

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SENATE.

Thursday, Dec. 19.

On motion of Mr. Arrington, the vote taken yesterday on the engrossed resolution relating to members of the Legislature who die at the seat of Government, was reconsidered. The said resolution was then amended, read the third time and passed—ayes 32, noes 28—and sent to the other House for concurrence in the amendment.

Mr. Sitton, presented a bill regulating the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court. Mr. Meares, a bill to prevent injury to the navigation of Cape Fear, and for other purposes.

The following engrossed bills passed their second and third reading, and were ordered to be enrolled: The bill to establish and incorporate Arcadia Academy; and the bill to incorporate Rocky River Academy.

The engrossed bill concerning coroners' fees, was postponed indefinitely on its second reading.

Friday, Dec. 20.

On motion of Mr. Sherard, the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the laws concerning free people of color, as to prohibit them from selling spirituous liquors in a less quantity than one gallon, unless it is the production of their own orchards.

The engrossed bill declaratory of the law in relation to the rights and duties of sheriffs and inspectors in holding elections, was referred to the judiciary committee.

The bill to give further time for paying in entry money, was amended, read the second and third times and passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill regulating the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court, was indefinitely postponed on its second reading by a vote of 38 to 23.

The following resolution was submitted by Mr. Brittain, of Burke, and laid on the table:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Commons of this State, that the Governor of the State be recommended to release and discharge from his present imprisonment, the Hon. Robert Potter, who is now confined in the jail of Orange county; and that he exercise such other acts of executive clemency as he may deem proper and meet.

Saturday, Dec. 21.

Jesse Cooper, Esq., the Senator elect from the county of Martin, to supply the vacancies occasioned by the death of David Latham, appeared, produced his credentials, was qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. Skinner, of Chowan, from the committee on the Judiciary, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the collection or securing of payment of debts in cases where the debtor is about to remove or abscond from the State, before his debt or debts become due, reported that it is inexpedient to legislate upon the subject. Concurred in.

Mr. Skinner, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill for the relief of securities in certain cases, reported that it is inexpedient to pass said bill. The bill and report were laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Edwards,

Resolved, That the public Treasurer be directed to report to the Senate the whole amount of stock held by the State in incorporated companies, specifying the amount in each company, with the market value of the same as nearly as it can be ascertained, also the several sums or debts due the State, and whether the collection of the same, or any part thereof, be in his opinion doubtful.

Mr. Hogan presented a bill to establish a Bank in the State of North Carolina. Which bill passed its first reading, and was committed to a committee of the whole House, and made the order of the day for Monday.

The Senate took up the resolution recommending the Governor to discharge from confinement Robert Potter; when Mr. Brittain, of Burke moved that the memorials and accompanying papers be also read; which was not agreed to—ayes 26, noes 32. Mr. Caldwell then moved that the further consideration of the resolution be indefinitely postponed. Mr. Montgomery moved that it be laid upon the table; which motion having precedence, the question thereon was first put, and decided in the negative—ayes 7, noes 51. The question then recurring on the indefinite postponement of the resolution, it was decided in the affirmative—ayes 47, noes 11.

The resolution requesting the Governor to adopt such measures as, in his opinion, may be necessary to effect a settlement of the claim of this State against the United States, passed its third reading, and was ordered to be engrossed.

Monday, Dec. 12.

Mr. Edwards presented a bill supplementary to the act of 1832, entitled "an act to enact, with sundry alterations and additions, an act entitled 'an act to incorporate the Portsmouth and Roanoke Rail Road Company, passed by the Legislature of Virginia on the 8th day of May, 1832.'" Mr. Matthews, a bill to incorporate the Halifax and Weldon Rail Road Company; and Mr. Klatts, a bill to prevent betting on elections; which passed their first reading.

Mr. Beard presented a bill to provide for ascertaining the sense of the people of North Carolina relative to amending the Constitution of the State; which was read the first time and passed—ayes 33, noes 29.

Ayes—Messrs. Arrington, Beard, Brittain of Burke, Brittain of Macon, Burns, Caldwell, Clayton, Dolson, Edwards, Elliott, Foy, Hinton, Hogan, Baker, Hossey, James, Kendall, Kerr, Klatts, M. Cornick, Martin of Richmond, Martin of Rocking-

ham, Meares, Mendenhall, Montgomery, Moore, Morris, Morrison, Phillips, Shuford, Sitton, Spaight, Steedman.

Noes—Messrs. Collins, Cooper, Faison, Flowers, Gavin, Hall, Harrison, Howell, Lindsey, Mann, Matthews, Mebane, Melvin, Moyer of Greene, Moyer of Pitt, Nash, Norman, Pugh, Sherard, Simmons, Skinner of Perquimons, Skinner of Chowan, Skinner of Pasquotank, Smead, Stone, Vanhook, Vann, Walton, Wilder.

The said bill was ordered to be committed to a committee of the Whole House, and made the order of the day for Saturday.

The Senate resolved itself into a committee of the Whole House, Mr. Spaight in the Chair, on the bill to establish a Bank in the State of North Carolina; and, after some time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and the committee reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

Tuesday, Dec. 24.

Mr. Shuford presented a bill concerning the new road from Lincolnton to Rutherfordton; which passed its first reading.

The bill supplemental to the act of 1832, entitled "an act to enact, with sundry alterations and additions, an act, entitled 'an act to incorporate the Portsmouth and Roanoke Rail Road Company,' passed by the Legislature of Virginia on the 8th day of May, 1832;" and the bill to incorporate the Halifax and Weldon Rail Road Company, were amended, read the second and third times and passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Senate entered upon the orders of the day, and resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, Mr. Spaight in the Chair, to take into consideration the bill to establish a Bank in the State of North Carolina; and, after some time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman of the committee of the whole reported the bill with sundry amendments; when the further consideration of the bill and amendments were postponed until Thursday.

The bill to prevent betting on elections, was postponed indefinitely on its second reading.

Mr. Hinton, from the committee on Internal Improvements, reported "a bill concerning the Board of Internal Improvements." [The bill repeals the proviso of the 4th section of the act of 1831, amending the act creating the Board of Internal Improvement; allows the Superintendent of Public works, in addition to his salary his traveling expenses; authorizes the Board to employ a competent board of Engineers for the purpose of surveying the routes for rail roads and canals designated by the memorial of the Internal Improvement Convention; and provides for the appointment of another member of the Board of Internal Improvement.] The report was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Spaight submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas Wednesday next, the morrow, being the 25th day of December, the anniversary of the nativity of our Saviour, a day respected by all Christians: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate, when it adjourns, shall adjourn over to Thursday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Dec. 12.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, the committee on the Judiciary were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law relative to emancipation, as to make it lawful for executors to send away, according to the will of the deceased, any negroes that may be liberated by said will, provided that it shall not interfere with the lawful and just claims of persons against the estate of said deceased.

Mr. Jordan, from the select committee to which was referred the bill to recharter the Bank of Cape Fear, reported the same with sundry amendments, which, together with the bill and report, were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. J. Horton, the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the law in relation to laying off roads within the several counties, as that only five jurors shall in future be required to perform that service, instead of twelve, as is now required by law.

Mr. Barringer, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported the bill supplemental to the act of 1809, directing how persons injured by the erection of public mills shall in future proceed to recover damages, with an amendment. The amendment was concurred in, and the bill passed its second reading.

Mr. Seawell, from the committee on Internal Improvements, to which was referred the bill to incorporate the Waccamaw and Cape Fear Canal Company, reported favorably thereon. The bill and report were laid on the table.

Mr. Edmonston, from the select committee to which was referred the bill creating seven Judicial Circuits in the State, reported the same with an amendment. The amendment was ordered to be printed, and made the order of the day for Monday next.

The House took up the bill to establish the Bank of North Carolina; when Mr. Graham moved that the bill be postponed indefinitely. On this motion a discussion arose, which continued until the House adjourned.

Saturday, Dec. 21.

The following bills and resolution passed their third reading, and were ordered to be engrossed; The bill to incorporate the Greenville and Roanoke Rail Road Com-

pany; the bill directing the manner in which constables shall be appointed in this State; and the resolution relating to the State suits in the Supreme Court of the United States.

The House proceeded to the orders of the day, and took up the unfinished business of yesterday, being the bill to establish the Bank of North Carolina. The question on the indefinite postponement of the bill still pending, the discussion was resumed, and continued until the House adjourned.

Monday, Dec. 23.

Mr. Martin presented the following resolutions, which were read and rejected:

Resolved, That the committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law in relation to poll taxes on slaves, as to make it in proportion to their value, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Resolved, That the committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of taxing pleasure carriages in this State; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

The following bills and resolution were presented and read the first time: By Mr. Settle, a bill defining and limiting the power of courts in inflicting punishments for contempt—Referred. By Mr. Daniel, a bill to incorporate the Roanoke and Raleigh Rail Road Company. By Mr. Jordan, a bill to prevent the murdering and destroying of bastard children.

Mr. Poindexter presented the following resolution, which was adopted.

Whereas doubts are entertained whether, by the 2d section of an act, passed in the year 1829, entitled "an act to prevent frauds in deeds of trust and mortgages," deputy clerks of the County Courts are competent to take the probate of said instruments in the recess of said court: Be it therefore

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the subject, and to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Weaver presented a bill supplemental to the act of this session, erecting the county of Yancey; which was read three times, passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Locke presented the following resolution:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Commons of this State, that the Governor of the State be recommended to release and discharge from his present imprisonment the Hon. Robert Potter, who is now confined in the jail of Orange county; and that he exercise such other acts of executive clemency as he may deem proper and meet.

Mr. Outlaw moved that the petition of certain citizens of Orange county, accompanying this resolution, be read. The question thereon was decided in the negative. The resolution was then, on motion of Mr. King, postponed indefinitely—ayes 94, noes 31.

Mr. Barringer, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported that it is inexpedient to change the law regulating the relations of master and apprentice. Concurred in.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to establish the Bank of North Carolina; and the question being on the motion of Mr. Graham to postpone the bill indefinitely, it was decided in the affirmative—ayes 74, noes 54.

Tuesday, Dec. 24.

Mr. Waugh presented a memorial from sundry citizens of Surry county, praying a recharter of the Bank of Cape Fear; which was laid on the table.

Mr. Burgin presented a bill to enforce the penalty, incurred by entry takers failing to make annual returns of entries made in their respective offices, as required by law; Mr. R. H. Alexander, a bill to incorporate the Washington Gold Mining Company, in Mecklenburg county; which passed their first reading.

Mr. Barringer, from the committee on the Judiciary, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the probate of all deeds and conveyances before the clerks of the County Courts in vacation, reported that it is inexpedient to legislate in the way proposed. The report was laid on the table.

The House proceeded to the orders of the day, and took up the bill to establish the Merchants' Bank in Newbern, and the Merchants' and Planters' Bank in Edenton; when the bill being read the second time, Mr. Smallwood moved to amend it by adding sundry sections, going to establish the Merchants' and Farmers' Bank of Washington. Mr. Ziglar moved that the bill and amendment be indefinitely postponed; which was not agreed to—ayes 39, noes 51. The question then recurring on the proposed amendment, it was rejected. Mr. Kittrell moved to strike out such parts of the bill as establishes the Merchants' and Planters' Bank at Edenton; which motion was also rejected.

Mr. Outlaw moved that the House do now adjourn until Thursday morning; which motion was negatived by a vote of 62 to 58. Motions were now made to adjourn until to-morrow morning and to-morrow evening; which were also negatived. Mr. Outlaw then renewed his motion to adjourn until Thursday morning; which prevailed, and the House adjourned accordingly.

Chance has led to the discovery of a method of preserving potatoes, which is both simple and attended with little or no expense. A housekeeper had placed in his cellar a quantity of charcoal. Having removed in autumn without sweeping the dust which covered the ground, he caused a large quantity of potatoes to be laid on it. Towards the spring, those roots were preserved and had thrown out no shoots, and were as fresh and well flavored as ever.

North Carolina—Gov. Swain's Message

—Rip Van Winkle.—We do not know when we have perused a document which has given us more unfeigned pleasure than this; distinguished alike for its sound sense, its mild tone and ingenuousness, and the purity and perspicuity of its style—without being any where disfigured by verbose declamation and bitter invective upon themes that only become the more embarrassing and difficult of adjustment, in proportion, to the violent passions and angry feelings enlisted in their discussion. The spirit of frankness with which Gov. Swain impugns the torpid inaction of the Legislative deliberations of the State for the last half century, induces us to imagine he is disposed to countenance the pleasant sarcasm with which North Carolina has been alluded to as the Rip Van Winkle State, that has not yet awoken—if we are to believe the averments of the hotspurs that live in her neighborhood—from the apoplectic slumber into which she sunk soon after the revolution; like some great giant indulging in the long repose which the over-exhausted excitement of that struggle, that she so gloriously participated in, must have rendered necessary for the restoration of her powers. For during all that long period from which, indeed if the bold enterprises recommended by the Governor may be taken as a criterion, she has now begun to show some symptoms of resuscitation, the cost of the legislative proceedings has constantly exceeded the public disbursements made for every other object!

While provisions for public school system of education, and for canals and rail roads improvements, for which the geographical peculiarities of the State render her so eminently adapted, have been totally neglected, and remained a perfect *caput mortuum*. So much the more censurable and unaccountable has been this negligence, from the fact that she is beyond all question one of the richest States of the Union, owning, independent of other property, one million of acres out of the two millions and a half of Swamp lands on her Atlantic territory, and which, if cleared up and drained, and intersected by canals, and rail roads to her numerous sea ports, would not only give an immense impulse to commerce and enrich to an incalculable extent her now exhausted coffers, but, what is of more importance, divert that invaluable and extensive tract of the fatal malaria, which now renders it comparatively uninhabitable. It appears that during her long hibernation she has, like Rip Van Winkle, also grown poor and ragged, from permitting her native energies and strength to lie for so protracted a period dormant and unemployed; and among other things of which she has been from the same cause purloined during her nap has been the very *Statute Book & Bible* of her Constitution; the only enactments that remain, having, like Rip's memory, reference to what transpired when she was under the government of St. George and the dragon. Ous, among others, says Gov. Swain, "providing for the punishment of counterfeiting our revolutionary bills of credit." Really this is laughable.

N. Y. Evening Star.

We are highly gratified to observe in an evening paper, that the Life of Gen. HAMILTON, by his third son, John C. Hamilton, Esq. is now in press, and will shortly be published, by Messrs. Halstead & Vorhies, of this city. No part of the history of our institutions can be more interesting than that most intimately connected with the life of this illustrious citizen. His early and extensive acquaintance with those of his contemporaries, who labored in the establishment of our system of government, must have enabled his biographer to make known to us many interesting anecdotes that have never yet been given to the public; while his masterly organization of the fiscal department, and his great Report of 1792, we think, give an earnest that on that subject we may have in this work a further light from his luminous mind.

N. Y. Mercantile Advertiser.

A Relic of Olden Time.—The German-town Academy Bell has just been taken down to be recast, by the Bell Company in Kensington—it having been fairly worn out in the service of the town, by being hammered thin at the striking point, and thereby cracked, and no longer able to perform its wonted functions.

This Bell came out first to "the Colony," in the celebrated "Tea Ship," which was not permitted to land her cargo at Boston. The Bell therefore went back to "Old England," and rested itself under the protection of His Majesty, until the Proclamation of the Peace of 1783, when it was again embarked for the "Free State of Pennsylvania," and in due time was installed into its office in the cupola of our Town Academy.—*German-town Telegraph.*

The NAVY REPORT, shows the whole number of officers of our navy, under warrants and commissions, is about 1000, maintained at an expense of \$850,000. The seamen are about 5,000; expense, \$1,130,000. Expense of the Marine Corps, exclusive of barracks, &c. \$190,000. Expenses on all the Navy Yards last year, exclusive of dry docks, \$350,000; on the docks (at Charlestown and Norfolk) \$180,000.—The live-oak lands belonging to government are said to be increasing in value.

From the National Intelligencer, 18th ult.

THE FINANCES.

The Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury was yesterday sent to the two Houses of Congress.

The Receipts into the Treasury during the three first quarters of this year are estimated at \$24,355,317; the Receipts for the 4th quarter are estimated at \$7,675,000; making the total Revenue for the year 1830, \$32,030,317.

The Expenditures of the first three quarters of the present year are estimated at \$18,249,388. The Expenditures for the 4th quarter, including \$2,301,716 on account of the Public Debt, are estimated at \$6,400,916; making a total expenditure within the year of \$24,658,304.

The estimated balance which will be in the Treasury on the 1st day of January next (including \$1,400,000, unavailable funds, heretofore reported, and also including more than five millions of dollars of unexpended appropriations) is estimated at \$9,382,010.

The estimate for 1831 is, that after the entire extinction of the Public Debt, during the year, there will be in the Treasury, on the 1st day of July, 1831, a balance of \$2,981,796. [Including, of course, though the Report does not say so, the old sum of \$1,400,000 of unavailable funds, produced by the derangement of the currency anterior to the establishment of the Bank of the United States.]

From the state of the revenue, the Secretary says, "it is evident that a reduction of the revenue cannot, at this time, be made, without injury to the service." The Secretary also says, that, under such circumstances, "there seems to be no sufficient reason to open, at this time, the vexed question of the Tariff." The only recommendations in the Report, refer to the necessity of a regard to economy by Congress in the appropriations of money; the unclaimed dividends on the United States Stock; and the necessity of new Buildings for the Treasury, on different plans and sites from the old ones.

A Curiosity.—In the Cabinet of the Western Reserve College, is an old wrought-iron horseman's spur, said to have been found by lead-miners on the banks of the Miami, 15 feet below the surface. It is 10 inches long—the stem from the bow to the end of the burr, 5 inches—the burr 4 inches in diameter—the whole weight 10 pounds. The workmanship shows a high state of the arts. It has been shrewdly suggested that this is the spur, which the Indians used, who as tradition says, rode the last of the mammoth's across the big topicks and was never heard of afterwards.

James M.—The ship which bore the half of a name, has gone to the bottom of the ocean, and the often repeated inquiry "what does it mean," will soon be heard no more. But least anxiety upon that point should be distressing just now, we give what we understand to be the answer. Part of the owners were calling the ship James Moore, and part calling her James Madison. The passenger was ready to put on the name before another was settled, and was directed to proceed as far as they were agreed, which was James M. The important question had not been settled when it became necessary to take out papers at the Custom House, and afterwards it was more difficult than before. So it has remained to this day, and so will ever remain upon the docket of dispute but undetermined points.

[N. Y. Journal Commerce.]

Escape from an Awful Death.—Two workmen employed last week in hanging the doors of a new tomb at Mount Auburn near Boston, having built a fire inside to melt lead, the door closed upon them, and they came very near being the first tenants of the house of death. One of them, however, succeeded in making a hole through the charnel house, and made noise enough to bring to their assistance some other workmen upon the ground, when they were extricated, though one of them remained insensible for two hours.

The death of Major Jack Downing is announced in the New-York Courier. We hope there is a mistake in this. Jack Downing dead! Impossible! If so in reality, "we could have spared a better man."

Alex. Gazette.

American Literature.—There have been published, of Grimshaw's History of the United States, sixty-five thousand copies; of his History of England, forty-two thousand; of the History of France and Life of Napoleon, by the same author, each six thousand; and of the History of South America, five thousand.

From the Philadelphia U. S. Gaz. Dec. 20.

We understand that there was yesterday a meeting of the Presidents of most of the Banks. We have not heard the results of their deliberations—they will be anxiously looked for by the community.

After the above was in type, we learned that it was agreed to present to their respective Boards of Directors a memorial to Congress, asking that the deposits be restored to the United States Bank.