JOURNAL

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE

STATE OF TEXAS,

BEING THE

CALLED SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE,

BEGUN AND

HELD AT THE CITY OF AUSTIN, JANUARY 8, 1884.

AUSTIN:
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HOUSE JOURNAL.

FIRST DAY.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
AUSTIN, TEXAS, January 8, 1884.

In obedience to a proclamation of his Excellency John Ireland, Governor of Texas, bearing date fifteenth day of October, A. D. 1883, convening the Eighteenth Legislature in special session, at Austin, the capital of the State, on this the eighth day of January, 1884, the House of Representatives was called to order at 12 o'clock m. by the Speaker, Hon. Chas. R. Gibson.

Roll called; quorum present.

Absent—Messrs. Abbott, Cramer, Cundiff, Davis of Lamar, Duff, Durant, Harkness, Hearne, Henderson, Hill, Jackson, Latham, Rushing, Taylor, Tilson, Watkins and White.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. J. W. Poindexter.

By direction of the Speaker, the following proclamation was read:

To all whom these presents may concern:

Whereas, an extraordinary occasion has arisen, requiring the convening of the Legislature:

Now, therefore, I, John Ireland, Governor of the State of Texas, do, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of said State, hereby call a Special Session of the Eighteenth Legislature, to be convened in the city of Austin, commencing at 12 o'clock m. on the second Tuesday in January, A. D. 1884, for the following purposes, to-wit:

1. To provide for the levy and collection of a tax to maintain a system of free schools, under the amended Constitution.
2. To adjust the free school law to the requirements of the amended Constitution.
3. To reduce taxation for general revenue purposes.
4. To effect necessary legislation so as to protect the interests of the State, and provide an equitable rule, in the re-sale of lands purchased by the State at tax sales, between the original owner and the State.
5. To consider and provide a remedy for wanton destruction of fences.
6. To provide a more efficient system of highways, and to amend the law providing a penalty for enclosing school lands.
7. To provide some mode by which the agents of the State at the Capital can take care of and protect the property of the State.
8. To amend the law organizing the judicial districts of the State.
9. To determine whether or not the common school funds shall be invested in any other securities than those named in the Constitution; and, if so, to provide therefor.
10. To determine whether or not the State shall be represented at the exposition to be held in New Orleans in 1885; and, if so, to provice therefor.
11. To make appropriations to meet deficiencies in appropriations heretofore made for Texas veterans, and the contingent expenses, the per diem pay and mileage of the Eighteenth Legislature.
12. To authorize counties to issue bonds for the purpose of funding their indebtedness, created for other purposes than for the erection of court houses; and to allow the Board of Education to transfer State and Federal bonds to the University fund.
13. To amend the law passed at the regular session of the Eighteenth Legislature, approved April 12, 1883, entitled "An act to provide for the classification, sale and lease of the lands heretofore or hereafter surveyed and set apart for the benefit of the Common School, University, Lunatic, Blind, Deaf and Dumb, and Orphan Asylum funds.
14. The re-enactment of the bill amending the attachment law, passed at last regular session, but which never reached the Executive.

In testimony whereof, I have hereto signed my name, and have caused to be impressed hereon the seal of [L. S.] State, at Austin, this the fifteenth day of October, A. D, 1883.

JOHN IRELAND,
Governor.

By the Governor:
JOS. W. BAINES,
Secretary of State.

By request of the Speaker the following newly elected members presented their credentials, took the oath of office and were recognized as members of the House of Representatives, Eighteenth Legislature: Messrs. Sterling Fisher, of Hays, Ninety-First District; A. T. Rainey, of Anderson, Ninth District; Jno. L. Galt, of Wood, Ninety-Fourth District, and R. D. Allison, of Collin, Twenty-Eighth District.

Mr. Frymier offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed by the Speaker, who shall notify his Excellency, the Governor, that the House or Representatives is now duly organized, in pursuance of his proclamation, and ready to receive from him any communication he may see fit to make.

Mr. Cochran offered the following amendment:

"And that the same committee be authorized to inform the Senate that the House is now organized and ready to proceed to business."

The amendment was adopted, and

The resolution as amended was adopted.

Whereupon

The Speaker appointed as the committee, on the part of the House, the following: Messrs. Frymier, Cochran and Upton.

On motion of Mr. Douglass,

Mr. J. E. Hill was excused for five days, on account of the illness of his sister.

The Speaker had read the following resignation of Mr. Mahorner, Enrolling Clerk at the regular session:

AUSTIN, January 8, 1884.

Hon. C. R. Gibson, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

SIR: I hereby tender you my resignation as Enrolling Clerk of the House of Representatives of the Eighteenth Legislatuee, to take immediate effect.

And in so doing I beg to tender you and the members of the House my sincere thanks for the many courtesies shown me during the time I occupied the position.

Very respectfully, R. MAHORNER.

On motion of Mr. Wurzbach, the House proceeded to the election of Enrolling Clerk.

Nominations were declared to be in order, when