

Mr. Mills offered the following :

Ordered, That a committee of two be appointed to inform the Governor that the House now stands ready for adjournment until the fourth day of June next, and whether or not he has any further communications to make to this body;

Which was adopted.

And Messrs. Mills and Morgan appointed said committee.

After an absence of some time the committee returned, and reported that they had seen the Governor and that he had no further communications to make.

Mr. Chaplain presented the following :

We, the undersigned, who voted in negative upon the bill entitled an "act to ratify an amendment of the Constitution of the United States," on its final passage, enter this protest to the proceedings by which the following substitute which we intended to offer for said bill, was not, and could not be brought before the House for its consideration, on account of the moving of the "previous question," and its being sustained in a spirit of manifest injustice to us, calculated to place us wrong upon the record. The substitute which we proposed and intended to offer was :

A bill entitled, an act proposing certain Articles of amendment to the Constitution of the United States, when the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States shall call a convention for proposing such amendments, and making them valid according to the fifth Article of the Constitution of the United States.

WHEREAS, Serious and alarming dissensions have arisen between the Northern and Southern States, and especially their rights in the common territory in the United States, and whereas it is eminently desirable and proper that those dissensions, which now threaten the very existence of this Union, should be permanently quieted and settled by constitutional provisions, which shall do equal justice to all sections, and thereby restore to the people that peace and good will which ought to prevail between all citizens of the United States; Therefore,

*Resolved*, By the General Assembly of Maryland, two-thirds of the Legislatures of the several States concurring, that a convention be called for the purpose of proposing the following Articles as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of said Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof.

ARTICLE 1. In all the territory of the United States now held or hereafter acquired, situated North of latitude 36° 30', slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment