

members on the Committee on Basis of Representation, the Committee on the Legislative Department, and the Committee on Elective Franchise and Qualification of Voters.

On motion of Mr. NYMAN, *It was ordered* to be entered on the Journal that Mr. Dellinger, of Washington county, is absent from his seat to-day in attendance, at Washington city, on official business.

Mr. SNEARY submitted the following order: *Ordered*, That the Committee on the Tenure, Duties and Compensation of all civil officers not embraced in the duties of the standing committees, inquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of Commissioners of Public Works.

Mr. CLARKE. That subject is already before the committee and it is under consideration whether the office should be abolished or should be modified in any way. I have no objection to the passage of the order.

The order was agreed to.

Mr. BERRY, of Baltimore county, read the following telegram:

"BALTIMORE, May 12, 1864.

To John Mc Garigle, Annapolis:

Good news from Grant, dated yesterday. After six days' fighting says result is much in our favor. Loss is heavy but thinks losses of enemy must be greater. We have captured over 5,000 prisoners in battle, and have lost but few. He says I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer, and adds that the Government is sparing no pains to support him. Does not believe that Warren has been killed.

[Signed] ALEXANDER FULTON."

RULES OF ORDER.

Mr. KENNARD, from the Committee on Rules, submitted the following report, which was read.

The Committee appointed to prepare Rules for the Convention beg leave respectfully to make the following report:

CONVENTION.

Rule 1. The Convention shall not sit with closed doors, and in no case shall the Hall, where it may be holding its sittings, be cleared of spectators, except in cases of disorder.

THE DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT.

Rule 2. The President shall take the chair every day precisely at the hour to which the Convention stands adjourned; shall immediately call the members to order and after Divine services has been performed, on the appearance of a quorum, shall cause the Journal of the preceding day to be read.

Rule 3. The President shall preserve decorum and order; may speak to points of order in preference to other members; shall decide questions of order, (unless the yeas and nays be required,) subject to an appeal to the House by any two members, (in which

appeal no member shall speak more than once, unless by leave of the Convention,) and he may vote on every question, except on an appeal from the decision of the chair on a question of order.

Rule 4. The President shall examine and correct the Journal before it is read; he shall have a general direction of the Hall; he shall have a right to name, from time to time, any member to perform the duties of the Chair, but such substitution shall not extend beyond a term of _____ days; he shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise directed by the Convention.

Rule 5. No person shall be admitted within the bar of the Convention but members of the Executive and Judiciary Departments, members of the General Assembly, and such other persons as may be invited by the President.

Rule 6. The President (or Chairman of the Committee of the Whole) may order the Lobby to be cleared in case of disorder.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Rule 7. Section 1. The Secretary shall read the Journal of the preceding day; after the reading thereof, the Journal may be corrected, unless one member objects. In case of such objection, a majority of the members present shall be required to make the desired correction.

Sec. 2. The presentation and disposition of petitions, memorials or others papers.

Sec. 3. Orders and resolutions.

Sec. 4. Reports of Standing Committees.

Sec. 5. Reports of Select Committees.

Sec. 6. Reports of Committees on their second reading.

Sec. 7. Reports of Committees on their third reading.

Sec. 8. Deferred or unfinished business.

Sec. 9. The order of the day.

PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Rule 8. Petitions, memorials, orders, resolutions and other papers, when presented, must be endorsed with the name of the member by whom they are presented.

Rule 9. All orders submitted to the Convention (after being read) may be acted upon immediately, postponed or otherwise disposed of, as a majority of the members present may direct.

Rule 10. Any subject matter before the Convention awaiting consideration may, on motion, (if a majority of the Convention so determine,) be fixed as the order of the day at such time as may be directed under the provisions of these Rules.

Rule 11. All orders, resolutions and reports, or other matter, after being submitted to the Convention, (when not fixed for a day certain,) shall be rated under the head of "deferred or unfinished business," and shall come up for consideration in the order of time in which they were presented.