

THE LEGISLATURE has now been in session nearly one-half of its allotted time, but a good deal of this period has necessarily been spent in getting ready for its work. As heretofore stated, the most important work of every Legislature is done by the committees, and thus far the committees have been very busy considering the bills referred to them, and the report of their labors is now being given. During the latter half of the session, the Legislature will seem to do, and really will do a great deal more business than during the first half of the session. The committees will then not have so much to do. One great trouble with every Legislature is the unseemly haste near the close of the session, when bills are rushed through with lightning like rapidity. Many a bill is slipped through near the close of a session that would certainly not have passed if it any attention had been paid to it. We hope that this Legislature may prove to be an exception to the general rule, and keep up with its work so that there may be no rush and unseemly haste near the close, and no bills be rushed through that ought not to be passed.

The Senate has passed a bill to prohibit the taking of more than six per cent. interest, to take effect ninety days after Congress shall have repealed the ten per cent. tax on State bonds. There was quite an animated discussion on this bill, and the vote on its passage was 24 ayes and 20 nays. It is a question what the House will do.

On last Thursday we saw a very interesting scene in the Senate on the irrepressible conflict question. Of course, the subject is a very old one, but the Legislature can hardly be expected to tax dogs, and the Legislature, equipped with the knowledge of farmers, ranchmen, etc. These farmers think more of sheep than they do of sheep, and they complain if their taxes are raised. But it really does seem strange that any civilized people who personify emptying dogs from taxation. It is astonishing that our lawmakers will tax sheep, but not sheepmen, and will not tax dogs.

The O'Connell law passed by the last Legislature seems to be the last body with this Legislature. This law forbids the holding of a session between the 1st day of February and the first day of October, and now this Legislature has repealed the law as to most of those who are Chatham is one of the few counties to which this law has been applied. Representatives from the other counties have insisted on the law being repealed as to their counties, but Chatham's representatives seem determined to protect their prerogatives.

We are pleased to note that the House has passed a bill to prevent and punish the opening of a trunk or baggage. Well, that is a bill that also passes to prevent a trunk from being opened after all baggage has been unpacked and the trunk is to be returned to its owner.

The House has also passed another most proper bill, being a resolution of the act passed by the last Legislature, which compels an executor or administrator to plead the weight of limitations to any debt, however honest and just it may be.

JAMES G. BLAINE died at his residence in Washington City, on last Friday, aged 63 years. His death had been expected for several weeks. The cause of his death was Bright's disease of the kidney. Mr. Blaine was a remarkable man, and probably had a larger personal following than any American statesman since the death of Henry Clay. He occupied the highest offices in the country, and yet died a saddened and disappointed man. He was a member of Congress nearly twenty years, serving in both branches, was Speaker of the House six years, was Secretary of State under two Presidents, was the nominee of his party for President, and indeed was the life of his party, and yet notwithstanding all this he did not attain the height of his ambition and left a disappointed politician. What a forcible lesson is taught by his remarkable career!

In addition to his political disappointments, his later years were saddened by the death of his three oldest children, two sons and a daughter. The people of the South will ever feel kindly toward Mr. Blaine, because when Speaker of the House, in opposition to his party, he defeated the Force bill which then came so near being passed. The new year seems to be fatal to distinguished men. Altrudy Blaine, Hayes, Lamar, Philip Brooks and Ben Butler are dead.

A BILL is pending in our State Legislature to amend the North Carolina Mineral Association, and to make a small appropriation for the erection of a monument which the association proposes to erect at Raleigh in memory of our Confederate dead. At present, the bill is in the hands of the committee on mineral resources, and North Carolina cannot build too easily a monument to the memory of those heroes who gave their all for their country. In the event of the bill's passing, the State will be proud to possess a monument to the memory of those who gave their all for their country. The bill is in the hands of the committee on mineral resources, and North Carolina cannot build too easily a monument to the memory of those heroes who gave their all for their country. In the event of the bill's passing, the State will be proud to possess a monument to the memory of those who gave their all for their country.

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Blaine's Funeral. A funeral was held for James G. Blaine in Washington City. The bill is in the hands of the committee on mineral resources, and North Carolina cannot build too easily a monument to the memory of those heroes who gave their all for their country. In the event of the bill's passing, the State will be proud to possess a monument to the memory of those who gave their all for their country.

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