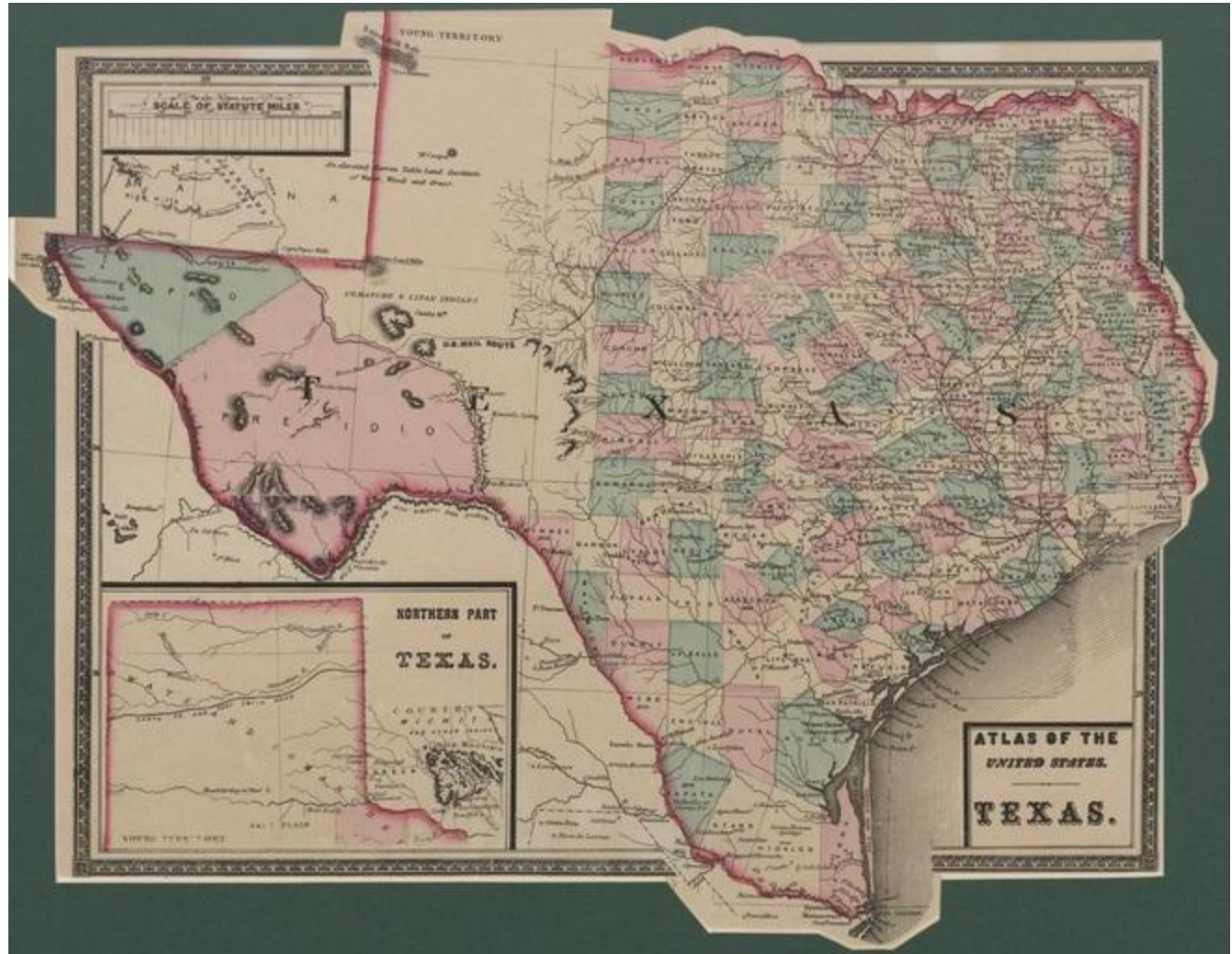




The PORTAL to TEXAS HISTORY

Embark on a Voyage of Discovery

<http://texashistory.unt.edu>



Gray, Orlando Willis. *Atlas of the United States: Texas*. (Philadelphia: Stedman, Brown & Lyon, 1873)
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-ptH-2439>

University of North Texas Libraries

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874



Wood's account of the condition of Texas at the end of the Civil War and how he viewed the "radical element of the northern states."

RECONSTRUCTION IN TEXAS. 7

During the four years of the war, Providence had favored Texas with good seasons, and bountiful crops had been made by the faithful slaves, old men and boys, that were not in the army. At the break up of the war in June, 1865, there was a good crop nearly cultivated and matured in Texas. The people after the assurance given by the President and the provisional Governor of the State of the protection of person and property, went to work with a will to build up again their dilapidated homes and wasted fortunes.

The plan adopted by President Johnson to reorganize and restore the rebel States to their constitutional relations with the Federal government did not suit the radical element of the people of the Northern States. While they had conquered the people of the Confederate States, and they were at their mercy in a military sense, they desired also to capture and control them in a political sense—in other words, the radical party of the North desired to exercise the controlling and governing power in the late rebel States.

William D. Wood. *Reminiscences of Reconstruction in Texas; and, Reminiscences of Texas and Texans Fifty Years Ago.* (San Marcos, TX: 1902).
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pt-14387>



Edmund J. Davis as a
brigadier general in the
Union army.

On June 2nd 1865, he was
among those who
represented the Union at
the surrender of the
Confederate forces in
Texas.

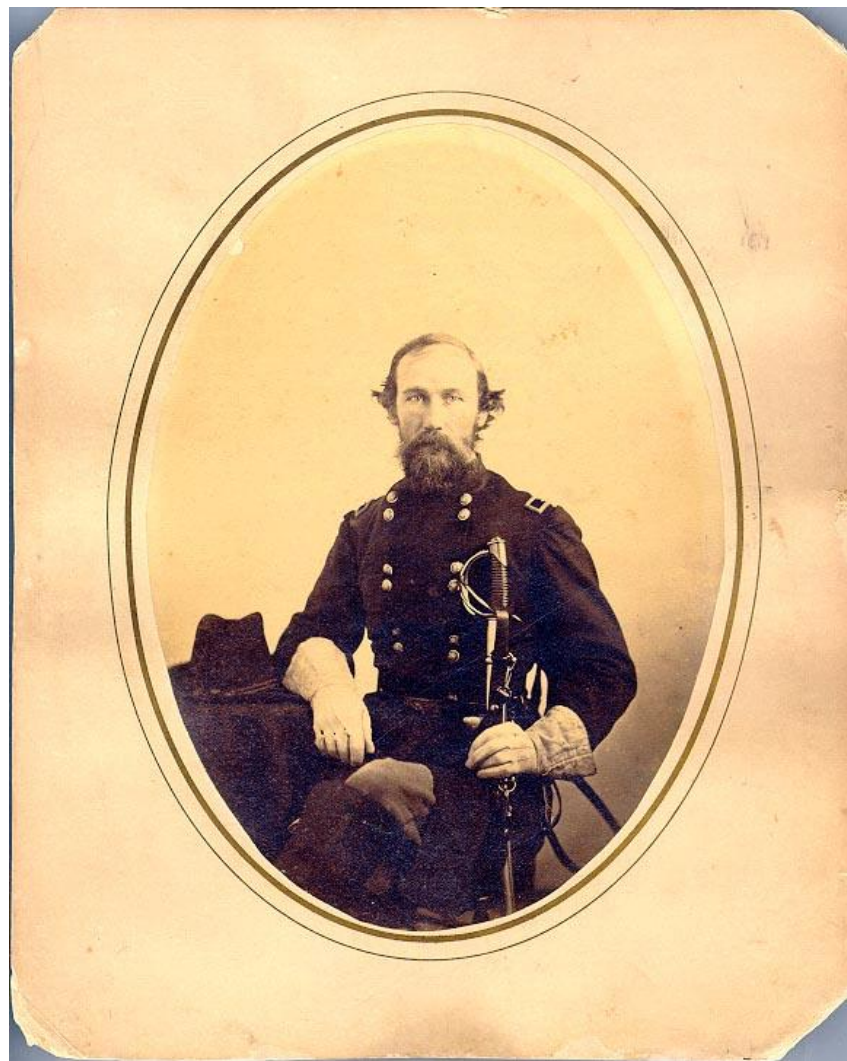


Photo courtesy of the Texas State Library & Archives Commission.
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/davis-p01.html>



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

A telegram to
Governor J. W.
Throckmorton urging
his cooperation with
military commanders.
*(See next slide for
transcription.)*

Telegram from General Phillip H.
Sheridan to Governor J. W.
Throckmorton 29, March 1867.
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/throck-sheridan.html>

Headquarters Fifth Military District,
New Orleans, La., March 29th 1867.

Telegram

His Excellency J. W. Throckmorton
Governor of Texas
Austin, Texas

Sir:

Your telegram of the 27th inst. ad. has
been received.

The Civil authorities of your State
can only assist the reorganization of the
State by strongly supporting the Military
Commander and advising the people to
participate with good feeling in the reor-
ganization under the law.

Brigadier General Charles Griffin
has the details of the reorganization of the
State entrusted to him.

P. H. Sheridan (TX)
Major Genl. U.S.A.

Q6-16 duplicated



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

A transcription telegram to
Governor J. W.
Throckmorton
urging his cooperation
with military commanders.

Headquarters Fifth Military District
New Orleans, La., March 29th, 1867
Telegram

His Excellency J. W. Throckmorton
Governor of Texas
Austin, Texas

Sir:

Your telegram of the 27th instant has
been received.

The civil authorities of your State
can only assist the reorganization of the
State by strongly supporting the Military
Commander and advising the people to
participate with good feeling in the reor-
ganization under the law.

Brevet Major General Charles Griffin
has the details of the reorganization of the
State entrusted to him.

P. H. Sheridan
Major Genl U.S.A.
Duplicate

Telegram from General Phillip H. Sheridan to Governor J. W. Throckmorton 29, March 1867. text version.
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/throck-sheridan.html>



Portrait of Governor
Throckmorton

GOVERNOR J. W. THROCKMORTON.*

Pennybacker, Anna J. Hardwicke. *A New History of Texas for Schools: Also for General Reading and for Teachers Preparing Themselves for Examination.* (Palestine, TX: P. V. Pennybacker, 1895)

<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pth-2388>



How Wood (a Texan) viewed Congressional Reconstruction.

12

RECONSTRUCTION IN TEXAS.

Louisiana and Texas constituted the Fifth Military District, with General J. J. Reynolds in command, with unlimited power over the people of Texas, legislative, executive and judicial. Soon after the passage of the reconstruction acts, the Northern carpet-bagger, carpet-bag in hand, hastened to the land of promise, the rebel States, to share in the spoils, restore law and order, and aid in the establishment of "loyal republican State governments," as was declared necessary in the preamble to the first reconstruction act. General Reynolds soon came to the conclusion that all, or nearly all, of the officials in Texas were hindrances to reconstruction, and to get these hindrances out of the way, he removed the most of them from Gov. Throckmorton down, and proceeded to fill their places with his own appointees.

William D. Wood. *Reminiscences of Reconstruction in Texas; and, Reminiscences of Texas and Texans Fifty Years Ago.* (San Marcos, TX: 1902).
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pt-14387>.

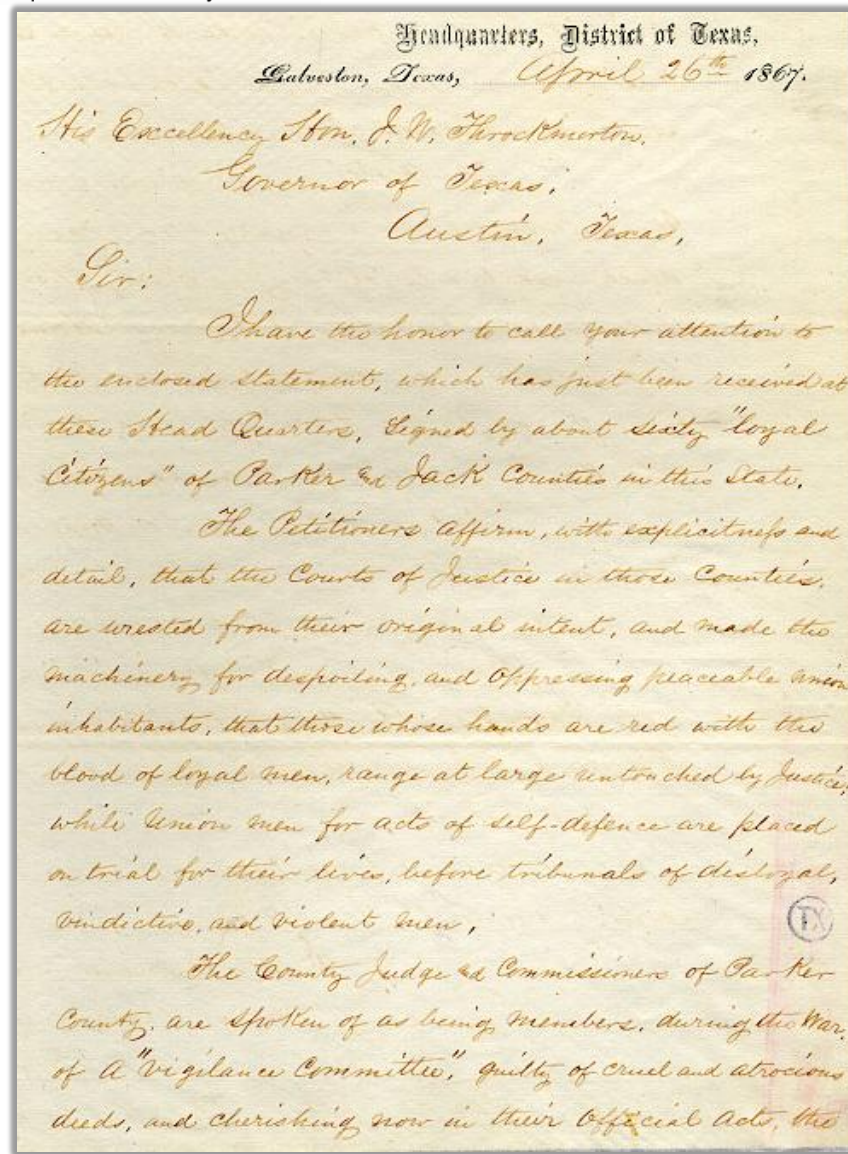


Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

Read a letter from General
Griffin detailing the violence
directed toward
Unionists in Texas.

(See next screen for transcription.)

General Charles Griffin to Throckmorton,
26 April 1867. Page 1.
Texas State Library & Archives Commission
[http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/
war/throck-griffin-1.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/throck-griffin-1.html)





Transcription of a letter
from General Griffin
detailing the violence
directed toward
Unionists in Texas.
(Page one of two.)

General Charles Griffin to Throckmorton,
26 April 1867. Page 1, text version.
Texas State Library & Archives Commission
[http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/
war/throck-griffin-1.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/throck-griffin-1.html)

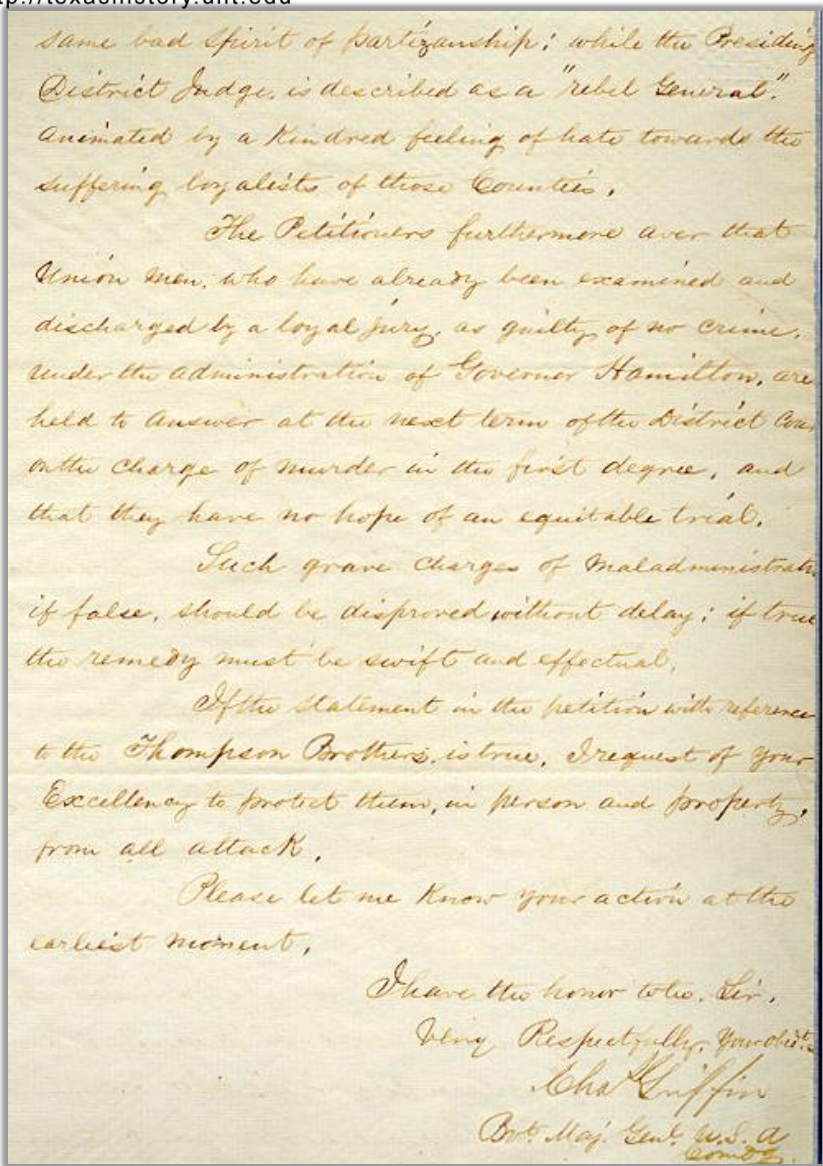
Headquarters, District of Texas
Galveston, Texas, April 26th 1867.

His Excellency Hon. J.W. Throckmorton
Governor of Texas,
Austin, Texas.

Sir:

I have the honor to call your attention to
the enclosed statement, which has just been received at
these Head Quarters, signed by about sixty "loyal
citizens" of Parker and Jack Counties in this state.
The Petitioners affirm, with explicitness and
detail, that the Courts of Justice in those counties
are wrested from their original intent, and made the
machinery for despoiling and oppressing peaceable Union
inhabitants, that those whose hands are red with the
blood of loyal men, range at large untouched by Justice;
while Union men for acts of self-defense are placed
on trial for their lives, before tribunals of disloyal,
vindictive, and violent men.

The County Judge and Commissioners of Parker
County are spoken of as being members, during the war,
of a "vigilance committee," guilty of cruel and atrocious
deeds, and cherishing now in their official acts, the



The second page of a letter
from General Griffin
detailing the violence
directed toward Unionists
in Texas.

(See next screen for transcription.)

General Charles Griffin to Throckmorton,
26 April 1867. Page 2. Texas State Library
& Archives Commission
[http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/
war/throck-griffin-1.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/throck-griffin-1.html)

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

Transcription of the second
page of a letter from General
Griffin detailing the violence
directed toward Unionists
in Texas.
(Page two of two.)

General Charles Griffin to Throckmorton,
26 April 1867. Page 2. text version.
Texas State Library & Archives Commission
[http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/
war/throck-griffin-1.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/throck-griffin-1.html).

same bad spirit of partizanship; while the Presiding District Judge, is described as a "Rebel General." Animated by a kindred feeling of hate towards the suffering loyalists of these Counties. The Petitioners furthermore aver that Union men, who have already been examined and discharged by a loyal jury, as guilty of no crime, under the administration of Governor Hamilton, are held to answer at the next term of the District Cou., on the charge of murder in the first degree, and that they have no hope of an equitable trial. Such grave charges of maladministration, if false, should be disproved without delay; if true the remedy must be swift and effectual. If the statement in the petition with reference to the Thompson Brothers is true, I request of your Excellency to protect them, in person and property, from all attack. Please let me know your action at the earliest moment. I have the honor to be, Sir,
Very Respectfully, your obedt.
Chas. Griffin
Bvt. Maj. Genl. U.S.A.
Comdg.



Wood's views on African American participation in reconstruction and the quality of politicians elected or appointed under Congressional Reconstruction.

10

RECONSTRUCTION IN TEXAS.

The placing of the ballot in the hands of the negro by reconstruction and subsequent legislation rendered inevitable the political solidification of the white people of the rebel States, in order to avoid negro rule and ruin; and the solid South will remain so long as there is the remotest chance of such a misfortune. Doubtless, had the people of the North known, in the days of reconstruction, what they now know, the ballot would never have been given to the negro.

Under the State governments established in the rebel States, the creatures of reconstruction legislation of the Federal Congress, many ignorant and corrupt men obtained office, in order to have better opportunity to serve their own interest and greed, regardless of the rights and interests of the people. To such extent did this evil obtain that these governments in many instances, instead of conserving the rights of person and property, and protecting the accumulations of honest industry and thrift, became engines of oppression, pillage and robbery; and it became a matter of self-preservation to the vast majority of the white people to oust these

William D. Wood. *Reminiscences of Reconstruction in Texas; and, Reminiscences of Texas and Texans Fifty Years ago.* (San Marcos: TX, 1902).

<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pt-14387>

University of North Texas Libraries



Wood's account on how African Americans were induced to oppose Congressional Reconstruction.

RECONSTRUCTION IN TEXAS.

11

official vampires, and put in office, in their stead, men of integrity and intelligence who were identified in interest and sympathy with the hopes and desires of the great mass of the people. To effect this necessary change the co-operation of the negro was indispensable.. That co-operation was obtained through the free and voluntary act of the negro. It was not secured by force or intimidation. The forty acres of land and the mule so long promised the negro had died to the hope. The few offices his race had secured did not satisfy the rank and file. While Lincoln had freed the negro, he did not furnish him with bread, or the wherewith to obtain it, or exempt him from labor, which was his ideal of freedom. He was sharp enough to realize that his main dependence was on his old master, and that the robbery of the old master was destroying the crutch on which he leaned.

William D. Wood. *Reminiscences of Reconstruction in Texas; and, Reminiscences of Texas and Texans Fifty Years Ago.* (San Marcos: TX, 1902).

<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pt-14387>



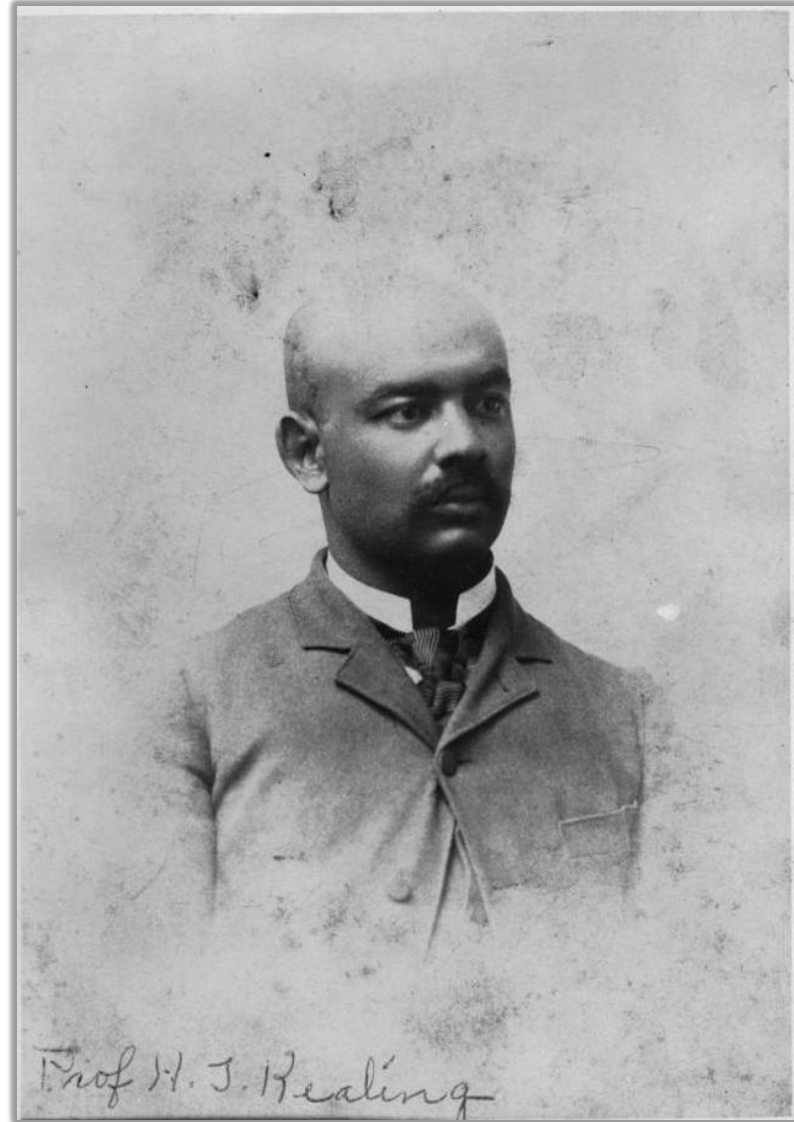
The PORTAL to
TEXAS HISTORY

Embark on a Voyage of Discovery

<http://texashistory.unt.edu>

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

H. T. Kealing (1860-1918) was a principal, teacher, writer, editor, and distinguished Methodist Episcopal layman. He was among the first generation of blacks to attend school during the Reconstruction.



H.T. Kealing, B&W photographic print 7 x 5in.
Courtesy of the Jacob Fontaine Religious Museum
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pt-17448>

University of North Texas Libraries



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

Freedman's First Vote
at the Anderson
County Courthouse in
Palestine, Texas.

This photo shows the
military presence
protecting African
American's when they
came to vote for the
first time in 1869.



Freemens First Vote,
B&W photographic print 4 x 5 in.
Courtesy of the Palestine Public Library
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pt-26465>



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

Donald Campbell to Pease,
25 August 1868. Page 2, text version.
Texas State Library &
Archives Commission
[http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/
war/pease-campbell-1.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/pease-campbell-1.html)

town - Yelling & shooting & all manner of things
were done to alarm loyal men & families - It
was feared at one time that the troops would be
attacked and they stood with their guns in their
hands ready to resist them - But fortunately
everything passed off without injury to any one -

It is understood here that 300 of the expected
troops have reached Marshall - If so, we may ex-
pect them here very soon - But when they come,
will it be sufficient if the rebels will be quiet un-
til they are withdrawn? This has been the practice
heretofore, & the moment the troops are taken away
they commenced their civil war again - They must
be hunted up and tried & punished - They must
be made to fear a violation & resistance of the
Authority of the U. States - Without it, all will go
for nothing - Turning outlaws & assassins over
to the Civil Authorities amounts to their sure
release - they must be tried by Military Commission
the moment they are caught & dealt with as they
deserve -

By last mail we rec^d letters from our
friends Judge Caldwell & Mr. Grigsby - I would
write them - but don't know when the Conven-
tion will take place & fear they might leave before
a letter could reach them - and in either event
they can hear from us through you ~~we~~ will



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874

Read about the violence
directed toward
“loyal men and freedmen.”
Note how the presence of
federal troops suppressed
violence.

Donald Campbell to Pease, 25 August
1868. Page 2, text version.
Texas State Library & Archives
Commission
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/war/pease-campbell-1.html>

town. Yelling and shooting and all manner of things were done to alarm loyal men and freedmen. It was feared at the time that the troops would be attacked and they stood with their guns in their hands ready to resist them. But fortunately everything passed off without injury to any one. It is understood here that 300 of the expected troops have reached Marshall. If so, we may expect them here very soon. But when they come, will it be sufficient if the rebels will be quiet until they are withdrawn? This has been the practice heretofore, and the moment the troops are taken away they commence their devilment again. They must be hunted up and punished. They must be made to fear a violation and resistance of the authority of the U. States. Without it, all will go for nothing. Turning outlaws and assassins over to the Civil Authorities amounts to their sure release. They must be tried by Military Commissioners the moment they are caught and dealt with as they deserve.

By last mail we rec'd letters from our friends Judge Caldwell and Mr. Grigsly. I would write them, but don't know when the Convention will take recess and fear they might leave before a letter could reach them and in either event they can hear from us through you. We will

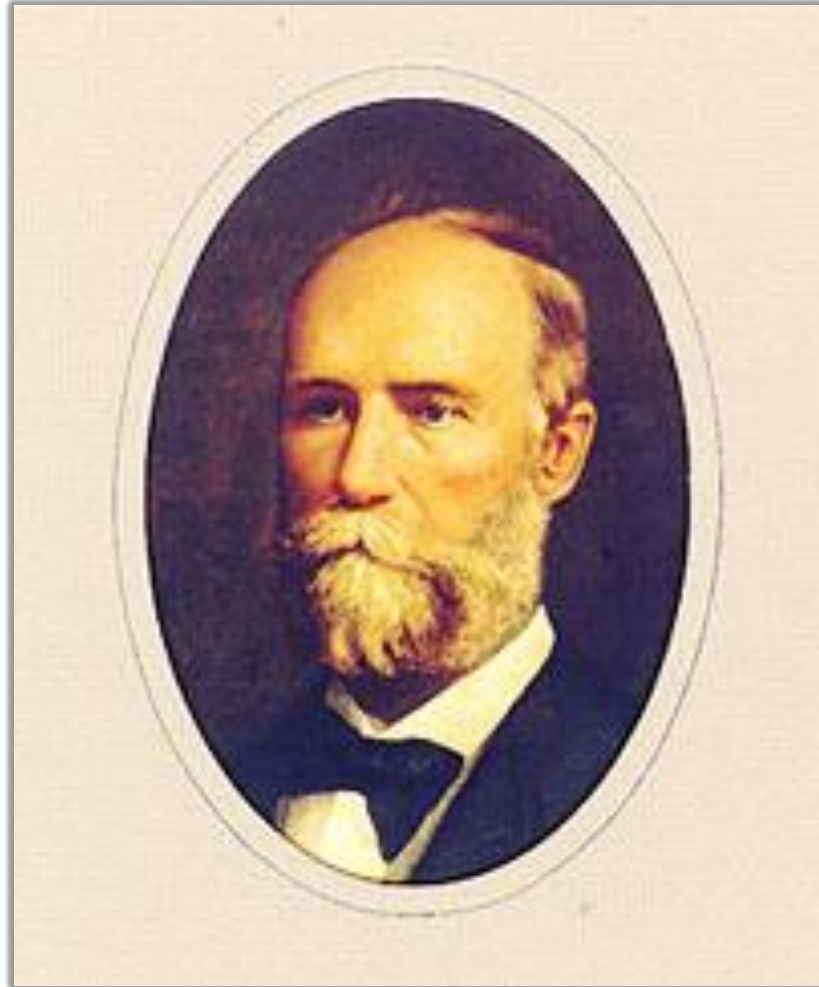


The PORTAL to
TEXAS HISTORY

Embark on a Voyage of Discovery

<http://texashistory.unt.edu>

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Reconstructing
Texas
1866-1874



Governor Edmund J. Davis 8 January 1870 - 15 January 1874

University of North Texas Libraries