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LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

Official Report of the Proceedings of the House of Representatives

(Continued from Yesterday)

THURSDAY, February 12, 1852.

Mr. Campbell stated that the gentlemen did not wish to bring us back to the **state of** things that existed under the old constitution. If he had read and heard then organic law, he did not think that the gentleman would be so **desirous** of introducing the feature that he proposed. He was not surprised moreover to hear a **democratic** representation on such but the popular basis.

The section was adopted without amendment.

The 18th section which provides that the two boards shall hold their first meeting in the present **place of session** of the General Council &c.

Mr. Bonzano proposed to amend by striking out the word first, so as to read "their next meeting."

Mr. Pottier said remark that the whole **city** was out with the Council who construed first from the people and erected such partition or reference to the carrying into execution of the new charter, would be the best qualified to do the subject.

Mr. Payne observed that one of the evident **objects** of the framers of the present bill was to **remove** them from their present localities — **place** where the Grand Council had previously held its meetings, but been and is still ordered by the city of the city proper. The section was under consideration, he entered a decided opposition not only to **the** section but to the whole bill, and took the **ground** that the amendment of one particular par**ticular** bill also to take away our public and their records from the city proper. The object in locating a council **room** in the Third Municipality was to **accommodate** the people in that section of the city. Now, to remove the records from the upper to the lower section of the city, and to compel the people to go there to transact their business, would be a great inconvenience. Nothing would be gained by the introduction of the amendment, it would only create confusion. The Council was elected with the understanding that they should meet in the upper section of the city. Now, to remove the records from the upper to the lower section of the city, would be a great inconvenience. He was opposed to the amendment.

Mr. Lanaux moved to lay that amendment on the table. Motion lost. The question recurring upon the adoption of the section, Mr. Payne moved that the second section be stricken out.

Mr. Lanaux was in favor of adopting the section. The matter was a troublesome one to settle. Under the old charter, the Council came up before the people once in the evening, and there was really no error if could be reconsidered at the next meeting.

Mr. Augustin expressed himself in favor of striking out the section. He was of the opinion that the Mayor should be empowered to call the first meeting of the Council.

Mr. Payne moved that the section be suspended until the bill ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Augustin rose to state that he clearly saw the contingency which the Supreme Court **had** decided as to the constitutionality of the measure now before the House would on the point of being adopted. To avoid the chaos and confusion that would necessarily ensue in case the bill should become inoperative, he would now present for the consideration of the House the bill, now additional section for the object of the restoration of the anterior order of things in the event it should turn out that the present be considered to be carried into execution.

That in case the provisions of the preceding section of the constitution, which declares that the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction in all cases involving the question of the constitutionality of any law, should be decided by the judges to be repugnant to the constitution of the United States, then and in such case the Mayor of the city of New Orleans shall convene the Council of the city of New Orleans, at the Council Chamber, in the Second Municipality, on the first Monday after the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Council shall proceed to elect a Board of Assessors, Board of Administrators, Board of Directors of Public Schools, Board of Directors of Public Works, Board of Directors of Public Improvements, Board of Directors of Public Buildings, Board of Directors of Public Parks, Board of Directors of Public Markets, Board of Directors of Public Squares, Board of Directors of Public Wharves, Board of Directors of Public Levees, Board of Directors of Public Drains, Board of Directors of Public Sewers, Board of Directors of Public Cemeteries, Board of Directors of Public Hospitals, Board of Directors of Public Asylums, Board of Directors of Public Prisons, Board of Directors of Public Police, Board of Directors of Public Fire Department, Board of Directors of Public Lamps, Board of Directors of Public Gas Works, Board of Directors of Public Water Works, Board of Directors of Public Ferries, Board of Directors of Public Streets, Board of Directors of Public Bridges, Board of Directors of Public Canals, Board of Directors of Public Railroads, Board of Directors of Public Telegraphs, Board of Directors of Public Telegraphs, Board of Directors of Public Telegraphs