

Iowa (Terr) Laws, 1838-1846.

# THE STATUTE LAWS

OF THE

# TERRITORY OF IOWA,

ENACTED AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY OF SAID TERRITORY, HELD AT  
BURLINGTON, A. D. 1838-'39.

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**PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.**

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## CERTIFICATE.

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I, WILLIAM B. CONWAY, Secretary of the Territory of Iowa, having compared the following pages with the "engrossed bills" deposited in my office, do hereby certify, that they contain true and correct copies of the Statute Laws and Joint Resolutions passed at the first session of the Legislative Assembly of said Territory, 1838-'39.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name, this 23d day of July, A. D. 1839.

WM. B. CONWAY,  
*Secretary of the Territory.*

## PREFATORY NOTE.

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The subject of reprinting the early laws of Iowa (Territorial and State), has been under discussion for several years. This has arisen from the fact that the very limited early editions have long been out of print and copies can only be obtained with much difficulty and at excessive prices. The matter was brought to the attention of the Legislature last winter, and while no specific plan was adopted, a sufficient sum was appropriated to make a beginning. The subject was carefully considered by the Trustees of the Historical Department, by whom it was referred, with full power to act, to Judges H. E. Deemer and Scott M. Ladd. They determined to reprint 1,000 copies of this first volume of Iowa Territorial Laws. A copy is now available for every public library in our State, leaving a supply for exchanges with other States, and for sale at the cost of production. There are excellent precedents for this enterprise in at least three States of the Middle West—Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin—which long ago reprinted several volumes of their early laws. The republication of this volume will thus place the subject before the people of Iowa for such further legislative action as the public interests may demand.

CHARLES ALDRICH,

*Curator and Secretary.*

*Historical Department of Iowa, Des Moines, Sept. 19, 1900.*

FROM  
THE PRESS OF THE  
IOWA PRINTING COMPANY,  
DES MOINES,  
1900.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

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DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, . . . . .	8
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, . . . . .	8
ORDINANCE OF CONGRESS, 1787, . . . . .	25
ORGANIC LAW OF IOWA, . . . . .	82
ABATEMENT, . . . . .	43
AMENDMENTS AND JOFILLS, . . . . .	45
APPRENTICES AND SERVANTS, . . . . .	50
ARBITRATORS AND REFEREES, . . . . .	52
ATTACHMENTS, . . . . .	55
BAIL, . . . . .	62
BANKING ASSOCIATIONS, . . . . .	67
BILLS OF EXCHANGE, . . . . .	68
BLACKS AND MULATTOES, . . . . .	69
BOATS AND VESSELS, . . . . .	71
BONDS, &c. . . . .	74
BURLINGTON, . . . . .	75
CONSTABLES, . . . . .	75
CONSTRUCTION OF STATUTES, . . . . .	77
COSTS AND FEES, . . . . .	79
COUNTIES AND COUNTY SEAT'S, . . . . .	94
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, . . . . .	106
COURTS, . . . . .	118
DEPOSITIONS, . . . . .	182
DISTRICT PROSECUTORS, . . . . .	188
DIVORCES, . . . . .	189
EDUCATION, . . . . .	191
ELECTIONS, . . . . .	196
EXECUTIONS, . . . . .	209
FERRIES, . . . . .	218
FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER, . . . . .	231
GAMING, . . . . .	234
HALF BREED TRACT, . . . . .	238
HORSES, . . . . .	240
INCORPORATIONS, . . . . .	241
INDIANS, . . . . .	291
INSANE PERSONS, . . . . .	292
INTEREST, . . . . .	293
JURORS, . . . . .	295
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE, . . . . .	299
LAWS AND JOURNALS, . . . . .	342
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, . . . . .	345
LIMITATION OF ACTIONS, . . . . .	347
MECHANICS, . . . . .	349
MILITIA, . . . . .	351
MILL DAMS, . . . . .	360
MILLS AND MILLERS, . . . . .	366
MINORS, ORPHANS, AND GUARDIANS, . . . . .	370
NE EXEAT AND INJUNCTIONS, . . . . .	374
PARTITION, . . . . .	377

## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PARTNERSHIPS, . . . . .	385
PENITENTIARY, . . . . .	389
PETITIONS, . . . . .	393
PRACTICE, . . . . .	395
PROMISSORY NOTES, &c. . . . .	407
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS, . . . . .	411
PUBLIC LANDS, . . . . .	414
QUO WARRANTO, . . . . .	416
RECORDERS, . . . . .	422
REPLEVIN, . . . . .	424
REVENUE, . . . . .	427
RIGHT, . . . . .	447
ROADS, . . . . .	456
SEALS, . . . . .	465
SEAT OF GOVERNMENT, . . . . .	465
SECURITIES, . . . . .	469
SHERIFFS, . . . . .	471
STEAM BOATS, . . . . .	478
SURVEYORS, . . . . .	481
TERRITORIAL TREASURER, . . . . .	483
TOWN PLATS, . . . . .	484
VAGRANTS, . . . . .	486
VENDERS OF PROVISIONS, &c. . . . .	488
VENUE, . . . . .	488
WASTE, . . . . .	491
WATER CRAFTS, LOST GOODS, AND ESTRAYS, . . . . .	498
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES, . . . . .	502
WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS, . . . . .	508
WORSHIPING CONGREGATIONS, . . . . .	549
RESOLUTIONS, . . . . .	551
APPENDIX, . . . . .	557
NATURALIZATION OF ALIENS, . . . . .	557
ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION, . . . . .	558
GENERAL INDEX, . . . . .	569

# DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

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In Congress, July 4, 1776.

## THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate, that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the

Propriety of  
the declara-  
tion.

Unalienable  
rights of the  
people.

Absolute  
tyranny the  
object of the  
king of Great  
Britain.

Recitation of  
the injuries &  
usurpations on  
the part of the  
British crown.

necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present king of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation, till his assent should be obtained, and, when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature—a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies, at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the repository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing, with manly firmness, his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large, for their exercise; the state remaining, in the mean time, exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others, to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harrass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.



He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

He has combined with others, to subject us to a jurisdiction, foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation.

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us, without our consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas, to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments:

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose

Recitation of  
the injuries &  
usurpations  
on the part of  
the British  
crown.

known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

Petitions unavailing.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress, in the most humble terms; our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Appeal to the British people fruitless, &c.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts, by their legislature, to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity; and we have conjured them, by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connexions and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice, and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war; in peace—friends.

Independence declared.

We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in general congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world, for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great Britain, is, and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and do all other acts and things, which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

Allegiance absolved, &c.

Mutual pledge.

The foregoing declaration was, by order of congress, engrossed, and signed by the following members:

JOHN HANCOCK.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.  
Josiah Bartlett,

William Whipple,  
Matthew Thornton.

## MASSACHUSETTS BAY

Samuel Adams,  
John Adams,  
Robert Treat Pain,  
Elbridge Gerry.

## RHODE ISLAND. &amp;c.

Stephen Hopkins,  
William Ellery.

## CONNECTICUT.

Roger Sherman,  
Samuel Huntington,  
William Williams,  
Oliver Wolcott.

## NEW YORK.

William Floyd,  
Philip Livingston,  
Francis Lewis,  
Lewis Morris.

## NEW JERSEY.

Richard Stockton,  
John Witherspoon,  
Francis Hopkinson,  
John Hart,  
Abraham Clark.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Robert Morris,  
Benjamin Rush,  
Benjamin Franklin,  
John Morton,  
George Clymer,  
James Smith,  
George Taylor,  
James Wilson,  
George Ross.

## DELAWARE.

Cesar Rodney,  
George Read,  
Thomas M'Kean.

## MARYLAND.

Samuel Chase,  
William Paca,  
Thomas Stone,  
Charles Carroll, of Car-  
rollton.

## VIRGINIA.

George Wythe,  
Richard Henry Lee,  
Thomas Jefferson,  
Benjamin Harrison,  
Thomas Nelson, jr.  
Francis Lightfoot Lee,  
Carter Braxton.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

William Hooper,  
Joseph Hewes,  
John Penn.

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

Edward Rutledge,  
Thomas Heyward, jr.  
Thomas Lynch, jr.  
Arthur Middleton.

## GEORGIA.

Button Gwinnett,  
Lyman Hall,  
George Walton.

# CONSTITUTION

## OF THE

# UNITED STATES.

---

WE, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

### ARTICLE I.

#### SECTION 1.

Legislative power.

1. All legislative powers herein granted, shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

#### SECTION 2.

House of Representatives and qualifications of electors.

1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year, by the people of the several states; and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

and of Representatives.

2. No person shall be a representative, who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

Apportionment of Representatives.

3. Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons.

Enumeration.

The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of

ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. Ratio of representation.  
 The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each State shall have at least one representative: and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three; Massachusetts, eight; Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, one; Connecticut, five; New York, six; New Jersey, four; Pennsylvania, eight; Delaware, one; Maryland, six; Virginia, ten; North Carolina, five; South Carolina, five; and Georgia, three. First apportionment.

4. When vacancies happen in the representation Vacancies.  
 from any State, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

5. The House of Representatives shall choose Speaker of the House.  
 their speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

### SECTION 3.

.1 The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six years; and each senator shall have one vote. The Senate—each senator a vote.

2. Immediately after they shall be assembled, in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided, as equally as may be, into three classes, the seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class, at the expiration of the fourth year, and the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any State, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies. Senators classed. A third of the seats vacated every 2 years. Vacancies.

3. No person shall be a senator, who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen. Qualifications of senators.

4. The vice-president of the United States shall be president of the Senate; but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided. President of the senate.

5. The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a president, *pro tempore*, in the absence of the vice-president, or when he shall exercise the office of president of the United States. Officers.

- Impeachments.** 6. The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the president of the United States is tried, the chief justice shall preside; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.
- And extent of judgment in cases.** 7. Judgment, in cases of impeachment, shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit, under the United States; but the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law.
- Party liable according to law.**

## SECTION 4.

- Elections, how regulated.** 1. The times, places, and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives, shall be prescribed in each State, by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time, by law, make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing senators.
- Meetings of Congress.** 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

## SECTION 5.

- To judge of the election of its members. Quorum.** 1. Each house shall be the judge of the election, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorised to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each house may provide.
- Rules.** 2. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.
- Journals.** 3. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may, in their judgment, require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.
- Adjournment.** 4. Neither house, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

## SECTION 6.

1. The senators and representatives shall receive Compensation. a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall, in all cases, except treason, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from Privilege. arrest, during their attendance at the session of their respective houses, and in going to or returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

2. No senator or representative shall, during the Concerning the holding of offices. time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased, during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either house, during his continuance in office.

## SECTION 7.

1. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in Revenue bills. the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

2. Every bill which shall have passed the House Power and duty of the president in relation to bills. of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the president of the United States; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large, on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two- Proceedings on bills returned by the president. thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays; and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill, shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the president within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress, by their adjournment, prevent its return; in which case, it shall not be a law.

3. Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the Joint resolutions, except concurrence of the Senate and House of Represent-

for adjournment, to receive the same sanction as bills.

atives may be necessary; (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the president of the United States; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be re-passed by two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

## SECTION 8.

The Congress shall have power —

Powers of congress relative to taxes.

1. To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises; to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States:

Loans.

2. To borrow money on the credit of the United States:

Commerce.

3. To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes:

Naturalization.

4. To establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States:

Money.

5. To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures:

Counterfeiting.

6. To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States:

Post-offices.

7. To establish post offices and post roads:

Science.

8. To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing, for limited times, to authors and inventors, the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries:

Tribunals.

9. To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court. To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offences against the law of nations:

War.

10. To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water:

Armies.

11. To raise and support armies; but no appropriation of money to that use, shall be for a longer term than two years:

Navy.

12. To provide and maintain a navy:

Land and naval forces.

13. To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces:



14. To provide for calling forth the militia to Militia. execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions:

15. To provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving, to the States respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress:

16. To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases Legislation over a district, &c. whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased, by the consent of the Legislature of the State in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings: — and

17. To make all laws which shall be necessary and Laws necessary for the execution of their powers. proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

#### SECTION 9.

1. The migration or importation of such persons Of the Importation of certain persons, &c. as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

2. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall Writ of habeas corpus. not be suspended, unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

3. No bill of attainder or ex post facto law, shall Attainder, &c. be passed.

4. No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, Direct taxes unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

5. No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported Of commerce from the States &c. from any state. No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one state over those of another; nor shall vessels bound to or from one state be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

6. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, Of expenditures. but in consequence of appropriations made by law;

and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

No nobility created, and no presents accepted by U. S. officers, &c.

7. No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States, and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

#### SECTION 10.

Powers prohibited to the individual states.

1. No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

Powers which the States can exercise only under the sanction of congress.

2. No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any State on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States, and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of Congress. No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

### ARTICLE II.

#### SECTION 1.

Executive power.

1. The executive power shall be vested in a president of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the vice president, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows:

Electors of president and vice president.

2. Each State shall appoint, in such manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress; but no senator or representative, or person

holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.

3. The electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of government of the United States, directed to the president of the Senate. The president of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the president, if such number is a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose, by ballot, one of them for president; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list, the said house shall, in like manner choose the president. But in choosing the president, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote: a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the president, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors, shall be the vice president. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them, by ballot, the vice president.\*

Meeting of the electors.

Their proceedings.

[\* Annulled—see amendments, art. 12.]

4. The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes, which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

Time of choosing electors.

5. No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of president; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

Qualifications for president.

6. In case of the removal of the president from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the vice president, and the con-

When his duties devolve on the vice president, &c.

gress may, by law, provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the president and vice president, declaring what officer shall then act as president, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a president shall be elected.

**Compensation.** 7. The president shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive during that period any other emolument from the United States or any of them.

**Oath of the president.** 8. Before he enters on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:

9. "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

## SECTION 2.

**Power of the president.** 1. The president shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the United States. He may require the opinion in writing of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices; and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

**His powers, with the advice and consent of the Senate.** 2. He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur: and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the supreme court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But the Congress may, by law, vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper, in the president alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

**President may fill vacancies.** 3. The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next session.

## SECTION 3.

1. He shall from time to time, give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper. He shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed; and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

## SECTION 4.

1. The president, vice president, and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

## ARTICLE III.

## SECTION 1.

1. The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may, from time to time, ordain and establish. The judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior; and shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

## SECTION 2.

1. The judicial power shall extend to all cases in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors; other public ministers and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more States; between a State and citizens of another State; between citizens of different States; between citizens of the same State, claiming lands

[\*Restriction by art 11, of amendments.] under grants of different States, and between a State or the citizens thereof, and foreign States, citizens, or subjects.\*

Jurisdiction of Supreme Ct. 2. In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a State shall be a party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases, before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

Trial of crimes 3. The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the State where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

### SECTION 3.

Treason 1. Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

Its punishment 2. The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason; but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attainted.

## ARTICLE IV.

### SECTION 1.

Faith to be given to the acts, &c. of States. 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may, by general laws, prescribe the manner in which such acts, records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

### SECTION 2.

Reciprocity of citizenship. 1. The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

Criminals to be delivered up. 2. A person charged in any State with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall, on demand of

the executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime.

3. No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor: but shall be delivered upon claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due. Also runaway slaves, &c.

### SECTION 3.

1. New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State, nor any State be formed by the junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned, as well as of the Congress. Admission of new States.

2. The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States: and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State. Power of Congress over territory, &c.

### SECTION 4.

The United States shall guaranty to every State in this Union, a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the Legislature, or of the executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic violence. Guarantee and protection of each State.

## ARTICLE V.

The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution; or, on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress. *Provided*, That no amendment, which may be made prior to the year

one thousand eight hundred and eight, shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

## ARTICLE VI.

- Debts assumed** 1. All debts contracted, and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States, under this Constitution, as under the confederation.
- The supreme law of the land.** 2. This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby; any thing in the constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.
- Representatives, &c. to support this Constitution.** 3. The senators and representatives, before mentioned, and the members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by oath or affirmation, to support this Constitution: but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.
- No religious test.**

## ARTICLE VII.

**Ratification of nine States sufficient.** The ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the same.

Done in Convention, by the unanimous consent of the States present, the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the twelfth. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names.

GEO. WASHINGTON, *President,*  
*and Deputy for Va.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

John Langdon,  
Nicholas Gilman.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Nathaniel Gorham,  
Rufus King.

DELAWARE.

George Reed,  
Gunning Bedford, jr.  
John Dickinson,  
Richard Bassett,  
Jacob Broom.



## CONNECTICUT.

William Samuel Johnson,  
Roger Sherman.

## NEW YORK.

Alexander Hamilton.

## NEW JERSEY.

William Livingston,  
David Brearly,  
William Patterson,  
Jonathan Dayton.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Benjamin Franklin,  
Thomas Mifflin,  
Robert Morris,  
George Clymer,  
Thomas Fitzsimons,  
Jared Ingersoll,  
James Wilson,  
Gouverneur Morris.

## MARYLAND.

James M'Henry,  
Daniel of St. Tho. Jenifer,  
Daniel Carroll.

## VIRGINIA.

John Blair,  
James Madison, jun.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

William Blount,  
Richard Dobbs Spaight,  
Hugh Williamson.

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

John Rutledge,  
Chas. Cotesworth Pinckney  
Charles Pinckney,  
Pierce Butler.

## GEORGIA.

William Few,  
Abraham Baldwin.

Attest,

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

## ARTICLE I.

Congress shall make no law respecting an estab-  
lishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise  
thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of  
the press; or the right of the people peaceably to  
assemble, and to petition the government for a  
redress of grievances.

Religion,  
speech, the  
press, and the  
right to peti-  
tion.

## ARTICLE II.

A well regulated militia being necessary to the  
security of a free State, the right of the people to  
keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

People may  
keep arms.

## ARTICLE III.

No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in  
any house without the consent of the owner; nor in  
time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Quartering of  
soldiers.

## ARTICLE IV.

The right of the people to be secure in their per-  
sons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable  
searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no  
warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause,

Security a-  
gainst unrea-  
sonable search-  
es & seizures.

supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

#### ARTICLE V.

Presentment  
or indictment,  
in criminal  
cases.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject, for the same offence, to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled, in any criminal case, to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law: nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

Right of private property.

#### ARTICLE VI.

Rights of the  
accused.

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defence.

#### ARTICLE VII.

Right of trial  
by jury.

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact, tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

Of bail, fines,  
and punishments.

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Rights enumerated  
not to disparage those  
retained.

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

## ARTICLE X.

The powers not delegated to the United States by <sup>Reserved</sup> the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, <sup>powers.</sup> are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

## ARTICLE XI.

The judicial power of the United States shall not <sup>Restriction of</sup> be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, <sup>judicial pow-</sup> commenced or prosecuted against one of the United <sup>ers.</sup> States by citizens of another State, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign State.

## ARTICLE XII.

1. The electors shall meet in their respective <sup>Mode of elect-</sup> States, and vote by ballot for president and vice <sup>ing president</sup> president, one of whom, at least, shall not be an <sup>and vice presi-</sup> inhabitant of the same State with themselves; they <sup>dent of the U.</sup> shall name in their ballots the person voted for as <sup>States.</sup> president, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as vice president; and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as president, and of all persons voted for as vice president, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the Senate; the president of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted; the person having the greatest number of votes for president, shall be the president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers, not exceeding three, on the list of those voted for as president, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the president. But in choosing the president, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a president, whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the vice president shall act as president, as in the case of the

death or other constitutional disability of the president.

2. The person having the greatest number of votes as vice president, shall be the vice president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list the Senate shall choose the vice president: a quorum, for that purpose, shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of senators and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice.

3. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of president, shall be eligible to that of vice president of the United States.

### ARTICLE XIII.

When citizenship shall be forfeited.

If any citizen of the United States shall accept, claim, receive, or retain any title of nobility or honor, or shall, without the consent of Congress, accept and retain any present, pension, office, or emolument of any kind whatever, from any emperor, king, prince, or foreign power, such person shall cease to be a citizen of the United States, and shall be incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under them, or either of them.

## AN ORDINANCE,

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TERRITORY OF THE  
UNITED STATES, NORTH-WEST OF  
THE RIVER OHIO.

*Be it ordained, by the United States, in Congress* District.  
*assembled,* That the said Territory, for the purposes  
of temporary government, be one district; subject,  
however, to be divided into two districts, as future  
circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make  
it expedient.

*Be it ordained, by the authority aforesaid,* That the Rules of in-  
estates both of resident and non-resident proprietors heritance.  
in the said Territory, dying intestate, shall descend to  
and be distributed among their children, and the  
descendants of a deceased child, in equal parts; the  
descendants of a deceased child or grand child, to  
take a share of their deceased parent in equal parts  
among them; and where there shall be no children  
or descendants, then in equal parts to the next of  
kin, in equal degree; and among collaterals, the  
children of a deceased brother or sister of the intes-  
tate, shall have, in equal parts among them, their  
deceased parent's share; and there shall, in no case,  
be a distinction between kindred of the whole and  
half blood; saving, in all cases, to the widow of the  
intestate her third part of the real estate for life, and  
one third part of the personal estate; and this law  
relative to descents and dower shall remain in full  
force until altered by the Legislature of the District.  
And until the governor and judges shall adopt laws,  
as hereinafter mentioned, estates in the said Terri-  
tory may be devised or bequeathed by wills in writ-  
ing, signed and sealed by him or her, in whom the  
estate may be, (being of full age,) and attested by  
three witnesses; and real estates may be conveyed  
by lease and release, or bargain and sale, signed,  
sealed and delivered by the person, being of full age,  
in whom the estate may be, and attested by two  
witnesses, provided such wills be duly proved, such  
conveyances be acknowledged, or the execution  
thereof duly proved, and be recorded within one  
year after proper magistrates, courts, and registers

Personal property. shall be appointed for that purpose; and personal property may be transferred by delivery; saving, however, to the French and Canadian inhabitants, and other settlers of the Kaskaskias, Saint Vincents, and the neighboring villages, who have heretofore professed themselves citizens of Virginia, their laws and customs now in force among them, relative to the descent and conveyance of property.

Governor. *Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid,* That there shall be appointed, from time to time, by Congress, a governor, whose commission shall continue in force for the term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress; he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in one thousand acres of land, while in the exercise of his office.

Secretary. There shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a secretary, whose commission shall continue in force for four years, unless sooner revoked; he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of his office. It shall be his duty to keep and preserve the acts and laws passed by the Legislature, and the public records of the district, and the proceedings of the governor in his executive department; and transmit authentic copies of such acts and proceedings every six months, to the secretary of Congress. There shall also be appointed a court, to consist of three judges, any two of whom to form a court, who shall have a common law jurisdiction, and reside in the district, and have each therein a freehold estate in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of their offices; and their commissions shall continue in force during good behavior.

Supreme court

Legislature. The governor and judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish, in the District, such laws of the original States, criminal and civil, as may be necessary and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress from time to time; which laws shall be in force in the district until the organization of the general assembly therein, unless disapproved of by Congress; but afterwards the Legislature shall have authority to alter them as they shall think fit.

Officers of militia. The governor for the time being, shall be commander-in-chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same, below the rank of

general officers; all general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress.

Previous to the organization of the general assembly, the governor shall appoint such magistrates and other civil officers, in each county or township, as he shall find necessary for the preservation of peace and good order in the same. After the general assembly shall be organized, the powers and duties of the magistrates and other civil officers shall be regulated and defined by the said assembly; but all magistrates and other civil officers, not herein otherwise directed, shall, during the continuance of this temporary government, be appointed by the governor.

For the prevention of crimes and injuries, the laws of the district, and for the execution of process, criminal and civil, the governor shall make proper divisions thereof; and he shall proceed from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the District, in which the Indian titles shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alterations as may thereafter be made by the Legislature.

So soon as there shall be five thousand free male inhabitants of full age, in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the governor, they shall receive authority, with time and place, to elect representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the general assembly: *Provided*, That for every five hundred free male inhabitants, there shall be one representative, and so on progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of representatives shall amount to twenty-five, after which, the number and proportion of representatives shall be regulated by the legislature: *Provided*, That no person be eligible or qualified to act as a representative, unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years, and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the District three years, and in either case shall likewise hold in his own right, in fee simple, two hundred acres of land within the same: *Provided, also*, That a freehold in fifty acres of land in the District, having been a citizen of one of the States, and being resident in the District, or the like freehold, and two years residence in the District shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative.

**Term of service.**  
**Vacancies, how filled.**

The representative thus elected shall serve for the term of two years; and in case of the death of a representative, or removal from office, the governor shall issue a writ to the county or township for which he was a member, to elect another in his stead, to serve for the residue of the term.

**Constitution of the legislative power.**

The General Assembly, or Legislature, shall consist of the governor, Legislative Council, and a House of Representatives. The Legislative Council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress; any three of whom to be a quorum. And the members of the Council shall be nominated and appointed in the following manner, to-wit: As soon as representatives shall be elected, the governor shall appoint a time and place for them to meet together, and when met, they shall nominate ten persons, residents in the district, and each possessed of a freehold in five hundred acres of land, and return their names to Congress; five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as aforesaid; and whenever a vacancy shall happen in the council, by death or removal from office, the House of Representatives shall nominate two persons, qualified as aforesaid, for each vacancy, and return their names to Congress; one of whom Congress shall appoint and commission for the residue of the term. And every five years, four months at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of the council, the said house shall nominate ten persons, qualified as aforesaid, and return their names to Congress; five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as members of the Council five years, unless sooner removed. And the Governor, Legislative Council, and House of Representatives, shall have authority to make laws, in all cases, for the good government of the district, not repugnant to the principles and articles in this ordinance established and declared. And all bills, having passed by a majority in the House, and by a majority in the Council, shall be referred to the governor for his assent; but no bill or legislative act whatever, shall be of any force without his assent. The governor shall have power to convene, prorogue, and dissolve the General Assembly, when in his opinion it shall be expedient.

**Vacancies, how filled.**

**Governor's assent to bills.**

**Oath of fidelity and of office to be taken.**

The governor, judges, legislative council, secretary, and such other officers as Congress shall appoint in the district, shall take an oath or affirmation of fidel-



ity and of office; the governor before the president of Congress, and all other officers before the governor. As soon as a legislature shall be formed in the district, the council and house assembled, in one room, shall have authority, by joint ballot, to elect a delegate to Congress, who shall have a seat in Congress, with a right of debating, but not of voting, during this temporary government. Delegate to Congress.

And for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty, which form the basis whereon these republics, their laws, and constitutions, are erected; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in the said territory; to provide also for the establishment of States, and permanent governments therein, and for their admission to a share in the federal councils, on an equal footing with the original States, at as early periods as may be consistent with the general interest:

*It is hereby ordained and declared, by the authority aforesaid,* That the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original States and the people and States in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable, unless by common consent, to-wit: Articles of compact.

#### ARTICLE I.

No person, demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship, or religious sentiments, in the said territory. Religious worship.

#### ARTICLE II.

The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus, and trial by jury; of a proportionate representation of the people in the legislature, and of judicial proceedings according to the course of the common law. All persons shall be bailable, unless for capital offences, where the proof shall be evident, or the presumption great. All fines shall be moderate; and no cruel or unusual punishments shall be inflicted. No man shall be deprived of his liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land; and should the public exigencies make it necessary, for the common preservation, to take any person's property, or to demand his par- The writ of habeas corpus and trial by jury secured; and judicial proceedings according to the common law. Bail. Fines, &c. Compensation for property taken for public service.

Laws not to affect private contracts. particular services, full compensation shall be made for the same. And in the just preservation of rights and property, it is understood and declared, that no law ought ever to be made, or have force in the said territory, that shall in any manner whatever interfere with or affect private contracts or engagements, bona fide, and without fraud previously formed.

### ARTICLE III.

Schools. Religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent, and in their property, rights, and liberty, they never shall be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars, authorised by Congress; but laws, founded in justice and humanity, shall, from time to time, be made, for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

Indians.

### ARTICLE IV.

The territory to remain forever a part of the confederacy. The said Territory and the States which may be formed therein, shall forever remain a part of this confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the articles of confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made; and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled, conformable thereto. The inhabitants and settlers in the said Territory shall be subject to pay a part of the federal debts, contracted or to be contracted, and a proportional part of the expenses of government, to be apportioned on them by Congress, according to the same common rule and measure by which apportionments thereof shall be made on the other States; and the taxes for paying their proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the Legislatures of the District or Districts, or new States, as in the original States, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled. The Legislatures of those Districts or new States, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States in Congress assembled, nor with any regulations Congress may find necessary for securing the title in such

Taxes.

Federal debts.

Primary disposal of the soil to be by Congress.

soil to the bona fide purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands, the property of the United States; and in no case shall non-resident proprietors be taxed higher than residents. The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of the said Territory, as to the citizens of the United States, and those of any other States that may be admitted into the confederacy, without any tax, impost, or duty therefor.

United States  
lands not to be  
taxed.

Navigable  
waters.

### ARTICLE V.

There shall be formed, in the said Territory, not less than three, nor more than five States; and the boundaries of the States, as soon as Virginia shall alter her act of cession, and consent to the same, shall become fixed and established as follows, to-wit: The western State in the said territory shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio, and Wabash rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post Vincents, due north to the territorial line between the United States and Canada; and by the said territorial line to the Lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle State shall be bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash from Post Vincents to the Ohio, by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami, to the said territorial line, and by the said territorial line. The eastern State shall be bounded by the last mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania and the said territorial line: *Provided, however,* and it is further understood and declared, That the boundaries of these three States shall be subject so far to be altered, that if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two States in that part of the said Territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan. And whenever any of the said States shall have sixty thousand free inhabitants therein, such State shall be admitted, by its delegates, into the Congress of the United States, on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and State government. *Provided,* The constitution and government so to be formed shall be republican, and in conformity to the principles con-

States, how to  
be formed in  
the Territory.

Boundary of  
western State.

Middle State.

Eastern State.

States, when  
may be admit-  
ted into the  
Union.

Proviso.

tained in these articles; and so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants in the State than sixty thousand.

### ARTICLE VI.

Slavery prohibited.

Proviso.

Resolutions repealed.

There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said Territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted. *Provided, always,* That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service, as aforesaid.

*Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid,* That the resolutions of the twenty-third of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, relative to the subject of this ordinance, be, and the same are hereby repealed, and declared null and void.

Done by the United States, in Congress assembled, the thirteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and of their sovereignty and independence the twelfth.

WILLIAM GRAYSON, *Chairman.*

CHARLES THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

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AN ACT to divide the Territory of Wisconsin, and to establish the Territorial Government of Iowa.

What part of the present territory of Wisconsin, shall, after 3d July next, constitute the Territory of Iowa.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That, from and after the third day of July next, all that part of the present Territory of Wisconsin which lies west of the Mississippi river, and west of a line drawn due north from the head waters or sources of the Mississippi to the territorial line, shall, for the purposes of temporary government, be and constitute a separate territorial government, by the name of Iowa; and that, from and after the said third day of July next, the present territorial government of Wisconsin shall extend only to that

part of the present Territory of Wisconsin which lies east of the Mississippi river. And after the said third day of July next, all power and authority of the government of Wisconsin, in and over the territory hereby constituted, shall cease: *Provided*, That nothing in this act contained, shall be construed to impair the rights of person or property now appertaining to any Indians within the said Territory, so long as such rights shall remain unextinguished by treaty between the United States and such Indians, or to impair the obligations of any treaty now existing between the United States and such Indians, or to impair or anywise to affect the authority of the government of the United States to make any regulations respecting such Indians, their lands, property, or other rights, by treaty, or law, or otherwise, which it would have been competent to the government to make if this act had never been passed: *Provided*, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to inhibit the government of the United States from dividing the territory hereby established into one or more other territories, in such manner, and at such times, as Congress shall, in its discretion, deem convenient and proper, or from attaching any portion of said Territory to any other State or Territory of the United States.

The authority of Wisconsin, over the territory hereby constituted, to cease after 3d July next.  
Proviso.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Executive power and authority in and over the said Territory of Iowa, shall be vested in a Governor, who shall hold his office for three years, unless sooner removed by the President of the United States. The governor shall reside within the said Territory, shall be commander-in-chief of the militia thereof, shall perform the duties and receive the emoluments of superintendent of Indian affairs, and shall approve of all laws passed by the Legislative Assembly, before they shall take effect; he may grant pardons for offences against the laws of the said Territory, and reprieves for offences against the law of the United States, until the decision of the President can be made known thereon; he shall commission all officers who shall be appointed to office under the laws of the said Territory, and shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

Executive power vested in a Governor, to be appointed for three years, &c.  
Powers and duties of the Governor.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be a secretary of the said Territory, who shall reside therein, and hold his office for four years, unless sooner removed by the President of the United States;

A Sec. of the Terry. to be appointed for four years, &c.

Duties of the Secretary.

he shall record and preserve all the laws and proceedings of the Legislative Assembly hereinafter constituted, and all the acts and proceedings of the governor in his executive department; he shall transmit one copy of the laws and one copy of the executive proceedings, on or before the first Monday in December in each year, to the President of the United States; and, at the same time, two copies of the laws to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for the use of Congress. And in case of the death, removal, resignation, or necessary absence of the governor from the Territory, the secretary shall have, and he is hereby authorized and required to execute and perform all the powers and duties of the governor during such vacancy or necessary absence, or until another governor shall be duly appointed to fill such vacancy.

The Secretary to act as Governor in case of a vacancy.

Legislative power vested in the Govr. and a legislative assembly. Legislative assembly to consist of a council and House of Reps. Council. House of Reps. Apportionment of representation.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the legislative power shall be vested in the governor and a legislative assembly. The legislative assembly shall consist of a Council and House of Representatives.

The Council shall consist of thirteen members, having the qualifications of voters as hereinafter prescribed, whose term of service shall continue two years. The House of Representatives shall consist of twenty-six members possessing the same qualifications as prescribed for the members of the Council, and whose term of service shall continue one year. An apportionment shall be made, as nearly equal as practicable, among the several counties, for the election of the Council and Representatives, giving to each section of the Territory representation in the ratio of its population, Indians excepted, as nearly as may be.

Members to be inhabitants of the dist. for which elected. Previous to the first election the Govr. to have the census taken, unless, &c.

And the said members of the Council and House of Representatives shall reside in, and be inhabitants of the district for which they may be elected. Previous to the first election, the governor of the Territory shall cause the census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the several counties in the Territory, to be taken and made by the sheriffs of the said counties respectively, unless the same shall have been taken within three months previous to the third day of July next, and returns thereof made by said sheriffs to the governor. The first election shall be held at such time and place, and be conducted in such manner as the governor shall appoint and direct; and he shall, at the same time, declare the number of members of the Council and House of Representatives to which

First election to be held, &c. as the Govr. shall direct, &c.

each of the counties or districts are entitled under this act. The number of persons authorized to be elected having the greatest number of votes in each of the said counties or districts for the Council, shall be declared by the said governor to be duly elected to the said Council; and the person or persons having the greatest number of votes for the House of Representatives, equal to the number to which each county may be entitled, shall also be declared by the governor to be duly elected: *Provided*, the governor shall order a new election when there is a tie between two or more persons voted for, to supply the vacancy made by such tie. And the persons thus elected to the legislative assembly shall meet at such place and on such day as he shall appoint; but thereafter, the time, place, and manner of holding and conducting all elections by the people, and apportioning the representation in the several counties to the Council and House of Representatives, according to population, shall be prescribed by law, as well as the day of the annual commencement of the session of the said legislative assembly; but no session, in any year, shall exceed the term of seventy-five days.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That every free white male citizen of the United States, above the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been an inhabitant of said Territory at the time of its organization, shall be entitled to vote at the first election, and shall be eligible to any office within the said Territory; but the qualifications, of voters, at all subsequent elections, shall be such as shall be determined by the legislative assembly; *Provided*, that the right of suffrage shall be exercised only by citizens of the United States.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the legislative power of the Territory shall extend to all right-ful subjects of legislation; but no law shall be passed interfering with the primary disposal of the soil; no tax shall be imposed upon the property of the United States; nor shall the lands or other property of non-residents be taxed higher than the lands or other property of residents. All the laws of the governor and legislative assembly shall be submitted to, and if disapproved by the Congress of the United States, the same shall be null and of no effect.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That all town-ship officers, and all county officers, except judicial officers, justices of the peace, sheriffs, and clerks of

Govr. to declare the persons having the greatest number of votes to be elected.

Proviso.

Qualifications of voters, &c. at the first election.

At all subsequent elections Proviso.

Powers of the Legislature. Restrictions.

Laws to be submitted to Congress for approval.

Officers to be elected by the people.

Officers to be appointed by the Govr. with the advice and consent of the legislative council. Vacancies occurring in the recess of the Council, how filled.

courts, shall be elected by the people, in such manner as is now prescribed by the laws of the Territory of Wisconsin, or as may, after the first election, be provided by the governor and legislative assembly of Iowa Territory. The governor shall nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council, shall appoint all judicial officers, justices of the peace, sheriffs, and all militia officers, except those of the staff, and all civil officers not herein provided for. Vacancies occurring in the recess of the Council, shall be filled by appointments from the governor, which shall expire at the end of the next session of the legislative assembly; but the said governor may appoint, in the first instance, the aforesaid officers, who shall hold their offices until the end of the next session of the said legislative assembly.

Disqualifications for office.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That no member of the legislative assembly shall hold, or be appointed to, any office created, or the salary or emoluments of which shall have been increased whilst he was a member, during the term for which he shall have been elected, and for one year after the expiration of such term, and no person holding a commission or appointment under the United States, or any of its officers, except as a militia officer, shall be a member of the said Council or House of Representatives, or shall hold any office under the government of the said Territory.

Judicial power vested in a supreme court, dist. courts, probate courts, and justices of the peace. Supreme court.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the judicial power of the said Territory shall be vested in a supreme court, district courts, probate courts, and justices of the peace. The supreme court shall consist of a chief justice and two associate judges, any two of whom shall be a quorum, and who shall hold a term at the seat of government of the said Territory annually; and they shall hold their offices during the term of four years. The said Territory shall be

District courts.

divided into three judicial districts; and a district court or courts shall be held in each of the three districts, by one of the judges of the supreme court, at such times and places as may be prescribed by law; and the said judges shall, after their appointment, respectively, reside in the districts which shall be assigned to them. The jurisdiction of the several courts herein provided for, both appellate and original, and that of the probate courts, and of the justices of the peace, shall be as limited by law: *Provided*,

Jurisdictions of the several courts. Proviso.

*however*, that justices of the peace shall not have



jurisdiction of any matter of controversy, when the title or boundaries of land may be in dispute, or where the debt or sum claimed exceeds fifty dollars. And the said supreme and district courts, respectively, shall possess a chancery as well as a common law jurisdiction.—Each district court shall appoint its clerk, who shall keep his office at the place where the court may be held, and the said clerks shall also be the registers in chancery; and any vacancy in said office of clerk, happening in the vacation of said court, may be filled by the judge of said district, which appointment shall continue until the next term of said court. And writs of error, bills of exception, and appeals in chancery causes, shall be allowed in all cases, from the final decisions of the said district courts to the supreme court, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; but in no case, removed to the supreme court, shall trial by jury be allowed in said court. The supreme court may appoint its own clerk, and every clerk shall hold his office at the pleasure of the court by which he shall have been appointed. And writs of error and appeals from the final decision of the said supreme court shall be allowed and taken to the supreme court of the United States, in the same manner and under the same regulations as from the circuit courts of the United States, where the value of the property, or the amount in controversy, to be ascertained by the oath or affirmation of either party, shall exceed one thousand dollars. And each of the said district courts shall have and exercise the same jurisdiction in all cases arising under the constitution and laws of the United States, as is vested in the circuit and district courts of the United States.—And the first six days of every term of the said courts, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, shall be appropriated to the trial of causes arising under the said constitution and laws. And writs of error and appeals from the final decisions of the said courts, in all such cases, shall be made to the supreme court of the Territory, in the same manner as in other cases. The said clerks shall receive, in all such cases, the same fees which the clerk of the district courts of Wisconsin Territory now receives for similar services.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That there shall be an attorney for the said Territory appointed, who shall continue in office four years, unless sooner

An attorney to be appointed for four years, his fees, &c.

A marshal to be appointed for four years—his duties, fees, &c.

removed by the president, and who shall receive the same fees and salary as the attorney of the United States for the present Territory of Wisconsin. There shall also be a marshal for the Territory appointed, who shall hold his office for four years, unless sooner removed by the president, who shall execute all process issuing from the said courts when exercising their jurisdiction as circuit and district courts of the United States. He shall perform the same duties, be subject to the same regulations and penalties, and be entitled to the same fees as the marshal of the district court of the United States for the present Territory of Wisconsin; and shall, in addition, be paid the sum of two hundred dollars annually as a compensation for extra services.

Officers to be appointed by the president with the advice and consent of the Senate.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That the governor, secretary, chief justice and associate judges, attorney, and marshal, shall be nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed by the president of the United States. The governor and secretary, to be appointed as aforesaid, shall, before they act as such, respectively take an oath or affirmation, before some judge or justice of the peace in the existing Territory of Wisconsin, duly commissioned and qualified to administer an oath or affirmation, or before the chief justice or some associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, to support the constitution of the United States, and for the faithful discharge of the duties of their respective offices; which said oaths, when so taken, shall be certified by the person before whom the same shall have been taken, and such certificate shall be received and recorded by the said secretary among the executive proceedings. And, afterwards, the chief justice and associate judges, and all other civil officers in said Territory, before they act as such, shall take a like oath, or affirmation, before said governor, or secretary, or some judge or justice of the territory, who may be duly commissioned and qualified, which said oath or affirmation shall be certified and transmitted, by the person taking the same, to the secretary, to be by him recorded as aforesaid; and, afterwards, the like oath or affirmation shall be taken, certified, and recorded in such manner and form as may be prescribed by law. The governor shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars as governor, and one thousand dollars as superintendent of Indian affairs. The said chief judge

Governor and secretary to take an oath, &c.

Chief justice and associate judges, and all other civil officers to take an oath, &c.

Salary of the governor.

and associate justices shall each receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The secretary shall receive an annual salary of twelve hundred dollars. The said salaries shall be paid quarter yearly, at the treasury of the United States. The members of the legislative assembly shall be entitled to receive three dollars each per day, during their attendance at the session thereof: and three dollars each for every twenty miles travel in going to, and returning from the said sessions, estimated according to the nearest usually travelled route. There shall be appropriated, annually, the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars, to be expended by the governor to defray the contingent expenses of the Territory; and there shall also be appropriated annually, a sufficient sum, to be expended by the secretary of the Territory, and upon an estimate to be made by the secretary of the treasury of the United States, to defray the expenses of the legislative assembly, the printing of the laws, and other incidental expenses; and the secretary of the Territory shall annually account to the secretary of the treasury of the United States for the manner in which the aforesaid sum shall have been expended.

Salary of the chief judge and associate justices.  
 Salary of the secretary.  
 Salaries how paid.  
 Pay of the members of the legislative assembly  
 Contingent expenses of the Territory. &c.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That the inhabitants of the said territory shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges, and immunities heretofore granted and secured to the Territory of Wisconsin, and to its inhabitants; and the existing laws of the Territory of Wisconsin shall be extended over said Territory, so far as the same be not incompatible with the provisions of this act, subject, nevertheless, to be altered, modified or repealed by the governor and legislative assembly of the said Territory of Iowa; and, further, the laws of the United States are hereby extended over, and shall be in force in said Territory, so far as the same, or any provisions thereof, may be applicable.

Rights, &c. the same as granted to Wisconsin.  
 Existing laws of Wisconsin extended over Iowa, &c.  
 Laws U. S. extended over Iowa, &c.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That the legislative assembly of the Territory of Iowa shall hold its first session at such time and place, in said Territory, as the governor thereof shall appoint and direct; and at said session, or as soon thereafter as may by them be deemed expedient, the said governor and legislative assembly shall proceed to locate and establish the seat of government for said Territory, at such place as they may deem eligible, which place, however, shall thereafter be subject to be changed by

First session of the legislative assembly to be held when and where the gov shall direct.  
 Governor and legislative assembly to locate and establish the seat of government.

the governor and legislative assembly. And the sum of twenty thousand dollars, out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, is hereby granted to the said Territory of Iowa, which shall be applied, by the governor and legislative assembly thereof, to defray the expenses of erecting public buildings at the seat of government

Delegate to the House of Reps. of the U. S.—how elected, &c.

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That a delegate to the House of Representatives of the United States, to serve for the term of two years, may be elected by the voters qualified to elect members of the legislative assembly who shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as have been granted to the delegates from the several territories of the United States to the said House of Representatives. The first election shall be held at such time and place or places, and be conducted in such manner as the governor shall appoint and direct. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be declared by the governor to be duly elected, and a certificate thereof shall be given to the person so elected.

Suits, &c. undetermined on 3d July next in the district courts of Wisconsin, west of the Mississippi shall be transferred to the district courts hereby established. Judicial officers, in office 3d July next, shall act temporarily until their places are filled by the government of Iowa.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That all suits, process, and proceedings, and all indictments and informations, which shall be undetermined on the third day of July next, in the district courts of Wisconsin Territory, west of the Mississippi river, shall be transferred to be heard, tried, prosecuted and determined in the district courts hereby established, which may include the said counties.

SEC. 16. *And be it further enacted*, That all justices of the peace, constables, sheriffs, and all other executive and judicial officers, who shall be in office on the third day of July next, in that portion of the present Territory of Wisconsin, which will then, by this act, become the Territory of Iowa, shall be, and are hereby authorized and required to continue to exercise and perform the duties of their respective offices, as officers of the Territory of Iowa, temporarily, and until they or others shall be duly appointed to fill their places by the territorial government of Iowa, in the manner herein directed: *Provided*, That no officer shall hold or continue in office by virtue of this provision, over twelve months from the said third day of July next.

Proviso.

Causes removed from the courts of Wisconsin, west of the Mississippi

SEC. 17. *And be it further enacted*, That all causes which shall have been or may be removed from the courts held by the present Territory of Wisconsin, in the counties west of the Mississippi river, by appeal

or otherwise, into the supreme court for the Territory of Wisconsin, and which shall be undetermined therein on the third day of July next, shall be certified by the clerk of the said supreme court, and transferred to the supreme court of said Territory of Iowa, there to be proceeded in to final determination, in the same manner that they might have been in the said supreme court of the Territory of Wisconsin.

SEC. 18. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of five thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended by, and under the direction of, the Governor of said Territory of Iowa, in the purchase of a library, to be kept at the seat of government, for the accommodation of the governor, legislative assembly, judges, secretary, marshal, and attorney of said Territory, and such other persons, as the governor and legislative assembly shall direct.

SEC. 19. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the day named in this act for the organization of the Territory of Iowa, the term of the members of the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin shall be deemed to have expired, and an entirely new organization of the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin, as constituted by this act, shall take place as follows: As soon as practicable, after the passage of this act, the governor of the Territory of Wisconsin shall apportion the thirteen members of the Council, and twenty-six members of the House of Representatives among the several counties or districts comprised within said Territory, according to their population, as nearly as may be, (Indians excepted.) The first election shall be held at such time as the governor shall appoint and direct, and shall be conducted, and returns thereof made in all respects according to the provisions of the laws of said Territory, and the governor shall declare the person having the greatest number of votes to be elected, and shall order a new election when there is a tie between two or more persons voted for, to supply the vacancy made by such tie. The persons thus elected shall meet at Madison, the seat of government, on such day as he shall appoint, but thereafter, the apportioning of the representation in the several counties, to the Council and House of Representatives, according to population, the day of their elec-

pl, into the supreme court of Wisconsin, undetermined on 3d July next transferred to the supreme court of Iowa.

\$5,000 appropriated for the purchase of a library to be kept at the seat of government, &c.

Term of the members of the Council and House of Reps. of Wisconsin to expire on 3d July next; and a new organization to take place.

Apportionment of the members of the Council and House of Reps.

First election, when held, how conducted &c.

Time and place of meeting.

tion, and the day for the commencement the session of the legislative assembly shall be prescribed by law.

**Govr. of Iowa** **SEC. 20.** *And be it further enacted,* That temporarily, and until otherwise provided by law of the legislative assembly, the governor of the Territory of Iowa may define the judicial districts of said Territory, and assign the judges who may be appointed for said Territory, to the several districts, and also appoint the time for holding courts in the several counties in each district, by proclamation to be issued by him; but the legislative assembly, at their first or any subsequent session, may organize, alter, or modify such judicial districts, and assign the judges, and alter the times of holding the courts, or any of them.

APPROVED June 12, 1838.