place. He would move that further proceedings on the call be dispensed with.

Ordered accordingly.

The question then recurred on the motion to reconsider the vote by which the order of Mr. BRENT had been adopted, and the vote stood as follows:

Affirmative—Messrs. Morgan, Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Ricaud, Lee, Chambers of Kent, Mitchell, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Randall, Kent, Sellman, Weems, Dalrymple, Bond, Sollers, Brent of Charles, Merrick, Jenifer, Buchanan, Bell, Welsh, Chandler, Ridgely, John Dennis, James U. Dennis, Crisfield, Dashiell, Williams, Hicks, Hodson, Goldsborough, Phelps, Miller, McLane, Sprigg, McCubbin, Spencer, Grason, George, Wright, Fooks, Annan, Schley, Davis, Waters and Hollyday—49.

Negative—Messrs. Chapman, President, Sherwood of Talbot, Colston, Eccleston, Chambers of Cecil, McCullough, McMaster, Hearn, Shriver, Gaither, Biser, Sappington, Stephenson, McHenry, Magraw, Nelson, Carter, Thawley, Stewart of Caroline, Hardcastle, Gwinn, Brent of Baltimore city, Ware, Fiery, John Newcomer, Harbine, Kilgour, Brewer, Anderson, Weber, Slicer, Fitzpatrick, Smith, Parke, Shower, Coekey and Brown—37.

So the vote was reconsidered.

The question then recurred on the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. JENIFER. I move to lay the order on the table.

Mr. BRENT. I call for the yeas and nays.

Mr. JENIFER. I withdraw the motion.

And the question again recurred on the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. McLANE offered the amendment which he had yesterday indicated, to give a retrospective effect to the order, so that all members who