

other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches as are related to agriculture and the mechanics in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several professions of life. Texans were then, with courageous, determined, earnest faces, looking to the north and if they saw the proceedings of congress upon that day this did but attract their attention, for they were looking for the pomp, preparation and circumstance of war, but it was important legislation, which when the march of armies had ceased and the march of years went on, was destined to be a monument to the sagacity of the Vermont senator, its author, and with the co-operation of the states a means of advancing the public weal and setting in motion influences that are measured only by the capacity of our people, and bounded only by the purple rim of the future. This act provided that no state in a condition of rebellion or insurrection should receive its benefits. This was intended to apply to Texas with her sister Southern States. By amendment however in 1866 she was permitted to accept under this legislation, and in the same year by act of her legislature formally accepted the donation. She thus received a small portion of the Federal Public Domain acquired by the Mexican war—a conflict in which Texas soldiery was found fighting upon every field. While the United States paid Mexico for this territory, yet it was by reason of the acquaintance and association of the United States with us that she was ever able to make such a trade or to even acquire it at all.

Under this acceptance Texas received 180,000 acres of land, at the time having four congressmen, which with two senators, entitled her to that amount. The land scrip was sold and the proceeds invested in interest bearing bonds. These bonds are known as "Frontier Defense" bonds and bear 7 per cent. interest. A portion of the accumulated interest accruing prior to the organization of the college was also made a portion of the permanent fund. By law the use of this fund is limited to payment of professors and officers of the institution. We thus have the origin of the Federal