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Mesrs. Nelson, Jones and Maxey were appointed the committee.

The following communication was taken from the President's table and read—

Hon. O. M. Roberts

President of the State Convention.

Feeling a deep interest in the honor, welfare, and prosperity of our beloved State, we beg leave to present to the Convention, now controlling her destinies, upon the passage of the ordinance of secession, a banner, symbolizing her resumption of State sovereignty.

Respectfully

Bettie Buckner
Maggie Ragsdale
Ruth T. Davidson
Lillie Bouldin

City of Austin Texas

Jany. 29, 1861.

Mr. Rogers of Harris offered the following resolution which was adopted

"Resolved that a committee of 'five' be appointed to receive from the ladies of Austin a flag to be tendered by them to this Convention. [']"

The following persons were appointed the committee Mesrs. Rogers of Harris, Flournoy, Donalson, Luckett, and Robertson of Washinton.

On motion of Mr. Jennings the Convention adjourned until tomorrow at 2 o'clock, P. M.

City of Austin Texas,
Wednesday January 30, 1861.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Roll called. quorum present. Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Bayless.

The President announced that he had appointed Julius Brown and C. A. Hopkins pages to the Convention on yesterday.

The following gentlemen were admitted as permanent and duly accredited delegates in this Convention upon presentation of their credentials which appeared in proper form, viz: A. J. Nicholson from District No. Fannin county. J. N. Fall and Wm. Clark jr, from District No. Nacogdoches county. H. H. Edwards from District No. Nacogdoches and Angelina counties. Elbert Earley from District No. Fannin and Hunt counties. L. H. Williams, Geo. W. Wright, Wm. H. Johnson from District No. Lamar county.

Mr. Rainey presented his credentials which were received and appeared in proper form.

The following delegates not present on yesterday when the vote was taken were allowed to record their votes upon the resolution offered by Mr. Wharton, declaring separate State secession the present correct policy in the opinion of this Convention on the part of the State of Texas, viz:

Yea, Mesrs. Poag, Earley, Nicholson of Fannin, Wilcox and Edwards, 5.

Nays, Mesrs. Clark and Fall, 2.

Making the vote upon the resolution 157 yeas, 8 nays.

Mr. Jno. H. Reagan having been admitted to his seat on yesterday presented his credentials which were in proper form, from district No. 11 composed of the counties of Anderson, Houston and Trinity.

The President announced the following standing committees under the resolution offered by Mr. Locke on yesterday.

Committee on Public Safety. Mesrs. 1. Robertson of Smith, 2. Brown, 3. Rogers of Marion, 4. Armstrong, 5. Rainey, 6. Ford of Cameron, 7. Rogers of Harris, 8. Norris, 9. Wilcox, 10. Thompson, 11. Miller, 12. Green, 13. Cleyland, 14. Hooker, 15. Luckett.

Committee on Finance. Mesrs. 1. Nichols, 2. Stewart of Gonzales, 3. Scott, 4. Gould, 5. Smith of Fannin, 6. Smith of Bexar, 7. Batte, 8. Terry of Fort Bend, 9. Dean.

Committee on Resolutions. Mesrs. 1. Wiley, 2. Poag, 3. Dancy, 4. Diamond of Cooke, 5. Ford of Caldwell, 6. Ganahl, 7. Hutchison, 8. Jennings, 9. McCraven, 10. Mills, 11. Nauendorf, 12. Obenchain, 13. Chilton, 14. Neyland, 15. Montel.

And the following as the committee to which was referred the resolutions relative to the oaths proposed to be administered to the members and officers of the Convention, viz: Mesrs. Ochiltree, Robertson of Washington, Anderson of Cherokee, Wiley and Johnson of Titus.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution,

"Resolved that we have learned with pleasure that the Hon. Jno. McQueen, commissioner from the sovereign State of South Carolina to the State of Texas, has reached the City of Austin, and that we hereby invite him to a seat upon the President's stand during the session of this Convention, and that a committee of three be appointed to inform him of this action. [']"

Mr. Mills moved to refer the resolution to a special committee of two.

Mr. Muller moved the previous question which was ordered.

The motion of Mr. Mills failed.

Mr. Dancy moved to lay the resolution on the table. Lost.
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The resolution was then adopted.

Mr. Rogers of Harris offered the following resolution.

"Resolved that such of the soldiers of the Revolution of Texas as are in this city be invited to seats within the bar of the House, provided they are in favor of another revolution.[""]

On motion of Mr. Green the resolution was laid on the table.

The following communication was received from the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Texas Capitol
Jany 30, 1961.

Hon. O. M. Roberts

President of the State Convention.

Sir.

At the request of the House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit herewith an Ordinance of the Alabama State Convention, dissolving the union between the State of Alabama and other States united under a compact styled [“]the Constitution of the United States of America.”

The letter of William M. Brooks, President of the Alabama Convention, and that of Governor Houston transmitting the same is also herewith enclosed.

Very respectfully,
M. D. K. Taylor.

Executive Department
Austin Jany 24 1861

To Hon Ed Clark

President of the Senate

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith a communication purporting to be from the Hon Wm M Brooks, President of the Alabama State Convention, with the request that when the same is read it be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sam Houston

Montgomery, Alabama,
January 11th, 1861.

To His Excellency

Governor of the State of Texas.

Sir:

By order of the Convention of the People of Alabama, I have the honor herewith to transmit to you a copy of the Ordinance this day passed, "To dissolve the union between the State of Alabama and the Property of Tarlton Law Library, Jamail Center for Legal Research, The University of Texas School of Law

other States united under the compact styled 'The United States of America.' "

I have the honor to be very respectfully

William M. Brooks,
President of the Convention.

An Ordinance to dissolve the union between the State of Alabama and other States united under the compact styled "The Constitution of the United States of America"

Whereas, the election of Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin to the offices of president and vice-president of the United States of America, by a sectional party, avowedly hostile to the domestic institutions and to the peace and security of the people of the State of Alabama, preceded by many and dangerous infractions of the constitution of the United States by many of the States and people of the Northern section, is a political wrong of so insulting and menacing a character as to justify the people of the State of Alabama in the adoption of prompt and decided measures for their future peace and security, therefore:

Be it declared and ordained by the people of the State of Alabama, in Convention assembled, That the State of Alabama now withdraws, and is hereby withdrawn from the Union known as "the United States of America," and henceforth ceases to be one of said United States, and is, and of right ought to be a Sovereign and Independent State.

Sec. 2. Be it further declared and ordained by the people of the State of Alabama in Convention assembled, That all the powers over the Territory of said State, and over the people thereof, heretofore delegated to the Government of the United States of America, be and they are hereby withdrawn from said Government, and are hereby resumed and vested in the people of the State of Alabama.

And as it is the desire and purpose of the people of Alabama to meet the slaveholding States of the South, who may approve such purpose, in order to frame a provisional as well as permanent Government upon the principles of the Constitution of the United States,

Be it resolved by the people of Alabama in Convention assembled, That the people of the States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri, be and are hereby invited to meet the people of the State of Alabama, by their Delegates, in Convention, on the 4th day of February, A. D., 1861, at the city of Montgomery, in the State of Alabama, for the purpose of consulting with each other as to the most effectual mode of securing concerted and harmonious action in whatever measures may be deemed most desirable for our common peace and security.

And be it further resolved, That the President of this Convention, be and is hereby instructed to transmit forthwith a copy of the foregoing Preamble, Ordinance, and Resolutions to the Governors of the several States named in said resolutions

Done by the people of the State of Alabama, in Convention assembled, at Montgomery, on this, the eleventh day of January, A. D. 1861.

William M. Brooks,
President of the Convention.⁴

The following communication was received from the House of Representatives

Austin Jany. 30th 1861.

Hon. O. M. Roberts

President of the State Convention

Sir:

In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives I here-with transmit to your honorable body a special communication re-ceived in the House to day from his Excellency Gov. Houston, relative to certain resolutions passed by the Legislature of Tennessee to-gether with said resolutions

I have the honor to be
W. L. Chalmers
Chf. Clk. H. of R.

Executive Department, Austin Texas
January 30th 1861.

Gentlemen of the Senate

And House of Representatives.

I have the honor to transmit to your honorable bodies the Joint Resolutions adopted by the Legislature of the State of Tennessee in reference to certain resolutions adopted by the State of New York.

In these perilous times it is proper that the Representatives of the people of Texas should meet at the threshold every assault upon their liberties, and whether that assault comes in the form of threats or actual invasion it should alike be repelled.

Having called you together to provide for an expression of the sovereign will of the people at the ballot box, I also deem it my duty to declare that while the freemen of Texas are deliberating upon this question no impending threat of coercion from the people of another State should be permitted to hang over them without at least meeting

⁴Hon. J. M. Calhoun, commissioner from the State of Alabama, visited Austin about January 5, 1861. Finding neither the Legislature nor the Con-vention in session, he addressed himself to Governor Houston. His letter to Governor Houston and the reply of the latter are printed in the Journal of the Senate, Extra Session of the Eighth Legislature, 31-37.

the condemnation of their Representatives. Whatever that sovereign will may be when fairly expressed it must be maintained. Texas as one man will defend it. While the Executive would not counsel foolish bravado, he deems it a duty we owe to the people to declare that even though their action shall bring upon us the consequences which now seem impending we will all, be our views in the past or present what they may, be united.

Sam Houston

Joint Resolution

Adopted by the Legislature of Tennessee.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That this General Assembly has heard with profound regret of the resolutions recently adopted by the Legislature of the State of New York, tendering men and money to the President of the United States, to be used in coercing certain sovereign States of the South into obedience to the Federal Government.

Resolved, That this General Assembly receives the action of the Legislature of New York as the indication of a purpose upon the part of the people of that State to further complicate existing difficulties, by forcing the people of the South to the extremity of submission or resistance; and so regarding it, the Governor of the State of Tennessee is hereby requested to inform the Executive of the State of New York, that it is the opinion of this General Assembly that whenever the authorities of that State shall send armed forces to the South for the purpose indicated in said resolutions, the people of Tennessee, uniting with their brethren of the South will, as one man, resist such invasion of the soil of the South at any hazard and to the last extremity.

W. C. Whitthorne, Speaker H of R
Tazwell W. Newman Speaker of Sen.

Mr. Jennings moved to refer the resolutions to the committee on Public Safety

Mr. Green moved to amend by inserting the committee on Federal Relations. Lost.

The motion of Mr. Jennings then prevailed.

Mr. Ford of Caldwell offered the following resolutions

"Resolved 1st, That this Convention will on the day of at the hour of elect seven delegates to represent the State of Texas in a convention of the States which have seceded and which may hereafter secede from the government formerly known as the United States of America to meet in the City of Montgomery in the State of Alabama on the 4th day of Feby. A. D. 1861.

“2nd. That said delegates are hereby instructed to use their efforts for the formation of a provisional government for the seceded States to go into operation before the 4th day of March A. D. 1861, and to offer in behalf of the people of Texas to said convention the constitution of the late United States as a suitable basis of such provisional government; provided that said provisional government and the tenure of all offices and appointments under it shall expire within one year from the 4th day of February A. D. 1861, or when a permanent government shall have been organized

“3rd. That said delegates are further instructed to use their efforts to procure the formation of a Southern Confederacy of the seceding States, and that for said purpose they urge upon said convention the formation of a constitution and plan of permanent government for said Confederacy which when formed shall be referred to the several States for their ratification or rejection

“4th. That it is the deliberate sense of this Convention that each State represented in said convention shall be entitled to one vote upon all matters which may be acted on by said convention

“5th. That in case the convention contemplated by these resolutions does not meet at the time and place specified in these resolutions, then the delegates elected by this Convention be and they are hereby accredited to any other convention of the seceding States having for its object the formation of a Southern Confederacy.”

On motion of Mr. Terry of Tarrant laid on the table.

Mr. Maxey offered the following resolution

“Resolved, That it is the sense of this Convention that when the ordinance of secession is passed it shall be referred to the people of the State for their ratification.”

On motion of Mr. Jennings the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Wiley offered the following resolutions

“Resolved that this Convention forthwith appoint three commissioners to attend the convention of the Southern States at the City of Montgomery, Alabama, to tender said convention assurances of our cordial sympathy in its proceedings, and also of the co-operation of Texas in extending and strengthening a Southern Confederacy, as soon as her people can act authoritatively in the premises, and that said commissioners be instructed to urge upon said convention the propriety of styling the constitution it may adopt ‘The Constitution of the Southern United States’; and also providing therein for the admission of any of the slave-holding States which may hereafter ratify the same, *by a vote of its people*; and recognizing their senators and representatives, respectively, in the present congress of the United States, as duly qualified to represent them, respectively, in the

Southern United States, and also providing for the continuance in office, under the new federal government, of the existing federal officers in each of the slave-holding States that may hereafter come into the Union of the Southern United States.]”]

Mr. Gray offered the following resolution as a substitute for the foregoing

“Resolved that the people of Texas are in favor of the speedy formation of a federal union with other slave-holding States.”

On motion of Mr. Scurry the resolution and substitute were laid on the table.

Mr. Graham from the committee to which were referred the resolutions relative to waiting on the Governor made the following report.

To the Hon O. M. Roberts

President of the Convention

The special committee appointed for the purpose of considering the resolution and substitutes proposing to raise a committee to wait upon the Governor have discharged that duty, and beg leave to report the accompanying resolutions as a substitute and recommend their adoption.

“Resolved that a committee of five be appointed by the President whose duty it shall be to wait on the Executive of the State and confer with him on subjects connected with our federal relations; and also that a like committee of five be appointed by the President to inform the Legislature now in session that this Convention is organized and ready for business.

“Resolved 2nd, that it is the desire of this Convention to act in harmony with the different Departments of our State Government.”

On motion of Mr. Graham the rule was suspended, the resolutions taken up and adopted.

The President appointed the following persons the committee. Mesrs. Reagan, Gray, Rogers of Harris, Stell and Devine

Mr. Rogers of Harris offered the following resolution which was adopted.

“Resolved that a committee on Foreign Relations composed of seven persons be appointed by the President of this Convention”

Mr. Beazley offered the following resolutions

1st. “Resolved that it is the request of this Convention that the House of Representatives grant it the use of this Hall during business hours until this Convention shall have concluded its deliberations

2nd. “That the Secretary of this Convention prepare a copy of the same and present it to the Hon. M. D. K. Taylor, Speaker of the

House of Representatives, with a request that he lay the same before that body."

On motion of Mr. Nelson laid on the table.

The President announced the following as the committee to wait upon the Hon. Jno. McQueen, commissioner from the State of South Carolina. Mesrs. Chilton, Wilcox and Lubbock.

On motion of Mr. Ochiltree the Convention took a recess of twenty minutes.

At the expiration of the time the Convention was called to order.

The committee appointed to wait upon the Hon. Jno. McQueen reported that duty performed, when he was introduced to the Convention with appropriate honor and invited to a seat on the President's left.

Mr. T. J. Chambers, chairman of the committee on Federal Relations, made the following report

To the President of the Convention of the State of Texas.

The undersigned chairman of the committee on Federal Relations has been instructed by the committee to report and recommend the accompanying "Ordinance to dissolve the union of the State of Texas with the government of the United States of America, and to resume all the powers delegated to that government and her position of equality among the nations of the earth"

Upon the adoption of this part of the ordinance there was complete unanimity in the committee, but the chairman regrets to have to report that the same unanimity could not prevail upon the adoption of the second section, for the submission of the ordinance to the people for their ratification. There was a minority of the committee and with them the chairman who believed that the circumstances in which we are placed, and the danger by which we are surrounded, demand that the ordinance should be adopted by the Convention in such form as to infuse into it immediate and effective vitality.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. J. Chambers, Chrnn.

An Ordinance to dissolve the union between the State of Texas and the other States, united under the compact styled "The Constitution of the United States of America."

Sec. 1. Whereas, The Federal Government has failed to accomplish the purposes of the compact of union between these States in giving protection either to the persons of our people upon an exposed frontier or to the property of our citizens; and whereas the action of the Northern States of the Union, and the recent development in federal affairs, make it evident that the power of the Federal Govern-

ment is sought to be made a weapon with which to strike down the interests and prosperity of the Southern people, instead of permitting it to be as it was intended our shield against outrage and aggression: Therefore

We the people of the State of Texas in Convention do declare and ordain, that the ordinance adopted by our Convention of delegates on the 4th day of July A. D. 1845, and afterwards ratified by us, under which the Republic of Texas was admitted into union with other States and became a party to the compact styled "The Constitution of the United States of America" be and is hereby repealed and annulled; that all the powers which by said compact were delegated by Texas to the Federal Government are revoked and resumed; that Texas is of right absolved from all restraints and obligations incurred by said compact and is a separate sovereign State.

Sec. 2. This ordinance shall be submitted to the people of Texas for ratification or rejection by the qualified voters on the 23rd day of February A. D. 1861, and unless rejected by a majority of the votes cast shall take effect and be in force on and after the 2nd day of March, A. D. 1861.

Done by the people of the State of Texas in Convention assembled at Austin, this day of A. D. 1861.

The Ordinance was read 1st time.

Mr. Ochiltree, from the committee on Federal Relations, made the following minority report.

To the President of the Convention.

The minority of the committee on Federal Relations concur fully with the majority in recommending the adoption of the ordinance reported by the said committee; but we ask leave respectfully to dissent from the resolution accompanying the ordinance, which proposes to refer said ordinance to a vote of the people for ratification or rejection. The minority are of the opinion that the best interests of the people of the State would be served by giving an immediate operation to the ordinance of secession.

W. B. Ochiltree
A. W. O. Hicks
Wm. S. Todd
P. T. Herbert.

Mr. Scott moved a suspension of the rules in order that the reports might be taken up for action.

On motion of Mr. Rainey the Convention adjourned until 7 1/2 o'clock P. M. to meet in secret session.

Jany 30th/61, 7 1/2 o'clock, P. M.

In Secret Session.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Roll called.
Quorum present.

On motion of Mr. Rogers of Harris the Hon. Royal T. Wheeler was admitted into the secret session of the Convention.

On motion of Mr. Oldham Lt. Gov. Ed. Clark was admitted into the secret session of the Convention

By leave Mr. Chilton introduced the petition of the "Tyler Dragoons" which was referred to the committee on Public Safety.

By leave Mr. Brown introduced an ordinance to secure the friendship and cooperation of the Choetaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek and other Indian nations.

On motion of Mr. Brown the ordinance was referred to the committee on Public Safety without reading.

By leave, Mr. Reagan from the committee to wait upon the governor made the following report.

To the President of the Convention of the people of Texas.

The committee appointed to confer with the Executive of the State on the condition of our federal relations, report that they waited on the Governor and informed him of our official character and the purport of our visit. He received us with due respect, expressed his thanks for this action of the Convention, and assured us that he would communicate his views in writing on to-morrow by 11 o'clock A. M. as he understood that the Convention met in the afternoon. On our delivering to him a copy of the resolutions under which we acted, and enquiring whether the answer he had given was to be understood as his definite answer to our visit for conference, he replied that it was for the present, and that he would communicate further in writing to-morrow. The committee propose to wait on the Governor for his communication at the time designated.

Jno. H. Reagan

P. W. Gray

Jno. D. Stell

Thos. J. Devine

W. P. Rogers.

By leave, Mr. Stell chairman of the committee to present business for the consideration of this Convention reported "An Ordinance to provide for the appointment of Delegates from the State of Texas to a Convention of the Southern Seceded States,["] and recommended it to the favorable consideration of the Convention.

The ordinance was read 1st time.

The motion of Mr. Scott, to suspend the rules for the purpose of taking up the reports of the majority and minority of the committee upon Federal Relations, and "The Ordinance to dissolve the Union between the State of Texas and the other States united under the compact styled 'the Constitution of the United States of America' [']" reported thereby, being next in order, carried. And the reports and ordinance were taken up and read.

The Convention then proceeded to the consideration of the ordinance.

Mr. Wiley offered "An Ordinance to dissolve the existing union between the State of Texas and other States, under a compact entitled 'United States of America' and to establish a new constitution of Government" as a substitute.

An ordinance to dissolve the existing union between the State of Texas and other States under a compact entitled 'Constitution of the United States of America' and to establish a new constitution of Government

Sec. 1. We the people of the State of Texas by our duly elected delegates in Convention assembled do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained that the union by a written compact between the State of Texas and the other States, under the name of the United States of America, having failed to answer the ends of its formation, is hereby dissolved, and that Texas is and of right ought to be a free and independent State, that her citizens and people are absolved from all allegiance to the United States or the government thereof, and that as a free and independent State she has full power to do all acts and things which independent States may of right do.

Sec. 2. In order to avoid as much as possible the inconvenience consequent upon the transition from the Federal Union to the position of an independent State, it is further declared and ordained that all parts of the existing State constitution and laws, not repugnant to the foregoing ordinance and the provisions following, shall continue in full force and effect as far as the same may be applicable to our changed condition; and that all the officers of the existing State government shall hold their offices and perform the duties thereof for and during their respective terms, provided nevertheless that each of said officers shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support the ordinance of secession and constitution of government adopted by the Convention; and no officer of the existing State government shall proceed in the discharge of the duties of his office until he has taken said oath or affirmation to be administered as herein provided.

viz: To the Governor by the Lt. Governor, as soon as practicable

after this ordinance and constitution take effect, and to all other officers by any officer authorized by law to administer oaths; and in case the Governor for a week, or any other officer for the period of [a] whole month after this ordinance and constitution take effect, neglect or fail to take said oath or affirmation his office shall be deemed and held vacant and the same filled and the duties thereof discharged as though he were dead or had resigned. The said oath or affirmation shall be administered in the form following, to wit: "I (A. B.) do solemnly swear or affirm (as the case may be) that I will support the ordinance of secession and the constitution of government ratified by the people of Texas on the day of in the year 1861. So help me God."

Sec. 3. Immediately after the adjournment of this Convention, the Governor of this State, or in case of his fault the Lieut. Governor, shall issue his proclamation directing the chief justices of the several counties of this State, and the several chief justices are hereby required to cause polls to be opened in their respective counties at the established precincts on the day of Feby. 1861, for the purpose of taking the sense of the people of Texas upon the ordinance of secession and constitution of government adopted by this Convention, and also upon any constitution of general government for the slave-holding States that may be adopted by the convention to assemble at the City of Montgomery, Alabama, on the 4th day of Feby. A. D. 1861, and the votes of all persons entitled to vote under the existing laws shall be received. Each voter shall express his opinion "viva voce" either for the ratification of the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government or for the rejection of the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government, and at the same time the vote shall be taken in like manner for the ratification of any constitution of general government for the Southern United States that may be adopted at Montgomery, Alabama, with a view to make Texas a party thereto, or for the rejection thereof, and each issue submitted to the people shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast thereon. The election shall be conducted in conformity to existing laws regulating elections, and the chief justices of the several counties shall promptly and carefully make triplicate returns of said polls, one of which shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State, one to the Lieut. Governor, and the other deposited in the clerk's office of the county court. In case any chief justice shall make default herein, any one or more of the county commissioners are authorized to perform the duties enjoined upon the chief justices, and in case of their default then the people may assemble at the various precincts on the day of election, appoint presiding offi-

cers or managers and make returns as herein provided. Upon the receipt of said returns upon the day of March A. D. 1861, (if the returns be not sooner made), it shall be the duty of the Governor or in case of his default the Lieut. Governor, in the presence of such persons as may choose to attend, to compare the votes given for the ratification or rejection of the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government, and also the votes given for the ratification or rejection of any constitution of general government for the Southern United States that may be adopted at Montgomery, Alabama, and if it should appear from the returns that a majority of the votes given is for the ratification of the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government adopted by the Convention, then it shall at once be the duty of the Governor, or in case of his default the Lieut. Governor, to make proclamation of the fact, and thenceforth the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government adopted by this Convention shall take effect; and if it shall also appear from the returns that a majority of the votes given is for the ratification of the constitution of general government for the *Southern* United States that may be adopted at Montgomery, Alabama, then it shall be in like manner the duty of the Governor, or in case of his default, the Lieut. Governor to make proclamation of the fact, and thenceforth Texas shall be one of the Southern United States, with a written federal constitution to take effect at the same time with the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government; the authority for each act being the sovereign will of the people of Texas. In the event of the ratification by the people of Texas of the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government and federal government of the Southern United States, the Governor of this State or in his default the Lieut. Governor is authorized and required to transmit to the executive of the Southern United States duplicate copies of the ordinance of secession and constitution of State government of Texas properly authenticated, also properly authenticated statements of the number of votes given for the ratification of the federal constitution of the Southern United States, and the number for the rejection, one of which copies shall be transmitted by mail, and one copy by special messenger in time to reach the seat of government of the Southern United States on or before the day of May next.

On motion of Mr. Field the ordinance offered by Mr. Wiley was laid on the table.

The question recurring upon the ordinance offered by the committee on Federal Relations, Mr. Gregg moved to strike out the 2nd Section.

Pending which motion on motion of Mr. Wharton the Convention adjourned until tomorrow at 11 o'clock, A. M., to meet in secret session.

City of Austin Texas
Thursday, Jany. 31st 1861.

In Secret Session.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, at 11 o'clock A. M. Roll called. quorum present.

Mr. Hord presented the credentials of Mr. F. W. Latham, which were received, and Mr. Latham took his seat in the Convention.

Mr. Davidson moved to add Mr. Ganahl to the committee on Public Safety, which was carried

Mr. Jennings moved to add Mr. Latham to the same committee, which was carried.

On motion of Mr. Anderson of Colorado, Mr. Oldham was added to the same committee

On motion of Mr. Chilton, Mr. W. L. Chalmers and Mr. H. H. Haynie were requested to act as Secretaries to the Convention during the temporary absence of the Secretary, occasioned by a family bereavement.

On motion of Mr. Gregg, Mr. Reagan was added to the committee on Federal Relations

By leave, Mr. Maxey submitted the following report,

"The committee charged with the duty of informing the Revd. W. H. Bayless of his election as chaplain of the Convention, beg leave to report that they have performed that duty and the Revd. Gentleman has signified his acceptance of the same."

By leave, Mr. Gregg offered the following resolution,

"Resolved that the committee on Finance be instructed to confer with such committees as the House and Senate may appoint concerning an appropriation of such funds as the State government may have in possession, and such as it may raise by the ordinary modes of taxation and that the same committee be instructed to report to the Convention a statement of the available means of the State and what appropriations have been made['] Adopted.

Mr. Chilton offered the following preamble and resolutions,

"Whereas it is the opinion of this Convention that the capacity of a free government for self-reliance depends much upon its capacity for supplying all the reasonable demands of its citizens, and whereas the future may devolve upon the State of Texas a dependence upon her internal resources, and whereas further it is the duty of the leg-