

per to annihilate one of its committees in this way, well and good. He had no objection to it.

Mr. McHENRY then moved to amend the thirty-fourth section in the report, by inserting after the words "General Assembly," the words "shall pass no special or local act, but," and filling the blank in the first line, with the words "local authorities." Also insert before the word "powers" in the second line, the word "additional."

After a few words by Mr. DORSEY, in reply to the remarks of Mr. PHELPS—and by

Mr. BELL—in favor of the general ticket system, of the evils of which, as here spoken of, no knowledge had (he said) come to his possession.

The question was taken on the first branch of the amendment of Mr. McHENRY:

And it was rejected.

And the question was taken on the second branch of the amendment of Mr. McHENRY;

And it was rejected.

And the third branch of the amendment of Mr. McHENRY, inserting the word "additional," was rejected.

The question then recurred on the motion of Mr. McMASTER, to strike out the words "by general ticket and not."

Mr. McMASTER asked the yeas and nays, which were refused.

The question was then taken, and the amendment was rejected.

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

Mr. DAVIS moved to amend said amendment by adding at the end thereof the following proviso:

"Provided, This article shall be so construed as not to prevent the Legislature from passing any law or laws to open the public roads when two or more counties are interested."

The amendment was rejected.

The question recurred on the amendment of Mr. MERRICK as amended.

Mr. WEEMS called for a division, which was ordered.

The question was taken on the first branch of the amendment, in these words:

"That the county authorities now known as Levy Courts or County Commissioners, shall hereafter be styled "Commissioners."

The first branch of the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurred on the second branch of the amendment, as follows:

"And shall be elected by general ticket, and not by districts, by the voters of the respective counties."

Mr. DORSEY asked the yeas and nays, which were ordered, and, being taken, resulted as follows:

*Affirmative*—Messrs. Chapman, President, Blakistone, Dent, Hopewell, Ricaud, Lee, Chambers of Kent, Mitchell, Sellman, Weems, Bond, Merrick, Buchanan, Bell, Welch, Ridgely, Lloyd, Colston, Crisfield, Dashiell, Phelps, Constable,

Chambers of Cecil, Miller, McLane, Grason, George, Wright, Hearn, Thomas, Shriver, Gaiter, Biser, Sappington, Stephenson, Thawley, Stewart of Caroline, Hardcastle, Gwinn, Sherwood of Baltimore city, Ware, Fiery, Neill, Jno. Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Davis, Kilgour, Weber, Hollyday and Shower—52.

*Negative*—Messrs. Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Randall, Kent, James U. Dennis, Bowie, McMaster, Fooks, McHenry and Slicer—11.

So the second branch of the amendment was adopted.

The third and last branch of the amendment was then adopted as follows:

"And said commissioners shall exercise such powers and duties only as the Legislature may prescribe, but such powers and duties shall be uniform throughout the State; and the General Assembly may provide for the election or appointment of such other county officers as may be required, and are not provided for by this constitution, and prescribe their powers and duties, but their tenure of office, their powers and duties and mode of appointment shall be uniform throughout the State."

The second amendment was then adopted as a substitute for the thirty-fourth section of the report.

The thirty-fifth section of the report of the committee was then read as follows:

*Sec. 35th.* Every bill passed by the General Assembly, when engrossed, shall be presented by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, in the Senate Chamber, to the Governor for the time being, who shall sign the same, and thereto affix the great seal in the presence of the members of both Houses; every law shall be recorded in the office of the Court of Appeals of the Western Shore, and in due time be printed, published and certified under the great seal to the several county courts in the same manner as has been heretofore usual in this State.

Mr. GRASON moved to amend the section by striking out all of said section to the word "Houses," inclusive, in the fifth line, and inserting in lieu thereof, the following:

"Every bill when passed by the General Assembly, and sealed with the great seal, shall be presented to the Governor, who shall sign the same in the presence of the presiding officers and chief clerks of the Senate and House of Delegates."

Mr. G. explained the inconveniences attendant upon the obligation that the Governor should sign bills in the presence of the two Houses, &c. It was the object of the amendment to obviate those inconveniences.

Mr. PHELPS expressed his concurrence in the views of the gentleman from Queen Anne, (Grason,) and thought that the proposition would be an improvement on the section as it stood in the bill.

The amendment was agreed to.

The second branch of the section was then adopted.

And the section, as amended, was adopted.