

Mr. McDonough moved that the petition be referred to the committee on Roads and Bridges.

Carried.

The committee on Elections made a report upon the contested case of Jefferson against Nettleton, as follows :

The committee of the House of Representatives on Elections, to whom was referred the petition of Robert E. Jefferson, claiming the seat in said body now held by William Nettleton, respectfully report, that the witnesses relied upon by both parties to said contest to sustain their several claims, reside near Lake Superior, and that it will be impossible to arrive at a full knowledge of the facts in the case without the testimony of said witnesses. That to procure their attendance before the committee at the Capitol in St. Paul, would be attended with unnecessary expense to the State, and that both parties and the committee deem it best that a commission should be appointed to proceed to the vicinity where said witnesses reside and take their testimony. In order to carry out this plan, therefore, your committee beg leave to report to the House the following resolution, with the recommendation that it pass :

*Resolved*, That Luke Marvin be and he hereby is appointed commissioner to proceed to Duluth, and to take the testimony of such witnesses as may appear before him on the part of either party, in the matter of the contesting of the seat of William Nettleton in this body by Robert E. Jefferson, and to return the same to the Committee on Elections with all convenient dispatch.

*Provided, however*, That said commissioner shall report to the Committee on or before the 7th of January, 1860, all testimony taken by him in said contest, and shall receive for his services the sum of fifty dollars.

A. H. BUTLER,

Chairman of Committee on Elections.

Mr. Sweet moved that the whole matter be laid on the table.

Carried.

Mr. Stephenson presented a joint resolution on the Insurrection at Harper's Ferry, as follows :

*Whereas*, Public attention has recently been directed to an unprovoked attempt made to disturb the peace and safety of a sister State, and to embroil this confederacy in a sanguinary and servile war, subversive of law, seditious in its character, and treasonable in all its tendencies and aspects.

*And Whereas*, It is eminently fitting for all good citizens, and especially for those in whose wisdom and patriotism State legislation is placed, and whose duty it becomes to support the Constitution of these United States, and of the State whose representatives they are, to express in decided terms their condemnation of all such insurrectionary movements, and to deprecate all sympathy for, or collusion with treasonable men.

*Therefore, Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota*, That we recognise the Constitution of the United States as the paramount law of the land, which, to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, must be maintained with fidelity;—and that every attempt to assail its compromises, evade its requirements, or subvert its character, should be reprobated by every true American.

*Resolved*, That under the Constitution the citizens of one State can not interfere with the domestic institutions of another State, and that any such interference is an attack upon the peace, safety, and dignity of every State in the Union, and that we denounce with indignation and abhorrence, not only

the treasonable participators in the recent invasion of the soil of Virginia at Harper's Ferry, but all others who, by sustaining, excusing or palliating the offence, aid and comfort insurrection and sedition.

*Resolved*, That Minnesota renews to Virginia and to the several States of the Union her assurances of fealty to the Constitution, and her desires to cherish and perpetuate the sentiments of friendship and union inculcated by Washington and his illustrious compatriots, and that she confidently claims in return from every other State, or geographical division, that forbearance and moderation on sectional issues, which shall best maintain and transmit to future ages the priceless inheritance of our glorious confederacy, bequeathed to us by our fathers.

*Resolved*, That the Governor of Minnesota be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions, and the preamble thereto, to the Governor of each of the several States.

Laid over under the rules.

Mr. Acker introduced—

A bill for an act to punish frauds and other crimes committed at Elections.

Which was read a first time.

Mr. Secombe introduced a joint resolution proposing amendments to article six of the Constitution of this State, as follows :

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota*, That the following amendments to article six (6) of the Constitution of this State be proposed to the people of the State for their approval or rejection, viz :

That section two (2), of the said article be amended so as to read as follows :

SEC. 2. The Supreme Court shall consist of a number of justices equal to the number of judicial districts in the State. It shall have original jurisdiction in such remedial cases as may be prescribed by law, and appellate jurisdiction in all cases both in law and equity, but there shall be no trial by jury in said Court, and the concurrence of a majority of the justices shall be necessary to constitute a decision of said Court. It shall be the duty of said Court to appoint a reporter of its decisions. There shall be chosen by the qualified electors of the State one clerk of said Court, who shall hold his office for the term of three years and until his successor is duly elected and qualified, and the said Court shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the office of said clerk, until an election can be regularly had to fill such vacancy, which said election shall be had at the first annual election that occurs more than thirty days after the vacancy shall have happened.

That section three (3) of the said article be amended so as to read as follows :

SEC. 3. The judges of the several District Courts of this State shall be the justices of the said Supreme Court, one of whom to be selected by lot in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, shall be chief justice.

Mr. Mitsch gave notice that on to-morrow, or some future day, he would introduce

A bill for an act to amend an act to create a lien in favor of mechanics and others in certain cases.

Mr. Aaker gave notice that on to-morrow, or on some future day, he would introduce