

Legislative Session #38, 1873-1874

Session convened 6 January 1873

Roll call: "From the county of Davidson,—Philip Lindsley, J. B. Jeup, J. W. Ready,
S. W. Keeble"

It took three full days and 24 ballots to select William S. McGaughey, Greene County, as Speaker of the House. **Keeble** joined Lindsley and Ready in voting for McGaughey on the final ballot.

Keeble was appointed (13 January) to the following standing committees:

- Immigration
- Military Affairs
- Tippling and Tippling Houses

Inauguration of Governor-Elect John Calvin Brown (Whig/Democrat) 15 January

Philip Lindsley introduces House Bill No. 172, To establish and maintain a system of public schools (29 January)

Significant Keeble votes:

- Only representative voting against House Bill No. 42, To repeal an Act passed December 8, 1871, for the benefit of Agricultural societies.
- Keeble voted with the majority in favor of changing a number of county lines: Campbell/Scott; Union/Grainger; Blount/Loudon; Union/Knox; Coffee/Grundy; Anderson/Scott; Hancock/Hawkins; Robertson/ Cheatham, and others
- Keeble normally voted with the majority on bills

Bills introduced by Keeble

- 14 February: "**Mr. Keeble** introduced **House Bill No. 329**, To amend the city charter of Nashville. — Passed first reading and referred to the committee on Incorporations."
- 24 February: "**Mr. Keeble** withdrew **House Bill No. 329**, for amendment." No other action is recorded on this bill.
- 18 March: "**Mr. Keeble** introduced **House Bill No. 506**, To protect laborers, and to secure their wages. — Passed first reading." Did not receive a second reading; the legislature adjourned one week later.
- 18 March: "**Mr. Keeble** introduced **House Bill No. 507**, For the benefit of the Tennessee Manual Labor School. — Passed first reading." Did not receive a second reading; the legislature adjourned on 25 March.
- [21 March: "**House Bill 329**, To amend the charter of the DeSoto Bank of Memphis, was taken up on Senate amendment, — And the amendment was concurred in." It seems that **Keeble**'s number, 329, was re-assigned to a later bill.]

Other legislative activity involving Keeble

- 1 February: “**Mr. Keeble** presented a petition from citizens of Davidson county, in reference to the mode of electing Jailer in said county.”
- 6 February: “**Mr. Keeble** presented a petition from citizens of Davidson county in regard to amending the exemption laws. — Read and referred to the Judiciary Committee.”
- 11 February: “House Bill No. 214, To repeal section 1, chapter 71, of An Act entitled An Act to amend the exemption laws, passed Jan. 31, 1871. — **Mr. Keeble** moved to amend by providing that one-half of the laborer’s wages be exempt from attachment or garnishment.”
- 12 February: “House Bill No. 214, To repeal section 1, chapter 71, of An Act entitled An Act to amend the exemption laws, passed January 31, 1871. — Mr. Hughes moved to lay the bill and amendment on the table, which was lost. — The bill in lieu offered by Mr. Cummins was rejected. — The amendment was rejected. — **Mr. Keeble** moved to strike out all after the enacting clause, and insert, “That one-half of mechanics’ and laborers’ wages shall be exempt from garnishment, or attachment, or execution,” which was — Adopted. — On motion of Mr. Hughes, the bill was laid on the table.”
- 13 February: “The report of the State Librarian was received and read. — **Mr. Keeble** presented a petition from Samuel Lowry relative to the Colored Manuel [*sic*] Labor School, — Which was referred to the Committee on Finance, Ways and Means.
- 14 February: “Mr. Furguson moved that **Mr. Keeble** be added to the Committee on Charitable Institutions. — Carried.”
- 21 February: **Keeble**, along with 22 others, concurs with following protest by Rep. Leonidas Campbell Houk (R, Knox & Anderson counties): “Mr. Speaker: I should do violence to my conscience, and to my oath as a Representative, were I to sit here longer and listen to the disrespectful and nonsensical flings which have been embodied in a number of resolutions which have been presented this morning. I desire to enter my protest on the Journal of this House against the consumption of public time with such matter. There is much legislation needed, and but little time in which to effect it, without wasting the public time in the manner of the resolutions to which I have alluded.”
- 5 March, Afternoon Session: “**Mr. Keeble** was granted leave of absence on account of sickness.” He was out the remainder of the week, returning, Monday, 10 March. Keeble had very few absences from sessions, and some of them occurred during winter, on days when not enough people showed up to constitute a quorum, probably because of inclement weather.
- 13 March: “**Mr. Keeble** presented a petition from citizens of Nashville, in regard to the passage of house Bill No. 329, To change the city charter. — Referred to the Committee on Incorporations.”