

[No. 15.] — *A Resolution authorizing the Sale of certain Land at Baton Rouge to the State of Louisiana.*

July 23, 1846.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to sell and convey (for the use and benefit of the State of Louisiana) to the three commissioners appointed by the Legislature of said State to select a site on which to erect a State house, two or more acres of the tract of land owned by the United States, lying in the parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana, above and adjoining the town of Baton Rouge: *Provided,* That, in the judgment of the President of the United States, said sale may be made without detriment to the public interest.

Secretary of War authorized to sell State of Louisiana certain land near Baton Rouge for a site for State house.

APPROVED, July 23, 1846.

[No. 16.] — *Joint Resolution directing the Manner of procuring the Printing for the two Houses of Congress.*

Aug. 3, 1846.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the secretary of the Senate and the clerk of the House of Representatives be, and they are hereby, authorized and required, at the beginning of the final session of every Congress, to advertise, for four weeks successively, in all the newspapers published in the city of Washington, for sealed proposals for supplying the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, of the next ensuing Congress, with the necessary printing for each; which advertisement shall describe the kind of printing and the quality of paper required, as near as may be, in the execution of the work; and said advertisement shall divide and classify the printing of the respective houses, as follows: One of bills and resolutions; one of reports of committees; one of journals; one of executive documents; and one for every other description of printing; each class to be a separate job, and to be provided for by separate contract. The said advertisement shall also contain a designation of the place in the said city of Washington where such sealed proposals shall be received, and the day and time of day at which said secretary and clerk will cease to receive any further proposals. And the secretary and clerk aforesaid shall provide suitable samples of the printing required, and of the paper on which the same is to be executed, to be kept at the place so designated as aforesaid at least twenty days successively before the time of receiving proposals shall expire, open to the inspection of all persons desiring to make proposals for the printing aforesaid, intelligence whereof shall be contained in said advertisement. Immediately on the expiration of the time for receiving said proposals, they shall be opened by the secretary and clerk aforesaid in the presence of the Vice-President, or President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and of such persons making proposals as may wish to be present. And the secretary of the Senate, under the supervision of the Vice-President or President of the Senate, and the clerk of the House of Representatives, under the supervision of the Speaker, shall, thereupon, let each class of said printing to the lowest bidder, who shall furnish satisfactory evidence of his practical skill and his ability to do the work, and who shall offer good and sufficient security for the faithful execution of the jobs and contracts undertaken by him. And thereupon the Vice-President or President of the Senate and its secretary, and the

Secretary of Senate and clerk of House to advertise for proposals for printing.

What the advertisement shall contain.

Samples of the printing required to be provided and exhibited.

When and how proposals shall be opened.

Each class of printing to be let to the lowest bidder, &c.

Bonds and sufficient security to be taken.

- Speaker of the House and its clerk, shall proceed to take bonds, with good and sufficient security, for the due and faithful performance of the work; and the officers aforesaid shall immediately thereafter report to their respective houses all such lettings of printing, and the contracts relating to the same: *Provided*, That the said proposals shall remain sealed until the time appointed for examining the same.
- All lettings of printing to be reported to the two houses.
Proviso.
- Joint committee on printing to be chosen.
Their duties and powers.
- Auditing of accounts.
- Motions for printing extra numbers to be referred to committee of house where made.
Expenses for printing — how paid.
- Extra copies.
- Repeal of laws inconsistent with this resolution.
- Sec. 2. *And be it further resolved*, That a committee, consisting of three members of the Senate and three members of the House of Representatives, shall be chosen by their respective houses, which shall constitute a committee on printing, which shall have power to adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary to remedy any neglect or delay on the part of the contractor to execute the work ordered by Congress, and to make a *pro rata* reduction in the compensation allowed, or to refuse the work altogether, should it be inferior to the standard; and in all cases, the contractor and his securities shall be responsible for any increased expenditure consequent upon the non-performance of the contract. The committee shall audit and pass upon all accounts for printing; but no bill shall be acted upon for work that is not actually executed and delivered, and which they may require to be properly authenticated.
- Sec. 3. *And be it further resolved*, That all motions to print extra numbers of any bill, paper, or document, in either house, shall be referred to the members of the committee of that house, who shall report upon the propriety of printing, and the probable expense thereof, as early as convenient. And all expenses for printing shall be paid from the contingent fund of the two houses, in proportion to the number of copies ordered by each, except the expense of composition, which shall be paid by the house which shall have first ordered the printing of the paper or document; and if there shall be a second composition, it shall be paid for by the house which shall authorize and direct the same; and when extra copies of any document or paper shall be ordered by both houses, they shall be delivered to the two houses simultaneously, in proportion to the number of copies by them respectively ordered.
- Sec. 4. *And be it further resolved*, That all laws and parts of laws now in force, not in conformity with the provisions of this joint resolution, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

APPROVED, August 3, 1846.

Aug. 3, 1846.

[No. 17.] — *Joint Resolution to authorize the Secretary of War to adjudicate the Claims of the Su-quah-natch-ah, and other Clans of Choctaw Indians, whose cases were left undetermined by the Commissioners for the Want of the Township Maps.*

Secretary of War authorized to decide certain Choctaw claims, and to award land scrip therefor.

1842, ch. 187.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War, for the purpose of consummating the claims of the Su-quah-natch-ah and other clans of Choctaw Indians, in whose cases the testimony was taken by the commissioners appointed by virtue of the act approved the twenty-third of August, eighteen hundred and forty-two, and returned to the war department, but judgment was not entered up for the want of the maps whereby the location of the lands of the claimants and the allotment of land or scrip, respectively, to each, could alone be determined, be, and he is hereby, authorized to decide the same, and award land or scrip in each case, as the testimony already taken may justify.

APPROVED, August 3, 1846.