

## PRINTING THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

Mr. VALLIANT submitted the following order:

*Ordered*, That the comptroller of the treasury be, and is hereby authorized and empowered to contract for the printing of six thousand copies of the constitution, and that the librarian be directed to distribute the same among the members, as early as practicable after the adjournment without day of the convention, and that the cost of said distribution be paid by the comptroller.

Mr. VALLIANT said: I have provided by this order for the distribution of the constitution among the members, because I thought the members would be more likely to distribute them among the people early than any one else. I have also added a clause that the cost of the distribution be paid by the comptroller, deeming it better that the actual cost of the distribution should be paid by the government. A very trifling matter has given rise to some discussion here, about the distribution of documents by the librarian, for which the legislature appropriated \$150, while it seems it did not cost quite that.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. I move that the consideration of this order be postponed until to-morrow. It seems to me that the order in its present form is not a proper one to accomplish the purpose which the gentleman designs to accomplish by it. If the purpose be, as I take it to be, to distribute the new constitution broadcast throughout the State preparatory to a vote upon it by the people, six thousand copies are not sufficient. If I recollect aright the former State convention made provision for publishing it in extras in all or nearly all the newspapers throughout the State, so that it might be scattered wherever a newspaper went. It seems to me that something of that sort is far preferable to this. It is for that reason that I move the postponement of the consideration of this order until to-morrow, that we may see what is the best form to secure the distribution of the constitution.

The motion to postpone was agreed to.

## COURTS OF BALTIMORE CITY.

The convention resumed the consideration of the report of the judiciary committee, which was on its second reading.

The next section in order was read as follows:

"Sec. 33. There shall be a clerk of the superior court and a clerk of the circuit court of Baltimore city, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the city of Baltimore, hold their respective offices for the term of six years, and until a new election is held and his successor duly qualified, and be re-eligible thereto, but removable by the judges of the court of which they are respec-

tively clerks, for incompetency, wilful neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, and such other causes as may be prescribed by law."

Mr. THOMAS submitted the following amendment:

Strike out section thirty-three, and insert:

"Section 33. There shall be a clerk of the superior court of Baltimore city, and a clerk of the circuit court of Baltimore city, and a clerk of the court of common pleas in Baltimore city, and a clerk of the criminal court of Baltimore city, and each of the said clerks shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters of said city, and shall hold his office for six years from the first day of January succeeding his election, and until his successor is elected and qualified, and be re-eligible thereto, subject to be removed for wilful neglect of duty or other misdemeanor in office on conviction in a court of law. In case of a vacancy in the office of a clerk of any of said courts the judge of the court of which he was clerk, shall have the power to appoint a clerk until the general election for county officers held next thereafter, when a clerk shall be elected for the residue of the term thus made vacant."

Mr. DANIEL moved to amend by striking out the last clause, "when a clerk shall be elected for the residue of the term thus made vacant."

Mr. THOMAS accepted the amendment.

The amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

No further amendment being offered, the next section was read as follows:

"Sec. 34. The judges of the superior court as herein constituted, shall designate as clerk of said court, in their discretion, either the clerk of the present superior court, or the clerk of the court of common pleas, and the person so designated as clerk shall continue to act as such until the end of the time for which he was elected; the other of said clerks shall, until the end of the time for which he was elected, continue to act as clerk in that department of the business of the superior court which in the judgment of the judges of said court, nearest corresponds to the business of the court of which he was elected clerk, and shall receive the fees and emoluments pertaining thereto as he would have done if said court had continued an independent court, and the judges of said superior court shall make such rules and regulations as may be found necessary to give full force and effect to this provision."

Mr. THOMAS submitted the following amendment:

Strike out section thirty-four, and insert the following:

"Sec. 34. The present clerk of the superior court of Baltimore city, and of the court of common pleas in Baltimore city, and of the criminal court of Baltimore, shall continue