House of Representatives, Saturday, Nov. 19th, 1859.

House met pursuant to adjournment—roll called—quorum present.

Journal of yesterday read and adopted.

Mr. Francis, by request, was permitted to change his vote on the question of the indefinite postponement of the report of the Contingent Expense committee relative to subscription for newspapers, &c.

Mr. Short presented the petition of James Truit. Referred to committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Dickson, chairman of committee on Public Debt, reported as follows:

The committee on Public Debt have considered the application of the representative of the late Anson Jones for relief and report, that the demand made upon the State is for $3,600, an amount alleged to be due for losses sustained in exchange during the existence of the Republic, and while minister to the United States. An examination of the Comptroller's books shows that the accounts of Dr. Jones with that department, have all been settled and closed. This being the case, and the amount now sought to be obtained from the State, being the difference in the depreciated paper of the Republic and par funds at the time it was paid out, your committee feel constrained, under a sense of public duty, to report against the application for relief. The adoption of a different policy by the State, and the payment of losses of this character sustained by the officials and employees of the old Republic, would involve the payment of a sum far beyond our resources and inevitably bankrupt the State.

Also reported the application of John Berth for $504 back to the House, and recommend that it be laid on the table.

Mr. Billingsley, by permission, presented the petitions of Timothy McKean and Felix W. Goff. Referred to committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Dougherty, chairman of committee on Stock and Stock Raising, reported, recommending the passage of a bill to encourage the increase of population, with the amendments by the committee.

Amendments by Committee.

In section 1, after the words "woman who," insert, "is lawfully married and living with her husband," and after "birth" insert "be," change the word "deliver" to "delivered," after "delivered" insert "of," after "domain" insert "of this State."

In section 2, after the number of the section, insert, "Be it
In section 3, after the number of section, insert, "Be it further enacted," strike out "1859" and insert "1850."

In section 4, after the number of section, insert, "Be it further enacted, That all laws and parts of laws conflicting with this act be and they are hereby repealed and:"

Mr. Duncan moved that 500 copies of the report of the chairman of the committee on Stock and Stock Raising, be printed for the use of the House. Lost.

Mr. Harrison of Van Zandt, one of the committee on Private Land Claims, reported a substitute for the bill for the relief of Michael K. Hammond, and recommended its passage.

Mr. Parker, one of the committee on Private Land Claims, reported a bill for the relief of A. Spain Summerlin. Read first time.

Mr. Bryan, one of the committee on Private Land Claims, reported, recommending the passage of a bill for the relief of A. H. Booth.

Gov. Vidaurri was invited to a seat within the bar of the House.

Mr. Shannon, one of the committee on Public Lands, reported as follows:

The committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an act to provide for the sale and settlement of the public domain, have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that it is or ought to be the policy of the State Legislature to enact such laws as will encourage the settlement of the vast area of public lands of which the State is possessed; that the present public domain law which fixes the minimum price of the public land at one dollar per acre, virtually locks it up from settlement, and under the provisions of which they do not believe the public lands of the State will in any reasonable time be settled or the area of civilization be extended. The committee, therefore, unanimously instruct me to report the accompanying bill as a substitute for the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th sections of the bill referred, and recommend it to the favorable consideration of the House; and the committee would ask further time to consider and report upon the subject embraced in the remaining sections.

On motion of Mr. Dougherty, 100 copies of the bill were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hubbard, one of the committee on Internal Improvements, reported a bill to abrogate the charter of the Galveston, Houston and Henderson Railroad Company, back to the House, and asked
to be relieved from a farther consideration of it.

Mr. Martin, one of the committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to appropriate 5,000,000 acres of the public and unappropriated lands to the support and maintenance of free schools, back to the House, and asked that it be referred to the committee on Education.

Mr. Lewter, one of the committee on Private Land Claims, reported, recommending the passage of a bill for the relief of Alexander Ferguson.

Mr. Epperson, one of the committee on the Judiciary, reported as follows:

A majority of the Judiciary committee, to which was referred a resolution of the House, instructing the committee to examine into the expediency of so altering or amending the laws, regulating the inauguration of Governor and Lieut. Governor, and the meeting of the biennial sessions of the Legislature of the State, have instructed me to make the following report: That the object can only be accomplished by changing the time of the biennial meeting of the Legislature, and deeming this expedient, have instructed me to report the accompanying bill and to ask for it a favorable consideration. Bill read first time.

Mr. Dennis, chairman of committee on State Affairs, reported a substitute for the bill to be entitled an act to amend the 1st section of an act entitled an act to encourage the building of steamboats and other vessels in the State of Texas, approved Feb. 3d, 1854, and recommend its passage.

And reported, recommending the indefinite postponement of the petition of J. W. Scott.

Also, reported a bill to authorize the Governor to appoint one or more persons to translate and record from the Spanish to the English language, all of the land papers now on file in the county of Austin, and other counties having land papers in the Spanish language, back to the House, and recommend its indefinite postponement.

Mr. Darnell introduced a joint resolution, to amend the 30th section of the 7th article of the constitution. Read first time, and referred to committee on State Affairs.

Mr. Mills introduced a bill to amend the 19th section of an act to regulate proceedings in the District Courts, passed May 13th, 1866. Read first time, and referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Crawford introduced a bill to amend articles 668 and 669 of the penal code. Read first time, and referred to committee on Slaves and Slavery.

Mr. Hubert introduced a bill to incorporate the Air Line
Railroad Company. Read first time, and referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Armstrong introduced a bill to amend an act passed Jan. 10th, 1850. Read first time, and referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Darnell offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on Stock and Stock Raising be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the county courts of each county in the State, to prohibit the running at large of any stallion or j ack in their respective counties, and that they report by bill or otherwise. Adopted.

Mr. Buckley introduced a bill to be entitled an act regulating the duties of common carriers and defining their liabilities. Read first time, and referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Flewellen introduced a bill to legitimate Donacena Thomas, late Donacena Hewland. Read first time, and referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Davis of Bastrop, introduced a bill to amend the 773 article of the penal code passed Feb. 12th, 1858. Read first time, and referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Davis of Hays, introduced a bill for the relief of H. B. King. Read first time, and referred to committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Dougherty introduced a bill for the relief of Mrs. William Gumble, late the widow of John Carroll. Read first time, and referred to committee on Claims and Accounts.

Mr. Ross introduced a bill to repeal the several acts therein enumerated. Read first time, and referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Dougherty introduced a bill to regulate the sale of spirituous liquors. Read first time, and referred to committee on State Affairs.

Mr. Franklin introduced a bill to incorporate the Galveston Casino. Read first time, and referred to committee on State Affairs.

Also, a bill to incorporate the Galveston Wharf and Cotton Press Company. Read first time, and referred to committee on State Affairs.

Mr. Daniels, one of the committee on Private Land Claims, reported, recommending the passage of a bill for the relief of the heirs of Matt Finch, dec'd, with the amendments by the committee.

AMENDMENTS.

"Provided the said Matt Finch has never received said donation."

Mr. Mills introduced a bill to amend an act to organize and
define the power and jurisdiction of the District Courts, approved May 11th, 1846. Read first time, and referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Dougherty offered the following resolution:

*Be it resolved, That this House subscribe for one copy of each daily and one copy of each tri-weekly newspaper published in this city, for the use of each member of this House, and at the expense thereof, not to exceed the usual price to regular yearly subscribers, be paid out of the contingent fund.*

On motion of Mr. Baxter, laid on the table by the following vote:


On motion of Mr. Stewart, Mr. Anderson was added to the committee on Counties and County Boundaries.

Mr. Craig, by permission, presented the petition of the heirs of Harvey Martin. Referred to committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Dougherty offered the following resolution:

*Resolved, That the committee on Retrenchment and Reform be instructed to institute an inquiry into the cost of fires in the capitol building, and report whether in their opinion it would not be a saving to the State Treasury to have the chimneys walked up, and to cause the members of the Legislature to keep the outer as well as the inner man warm at their own expense.*

On motion of Mr. Mundine, the resolution was laid on the table.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A bill for the relief of Geo. W. Goodwin, together with the report of the committee, was taken up, read second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

[Mr. Taylor of Fannin in the chair.]
A bill for the relief of Joseph Thompson, with report of the committee, was taken up and read second time. Mr. Navarro moved to recommend the bill to committee on Private Land Claims. Lost; and the bill ordered to be engrossed by the following vote:


Mr. Haynes moved that the rule be suspended, and the bill read third time. Lost.

Mr. Davis of Hays, by permission, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That all claims referred to the committee on Private Land Claims, the evidence shall be taken by interrogatories at the expense of the applicant, and they shall be filed with the report of the committee, and the said committee shall cross all such interrogatories.

On motion of Mr. Martin, the resolution was referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

A bill for the relief of Chas. A. Russell, county surveyor of Karnes county, with report of the committee, was taken up.

Mr. Barnard moved to lay the report on the table.

On motion, the House adjourned till 10 o'clock, Monday morning, pending Mr. Barnard's motion.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, /
AUSTIN, Monday, Nov. 21st, 1859 /

House not pursuant to adjournment—roll called—quorum present—journal of Saturday read and adopted.

Mr. Short presented the petition of the citizens of Shelbyville, Referred to committee on State Affairs.