

Amendments were offered, when the whole subject was, on motion of Mr. Nicolai, laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Carter, it was

*Ordered*, That all the reports from the standing committees that have been or shall hereafter be ordered to be engrossed, shall be referred to the committee on revision and completion, for the purpose of having the same perfected for the third reading and the final action of the Convention.

The special order, being the report of the committee on usury, was then taken up, to which a number of amendments were pending, and additional amendments were read for information.

Mr. Rennolds moved to recommit the whole subject to the committee.

Mr. Roman took the floor and made an able and elaborate argument against the usury laws. If they were abolished, all the agricultural interests of the State could be accommodated at six per cent. or at government rates at least. If they were abolished the Shylocks would be broken down.

Mr. Rennolds withdrew his motion to recommit.

Mr. Nelson could not allow this matter to go by without putting in his feeble protest against this proposed innovation upon the old established customs of the State. He was in favor of the usury laws as they now existed; was in favor of six per cent. and no more.

Mr. Walsh, though a member of the committee, had not agreed with the report. He was not willing to leave this subject an open one.

Mr. Ritchie spoke in favor of the report of the committee.

All the amendments which were offered were then rejected.

A number of other amendments were offered and voted down, and finally the following substitute, offered by Mr. Watkins, of Montgomery county, was adopted, by a vote of 50 to 44:

“The legal rate of interest shall be six per cent. per