

oaths, which even Governor Bradford, while admitting they were to be put, and should be put, could not refrain from intimating might be liable to constitutional objections, which must be waived by him as the Executive of the State in deference to the legislative construction of the constitutional questions involved.

Out of a voting population in the State of 90,000, you could only count 30,000, and in Baltimore city, out of 30,000, you could only number 9,000—although many soldiers voted there, and I understand, among other cases, that one soldier voted who had never lived there, but said he voted because he was sent there to vote. Where is this silent mighty throng of voters, 40,000 strong? They will speak some day through the ballot box. Take courage, then, "fellow Democrats," I was about to say; but I will not say it, because the term Democrats has become ambiguous.

Mr. SANDS, (in his seat.) That is so.

Mr. CLARKE. Just as the term republican is ambiguous. Fremont men and republican men are now in session, and the gentleman himself must admit that although the other day he said he was for Old Abe, yet finally I convicted him of opposing his administration. I will not use the term, because without a qualification it might embrace war democrats as well as peace democrats; and the war democrats of the country I most humbly conceive are worse than the republicans; because while admitting that violations of the Constitution are going on, admitting that the course of the Government will eventually overthrow liberty, yet they lend their aid to the very parties whom they say violate the Constitution, thus confessedly yielding their principles for *plunder* and for *pay*.

But I will rather say, take courage, conservative men of the country; stand by the liberties of the people, and the preservation of the Constitution and the rights of the States, and under the Constitution of the United States, recognizing the fact that the laws passed in pursuance thereof are the supreme law of the land; press on in your noble work. Not only in Maryland, but throughout the length and breadth of the land, let us hand ourselves together as patriots to maintain the rights of the people and the rights of the States. "Be *courageous*, all ye conservative men, wherever you may be, and under whatever flag you have fought. Save the freedom of the white people of this country. Save the *Constitution*. Save the rights of the States. Long enough have we witnessed the terrible events which are transpiring. The heart is sick and weary of such contemplations.

"Enough—it boots not on the past to dwell; Fair scenes of other years a long farewell Rouse up, my soul, it boots not to repine; Rouse up for worthier feelings should be *thine*."

Thy path is plain and straight, that light is given,  
Onward in faith and leave the rest to Heaven.

Yes, mighty host of *conservatives*, "onward in faith and leave the rest to Heaven." Maintain on *principle* through the ballot box your rights. Triumph must come. We shall win. Unfurl upon your standard, "the Constitution," "the observance of the laws," "allegiance to the Federal Government within the limits of the exercise of its Constitutional powers," "State rights and allegiance to the States within the line of their Constitutional powers." Press on the column with these as watchwords, and an army with banners, though it glitters in the sunshine of five hundred thousand bayonets, will not trample down the cause of human freedom and Constitutional government.

Mr. STIRLING moved that the Convention take a recess until half-past four o'clock.

Mr. BERRY, of Prince George's, moved to amend, by substituting half-past seven o'clock.

Mr. CUSHING. The Blind Asylum have the hall this evening.

Mr. CHAMBERS. If it is the disposition of gentlemen to allow the question now to be postponed, let it be until to-morrow. I hold up my hand against after-dinner sessions, at any time, under any circumstances. I move that the Convention adjourn.

Mr. PURNELL. Will the gentleman withdraw that motion for a moment.

Mr. CHAMBERS withdrew the motion.

Mr. PURNELL. Personal considerations compel me to ask of the Convention the privilege of absenting myself for a few days at my home. It is my misfortune to be at a long distance from my home, and the total absence of any communication down the bay renders it necessary that I should make a circuit around it almost equal to that made by Christopher Columbus when he discovered America. As soon as I shall be able to do so, I will return to my seat.

Leave of absence was granted.

On motion of Mr. PURNELL,  
The Convention adjourned.

## TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

THURSDAY, June 2d, 1864.

The Convention met.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Davenport.

Present at the call of the roll the following members:

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Baker, Barron, Belt, Berry of Baltimore county, Berry of Prince George's, Blackiston, Bond, Briscoe, Carter, Clarke, Crawford, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis of Charles, Davis of Washington Dennis, Duvall, Earle, Ecker, Edelen, Farrow, Gale, Galloway, Harwood, Hatch, Hebb, Henkle, Hodson, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hop-