

The convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole. General Barnum temporarily vacated the chair, and Col. Akers, on request, occupied it *ad interim*.

Considerable desultory speaking ensued with regard to a motion to insert the word "Constitutional" after the word such and before the word terms in the fifth section of the committee on ordinance, &c. This amendment was lost.

It was resolved that where [the above section reads:

"If ratified by a majority vote of the people thereof at such time and under such regulations as may be prescribed by the first legislature of said State, the words 'The first legislature of said State' be changed to 'this Convention.'"

A discussion was then commenced on a motion to strike out the entire fifth section. The motion was not put to a vote, when the committee of the whole dissolved and the convention took a recess till 2 p.m.

Friday Afternoon.

At 2 p.m. the convention reassembled, Judge Hoge occupying the chair. The motion to strike out the fifth section of the ordinance being under consideration.

Mr. Tyler opposed the motion as he saw nothing objectionable in it.

Mr. W. Snow proposed to withdraw the motion, on account of changes made in it being objected to.

Mr. C. C. Rich favored the motion.

Mr. J. R. Murdock opposed the motion.

Mr. O. Pratt favored the motion. The Territory had a right to demand admission, as a Territorial government was not republican. The section was unprecedented.

Mr. J. C. Wright related an anecdote bearing on a possible lengthy sitting of the convention.

Mr. Fuller opposed the motion.

Mr. Cannon said the section gave Congress the opportunity to say what terms were required for the admission of Utah. There had been a carefully elaborated speech delivered in favor of the prohibition of polygamy, and if anything could convince the speaker that it should be done, it would have been that speech, but with all its eloquence it had failed to convince him.

The motion to strike out the section was put and lost.

The preamble was approved.

In the first section of the first article, Judge Snow moved to strike out the word "men" and insert "persons."

Mr. O. Pratt moved to amend the motion of amendment, by making it read "men and women."

Judge Snow favored the amendment.

Mr. Fitch opposed the amendment. The word "men" applied to both "men" and "women."

Mr. Miner believed that the Supreme Court held that persons did not include "women," though "men" both included and embraced "women."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Pratt moved to amend the same section by substituting "lives" for "life." Accepted.

Mr. Thurber moved to amend the fourth section by inserting after the word "a State," "by infringing upon the rights of others."

Mr. Cannon opposed the motion. The motion was lost.

Mr. H. D. Johnson moved to amend the section by inserting after the word "witness," the words "or juror."

Mr. Pratt favored amending to refer to the holding of office.

Mr. Fitch did not favor the motion.

The section was eventually amended to read—"The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, shall, without discrimination or preference, forever be allowed in this State; and no person shall be rendered incompetent to be a witness on account of opinions on matters of religion; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness or other crimes, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of this State."

The words, "Or which this State may keep with the consent of Congress in time of peace," were stricken out of the eighth section.

Judge Snow move the following as section 21—"No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification for holding any office of honor, trust or profit, under this State." Accepted.

Section 21 consequently became section 22.

Committee rose, with permission to sit again.

Judge Haydon was excused indefinitely from attendance, on account of receiving intelligence of the death of his mother.

Convention adjourned till Saturday, February 24th, at 10 a.m.

SIXTH DAY.

Saturday Morning.

The convention resumed its sitting at 10 o'clock. After the transaction of some preliminary business, the report of the committee on the executive department was received and read, and on motion was placed on the general file, to come up in its order, for consideration in committee of the whole. On motion a hundred and fifty copies were ordered printed for the use of the members.

Delegate Erbe, from Weber county, was sworn in.

Mr. Miner offered the following resolution, and moved its adoption, in order, as he said, to get the sense of the convention on the question involved and to do away with any conflict in the reports of committees, in some of which he noticed that the phrases Legislative Assembly, General Assembly and so forth were used.

Resolved, That the legislative power of this State be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Mr. Fitch rose to a point of order, and said that under a rule adopted by the convention that resolution could only be referred to the appropriate committee.

Mr. Pratt seconded the resolution, and considerable discussion ensued, but it being stated that the duty of one of the committees appointed would be to revise, harmonize, and to suggest any changes that might be deemed advisable in the whole constitution, the motion was lost.

The convention, on motion, resolved itself into a committee of the whole. Mr. F. D. Richards being requested to take the chair, announced that the convention had resolved itself into a committee of the whole, and would take into consideration the article, in the report of the committee on Ordinance, Bill of Rights, &c., On the Right of Suffrage.

Section one of the article was read by the Secretary and provoked a lengthy discussion. The phraseology of the section in a few points was changed, and when adopted it, in the judgment of the committee, secured the right of suffrage, without the possibility of a doubt or peradventure, to all citizens of the United States, both male and female, who had arrived at a certain age and were legal residents of the Territory.

Various other sections were discussed and adopted. The last which came under consideration during the morning sitting of the convention was in relation to the method of casting the votes at the ballot box, whether it should be done so that the parties voted for would be unknown to any but the voter, or otherwise. The former method seemed to be most favored by the majority of the speakers, but pending the discussion of the subject the convention took a recess until two o'clock.

Saturday Afternoon.

On resuming its sitting at 2 o'clock, the convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole, when the discussion on the method of depositing the ballot in the ballot box was continued. Mr. Rockwood took the floor and made a speech in favor of the method proposed in section 4, as reported by the committee, namely, that as each voter cast his vote his ticket should be numbered and his name written thereon. He believed this was the surest if not the only way to prevent "stuffing" and corruption. In conclusion Mr. Rockwood said, "I move that the committee waive, for the present, the discussion of the fourth section and proceed to the next, which contains the provisions in regard to the manner of registration." The motion was adopted and the fifth section was read by the secretary of the convention.

Mr. Johnson moved to amend so that the section would provide that in all cases the registrars of elections should be elected by the people of the respective precincts. The motion was discussed by Messrs. Johnson, Fitch, Rockwood, Joseph W. Young, Barnum and Farr, and on being put to the vote was rejected. Another point of the section, with regard to defining the test as to the qualification of voters was discussed, but without making any change, the section was adopted and reported.

A motion was then made that the convention reconsider section four, the final disposition of which, it will be seen above, was deferred until section five had been considered. The motion was concurred in, and a lengthy

discussion took place on amendments offered by gentlemen, for the most absolute secrecy as to the names of parties voting for the various candidates. The amendments were finally rejected, and the section, as reported by the committee, was adopted by the convention, it being the sense of a majority of the members that, if Utah were admitted as a State, the minor details regarding the methods of conducting elections should be left to the discretion of the legislature.

The sixth and last section of the report was read by the secretary, and after a short discussion was adopted.

Mr. Orson Pratt offered the following, which he moved to have adopted as an additional section of this report:

"All marriage contracts formed or entered into, not condemned by the Bible, that great divine code recognized by all civilized and enlightened nations as the foundation of all criminal jurisprudence, and solemnized, either within or without the State, in accordance with the religious faith of the persons married, and in conformity to the religious faith, forms, ceremonies and ordinances of any people or denomination, shall be as legal as those marriages solemnized by any civil authority; and the legislature shall make no laws interfering with or prohibiting the free exercise of these inalienable religious rights."

The motion was seconded, but as the afternoon was far advanced the consideration of the proposition was deferred.

It was then resolved that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again for the consideration of Mr. Pratt's proposition. This was accordingly done and leave to sit again was granted.

Indefinite leave of absence from the convention was asked and obtained for Mr. Rees R. Llewellyn, one of the delegates from Sanpete, on account of pressing business requiring his attention at home.

One of the members gave notice that on Monday he should move that the convention hold evening sessions.

Adjourned until Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

SEVENTH DAY.

Monday Morning.

The convention assembled at ten o'clock, and was called to order by the President. The roll was called. A quorum present. Prayer was offered by Elder Shipp. Reports were received from the standing committees on the Legislative Department and taxation, which were referred, and the former ordered printed.

Mr. Haven moved that evening sessions of the convention be held, commencing at 7 o'clock, his reasons being that many of the members were from the country, and evening sessions would expedite the business before the convention and enable country members to return to their homes and business sooner than otherwise. The motion was adopted.

Mr. W. B. Preston offered a resolution that the motion heretofore passed, allowing two speeches of five minutes each on any one subject to any member of the committee of the whole, be rescinded, and that none be allowed more than one speech, except the chairman of any committee and the mover of a motion, they to have the privilege of two speeches if they desire it.

The convention, on motion, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. A. P. Rockwood chairman, when the secretary read Mr. Pratt's motion, made on Saturday afternoon, in reference to the solemnization of marriage.

Mr. Pratt said, that although he considered this a very important item to be embodied in the bill of rights, yet upon further reflection he thought the substance of his motion was already embodied in the bill of rights, and also in the ordinance; he therefore withdrew his motion.

Mr. Akers introduced the following resolution, which he offered as a substitute for section four of the report of the committee on elections.

That all elections by the people shall be by ballot, and the legislature shall have power to enact laws in relation thereto as shall be deemed necessary to preserve the purity of elections and to prevent fraudulent voting, provided, however, that no law shall be enacted whereby the ballot of any individual elector can be identified, and all elections by the legislature, or either branch thereof, shall be viva voce.

No action was taken on this resolution, its mover stating that he merely introduced it, in compliance with par-

liamentary rule, in the committee of the whole, that it might be hereafter discussed in convention.

A motion by Mr. Miner, in reference to the abolition of the grand jury system, was renewed for the same purpose.

The committee of the whole then considered and adopted the report of the committee on militia; and proceeded to discuss the report of the committee on impeachment and removal from office; pending its consideration the convention took a recess till 2 o'clock.

SPECIAL TO THE DESERT NEWS.

By Telegraph.

GENERAL.

NEW YORK, 21.—The boards of trade petition the United States Senate asking action on the bill already passed by the House for the repeal of the duty on tea and coffee. Proceedings have been commenced to throw into involuntary bankruptcy all the insurance companies in this district which are unable to meet their Chicago losses.

INDIANAPOLIS, 21.—The hotels are crowded with delegates to the Republican State convention which meets tomorrow. The contest for the nomination of Governor is between General Ben Harrison and General Thomas Brown. The district delegations have all had caucuses, in favor of Grant and Colfax for the presidential ticket.

Julian telegraphs to night declining the use of his name for Congressman at large under any circumstances.

LAWRENCE, 21.—The State convention to elect delegates to the Republican national convention at Philadelphia, met here to-day, and was the largest ever held in the State. Resolutions were unanimously adopted expressing renewed confidence in the President and vice-President, and faith in the future of the Republican party.

WASHINGTON, 21.—The convention of the District of Columbia have elected two delegates, one colored, to the Philadelphia convention. Resolutions were passed endorsing Grant and Colfax.

A Washington despatch says that the note of Lord Granville on the Alabama question, addressed to Minister Schenck, is exceedingly amicable in tone and elaborate and profuse in expressions of the desire of the British to preserve the treaty and establish friendly relations between the two governments. The burden of the communication is a repetition of the views expressed in the speech from the throne. The reply will show that there has been no surprise in the matter of the American case, that the claims for consequential damages had been presented for discussion before the joint high commissioners. This being so, there can be no withdrawal of the American case.

CHICAGO, 23.—Ex-Senator and ex-Governor Richard Yates is lying dangerously ill with hemorrhage of the bowels, at his residence in Jacksonville, Ills.

About 150 passengers from San Francisco by Union Pacific railroad arrived at 11 o'clock last night. They are very severe in their denunciations of the officers and employees of the U. P., charging them with neglect of their duties, inefficiency, and with brutality in their treatment of passengers.

A New York special says the Pacific railroad embargo has again made itself felt in New York. From Broadway to the Pacific mail steamship company's pier, Canal street, is filled with loaded carts, and the carmen stand by them night and day awaiting their turn to deposit their goods in the extra steamer, which is to start next Thursday. At night the street is illuminated by many bon-fires. Merchants have authorized their carmen to pay high premiums for places ahead in the line, but not a carman will budge from his place. One hundred were waiting last night and the number was no less this evening.

WASHINGTON, 23.—A bill was introduced by senator Morrill, at Vt., to-day, to appropriate to each State in which agricultural colleges are established in accordance with the law of 1862, 1,000,000 acres of the public lands for their endowment and support.

The note of Earl Granville to secretary Fish, through Schenck, was received in the cabinet to-day. While this government does not seem disposed to modify the statement of the case, it will doubtless respond to the British objection in such a spirit as to show its earnest desire for a settlement of the questions at issue in a manner altogether satisfactory to all parties. Application was made to-day for a copy