

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.)

STANDING RULES

FOR

CONDUCTING BUSINESS

IN THE



Congress, Senate

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. N

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REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES.

JANUARY 17, 1877.—Adopted by the Senate and amended as shown in the text.

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STANDING RULES FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE SENATE
OF THE UNITED STATES.

R U L E S .

DAILY SESSIONS.

QUORUM—READING THE JOURNAL.

1. The Presiding Officer having taken the chair, and a quorum (which shall consist of a majority of the Senators duly chosen and sworn) being present, the Journal of the preceding day shall then be read, and any mistake made in the entries may be corrected. The reading of the Journal shall not be suspended unless by unanimous consent; and when any motion shall be made to amend or correct the same, it shall be deemed a privileged question, and proceeded with until disposed of by the Senate.

QUORUM—WHEN NOT PRESENT.

2. If either at the commencement of any daily session of the Senate, or at any time during its daily sessions, a question shall be raised by any Senator as to the presence of a quorum, the Presiding Officer shall forthwith direct the Secretary to call the roll of Senators, and shall announce the result to the Senate; and these proceedings shall be without debate.

QUORUM—ABSENT SENATORS SENT FOR.

3. No Senator shall absent himself from the service of the Senate without leave of the Senate first obtained. Whenever it shall be ascertained that a quorum is not present, a majority of the Senators present may direct the Sergeant-at-arms to request, and, when necessary, to compel the attendance of the absent Senators, which order shall be determined without debate; and, pending its execution, and until a quorum shall be present, no motion, except a motion to adjourn, nor debate, shall be in order.

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE TO BE CHOSEN.

4. In the absence of the Vice-President, the Senate shall choose a President pro tempore, and the Presiding Officer shall have the right to name a Senator to perform the duties of the Chair, but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment.

JOURNAL—MAKING UP.

5. The proceedings of the Senate shall, briefly and accurately, be stated on the Journal. Messages of the President, in full; titles of bills and joint resolutions, and such parts as shall be affected by proposed amendments; every vote, and a brief statement of the contents of each petition, memorial, or paper presented to the Senate, shall be entered.

JOURNALS—SEPARATE, TO BE KEPT.

6. The legislative proceedings; the executive proceedings; the confidential legislative proceedings, and the proceedings when sitting as a Court of Impeachment, of the Senate, shall each be recorded in a separate book.

 PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS.

7. The presentation of the credentials of Senators-elect and other questions of privilege shall always be in order, except during the reading and correction of the Journal, while a question of order or a motion to adjourn is pending, or while the Senate is dividing; and all questions and motions arising or made upon the presentation of such credentials shall be proceeded with until disposed of by the Senate.

 ORDER OF BUSINESS.

ORDER OF BUSINESS—MORNING HOUR.

8. The first hour of daily sessions shall be designated as the morning hour, during which the order of business will be as follows:

First. After the Journal is read, the Presiding Officer shall lay before the Senate messages from the President, reports and communications from the heads of Departments, and other communications addressed to the Senate; and such bills, joint resolutions, and other messages from the House of Representatives as may remain upon his table from any previous day's session undisposed of.

Second. The Presiding Officer shall then call for, in the following order:

- The presentation of petitions and memorials.
- Reports of standing and select committees.
- The introduction of bills and joint resolutions.
- Concurrent and other resolutions.

Until the business of the morning hour shall have been concluded and so announced from the Chair, no motion to proceed to the consideration of any bill, resolution, report of a committee, or other subject upon the Calendar shall be entertained by the Chair, unless by unanimous consent; and if such consent be given, the motion shall not be open to amendment, and shall be decided without debate upon the merits of the subject proposed to be taken up; nor shall the consideration of any subject taken up during the morning hour, except a motion to amend the Journal or a motion pertaining to the credentials of a Senator-elect or his admission to his seat, be extended, unless by unanimous consent, beyond the expiration of the morning hour.

If any portion of the morning hour shall remain after the call for resolutions, the Presiding Officer shall lay before the Senate, in their order, resolutions and concurrent resolutions introduced on any prior day, and the same may be proceeded with, but not beyond the expiration of the morning hour, unless by the unanimous consent of the Senate.

ORDER OF BUSINESS--UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

9. Immediately upon the expiration of the morning hour, the Presiding Officer shall lay before the Senate the unfinished business at its last adjournment, which shall take precedence of the Special Orders, and shall be proceeded with until disposed of by the Senate.

ORDER OF BUSINESS--SPECIAL ORDERS.

10. Any subject or matter may, by a vote of two-thirds of the Senators present, be made a special order; and when the hour fixed for the consideration of a special order shall arrive, it shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer to lay such special order before the Senate, unless there be unfinished business of the preceding day, in which case the unfinished business shall have precedence.

ORDER OF BUSINESS--PRECEDENCE IN SPECIAL ORDERS.

11. When two or more subjects shall have been made special orders for the same day and hour, they shall have precedence according to the order of time at which they severally were assigned; which order shall not be changed, unless by direction of the Senate.

ORDER OF BUSINESS--SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY.

12. Every special order shall, unless superseded by the unfinished business, be called up on the day and at the hour to which it was as-

signed; and if not finally disposed of on that day, it shall then take its place upon the Calendar of Special Orders in the order of time at which it was made a special order, unless it shall become by adjournment the unfinished business.

ORDER OF BUSINESS—CALENDAR OF GENERAL ORDERS.

13. At the expiration of the morning hour, if there shall be neither unfinished business nor special order, the Senate shall proceed with the Calendar of General Orders, unless it shall otherwise determine; and the subjects upon the Calendar of General Orders shall be taken up in the order in which they stand, and if not finally disposed of, shall retain their respective positions on said Calendar until such final disposition. And in all cases where the Senate shall take up the Calendar of General Orders, and shall not have gone through therewith when the same shall be resumed, it shall be at the point which was reached when last under consideration.

PETITIONS.

14. Before any petition or memorial shall be received or read at the table, it shall be signed by the petitioner or memorialist, and a brief statement of its contents shall be made by the Senator or Presiding Officer presenting it. But no petition or memorial or other paper signed by citizens or subjects of a foreign power, unless the same be transmitted to the Senate by the President, shall be received.

Every petition or memorial shall be referred of course, without putting the question, unless objection be made by a Senator; in which case all motions for the reception or reference of such petition, memorial, or other paper shall be put in the order in which the same shall be made, and shall not be open to amendment, except to add instructions; but a motion to refer to a standing committee shall take precedence of a motion to refer to a select committee.

READING PAPERS.

15. When the reading of a paper is called for, and the same is objected to by any Senator, it shall be determined by a vote of the Senate, and without debate.

VOTING.

VOTING—CALLING YEAS AND NAYS.

16. When the yeas and nays shall be called for by one-fifth of the Senators present, each Senator, when his name is called, shall, unless for special reasons he be excused by the Senate, declare openly and without debate his assent or dissent to the question; and in taking the yeas and nays upon any question, the names of the Senators shall be called alphabetically.

VOTING—ASSIGNING REASONS FOR NOT VOTING.

17. When a Senator, being present and declining to vote when his name is called, shall be required to assign his reasons therefor, and shall so assign them, the Presiding Officer shall thereupon submit the question to the Senate: "Shall the Senator, for the reasons assigned by him, be excused from voting?" which shall be decided without debate. And these proceedings shall be had after the roll shall have been called and before the result of the vote is announced; and any further proceedings by the Senate in reference thereto shall be after such announcement.

VOTING—AFTER DECISION ANNOUNCED.

18. When the yeas and nays shall be taken upon any question, no Senator shall, under any circumstances whatever, be permitted to vote after the decision shall have been announced from the Chair; but a Senator may, for special reasons assigned by him, with the unanimous consent of the Senate, change or withdraw his vote after such announcement. No motion to suspend this rule shall be in order.

VOTING—VICE-PRESIDENT MAY GIVE CASTING VOTE.

19. When the Senate shall be equally divided, the Vice-President may, by his vote, determine the question.

VOTING—RECONSIDERATION.

20. When a question has once been decided by a vote of the Senate whether that vote be determined by a majority or by two-thirds of the Senate, any Senator voting on that side which prevailed may enter a motion or move for a reconsideration thereof, at any time on the same day on which the vote was taken, or on either of the next two days of actual session thereafter; and all motions to reconsider shall be decided by a majority of the Senate.

When a bill, resolution, report, amendment, order, or message, upon

which a vote has been taken, shall have gone out of the possession of the Senate and been communicated to the House of Representatives, the motion to reconsider such vote shall be accompanied by a motion to request the House to return the same to the Senate; which last motion shall be acted upon immediately, and determined without debate, and when determined in the negative, shall be held to be a final disposition of the motion to reconsider.

VOTING—RECONSIDERATION, HOW LIMITED.

21. If the Senate shall refuse to reconsider a vote, or if, upon the reconsideration of a vote, it shall re-affirm its first decision of the question, no further motion to reconsider shall be in order, unless by unanimous consent. And every motion to reconsider a vote taken upon any amendment or other question connected with a subject under consideration shall be decided at once, and a motion to reconsider may be laid on the table without affecting the question in reference to which the same may be made. And if carried, shall be held to be a final disposition of such motion.

BILLS.

BILLS—NOTICE GIVEN FOR LEAVE TO BRING IN.

22. One day's notice, at least, shall be given of an intended motion for leave to bring in a bill or joint resolution; but in the introduction of bills or joint resolutions on leave, such notice may be dispensed with, by unanimous consent.

BILLS—THREE READINGS ON THREE DIFFERENT DAYS.

23. Every bill and joint resolution shall receive three readings previous to its being passed; and the Presiding Officer shall give notice at each reading whether it be the first, second, or third; which readings shall be on three different days, unless the Senate unanimously direct otherwise.

BILLS—FIRST AND SECOND READINGS FOR REFERENCE.

24. No bill or joint resolution shall be committed or amended until it shall have been read twice; bills and joint resolutions introduced on leave, and bills and joint resolutions from the House of Representatives, shall be read once, and may be read twice, on the same day, if not objected to, for reference; but shall not be considered on that day, as in Committee of the Whole, nor debated, except for such reference, unless by unanimous consent.

BILLS—PLACED ON CALENDAR.

25. Every bill and joint resolution reported from a committee, not having previously been read, shall be read once, and twice, if not objected to, on the same day, and be placed on the Calendar in the order in which the same may be reported; and every bill and joint resolution introduced on leave, and every bill and joint resolution of the House of Representatives which shall have received a first and second reading without being referred to a committee, shall, if objection be made to further proceeding thereon, also be placed on the Calendar.

BILLS—COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

26. All bills and joint resolutions which shall have received two readings shall first be considered by the Senate in the same manner as if the Senate were in Committee of the Whole, after which they shall be reported to the Senate; and any amendments made in Committee of the Whole shall again be considered by the Senate, after which further amendments may be proposed. When a bill or resolution shall have been ordered to be read a third time, it shall not be in order to propose amendments, unless by unanimous consent, but it shall at all times be in order, before the final passage of any bill or resolution, to move its commitment; and when the bill or resolution shall again be reported from the committee, it shall be placed on the Calendar, and when again considered by the Senate, it shall be as in Committee of the Whole.

AMENDMENTS.

AMENDMENTS—GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILLS.

27. All general appropriation bills shall be referred to the Committee on Appropriations, except bills making appropriations for rivers and harbors, which shall be referred to the Committee on Commerce; and no amendments shall be received to any general appropriation bill, the effect of which will be to increase an appropriation already contained in the bill, or to add a new item of appropriation, unless it be made to carry out the provisions of some existing law, or treaty stipulation, or act, or resolution previously passed by the Senate during that session; or unless the same be moved by direction of a standing or select committee of the Senate; or proposed in pursuance of an estimate of the head of some one of the Departments.

AMENDMENTS—REFERRED ONE DAY BEFORE PROPOSED.

28. All amendments to general appropriation bills moved by direction of a standing or select committee of the Senate, proposing to in-

crease an appropriation already contained in the bill, or to add new items of appropriation, shall, at least one day before they are offered, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and when actually proposed to the bill, no amendment proposing to increase the amount stated in such amendment shall be received; in like manner amendments proposing new items of appropriation to river and harbor bills shall, before being offered, be referred to the Committee on Commerce; also amendments to bills establishing post-roads, proposing new post-roads, shall, before being offered, be referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

AMENDMENTS—GENERAL LEGISLATION; RELEVANCY; MAY BE LAID ON THE TABLE.

29. No amendment which proposes general legislation shall be received to any general appropriation bill; nor shall any amendment not germane or relevant to the subject-matter contained in the bill be received; nor shall any amendment to any item or clause of such bill be received which does not directly relate thereto; and all questions of relevancy of amendments under this rule, when raised, shall be submitted to the Senate and be decided without debate; and any amendment to a general appropriation bill may be laid on the table without prejudice to the bill.

AMENDMENTS—PRIVATE CLAIMS.

30. No amendment, the object of which is to provide for a private claim, shall be received to any general appropriation bill, unless it be to carry out the provisions of an existing law or a treaty stipulation, which shall be cited on the face of the amendment.

AMENDMENTS—DIVISION OF A QUESTION.

31. If the question in debate contain several propositions, any Senator may have the same divided, except a motion to strike out and insert, which shall not be divided; but the rejection of a motion to strike out and insert one proposition shall not prevent a motion to strike out and insert a different proposition; nor shall it prevent a motion simply to strike out; nor shall the rejection of a motion to strike out prevent a motion to strike out and insert. But pending a motion to strike out and insert, the part to be stricken out and the part to be inserted shall each be regarded for the purpose of amendment as a question; and motions to amend the part to be stricken out shall have precedence.

AMENDMENTS—FILLING BLANKS.

32. In filling blanks the largest sum and the longest time shall first be put.

RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLUTIONS—SHALL LIE OVER ONE DAY.

33. All resolutions shall lie over one day for consideration, unless by unanimous consent the Senate shall otherwise direct.

RESOLUTIONS—TREATED AS BILLS.

34. Resolutions to which the approbation and signature of the President may be requisite, or which may grant money out of the contingent or any other fund, shall be treated in all respects in their introduction and form of proceeding in like manner with bills.

RESOLUTIONS—PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

35. Resolutions proposing amendments to the Constitution shall be treated in all respects, in their introduction and form of proceeding, in like manner with bills; but the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senators present shall not be requisite to decide any question on amendments, nor extending to the merits, being short of the final question on the passage of the resolution, except a motion to postpone indefinitely, which shall be decided by a vote of two-thirds; but upon a question of insisting upon or receding from an amendment of the Senate to a resolution of the House of Representatives, or upon the final question of agreeing to an amendment of the House to a resolution of the Senate, and also upon agreeing to the report of a committee of conference upon any resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution, the vote shall be determined by two-thirds of the Senators present.

DEBATE.

DEBATE—SENATORS MAY BE CALLED TO ORDER.

36. If any Senator, in speaking or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Senate, the Presiding Officer shall, or any Senator may, call him to order; and when a Senator shall be so called to order, he shall sit down, and shall not proceed without leave of the Senate, which leave, if granted, shall be upon motion that he be allowed to proceed in order; which motion shall then be in order and be determined without debate.

DEBATE—EXCEPTIONABLE WORDS IN, TAKEN DOWN.

37. If a Senator be called to order for words spoken in debate, upon the demand of the Senator so called to order, or of any other Senator, the exceptionable words shall be taken down in writing.

DEBATE—SENATORS NOT TO BE INTERRUPTED IN.

38. The Presiding Officer shall name the Senator who is to speak, and in all cases the Senator who shall first rise and address the Chair shall speak first. No Senator shall speak to or interrupt another Senator in debate without his consent; and to obtain such consent he shall first address the Chair.

DEBATE—LIMIT IN.

39. Every Senator, when he speaks, shall address the Chair, standing in his place; and no Senator shall speak more than twice upon any one question in debate on the same day without leave of the Senate, which shall be determined without debate.

ORDER.

ORDER—QUESTIONS OF.

40. A question of order may be raised at any state of the business, except when the Senate is dividing, and, when raised, shall be decided by the Presiding Officer, without debate, subject to an appeal to the Senate; or he may submit any question of order for the decision of the Senate.

ORDER—APPEALS ON QUESTIONS OF.

41. When an appeal is taken from the decision of the Chair, any subsequent questions of order which may arise before that appeal shall be determined, likewise any appeal therefrom, shall be decided without debate. All appeals taken when a proposition not debatable is pending shall also be decided without debate; and any appeal may be laid on the table without prejudice to the pending proposition, and thereupon shall be held as affirming the decision of the Chair.

MOTIONS.

MOTIONS—SECONDED; WHEN TO BE REDUCED TO WRITING.

42. All questions shall be put by the Presiding Officer of the Senate, and before a motion be debated, it shall be seconded; and if desired by the Presiding Officer, or any Senator, it shall also be reduced to writing.

MOTIONS—PRECEDENCE OF.

43. When a question is pending, no motion shall be received but—
To adjourn,

To adjourn to a day certain, or that, when the Senate adjourn, it shall be to a day certain,

To take a recess,

To proceed to the consideration of executive business,

To lay on the table,

To postpone indefinitely,

To postpone to a day certain,

To commit,

To amend,

which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they stand arranged; and the motions relating to adjournment, to take a recess, to proceed to executive business, and to lay on the table, shall be decided without debate.

MOTIONS—MAY BE WITHDRAWN OR MODIFIED.

44. Any motion or resolution may be withdrawn or modified by the mover at any time before a decision, amendment, or ordering of the yeas and nays, except a motion to reconsider, which shall not be withdrawn without leave of the Senate.

PREAMBLES.

45. When a bill or resolution is accompanied by a preamble, the question shall be first put on the bill or resolution; and then on the preamble, which may be withdrawn by the mover before an amendment of the same, or ordering of the yeas and nays; or it may be laid on the table without prejudice to the bill or resolution, and shall be a final disposition of such preamble.

COMMITTEES.

COMMITTEES—APPOINTMENT OF.

46. In the appointment of the standing committees, the Senate, unless otherwise ordered, shall proceed by ballot to appoint, severally, the chairman of each committee, and then, by one ballot, the other members necessary to complete the same. A majority of the whole number of votes given shall be necessary to the choice of a chairman of a standing committee, but a plurality of votes shall appoint the other members thereof. All other committees shall be appointed by ballot, unless otherwise ordered, and a plurality of votes shall appoint.

When the chairman of a committee shall resign or cease to serve on a committee, and the Presiding Officer be authorized by the Senate to fill

the vacancy in such committee, unless specially otherwise ordered, it shall be only to fill up the number on the committee.

COMMITTEES—STANDING.

47. The following standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each session, with leave to report by bill or otherwise:

A Committee on Privileges and Elections, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Foreign Relations, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Finance, to consist of eleven Senators. [March 18, 1881.]

A Committee on Appropriations, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Commerce, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Manufactures, to consist of five Senators.

A Committee on Agriculture, to consist of seven Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

A Committee on Military Affairs, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Naval Affairs, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on the Judiciary, to consist of nine Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

A Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Public Lands, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Private Land-Claims, to consist of five Senators.

A Committee on Indian Affairs, to consist of nine Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

A Committee on Pensions, to consist of nine Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

A Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to consist of five Senators.

A Committee on Claims, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on the District of Columbia, to consist of nine Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

A Committee on Patents, to consist of seven Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

A Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to consist of five Senators, who shall have power also to act jointly with the same committee of the House of Representatives.

A Committee on Territories, to consist of seven Senators.

A Committee on Railroads, to consist of eleven Senators.

A Committee on Mines and Mining, to consist of seven Senators.

A Committee on the Revision of the Laws of the United States, to consist of five Senators.

A Committee on Education and Labor, to consist of nine Senators.

A Committee on Civil Service and Retrenchment, to consist of nine Senators. [January 9, 1882.]

A Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the

Senate, to consist of three Senators, to which shall be referred all resolutions directing the payment of money out of the contingent fund of the Senate, or creating a charge upon the same.

A Committee on Printing, to consist of three Senators, who shall have power also to act jointly with the same committee of the House of Representatives.

A Committee on the Library, to consist of three Senators, who shall have power also to act jointly with the same committee of the House of Representatives.

A Committee on Rules, to consist of five Senators. [March 12, 1880.]

A Committee on Engrossed Bills, to consist of three Senators, who shall examine all bills, amendments, and joint resolutions before they go out of the possession of the Senate.

A Committee on Enrolled Bills, to consist of three Senators, who shall have power also to act jointly with the same committee of the House of Representatives, and who, or some one of whom, shall examine all bills or joint resolutions which shall have passed both Houses, to see that the same are correctly enrolled, and, when signed by the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate, shall forthwith present the same, when they shall have originated in the Senate, to the President of the United States in person, and report the fact and date of such presentation to the Senate.

A Committee on the Improvement of the Mississippi River and its Tributaries, to consist of seven Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

A Committee on Transportation Routes to the Seaboard, to consist of seven Senators. [March 19, 1879.]

COMMITTEES—REFERENCE TO.

48. When motions are made for the reference of the same subject to a standing committee and to a select committee, the question shall first be put upon referring to a standing committee, and a motion simply to refer shall not be open to amendment, except to add instructions.

COMMITTEES—OF CONFERENCE, REPORTS OF.

49. The presentation of reports of Committees of Conference shall always be in order, except while the Journal is being read or a question of order or a motion to adjourn is pending, or while the Senate is dividing; and, when received, the question of proceeding to the consideration of the report shall immediately be put, and shall be determined without debate.

COMMITTEES—MOTIONS TO DISCHARGE AND REPORTS OF, TO LIE ONE DAY FOR CONSIDERATION.

50. All reports of committees and motions to discharge a committee from the consideration of a subject, and all subjects from which a committee shall be discharged, shall lie one day for consideration, unless by unanimous consent the Senate shall otherwise direct.

MESSAGES.

MESSAGES—FROM THE PRESIDENT AND FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

51. Messages from the President of the United States or from the House of Representatives may be received at any state of business, except while the Senate is dividing, or while the Journal is being read, or while a question of order or a motion to adjourn is pending.

MESSAGES—TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND TO THE PRESIDENT.

52. Messages shall be sent to the House of Representatives by the Secretary, who shall previously certify the determination of the Senate upon all bills, joint resolutions, and other resolutions which may be communicated to the House, or in which its concurrence may be requested; and he shall likewise certify and deliver to the President of the United States all resolutions and other communications which the Senate shall direct to be laid before him.

PRINTING.

PRINTING—OF PAPERS.

53. Every motion to print documents, reports, or other matter transmitted by either of the Executive Departments, or to print memorials, petitions, accompanying documents, or any other paper, except bills of the Senate or House of Representatives, resolutions submitted by a Senator, communications from the legislatures or conventions, lawfully called, of the respective States, and motions to print by order of the standing or select committees of the Senate, shall, unless the Senate otherwise order, be referred to the Committee on Printing. When a motion is made to commit with instructions, it shall be in order to add thereto a motion to print.

PRINTING—ADDITIONAL NUMBERS.

54. Motions to print additional numbers shall also be referred to the Committee on Printing; and, when the committee shall report in favor of printing additional numbers, the report shall be accompanied by an estimate of the probable cost thereof; and when the cost of printing such additional numbers shall exceed the sum of five hundred dollars, the concurrence of the House of Representatives shall be necessary for the order to print the same.

PRINTING—OF BILLS, JOINT RESOLUTIONS, AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

55. Every bill and joint resolution introduced on leave or reported from a committee, and all bills and joint resolutions received from the House of Representatives, and all reports of committees, shall be printed, unless, for the dispatch of the business of the Senate, such printing may be dispensed with.

WITHDRAWAL OR REFERENCE.

WITHDRAWAL—OF PAPERS.

56. No memorial or other paper presented to the Senate, except original treaties finally acted upon by the Senate, shall be withdrawn from its files, except by order of the Senate. But when an act may pass for the settlement of any private claim, the Secretary is authorized to transmit to the officer charged with the settlement the papers on file relating to the claim.

WITHDRAWAL—WHEN ADVERSE REPORT MADE, COPIES LEFT WITH SECRETARY OF SENATE.

57. No memorial or other paper, upon which an adverse report has been made, shall be withdrawn from the files of the Senate, unless copies thereof shall be left in the office of the Secretary.

REFERENCE—OF CLAIMS ADVERSELY REPORTED.

58. Whenever a claim is presented to the Senate and referred to a committee, and the committee report that the claim ought not to be allowed, and the report shall have been agreed to by the Senate, it shall not be in order to move to take the papers from the files for the purpose of referring them at a subsequent session, unless the claimant shall present a memorial for that purpose, stating that new evidence has been discovered since the report, and setting forth the new evidence in the memorial.

BUSINESS CONTINUED FROM SESSION TO SESSION.

59. At the second or any subsequent session of a Congress, the legislative business of the Senate which remained undetermined at the close of the next preceding session of that Congress shall be resumed and proceeded with in the same manner as if no adjournment of the

Senate had taken place; and all subjects referred to committees and not reported upon at the close of a session of Congress shall be returned to the office of the Secretary of the Senate, and be retained by him until the next succeeding session of that Congress, when they shall be returned to the several committees to which they had previously been referred.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR.

60. No person shall be admitted to the floor of the Senate while in session, except as follows:

The officers of the Senate.

Members of the House of Representatives and their Clerk.

The President of the United States and his Private Secretary.

The heads of Departments.

Ministers of the United States.

Foreign ministers.

Ex-Presidents and Ex-Vice-Presidents of the United States.

Ex-Senators and Senators-elect.

Judges of the Supreme Court.

Governors of States and Territories.

General of the Army.

Admiral of the Navy.

Members of national legislatures of foreign countries.

Private secretaries of Senators, duly appointed in writing; and the Librarian of Congress.

Hon. George Bancroft. [Jan. 16, 1879.]

Judges of the Court of Claims. [Jan. 23, 1879.]

SUSPENSION OF THE RULES.

61. No motion to suspend, modify, or amend any rule, or any part thereof, shall be in order, except on one day's notice in writing, specifying precisely the rule or part proposed to be suspended, modified, or amended, and the purpose thereof. Any rule, except the eighteenth, may be suspended without notice by the unanimous consent of the Senate; and the rule proposed to be suspended shall precisely and distinctly be stated. The eighteenth rule shall never be suspended under any circumstances whatever.

SENATE WING OF CAPITOL UNDER CONTROL OF PRESIDING OFFICER.

62. The Presiding Officer of the Senate shall have the regulation and control of such parts of the Capitol building, and of its corridors and passages, as are, or may be, set apart for the use of the Senate and its officers, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate.

OATHS OF OFFICE.

63. The oath or affirmation required by the Constitution and prescribed by the act of June 1, 1789, shall be taken in open Senate by each Senator before entering upon his duties; and he shall also take and subscribe in open Senate the oath or affirmation prescribed by the act of July 2, 1862, or he shall take and subscribe the oath or affirmation prescribed by the act of July 11, 1868, as the case may be, before entering upon his duties. The said oaths shall also be taken and subscribed, in the same manner, by the Secretary of the Senate; but the other officers of the Senate may take and subscribe them in the office of the Secretary.

SESSION WITH CLOSED DOORS.

64. On a motion made and seconded to close the doors of the Senate, on the discussion of any business which may, in the opinion of a Senator, require secrecy, the Presiding Officer shall direct the galleries to be cleared; and during the discussion of such motion the doors shall remain closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—THE PRESIDENT MEETING THE SENATE IN.

65. When the President of the United States shall meet the Senate in the Senate Chamber for the consideration of executive business, he shall have a seat on the right of the Chair. When the Senate shall be convened by the President of the United States to any other place, the Presiding Officer of the Senate and the Senators shall attend at the place appointed, with the necessary officers of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—OFFICERS ADMITTED IN.

66. When acting upon confidential or executive business, the Senate Chamber shall be cleared of all persons except the Secretary, the Chief Clerk, the principal Legislative Clerk, the Executive Clerk, the Minute and Journal Clerk, the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Assistant Doorkeeper, and such other officers as the Presiding Officer shall think necessary; and all such officers shall be sworn to secrecy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—INJUNCTION OF SECRECY.

67. All confidential communications made by the President of the United States to the Senate, shall be by the Senators and the officers of the Senate kept secret; and all treaties which may be laid before the Senate, and all remarks, votes, and proceedings thereon, shall also be kept secret, until the Senate shall, by their resolution, take off the injunction of secrecy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—VIOLATION OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY.

68. Any Senator or officer of the Senate who shall disclose the secret or confidential business or proceedings of the Senate shall be liable, if a Senator, to suffer expulsion from the body; and if an officer, to dismissal from the service of the Senate, and to punishment for contempt.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—PROCEEDINGS ON TREATIES.

69. When a treaty shall be laid before the Senate for ratification, it shall be read a first time; and no motion in respect to it shall be in order, except to refer it to a committee, or to print it, in confidence, for the use of the Senate.

When a treaty is reported from a committee with or without amendment, it shall, unless the Senate unanimously otherwise direct, lie one day for consideration; after which it may be read a second time and considered as in Committee of the Whole, when it shall be proceeded with by articles; and the amendments reported by the committee shall be first acted upon, after which other amendments may be proposed; and when through with, the proceedings had as in Committee of the Whole shall be reported to the Senate, when the question shall be, if the treaty be amended, "Will the Senate concur in the amendments made in Committee of the Whole?" And the amendments may be taken separately, or in gross, if no Senator shall object; after which new amendments may be proposed.

The decisions thus made shall be reduced to the form of a resolution of ratification, with or without amendments, as the case may be, which shall be proposed on a subsequent day, unless, by unanimous consent, the Senate determine otherwise; at which stage no amendment shall be received, unless by unanimous consent.

On the final question to advise and consent to the ratification in the form agreed to, the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senators present shall be necessary to determine it in the affirmative; but all other motions and questions upon a treaty shall be decided by a majority vote, except a motion to postpone indefinitely, which shall be decided by a vote of two-thirds.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—WHEN ACTION UPON TREATIES SHALL EXPIRE.

70. Treaties transmitted by the President to the Senate for ratification shall be resumed at the second or any subsequent session of the same Congress at the stage in which they were left at the final adjournment of the session at which they were transmitted; but all proceedings on treaties shall terminate with the Congress, and they shall be resumed at the commencement of the next Congress, as if no proceedings had previously been had thereon.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—INDIAN TREATIES, IN CLOSED OR OPEN SESSION.

71. All treaties concluded with Indian tribes shall be considered and acted upon by the Senate in its open or legislative session, unless the same shall be transmitted by the President to the Senate in confidence; in which case they shall be acted upon with closed doors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—NOMINATIONS, PROCEEDINGS.

72. When nominations shall be made by the President of the United States to the Senate, they shall, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, be referred to appropriate committees, and the final question on every nomination shall be, "Will the Senate advise and consent to this nomination?" which question shall not be put on the same day on which the nomination is received, nor on the day on which it may be reported by a committee, unless by the unanimous consent of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—NOMINATIONS, INJUNCTION OF SECRECY.

73. All information communicated or remarks made by a Senator when acting upon nominations, concerning the character or qualifications of the person nominated, also all votes upon any nomination, shall be kept secret. If, however, charges shall be made against a person nominated, the committee may, in its discretion, notify such nominee thereof, but the name of the person making such charges shall not be disclosed. The fact that a nomination has been made, or that it has been confirmed or rejected, shall not be regarded as a secret.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—NOMINATIONS, RECONSIDERATION.

74. When a nomination is confirmed or rejected, any Senator voting in the majority may move for a reconsideration on the same day on which the vote was taken, or on either of the next two days of actual

executive session of the Senate; but if a notification of the confirmation or rejection of a nomination shall have been sent to the President before the expiration of the time within which a motion to reconsider may be made, the motion to reconsider shall be accompanied by a motion to request the President to return such notification to the Senate. Any motion to reconsider the vote on a nomination may be laid on the table without prejudice to the nomination, and shall be a final disposition of such motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—NOMINATIONS, WHEN RETURNED TO THE PRESIDENT.

75. Nominations confirmed or rejected by the Senate shall not be returned by the Secretary to the President until the expiration of the time limited for making a motion to reconsider the same, or while a motion to reconsider is pending, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—NOMINATIONS, WHEN MOTIONS TO RECONSIDER SHALL FALL.

76. When the Senate shall adjourn or take a recess for more than thirty days, all motions to reconsider a vote upon a nomination which has been confirmed or rejected by the Senate, which shall be pending at the time of taking such adjournment or recess, shall fail; and the Secretary shall return all such nominations to the President as confirmed or rejected by the Senate, as the case may be.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—NOMINATIONS, NOT DETERMINED, WHEN TO FALL WHEN RETURNED TO THE PRESIDENT.

77. Nominations neither confirmed nor rejected during the session at which they are made shall not be acted upon at any succeeding session without being again made to the Senate by the President; and if the Senate shall adjourn or take a recess for more than thirty days, all nominations pending and not finally acted upon at the time of taking such adjournment or recess shall be returned by the Secretary to the President, and shall not again be considered unless they shall again be made to the Senate by the President.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—NOMINATIONS, THE PRESIDENT FURNISHED WITH COPIES OF RECORD.

78. The President of the United States shall, from time to time, be furnished with an authenticated transcript of the executive records of the Senate, but no further extract from the Executive Journal shall be furnished, except by special order of the Senate; and no paper, except original treaties transmitted to the Senate by the President of the United States, and finally acted upon by the Senate, shall be delivered from the office of the Secretary without an order of the Senate for that purpose.

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