

JOURNAL

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

BEING THE

REGULAR SESSION, TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE,

BEGUN AND HELD AT THE

CITY OF AUSTIN JANUARY 8, 1889.

AUSTIN:
SMITH, HICKS & JONES, STATE PRINTERS.
1889.

The Chair then announced that the first business before the House was the

ELECTION OF A SPEAKER,

and that nominations for that position were in order.

Hon. Alex. Pope of Harrison nominated Hon. F. P. Alexander of Hunt.

The nomination was seconded by Hon. Albert Stevenson of Parker, Hon. E. L. Dunlap of Victoria, and Hon. J. R. Jones of Panola.

Mr. Rentfro moved that Mr. Alexander be elected Speaker of the House by acclamation.

Mr. Pope raised the point of order that the rules of the House required the election of its officers to be by ballot.

The Chair sustained the point of order, and directed the House to proceed to a ballot, and requested

Messrs. Mills, Strong, Melson and McGaughey to act as tellers.

Upon casting up the ballot it appeared that

Mr. Alexander had received 103 votes,

Whereupon,

The Chair announced that the Hon. F. P. Alexander, having received all the votes cast, was duly and constitutionally elected Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-

first Legislature of the State of Texas, and thereupon appointed the Hon. Messrs. Brown of Grayson and Gresham to escort him to the chair.

The Hon. Secretary of State introduced the Speaker elect to the House, who returned his thanks for the honor conferred upon him, as follows:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: Duly appreciating the honor you have conferred upon me, with a profound sensibility of the responsibilities this distinction carries with it, and fully realizing my dependence upon you for advice, assistance and patient forbearance in the discharge of the onerous duties that will devolve upon me, I thank you sincerely for this evidence of your esteem and confidence. In the administration of the trust you have confided to me, it will be my earnest purpose to promote the best interests of the people of Texas, and to avoid even the shadow or semblance of partiality as to the members of this House, or prejudice as to any interest in or section of our great State. During the progress of the legislative session, on the threshold of which we now stand, grave questions of State policy, involving many important subjects of legislation, will doubtless be presented to you for thoughtful consideration and practical solution, and I have no reason to doubt that the representatives

of the people here assembled possess wisdom and patriotism equal to the emergency. Permit me to indulge the hope, being confident of its ultimate realization, that your deliberations will be wisely directed, characterized by earnestness and harmony, and prompted by patriotic motives. I approach the responsibilities of the position to which you have with singular unanimity called me, with serious misgivings as to my ability to fill the measure of your expectations, and confidently rely upon your friendly assistance and co-operation, without which the satisfactory discharge of these responsibilities is an impossibility.

Again thanking you for the high compliment you have paid me, I await your pleasure.