

**JOURNAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
TERRITORY OF WASHINGTON,
DURING THE SECOND SESSION OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, BEGUN AND
HELD AT OLYMPIA, DECEMBER 4, 1854**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649539550

Journal of the Council of the Territory of Washington, During the Second Session of the Legislative Assembly, Begun and Held at Olympia, December 4, 1854 by Washington Legislative Council

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WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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AT OLYMPIA, DECEMBER 4, 1854.

OLYMPIA:
GEO. B. GOUDY, PUBLIC PRINTER,
1855.

JOURNAL OF THE COUNCIL.

SECOND SESSION.

MONDAY, December 4, 1854.

Pursuant to an act of the Legislature of the territory of Washington, passed April 20th, 1854, designating the first Monday of December in each year for the meeting of the Legislature, the following councilmen from the several districts of the territory, appeared in the Council, to wit:

From the counties of

Cowlitz, Lewis, Pacific and Wahkiacum.—Seth Catlin and Henry Miles.

Clarke and Skamania.—Jefferson Huff and Ira Patterson.

Chehalis, Thurston and Sawamish.—D. R. Bigelow and Benjamin F. Yantis.

Pierce and King.—C. C. Terry and W. A. Strickler.

Clalam, Island, Jefferson and Whatcom.—A. M. Poe.

The Council was called to order by Elwood Evans, Esq., Chief Clerk of last year.

On motion of Mr. Catlin,

Ordered, That the Chair appoint a committee of three to examine the credentials of new members.

Messrs. Catlin, Poe and Bigelow were appointed said committee.

The committee, having examined the credentials presented, made the following report, to wit:

The committee on credentials have examined the credentials of the following named members, and find them correct, to wit:

Jefferson Huff, Wm. A. Strickler, A. M. Poe, C. C. Terry and Ira Patterson.

SETH CATLIN,
Chairman.

The chairman sent for Secretary Mason, who appeared and administered the oath of office to the members of the Council present.

On motion of Mr. Catlin,

Ordered, That the Chair appoint a clerk *pro tem*.

B. P. Anderson was appointed clerk *pro tempore*.

On motion of Mr. Bigelow,

The Council proceeded, *viva voce*, to the election of a President, and the roll being called, it appeared that Seth Catlin received 8 votes, and D. R. Bigelow 1 vote.

Seth Catlin having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected President; and,

On motion,

Messrs. Yantis and Strickler were appointed a committee to conduct the President elect to his seat.

On taking the chair, Mr. Catlin addressed the Council briefly—tendering his acknowledgments for the honor conferred upon him by selecting him as presiding officer of the Council.

Mr. Miles moved that the Council proceed, *viva voce*, to the election of a Chief Clerk.

Mr. Poe moved as an amendment,

That the Council proceed to the election of a Chief Clerk by ballot.

The question being put on the amendment of Mr. Poe,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The Council proceeded to the election of a Chief Clerk, and a ballot being had, Messrs. Yantis and Poe acting as tellers, upon the votes being counted, it appeared that B. P. Anderson had received 6 votes, and Elwood Evans 3 votes.

B. P. Anderson having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected; and, being sworn in, entered upon the discharge of the duties of Chief Clerk.

Mr. Bigelow moved that the Council proceed to the election of an assistant clerk by ballot.

Mr. Miles moved as an amendment,

That the Council proceed to the election of an Assistant Clerk, *viva voce*.

The question being put on the amendment of Mr. Miles,

It was decided in the negative.

The original motion being then put,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The Council then proceeded to the election of an Assistant Clerk; and, after four unsuccessful ballots being had,

On the fifth ballot, Messrs. Yantis and Poe acting as tellers, A. J. Moses received 5 votes; U. E. Hicks received 2 votes; and D. R. Philips received 2 votes.

A. J. Moses having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected; and being sworn in, entered upon the discharge of the duties of Assistant Clerk.

On motion of Mr. Yantis,

The Council proceeded to the election of a Sergeant-at-Arms, and a ballot being had, Messrs. Yantis and Poe acting as tellers, it appeared that J. L. Mitchel, of Lewis county, had received 5 votes, Wm. Cullison 2 votes, and D. R. Philips 1 vote.

J. L. Mitchel having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected, and being sworn in, entered upon the discharge of the duties of Sergeant-at-Arms of the Council.

On motion of Mr. Poe,

The Council proceeded to the election of a Door Keeper, and a ballot being had, it appeared that Wm. Cullison had received 7 votes, and — Smith 1 vote.

Wm. Cullison having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected; and being sworn in, entered upon the discharge of the duties of Door Keeper for the Council.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The Council then adjourned till 10 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, December 5th, 1854.

Council met pursuant to adjournment.

Present.—Messrs. Bigelow, Huff, Miles, Patterson, Poc, Strickler, Terry, Yantis and Mr. President.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

Ordered, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare Rules for the government of the Council.

Messrs. Bigelow, Miles and Yantis were appointed said committee.

On motion of Mr. Patterson,

Ordered, That the President appoint the usual standing committees.

Council adjourned till 2 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Council met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

Ordered, That the House of Representatives be informed that the Council has organized, and is now ready to proceed to business.

A message from the House by their Clerk, B. F. Kendall, Esq.

MR. PRESIDENT:—I am instructed by the Speaker of the House to inform you that a committee of three have been appointed in the House, composed of Messrs. Styles, Wallace and Watkins, to wait on the Governor.

On motion of Mr. Bigelow,

Ordered, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the committee from the House, to wait on the Governor, and inform him that the Legislative Assembly of Washington Territory is organized and ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

Messrs. Terry, Huff and Miles, were appointed said committee.

On motion of Mr. Yantis,

The Council then adjourned to the Hall of the House to hear the message of His Excellency, the Governor, delivered in person.

When the Council returned, the President announced the following Standing committees:

Judiciary.—Messrs. Bigelow, Terry and Miles.
Elections.—Messrs. Miles, Patterson and Strickler.
Ways and Means.—Messrs. Bigelow, Poe and Huff.
Education.—Messrs. Bigelow, Poe and Yantis.
Claims.—Messrs. Huff, Yantis and Strickler.
Military Affairs.—Messrs. Yantis, Miles and Patterson.
Roads and Highways.—Messrs. Terry, Patterson and Yantis.
Engrossed Bills.—Messrs. Miles, Poe and Huff.
Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Strickler, Huff and Yantis.
Indian Affairs.—Messrs. Yantis, Patterson and Bigelow.
Commerce.—Messrs. Terry, Huff and Bigelow.
Printing.—Messrs. Strickler, Miles and Poe.
Corporations.—Messrs. Bigelow, Strickler and Patterson.
Memorials.—Messrs. Poe, Miles and Huff.
Counties.—Messrs. Patterson, Strickler and Yantis.

On motion of Mr. Yantis,

Ordered, That the Rules of last session for the Council, be adopted till the committee on Rules report.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

Ordered, That the committee on printing be instructed to procure the printing of 150 copies of the Governor's message for the use of the Council.

Mr. Bigelow introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That, until otherwise ordered, the Council hold but one session a day, and that the hour of convening be 10 o'clock, A. M.; and,

On motion of Mr. Bigelow,

The rules were suspended, and the resolution adopted.

On motion of Mr. Poe,

Ordered, That the committee on Printing be instructed to procure 9 copies of the file of the Pioneer and Democrat containing the laws of the last session of the legislature, for the members of the Council.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

Ordered, That the committee on Printing be instructed to procure ten copies of the "Pioneer and Democrat" for each member and officer of the Council during this session of the Legislature.

On motion of Mr. Bigelow,

Council adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, December 8th, 1854.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. All present.

Journal of yesterday was read, corrected and approved.

Mr. Bigelow, chairman of the committee on rules for the government of the council, submitted the following report:

The committee appointed to prepare rules for the government of the Council, beg leave to report the rules of the Council of the last session, with the following amendment:

Section No. 42, of those rules be amended so as to read the first clause as follows:

"Standing committees to consist of three members each."

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The report of the committee was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Poe,

Ordered, That the committee on Printing be instructed to have an index made for laws as published in the Pioneer and Democrat.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

Ordered, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with a similar committee from the House to draft and report Joint Rules and Regulations for the government of the two Houses.

Messrs. Miles, Yantis and Bigelow were appointed said committee.