

## AMENDMENT PROPOSED TO ORDER.

In line 4 strike out "7,000 copies" and insert "6,000 copies."

Said motion was considered, and

On motion, further consideration postponed, and made the Order of the Day for February 26th, at 1 P. M.

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Berret, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported favorably,

House bill entitled an Act to provide for the general valuation and assessment of property in this State.

Together with the explanatory report of the committee.

## REPORT.

*To the House of Delegates:*

The Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was granted a leave to introduce a bill to be entitled an Act to provide for the general valuation and assessment of property in this State, respectfully reports such bill, and at the same time, submits to your Honorable Body a brief statement of the reasons which control it in reporting such bill favorably.

A new general valuation and assessment of property in this State is necessary, because no such general valuation and assessment has been made since 1876.

In the sixteen years which have elapsed since the period named, the values of real estate in many, if not in all the counties of the State have essentially changed. The valuations then made do not properly show the existing values of such real estate.

Personal properties rightly valued to the owners thereof in 1876, have in numberless instances since that time been disposed of and stricken from the lists of properties then owned by tax-payers in the State. The re-investment of the proceeds of the personal property, so disposed of, have not been noted on the tax list; and personal properties acquired since that period have not, for the most part, been entered on the tax lists.