

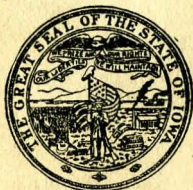
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF IOWA

AND

AMENDMENTS from 1857 to 1919

WITH

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION



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Prepared for publication by

W. C. RAMSAY
SECRETARY OF STATE

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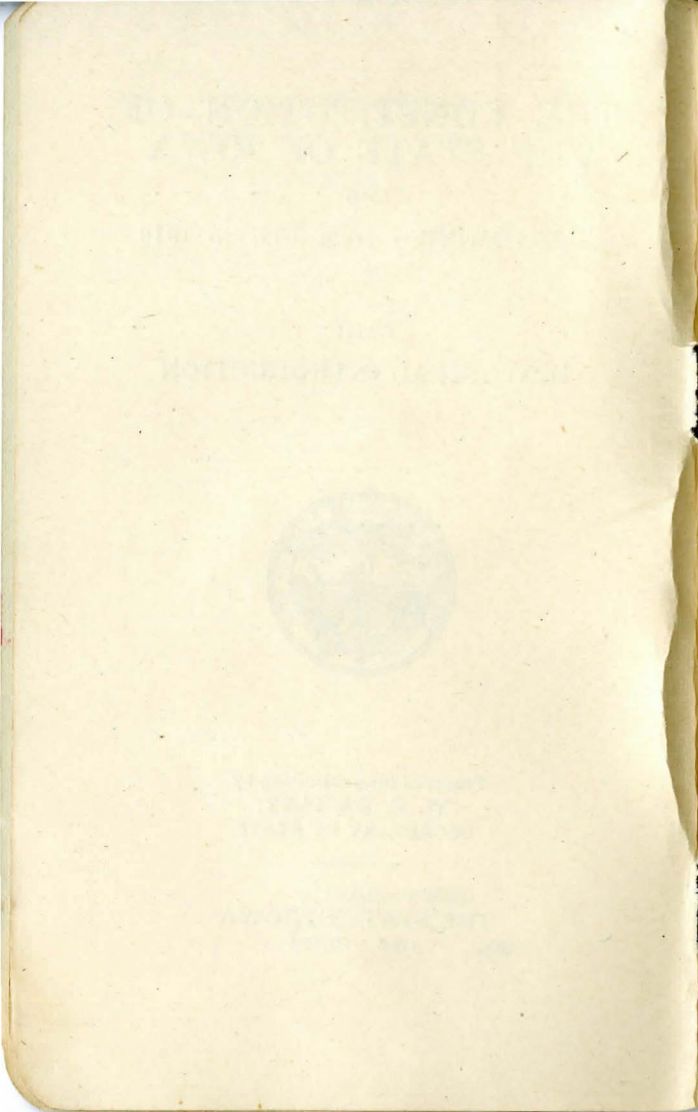
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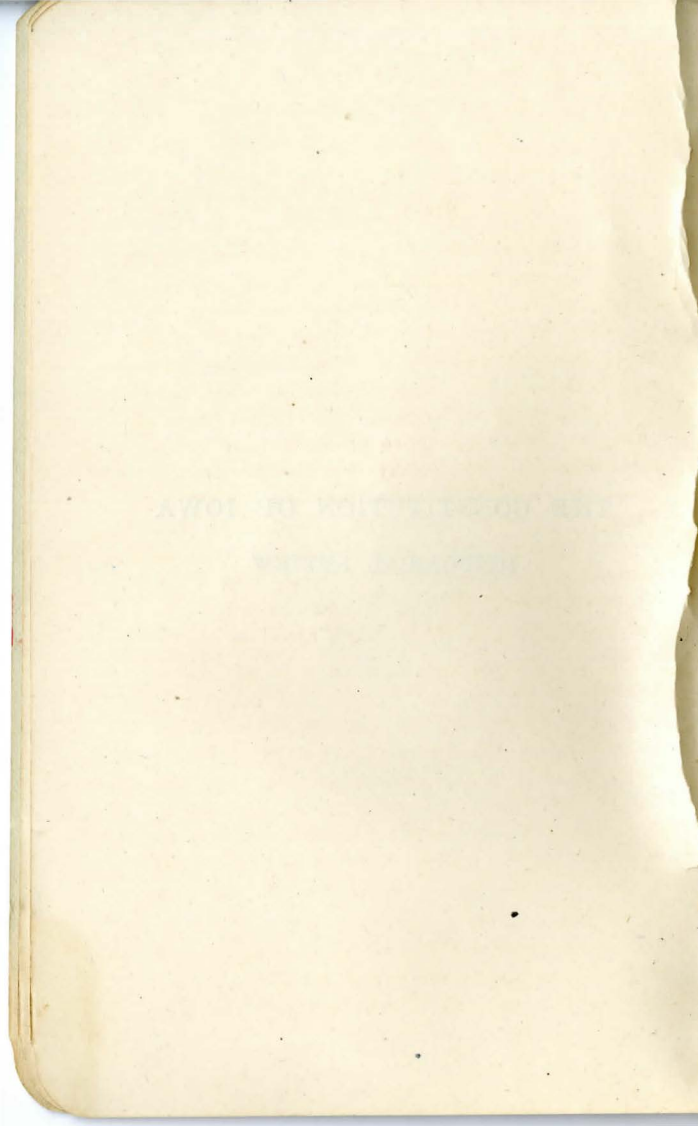


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THE CONSTITUTION OF IOWA
HISTORICAL REVIEW



INTRODUCTORY

The name "State of Iowa" is the result of some interesting changes in the governmental history of the territory bearing the name. It is often claimed that the word "Iowa" was taken from the name of a tribe of Indians who had been and were still dwelling in that part when the first white men came, the "Ioway Indians"; but, it is more probable that it has been named for the Ioway River. The country was first referred to as a district,—the "Iowa District," in 1836, while still a part of the Wisconsin Territory. Two years later it was organized as an independent territory, the "Territory of Iowa." When it was admitted to the Union in 1846, it became the "State of Iowa."

The Iowa territory, as a part of the whole Mississippi Valley, was taken into formal possession by France in 1682, as a result of the explorations of the Frenchman Marquette and Joliet in 1673, and Hennepin in 1680. In 1762 France ceded the western half of this valley, including Iowa, to Spain, who retroceded it to France in 1800. France ceded it to the United States in 1803, as a part of the Province of Louisiana.

Marquette and Joliet were the first explorers of the Iowa territory, going along the Iowa river as early as 1783. Beginning with the first

year after its cession to the United States, explorers came quite frequently. The Lewis and Clarke expedition went through western Iowa in 1804; Zebulon M. Pike explored the west bank of the Mississippi in 1805; and Albert M. Lea exploited the eastern portion of the state in 1835.

Iowa government began with the Louisiana purchase in 1803. For two years it was under the government of the Indiana Territory, as a part of the District of Louisiana. In 1805 the District of Louisiana was organized as the Territory of Louisiana, and in 1812 the Territory of Louisiana was reorganized as the Territory of Missouri. In 1821, the State of Missouri, then a part of the Territory of Missouri, was admitted to the Union, thus leaving Iowa a part of the unorganized territory of the United States without a constitutional status, in which condition it remained until 1834. From 1834 to 1836 it was attached to the Michigan Territory. When the Wisconsin Territory was organized in 1836 it became a part thereof.

In 1838 the Independent Territory of Iowa was established, on the fourth day of July. It then included a large part of the present state of Minnesota, which remained as Iowa territory until 1849 when the Minnesota Territory was organized, at which time Iowa received its present boundaries.

The Territory of Iowa was the ancient abode of the Sac, Ioway, Dakota and Fox tribes of Indians, and did not have any permanent settlers until 1833. The Indians refused per-

mission to white settlers to come in to mine and farm, and the United States troops protected their rights until 1832. The Black Hawk War resulted in letting white men in, for its conclusion in 1832 resulted in the cession of thousands of square miles of the eastern part of Iowa. During the next few years, practically the whole of the Iowa territory was secured from them through treaties.

The frontiersmen rushed in to farm and mine. The population increased very rapidly with the influx of prospectors and homeseekers from all parts of the Union. During the ten years from 1836 to 1846 the increase in inhabitants was from 10,531 to 102,388.

Government was established among the early settlers by voluntary associations. They selected their own homes and began improving them, building huts and clearing and breaking the ground. "Claim associations" and "land clubs" were formed for the protection of their claims to the land they worked. These organizations were the only government they had and their proceedings were later recognized by the United States government.

The Act of Congress of 1838, entitled "an act to divide the territory of Wisconsin and to establish the Territorial Government of Iowa" gave the Territory of Iowa its constitution. Until the formation of the State in 1846, this Constitution was its fundamental law.

Iowa having separated from Wisconsin in 1838 for the want of sufficient courts for judicial relief, the question of applying for admission

into the Union as a state was recommended as early as 1839. The first recommendation brought no result, and in 1840 the question of calling a constitutional convention was voted on by the people. It was defeated by a large majority, as it was again in 1842 by those who most wished to avoid an increase in taxes. In 1844, however, the vote was in favor of a convention. Application for a state government was made. The question of boundaries, a result of the question of slavery, held back its admission as a state until 1846, when on the 28th day of December it was admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the thirteen original states. It was the sixteenth state so admitted.

The first constitutional convention was convened at Iowa City, October 7, 1844. The constitution adopted by this convention was twice voted on and each time defeated in the year 1845.

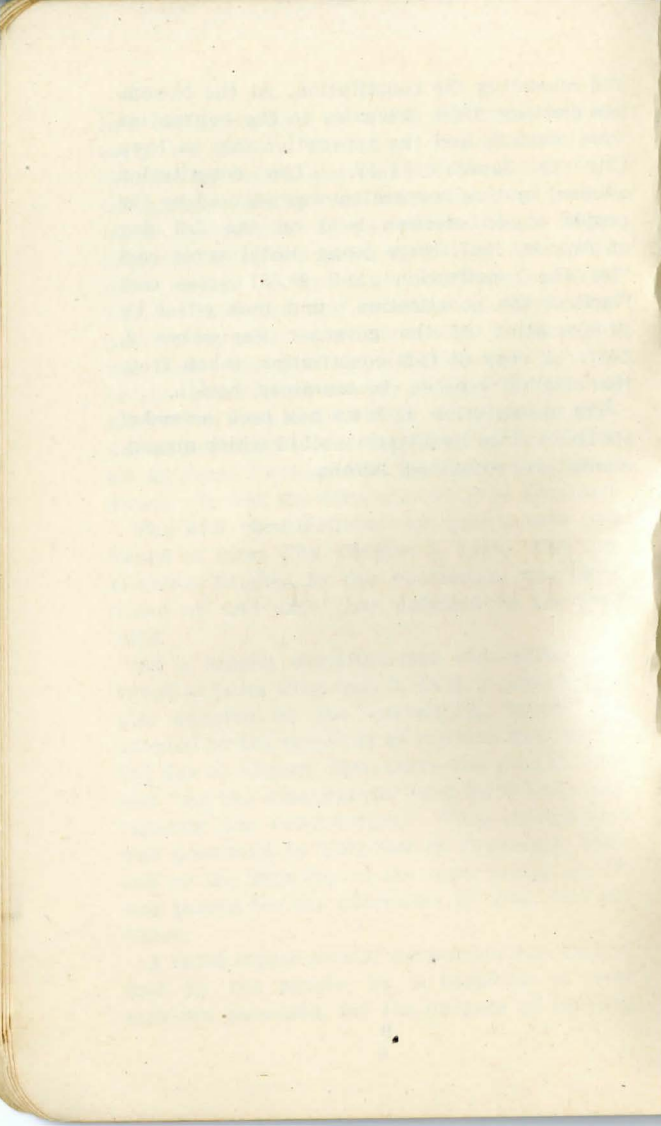
At a second constitutional convention convened at Iowa City, May 4, 1846, a constitution was adopted by the convention, which was adopted by the people at an election held on the 3rd day of August, 1846, there being 9,462 votes cast "for the constitution," and 9,036 votes cast "against the constitution." This constitution was presented to Congress in December, 1846, and on the 28th day of the same month an act was passed for the admission of Iowa into the Union.

A third constitutional convention was authorized by the people, by a majority of over eighteen thousand, for the purpose of revising

and amending the constitution. At the November election, 1856, delegates to the convention were elected; and the convention met at Iowa City in January, 1857. The constitution adopted by this convention was adopted by the people at an election held on the 3rd day of August, 1857, there being 40,311 votes cast "for the constitution" and 38,681 votes cast "against the constitution," and took effect by proclamation of the governor September 3, 1857. A copy of this constitution, taken from the original records, is contained herein.

The constitution of Iowa has been amended six times since its adoption, all of which amendments are contained herein.

THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE STATE OF IOWA



**THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE STATE OF IOWA**

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THE STATE OF IOWA

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF IOWA

WE, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF IOWA, grateful to the Supreme Being for the blessings hitherto enjoyed, and feeling our dependence on Him for a continuation of those blessings, do ordain and establish a free and independent government, by the name of the STATE OF IOWA, the boundaries whereof shall be as follows:

Beginning in the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river, at a point due east of the middle of the mouth of the main channel of the Des Moines river, thence up the middle of the main channel of the said Des Moines river, to a point on said river where the northern boundary line of the State of Missouri—as established by the constitution of that state—adopted June 12th, 1820—crosses the said middle of the main channel of the said Des Moines river; thence westwardly along the said northern boundary line of the State of Missouri, as established at the time aforesaid, until an extension of said line intersects the middle of the main channel of the Missouri river; thence up the middle of the main channel of the said Missouri river to a point opposite the middle of the main channel of the Big Sioux river, according to Nicollett's map; thence up the main

channel of the said Big Sioux river, according to said map, until it is intersected by the parallel of forty-three degrees and thirty minutes north latitude; thence east along said parallel of forty-three degrees and thirty minutes until said parallel intersects the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river, thence down the middle of the main channel of said Mississippi river to the place of beginning.

ARTICLE I.

BILL OF RIGHTS.

Section 1. All men are, by nature, free and equal, and have certain inalienable rights—among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

Sec. 2. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people, and they have the right, at all times, to alter or reform the same, whenever the public good may require it.

Sec. 3. The General Assembly shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; nor shall any person be compelled to attend any place of worship, pay tithes, taxes, or other rates for building or repairing places of worship, or the maintenance of any minister, or ministry.

Sec. 4. No religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office, or public trust,

and no person shall be deprived of any of his rights, privileges, or capacities, or disqualified from the performance of any of his public or private duties, or rendered incompetent to give evidence in any court of law or equity, in consequence of his opinions on the subject of religion; and any party to any judicial proceeding shall have the right to use as a witness, or take the testimony of, any other person not disqualified on account of interest, who may be cognizant of any fact material to the case; and parties to suits may be witnesses, as provided by law.

Sec. 5. Any citizen of this State who may hereafter be engaged, either directly, or indirectly, in a duel, either as principal, or accessory before the fact, shall forever be disqualified from holding any office under the Constitution and laws of this State.

• Sec. 6. All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation; the General Assembly shall not grant to any citizen, or class of citizens, privileges or immunities, which, upon the same terms shall not equally belong to all citizens.

Sec. 7. Every person may speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech, or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury, and if it appear to the jury that the matter charged as libelous was

true, and was published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted.

Sec. 8. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable seizures and searches shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but on probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons and things to be seized.

Sec. 9. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate; but the General Assembly may authorize trial by a jury of a less number than twelve men in inferior courts; but no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.

Sec. 10. In all criminal prosecutions, and in cases involving the life, or liberty of an individual the accused shall have a right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury; to be informed of the accusation against him, to have a copy of the same when demanded; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for his witnesses; and, to have the assistance of counsel.

Sec. 11. All offenses less than felony and in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of one hundred dollars, or imprisonment for thirty days, shall be tried summarily before a Justice of the Peace, or other officer authorized by law, on information under oath, without indictment, or the intervention of a grand jury, saving to the defendant the right of appeal; and no

person shall be held to answer for any higher criminal offense, unless on presentment or indictment by a grand jury, except in cases arising in the army, or navy, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger.

Sec. 12. No person shall, after acquittal, be tried for the same offense. All persons shall, before conviction, be bailable, by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses where the proof is evident, or the presumption great.

Sec. 13. The writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, or refused when application is made as required by law, unless in case of rebellion, or invasion the public safety may require it.

Sec. 14. The military shall be subordinate to the civil power. No standing army shall be kept up by the State in time of peace; and in time of war, no appropriation for a standing army shall be for a longer time than two years.

Sec. 15. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war except in the manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 16. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, or giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the evidence of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

Sec. 17. Excessive bail shall not be required;

excessive fines shall not be imposed, and cruel and unusual punishment shall not be inflicted.

Sec. 18. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation first being made, or secured to be made to the owner thereof, as soon as the damages shall be assessed by a jury, who shall not take into consideration any advantages that may result to said owner on account of the improvement for which it is taken.*

Sec. 19. No person shall be imprisoned for debt in any civil action, on mesne or final process, unless in case of fraud; and no person shall be imprisoned for a militia fine in time of peace.

Sec. 20. The people have the right freely to assembly together to counsel for the common good; to make known their opinions to their representatives and to petition for a redress of grievances.

Sec. 21. No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be passed.

Sec. 22. Foreigners who are, or may hereafter become residents of this State, shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment and descent of property, as native born citizens.

Sec. 23. There shall be no slavery in this State; nor shall there be involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crime.

Sec. 24. No lease or grant of agricultural

*Amended. See page 69.

lands, reserving any rent, or service of any kind, shall be valid for a longer period than twenty years.

Sec. 25. This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others, retained by people.

ARTICLE II.

RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE.

Section 1. Every white* male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of this State six months next preceding the election, and of the County in which he claims his vote sixty days, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now or hereafter may be authorized by law.

Sec. 2. Electors shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest on the days of election, during their attendance at such election, going to and returning therefrom.

Sec. 3. No elector shall be obliged to perform military duty on the day of election, except in time of war, or public danger.

Sec. 4. No person in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States shall be considered a resident of this State by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military or naval place, or station within this State.

Sec. 5. No idiot, or insane person, or person

*Amended. See page 63.

convicted of any infamous crime, shall be entitled to the privilege of an elector.

Sec. 6. All elections by the people shall be by ballot.†

ARTICLE III.

OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS.

Section 1. The powers of the government of Iowa shall be divided into three separate departments—the Legislative, the Executive, and the Judicial; and no person charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments shall exercise any function appertaining to either of the others, except in cases hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Section 1. The Legislative authority of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives; and the style of every law shall be, "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa."

Sec. 2. The sessions of the General Assembly shall be biennial, and shall commence on the second Monday in January next ensuing the election of its members; unless the Governor of the State shall, in the meantime, convene the General Assembly by proclamation.

Sec. 3. The members of the House of Rep-

†Amended by adding Sec. 7. See pages 65 and 69.

representatives shall be chosen every second year, by the qualified electors of their respective districts, on the second Tuesday in October, except the years of the Presidential election, when the election shall be on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November; and their term of office shall commence on the first day of January next after their election, and continue two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.‡

Sec. 4. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years, be a free white male citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State one year next preceding his election, and at the time of his election shall have had an actual residence of sixty days in the County, or District he may have been chosen to represent.*

Sec. 5. Senators shall be chosen for the term of four years, at the same time and place as Representatives; they shall be twenty-five years of age, and possess the qualifications of Representatives as to residence and citizenship.

Sec. 6. The number of Senators shall not be less than one-third, nor more than one-half the representative body; and shall be classified by lot, that one class, being as nearly one-half as possible, shall be elected every two years. When the number of Senators is increased, they shall be annexed by lot to one or the other of the

‡Amended. See page 65.

*Amended. See. page 64.

two classes, so as to keep them as nearly equal in numbers as practicable.

Sec. 7. Each house shall choose its own officers, and judge of the qualification, election, and return of its own members. A contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

Sec. 8. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to transact business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

Sec. 9. Each house shall sit upon its own adjournments, keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same; determine its rules of proceedings, punish members for disorderly behavior, and, with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offense; and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the General Assembly of a free and independent State.

Sec. 10. Every member of the General Assembly shall have the liberty to dissent from, or protest against any act or resolution which he may think injurious to the public, or an individual, and have the reasons for his dissent entered on the journals; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of any two members present, be entered on the journals.

Sec. 11. Senators and Representatives, in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the

peace, shall be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same.

Sec. 12. When vacancies occur in either house, the Governor or the person exercising the functions of Governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

Sec. 13. The doors of each house shall be open, except on such occasions, as, in the opinion of the house, may require secrecy.

Sec. 14. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

Sec. 15. Bills may originate in either house, and may be amended, altered, or rejected by the other; and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker and President of their respective houses.

Sec. 16. Every bill which shall have passed the General Assembly, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the Governor. If he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it with his objections, to the house in which it originated, which shall enter the same upon their journal, and proceed to re-consider it; if, after such re-consideration, it again pass both houses, by yeas and nays, by a majority of two-thirds of the members of each house, it shall become a law, notwithstanding the Governor's objections. If any bill shall not be returned within three days after it shall have been presented to him, Sunday excepted, the

same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by adjournment, prevent such return. Any bill submitted to the Governor for his approval during the last three days of a session of the General Assembly, shall be deposited by him in the office of the Secretary of State, within thirty days after the adjournment, with his approval, if approved by him, and with his objections, if he disapproves thereof.

Sec. 17. No bill shall be passed unless by the assent of a majority of all the members elected to each branch of the General Assembly, and the question upon the final passage shall be taken immediately upon its last reading, and the yeas and nays entered on the journal.

Sec. 18. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be attached to and published with the laws, at every regular session of the General Assembly.

Sec. 19. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment, and all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Sec. 20. The Governor, Judges of the Supreme and District Courts, and other State officers, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor or malfeasance in office; but judgment in such cases shall extend only to removal

from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State; but the party convicted or acquitted shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law. All other civil officers shall be tried for misdemeanors and malfeasance in office, in such manner as the General Assembly may provide.

Sec. 21. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during such term, except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people.

Sec. 22. No person holding any lucrative office under the United States, or this State, or any other power, shall be eligible to hold a seat in the General Assembly; but offices in the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, or the office of justice of the peace, or postmaster whose compensation does not exceed one hundred dollars per annum, or notary public, shall not be deemed lucrative.

Sec. 23. No person who may hereafter be a collector or holder of public moneys, shall have a seat in either House of the General Assembly, or be eligible to hold any office of trust or profit in this State, until he shall have accounted for and paid into the treasury all sums for which he may be liable.

Sec. 24. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law.

Sec. 25. Each member of the first General Assembly under this Constitution, shall receive three dollars per diem while in session; and the further sum of three dollars for every twenty miles traveled, in going to and returning from the place where such session is held, by the nearest traveled route; after which they shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by law; but no General Assembly shall have power to increase the compensation of its own members. And when convened in extra session they shall receive the same mileage and per diem compensation, as fixed by law for the regular session, and none other.

Sec. 26. No law of the General Assembly, passed at a regular session, of a public nature, shall take effect until the fourth day of July next after the passage thereof. Laws passed at a special session, shall take effect ninety days after the adjournment of the General Assembly by which they were passed. If the General Assembly shall deem any law of immediate importance, they may provide that the same shall take effect by publication in newspapers in the State.

Sec. 27. No divorce shall be granted by the General Assembly.

Sec. 28. No lottery shall be authorized by this State; nor shall the sale of lottery tickets be allowed.

Sec. 29. Every act shall embrace but one subject, and matters properly connected therewith; which subject shall be expressed in the

title. But if any subject shall be embraced in an act which shall not be expressed in the title, such act shall be void only as to so much thereof as shall not be expressed in the title.

Sec. 30. The General Assembly shall not pass local or special laws in the following cases:

For the assessment and collection of taxes for State, County, or road purposes;

For laying out, opening, and working roads or highways;

For changing the names of persons;

For the incorporation of cities and towns;

For vacating roads, town plats, streets, alleys, or public squares;

For locating or changing county seats.

In all the cases above enumerated, and in all other cases where a general law can be made applicable, all laws shall be general, and of uniform operation throughout the State; and no law changing the boundary lines of any county shall have effect until upon being submitted to the people of the counties affected by the change, at a general election, it shall be approved by a majority of the votes in each county, cast for and against it.

Sec. 31. No extra compensation shall be made to any officer, public agent, or contractor, after the service shall have been rendered, or the contract entered into; nor, shall any money be paid on any claim, the subject matter of which shall not have been provided for by pre-existing laws, and no public money or property shall be appropriated for local, or private purposes,

unless such appropriation, compensation, or claim, be allowed by two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the General Assembly.

Sec. 32. Members of the General Assembly shall, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear, or affirm, (as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Senator, (or Representative, as the case may be,) according to the best of my ability." And members of the General Assembly are hereby empowered to administer to each other the said oath or affirmation.

Sec. 33. The General Assembly shall, in the years one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, and one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and every ten years thereafter, cause an enumeration to be made of all the white inhabitants of the State.*

Sec. 34. The number of senators shall, at the next session following each period of making such enumeration, and the next session following each United States census, be fixed by law, and apportioned among the several counties, ac-

*Amended. See page 63.

cording to the number of white inhabitants in each.†

Sec. 35. The Senate shall not consist of more than fifty members, nor the House of Representatives of more than one hundred; and they shall be apportioned among the several counties and representative districts of the State, according to the number of white inhabitants in each, upon ratios to be fixed by law; but no representative district shall contain more than four organized counties, and each district shall be entitled to at least one representative. Every county and district which shall have a number of inhabitants equal to one-half of the ratio fixed by law, shall be entitled to one representative; and any one county containing in addition to the ratio fixed by law, one-half of that number, or more, shall be entitled to one additional representative. No floating district shall hereafter be formed.‡

Sec. 36. At its first session under this Constitution, and at every subsequent regular session, the General Assembly shall fix the ratio of representation, and also form into representative districts those counties which will not be entitled singly to a representative§.

Sec. 37. When a congressional, senatorial, or representative district shall be composed of two or more counties, it shall not be entirely separated by any county belonging to another district; and no county shall be divided in

†Amended. See pages 63 and 67.

‡Amended. See pages 63 and 67.

§Amended. See page 67.

forming a congressional, senatorial, or representative district.

Sec. 38. In all elections by the General Assembly, the members thereof shall vote viva voce and the votes shall be entered on the journal.

ARTICLE IV.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

Section 1. The Supreme Executive power of this State shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Iowa.

Sec. 2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors at the time and place of voting for members of the General Assembly, and shall hold his office two years from the time of his installation, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

Sec. 3. There shall be a Lieutenant Governor, who shall hold his office two years, and be elected at the same time as the Governor. In voting for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, the electors shall designate for whom they vote as Governor, and for whom as Lieutenant Governor. The returns of every election for Governor, and Lieutenant Governor, shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government of the State, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall open and publish them in the presence of both Houses of the General Assembly.

Sec. 4. The persons respectively having the highest number of votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, shall be declared duly elected; but in case two or more persons shall have an equal and the highest number of votes for either office, the General Assembly shall, by joint vote, forthwith proceed to elect one of said persons Governor, or Lieutenant Governor, as the case may be.

Sec. 5. Contested elections for Governor, or Lieutenant Governor, shall be determined by the General Assembly in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

Sec. 6. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor, or Lieutenant Governor, who shall not have been a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State, two years next preceding the election, and attained the age of thirty years at the time of said election.

Sec. 7. The Governor shall be commander in chief of the militia, the army, and navy of this State.

Sec. 8. He shall transact all executive business with the officers of government, civil and military, and may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

Sec. 9. He shall take care that the laws are faithfully executed.

Sec. 10. When any office shall, from any cause, become vacant, and no mode is provided by the Constitution and laws for filling such

vacancy, the Governor shall have power to fill such vacancy, by granting a commission, which shall expire at the end of the next session of the General Assembly, or at the next election by the people.

Sec. 11. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly by proclamation, and shall state to both Houses, when assembled, the purpose for which they shall have been convened.

Sec. 12. He shall communicate, by message, to the General Assembly, at every regular session, the condition of the State, and recommend such matters as he shall deem expedient.

Sec. 13. In case of disagreement between the two Houses with respect to the time of adjournment, the Governor shall have power to adjourn the General Assembly to such time as he may think proper; but no such adjournment shall be beyond the time fixed for the regular meeting of the next General Assembly.

Sec. 14. No person shall, while holding any office under the authority of the United States, or this State, execute the office of Governor, or Lieutenant Governor, except as hereinafter expressly provided.

Sec. 15. The official term of the Governor, and Lieutenant Governor, shall commence on the second Monday of January next after their election, and continue for two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified. The Lieutenant Governor, while acting as Governor, shall receive the same pay as provided for

Governor; and while presiding in the Senate, shall receive as compensation therefor, the same mileage and double the per diem pay provided for a Senator, and none other.

Sec. 16. The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons, after conviction, for all offenses except treason and cases of impeachment, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law. Upon conviction for treason, he shall have power to suspend the execution of the sentence until the case shall be reported to the General Assembly at its next meeting, when the General Assembly shall either grant a pardon, commute the sentence, or direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; and shall report to the General Assembly, at its next meeting, each case of reprieve, commutation, or pardon granted, and the reason therefor; and also all persons in whose favor remission of fines and forfeitures shall have been made, and the several amounts remitted.

Sec. 17. In case of the death, impeachment, resignation, removal from office, or other disability of the Governor, the powers and duties of the office for the residue of the term, or until he shall be acquitted, or the disability removed, shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor.

Sec. 18. The Lieutenant Governor shall be President of the Senate, but shall only vote when the Senate is equally divided; and in

case of his absence, or impeachment, or when he shall exercise the office of Governor, the Senate shall choose a President pro tempore.

Sec. 19. If the Lieutenant Governor, while acting as Governor, shall be impeached, displaced, resign, or die, or otherwise become incapable of performing the duties of the office, the President pro tempore of the senate shall act as Governor until the vacancy is filled, or the disability removed; and if the President of the Senate, for any of the above causes, shall be rendered incapable of performing the duties pertaining to the office of Governor, the same shall devolve upon the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sec. 20. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially and shall be called the Great Seal of the State of Iowa.

Sec. 21. All grants and commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the people of the State of Iowa, sealed with the Great Seal of the State, signed by the Governor, and countersigned by the Secretary of State.

Sec. 22. A Secretary of State, Auditor of State, and Treasurer of State, shall be elected by the qualified electors, who shall continue in office two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified; and perform such duties as may be required by law.

ARTICLE V.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Section 1. The Judicial power shall be vested in a Supreme Court, District Courts, and such other Courts, inferior to the Supreme Court, as the General Assembly may, from time to time, establish.

Sec. 2. The Supreme Court shall consist of three Judges, two of whom shall constitute a quorum to hold Court.

Sec. 3. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State, and shall hold their Court at such time and place as the General Assembly may prescribe. The Judges of the Supreme Court so elected, shall be classified so that one Judge shall go out of office every two years; and the Judge holding the shortest term of office under such classification, shall be Chief Justice of the Court, during his term, and so on in rotation. After the expiration of their terms of office, under such classification, the term of each Judge of the Supreme Court shall be six years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall be ineligible to any other office in the State, during the term for which they shall have been elected.

Sec. 4. The Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction only in cases in chancery, and shall constitute a Court for the correction of errors at law, under such restrictions as the

General Assembly may, by law, prescribe; and shall have power to issue all writs and process necessary to secure justice to parties, and exercise a supervisory control over all inferior Judicial tribunals throughout the State.

Sec. 5. The District Court shall consist of a single Judge, who shall be elected by the qualified electors of the District in which he resides. The Judge of the District Court shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified; and shall be ineligible to any other office, except that of Judge of the Supreme Court, during the term for which he was elected.

Sec. 6. The District Court shall be a court of law and equity, which shall be distinct and separate jurisdictions, and have jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters arising in their respective districts, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

Sec. 7. The Judges of the Supreme and District Courts shall be conservators of the peace throughout the State.

Sec. 8. The style of all process shall be, "The State of Iowa," and all prosecutions shall be conducted in the name and by the authority of the same.

Sec. 9. The salary of each Judge of the Supreme Court shall be two thousand dollars per annum; and that of each District Judge, one thousand six hundred dollars per annum, until the year eighteen hundred and sixty; after which time, they shall severally receive such

compensation as the General Assembly may, by law, prescribe; which compensation shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which they shall have been elected.

Sec. 10. The State shall be divided into eleven Judicial Districts; and after the year eighteen hundred and sixty, the General Assembly may reorganize the Judicial Districts and increase or diminish the number of Districts, or the number of Judges of the said Court, and may increase the number of Judges of the Supreme Court; but such increase or diminution shall not be more than one District, or one Judge of either Court, at any one session; and no re-organization of the districts, or diminution of the number of Judges, shall have the effect of removing a Judge from office. Such re-organization of the districts, or any change in the boundaries thereof, or increase or diminution of the number of Judges, shall take place every four years thereafter, if necessary, and at no other time.*

Sec. 11. The Judges of the Supreme and District Courts shall be chosen at the general election; and the term of office of each Judge shall commence on the first day of January next, after his election.

Sec. 12. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the election of an Attorney General by the people, whose term of office shall be two years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

*Amended. See page 65

Sec. 13. The qualified electors of each judicial district shall, at the time of the election of District Judge, elect a District Attorney, who shall be a resident of the district for which he is elected, and who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.†

Sec. 14. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to provide for the carrying into effect of this article, and to provide for a general system of practice in all the Courts of this State.‡

ARTICLE VI.

MILITIA.

Section 1. The militia of this State shall be composed of all able-bodied white male citizens, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such as are or may hereafter be exempt by the laws of the United States, or of this State, and shall be armed, equipped, and trained, as the General Assembly may provide by law.§

Sec. 2. No person or persons conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms shall be compelled to do military duty in time of peace: Provided, that such person or persons shall pay an equivalent for such exemption in the same manner as other citizens.

Sec. 3. All commissioned officers of the militia, (staff officers excepted,) shall be elected by

†Amended. See page 65.

‡Amended. See page 65.

§Amended. See page 63.

the persons liable to perform military duty, and shall be commissioned by the Governor.

ARTICLE VII.

STATE DEBTS.

Section 1. The credit of the State shall not, in any manner, be given or loaned to, or in aid of, any individual, association, or corporation; and the State shall never assume, or become responsible for, the debts or liabilities of any individual, association, or corporation, unless incurred in time of war for the benefit of the State.

Sec. 2. The State may contract debts to supply casual deficits or failures in revenues, or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for; but the aggregate amount of such debts, direct and contingent, whether contracted by virtue of one or more acts of the General Assembly, or at different periods of time, shall never exceed the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and the money arising from the creation of such debts, shall be applied to the purpose for which it was obtained, or to repay the debts so contracted, and to no other purpose whatever.

Sec. 3. All losses to the permanent, School, or University fund of this State, which shall have been occasioned by the defalcation, mismanagement or fraud of the agents or officers controlling and managing the same, shall be audited by the proper authorities of the State. The amount so audited shall be a permanent

funded debt against the State, in favor of the respective fund, sustaining the loss, upon which not less than six per cent. annual interest shall be paid. The amount of liability so created shall not be counted as a part of the indebtedness authorized by the second section of this article.

Sec. 4. In addition to the above limited power to contract debts, the State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war; but the money arising from the debts so contracted shall be applied to the purpose for which it was raised, or to repay such debts, and to no other purpose whatever.

Sec. 5. Except the debts hereinbefore specified in this article, no debt shall be hereafter contracted by, or on behalf of this State, unless such debt shall be authorized by some law for some single work or object, to be distinctly specified therein; and such law shall impose and provide for the collection of a direct annual tax, sufficient to pay the interest on such debt, as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal of such debt, within twenty years from the time of the contracting thereof; but no such law shall take effect until at a general election it shall have been submitted to the people, and have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it at such election; and all money raised by authority of such law, shall be applied only to the specific object therein stated, or to the payment of the debt created thereby; and such law shall be published in at

least one newspaper in each County, if one is published therein, throughout the State, for three months preceding the election at which it is submitted to the people.

Sec. 6. The Legislature may, at any time, after the approval of such law by the people, if no debt shall have been contracted in pursuance thereof, repeal the same; and may, at any time, forbid the contracting of any further debt, or liability, under such law; but the tax imposed by such law, in proportion to the debt or liability, which may have been contracted in pursuance thereof, shall remain in force and be irrepealable, and be annually collected, until the principal and interest are fully paid.

Sec. 7. Every law which imposes, continues, or revives a tax, shall distinctly state the tax, and the object to which it is to be applied; and it shall not be sufficient to refer to any other law to fix such tax or object.

ARTICLE VIII.

CORPORATIONS.

Section 1. No corporation shall be created by special laws; but the General Assembly shall provide, by general laws, for the organization of all corporations hereafter to be created, except as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 2. The property of all corporations for pecuniary profit, shall be subject to taxation, the same as that of individuals.

Sec. 3. The State shall not become a stock-

holder in any corporation, nor shall it assume or pay the debt or liability of any corporation, unless incurred in time of war for the benefit of the state.

Sec. 4. No political or municipal corporation shall become a stockholder in any banking corporation, directly or indirectly.

Sec. 5. No act of the General Assembly, authorizing or creating corporations or associations with banking powers, nor amendments thereto shall take effect, or in any manner be in force, until the same shall have been submitted, separately, to the people, at a general or special election, as provided by law, to be held not less than three months after the passage of the act, and shall have been approved by a majority of all the electors voting for and against it at such election.

Sec. 6. Subject to the provisions of the foregoing section, the General Assembly may also provide for the establishment of a State Bank with branches.

Sec. 7. If a State Bank be established, it shall be founded on an actual specie basis, and branches shall be mutually responsible for each other's liabilities upon all notes, bills, and other issues intended for circulation as money.

Sec. 8. If a general Banking law shall be enacted, it shall provide for the registry and countersigning, by an officer of State, of all bills, or paper credit designed to circulate as money, and require security to the full amount thereof, to be deposited with the State Treasurer, in

United States stocks, or in interest paying stocks of States in good credit and standing, to be rated at ten per cent. below their average value in the City of New York, for the thirty days next preceding their deposit; and in case of a depreciation of any portion of said stocks, to the amount of ten per cent. on the dollar, the bank or banks owning such stock shall be required to make up said deficiency by depositing additional stocks; and said law shall also provide for the recording of the names of all stockholders in such corporations, the amount of stock held by each, the time of any transfer, and to whom.

Sec. 9. Every stockholder in a banking corporation or institution shall be individually responsible and liable to its creditors, over and above the amount of stock by him or her held, to an amount equal to his or her respective shares so held for all of its liabilities, accruing while he or she remains such stockholder.

Sec. 10. In case of the insolvency of any banking institution, the billholders shall have a preference over its other creditors.

Sec. 11. The suspension of specie payments by banking institutions shall never be permitted or sanctioned.

Sec. 12. Subject to the provisions of this article, the General Assembly shall have power to amend or repeal all laws for the organization or creation of corporations, or granting of special or exclusive privileges or immunities, by a vote of two-thirds of each branch of the General

Assembly; and no exclusive privileges, except as in this article provided, shall ever be granted.

ARTICLE IX.

EDUCATION AND SCHOOL LANDS.

1st. Education.

Section 1. The educational interest of the State, including Common Schools and other educational institutions, shall be under the management of a Board of Education, which shall consist of the Lieutenant Governor, who shall be the presiding officer of the Board, and have the casting vote in case of a tie, and one member to be elected from each judicial district in the State.

Sec. 2. No person shall be eligible as a member of said Board who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and shall have been one year a citizen of the State.

Sec. 3. One member of said Board shall be chosen by the qualified electors of each district, and shall hold the office for the term of four years, and until his successor is elected and qualified. After the first election under this Constitution, the Board shall be divided, as nearly as practicable, into two equal classes, and the seats of the first class shall be vacated after the expiration of two years; and one-half of the Board shall be chosen every two years thereafter.

Sec. 4. The first session of the Board of Education shall be held at the Seat of Government,

on the first Monday of December, after their election; after which the General Assembly may fix the time and place of meeting.

Sec. 5. The session of the Board shall be limited to twenty days, and but one session shall be held in any one year, except upon extraordinary occasions, when, upon the recommendation of two-thirds of the Board, the Governor may order a special session.

Sec. 6. The Board of Education shall appoint a Secretary, who shall be the executive officer of the Board, and perform such duties as may be imposed upon him by the Board, and the laws of the State. They shall keep a journal of their proceedings, which shall be published and distributed in the same manner as the journals of the General Assembly.

Sec. 7. All rules and regulations made by the Board shall be published and distributed to the several Counties, Townships, and School Districts, as may be provided for by the Board, and when so made, published and distributed, they shall have the force and effect of law.

Sec. 8. The Board of Education shall have full power and authority to legislate and make all needful rules and regulations in relation to Common Schools, and other educational institutions, that are instituted, to receive aid from the School or University fund of this State; but all acts, rules, and regulations of said Board may be altered, amended, or repealed by the General Assembly; and when so altered,

amended, or repealed they shall not be re-enacted by the Board of Education.

Sec. 9. The Governor of the State shall be, *ex officio*, a member of said Board.

Sec. 10. The Board shall have no power to levy taxes, or make appropriations of money. Their contingent expenses shall be provided for by the General Assembly.

Sec. 11. The State University shall be established at one place without branches at any other place, and the University fund shall be applied to that Institution and no other.

Sec. 12. The Board of Education shall provide for the education of all the youths of the State, through a system of Common Schools and such schools shall be organized and kept in each school district at least three months in each year. Any district failing, for two consecutive years, to organize and keep up a school as aforesaid may be deprived of their portion of the school fund.

Sec. 13. The members of the Board of Education shall each receive the same per diem during the time of their session, and mileage going to and returning therefrom, as members of the General Assembly.

Sec. 14. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but no rule, regulation, or law, for the government of Common Schools or other educational institutions, shall pass without the concurrence of a majority of all the members of the Board, which shall be expressed by the

yeas and nays on the final passage. The style of all acts of the Board shall be, "Be it enacted by the Board of Education of the State of Iowa."

Sec. 15. At any time after the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, the General Assembly shall have power to abolish or reorganize said Board of Education, and provide for the educational interest of the State in any other manner that to them shall seem best and proper.

2nd. School Funds and School Lands.

Section 1. The educational and school funds and lands, shall be under the control and management of the General Assembly of this State.

Sec. 2. The University lands, and the proceeds thereof, and all moneys belonging to said fund shall be a permanent fund for the sole use of the State University. The interest arising from the same shall be annually appropriated for the support and benefit of said University.

Sec. 3. The General Assembly shall encourage, by all suitable means, the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral, and agricultural improvement. The proceeds of all lands that have been, or hereafter may be, granted by the United States to this State, for the support of schools, which may have been, or shall hereafter be sold, or disposed of, and the five hundred thousand acres of land granted to the new States, under an act of Congress, distributing the proceeds of the public lands among the sever-

al States of the Union, approved in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and all estates of deceased persons who may have died without leaving a will or heir, and also such per cent, as has been or may hereafter be granted by Congress, on the sale of lands in this State, shall be, and remain a perpetual fund, the interest of which, together with all rents of the unsold lands, and such other means as the General Assembly may provide, shall be inviolably appropriated to the support of Common schools throughout the State.

Sec. 4. The money which may have been or shall be paid by persons as an equivalent for exemption from military duty, and the clear proceeds of all fines collected in the several Counties for any breach of the penal laws, shall be exclusively applied, in the several Counties in which such money is paid, or fine collected, among the several school districts of said Counties, in proportion to the number of youths subject to enumeration in such districts, to the support of Common Schools, or the establishment of libraries, as the Board of Education shall, from time to time provide.

Sec. 5. The General Assembly shall take measures for the protection, improvement, or other disposition of such lands as have been, or may hereafter be reserved, or granted by the United States, or any person or persons, to this State, for the use of the University, and the funds accruing from the rents or sale of such lands, or from any other source for the purpose

aforesaid, shall be, and remain, a permanent fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of said University, for the promotion of literature, the arts and sciences, as may be authorized by the terms of such grant. And it shall be the duty of the General Assembly as soon as may be, to provide effectual means for the improvement and permanent security of the funds of said University.

Sec. 6. The financial agents of the school funds shall be the same, that by law, receive and control the State and county revenue for other civil purposes, under such regulations as may be provided by law.

Sec. 7. The money subject to the support and maintenance of common schools shall be distributed to the districts in proportion to the number of youths, between the ages of five and twenty-one years, in such manner as may be provided by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE X.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Section 1. Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in either House of the General Assembly; and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two Houses, such proposed amendment shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the Legislature to be chosen at the next general election, and shall be published, as provided by law, for three months

previous to the time of making such choice; and if, in the General Assembly so next chosen as aforesaid, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to, by a majority of all the members elected to each House, then it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people, in such manner, and at such time as the General Assembly shall provide; and if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments, by a majority of the electors qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become a part of the Constitution of this State.

Sec. 2. If two or more amendments shall be submitted at the same time, they shall be submitted in such manner that the electors shall vote for or against each of such amendments separately.

Sec. 3. At the general election to be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and in each tenth year thereafter, and also at such times as the General Assembly may, by law, provide, the question, "Shall there be a Convention to revise the Constitution, and amend the same?" shall be decided by the electors qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly; and in case a majority of the electors so qualified, voting at such election, for and against such proposition, shall decide in favor of a Convention for such purpose, the General Assembly, at its next session, shall pro-

vide by law for the election of delegates to such Convention.

ARTICLE XI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Section 1. The jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace shall extend to all civil cases, (except cases in chancery, and cases where the question of title to real estate may arise,) where the amount in controversy does not exceed one hundred dollars, and by the consent of parties may be extended to any amount not exceeding three hundred dollars.

Sec. 2. No new County shall be hereafter created containing less than four hundred and thirty-two square miles; nor shall the territory of any organized county be reduced below that area; except the County of Worth, and the counties west of it, along the Northern boundary of this State, may be organized without additional territory.

Sec. 3. No county, or other political or municipal corporation shall be allowed to become indebted in any manner, or for any purpose, to an amount in the aggregate, exceeding five per centum on the value of the taxable property within such county or corporation—to be ascertained by the last State and county tax lists, previous to the incurring of such indebtedness.

Sec. 4. The boundaries of the State may be enlarged, with the consent of Congress and the General Assembly.

Sec. 5. Every person elected or appointed to

any office, shall, before entering upon the duties thereof, take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and also an oath of office.

Sec. 6. In all cases of elections to fill vacancies in office occurring before the expiration of a full term, the person so elected shall hold for the residue of the unexpired term; and all persons appointed to fill vacancies in office, shall hold until the next general election, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Sec. 7. The General Assembly shall not locate any of the public lands, which have been, or may be granted by Congress to this State, and the location of which may be given to the General Assembly, upon lands actually settled, without the consent of the occupant. The extent of the claim of such occupants, so exempted, shall not exceed three hundred and twenty acres.

Sec. 8. The seat of Government is hereby permanently established, as now fixed by law, at the City of Des Moines, in the County of Polk; and the State University at Iowa City, in the County of Johnson.

ARTICLE XII.

SCHEDULE.

Section 1. This Constitution shall be the supreme law of the State, and any law inconsistent therewith, shall be void. The General Assembly shall pass all laws necessary to carry this Constitution into effect.

Sec. 2. All laws now in force and not inconsistent with this Constitution, shall remain in force until they shall expire or be repealed.

Sec. 3. All indictments, prosecutions, suits, pleas, complaints, process, and other proceedings pending in any of the courts, shall be prosecuted to final judgment and execution; and all appeals, writs of error, certiorari, and injunctions, shall be carried on in the several courts, in the same manner as now provided by law; and all offenses, misdemeanors, and crimes that may have been committed before the taking effect of this Constitution, shall be subject to indictment, trial and punishment, in the same manner as they have been, had not this Constitution been made.

Sec. 4. All fines, penalties, or forfeitures due, or to become due, or accruing to the State, or to any County therein, or to the school fund, shall inure to the State, county, or school fund, in the manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 5. All bonds executed to the State, or to any officer in his official capacity, shall remain in force and inure to the use of those concerned.

Sec. 6. The first election under this Constitution shall be held on the second Tuesday in October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, at which time the electors of the State shall elect the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. There shall also be elected at such election, the successors of such State Senators as were elected at the August election, in the

year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and the members of the House of Representatives, who shall be elected in accordance with the act of apportionment, enacted at the session of the General Assembly which commenced on the first Monday of December one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

Sec. 7. The first election for Secretary, Auditor, and Treasurer of State, Attorney General, District Judges, Members of the Board of Education, District Attorneys, Members of Congress and such State officers as shall be elected at the April election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, (except the Superintendent of Public Instruction,) and such county officers as were elected at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, except Prosecuting Attorneys, shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight: *Provided*, That the time for which any District Judge or other State or County officer elected at the April election in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, shall not extend beyond the time fixed for filling like offices at the October election in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.

Sec. 8. The first election for Judges of the Supreme Court, and such County officers as shall be elected at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine.

Sec. 9. The first regular session of the General Assembly shall be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, commencing on the second Monday of January of said year.

Sec. 10. Senators elected at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, shall continue in office until the second Tuesday of October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine at which time their successors shall be elected as may be prescribed by law.

Sec. 11. Every person elected by popular vote, by vote of the General Assembly, or who may hold office by executive appointment, which office is continued by this Constitution, and every person who shall be so elected or appointed, to any such office, before the taking effect of this Constitution, (except as in this Constitution otherwise provided,) shall continue in office until the term for which such person has been or may be elected or appointed shall expire; but no such person shall continue in office after the taking effect of this Constitution, for a longer period than the term of such office, in this Constitution prescribed.

Sec. 12. The General Assembly, at the first session under this Constitution, shall district the State into eleven Judicial Districts, for District Court purposes; and shall also provide for the apportionment of the members of the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Sec. 13. This Constitution shall be submitted to the electors of the State at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, in the several election districts in this State. The ballots at such election shall be written or printed as follows: Those in favor of the Constitution, "New Constitution—Yes." Those against the Constitution, "New Constitution—No." The election shall be conducted in the same manner as the general elections of the State, and the poll-books shall be returned and canvassed as provided in the twenty-fifth chapter of the code, and abstracts shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, which abstracts shall be canvassed in the manner provided for the canvass of State officers. And if it shall appear that a majority of all the votes cast at such election for and against this Constitution are in favor of the same, the Governor shall immediately issue his proclamation stating the fact, and such Constitution shall be the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and shall take effect from and after the publication of said proclamation.

Sec. 14. At the same election that this Constitution is submitted to the people for its adoption or rejection, a proposition to amend the same by striking out the word "White" from the article on the Right of Suffrage, shall be separately submitted to the electors of this State for adoption or rejection in the manner following—Namely: A separate ballot may be given by every person having a right to vote at said election, to be deposited in a separate box;

and those given for the adoption of such proposition shall have the words, "Shall the word 'White' be stricken out of the Article on the Right of Suffrage? Yes." And those given against the proposition shall have the words, "Shall the word 'White' be stricken out of the Article on the Right of Suffrage? No." And if at said election the number of ballots cast in favor of said proposition shall be equal to a majority of those cast for and against this Constitution, then said word "White" shall be stricken from said Article and be no part thereof.

Sec. 15. Until otherwise directed by law, the County of Mills shall be in and a part of the sixth Judicial District of this State.*

Done in Convention at Iowa City, this fifth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the eighty-first.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names.

Timothy Day
S. G. Winchester
David Bunker
D. P. Palmer
Geo. W. Ells
J. C. Hall
John H. Peters
Wm. H. Warren
H. W. Gray
Robt. Gower

*Amended. See page 66.

J. C. Traer
James F. Wilson
Amos Harris
Jno. T. Clark
S. Ayres
Harvey J. Skiff
J. A. Parvin
W. Penn Clarke
H. D. Gibson
Thomas Seely
A. H. Marvin
J. H. Emerson
R. L. B. Clarke
James A. Young
D. H. Solomon
M. W. Robinson
Lewis Todhunter
John Edwards
Jeremiah Hollingsworth
Wm. Patterson
D. W. Price
Alpheus Scott
George Gillaspay
Edward Johnston
Aylett R. Cotton

FRANCIS SPRINGER,
President.

Attest: THOS. J. SAUNDERS,
Secretary.

E. N. BATES,
Asst. Secretary.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas an instrument known as the "New

Constitution of the State of Iowa" adopted by the constitutional convention of said State on the fifth day of March A. D. 1857 was submitted to the qualified electors of said State at the annual election held on Monday the third day of August, 1857, for their approval or rejection.

And whereas an official canvass of the votes cast at said election shows that there were forty thousand three hundred and eleven votes cast for the adoption of said Constitution and thirty-eight thousand six hundred and eighty-one votes were cast against its adoption, leaving a majority of sixteen hundred and thirty votes in favor its adoption.

Now therefore I, JAMES W. GRIMES, Governor of said State, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me, hereby declare the said New Constitution to be adopted, and declare it to be the supreme law of the State of Iowa.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Iowa.

L. S.

Done at Iowa City this
Third day of September A.
D. 1857 of the Independence
of the United States the
eighty-second and of the
State of Iowa the eleventh.

JAMES W. GRIMES.

By the Governor,

ELIJAH SELLS,

Secretary of State.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CON-
STITUTION OF IOWA**

REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE
LAND OFFICE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF IOWA

from 1857 to 1919.

AMENDMENTS OF 1868.

1.

Strike the word "white" from section 1 of article II.

2.

Strike the word "white" from section 33 of article III.

3.

Strike the word "white" from section 34 of article III.

4.

Strike the word "white" from section 35 of article III.

5.

Strike the word "white" from section 1 of article VI.

NOTE.—These amendments were proposed by the General Assembly of 1866; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1868; ratified at the election of November 3, 1868, and proclaimed adopted on December 8, 1868.

Sections 34 and 35 have been amended twice. The present amendment was adopted in 1904.

AMENDMENT OF 1880.

1.

Strike out the words "free white" from the third line of section four (4) of article three (3) of said constitution, relating to the legislative department.

NOTE.—This amendment was proposed by the General Assembly of 1878; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1880; ratified at the election of November 2, 1880, and proclaimed adopted on December 3, 1880.

AMENDMENT OF 1882.

1.

Add as section 26, to article I of the Constitution, the following: No person shall manufacture for sale, or sell or keep for sale, as a beverage any intoxicating liquors whatever, including ale, wine and beer. The General Assembly shall by law prescribe regulations for the enforcement of the prohibition herein contained, and shall thereby provide suitable penalties for the violation of the provisions hereof.

NOTE.—This amendment was proposed by the General Assembly of 1880; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1882, and ratified at a special election held on June 27, 1882, and certified adopted on July 28, 1882. On April 21, 1883, the Supreme Court in *Koehler and Lange v. Hill*, 60 Iowa 543, held that owing to certain irregularities the amendment was not legally submitted to the electors, and hence did not become a part of the constitution.

AMENDMENTS OF 1884.

1.

The general election for state, district, county and township officers shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November.

2.

At any regular session of the general assembly the state may be divided into the necessary judicial districts for district court purposes, or the said districts may be reorganized and the number of the districts and the judges of the said courts increased or diminished; but no reorganization of the districts or diminution of the judges shall have the effect of removing a judge from office.

3.

The grand jury may consist of any number of members, not less than five, nor more than fifteen, as the general assembly may by law provide, or the general assembly may provide for holding persons to answer for any criminal offense without the intervention of a grand jury.

4.

That section 13 of article V of the constitution be stricken therefrom, and the following adopted as such section.

Section 13. The qualified electors of each county shall, at the general election in the year 1886, and every two years thereafter, elect a county attorney, who shall be a resident of

the county for which he is elected, and who shall hold his office for two years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

NOTE.—These amendments were proposed by the General Assembly of 1882; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1884; ratified at the election of November 4, 1884, and certified adopted on December 10, 1884.

AMENDMENTS OF 1904.

1.

Add as section 16, to article XII of the constitution, the following:

Sec. 16. The first general election after the adoption of this amendment shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November in the year one thousand nine hundred and six, and general elections shall be held biennially thereafter. In the year one thousand nine hundred and six there shall be elected a governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, attorney general, two judges of the supreme court, the successors of the judges of the district court whose terms of office expire on December 31st, one thousand nine hundred and six, state senators who would otherwise be chosen in the year one thousand nine hundred and five, and members of the house of representatives. The terms of office of the judges of the supreme court which would otherwise expire on December 31st, in odd numbered years, and all other elective state, county and township officers whose terms of of-

fice would otherwise expire in January in the year one thousand nine hundred and six, and members of the general assembly whose successors would otherwise be chosen at the general election in the year one thousand nine hundred and five, are hereby extended one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. The terms of offices of senators whose successors would otherwise be chosen in the year one thousand nine hundred and seven are hereby extended one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. The general assembly shall make such changes in the law governing the time of election and term of office of all other elective officers as shall be necessary to make the time of their election and terms of office conform to this amendment, and shall provide which of the judges of the supreme court shall serve as chief justice. The general assembly shall meet in regular session on the second Monday in January, in the year one thousand nine hundred and six, and also on the second Monday in January in the year one thousand nine hundred and seven, and biennially thereafter.

2.

That section thirty-four (34), thirty-five (35) and thirty-six (36) of article three (3) of the constitution of the state of Iowa, be repealed and the following be adopted in lieu thereof:

Sec. 34. The senate shall be composed of fifty members to be elected from the several senatorial districts, established by law and at

the next session of the general assembly held following the taking of the state and national census, they shall be apportioned among the several counties or districts of the state, according to population as shown by the last preceding census.

Sec. 35. The house of representatives shall consist of not more than one hundred and eight members. The ratio of representation shall be determined by dividing the whole number of the population of the state as shown by the last preceding state or national census, by the whole number of counties then existing or organized, but each county shall constitute one representative district and be entitled to one representative, but each county having a population in excess of the ratio number, as herein provided of three-fifths or more of such ratio number shall be entitled to one additional representative, but said addition shall extend only to the nine counties having the greatest populaion.

Sec. 36. The general assembly shall, at the first regular session held following the adoption of this amendment, and at each succeeding regular session held next after the taking of such census, fix the ratio of representation, and apportion the additional representatives, as herein before required.

NOTE.—These amendments were proposed by the General Assembly of 1902; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1904; ratified at the general election of November 8, 1904, and certified adopted on November 29, 1904. Section 16 is a new section.

AMENDMENT OF 1908.

Add to section 18 of article I of the Constitution the following: The general assembly, however, may pass laws permitting the owners of lands to construct drains, ditches, and levees for agricultural, sanitary or mining purposes across the lands of others, and provide for the organization of drainage districts, vest the proper authorities with power to construct and maintain levees, drains and ditches and to keep in repair all drains, ditches and levees heretofore constructed under the laws of the state, by special assessments upon the property benefited thereby. The General Assembly may provide by law for the condemnation of such real estate as shall be necessary for the construction and maintenance of such drains, ditches and levees, and prescribe the method of making such condemnation.

NOTE.—This amendment was proposed by the General Assembly of 1906; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1907; ratified at the election of November 3, 1908, and certified adopted on November 23, 1908.

AMENDMENTS OF 1916.

Repeal section 7, article II and enact in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 7. The general election for state, district, county and township officers in the year 1916 shall be held in the same month and on the same day as that fixed by the laws of the United States for the election of presidential electors, or of president and vice-president of

the United States; and thereafter such election shall be held at such time as the general assembly may by law provide.

NOTE.—This amendment was proposed by the General Assembly of 1913; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1915, and ratified on November 7, 1916.

AMENDMENT PROPOSED 1919.

1.

Joint resolution proposing that section 1 of article II of the Constitution be repealed, and the following enacted in lieu thereof, to-wit:

Section 1. Every citizen of the United States at the age of twenty-one (21) years, who shall have been a resident of this state six (6) months next preceding the election, and of the county in which he or she claims his or her vote, sixty (60) days, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now or hereafter may be authorized by law.

Resolved Further, that the foregoing proposed amendment be, and the same is hereby referred to the legislature to be chosen at the next general election for members of the next general assembly, and that the secretary of state cause the same to be published for three (3) months previous to the day of said election, as provided by law.

NOTE.—This amendment in substantially this form was proposed by the General Assembly of 1913; re-adopted by the General Assembly of 1915, but was not adopted by the people. It was again proposed by the General Assembly of 1917, but was not published as provided by Sec. 1 of Art. X of the Constitution and Sec. 55 of the Code of Iowa, which caused its second defeat. The present amendment was proposed by the General Assembly of 1919.

**THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE STATE OF IOWA**

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THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF IOWA

SUMMARY

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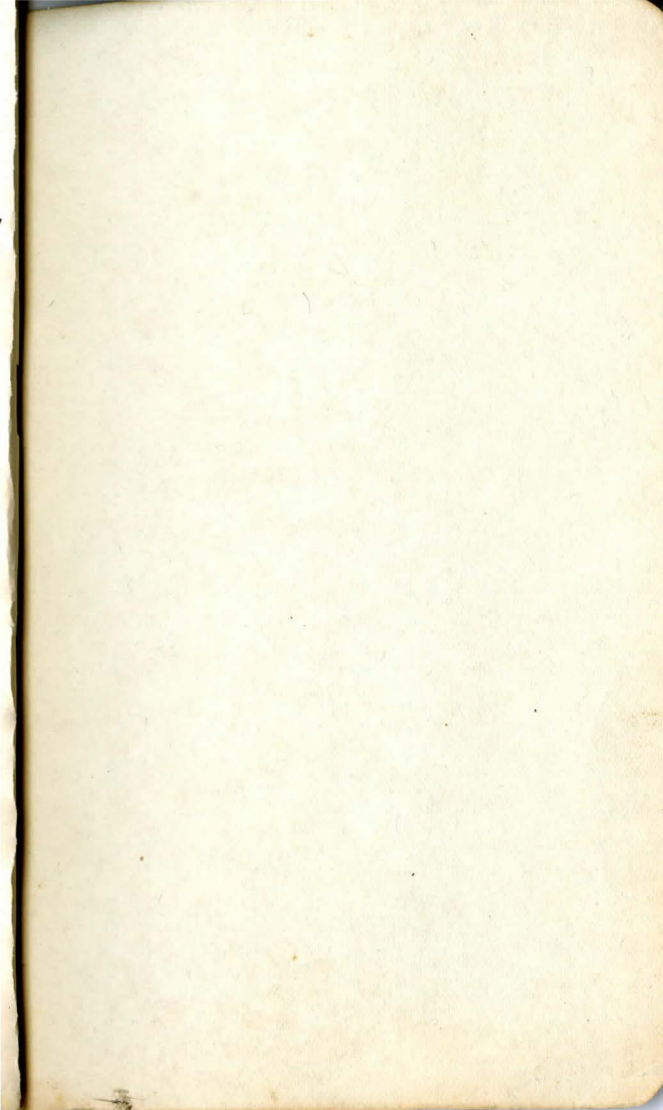
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