The main question, which was the adoption of the resolution, being put, and the Yeas and Nays being called, stood thus:


So the resolution was adopted.

On motion, the Convention adjourned till 9½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, March 22d, 1866.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by the chaplain; roll called; quorum present; journal of yesterday read and adopted.

Mr. Henderson, chairman of committee on Legislative Department, made following report:

Hon. Wm. M. Taylor, President pro tem. of the Convention:

The committee on Legislative Department, to whom was referred a resolution of instruction to apportion the State into four Congressional Districts, have instructed me to report the following ordinance, and recommend its passage:

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the people of Texas, in Convention assembled, That the territory comprised within the limits of the following named counties shall compose the Congressional Districts of the State of Texas, until otherwise provided by law.

SEC. 2. The First District shall be composed of the counties of Anderson, Angelina, Cherokee, Harrison, Henderson, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Panola, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, Smith, Trinity, Tyler, Hardin, Chambers and Polk.

The Second Congressional District shall consist of Davis, Marion, Bowie, Upshur, Titus, Red River, Lamar, Hopkins, Wood, Van Zandt, Kaufman, Hunt, Fannin, Grayson, Collin, Dallas, Tarrant, Denton, Cook, Montague, Wise, Parker, Palo
Pinto, Jack, Clay, Wichita, Archer, Young, Throckmorton, Wilbarger, Hardeman, Knox, Haskell, Jones, Shackelford, Stephens, Johnson and Ellis.

The Third Congressional District shall consist of the counties of Galveston, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Harris, Austin, Montgomery, Walker, Grimes, Brazos, Washington, Burleson, Milam, Robertson, Madison, Leon, Freestone, Limestone, Falls, McLennan, Bosque, Coryelle, Hill, Navarro, Matagorda, Wharton and Erath.


Report received, to come up in order, and the ordinance read first time.

Mr. Hart, one of the committee on Finance, made following report:

**Committee Room, March 21st, 1866.**

*Hon. W. M. Taylor, President pro tem. of the Convention:*

The committee on Finance, to whom was referred a resolution in regard to paying the officers of the Provisional Government, have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me to report it back to the Convention, and say they deem it inexpedient to express an opinion on the subject, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Report received, to come up in order.

Mr. Thompson, one of the committee on Engrossed and Enrolled Ordinances, made following report:

**Committee Room, March 21st, 1866.**

*Hon. W. M. Taylor, President pro tem. of the Convention:*

The committee on Engrossed and Enrolled Ordinances instruct me to report that they have examined the preamble and resolutions in regard to the frontier of the State, and found it correctly enrolled and signed.

Received, and adopted.

Mr. Shuford, one of the committee on Enrolled and Engrossed Ordinances, made following report:
Hon. W. M. Taylor, President pro tem. of Convention:
The committee on Engrossed Bills have examined, and found correctly engrossed, Article IV, Judicial Department.
Received, and adopted.

Mr. Porter offered the following resolution:
Resolved, That the Convention elect, by ballot, five persons whose duty it shall be to repair to the City of Washington, and present to the President all the ordinances of a general character that have been or may hereafter be adopted by the Convention, and endeavor to impress upon the national authorities the loyal and pacific disposition of the people of the State of Texas.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Fannin, resolution postponed till to-morrow at 10 o'clock, for which hour it was made the special order.

Mr. Gentry introduced ordinance as follows:

AN ORDINANCE,
To Establish Two Branch Penitentiaries.

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the people of the State of Texas in Convention assembled, That the Legislature shall provide for the establishment of two branch penitentiaries, one to be located at or near the town of Jefferson, in Marion county, the other at or near the city of San Antonio.

SEC. 2. The said penitentiaries to be managed by such officers, and under such regulations, as may be hereafter prescribed by law.

Read first time, and referred to committee on General Provisions Constitution.

Mr. Roberts offered following resolution:
Resolved, That a select committee, to be composed of one delegate from each one of the twenty Judicial Districts, be appointed, who shall, as soon as practicable, inquire into the propriety of dividing the State into Judicial Districts, and fix the times of holding courts therein, so as to reduce the number of districts, and who shall report by ordinance, or otherwise.

Adopted.

In execution of said resolution, the President appointed following committee:
Mr. Roberts, chairman, 9th district; Messrs. Phillips, 10th district; Smith of Colorado, 1st district; Norris, 19th district; Lindsey, 20th district; Henderson, 7th district; Walker, 5th district; Young, 17th district; Mabry, 8th district; Parker, 12th district; Camp of Goliad, 14th district; Camp of Upshur, 7th district; Hancock, 2d district; Giddings, 3d district; Pas
Mr. Hancock, chairman of the committee on General Provisions of the Constitution, by leave, made the following report:

COMMITTEE ROOM, March 22d, 1866.

Hon. Wm. M. Taylor, President pro tem. of Convention:

The committee on General Provisions of the Constitution, to whom was referred a resolution instructing them to inquire into the expediency of requiring the Legislature to pass a general act of incorporation, conferring the right to grant charters upon the District Courts, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report the following, as the result of their deliberations, and to stand as a substitute for Section 31, Article VII, of the General Provisions:

ARTICLE VII.

Sec. 31. No private corporation shall be created by the Legislature, except for municipal, charitable or educational purposes, and it shall be the duty of the Legislature to provide by a general law for the creation of corporations for all other purposes.

Passed to orders of the day.

Mr. Shepard offered following resolution:

Resolved, That Blucher Hutchins, Page, receive the same pay for his services in the Hall as the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, for the time he has served in the Convention as such.

Adopted.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Mr. Slaughter moved to suspend the rule, and take up an ordinance out of its order. Lost.

The report of the committee on General Provisions, on a resolution regarding the division of the State into Congressional Districts, taken up.

Mr. Henderson moved to substitute for said report the report of the Legislative Committee on the same subject, made this morning.

Mr. Runnels made the point of order that the motion of Mr. Henderson was not in order, because if the motion is successful it gives premature consideration to the report of the Legislative Committee.

The Chair ruled the motion of Mr. Henderson to be in order.

Mr. Runnels appealed from the decision of the Chair.

The question being shall the decision of the Chair be sustained; and being put, the Chair was sustained.
The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Henderson to substitute,

Mr. Johnson of Tarrant moved to lay the motion of Mr. Henderson on the table.

The hour having arrived for the consideration of the special order of the day, viz: An ordinance making valid the laws and acts of officers therein mentioned, and for other purposes, taken up.

By leave, Mr. Mabry made following report:

Committee Room, March 21st, 1866.

Hon. W. M. Taylor, President pro tem. of Convention:

The committee on General Provisions, to which was referred "an ordinance requiring the Attorney General of the State to bring certain suits, &c.," have had the same under consideration, and direct me to report the following substitute therefor, and recommend its passage:

AN ORDINANCE.

Be it ordained by the people of the State of Texas, in Convention assembled, That it shall be the duty of the Attorney General of the State to bring suits in the District Court of Travis county against any and all persons who have received and appropriated to their own use United States Bonds, or other property, belonging to the State of Texas, under contracts, real or pretended, with the Military Board or other authority of the State, wherein damage has resulted or cause of action accrued to the State, by reason of a failure of such person or persons to comply with such contracts, for the recovery of any and all such bonds, or other property, or the value thereof, as under the rules of law and equity may be due and recoverable.

The Attorney General shall also institute suits in the same court against any and all persons who have drawn money from the treasury of the State, since the 5th day of August, 1865, for services, real or pretended, rendered since the 28th day of January, 1861, and prior to the 5th day of August, 1865, and recover the same, unless the party or parties who received the same can show some special equity which entitles him or them to retain the same contrary to the provisions of the ordinance passed by this Convention, making null and void the debt contracted by the State during the late civil war; and to secure the recovery of such bonds, or other property, or the payment thereof, and for the recovery of such money as has been obtained as above set forth, a lien is hereby created on all the property, real and personal, of all such persons as may be found legally liable under the provisions of this ordinance.
Read first time, and passed to orders of the day.

The question recurring on the special order of the day,

Mr. Reeves offered to amend 1st section as follows:

By adding the following after the word Convention, in 5th line: And not in conflict with the Governor's proclamation opening the courts, and authorizing the institution of suits.

The question being on the adoption of said amendment, and the Yeas and Nays being called for, stood thus:


So the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Henderson moved to amend the 1st line, 2d section, as follows:

Insert State and County before officers.

Mr. Hart moved to lay said amendment on the table, and the Yeas and Nays being called for, stood thus:


So the amendment was laid on the table.

Mr. Davis of Webb offered to amend as follows:

Insert after word that, in 2d line, the Legislature of this State shall at its first session designate by title and section, and in 5th line, strike out from "one" to word "State," in 6th line, inclusive, and substitute and may declare all such laws and parts
of laws to be in full force as laws of this State, and all laws and parts of laws which may not be so designated shall be declared null and void.

Mr. Slaughter moved to lay said amendment on the table, and the Yeas and Nays being called for, stood thus:


So the amendment was laid on the table.

Mr. McCormack offered to amend as follows:

Sec. 2. After the word State, in 3d line, insert and proclamations of said Provisional Governor.

Lost.

Mr. Davis of Webb offered to amend as follows:

Strike out all after the word and, in 6th line, 1st section.

On motion of Mr. Parsons, proposed amendment laid on the table.

Mr. Gurley offered to amend as follows:

Strike out the words or as amended by Ms Convention in the 5th, 9th and 10th lines, Section 1.

Adopted.

Mr. Hancock offered to amend as follows, to be added at the end of Section 1:

And, further, provided, that the right of the State to recover any United States bonds, or the value thereof, money or property of any description, which may have been obtained under contracts or pretended contracts, or otherwise improperly obtained, shall not be prejudiced by anything in this ordinance contained, nor shall any judgment rendered on service by publication, or any interlocutory judgment, be rendered legal and valid by this ordinance; nor shall the action of the Probate Courts be rendered valid and binding otherwise than such action has been conformable to the laws in force prior to the 28th of January, 1861, except payment of taxes under the laws in force at the time of such payments, and the collection and payment of debts which shall be adjusted according to equity and justice, under
the laws and authorities in force at the time of such collections and payments. And, further, provided, that no sale for taxes shall be made valid by this ordinance, but all such tax sales are hereby annulled.

The subject under consideration being Mr. Hancock's amendment,

Mr. Smith of Colorado, having the floor, was called to order by the President, under the ten minutes rule, and the question being shall the gentleman be allowed to proceed, it was put, and leave granted.

The question recurring on the adoption of the amendment of Mr. Hancock,

Mr. Taylor of Fannin moved to commit the original ordinance and proposed amendment to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to report as soon as practicable, and that the report so made be made the special order of the day for 10 o'clock on Saturday.

Mr. Thompson, from committee on Engrossed and Enrolled Ordinances, made following report:

COMMITTEE ROOM, March 22d, 1866.

Hon. W. M. Taylor, President, pro tem., Convention:

The committee on Engrossed and Enrolled Ordinances instruct me to report that Article V is correctly engrossed.

Received, and adopted.

Question recurring on the motion of Mr. Taylor, and the Yeas and Nays being called for, stood thus:


So motion prevailed.

On motion, the Convention adjourned till 7½ o'clock, to-night.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment; roll called; quorum present.
The Convention proceeded to the consideration of the resolution of Mr. Johnson of Tarrant, to lay on the table the motion of Mr. Henderson to substitute the report of the committee on Legislative Department, touching the division of the State into Congressional districts, for the report of the committee on General Provisions, made on the same subject.

Motion withdrawn by Mr. Johnson.

Question recurring on the motion to substitute,

Mr. Johnson of Tarrant again renewed his motion to lay the substitute on the table, on which the Yeas and Nays were ordered, and stood thus:


The Convention refused to lay the motion of Mr. Henderson on the table.

The question recurring on the adoption of the substitute, the Yeas and Nays were ordered, and stood:


So the Convention refused to adopt the substitute.

The question being on the adoption of the report of the committee, Mr. Davis of Cherokee moved to lay the report on the table, on which the Yeas and Nays were called for, and stood thus:

Nays—Messrs. Anderson, Ball, Benge, Bradshaw, Giddings, Hancock, Hart, Hurt, Johnson of Tarrant, Johnson of Titus, Jones of Bastrop, Ledbetter, Mabry, Middleton, Norris, Parsons, Record, Roberts, Saunders, Selman, Shepard, Shields, Smith of Colorado, Smith of Lamar, Taylor of Houston, Whitefield, and Young—27.

So the report of the committee was tabled.

Article X, Judicial Department, taken up, and placed on its third and final reading.

Amendments being in order, Mr. Davis of Webb proposed to amend as follows:

Sec. 1. On 4th and 5th lines strike out the words “five hundred.”

Sec. 5. On 4th line strike out the words “five hundred.”

Mr. Record offered the following as a substitute for the amendment of Mr. Davis of Webb:

In Sec. 2d, 4th and 5th lines, strike out four thousand five hundred, and insert three thousand; and in Sec. 5, 4th line, strike out three thousand five hundred, and insert two thousand two hundred and fifty.

On motion of Mr. Hurt, the substitute of Mr. Record was laid on the table by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Armstrong, Ball, Bradshaw, Camp of Goliad, Camp of Upshur, Davis of Webb, Davis of Cherokee, Degener, Gentry, Giddings, Hancock, Henderson, Hurt, Jones of Bexar, Lane, Ledbetter, Lindsey, Mabry, McCormack, Murchison, Nelson, Norris, Pascal, Perry, Reeves, Roberts, Shepard, Smith of Colorado, Thompson, Tyus, Varnell, Walker, and Waul—33.


Mr. Norton offered the following amendment:

Strike out all after the words, “and at,” and insert, Tyler, in Smith county, and Houston, in Harris county.

Mr. Henderson moved the previous question. Seconded.
The question being, shall the main question be now put, and the Yeas and Nays being called for, stood thus:

**Yeas—**Messrs. Anderson, Armstrong, Ball, Benge, Bradshaw, Camp of Goliad, Degener, Gentry, Giddings, Hancock, Henderson, Lane, Ledbetter, Mabry, McCormack, Murchison, Norris, Smith of Colorado, Thompson, Varnell, and Walker—21.


So the Convention refused to order the main question.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Davis of Webb, on motion, a division of the question was granted, and being taken up first on the motion to strike out the words five hundred, in second section, and the Yeas and Nays being called for, stood thus:


So the Convention refused to adopt the amendment.

Mr. Mabry offered to amend as follows:

Provided, that the salaries of the Judges of the District Courts in the districts in which the Judges are employed in the duties of holding courts less than thirty-two weeks, shall be only twenty-five hundred dollars, and those holding courts only twenty weeks, fifteen hundred dollars.

On motion to lay said amendment on the table, by Mr. Camp of Goliad, the Yeas and Nays were called for, and stood thus:

**Yeas—**Messrs. Bradshaw, Camp of Goliad, Camp of Upshur, Dalrymple, Davis of Webb, Degener, Flanagan, Giddings, Hancock, Henderson, Hurt, Johnson of Tarrant, Jones of Bexar, Ledbetter, McCormack, Murchison, Norris, Parsons, Paschal,


So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Mabry moved to adjourn till 9½ o'clock to-morrow.

Lost.

The question recurring on the 2d division of the motion of Mr. Davis of Webb, and the Yeas and Nays being called for, stood thus:


Nays—Messrs. Ball, Camp of Goliad, Degener, Gentry, Giddings, Hancock, Henderson, Hurt, Johnson of Tarrant, Ledbetter, Mabry, McCormack, Murchison, Norris, Paschal, Shepard, Smith of Colorado, Thompson, and Varnell—19.

So the Convention refused to adopt the amendment.

Mr. Davis of Webb moved to adjourn till to-morrow, at 9½ o'clock.

Carried by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Benge, Bradshaw, Camp of Goliad, Camp of Upshur, Davis of Webb, Davis of Cherokee, Hancock, Johnson of Tarrant, Jones of Bexar, Ledbetter, Lindsey, Murchison, Nelson, Norris, Parsons, Paschal, Perry, Porter, Record, Reeves, Saunders, Shuford, Selman, Shepard, Shields, Smith of Lamar, and Whitfield—27.


FRIDAY, March 23d, 1866.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by the chaplain; roll called; quorum present; journal of yesterday read and adopted.