

Citation: Journal of the Secession Convention of Texas 1861. Edited from the original in the department of state by Ernest William Winkler, State Librarian. Texas Library and Historical Commission, the State Library. Austin]: Austin Print. Co., 1912. Originally published serially in newspapers.

Content downloaded from

Tarlton Constitutions 1824-1876 (http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/constitutions/)

The text of these documents is in the public domain. That is, the original words and content are freely usable.

The images of the documents are copyrighted material; the copyright is held by the Tarlton Law Library. The copyrighted images may be used only with permission. Permission is granted to use the copyrighted materials in the classroom for educational purposes. Downloading, printing, publication, public display or otherwise using any of the copyrighted images, including on the web or in a forum other than a classroom, requires permission from Tarlton. Requests for permission to use these materials should be submitted online to rarebooks@law.utexas.edu.

If you are uncertain whether you need permission to use these materials, please contact us at rarebooks@law.utexas.edu.

son of Dallas, Nicholson of Fannin, Norris, Obenchain, Palmer, Payne of Hopkins, Peck, Poag, Portis, Preston, Rainey, Rhome, Robertson of Bell, Robertson of Smith, Robertson of Washington, Rogers of Harris, Rogers of Marion, Ross, Rugeley, Runnels, Russell, Scott, Scurry, Shepard, Smith of Bexar, Smith of Fannin, Stapp, Stell, Stewart of Anderson, Stewart of Falls, Stewart of Gonzales, Stockdale, Taylor, Terry of Tarrant, Thompson, Todd, Waller, Walworth, Warren, Watkins, Wharton, Wier, Wilcox of Bexar, Wilcox of Denton, Wiley, Wilson and Wright, 126.

On motion of Mr. Maxey the Convention adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

City of Austin, Texas, Saturday, March 9th/61.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Roll called. Quorum present. Prayer by the chaplain. The Journals of the preceding sessions, not heretofore acted upon, were read and adopted.

By leave Mr. Hicks was allowed to record his vote in favor of the adoption of the ordinance in relation to the union of the State of Texas with the Confederate States of America and in favor of the resolution offered by Mr. Roberts on yesterday declaring the sense of this Convention as to its powers and duties, in response to the communication of the Executive of the State to the committee of the Convention.

Mr. Hicks presented the credentials of J. S. Holland delegate elect from the county of Jasper, which were referred to the committee on Credentials and the Secretary ordered to enroll his name.

The President submitted the following communication from the Hon. Geo. Williamson, commissioner from the State of Louisiana to the State of Texas and the accompanying correspondence which occurred during the recess of the Convention, viz:

City of Austin Feby 11th 1861.

Dear Sir.

The Convention of which you have the honor to be President having adjourned to meet on a day too distant to permit my awaiting its re-assemblage, I beg leave to ask you to lay before that honorable body at its next session the accompanying credentials, ordinances and official communication. I trust that the views contained in the last may not be deemed intrusive. Allow me to assure you personally of my profound respect and regard Your obdt. servt.

Geo. Williamson, Comr of the State of Louisiana.

To the Hon. O. M. Roberts.

President of the convention of the people of Texas.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention of the people of Texas

I have the honor to address you as the commissioner of the people of Louisiana, accredited to your honorable body. With this communication, by the favor of your presiding officer, will be laid before you my credentials, the ordinance of secession, a resolution in regard to the Mississippi river and the ordinance to provide for the appointment of delegates to a convention to form a Southern Confederacy. These ordinances and the resolution were adopted at their respective dates by the people of Louisiana in convention assembled, after serious debate and calm reflection.

Being desirous of obtaining the concurrence of the people of Texas in what she has done, Louisiana invites you to a candid consideration of her acts in resuming the powers delegated to the government of the late United States, and in providing for the formation of a confederaev of "The States which have seceded and may secede." The archives of the Federal Government bear ample testimony to the lovalty of Louisiana to the American Union. Her conservatism has been proverbial in political circles. The character and pursuits of her people, her immense agricultural wealth, her large banking capital, her possession of the great commercial metropolis of the South, whose varied trade almost rivals that of the city of "ten thousand masts" present facts sufficient to make "assurance doubly sure" she did not take these grave steps for light or transient causes. She was impelled to this action to preserve her honor, her safety, her property and the free institutions so sacred to her people. She believed the federal agent had betrayed her trust, had become the facile instrument of a hostile people, and was usurping despotic powers. She considered that the present vacillating executive, on the 4th of March next, would be supplanted by a stalwart fanatic of the Northwest, whose energetic will, backed by the frenzied bigotry of unpatriotic masses, would cause him to establish the military despotism already inaugurated.

The people of Louisiana were unwilling to endanger their liberties and property by submission to the despotism of a single tyrant, or the canting tyranny of pharisaical majorities. Insulted by the denial of her constitutional equality by the non-slave-holding States, outraged by their contemptuous rejection of proffered compromises, and convinced that she was illustrating the capacity of her people for self-government by withdrawing from a union that had failed, without fault of hers, to accomplish its purposes, she declared herself a free and independent State on the 26th day of January last. History affords no example of a people who changed their government for more

just or substantial reasons. Louisiana looks to the formation of a Southern confederacy to preserve the blessings of African slavery, and of the free institutions of the founders of the Federal Union, bequeathed to their posterity. As her neighbor and sister State, she desires the hearty co-operation of Texas in the formation of a Southern Confederacy. She congratulates herself on the recent disposition evinced by your honorable body to meet this wish, by the election of delegates to the Montgomery convention. Louisiana and Texas have the same language, laws and institutions. the same great staples-sugar and cotton. Between the citizens of each exists the most cordial social and commercial intercourse. Red river and the Sabine form common highways for the transportation of their produce to the markets of the world. Texas affords to the commerce of Louisiana a large portion of her products, and in exchange the banks of New Orleans furnish Texas with her only paper circulating medium. Louisiana supplies to Texas a market for her surplus wheat, grain and stock; both States have large areas of fertile, uncultivated lands, peculiarly adapted to slave labor; and they are both so deeply interested in African slavery that it may be said to be absolutely necessary to their existence, and is the keystone to the arch of their prosperity. Each of the States has an extended Gulf coast, and must look with equal solicitude to its protection now, and the acquisition of the entire control of the Gulf of Mexico in due time. No two States of this confederacy are so identified in interest, and whose destinies are so closely interwoven with each other. Nature, sympathy and unity of interest make them almost one. Recognizing these facts, but still confident in her own powers to maintain a separate existence, Louisiana regards with great concern the vote of the people of Texas on the ratification of the ordinance of secession, adopted by your honorable body on the 1st of the present month. She is confident a people who so nobly and gallantly achieved their liberties under such unparalled difficulties will not falter in maintaining them now. The Mexican yoke could not have been more galling to "the army of heroes" of '36 than the Black republican rule would be to the survivors and sons of that army at the present day.

The people of Louisiana would consider it a most fatal blow to African slavery, if Texas either did not secede or having seceded should not join her destinies to theirs in a Southern Confederacy. If she remains in the union the abolitionists would continue their work of incendiarism and murder. Emigrant aid societies would arm with Sharp's rifles predatory bands to infest her northern borders. The Federal Government would mock at her calamity in ac-

centing the recent bribes in the army bill and Pacific railroad bill. and with abolition treachery would leave her unprotected frontier to the murderous inroads of hostile savages. Experience justifies these expectations. A professedly friendly federal administration gave Texas no substantial protection against the Indians or abolitionists. and what must she look for from an administration avowedly inimical and supported by no vote within her borders. Promises won from the timid and faithless are poor hostages of good faith. As a separate republic. Louisiana remembers too well the whisperings of European diplomacy for the abolition of slavery in the times of annexation not to be apprehensive of bolder demonstrations from the same quarter and the North in this country. The people of the slaveholding States are bound together by the same necessity and determination to preserve African slavery. The isolation of any one of them from the others would make her the theatre for abolition emisaries from the North and from Europe. Her existence would be one of constant peril to herself and of imminent danger to other neighboring slave-holding communities. A decent respect for the opinions and interests of the Gulf States seems to indicate that Texas should co-operate with them. I am authorized to say to your honorable body that Louisiana does not expect any beneficial result from the peace conference now assembled at Washington. She is unwilling that her action should depend on the border States ests are identical with Texas and the seceding States. With them she will at present co-operate, hoping and believing in his own good time God will awaken the people of the border States to the vanity of asking for, or depending upon, guarantees or compromises wrung from a people whose consciences are too sublimated to be bound by that sacred compact, the constitution the of the late United States. That constitution the Southern States have never violated, and taking it as the basis of our new government we hope to form a slave-holding confederacy that will secure to us and our remotest posterity the great blessings its authors designed in the Federal Union. With the social balance wheel of slavery to regulate its machinery, we may fondly indulge the hope that our Southern government will be perpetual.

> Geo. Williamson Commissioner of the State of Louisiana

Conditissioner of the State of Louisian

City of Austin Feby 11th 1861.

Austin Feby 11th 1861.

Col. Geo. Williamson, Comr. etc.

Dear Sir.

I have received your communication as commissioner from the Property of Tarlton Law Library, Jamail Center for Legal Research, The University of Texas School of Law

State of Louisiana and will submit it, together with the ordinances and other documents accompanying it, to the Convention of the people of the State of Texas, when it shall reconvene at this place on the 2nd day of March next. I feel warranted in saying that this manifestation of friendship on the part of your State, so happily communicated through you, will be fully appreciated by the Convention and by the people of the State whom its members represent.

With great respect.

O. M. Roberts President of the Convention.

Mr. Davidson presented a communication from Lieut. McNeil, late of the United States army requesting service from the State of Texas.²⁸ Referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

The President submitted a communication from F. Voigt, orderly sergeant of the Nacogdoches Riflemen³⁹ Referred to the committee on Public Safety.

Mr. Stockdale presented a communication from and tendering the services of Lieut. J. P. Major late U. S. A. to the State of Texas⁴⁰ Referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

The President submitted a communication from E. F. Gray, asking service in the navy. 41 Referred to the committee on Public Safety.

Mr. Rogers of Harris presented a communication from Dr. Jas. Walker tendering his services to the medical department of the army⁴² Referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Brown moved that the standing rule of the Convention be so altered as to refer all communications tendering services to the State to the committee on Public Safety without reading.

Laid over one day under the rule.

Mr. Rogers of Marion tendered the services of Lieut. Stevens, late U. S. N. to the State.⁴³ Referred to the committee on Foreign Relations

¹⁸H. C. McNeill wrote from Tecolote, N. Mex., March 2nd, and addressed his letter to Governor Sam Houston. He had heard of the passage of the ordinance of secession by the Convention, and offered to resign to accept service from Texas as soon as the ordinance was adopted. (A. L. S. in Miscellaneous Papers of the Secession Convention.)

³⁹Mr. Voigt wrote from Nacogdoches, March 2d, stating that the "Nacogdoches Riflemen" had organized, but were without arms. He requests arms for sixty. (L. S. in Miscl. Papers of the Secession Convention.)

⁴⁰The communication from J. P. Major has not been found.

"Mr. Gray wrote from Houston, March 5, "Having served in the Naval service of the late Republic of Texas, and also in that of the late United States, I hasten to offer you my services for a Captaincy in the Navy of the State of Texas." (A. L. S. in Miscl. Papers of the Secession Convention.)

⁴²Dr. James Walker lived at Hallettsville: he had been a student at West Point for three years. (D. S. in Miscl. Papers of the Secession Convention.)
⁴³No communication from Lieut. Stevens has been found.

() motion of Mr. Terry of Tarrant, Mr. Throckmorton was added to the committee on Finance.

On motion of Mr. Locke, Mr. Montel and Mr. Walworth were added to the committee on Frontier Protection.

On motion of Mr. Devine, Mr. Portis was added to the committee on Constitution.

On motion of Mr. Norris, Mr. Shepard was added to the same committee.

(In motion of Mr. Jennings, Mesrs. Hays and Hicks were added to the same committee.

On motion of Mr. Portis, Mr. Jennings was added to the committee on Citizenship.

On motion of Mr. Scott, Mr. Warren was added to the committee on Finance and the committee on Business.

Mr. Stell chairman of the committee on Business made the following report.

"The committee on Business to which was referred 'An ordinance relative to the enrolling, publishing and preserving the ordinances of the Convention,' report a substitute for the same and ask that the same be adopted.⁴⁴ The committee would further recommend the rejection of the resolution upon postal affairs heretofore referred to it.['']

The ordinance was read the 1st time.

Mr. Wharton introduced an ordinance to purchase 1000 Colt's revolvers and 1000 Morse's rifles.

Read 1st time

An ordinance to purchase one thousand Colts revolvers and one thousand Morse rifles to be used for Frontier protection.45

We the people of the State of Texas in Convention assembled do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, That Major Ben McCulloch be and he is hereby appointed Commissioner to purchase for the State of Texas one thousand Colts revolvers and one thousand Morse rifles: And he is hereby authorised and empowered to pledge the faith of the State of Texas for the fulfillment of any contract or contracts he may enter into in pursuance to this ordinance; provided however that the purchase money for said arms shall not be made payable until the first of June A D 1861.

On motion of Mr. Wilcox of Bexar, the rule was suspended, the ordinance taken up and read a 2nd time

"The ordinance "to provide for the enrollment," etc., was adopted with but slight amendment.

"MS. in Miscellaneous Papers of the Secession Convention.

 $Property\ of\ Tarlton\ Law\ Library, Jamail\ Center\ for\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Library,\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Library,\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ School\ of\ Law\ Legal\ Research,\ The\ University\ of\ Texas\ Resear$

On motion of Mr. Stockdale the ordinance was amended by adding "And further provided the amount to be paid shall be no more that the market value with interest for these weapons"

On motion of Mr. Wharton the ordinance was amended by inserting after the words "Morse's rifles" the words "with the necessary cartridges and accourrements."

On motion of Mr. Cleveland the ordinance was further amended by inserting after the amendment of Mr. Wharton just adopted, the words "or a like number of such other weapons of similar character as he may approve and as can be obtained."

Mr. Henderson moved to refer the ordinance as amended to the committee on Public Safety. Lost.

Mr. Stapp moved to refer it to the committee on Frontier Protection.

On motion of Mr. Wm. Chambers that motion was laid on the table. On motion of Mr. Campbell the ordinance was further amended by inserting after the word "purchase" the words "or otherwise obtain."

On motion of Mr. Graham the ordinance was further amended by striking out the caption, and inserting in lieu thereof the following "An ordinance to authorize the purchase of arms for the use of the State."

On motion of Mr. Stewart of Gonzales the ordinance was further amended by striking out "June 1st" and inserting in lieu thereof "August 1st."

Mr. Stewart moved to refer the ordinance as amended to the committee on Public Safety.

On motion of Mr. Wharton laid on the table.

The ordinance was then ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Wharton the rule was suspended by the following vote.

Yeas, Mesrs. Adams, Allen, Armstrong, Askew, Baxter, Bagby, Beazley, Box, Burditt, Black, Brahan, Brown, Campbell, Wm. Chambers, T. J. Chambers, Chambers of Red River, Chambers of Titus, Chilton, Chisum, Clark, Clayton, Cleveland, Coke, Cook, Cox, Dancy, Davidson, Devine, Dunham, Earley, Feeney, Flournoy, Gould, Graham of Rusk, Hardeman, Hayes, Henry, Hill, Hobby, Hogg, Holland, Hooker, Howard, Hoyle, Hughes, Hunt, Jennings, Johnson of Lamar, Jones, Koester, Lea, Lester, Locke, Lubbock, Maltby, Mattox, Maxey, McCraw, McIntosh, Miller, Moore of Burnet, Moore of Fayette, Moore of Henderson, Montel, Moss, Nash of Dallas, Nash of Kaufman, Nauendorf, Neel, Nelson, Newsom, Nicholson of Dallas, Nicholson of Fannin, Norris, Obenchain, Payne of Hopkins, Portis, Preston, Rainey,

Rhome, Robertson of Bell, Robertson of Washington, Ross, Rugeley, Runnels, Russell, Shuford, Scurry, Smith of Bexar, Smith of Fannia, Stapp, Stell, Stewart of Anderson, Stewart of Falls, Stewart of Honzales, Stockdale, Taylor, Terry of Tarrant, Thompson, Throekmorton, Todd, Waller, Walworth, Watkins, Wharton, Wilcox of Hexar, Wilcox of Denton and Wright, 107.

Nays, Mesrs. Blythe, Broaddus, Davenport, Ford of Caldwell, Hall, Henderson, Hicks, Hutcheson, Kelly, Lesueur, Montgomery, Palmer, Peck, Poag, Rogers of Harris, Rogers of Marion, Scott, Warren, Wier, Wiley and Wilson, 20.

The ordinance was read a 3rd time and adopted.

Mr. T. J. Chambers offered the following resolution which was adopted.

"Resolved by the Convention of the people of Texas that the Adjutant General of this State be and he is hereby required to furnish to this Convention as soon as practicable, in his complex character of adjutant general, quartermaster general, commissary general and ordnance officer a full and complete statement of the military condition of the State and its preparation for defence in case of hostility from any quarter; the number of organizing officers; their rank and names; the number of commissioned and non commissioned officers. their ranks and names; the number of men enrolled and ready for duty; the quantity of army supplies; of arms of every description, their character and quality and where to be found; and the number of arms their quality and character which have been received from the late United States government, under the acts of congress making an annual appropriation for the purchase of arms for the use of the States: and if none such have been furnished by that government to this State, then let the reasons for the failure, if known, be furnished to this Convention.

"Be it further resolved that this order be immediately communicated to the Adjt. General by the Secretary of this Convention.[']

On motion of Mr. Campbell the rule was suspended and the report of the committee on business recommending the adoption of "An ordinance to provide for the enrollment, publication and preservation of the ordinances of the Convention," and the rejection of a resolution on the subject of "postal affairs." was taken up, read and adopted.

And the ordinance read a 2nd time.

On motion of Mr. Jennings the ordinance was amended by striking out "15" and inserting "20" days in lieu thereof, as the time within which to receive proposals for the printing etc.

The ordinance was then ordered to be engrossed.

Rule suspended, ordinance read a 3rd time and adopted.

Property of Tarlton Law Library, Jamail Center for Legal Research, The University of Texas School of Law

Mr. Portis submitted the following communication.

Fort Inge, Texas, Feby. 26, 1861.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that after retreat of the 25th inst. two citizens of Uvalde represented to me that a body of 15 or 20 Indians had that day passed by Mr. Adams' ranch on the Nueces, some fifteen miles from this post, driving in the occupants of the ranch, and supposed to have killed Messrs. Henry Adams and Henry Robinson, two worthy and well known citizens.

I was begged for assistance and under the circumstances could not refuse it, notwithstanding I was under orders from Genl. Twiggs, Comdg. Dept. of Texas, to evacuate my post and march with my command to the coast en route to leave the soil of Texas.

I accordingly detailed Lt. A. K. Arnold in command of a sergeant and fifteen picked men and horses, accompanied by the post guide, to proceed to the spot to render such assistance as was in his power and to pursue and chastise the Indians. The scouting party got off at 8:45 P. M., and would reach the ranch and be ready to take up the trail long before daylight the next morning. Enclosed please find field return of the scouting party.

The report of the citizens has proved to be too true, and the fears of the community too well grounded. The worst had not been reported to me last evening. This morning, Mary, a daughter of Mr. Kelsey, who was living at or near Mr. Adams' ranch, was brought in with a number of arrow and lance wounds and her head scalped. She had been left for dead by the Indians. She is now under the treatment of Asst. Surgeon, R. L. Brodie, U. S. A. her recovery is still doubtful. A son of Mr. Robinson was wounded in the arm. Nothing has been yet heard from Mesrs. Henry Adams and Henry Robinson, but it is to be hoped that they succeeded in reaching Camp Wood for which place they started in the morning.

A panic has been created, and unless the regular troops are relieved by a suitable force to defend this frontier the people must abandon their homes and property and fall back upon the more thickly settled portion of the State.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

James Oakes,

Capt. 2nd Cavalry, Comdg. Post.

To Asst. Adjt. General, U. S. Army.

Head Qrs., Dept. of Texas, San Antonio, Texas.

P. S. Feby. 28th. Since writing above, the bodies of Messrs. Ad-

ams and Robinson have been found, both scalped and their hearts cut out, etc.

J. Oakes.

Mr. Portis offered the following resolution which was adopted unanimously.

Whereas this Convention is informed that Capt. James Oakes, commanding Fort Inge in Texas, after he had received the order of Genl. Twiggs, commanding the Pept. of Texas, "to evacuate his post and march with his command to the coast 'en route' "to leave the State of Texas, received information that a body of 15 or 20 Indians had on the 25th day of Feby 1861 killed and scalped three citizens of Texas, two men and a woman, and that the settlers in that neighborhood were in great distress and alarm, Capt. Oakes, prompted by, the greatest humanity and the chivalry of the true soldier, ordered Lieut. Arnold with a sergeant and 15 picked men and horses to the relief of the settlers, and to pursue and chastise the Indians, therefore

Resolved that Capt. James Oakes of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry, late commanding post of Fort Inge in Texas did, as mentioned in the foregoing preamble, perform a most noble and praisworthy act and for so doing is entitled to the heartful thanks and lasting gratitude of the whole people of Texas.

Resolved further that a copy of this preamble and resolutions be enrolled on parchment, signed by the President and Secretary of this Convention and forwarded to Capt. Oakes.

Mr. Scurry moved that the rules be suspended and the ordinance to provide for the protection of the frontier of the State of Texas be taken up. Carried.

An ordinance to provide for the protection of the frontier of the State of Texas read 2nd time.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend by striking out in the 6th line of the 1st section the word "commission," and by striking out in the 7th and 8th lines all after the words "Elected by the men."

On motion of Mr. Montgomery, laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Maxey the Convention adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

City of Austin Texas. Saturday, March 9/61 3 o'clock P. M.

The Convention met. Roll called. Quorum present.

The ordinance to provide for the protection of the frontier of the State of Texas, being under consideration when the Convention adjourned, was read.

Mr. Nicholson of Fannin moved to amend by striking out in the

7th line of the 1st section the word "company" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "regiment"

On motion of Mr. Hicks the further consideration of the ordinance was postponed until Monday next at 11 o'clock A. M. and made the special order for that hour.

Mr. Cleveland moved to suspend the rule in order to take up the ordinance respecting public property. Carried.

The ordinance was read a 2nd time.

Mr. Locke moved to amend by inserting the words "delegates of" before the word "people" in the 1st line of the 1st section.

On motion of Mr. Anderson of Colorado laid on the table.

The ordinance was then ordered to be engressed.

On motion of Mr. Scott, the rule was suspended, the ordinance read a 3rd time and adopted.

Mr. Throckmorton offered the following resolution which was referred to the committee on Finance.

"Resolved that the committee on Finance report an ordinance to provide for the sale of all the unsold University lands, and also to provide that the proceeds of the sales thereof shall be used for the liquidation of the present indebtedness of the State, and that the same shall be subject to such appropriation without becoming a charge against the State for University purposes."

Mr. Locke offered the following resolution which was adopted.

"Resolved that the committee on Public Safety, appointed by this Convention, is entitled to the sincere thanks and confidence of this Convention and the gratitude and regard of the people of the State of Texas for their patriotic, self sacrificing, prudent and efficient services rendered this State during the sessions and in the interim between the sessions of the Convention."

Mr. Moore of Burnet offered the following resolution.

"Whereas there are some two and a quarter millions of the public domain of the State which is set apart to the several counties as school lands, and whereas the present inhabitants of the State can derive no benefit whatever from this munificent donation in consequence of constitutional restrictions, and whereas the State requires the use of all her available resources for the present emergency in fostering her independence and in affording that protection to her citizens which is absolutely required; be it therefore,

"Resolved, That the committee on the Constitution be required to inquire into the expediency of reporting an ordinance to remove the said constitutional restrictions which prevent the disposal of the said lands, and that said committee report upon the same by ordinance or otherwise."

Mr. Throckmorton offered the following as a substitute.

"Resolved that the committee on the Constitution report an amendment to the 3rd Section of the 10th Article of the constitution to provide for the sale of the four leagues of school lands belonging to each county in the State, so that the same may be made available to the common school fund of the respective counties."

On motion of Mr. Portis referred to the committee on the Constitution.

Mr. Locke offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

"Resolved that the President of this Convention appoint a committee of five on Engrossed Bills."

Mr. Wharton offered the following resolution which was adopted.

"Resolved that Mesrs. Devine, Robertson of Smith and Rogers of Marion be appointed a committee to superintend the printing of the reports from the committee of Public Safety submitted on yesterday, of which 500 copies were ordered to be printed.["]

Mr. Hall introduced an ordinance in relation to the district and justices courts of this State. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to the committee on Constitution.

Mr. Nelson offered the following resolution which was adopted unanimously.

"Resolved that the thanks of the people of Texas are due and are hereby tendered to Maj. Genl. David E. Twiggs, late of the United States army, for his patriotism, moral courage, loyalty to the constitution of the United States embracing the rights and liberty of his native South, and that a copy of this resolution be enrolled on parchment and signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to General Twiggs.["]

Mr. Graham of Rusk offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

"Resolved that the committee on Public Safety be requested and instructed to report as soon as practicable an ordinance providing for the distribution of the arms and munitions of war which may be procured hereafter or which may now be in possession of the authorities of the State, or subject to the control of this Convention."

On motion of Mr. Dancy the Convention adjourned until 10 o'clock, Monday morning.

City of Austin, Texas, Monday, March 11th 1861.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Roll called. Quorum present. Prayer by the chaplain. The Journal of Saturday was read and adopted.