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MILITARY LEAGUE.

Between the State of Tennessee and the Confederate States.

By virtue of a joint resolution of the General Assembly of Tennessee, Messrs. G. A. Henry, A. O. W. Totten and Washington Barrow were appointed by the Governor to confer with the Hon. H. W. Hilliard, Commissioner from the Confederate States, relative to the formation of a Military League between the State of Tennessee and the Confederate States. Below we give the Governor's message, announcing the formation of the league, together with the league itself, and the vote of the House of Representatives ratifying it.

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR.

Executive Department, Nashville, May 7, 1861.
Gentlemen of the Senate
and House of Representatives:

By virtue of the authority of your joint resolution, adopted on the 1st day of May, instant, I appointed Gustavus A. Henry, of the county of Montgomery, Archibald O. W. Totten, of the county of Madison, and Washington Barrow, of the county of Davidson, "Commissioners on the part of Tennessee, to enter into a Military League with the authorities of the Confederate States, and with the authorities of such other slaveholding States as may wish to enter into it; having in view the protection and defence of the entire South against the war that is now being carried on against it."

The said Commissioners met the Hon. Henry W. Hilliard, the accredited representative of the Confederate States, at Nashville, on this day, and have agreed upon and executed a Military League between the State of Tennessee and the Confederate States of America, subject, however, to the ratification of the two Governments, one of the duplicate originals of which I herewith transmit for your ratification or rejection. For many cogent and obvious reasons, unnecessary to be rehearsed to you, I respectfully recommend the ratification of this League at the earliest practicable moment.

Very respectfully,
ISHAM G. HARRIS.

Convention between the State of Tennessee and the Confederate States of America.

The State of Tennessee, looking to a speedy admission into the Confederacy established by the Confederate States of America, in accordance with the Constitution for the Provisional Government of said States, enters into the following temporary Convention, Agreement and Military League, with the Confederate States, for the purpose of meeting pressing exigencies affecting the common rights, interests and safety of said State and said Confederacy.

First—Until the said State shall become a member of said Confederacy according to the Constitution of both powers, the whole military force, and military operations, offensive and defensive, of said State, in the impending conflict with the United States, shall be under the chief control and direction of the President of the Confederate States, upon the same basis, principles and footing, as if said State were now, and during the interval a member of said force, together with that of the Confederate States, to be employed for the common defence.

Second—The State of Tennessee will, upon becoming a member of said Confederacy, under the permanent Constitution of said Confederate States if the same shall occur turn over said Confederate States all the public property acquired from the United States, on the same terms, and in the same manner as the other States of said Confederacy have done in like cases.

Third—Whatever expenditures of money, if any, the said State of Tennessee shall make before she becomes a member of said Confederacy, shall be met and provided for by the Confederate States.

This Convention, entered into and agreed

in the city of Nashville, Tenn., on the 7th day of May, A. D. 1861, by Henry W. Hilliard, the duly authorized Commissioner to act in the matter of the Confederate States, and Gustavus A. Henry, Archibald O. W. Totten, and Washington Barrow, Commissioners duly authorized to act in like manner, for the State of Tennessee—the whole subject to the approval and ratification of the proper authorities of both Governments respectively.

In testimony whereof, the parties aforesaid have herewith set their hands and seals, the day and year aforesaid, in duplicate originals,

HENRY W. HILLIARD, [SEAL.]

Com'r. of Conf. States of America.

GUSTAVUS A. HENRY, [SEAL.]

A. O. W. TOTTON, [SEAL.]

WASHINGTON BARROW, [SEAL.]

Com. on the part of Tennessee.

JOINT RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE LEAGUE.

Whereas, a military league, offensive and defensive, was formed on this, the 7th day of May, 1861, by and between A. O. W. Totten, Gustavus A. Henry, and Washington Barrow, Commissioners on the part of the State of Tennessee, and H. W. Hilliard, Commissioner on the part of the Confederate States of America, subject to the confirmation of the two Governments:

Be it therefore Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That said league be in all respects ratified and confirmed; and the said General Assembly hereby pledged the faith and honor of the State of Tennessee to the faithful observance of the terms and conditions of said league.

The vote on ratifying the league, was: In the Senate, 14 for to 5 against; in the House, 42 for and 15 against it.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF TENNESSEE.

An Act to submit to a vote of the people a Declaration of Independence, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That immediately after the passage of this Act the Governor of this State shall, by proclamation, direct the sheriffs of the several counties in this State to open and hold election at the various voting precincts in their respective counties, on the 8th day of June, 1861; that said sheriffs, or in the absence of the sheriffs, the coroner of the county, shall immediately advertise the election contemplated by this act; that said sheriffs appoint a deputy to hold said election for each voting precinct, and that said deputy appoint three judges and two clerks for each precinct, and if no officer shall, from any cause, attend any precinct to open and hold said election, then any justice of the peace, or in the absence of a justice of the peace, any respectable freeholder may appoint officers, judges and clerks to open and hold said election. Said officers, judges and clerks shall be sworn as now required by law, and who, after being so sworn, shall open and hold an election, open and close at the time of day, and in the manner now required by law in elections for members of the General Assembly.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That at said election the following declaration shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of the States of Tennessee, for their ratification or rejection:

Declaration of Independence and ordinance Dissolving the Federal Relations between the state of Tennessee and the United States of America.

1. We, the people of the State of Tennessee, waiving any expression of opinion as to the abstract doctrine of secession, but asserting the right as a free and independent people to alter, reform or abolish our form of government in such manner as we think proper, to ordain and declare that all the laws and ordinances, by which the State of Tennessee became a member of the Federal Union of the United States of America, are hereby abrogated and annulled, and that all obligations on our part be withdrawn therefrom; and we do hereby resume all the rights, functions and powers which by any of said laws and ordinances were conveyed to the Government of the United States, and absolve ourselves from all the obligations, restraints and duties incurred thereto; and do hereby henceforth become a free, sovereign and independent State.

2. We furthermore declare and ordain, that article 10, sections 1 and 2 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, which requires members of the General Assembly, and all officers, civil and military, to take an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, be and the same are hereby abrogated and annulled, and all parts of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, making citizenship of the United States a qualification for office, and recognizing the Constitution of the United States as the supreme

law of this State, are in like manner abrogated and annulled.

3. We furthermore ordain and declare that all right acquired and vested under the Constitution of the United States, or under any act of Congress passed in pursuance thereof, or under any laws of this State, and not incompatible with this ordinance, shall remain in force and have the same effect as if this ordinance had not passed.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That said election shall be by ballot, that those voting for the declaration and ordinance shall have written or printed on their ballots "Separation," and those voting against it shall have written or printed on their ballots "No Separation." That the clerks holding said election shall keep regular scrolls of the voters as now required by law in the election of members to the General Assembly, that the clerks and judges shall certify the same with the number of votes for "Separation," and the number of votes "No Separation." The officer holding the election shall return the same to the sheriff of the county, at the county seat, on the Monday next after the election. The sheriff shall immediately make out, certify and send to the Governor the number of votes polled, and the number of votes for "Separation," and the number "No Separation," and file one of the original scrolls, with the clerk of the county court, that upon comparing the vote by the Governor in the office of the Secretary of State, which be at least by the 24th day of June 1861, and may be sooner if the returns are all received by the Governor, if a majority of the votes polled shall be for "Separation," the Governor shall, by his proclamation, make it known, and declare all connection by the State of Tennessee with the Federal Union dissolved, and that Tennessee is a free independent Government free from all obligation to or connection with the Federal Government. And that the Governor shall cause "the vote by counties" to be published, the number for "Separation," and the number "No Separation," whether a majority of votes for "Separation," or No Separation."

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That in the election to be held under the provisions of this act upon the Declaration submitted to the people, all volunteers and other persons connected with the service of this State, qualified to vote for member of the Legislature in the counties where they reside shall be entitled to vote in any county in the State where they may be in active service, or under orders, or on parole at the time of said election; and all other voters shall vote in the county where they reside, as now required by law in voting for members to the General Assembly.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That at the same time and under the rules and regulations prescribed for the election herein before ordered, the following ordinance shall be submitted to the popular vote. To wit:

An ordinance for the adoption of the Constitution of the Provisional Government of the Confederate States of America.

We the people of Tennessee, solemnly impressed by the perils which surround us, do hereby adopt and ratify the Constitution of the Provisional Government of the Confederate States of America, ordained and established at Montgomery Alabama, on the 8th day of February, 1861, to be in force during the existence thereof, by the adoption of a permanent Constitution.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That those in favor of the adoption of said Provisional Constitution and thereby securing to Tennessee equal representation in the deliberations and councils of the Confederate States shall have written or printed on their ballots the word "Representation" those opposed, the words "No Representation."

SEC. 7. Be it further enacted, That in the event the people shall adopt the Constitution of the Provisional Government of the Confederate States at the election herein ordered it shall be the duty of the Governor forthwith to issue writs of election for delegates to represent the State of Tennessee in the said Provisional Government. That the State shall be represented by as many delegates as it was entitled to members of Congress to the recent Congress of the United States of America, who shall be elected from the several Congressional Districts as now established by law, in the mode and manner now prescribed for the election of members of Congress of the United States.

SEC. 8. Be it further enacted, That this act take effect from after its passage.

W. C. WHITEHORNE,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

B. L. STOVALL,

Speaker of the Senate.

Passed March 6, 1861.

The vote on the final passage of the De-

claration of Independence was—in the Senate 2) for to 4 against it; in the House 46 for 21 against.

A Proclamation.

By the Postmaster General of the Confederate States of America.

Whereas, by the provisions of an Act, approved March 15, 1861, and amended by the first section of an Act, approved May 9, 1861, the Postmaster General of the Confederate States "is authorized, on and after a day to be named by him for that purpose, to take the entire charge and direction of the postal service in the Confederate States," and all conveyance of mails within their limits, from and after such day, except by authority of the Postmaster-General thereof, is thereby prohibited:

Now, therefore, I, John H. Reagan, Postmaster-General of the Confederate States of America, do issue this my proclamation, notifying all postmasters, contractors, and special and route agents in the service of the Post Office Department, and engaged in the transmission and delivery of the mails, or otherwise in any manner connected with the service, within the limits of the Confederate States of America, that on and after the 1st day of June next, I shall assume the entire control and direction of the postal service therein. And I hereby direct all postmasters, route agents and special agents within these States, and now acting under the authority and direction of the Postmaster-General of the United States, to continue in the discharge of their respective duties under the authority vested in me by the Congress of the Confederate States, in strict conformity with such existing laws and regulations as are not inconsistent with the laws and Constitution of the Confederate States of America, and such further instructions as may hereafter be issued by my direction. And the said postmasters, route agents and special agents are also required to forward to this Department, without delay, their names, with the names of the offices of which they are postmasters, (giving the State and County,) to be directed to the "Chief of the Appointment Bureau, Post Office Department, Montgomery, Alabama," in order that new commissions may be issued under the authority of this Government. And all postmasters are hereby required to render to the Post Office Department at Washington, D. C., their final accounts and their vouchers for postal receipts and expenditures, up to the 31st day of the month, taking care to forward with said accounts all postage stamps and stamped envelopes, remaining on hand, belonging to the Post Office Department of the United States, in order that they may receive the proper credits therefor in the adjustment of their accounts; and they are further required to retain in their possession, to meet the orders of the Postmaster General of the United States, for the payment of mail service within the Confederate States, all revenue which have accrued from the postal service prior to the said 1st day of June next.

All contractors, mail messengers, and special contractors for conveying the mails within the Confederate States, under existing contracts with the Government of the United States, are hereby authorized to continue to perform such service under my direction, from and after the day last above named, subject to such modifications and changes as may be found necessary, under the powers vested in the Postmaster General by the terms of said contracts and provisions of the second section of an Act approved May 9, 1861, conformable thereto. And the said contractors, special contractors and mail messengers, are required to forward, without delay, the number of their route or routes, the nature of the service thereon, the schedules of arrivals and departures, the names of the offices supplied, and the amount of annual compensation for present service, together with their address, directed to the "Chief of the Contract Bureau, Post Office Department, Montgomery, Alabama."

Until a postal treaty shall be made with the Government of the United States for the exchange of mails between that Government and the Government of this Confederacy, postmasters will not be authorized to collect United States postage on mail matter sent or received from those States; and until supplies of postage stamps and stamped envelopes are procured for the pre-payment of postage within the Confederate States, all postages must be paid in money, under the provision of the first section of an Act approved March 1st, 1861.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Post Office Department of the Confederate States of America, at Montgomery, Alabama, the 13th day of May, in the year 1861.
JOHN H. REAGAN,
Postmaster General.