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Citation: *Debates in the Texas Constitutional Convention of 1875 Texas. Constitutional Convention (1875). Austin: Published by the University of Texas, c1930.*

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'fatherland,' if we abolish this bureau. These immigrants, who come from a nation of scholars world-renowned for science, literature, and inventions, bring with them the educated mind and genius of their mother country; and thousands of newspapers, *Texas Almanacs*, and multiplied thousands of letters, land agents' circulars, and other documents annually reach their far-off friends, inviting them to share our hospitality, prosperity, and free government. They go back to their old homes and say to their kindred and friends, in the words of the Bible, 'Behold I journey to a country of which the Lord thy God hath said, I will give it to thee. Go with us and we will do thee good all the days of thy life.' And we stand in the Gulf shores and say, welcome to this Canaan of fair and happy lands. We say that millions of hospitable homes and rich acres are waiting for your hands without price when you come, *but not one cent to hire you to do so.*

"One word in reply to my friend from Colorado and I am done. He says if we abolish this bureau it will be the last straw on the camel's back, and the Constitution will be defeated. Well, sir, I do not believe the members of this body will allow the ghost of a possible defeated Constitution to scare them until, like himself they 'strain at a gnat and swallow a camel.'"

MR. ABERNATHY moved the previous question, which was sustained.

General Whitfield's amendment was lost by a vote of 18 to 62.

Mr. Waelder's substitute, as amended by Judge Reagan, was lost by a vote of 33 to 47.

THIRTY-NINTH DAY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1875⁸⁰

MR. RUSSELL, of Wood, presented a minority report of the article on revenue and taxation. He said the minority could not approve of that part of the majority report which permitted non-residents to pay their taxes at the Comptroller's Office, or at any other place than in the county in which their lands was situated.

MR. STOCKDALE moved to reconsider the vote adopting the resolution prohibiting the establishment of a bureau of immigration. The motion was argued at length, and was finally made the special order for the next Wednesday.

⁸⁰The proceedings for this day were taken from the *State Gazette* (Austin), October 21, 1875.

The article on railroads was taken up and passed to its third reading. An amendment was passed, providing that railroads running within three miles of a county seat must run through the county seat. A clause was also passed, allowing any portion of the real or personal property of a railroad company to be levied upon under execution.

The remainder of the session was consumed with reports of the Judiciary Committee. Four were presented.

FORTIETH DAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1875⁸¹

Railroad Article Reconsidered

MR. RUSSELL, of Wood, moved to reconsider the vote engrossing the railroad article. The motion carried.

COLONEL CRAWFORD moved as a substitute for Section 6, "No railroad company organized under the laws of this State shall consolidate by private or judicial sale, or otherwise, with any railroad company organized under the laws of any other state or of the United States." He said he thought the policy of the State should require that her railroad companies be kept exclusively under her own control.

MR. STOCKDALE said the Legislature could not create a foreign corporation, but Congress had chartered railroads running through several states, and he would like to be informed how they could prevent it. He thought the object of building railroads was to go to the sea, and failing that, to connect with other roads in the interest of commerce. As Judge Black said in a celebrated Pennsylvania case, towns on the border ought not to be permitted to compel railroads to dump their freight for the benefit of local communities. The idea that we were to break lines of transportation, not consolidate with other roads, was preposterous. It mattered not how much companies consolidated according to the Supreme Court of the United States, the company was like a citizen and could be tried where its locus was. Let us have through lines of communication, bridge at Red River, and not be compelled to stop and break the

⁸¹The proceedings for this day were taken from the *State Gazette* (Austin), October 22, 1875.