

nounced that when the time should arrive to render it necessary to perform this duty, he should feel constrained to enforce the practice of the senate, and presuming that the members of the senate were more competent to pronounce the opinion when that time had arrived, he would invite that expression; whereupon the order as expressive of the sense of the body, upon the advice asked by the presiding officer, was submitted as aforesaid, and as full proof of the truth of such opinion and the necessity of the adoption of the order, the undersigned with confidence appeal to the records of their body and the amount of business transacted by them in the few succeeding hours of the session."

Signed by Richard Thomas, John Beall, James B. Ricaud, and nine others.

Now it seems to me the same course can be followed here. As the gentleman from Baltimore county (Mr. Ridgely) says, nothing in this protest can operate against us. But I fear if we prevent this protest from going upon the journal, it will become a matter of public notoriety, and the community will have just reason to believe we fear the arguments therein contained. I am willing, in my humble capacity, to meet the people anywhere and argue the propriety of our action here, what we have done, and what we propose to do. But I believe it will do an infinite amount of harm if we attempt directly or indirectly to suppress anything which has been heretofore the custom to allow to the minority. I believe the majority will be doing themselves and their constituents gross injustice by refusing to enter upon our journal a protest couched in mild, moderate, and respectful language, especially accompanied, as it will be, by the order of the gentleman from Baltimore county (Mr. Ridgely,) to which I suppose no objection will be made by the signers of this protest.

Mr. STIRLING. I did not mean to say—

Mr. CHAMBERS. I hope the gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Schley) will call the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Stirling) to order, as he has already spoken twice.

Mr. SCHLEY. The gentleman can do it himself.

Mr. CHAMBERS. No, that is not my way.

Mr. STIRLING. I wish to make a suggestion. I desire to put this protest upon the journal, because I do not wish to be put in the position of being supposed to be at all afraid of anything in that paper. I merely wish to say that I submit to the gentlemen who have presented this protest, that they change the language, and instead of saying that the resolution referred to was adopted by so many delegates of this convention, they state that it was adopted by the convention. If they choose to put in "by a vote of thirty-three yeas," I have no objection. And if they will strike out of the protest that they protest in behalf of all the law-abiding citi-

zens of the State, then I will vote to have it entered upon the journal.

The PRESIDENT. I do not suppose the gentlemen on the other side will object to that proposition.

Mr. CHAMBERS. I am perfectly content to say that the resolution was adopted by the convention by a vote of so many members. And I would also say to the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Stirling) that we do not say we do not represent all the law-abiding citizens of the State.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. I am one of that sort, and I do not suppose the gentleman will claim to represent me.

Mr. CHAMBERS. Certainly not; nobody out of Kent county voted for me. We say that in their name and for their benefit and advantage, we protest so and so.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. To make the protest conform strictly to the fact, it might be well to add another codicil. A large number of members have had it entered upon the journal that if they had been present when these resolutions were passed they would have voted for them.

The PRESIDENT. That can be embraced afterwards in an order.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. I am no more anxious to have this go on the journal than they are to have it go there.

The PRESIDENT. The president would say that if he were inclined to do so, he would vote against this protest on the ground that a similar privilege was refused him at Frederick.

Mr. CHAMBERS. I have modified the language of the protest so that it will read—"The undersigned protest against the 'order' adopted by the convention, by a vote of thirty-three members, on the 19th ult.," &c.

Mr. NEGLEY. There is one expression in that protest which ought to be stricken out. It speaks of spies and detectives being employed by the federal government. I think the gentleman from Kent (Mr. Chambers) better strike that out.

Mr. CHAMBERS. I have no doubt the gentleman would have me strike a great many things out; but I beg to be excused.

Mr. NEGLEY. If he insists upon speaking of spies being used for the oppression of the people of Maryland—

Mr. STIRLING. He does not say that; he says for the enforcement of federal authority.

Mr. CLARKE. So far as I am concerned, I do not want any modification made in that document farther than has already been made, in regard to the vote. It was simply intended to mean "adopted by the convention by a vote of thirty-three members." But as it might be open to some misconstruction, I am willing that change should be made.

The question was upon ordering the protest as modified, to be entered upon the journal.