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.”

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-pth-14387

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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

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

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 reorganization 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

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

Portrait of Governor 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](http://texashistory.unt.edu/permalink/meta-pth-2388)
How Wood (a Texan) viewed Congressional Reconstruction.

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

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
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

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.)
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
Comdg.

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

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


University of North Texas Libraries
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.
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.

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

The town—Yelling & shooting all manner of things
own dam to alarm loyal men & provide it
was feared at our 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 250 of the expedted
troops have reached Marshall—If so, you may ap
put 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
hitherto & the moment the troops are taken away
they Commence their dastardly again—They must
be visited to the true punishment—They must
be made to feel a violation of rights of the
author of the U.S. Without it, all will go
for nothing—Turning outlaws & assassins over
of the civil authorities amounts to their same
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 & Mrs Grish— I would
write them—but don't know what the Corre
tion will take next from they might learn before
a letter. Could reach them—but in either event
they can hear from us through you.
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

Read about the violence directed toward “loyal men and freedmen.” Note how the presence of federal troops suppressed violence.
Governor Edmund J. Davis 8 January 1870 - 15 January 1874

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