

SEC. 16. This act shall take effect from and after its passage, and all laws contravening the same are hereby repealed. Act to take effect.

APPROVED, July 31, 1840.

[Chap. 33.]

AN ACT to provide for the expression of the opinion of the people of the Territory of Iowa as to taking preparatory steps for their admission into the Union.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa, That* for the purpose of obtaining the wishes of the people of the Territory of Iowa, as to preparatory steps for admission into the Union as a State, a poll shall be opened at each electoral precinct in this Territory at the time of holding the next general election for Delegate to Congress, members of the Council, and House of Representatives, &c. To obtain expression of the people. State government. Polls to be opened.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of the judges of election at every precinct in this Territory, at the time in the first section provided, to receive the ballots of all persons authorized by the laws to vote for Delegate to Congress, and safely deposit the same in a separate box for that purpose. Duty of judges.

SEC. 3. That those voters who wish to call a convention to frame a constitution for their future government, will say on their ballot "convention," and those opposed to taking any preparatory steps will say "no convention." Form of ticket.

SEC. 4. That immediately after the polls are closed, it shall be the duty of the judges aforesaid to open and examine the ballots given as aforesaid, and upon a separate piece of paper set down truly and distinctly the number of votes given for and against the convention, and certify the same as judges of election for the precinct and county where the same are given. Judges to open and examine ballots.

SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of the judges of election aforesaid to carefully seal up said list of votes, certified as aforesaid, and safely send the same, with the returns of the general election, to the clerk of the county commissioners court of the proper county endorsed, "returns for and against convention." Judges to certify and return votes to clerk of county commissioners.

SEC. 6. That it shall be the duty of said clerk, by whom said returns shall be received, within five days Duty of clerk.

Secretary of Territory to open and count returns in presence of the Governor.

Governor to issue proclamation.

Time of opening returns.

after their reception, (without breaking the seals,) to transmit them safely to the Secretary of the Territory of Iowa, who, in the presence of the Governor, shall break the seals of said returns, and examine and count the same, and then carefully file them in his office, and the Governor shall issue his proclamation declaring the number of votes given for and against the convention.

SEC. 7. The opening and examination of the said returns shall take place on the first Monday of November, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty.

APPROVED, July 31, 1840.

[Chap. 34.]

AN ACT to grant certain lots of land in Iowa City, for Church and Literary purposes.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa,* That in consideration of the conditions hereinafter provided, that any religious denomination of Christians now known as such in the United States, shall be entitled to one half of any lot of land contained in either of the blocks numbered thirteen, fifty-one, sixty-six or sixty-seven, of the town plat of Iowa city, and designated as church reserves, each of said reserves being divided by a line north and south, or parallel with the eastern and western boundary of said town plat.

Lots granted for churches.

Denominations making application.

To enter into bonds.

Commissioner to give certificate.

SEC. 2. That in case any denomination of christians, included in the first section of this act, shall make application to the acting commissioner of public buildings at Iowa city for either of the lots or parcels of land designated in the said first section, and shall enter into good and sufficient bonds, to be approved by the acting commissioner and filed in the office of the Secretary of the Territory, conditioned that they will erect and finish on said lot a meeting house or place of public worship within three years from the passage of this act, the aggregate cost of which, when finished, shall not be less than one thousand dollars, and upon the fulfilment of the conditions of said bond, then the said commissioner shall give to said denomination, or their authorized agent or agents, an official certificate of their claim to said lot of ground, and on the presen-