"An Act appropriating thirty thousand dollars to pay accounts of citizens of Texas for supplies furnished for the maintenance of Texas United States Volunteers."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do not pass, for the reason that a bill relating to the same subject has been reported favorably.

CHILDS, Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, April 6, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Claims and Accounts, to whom was referred House bill No. 706, a bill to be entitled "An Act to authorize the Comptroller of the State of Texas to pay to J. T. Stanfield $79.00 for services rendered the State of Texas."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do not pass.

CHILDS, Chairman.

Mr. Childers moved to adjourn until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Mr. Grubbs moved to take recess until 8:30 p.m. today.

Mr. Wells moved to adjourn until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Question recurring on the longest time first, the motion prevailed, and the House, at 5:15 p.m., adjourned until 9:30 o'clock a.m. tomorrow.

SEVENTY-FIFTH DAY.

Hall of the House of Representatives, Austin, Texas, Friday, April 7, 1899.

The House met at 9:30 o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.

Speaker Sherrill in the chair.

Roll called, and the following members present:

Present—112.

Adams, Browne.
Allen of Colorado. Caldwell.
Allen of Hopkins. Calvin.
Ayers. Chambers.
Bailey. Childs.
Barbee. Childs.
Barrett. Clements.
Bean. Cocke.
Beaty. Cole.
Bennett. Collins.
Blount. Conoly.
Bridgers.
Dean.
Decker.
Derden.
Dies.
Dorrough.
Eckols.
Ellis.
Evans.
Frost.
Garner.
Gill.
Goodlett.
Goodman.
Gordon.
Graham.
Greenwood.
Grogan.
Grubbs.
Henderson, Brazos.
Henderson, Lamar.
Howard.
Hurley.
Jones.
Kennedy.
Kittrell.
Lane.
Lillard.
Little.
Lively.
Loyd.
Marsh.
Masterson.
Maxwell.
McAnally.
McClellan.
McDowell.
McKamy.
McKellar.
Meitzen.
Mercer.
Monroe.
Morris.
Morrow.
Murphy.
Murray.
Nef.
Nolan.
Oliver.
Palmer.
Parish.
Peery.
Pfeiffer.
Phillips, Lampassas.
Pitts.
Powell.
Prince.
Ratcliff.
Robertson, Harrison.
Robertson of Bell.
Rochelle.
Rogers.
Ruth.
Russell.
Savage.
Scurry.
Shannon.
Shelburne.
Shroppire.
Smith of Grayson.
Smith of Collin.
Staples.
Stewart.
Stripling.
Sutherland.
Tarkington.
Tarver.
Teague.
Tompkins.
Thomas of Fannin.

On account of important business:
Mr. Hamilton until next Thursday, on motion of Mr. Eckols.
charge of their duty, which said sum, as well as the expenses incurred, incidental to the clerk and other hire, shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the Twenty-sixth Legislature, upon an itemized account approved by the Speaker as chairman of said committee, and the Comptroller of Public Accounts is hereby authorized to draw his warrant for payment of the same from said contingent fund. The committee herein provided for will make a report in full of its findings, recommendations and conclusions to this body at its next session.

Said committee shall have the power, and it is hereby made its duty to visit and thoroughly investigate each and every department and institution which is or may be in any way or manner connected with the State either by Constitution, statute or contract, and to this end said committee is hereby authorized and empowered to examine books and papers, administer oaths, and compel the attendance of witnesses to testify relative to all matters pertaining to the affairs of State within the scope of their power now granted. Said committee shall have authority to employ such service as in its discretion may be regarded as essential to the speedy carrying into effect this resolution.

The resolution was read second time, and on motion of Mr. Bailey, further consideration was postponed until next Monday morning.

COMMITTEE REPORT.

By Speaker Sherrill:

Petition from seventy-eight citizens of Coke county, Texas, protesting against the passage of the bill now pending in the Legislature to diminish the jurisdiction of the County Court of Coke county.

Read, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

RESOLUTION.

By Mr. Shelburne:

Resolution for the creation of a Committee of Information:

As Whereas, The Constitution of the State of Texas clearly implies that all positions of trust and emoluments in this State should be created by and compensation fixed by legislative enactment, and to the end that so far as it is practicable that civil service reform may be had in our several departments and institutions, thereby securing to the State the maximum of efficiency in results, together with the now generally expressed belief that irregularity prevails in the management of many of said institutions, which recent developments tend to warrant well founded; therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature, now convened, that a committee of five members of said House (of which committee the Speaker shall be chairman) shall be constituted, the Speaker appointing the same, which shall convene during the vacation of said Legislature at such time and place as may be designated by said chairman.

As compensation said committee shall be allowed five dollars per day for their services, together with their actual traveling expenses while engaged in the dis-
of the House, together with their families, are cordially invited.

Yours truly,
E. P. BIXTON,
Superintendent.

SPEAKER'S TABLE.
The Speaker laid before the House as special order for this morning, on its second reading.

House bill No. 111, A bill to be entitled "An Act making appropriations for support of the State government for the years beginning September 1, 1899, and ending August 31, 1901, and for other purposes," with favorable committee report recommending a substitute for the bill.

Read second time, and committee report adopted.

Mr. Henderson of Lamar moved that the House do now go into a Committee of the Whole House for the purpose of considering the bill.

The motion prevailed, and the House went into a Committee of the Whole, with Mr. Powell in the chair.

(In the Committee of the Whole House, Mr. Powell in the chair.)

After considering the bill, the committee rose, and through Mr. Powell, Chairman, submitted the following report:

(In the House, Speaker in the chair.)

Austin, Texas, April 7, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee of the Whole, to whom was referred

Substitute House bill No. 111, A bill to be entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support of the State government for the two years beginning March 1, 1899, and ending February 28, 1901, and for other purposes."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report progress, and beg leave to sit again generally.

POWELL, Chairman.

The report was adopted.

Mr. Decker moved to take a recess until 2:30 p. m., and Mr. Blount until 3 p. m. today.

Question recurring on the longest time first, the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Decker, the House, at 12:20 p. m., took recess until 2:30 o'clock p. m. today.

AFTERNOON SESSION.
The House met at expiration of recess, and was called to order by the Speaker.

BILL ORDERED PRINTED.

House bill No. 750, to abolish the unorganized counties of Winniok and Loving (with majority adverse and minority favorable report), on motion of Mr. Dies.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

To J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker: I am directed by the Senate to inform the House that the Senate has passed the following bills, to wit:

Senate bill No. 106, A bill to be entitled "An Act to validate acknowledgments to all instruments constituting links in the chain of title, or affecting the title to any lands in the State of Texas, to quiet title to the same and to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this act."

Senate bill No. 165, A bill to be entitled "An Act to authorize the Superintendent of the State Penitentiaries, with the advice and consent of the Governor, to sell the State's interest in certain lands situated in Maverick county, being an undivided interest of two-thirds in 320 acres, survey No. 50, in the name of John James, assignee of Hendrick Arnold, and to pay over the proceeds thereof to the Financial Agent of the State penitentiaries for the use of the penitentiaries."

Senate bill No. 306, A bill to be entitled "An Act to authorize the Gulf, Beaumont & Kansas City Railway Company to purchase, own and operate the railroad, including all the property rights, franchises and appurtenances of the Gulf, Beaumont & Great Northern Railway Company, now existing or that may hereafter be built or acquired by the Gulf, Beaumont & Great Northern Railway Company, and to authorize the Gulf, Beaumont & Kansas City Railway Company, in the name of the Gulf, Beaumont & Great Northern Railway Company, to issue bonds and to secure the same by mortgage upon the railway property, property rights and franchises of the Gulf, Beaumont & Great Northern Railway Company, under orders of the Railroad Commission of Texas, and to enable the said corporation, the Gulf, Beaumont & Great Northern Railway Company, to construct this proposed line of railway as provided in its charter, and for said purpose to raise money through the issuance of stock and bonds."

Also Senate bill No. 204, A bill to be entitled "An Act to reorganize the Thirty-fourth Judicial District of Texas, to prescribe the time of holding the
terms of the district court therein, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act."
Also the Senate has passed Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 21.

J. P. Pool,
Secretary of the Senate.

SPEAKER'S TABLE.

On motion of Mr. Thomas of Fannin, pending business was suspended to take up and place on its second reading, House bill No. 341, A bill to be entitled "An Act to prevent officials, employes or agents of the State of Texas from receiving fees, perquisites, gifts or emoluments, not stipulated by law, and providing a penalty for same."
The bill was laid before the House, and was read second time.
Mr. Lane offered the following amendment:
"Amend by striking out Section 3."
On motion of Mr. Blount, the amendment was tabled.
Mr. Cole moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered.
The bill was ordered engrossed.
Mr. Thomas of Fannin moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 341 be put on its third reading and final passage.
The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—91.

Nays—2.
Dies. Teague. Absent.
Phillips of Camp. Poole. Rogers.

House bill No. 341 laid before the House on its third reading and final passage.

Read third time, and Mr. Morrow offered the following amendment:
"Amend by adding to Section 1 of this act the following: 'Provided, that the board of the superintendents and physicians and other employes of State institutions regularly employed and whose entire time is required at said institutions shall not be prohibited by this act.'"
Pending consideration, the Speaker laid before the House, as special order for this hour, 3 p. m., on engrossment, Substitute House bill Nos. 156, etc., the general occupation tax bill.

On motion of Mr. Henderson of Lamar, further consideration of the bill was postponed to next Monday, April 10, 3 p. m.
The House returned to consideration of House bill No. 341, on its third reading and final passage, with amendment by Mr. Morrow pending.
Mr. Childers offered the following substitute for the amendment:

"Amend: ‘Provided, the employes will pay to the State $20.00 per month they can board at the institutions.’"

On motion of Mr. Blount, the amendment was tabled.

Question recurred on the amendment by Mr. Morrow, and on motion of Mr. Blount it was tabled.

Mr. Kittrell offered the following amendment:

"Amend caption, ‘An Act to prevent such employes, officials or agents of State institutions whose compensation under the law does not include board from receiving fees, perquisites, gifts or emoluments not stipulated by law and from using or consuming any supplies or provisions intended for inmates or domestic servants only,’ and amend body of bill to conform to caption where so amended.”

Mr. Decker offered the following amendment:

"Add in proper place, ‘Provided, the provisions of this act shall not be construed as preventing officers and employes of the various State institutions from boarding at said institutions when the appropriation for such officers and employes provides for board in addition to such salary.’"

Mr. Kittrell accepted the substitute.

Mr. Culp moved to postpone further consideration of the bill to next Monday, April 10, 4:30 p.m.

The motion to postpone was lost.

Mr. Savage moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

Question first recurred on the amendment by Mr. Decker, and it was adopted.

The bill was passed by the following vote:

**Yeas—85.**

Adams. 
Allen of Hopkins. 
Bailey. 
Barbee. 
Barrett. 
Bean. 
Beaty. 
Blount. 
Bolin. 
Bridgers. 
Caldwell. 
Calvin. 
Chambers. 
Childers. 
Childs. 
Cocke. 
Cole. 
Collins. 
Conoly. 
Cross. 
Culp. 
Decker. 

**Nays—6.**

Clements. 
Crawford. 
Dier. 
Murray. 
Neff. 
Oliver. 

**Absent.**

Allen of Colorado. 
Ayers. 
Bennett. 
Browne. 
Dean. 
Eckols. 
Garrett. 
Gordon. 
Greenwood. 
Grubbs. 
Little. 
Loyd. 

**Absent—Excused.**

Crawford. 
Hamilton. 
Lake. 
Looney. 
Phillips of Camp. 
Poole. 

"We vote 'no,' because under the provisions of this bill citizens are prohibited from subscribing an additional compensation to the fees allowed by law to State officers, where the same are manifestly too low to secure competent officers.”

"TARVER, "MURRAY."

Mr. Evans moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 341 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

Mr. Jones called up House bill No. 308, relating to qualifications of voters, with Senate amendments.

The bill was laid before the House, and the Senate amendments were read.
On motion of Mr. Jones, the House concurred in the Senate amendments.

On motion of Mr. Blount, the regular order of business was suspended to take up and place on its second reading,

House bill No. 677, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to provide for the working of certain convicts upon the public roads of this State, to provide stockades and prisons for the confinement of such convicts, and to provide for levy of special tax to defray the necessary expense of same."

The bill was laid before the House, and was read second time, together with a favorable committee report recommending amendment.

The committee report was adopted.

Mr. Shelburne offered the following amendment to the bill:

"Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"Section 1. That it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of the Penitentiaries of the State of Texas, upon the properly certified requisitions from the commissioners court of any county in this State, to deliver free of charge to the authorized guards of such courts as many short-term State convicts as such county may be entitled to according to population, to be employed by said county commissioners courts in working the public roads or highways of said county; provided, that no convict shall be required to work in the county from which he was sentenced.

"Section 2. It shall be the duty of the commissioners courts of such counties, as may so elect to utilize convict labor, to employ such guards as may be necessary, and to provide for the payment of such guards, and for the support or board of convicts thus employed.

"Section 3. The commissioners courts are hereby authorized to thus employ or work all county convicts on public roads and highways under the directions of the same guards, as provided for in the preceding sections of this act.

"Section 4. The commissioners courts, desiring thus to use convict labor, are hereby authorized to levy an additional tax, not to exceed one mill on the dollar, to be added to the tax now known as the road and bridge tax, for the purpose of carrying this act into effect.

"Section 5. Convicts thus employed who are obedient and industrious shall only be required to work five-sixths of the time of their original sentence, until their final discharge, but convicts who are disobedient, or refuse to labor, or escape, or attempt to escape, shall not be released until the full expiration of their original sentence.

"Section 6. The term public roads is hereby defined to have the same meaning as the same terms used in the road law now in force in this State.

"Section 7. This act shall not be considered a release of citizens from the labor required by the road law now in force in this State.

"Section 8. All necessary clothing will be furnished the convicts by the State, and shall be the same in kind and uniform as the State furnishes the convicts confined within the walls of its penitentiaries.

"Section 9. The commissioners courts desiring to utilize convict labor, as herein provided, shall see that said convicts have comfortable quarters at night, either in county jails or in portable stockades, or in such other secure and comfortable quarters as the commissioners court may provide; and if any of the convicts should become sick, it shall be the duty of said court to employ a competent physician, and furnish such medicines as such physician may prescribe.

"Section 10. During the months of November, December, January and February, the time of actual labor shall not exceed eight hours per day, and during the remainder of the year the labor hours shall not exceed ten hours per day.

"Section 11. This act shall not be construed as a cancellation of contracts that may have been made prior to the passage of this act, to work convicts on farms, or on railroads, or in any other manner, before the passage of this act; but after the passage of this act, and expiration of the contracts hereof referred to, preference shall be given to counties thus desiring to utilize convict labor.

"Section 12. The term "short-term convict" is hereby defined to mean convicts whose sentence to labor are for periods of two years or less.

"Section 13. Commissioners courts that may thus elect to utilize convict labor shall pay all expenses of transportation from penitentiaries to said counties, and, after trial, should said court so desire, they shall have the right to return said convicts to the penitentiaries, but shall pay return transportation.

"Section 14. Should any convict thus employed escape, the same fee shall be allowed any civil officer for capturing and returning said convict to the supervisor and guards as said officer is allowed by law for the arrest of the parties guilty of a misdemeanor, which fee shall be paid by the commissioners court.

"Section 15. Should the term of sentence of a convict expire while thus em-
ployed, he shall be discharged in the same manner as the law now provides for the discharge of convicts.

"That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed."

(The above amendment comprises House bill No. 518 in its entirety, save the caption and enacting clause.)

Mr. Phillips of Lampasas moved that further consideration of the bill be postponed until 3:30 o'clock p.m. next Tuesday, April 11, and that it be made a special order for that hour.

Mr. Shelburne moved as a substitute for above motion that it be made a special order for same hour, to be considered from day to day until disposed of.

The substitute was accepted, and the motion as substituted was adopted, and the bill was made a special order for said hour.

The Speaker laid before the House, as pending business, on engrossment, House bill No. 452, A bill to be entitled "An Act to appropriate and set apart to the public free school fund of the State of Texas all the unappropriated public domain of the State of Texas, including the lands reserved and appropriated by the Act of July 14, 1879, and to provide for the survey, lease and classification thereof and the patenting of homestead pre-emption surveys made prior to May 23, 1898; and to repeal Articles 4200, 4201, 4202, 4203, 4204, 4205, and 4207, Chapter 7, Title LXXXVII, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas."

Which bill was read second time on March 7, amended, and set aside by a special order.

Mr. Rochelle moved to suspend pending business to take up, and place on its second reading, Substitute House bill No. 366, relating to public weighers.

The motion to suspend was lost.

Mr. Dies moved to suspend pending business to take up, and place on its second reading, House bill No. 282, relating to libel.

Mr. Wooten moved as a substitute for above motion that the bill be made a special order for next Friday, April 14, 3 p.m.

Mr. Dies accepted the substitute.

Question then being on the motion to make the bill a special order, yeas and nays were demanded by Mr. Tarver, Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Adams.

The motion was lost by the following vote:

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"I have opposed taking up bills out of their regular order from the fact that more time is consumed in efforts by members to set bills, than it would take to pass the pending bill, but vote 'aye' upon the motion to make House bill No. 282, special order for Friday next, at 3 o'clock, because I think this bill should become a law, and unless it is set for an early date there is no hope of passing a liberal law during this session."

"PFEUFFER."

"We vote 'no' on the motion to take up this bill out of its regular order, because there are now pending many bills affecting public interest, some of which must await their call regularly, and all having merit, we are disinclined to give precedence to one over the other, when we know the preferred bill will provoke long discussion and consume time in talking that would otherwise be utilized in the passage of salutary and needed laws."

"COCKE."

"I vote 'no,' not because I am opposed to taking up the libel bill, but because I am opposed to making special orders, as they cause endless confusion and delay."

"SMITH of Grayson."

The House returned to consideration of House bill No. 492, relating to public lands, on engrossment, and

Mr. Decker offered the following amendment:

"Amend the bill by inserting after the word 'preemption,' line 31, page 2, the following: 'And homestead when applications and file have been made with the surveyor,' and by striking out all of line 2, page 3, after the word 'Baker,' and by adding after the word 'Baker' the following: 'Shall be reserved from sale; provided, any applicant for said homestead or preemption donation, or his assignee if such land has been sold, shall have the right to purchase such preemption or homestead donation for one dollar per acre, and upon the payment of such purchase price and patent fees, patent shall issue to such applicant or assigns.'"

Mr. Grogan offered the following amendment to the amendment:

"Amend by adding after the word 'acre' in the amendment 'upon the terms and conditions now provided for the sale of other school lands.'"

Accepted by Mr. Decker.

Question recurred on the amendment as amended, and Mr. Decker moved the previous question on the amendment. The main question was ordered, and the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Smith of Collin offered the following amendment: "Strike out '$1.00' in line 5, Section 3, page 2, and insert in lieu thereof '$1.50 if grazing land, and $2.50 if agricultural land.'"

Tabled on motion of Mr. Tarver.

Mr. Childers moved that further consideration of the bill be postponed until Tuesday, April 18, and that the bill be printed with all the amendments that have been adopted.

Tabled on motion of Mr. Tarver.

Mr. Wooten moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered. On engrossment of the bill, yeas and nays were demanded by Mr. Powell, Mr. Smith of Collin and Mr. Shelburne.

The bill was ordered engrossed by the following vote:

Yeas—74.

Adams. 
Allen of Hopkins. 
Ayers. 
Barbee. 
Barrett. 
Bean. 
Blount. 
Bolin. 
Bridgers. 
Caldwell. 
Chambers. 
Childs. 
Clements. 
Collins. 
Cross. 
Culp. 
Decker. 
Died. 
Dorroh. 
Evans. 
Garner. 
Gill. 
Graham. 
Greenwood. 
Grogan. 
Henderson, Brazos. 
Jones. 
Kennedy. 
Kittrell. 
Lane. 
Marsh. 
Masterson. 
McAnally. 
McClennan. 
McFarland. 
McKamy. 

Phillips of Camp. 
Poole. 
Rogers. 
Sansom. 

Nays—18.

Beaty. 
Calvin. 

Phillips of Camp. 
Poole. 
Rogers. 
Sansom. 

Yeas—74.

Adams. 
Allen of Hopkins. 
Ayers. 
Barbee. 
Barrett. 
Bean. 
Blount. 
Bolin. 
Bridgers. 
Caldwell. 
Chambers. 
Childs. 
Clements. 
Collins. 
Cross. 
Culp. 
Decker. 
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Evans. 
Garner. 
Gill. 
Graham. 
Greenwood. 
Grogan. 
Henderson, Brazos. 
Jones. 
Kennedy. 
Kittrell. 
Lane. 
Marsh. 
Masterson. 
McAnally. 
McClennan. 
McFarland. 
McKamy. 

Phillips of Camp. 
Poole. 
Rogers. 
Sansom. 

Nays—18.

Beaty. 
Calvin. 

Phillips of Camp. 
Poole. 
Rogers. 
Sansom. 

Yeas—74.

Adams. 
Allen of Hopkins. 
Ayers. 
Barbee. 
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Jones. 
Kennedy. 
Kittrell. 
Lane. 
Marsh. 
Masterson. 
McAnally. 
McClennan. 
McFarland. 
McKamy. 

Phillips of Camp. 
Poole. 
Rogers. 
Sansom. 

Nays—18.

Beaty. 
Calvin.
Mr. Bolin moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 452 be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—75.
Adams.
Allen of Hopkins.
Ayers.
Barbee.
Barrett.
Bean.
Beaty.
Blount.
Bolin.
Bridgers.
Caldwell.
Chambers.
Childs.
Clements.
Cocke.
Cole.
Collins.
Cross.
Culp.
Decker.
Dorroh.
Evans.
Garner.
Gill.
Graham.
Greenwood.
Grogan.
Henderson, Brazos.
Jones.
Kennedy.

Nays—17.
Calvin.
Childers.
Conoly.
Derden.
Goodman.
Henderson, Lamar.
Howard.
Hurley.
Loram.
Lloyd.
Lillard.
Maxwell.
McDowell.
Neff.
Powell.
Shelburne.
Smith of Collin.
Vaughan.

Mr. Blount moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered.
Question first recurred on the amendment, and it was adopted.

On passage of the bill, yeas and nays were demanded by Mr. Decker, Mr. Smith of Collin and Mr. Shelburne.

The bill was passed by the following vote:

Yeas—72.


Mr. Bolin moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill 432 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Rochelle the regular order of business was suspended to take up, and place on its second reading,

Substitute House bill Nos. 366, etc., relating to public weighers.

The bill was laid before the House, on its second reading.

Whereupon, Mr. Blount moved to adjourn until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

(By unanimous consent.)

BILL RECOMMENDED.

House bill No. 757, relating to incorporating distilleries and breweries (with favorable report), on motion of Mr. Wooten.

RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 40, relating to granting M. M. Johnson permission to sue the State, on request of Mr. Caldwell.

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING.

The following bills reported from the Senate were read first time, and referred to appropriate committee, viz.:

Senate bill No. 106, to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

Senate bill No. 306, to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Senate bill No. 294, to the Committee on Judicial Districts.

Senate bill No. 165, to the Committee on Finance.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

By Mr. Kennedy:

Petition from thirty-five citizens of Limestone county, approving the vetoes of the Governor.

Read and referred to Committee on Internal Improvements.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. Rochelle:

House bill No. 784, A bill to be entitled "An Act to provide a more efficient system for working the public roads of Bowie
county, regulating the fees of officers where convicts serve their time by labor on such public roads, and to repeal all laws in conflict therewith.

Read first time, and referred to Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. Greenwood:
House bill No. 785, A bill to be entitled “An Act to require peddlers of clocks, agricultural implements, cooking stoves or ranges, wagons, buggies, carriages, surreys and other similar vehicles, washing machines and churns, and peddlers of all other merchandise of every description, to pay an annual occupation tax.” (The bill declares an emergency.) Read first time, and referred to Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

By Mr. Russell:
House bill No. 786, A bill to be entitled “An Act to provide against a public calamity afflicting the inhabitants of Zapata county, Texas, by relieving the inhabitants and property in said county from the payment of taxes levied for State purposes for the year of 1899.” (An emergency is declared.) Read first time, and referred to Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

By Mr. Caldwell:
House bill No. 787, A bill to be entitled “An Act to grant M. M. Johnson permission to sue the State of Texas, in the County Court of Travis county, for the sum of $250.00, claimed to be balance due him on salary as bailiff of the Supreme Court of Texas from February 1, 1895, to June 30, 1897, and to make an appropriation to pay said M. M. Johnson in case he is successful in said suit, in the sum of $500.00.” (The bill declares an emergency.) Read first time, and referred to Judiciy Committee No. 1.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, April 7, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Sir: Your Committee on Revenue and Taxation, to whom was referred House bill No. 786, A bill to be entitled “An Act to provide against a public calamity afflicting the inhabitants of Zapata county, Texas, by relieving the inhabitants and property of taxes levied for State purposes for the year of 1899,” have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

CHILDs, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, April 7, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Sir: Your Committee on Revenue and Taxation, to whom was referred House bill No. 785, A bill to be entitled “An Act to require peddlers of clocks, agricultural implements, cooking stoves or ranges, wagons, buggies, carriages, surreys and other similar vehicles, washing machines and churns, and peddlers of all other merchandise of every description, to pay an annual occupation tax,” have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

CHILDs, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, April 7, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Sir: Your Committee on Public Lands and Land Office, to whom was referred Senate bill No. 254, A bill to be entitled “An Act to amend Article 4218p, of Chapter 12a, of Title LXXXVII, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas of 1895, relating to the sale of timber lands,” have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass with the following amendments:

“Strike out the words ‘Title 87, at the end of Section 1, and insert in lieu thereof the words ‘Title 89 of Acts of 1895, page 14.’ “Provided further, that any actual settler upon any of such land may
have the right to purchase the land after
the removal of the timber at not less than $1.00 per acre nor more than $1.50 per
acre, by paying to such purchaser of the
land and timber one-fifth of the pur­
chase price in cash, and one-fifth annually
thereafter of the balance of such pur­
chase money, with interest at six per
cent. per annum; provided, that such
settler shall not have the right to buy
any of said lands that are actually im­
proved or occupied by such purchaser of
the land and timber in the first instance,
or his assigns; and provided, said actual
settler shall buy not less than one hun­
dred and sixty acres.'"

GARNER, Acting
Chairman.

At 6:13 p. m., on motion of Mr. Blount,
the House adjourned until 9:30 o'clock
a. m. tomorrow.

SEVENTY-SIXTH DAY.

Hall of the House of Representatives,
Austin, Texas,
Saturday, April 8, 1899.

The House met at 9:30 o'clock a. m.,
pursuant to adjournment.

Speaker Sherrill in the chair.

Roll called, and the following members
present:

Present--87.

Adams.       Henderson, Brazos.
Ayers.        Hurley.
Bailey.       Jones.
Barbee.       Kennedy.
Barrett.      Kittrell.
Bean.         Lillard.
Blount.       Livesey.
Bolin.        Loyd.
Calwell.      Masterson.
Calvin.       Maxwell.
Chambers.    McAnally.
Childers.    McClellan.
Childs.       McDowell.
Clements.    McFarland.
Cooke.        McKamy.
Cole.         McKellar.
Collins.      Meitzen.
Conoly.       Mercer.
Cross.        Morris.
Decker.       Morrow.
Derden.       Murphy.
Dorroh.       Oliver.
Ellis.        Palmer.
Evans.       Parish.
Garner.      Peery.
Gill.        Powell.
Goodlett.    Prince.
Goodman.    Ratliff.
Graham.       Robertson of Bell.
Grogan.       Rochelle.

Rogers.        Tarver.
Russell.        Tate.
Savage.       Teagle.
Scurry.        Terrell.
Shannon.      Thomas of Wise.
Shelburne.      Thomas of Fannin.
Shropshire.  Tucker.
Smith of Grayson.  Vaughan.
Smith of Collin.  Walton.
Staples.     Whiles.
Sutherland.  Willrodt.
Tarkington.  Absent.

Allen of Colorado.  Monroe.
Beaty.        Murray.
Bennett.      Neff.
Browne.       Nolan.
Culp.         Pfeiffer.
Dear.         Phillips, Lampassas.
Dies.         Pitts.
Eckols.       Robertson, Harrison
Frost.       Stewart.
Garrett.      Stripling.
Gordon.       Tompkins.
Greenwood.   Wells.
Grubbs.       Willacy.
Howard.       Wooten.
Lane.         Wright.
Little.       Absent—Excused.

Hamilton.  Poole.
Lake.        Sansom.
Looney.       Schlut.

A quorum was announced present.
Prayer by Rev. W. J. Gatlin, Chaplain.
Pending reading of the Journal of yester­
day,
On motion of Mr. Grogan, further reading
was dispensed with.

GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On account of important business:
Mr. Stripling until next Monday week, on
motion of Mr. Peery.
Mr. Robertson of Harrison until Tues­
day, on motion of Mr. Allen of Hopkins.
Mr. Neff for today, on motion of Mr.
Bean.
Mr. Gordon for today, on motion of Mr.
Henderson of Lamar.
Mr. Nolan for today, on motion of Mr.
Shropshire.
Mr. Browne for today, on motion of Mr.
Staples.
Mr. Culp for today, on motion of Mr.
Grogan.
Mr. Willacy until next Tuesday, on mo­tion of Mr. Rochelle.
Mr. Wooten until next Tuesday, on mo­tion of Mr. Gill.
Mr. Beaty for today, on motion of Mr.
Conoly.
Mr. Grubbs until Thursday, on motion of Mr. Jones.