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OF

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

SIXTH LEGISLATURE.

BY AUTHORITY.

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1855.

It being the pleasure of the House, it then proceeded to the election of Speaker.

Messrs. Ochiltree, Green and Crosby were appointed Tellers.

Nominations being declared in order, the Hon. Ashbel Smith put in nomination the name of Hamilton P. Bee for Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixth Legislature of the State of Texas.

There being no other nominations, the House proceeded to ballot, which resulted as follows :

	H. P. Bee,	78 votes.
	N. B. Charlton,	1 vote.
	Kittrell,	1 vote.
	Blank,	1 vote.

Mr. Bee having received a majority of all the votes, was declared duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Messrs. Ashbel Smith and B. E. Tarver were appointed a

committee to wait upon the Speaker elect, and conduct him to the Chair.

The Speaker, on ascending the Chair, addressed the House to the following purport:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

I accept, with great diffidence of my ability to discharge its duties, the distinguished position to which I have been called by your suffrages, and return my most grateful acknowledgements for the unanimity and cordiality with which it has been conferred.

I bring to the discharge of its duties but a limited experience, and can but promise my best efforts to merit your confidence. The first important measure which will claim our attention, will be the rules which we shall make for our government, and which, when placed in my hands, stamped with the seal of your approbation, it will be my duty to administer, and I ask in advance, that so long as I shall discharge that duty impartially, strictly, and to the best of my ability, that I will be sustained by the same generous confidence that to-day so honors me.

The occasion is appropriate to congratulate the Representatives of the people upon the happy auspices under which we meet. With the exception of our frontier, peace and prosperity every where prevails. Assembling as we do within the completed walls of this Capitol, an emblem in itself, not only of the progress and prosperity of our State, but of the Union of our people, may we not indulge in the patriotic hope, that whatever local or sectional differences may have hitherto characterised the Legislature of our State, that upon this occasion we will lay all such considerations, as it were, upon the common altar of our country, and with a firm purpose and united will, move forward to the discharge of the important duties that await us.

In my humble judgment, the prosperity of Texas for the next ten years, depends upon the action of this Legislature. It is in our power to dissipate forever the few dark clouds that yet linger on the political horizon of our State; that Texas unfettered and free from all incumbrances, may move onward to the accomplishment of that high destiny with her sister States, to which she is entitled, by her natural position and her own bright and glorious history.

I offer you, gentlemen, my cordial co-operation in carrying out this good work.

Again, I thank you for the honor you have conferred upon me