

Which was read and referred to the Select committee upon that subject.

On motion of Mr. Clarke,

Ordered, That all bills of a public general or public local character after their first reading, shall be printed and laid upon the desks of Senators before being read a second time, unless otherwise ordered.

The Senate adjourned.

---

THURSDAY, February 2nd, 1865.

The President laid before the Senate the following communication :

SENATE CHAMBER,

1st January, 1865.

*Gentlemen* :—I have the honor to place in your hands for the action of our Legislature, a copy of the joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, abolishing slavery in the whole country, on the ratification of the proposition by three-fourths of the States.

I cannot be mistaken, I am sure, in supposing that our Legislature will cheerfully and promptly give its assent to a measure so intrinsically right, and that will remove forever the only subject that can, on the suppression of the present rebellion, ever seriously disturb the peace and prosperity of the Nation.

With great regard,

Your obedient servant,

REVERDY JOHNSON.

LT. GOV. COX AND HON. JOHN M. FRAZIER,

Speaker House of Delegates, Annapolis.

Which was read and referred to the committee on Federal Relations.