

constitution framed by that convention. It would be very little to do, would make but a page or two, and may be very useful in time to come.

The question being taken, the order was adopted.

Mr. GALLOWAY called up the following report, which was read and adopted:

"The committee on accounts in compliance with the order passed the 30th instant, respectfully report that, after a careful examination of said order, they recommend that the president of the convention pay all bills for reporting and printing of the journal of debates remaining unpaid after the adjournment of the said convention, when the same are duly certified as correct by Mr. Joseph H. Audoun, or some other member of the committee on reporting and printing."

ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

Mr. EARLE, from the committee of revision, reported back to the convention the article on the elective franchise, with amendments; and recommended that said amendments be concurred in by the convention.

The first section of this article as adopted, by the convention reads:

"All elections shall be by ballot, and every white male citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, who shall have resided in the State one year next preceding the election and six months in the city of Baltimore or in any county, shall be entitled to be registered as a legal voter; and such registration made in accordance with such provisions as the general assembly may prescribe, together with the muster rolls of all such soldiers as may be entitled to be registered in the State, and who may be serving in the army of the United States, shall be held and taken as the only evidence of qualification to vote at any election hereafter, and the general assembly shall by law provide for taking the votes of soldiers serving in the army of the United States in the field; and in case any county or city shall be so divided as to form portions of different electoral districts for the election of congressman, senator, delegate, or other officer or officers, then to entitle a person to vote for such officer, he must have been a resident of that part of the county or city which shall form a part of the electoral district in which he offers to vote, for six months next preceding the election; but a person who shall not have acquired a residence in such county, or city, entitling him to vote at any such election, shall be entitled to vote in the election district from which he removed, until he shall have acquired a residence in the part of the county or city to which he has removed."

This section as remodeled by the committee of revision reads in the following manner:

"Section 1. All elections shall be by ballot, and every white male citizen of the United

States of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, who shall have resided in the State one year next preceding the election, and six months in any county, or in any legislative district of Baltimore city, and who shall comply with the provisions of this article of the constitution, shall be entitled to vote at all elections hereafter held in this State. And in case any county or city shall be so divided as to form portions of different electoral districts for the election of congressman, senator, delegate, or other officer or officers, then to entitle a person to vote for such officer, he must have been a resident of that part of the county or city which shall form a part of the electoral district in which he offers to vote, for six months next preceding the election; but a person who shall have acquired a residence in such county or city, entitling him to vote at any such election, shall be entitled to vote in the election district from which he removed, until he shall have acquired a residence in the part of the county or city to which he has removed.

The proposed changes in the section will be seen by comparing the above forms, one with the other.

The second section of this article recommended by the committee, is a new one, though it contains no new matter.

It embraces the seventh section as adopted by the convention, and such parts of the first section, as the committee rejected in their first section. It relates to the registration of voters, and to the vote of the soldiers in the United States service, and reads thus:

Section 2. The general assembly shall provide by law for a uniform registration of the names of voters in this State, which registration shall be evidence of the qualification of said voters to vote at any election thereafter held. But no person shall be excluded from voting at any election on account of not being registered until the general assembly shall have passed an act of registration, and the same shall have been carried into effect, after which no person shall vote unless his name appears on the register. The general assembly shall also provide by law for taking the votes of soldiers in the army of the United States serving in the field.

The committee recommend that the sixth section of this article be made the third section. It specifies a class of persons who shall not be entitled to vote, and this is evidently its most appropriate place.

The section has been slightly modified by the committee, and as changed will read thus:

Section 3. No person above the age of twenty-one years convicted of larceny or other infamous crime, unless pardoned by the governor, shall ever thereafter be entitled to vote at any election in this State; and no lunatic or person non compos mentis shall be entitled to vote.

The next section relates to the test oath for