

Mr. CHAMBERS: The rules of this body.

Mr. STROOKBRIDGE: I rise to a point of order. The report of the committee on revision upon the article on State's attorneys is now being read; and all this discussion and vituperation of the past action of the house has no connection with the report under consideration. So far as we have gone in relation to the report now before the convention, there is nothing but verbal changes; no material alteration of the report, and that report and nothing else is now before the house.

Mr. CHAMBERS: Matters have been presented here and declared a part of the constitution which this body has never adopted.

Mr. STIRLING: I understand perfectly well what use can be made and will be made of this matter, and I will move to reconsider the vote by which the convention has just adopted the report of the committee on revision on the article on elective franchise, and if it is found that any material change has been made in that article, I will call the yeas and nays on it.

Mr. STROOKBRIDGE: I raise the point of order that that motion is not in order, until the report now under consideration is disposed of.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Daniel.) The point of order is well taken. The motion to reconsider is not now in order.

The various amendments suggested by the committee on revision to the article on State's attorneys were severally agreed to.

ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

Mr. STIRLING: I now move to reconsider the vote by which the report of the committee on revision on the article on elective franchise was adopted. My object in making this motion is this: objection has been raised that words have been put in that article which materially affect its substance, and some objections have been made that the forms required by our rules have not been strictly observed. Now I do not intend that any such objections shall be made. I therefore move to reconsider that report, in order that the several amendments proposed may be spread upon the journal, and the yeas and nays be taken upon concurring in the report of the committee, so that no objection can be made to our action here.

Mr. CHAMBERS: I would ask the gentleman if he does not consider that objection well taken?

Mr. STIRLING: I say that when the convention concurs in the report of the committee on revision, then the changes they recommend become a part of the constitution. If the committee, under the authority of the rules of this house, make a recommendation to the convention, and it is concurred in, that is all that is required.

Mr. BROWN: Has not a section been introduced in this article by the committee on re-

vision, which was submitted to the convention and rejected?

Mr. STIRLING: No, sir; only a sentence added to a section already adopted.

Mr. EARLE: I hope the report will be reconsidered, and that the changes proposed will be printed, or stated fully to the convention, so that every member can act understandingly upon them.

The question being then taken upon the motion to reconsider, it was agreed to.

The question was upon concurring in the report of the committee on revision.

The amendments proposed by the committee were again read.

Mr. NUGLEY: I would ask whether, according to the rules of this convention, it would not be necessary to move to reopen the article so as to permit these amendments to be made? Upon the third reading of any article no amendment can be made to it except upon the vote of a majority of the members elected to this convention, or on a motion to suspend the rules, requiring a vote of three-fifths of the members present.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Daniel.) This article having passed its third reading, now comes up as a matter not strictly provided for by the rules. In the opinion of the chair it is competent for the convention to take any action upon it they may think proper.

Mr. CUSHING: I move that the convention concur in the report of the committee on revision, and on that question I call for the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered accordingly.

Mr. BELT: I would ask if the committee on revision can make any substantial addition or amendment to any report referred to them? Take the earliest instance we have of the action of a committee on revision, in the convention of 1787, which framed the constitution of the United States. The distinguished committee of revision of that body, in determining on their duties, determined that they were authorized merely to make verbal changes, changes of words, not to add anything which was substantial.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Daniel.) In the opinion of the chair, any substantial change or alteration would have to be reported to this convention, and the vote taken upon it by yeas and nays. The chair thinks it is competent for the convention to make such changes and alterations at this stage; otherwise after the convention has passed any article, if any mistake was discovered in it, the work of the body could never be perfected. The committee on revision certainly can report what changes and alterations they deem necessary to be made, and it is in the power of the convention to take such action upon their report as they may think proper. The chair thinks any substantial change should be passed upon by yeas and nays.