

## General Assembly.

[Abstract of such of the proceedings as are considered interesting to our readers.]

### SENATE.

Wednesday, Dec. 17.

On motion of Mr. Montgomery, of Orange, the committee on Internal Improvement were instructed to inquire into the expediency of granting a charter for a rail road from the sea board to the seat of Government, and thence to the Yadkin river to the most eligible point above Beard's Bridge; and of providing that the Public Treasurer shall (as soon as three-fifths of the stock necessary to construct it shall be subscribed, and the payment thereof secured, by individuals) subscribe for the remaining two-fifths on behalf of the State.

The Senate then entered upon the orders of the day, and resumed the unfinished business of yesterday, the question being on the adoption of the amendment, proposed by Mr. Martin, to the resolutions instructing Mr. Mangum. After some time spent in discussion, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow.

Thursday, Dec. 18.

The Senate resumed the unfinished business of yesterday, being the consideration of the resolutions instructing Mr. Mangum; and, after considerable debate, the Senate adjourned without taking a vote on the subject.

Friday, Dec. 19.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday, being the political resolutions from the other House, the question still pending on the motion of Mr. Martin, to strike out the original resolutions and insert his substitute. Mr. Sawyer submitted a resolution that the whole subject be laid on table, on the ground that it is entirely extra-legislative and beyond the legitimate action of the Senate. This resolution was rejected, 55 to 27. Mr. Branch then resumed his remarks and spoke for about two hours. Mr. Carson then took the floor, after offering the privilege of replying to the friends of the resolution, and spoke until an adjournment took place, without terminating what he had to say.

Saturday, Dec. 20.

Mr. McQueen, presented a bill to provide a fund for the establishment of free schools in the State of North Carolina.

Monday, Dec. 22.

The Senate entered upon the orders of the day, and resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of Saturday, being the resolutions instructing Mr. Mangum. Much time was spent in discussion, and the Senate adjourned without arriving at a decision on the subject.

Tuesday, Dec. 23.

Mr. Hawkins, from the committee on Public Buildings, reported a bill to make an appropriation for completing the Capitol in the city of Raleigh; which was read the first time, passed, and made the order of the day for Monday next.

The Senate entered upon the orders of the day, and resumed the consideration of the resolutions instructing Mr. Mangum. The debate continued until a late hour, when the Senate adjourned without disposing of the subject.

Tuesday, Dec. 23.

Mr. Kerr, from the committee on Military affairs, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the present militia system, &c. reported that it is not expedient to legislate on the subject. Concurred in.

Mr. Hawkins, from the committee on Public Buildings, reported a bill to make an appropriation for completing the Capitol in the City of Raleigh; which was read the first time.

Mr. Lockart, presented a bill to amend the act of 1741, for the better observation of the Lord's day, and for the more effectual suppression of vice and immorality.

Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Mr. Wyche, presented a bill to suspend for a time the operations of the act prohibiting the circulation of due-bills and notes under £5.

The Senate entered upon the orders of the day, being the Resolution to instruct Mr. Mangum. Mr. Caldwell submitted a resolution which was negatived 32 to 27. Discussion then ensued, and the Senate remained in session until 2 o'clock in the morning, during which time every expedient was resorted to by the friends of the original Resolutions to take the question and by those opposed to them, to prevent its being taken. Thirteen distinct propositions for adjournment were submitted during the sitting, besides a variety of others, to postpone the orders of the day, to take a recess, &c. on nearly all of which questions, the vote was a *test* one. Finally, on motion of Mr. Holmes, the Senate adjourned—Ayes 29, Noes 24.

Thursday, Dec. 25.

Neither House sat to-day, being Christmas day.

Friday, Dec. 26.

Mr. Hogan submitted a Resolution, which was read the first time, stating that if the right to instruct Senators in Congress exists in our form of Government, it belongs to the people in their sovereign capacity. They have a right to meet in their primary assemblies, to consider of great questions of national policy, to modify any instructions this Legislature may give to Senators in Congress, or to give new and different instructions, any thing this Legislature can do to the contrary, notwithstanding.

The Senate entered upon the orders of the day, and again took up the Political Resolutions, Mr. Martin's motion still pending. Mr. Wilson, of Perquimans, took the floor and spoke until about 4 o'clock. He was followed by Mr. Edwards, of Warren, in some explanatory remarks, and the question was then put on striking out, as proposed by Mr. Martin, and decided in the negative, 34 to 26. The Senate then adjourned.

Saturday, Dec. 27.

The Senate again took up the Resolutions of instruction to Mr. Mangum, the question pending being on their second reading. Mr. Wyche moved to strike out an amendment. Mr. Hogan called for a decision of the question. It was accordingly first taken on striking out, and decided in the negative—33 to 28. Mr. McQueen submitted a Resolution, as an amendment, which, on his motion, was ordered to lie on the table. The question then recurring on the adoption of the first Resolution, it was decided in the affirmative—41 to 19.

On the question, shall the remaining Resolutions be adopted, the vote stood—ayes 33, noes 28. [Mr. Flowers in the affirmative.]

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Wednesday, Dec. 17.

Mr. Barringer, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported the engrossed bill to authorize and empower the County Courts to allow compensation to commissioners who shall attend with a processioner to establish disputed lines, with an amendment; when the said bill was read the second time and passed.

Mr. Battle, from the same committee, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the several County Courts to appoint special justices, reported a bill on the subject, which passed its first reading.

The bill to reduce the salaries of the Supreme Court Judges, was postponed indefinitely—ayes 65, noes 58.

The House now took up, in committee of the Whole, the bill to establish the Merchants' Bank of Newbern. After considerable discussion thereon, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and the bill was reported to the House with several amendments, which were concurred in; and the question being put on the second reading of the bill, it was decided in the negative—ayes 51, noes 59.

Thursday, Dec. 18.

Mr. Monk, who voted yesterday in the majority on the question of rejecting the Merchants' Bank of Newbern, moved for a reconsideration of said vote; which was agreed to. The bill was then read the second time and passed—ayes 62, noes 52.

Friday, Dec. 19.

Mr. Dudley, from the committee on Finance, to whom the subject was referred, reported a bill to provide for the payment of the instalments on the shares reserved to the State in the capital stock of the Bank of the State of North Carolina; which was read the first time, and ordered to be printed.

Saturday, Dec. 20.

The report of the committee of Privileges and Elections, in the case of the contested election from the town of Fayetteville, was recommended to the same committee, on the motion of Mr. Haywood.

Mr. Matthews presented a resolution proposing an adjournment of the two Houses, *sine die*, on the 27th inst. Mr. Haywood moved that said resolution lie on the table, which was negatived 55 to 41. Discussion then ensued, which resulted in the resolution being laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Matthews, it was resolved, that the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the laws of this State, as to substitute some other punishment in lieu of whipping white persons; and that said committee also inquire into the expediency of establishing a Penitentiary in this State.

Monday, Dec. 22.

On motion of Mr. Waugh, the committee on Internal Improvements were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the road laws, as to compel the County Courts to assign, in proper proportions, the hands who are required to perform duty in their respective counties, so as not to require the same hands to work more than one public road.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the Whole, Mr. Long in the Chair, on the bill concerning a Convention to amend the Constitution of the State; and, after some time spent therein, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Tuesday, Dec. 23.

On motion of Mr. Guinn, the committee on Finance were instructed to inquire into the expediency of letting the occupants of the Cherokee lands purchase it at the State price without a public sale; and also of appointing an agent at the sale of said land, whose duty it shall be to receive the bonds given by the purchasers from the commissioner, and retain them in that county for payment.

Mr. Monk presented a resolution directing the Secretary of State to purchase certain copies of Mr. M' Rae's Map of the State; which was read the first time and passed.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the Whole, Mr. Long in the Chair, on the bill concerning a Convention to amend the Constitution of the State; and, after some time spent therein, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Wednesday, Dec. 24.

On motion of Mr. Lyon, it was resolved, that the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to examine the law relative to the duty of Grand Jurors, and see whether or not it would not be expedient to change the law so as not to make it their duty to return persons for small assaults, where there was no injury done on either side; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

The bill to provide for the payment of the instalments on the shares reserved to the State in the capital stock of the Bank of the State of North Carolina, chartered by the act of 1833, was read the second time; when Mr. Potter moved to strike out the first section of the bill; which motion was negatived by a vote of 70 to 54.

The House again resolved itself into a committee of the Whole, Mr. Long in the Chair, on the bill concerning a Convention to amend the Constitution of the State; and, after some time spent in discussion, the Chairman reported the bill to the House, with sundry amendments; when, on motion of Mr. Craig, it was ordered to lie on the table, be printed, and be made the order of the day for Friday.

Friday, Dec. 26.

On motion of Mr. King, it was resolved, that the Committee on Education be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation from the Literary Fund, for the purpose of draining a part of the Marsh or Swamp lands now appropriated by law to the Literary Fund—also, that said Committee be instructed to report a bill directing the manner in which said lands shall be disposed of when drained, and the purpose to which the proceeds shall be applied.

Saturday, Dec. 27.

Mr. Matthews moved that the Resolutions heretofore offered by him, proposing that the two Houses adjourn *sine die*, on to-morrow, be now considered, which was refused by a vote of 59 to 49.

Mr. Kittrell, from the select Committee to whom was referred the bill concerning a Constitution of the State of North Carolina, reported an entire substitute for the said bill, which was accepted by the House. Mr. Outlaw then moved to strike out of said bill the clause providing for the election of Governor of the State by the free white men thereof; which was rejected by a vote of 94 to 35. Mr. Matthews moved to strike out the clause to continue Borough representation; which was decided in the negative by a vote of 68 to 60. Mr. Baker moved an amendment, authorizing the Convention to change the seat of Government; which was rejected by a vote of 108 to 19. Mr. Smallwood submitted an amendment providing that the election of the Judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts be vested in the people; which was rejected by a vote of 103 to 22. Mr. Taylor submitted an amendment, providing that no lawyer, pleading under license, shall be a member of either branch of the Legislature; which was rejected by a vote of 111 to 20. The question was then taken on the passage of the bill the second time, and decided in the affirmative—66 to 64.

### FOREIGN.

Late from France—Important.

We are indebted to Captain Pell, of the packet ship Normandie, for a Galignani's Messenger of Saturday evening, Nov. 15th—the only Paris paper of that date which was on board. It contains news of the breaking up of the new Ministry, after a very brief existence; but precisely from what causes we are unable to ascertain. The event appears to have been connected with the determination of the King to cause the bill providing for the fulfilment of the treaty with this country to be presented to the new Chambers in the same form in which it was rejected at the last session. Our Havre papers are also to the evening of the 15th.

Paris, Nov. 15.—The Monitor of this morning is still silent upon the dissolution of the Cabinet. The Journal des Debats says: "The Minister of the Interior, President of the Council, the Minister of War, who has also performed the duties, ad interim, of Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Ministers of the Marine, of the Finances, and of Commerce, yesterday, tendered their resignations to the King, which his Majesty accepted."

The Constitutional mentions only four Ministers as having resigned, the Duke de Bassano, and Messrs. Teste, Passy, and Charles Dupin. It adds: "On Thursday evening, after M. Dupin's dinner, the Ministry still existed and assembled in Council. There the first important question submitted to the new Cabinet, the bill for 25 millions claimed by the United States, was discussed. It appears that the Doctrinaire coterie, although expelled from the Cabinet, was still powerful enough to give ascendancy to its opinions, since the bill for 25 millions, precisely as it had been rejected by the Chamber, was recommended."

This was enough to enable the new Ministry to foresee what was in store for the future. Moreover, many circumstances contributed to show that obstacles of every kind would be raised. The cold

reception, and the bustling intrigues of the palace, diplomatic susceptibilities artfully excited the hostile attitude of the Doctrinaire press.

The pitiful conspiracy on Change, for the purpose of crushing the Cabinet by a fall of 20 centimes, perhaps, also the presence in the Council of a member of the former ministry, all has concurred to excite that distrust, that uncertainty of the future which was again increased by the want of homogeneity among the new members. One of the ministers, whom the opposition hailed as a graduate M. Passy, we say, appeared too much absorbed by these obstacles. Upon these, however, he ought to have reckoned in accepting his appointment.

The anathema hurled against the ministry by one of the gravest organs of the opposition, (the Courier Francais,) seemed to have produced an unfavorable impression on the mind of a man who nevertheless had been accustomed to sacrifice to his convictions the transitory sweets of popularity, which can be only rendered durable by knowing how to lose it, in case of need in order to recover it anew. Be this as it may, M. Passy thought he saw, and we are on this occasion of his opinion, a contradiction between the principles which he maintained, and the course into which he was to be led by this disastrous bill. He firmly stated that he could not consistently present, as a minister, a bill which he had opposed as a deputy. He insisted, with the most honorable eagerness, that it would be flying in the face of the Chamber to reproduce, without a single modification, a law rejected by the most significant majority. Messrs. Teste and Charles Dupin seem to have supported M. Passy in this struggle, wherein the word 'resignation,' which is the veto of every honest minister, was several times pronounced. The Council was broken up, and Messrs. Teste and Passy having previously concentrated together, sent in their resignations at midnight.

M. Charles Dupin, on hearing the fact very early on the following morning, sent in his own, which was followed by that of the Duke de Bassano. Messrs. Mole & Thiers are commissioned to re-compose this Cabinet, twice found to be impossible. To complicate the embarrassment of the affair, M. Bresson, whose acceptance was guaranteed, is doubtless on his road to Paris, and will learn on the frontier that there is but one resignation more to give in. His return to Berlin is impossible, for he would be overwhelmed by ridicule, although he is innocent of this deception, in which France has participated with him."

The impartial notices the resignation of the four Ministers mentioned by the Constitutionnel, and adds: "It was asserted last night that M. Thiers, who seems to have become an indispensable personage, was charged to re-construct the Cabinet. But however strong may be the wish to collect again the elements which composed the preceding Ministry, it is probable that M. Guizot will not be invited to make one of it—but we should despair of nothing. We have been also informed that Count Mole has declared, in the most positive manner, that he will never consent to come into any Cabinet, and has expressed the utmost disgust at the intrigues to which he has been a witness during the last fortnight."

Paris, Nov. 13.—The following telegraphic dispatch, dated Madrid, November 8, addressed by the French Ambassador in that Capital to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, was received by the Government at four o'clock yesterday afternoon:

"The Chamber of Procuradores has this day adopted, by a large majority, and without any alteration, the amendments made by the other Chamber in the Foreign Loan Bill. Thus, Guehard's Loan is acknowledged, and placed in the same category as all other loans."

The Compiler of Madrid of

the 3d inst. has the following: "A conspiracy has been discovered in Cuenca, and 50 persons have been arrested. Among them is the Superior of a Convent, in whose possession was found a list containing the names of 35 persons who were to be assassinated, Manuel Poloy Alcover, Administrator of the Papal Bulls, who had appropriated part of the funds of his office for raising men in one of the towns of the Province of Mancha, Don J. Gamboa, a Canon, and Don Santos Vaillero, one of the late Commanders of the Royalist Volunteers." *Globe*

Later and important news from Europe.—The packet

George Washington, arrived yesterday from Liverpool. It brings London journals to the 23rd and Liverpool of the 24th Nov. They contain highly interesting intelligence. The accounts received by the previous arrivals from England of the dissolution of the British ministry are confirmed. The Duke of Wellington had been entrusted by the King with the formation of a Cabinet, but with the exception of the appointment of Lord Lytton to fill the office of Lord Chancellor in the place of Lord Brougham, had as yet made no progress in the performance of his task, in consequence of the absence of Sir Robert Peel, who was on a visit to Italy, and to whom he no doubt wishes to assign the post of leader in a House of Commons. It would be in vain to attempt to speculate at present on the probable consequences which will result from this change. The radical party which has of late acquired considerable strength in England, are evidently as little inclined to support a Whig ministry as a Conservative one. Many of the London papers, particularly the most influential one, the Times, seem ready to give the Duke their support, and when we consider the strength of mind and soundness of judgment he possesses—these his opponents do not deny him—it is not probable he would have assumed a situation, which there are not at least strong chances he may be able to retain. It is said, he will try his strength in the House of Commons on the appointment of a Speaker, and should he there find himself in a minority, will dissolve Parliament and appeal to the people.

A new French ministry is also formed, of which Marshal Mortier, Duke of Treviso, is head; the remaining members chiefly belong to the former ministry.—We mean that which preceded the short-lived Bassano administration. They are all of the party of Doctrinaires. The private character of Marshal Mortier is highly respectable; but we do not recollect that he ever distinguished himself as a statesman; the principles, therefore, of his associates will probably govern the policy of the new Cabinet; these are no doubt in accordance with the views of the King, and if he is sincere in a wish to carry the treaty with this country into effect, it is probable the Doctrinaires, who at the last meeting of the Chamber, showed they possessed a considerable majority of the question of the appointment of their President and voting the address, will be able to obtain the necessary appropriation from the body. This is of course putting out of view the effect of the President's war message.

The news from Spain is very meagre; its general complexion, however, is favorable to the cause of the Queen.

Liverpool, Nov. 21.—Cotton.—From the appearance of the market at the close of the last week, it was evident that we should have a good deal doing this week, and at higher prices, and, although the unlooked for change of ministry did for the moment, on Monday, damp this expectation, confidence was speedily resumed, and since Tuesday has been more strongly manifested. Speculators have come forward with less reserve, and the market has closed healthy, at an advance of 4 to 3-8d per lb. on American descriptions, and rather better prices for Brazil. Specu-