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So the motion for the previous question was lost.

The question was then taken on Mr. Forbes' substitute, which was rejected.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the section reported by the select committee, was referred to a select committee of six, to be composed of members from the eastern, middle, and western portions of the country, with instructions to report to-morrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Mayfield, the committee were instructed to fix the maximum number of Senators at nineteen.

On motion of Mr. Hogg, the committee were instructed to take into consideration the number of voters in each county and district.

Mr. Hemphill moved to instruct the committee to take into consideration the facts why the western counties did not vote a larger number at the last presidential election.

Which motion was debated at considerable length, and no action taken thereon.

Messrs. Runnels, Cazneau, Moore, McNeill, Ochiltree and Tarrant, were appointed the select committee.

Mr. Young moved to adjourn to half-past 8 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Lost.

On motion of Mr. Ochiltree, the Convention adjourned until half-past 8 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

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THURSDAY MORNING, August 14, 1845.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Chaplain.

Present—Messrs. President Rusk, Anderson, Armstrong of J., Armstrong of R., Bagby, Baylor, Bache, Brashear, Brown, Burroughs, Caldwell, Cazneau, Clark, Cunningham, Darnell, Davis, Evans, Everts, Forbes, Gage, Hemphill, Henderson, Hicks, Hogg,

The journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.

The select committee, H. G. Runnels chairman, to whom was referred the senatorial apportionment, made the following report:

COMMITTEE ROOM, Aug. 14, 1845.

Hon. Thos. J. Rusk,

President of the Convention:

The committee to whom was referred the section reported by a previous committee, apportioning the senatorial representation among the several districts of the State, have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me to report the section here-with submitted, with due deference to the sense of the Convention, in their instructions, not to exceed in number nineteen Senators.

Your committee suggest, that they found much difficulty in so arranging that number among the districts as to give satisfaction; they consequently have increased the number to twenty-one, and respectfully recommend its adoption.

H. G. RUNNELS, Chairman.

SUBSTITUTE.

Until the first enumeration as provided for by this Constitution, the Senatorial districts shall be as follows:

The counties of Fannin and Lamar shall constitute the first district, and elect one Senator; the counties of Red River and Bowie the second district, and elect one Senator; the counties of Fannin, Lamar, Red River and Bowie, conjointly, shall elect one Senator; the county of Harrison, the third district, shall elect one Senator; the counties of Nacogdoches, Rusk and Houston, the fourth district, shall elect two Senators; the counties of San Augustine and Shelby, the fifth district, shall elect one Senator; the counties of Sabine and Jasper, the sixth district, shall elect one Senator; the counties of Liberty and Jefferson, the seventh district, shall elect one Senator; the counties of Robertson and Brazos, the eighth district, shall elect one Senator; the county of Montgomery, the ninth district, shall elect one Senator; the county of Harris, the tenth district, shall elect one Senator; the county of Galveston, the eleventh district, shall elect
one Senator; the counties of Brazoria and Matagorda, the twelfth
district, shall elect one Senator; the counties of Austin and Fort
Bend, the thirteenth district, shall elect one Senator; the coun-
ties of Colorado and Fayette, the fourteenth district, shall elect
one Senator; the counties of Bastrop and Travis, the fifteenth
district, shall elect one Senator; the counties of Washington
and Milam, the sixteenth district, shall elect one Senator; the
counties of Victoria, Gonzales and Jackson, the seventeenth dis-
trict, shall elect one Senator; the county of Bexar, the eighteenth
district, shall elect one Senator; and the counties of Goliad,
Refugio and San Patricio, the nineteenth district, shall elect one
Senator.

Mr. Brown, from the select committee to whom was referred
the first section of the Legislative report, made the following re-
port:

Committee Room, Aug. 13, 1845.

Hon. Thos. J. Rusk,
President of the Convention:

The committee to whom was referred the first section of the
report of the committee on the Legislative Department of the
Government, with the various amendments proposed thereto,
have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me
to offer the following report:

The first section of the report, with the amendments suggest-
ed in alteration thereof, relate 1st, to the qualifications of electors;
and 2d, to an extension of the right of citizenship. From the
general aspect of some of the amendments, it seems intended to
obtain from the Convention, a declaration to be inserted some-
where in the Constitution, that a class of persons who, under
the existing Constitution, and in view of the period when that
Constitution will be superseded by another, will probably never
become citizens of this Republic, should be made such by the
ratification of this Constitution by the people.

This proposal involves a question which, if fully discussed,
would require more investigation, and consume more time, than
the short period allotted to this task will allow; but enough may
be said in a short space, to demonstrate a few of the most obvious
objections against it.

The present position of our country is entirely new, and in
some respects anomalous. Besides the difficulties attending the
mode of acquisition resorted to by the United States, Texas is
now an independent power, whose sovereignty is unimpaired, but
engaged by the strongest public assurances, deliberately made to
surrender that sovereignty on the happening of certain expected events in the Congress of the United States. Every thing conspires to cast a vagueness over positions which were clear before, and ought to inculcate the greatest caution in our proceedings. If the plighted faith of Texas is entitled to as much weight in our deliberations as her fundamental law, it would be well to enquire if there is not an obligation, arising from the spirit of the contract, now resting on us, to abstain from the exercise of powers which are in open conflict with the policy in which we have promised to participate; and whether this restraint ought not to have commenced its effects, from the time we assented to the overture, in future to become partners in the national policy of that confederacy, as well as in its Government. Your committee are of opinion, that from the time the two Republics began seriously to negotiate for the union of their territories and governments,—at least from the time when the basis of the compact was reciprocally assented to, a tacit obligation has rested on each not to interfere with the settled policy of the other; but to admit and reconcile those jarring elements already in existence, resulting from a separate organization and independent offices. That the most powerful treaties have to yield to revolutions in government, your committee will not deny, but the abrogation of the treaty is a necessary consequence.

The proposals for annexation proceeded from the Government of the United States to a community of people whose circumstances, private and political, were clearly ascertained and defined by its existing Constitution and laws. Should any important and objectionable change take place in the form of government or policy of the United States, who would contend that we were bound by our assent to its proposals, rendered before that change? and if we should make any radical alteration in ours, who would contend that the United States were bound to accept us? Because the Government of the United States has not exacted, in terms, that we should make no material alteration in the form of our Government, or the rights of our people, it does not follow that we are at liberty to do so; for there are principles outside of every act of legislation, and every treaty, which must forever govern its construction. These principles are universal, and everywhere recognized; and would form a cumbrous appendage to every article to which they would apply.

But one great and necessary change was contemplated on either side, when the joint resolutions were proposed and acceded to; and the contracting parties having yielded their assent, are bound to endure all the necessary incidents to that change; and
no more. By the present Constitution, all persons residing in Texas on the day of the declaration of independence, and persons who might thereafter emigrate, reside six months, and take the oath of allegiance, are made citizens. As this Constitution cannot cease to exist until the government is changed, and as this is plainly implied in the joint resolutions, it follows that all who are or may become citizens of the Republic by the operation of the Constitution, must become citizens of the United States, and that the United States are bound to accept us, with all the privileges we have acquired, under the Constitution in force, when they made their overtures, and assigned a distant period for their consummation. Thus far, the policy of the United States, resulting from the exercise of the power to pass uniform laws on the subject of naturalization, must be contravened. To this length they have consented, but it may well be questioned whether they have consented to any more—whether they have agreed to consequences which do not result from the Constitution, but something in collision with it, and from an abuse of sovereignty about to expire. It would be well understood, that if the sovereignty of Texas had continued, such a change would not have been made; and that we were willing for a policy to operate against the United States, which, as an independent State, we would not have allowed to operate against ourselves. It is also to be remembered, that naturalization is a contract of which the consent of both parties is an essential part, and that no declaration of ours can make a citizen without his consent. Your committee believe, that all the substantial benefits of citizenship can be obtained, and all dangerous questions avoided, by the plan which they will hereafter recommend on the other subject, and that it is inexpedient and unsafe to attempt any greater enlargement of the rights of those inhabitants.

On the other question, the qualifications of electors, your committee declare their belief, that it is among the reserved rights of the States, to constitute their own electors. It is one exercise of the right incident to citizenship, to vote; but this right does not pass out of the territory of the State which confers it, as some of the other rights of citizenship do, and is no exercise of power by the State, out of its jurisdiction, as the other would be; for the Constitution of the United States makes citizenship in one State, citizenship in all.

The power to qualify electors, is not conveyed to the Government of the United States, or prohibited to the States, and is, therefore, reserved. [Art. 10, amendment to Con. U. S.] The same voters who elect the most numerous branch of the State
Legislatures, elect the members of Congress. [See Art. 1, Con. U. S.]

And the Federal basis of representation laid down in the 2d section, 1st article of the Constitution of the United States, includes foreigners not naturalized, in the estimate of population: it gives them representation in proportion to their numbers; and it is of no consequence to the general objects of the Government, by what number or kind the electoral power is exercised in the States. Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following section, as a substitute for the first section of the report and amendments thereto.

GEO. WM. BROWN, Chairman.

S U B S T I T U T E

For the 1st Section of Legislative Report.

"SECTION 1st. All free male persons, aged twenty-one years and upwards, (Indians not taxed, Africans and descendants of Africans excepted,) who, previous to the adoption of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States, were residents of the Republic of Texas, shall be qualified electors in the county in which they may reside.

"SEC. 2. All free male persons, aged twenty-one years and upwards, (Indians not taxed, Africans and descendants of Africans excepted,) who are citizens of the United States, but were not residents of the Republic of Texas previous to the adoption of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States, who shall have resided in the State one year next preceding an election, and shall reside in the county in which they offer to vote, shall be qualified electors: provided, nevertheless, that the right of suffrage shall not be exercised by any non-commissioned officer, soldier, seaman, or marine, in the service of the United States."

On motion of Mr. Rusk, the vote on the resolution rescinding the contract with Samuel Highsmith, for carrying the extra mail to La Grange, was re-considered; and, on motion of Mr. Caldwell, the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Everts introduced the following ordinance:

It is hereby declared and ordained, by the Deputies in Convention assembled, that the following territory, to wit: beginning at a point where the southern line of the county of Fannin crosses the east fork of Trinity river; thence south, with the meanders of the said east fork, to its junction with the main fork of the Trinity; thence west, to the western edge of the lower Cross Timbers; thence north, to the said southern line of Fan-
nin county; thence east along said line, to the place of begin-
ning—be, and the same is hereby created an election precinct,
and shall be entitled to one representative in the legislature of
the State of Texas, until otherwise prescribed by law: said
election precinct, for all other civil and election purposes, ex-
cept for the survey and location of lands, shall be attached to,
and be under the jurisdiction of Fannin county, until otherwise
prescribed by law:"

Which was laid on the table, to come up among the orders of
the day.

On motion of Mr. Wright, the substitute reported by Mr. Run-
nels, chairman of the special committee upon the subject of the
senatorial representation, was taken up and adopted, in lieu of
the additional section reported by the select committee, upon the
same subject, of which Mr. Mayfield was chairman.

The section, as substituted, was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. Van Zandt, that portion of the report of the
select committee, fixing the apportionment of representation in
the representative branch of the Legislature till the first enume-
ration under the Constitution, was taken up.

The substitute offered by Mr. Gage on a previous occasion, on
the same subject, was moved by him, as a substitute for the re-
port of the select committee.

On motion of Mr. Moore, a call of the Convention was made;
and, on motion of Mr. Burroughs, a further call of the Conven-
tion was suspended.

The question then, was, upon the adoption of the substitute as
offered by Mr. Gage.

Upon which the ayes and noes were called and stood thus:

Ayes—Messrs. President Rusk, Anderson, Armstrong of J.,
Armstrong of R., Bagby, Baylor, Brown, Burroughs, Caldwell,
Caznean, Clark, Cuney, Darnell, Davis, Evans, Everts, Gage,
Hemphill, Henderson, Hicks, Hogg, Horton, Holland, Irion,
Jewett, Latimer of R. R., Lewis, Lipscomb, Parker, Rains, Tar-
rant, Van Zandt, White, Wright and Young—35.

Noes—Messrs. Bache, Brashear, Cunninham, Forbes, Hunter,
Jones, Kinney, Latimer of L., Love, Lumpkin, Lusk, Mayfield,
McGowan, McNeill, Miller, Moore, Navarro, Power, Runnels,
Scott, Smyth, Standefer and Ochiltree—23.

So the substitute was adopted.

Mr. Scott moved to strike out, after the word "Gonzales," the
word "two," and insert "one."

Upon which the ayes and noes were called, and stood as fol-

...


So the motion was lost.

Mr. Brashear moved to strike out "one," after "Fort Bend," and insert "two."

Lost.

The vote was then taken upon the adoption of the additional section, as substituted, which stood as follows:


So the additional section, as substituted, was adopted.

The 26th section of the report on the Legislative Department, was taken up.

On motion of Mr. Van Zandt, the words "or any foreign government," were inserted in third line, after the word "state."

Mr. Van Zandt offered the following amendment:

"And no person shall, at the same time, hold or exercise any two offices or appointments of trust or profit under this State."

Mr. Lipscomb moved to insert the word "agencies," after the word "offices."

Accepted by Mr. Van Zandt, and amendment adopted.

The section as amended, was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. Kinney, the 32d section, providing for the Seat of Government remaining at Austin until 1850, &c., of same report, was taken up.

Mr. Brashear offered the following as a substitute for the section:

"The first session of the Legislature after the adoption of this
Constitution by the Congress of the United States, shall be held at the city of Austin: the qualified electors of the State, at the first election for members of the Legislature, shall on their ballots designate by name, such place as they may deem most eligible for the location of the Seat of Government of the State of Texas; and the returns of said election shall be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, within the period of twenty days after the said election: if any one place thus voted for, shall receive a majority of the whole number of votes polled, the Legislature shall permanently locate the Seat of Government at that place; but if no place have a majority of all the votes polled, it shall be the duty of the Legislature to provide for an election to be held by the first day of July thereafter; at which election, the two places which, at the previous election, had received the highest number of votes, shall be put in nomination; and the returns shall be made to the Governor of the State, within twenty days after the holding of said election; and if either of the said places receive a majority of the votes given in, the same shall be the permanent Seat of Government of this State, until the year 1860, at which time, it shall be the duty of the Legislature to provide by law, to carry out the will of the people, on the subject of the location of the Seat of Government, after that time.

Mr. Moore moved to lay the substitute on the table.

Upon which the ayes, and noes were called, and stood as follows:


So the motion was lost.

Mr. Hemphill moved to strike out "city of Austin," and insert "Independence."

Mr. Van Zandt moved the previous question.

Mr. Moore moved to adjourn until 4 o'clock, p.m. Lost.

The question, shall the main question be now taken? was put and carried.

The main question being the adoption of the section without the amendments,
The ayes and noes stood as follows:
So the section was adopted.
On motion, the Convention adjourned until 4 o'clock, p. m.

4 o'clock, p. m.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment—roll called—quorum present.
Mr. Armstrong of J., gave notice, that he would move a re-consideration of the vote adopting the 22d and 27th sections of the General Provisions—one in relation to exempting property from forced sale, and the other in relation to taxation.
The 27th section was adopted.
Mr. Henderson moved to strike out the 28th section.
On motion of Mr. Van Zandt, a call of the Convention was made.
Mr. Young moved to suspend the call. Lost.
On motion of Mr. Moore, the call was suspended.
On motion of Mr. Forbes, the 28th section was laid on the table.
Section 29th adopted.
In 31st section, Mr. Darnell moved to strike out “four years,” and insert “two years,” in relation to the term of service of Senators.
Mr. Forbes moved a call of the Convention.
Lost.
The ayes and noes were called on the adoption of Mr. Darnell’s motion to amend, and stood as follows:
Noes—Messrs. President Rusk, Anderson, Armstrong of J., Bache, Brashear, Brown, Burroughs, Caldwell, Cazneau, Clark, Cunningham, Davis, Everts, Forbes, Gage, Hemphill, Henderson, Hicks, Horton, Holland, Jewett, Jones, Latimer of L,

On motion of Mr. Hemphill, the section was referred to the committee on the State of the Nation.

The 28th section was then taken up.

Mr. Van Zandt moved the previous question.

The question—shall the main question be now taken? was put and carried.

The main question being the adoption of the section, the ayes and noes were called, and stood thus:


Noes—Messrs. President Rusk, Bagby, Clark, Darnell, Davis, Evans, Everts, Gage, Henderson, Holland, Hunter, Jones, Latimer of L., Lewis, Lumpkin, McGowan, McNeill, Moore, Navarro, Parker, Scott, Standefer, Tarrant, White, Wright and Young—27.

So the section was adopted.

In 33d section, Mr. Moore moved to strike out “three” and insert “two,” (per diem pay of members of the Legislature.)

A division of the question being called for, the question on striking out, was put and lost.

Mr. Forbes moved to strike out “three” and insert “two.”

Mr. Young moved to amend, by inserting “four.” Lost.

The ayes and noes being called on Mr. Forbes’ motion, stood as follows:


Mr. Brown moved to amend, by inserting “three dollars per day, for forty days, and no pay thereafter.”
Mr. Parker moved to strike out “forty” and insert “sixty.”

Lost.

The ayes and noes being called on Mr. Brown’s amendment, stood as follows:


So the motion was lost.

The section was then adopted.

Mr. Gage moved to adjourn until half past 8 o’clock tomorrow morning.

Lost.

The first section of the report, together with the substitute reported by the select committee—Mr. Brown chairman—was taken up.

Mr. Love moved to lay the section and substitute on the table.

On motion of Mr. Irion, the Convention adjourned until half-past 8 o’clock tomorrow morning.

FRIDAY MORNING, Aug. 15, 1845.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Chaplain.


The journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.