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On motion of Mr. West, Mr. Davis, of Brazos, was added to Committee on Education.

On motion of Mr. Ross, Mr. Flournoy was added to Committee on Railroad Corporations.

On motion of Mr. McCormick, the Convention adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

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## FIFTEENTH DAY.

HALL OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
AUSTIN, TEXAS, September 22, 1875. }

Convention met pursuant to adjournment; roll called; quorum present. Prayer by Rev. J. F. Johnson.

Journal read and adopted.

Mr. Louis Cardis, delegate elect from El Paso, came forward, presented his credentials, took the oath prescribed, and his seat as a delegate.

Mr. Stockdale presented the memorial of Pryor Lea, asking that a clause be inserted in the new constitution authorizing the Legislature to make equitable arrangements with corporations in relation to chartered rights.

Mr. Wade offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Vigilant and faithful representation is required by the people of Texas; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That if any member of this Convention shall hereafter be absent from the calls of this house for more than four days in succession, without excuse, adjudged good by the house, the seat of such member may be declared vacant, on motion, under the two-thirds rule, and the Governor authorized to fill all such vacancies, by appointment, from the district in which the member thus relieved was elected.

Laid on the table, to come up in its order.

Mr. Nunn offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Public Education be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing by law a system of public instruction or of aid to general education, and of fixing the same on a basis of all the present available school fund and resources of the State, with an addition of an ad valorem tax of not less than one-tenth or more than one-eighth of one per cent. on the taxable property of the State, and of a poll tax of not less than two dollars or more than five dollars, and the re-

quirement of the payment by each voter of said poll tax at least four months next before the election as a condition of the exercise of the elective franchise; and to make provision for the sale of the school lands belonging to counties, to be used for the benefit of the counties respectively, and also to dedicate all the unappropriated public lands of this State to the school fund, to be sold as early as possible and proceeds applied to the benefit of the general school fund of the State.

Mr. Erhard offered the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That defaulters of any county, State or other public funds, shall be considered felons, and imprisoned in the State Penitentiary, and that the Legislature define the crime and the punishment.

*Resolved*, That in any court the verdict of nine jurors shall be sufficient to decide in any civil or criminal case.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Wright offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Legislature nor any county shall ever levy and collect for county purposes a tax which shall exceed in the aggregate in any one year one-fourth of the amount of the tax levied by the State, save and except to build courthouses and jails and to keep the same in repair; and all taxes so raised shall be levied alone on such subjects of taxation as may be levied by the State.

Referred to Committee on General Provisions.

Mr. Dillard offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revenue and Taxation be instructed to create two separate officers in each county in the State, that of tax assessor and tax collector, and that there shall be elected in each county in the State one tax assessor and one tax collector, who shall hold their offices for two years.

Referred to Committee on Taxation and Revenue.

Mr. Weaver offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That woman, being by the ordinances of nature, the mother of all living human beings, that, if we accept Hebrew traditions, the word "Eve" typically means the mother of all living, and that, as mother, wife, sister and daughter, she has the first care of our lives, is our nurse in childhood, our mentor in youth, our companion, helper and consoler in manhood, our comforting, ministering and sustaining angel in death, even at the birth, trial, death and resurrection of Jesus, in the beautiful faith of Christianity, constant to him in the midst of mobocracy and despotism; and that in history, wherever she has had the power to speak and act for herself, in the great majority of cases,

she has risen above the masses, like the full moon out of night's bosom, to shine with the light of beauty, virtue, charity and truth, over the moral darkness around her; and that, in this land of republican faith and representative, democratic government, by every recognition of modern, enlightened Christian civilization, she is morally and mentally man's equal; that the same "inalienable rights" that Jefferson has made household words in every land, where human liberty has found a home or an advocate, are as much woman's as man's; that she is a citizen as much of these United States, by the same natural rights of citizenship, as man; that the elective franchise, being founded on these natural rights of the people, and inasmuch as woman is of the people, and must be governed by the laws made by the people, and is often a taxpayer, there is no reason, political, human or divine, (Paul to the contrary notwithstanding,) why she should not have the same rights at the ballot-box that man has.

*Resolved further*, That the writer hereof believes that the presence of woman at the ballot-box, as an American sovereign, connected with the feminal influence of a virtuous woman, as a legal voter, would do more to protect that shrine of the people's rights than all the laws to guard the elective franchise that have heretofore been passed.

Referred to Committee on Suffrage.

On motion of Mr. Brown, of Dallas, the Convention adjourned to 9 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

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### SIXTEENTH DAY.

HALL OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
AUSTIN, TEXAS, September 23, 1875. }

Convention met pursuant to adjournment; roll called; quorum present; prayer by the Rev. R. H. Talliafero.

Journal of yesterday read and adopted.

Mr. Burleson offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revenue and Taxation be and is hereby instructed to investigate and report whether it be practicable, under the constitution of the United States, to compel the owners of continuous inter-State lines of communication, who reside in the United States but not in Texas, to pay the same taxes upon the one-half of their packet vessels, and upon so