

Mr. MILLER. The provisions of the law are these:

"That the comptroller is hereby authorized and required to contract, in the name of the State, for the printing of the journal of proceedings of the senate and house of delegates which may convene either at the regular sessions or by call of the governor of this State for an extra session, the laws passed at each session of the legislature which may hereafter convene, together with bills, rolls and documents, or any other printing matter not herein enumerated, that is necessary for the use of the legislature, and all other such printing matter as may be ordered by the said legislative bodies while in actual session under the provisions of the following sections of this bill."

And then the sixth section provides,

"That the provisions of this act shall also apply to any constitutional State convention that may hereafter be called or convened in this State."

Mr. VALLIANT. The librarian contracted with the book-binder last winter under the provisions of the law the gentleman has just read.

Mr. MILLER. I have no objections to passing this order, if it will not be in conflict with the provisions of that law. But it seems to me that the State librarian has no control over the binding and distribution of these journals. I should like very much for him to have it.

Mr. STIRLING. I think it very important that we should not violate the law. I was under the impression, and still am, that the act of the general assembly of the last session had nothing to do with binding or distributing those books; that it was confined entirely to the printing. I know that provision has been made for the binding and distributing of the journals and laws by the librarian, as has been done heretofore. And I had always supposed that provision was applicable to the convention. The comptroller only contracted for the printing.

Mr. MILLER. I would ask the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Stirling,) whether under the previous legislation of the State, the previous practice in this State, the printing of the laws does not include the binding of them; and all that the librarian has to do is to distribute them after they have been put in the library?

Mr. STIRLING. I think the practice has been the other way. I think the binding has always been done separate from the printing. It was so last session; the man who bound the laws had nothing to do with the printing of them.

The PRESIDENT. I do not think the contract includes more than the printing.

Mr. MILLER. If that is the contract, then I will go for the order.

The PRESIDENT. I furnished a copy of the

contract to the committee on reporting and printing; it can be referred to.

Mr. THOMAS. The first section of the act provides:

"That the comptroller is hereby authorized and required to contract, in the name of the State, for the printing of the journal of proceedings of the senate and house of delegates which may convene either at the regular sessions, or by a call of the governor of this State for an extra session, the laws passed at each session of the legislature which may hereafter convene, together with bills, rolls and documents, or any other printed matter not herein enumerated, that is necessary for the use of the legislature, and all other such printing matter as may be ordered by the said legislative bodies while in actual session under the provisions of the following sections of this bill."

Then the second section requires the comptroller to advertise, and the third section requires him to enter into a contract for the printing. The sixth section says—

"That the provisions of this act shall also apply to any constitutional State convention that may hereafter be called, or convened in this State."

It applies exclusively to the printing, and has nothing to do with the binding and distributing.

Mr. VALLIANT. After the enactment of that law, the State librarian did contract with the binder, after the close, or about the close of the last session of the legislature, for the binding of the journals of both branches of the legislature.

Mr. AUDOUN. The contract reads thus:

"Now, the condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bound Richard P. Bayly shall print, or cause to be printed, on paper equal in quality, to that on which the journal of proceedings of the last legislature was printed, one thousand copies of the journal of proceedings of the constitutional convention and accompanying documents,

also one thousand copies of the journal of debates, &c."

It says nothing about the binding; it relates entirely to the printing.

The PRESIDENT. That was my recollection; that the printing and binding have always been kept separate.

The question was then taken upon adopting the order submitted by Mr. VALLIANT, and it was adopted.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS, &c.

Mr. CUSHING gave notice that at the proper time, he would submit the following amendment to section 39, of the report of the committee on the legislative department.

Strike out the entire section and insert the following:

"Section 39. The governor, comptroller,