

General Assembly.

SENATE.

Mr. Mebane reported a bill authorising the Board of Internal Improvement, if in their discretion they should deem it available, to cause a survey to be made from the nearest and most convenient points between Lumber river and the Cape Fear, so as to ascertain the practicability of connecting these rivers by a navigable canal, and the probable expense thereof.

A resolution was adopted, relinquishing to the Roanoke Navigation Company, all the right heretofore reserved to the State of North Carolina to take any more shares of stock in the Capital stock of said Company.

On motion of Mr. Marshall, the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the practicability of so amending the criminal Law, as to make the breaking and entering out houses, and taking goods therefrom, felony.

Mr. Baily presented a bill to amend an act, passed in the year 1821, entitled; "an act to incorporate a company, entitled 'the Roanoke Inlet Company,' and for other purposes."

Mr. Wilson, a bill concerning the town of Tarborough.

The resolutions submitted by Messrs. Wellborn and Wilson, relative to the right of Congress to create a fund for Internal Improvements, were indefinitely postponed, 33 to 27.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Fisher presented a bill to consolidate the several Banks of this State, and to establish a new bank to be called "the Bank of the State of North Carolina;" which was ordered to be printed and laid on the table.

Mr. Saunderson, from the committee to whom was remitted the bill to exempt from execution a part of the real and personal estate of debtors, reported a new bill, entitled "a bill to regulate the sale of lands, and to protect from execution a certain portion of the free hold of the citizens of North Carolina;" which was ordered to be laid on the table, and printed.

The bill more effectually to enforce the payment of taxes from free negroes & mulattoes, in certain cases, was read the third time and passed—Yeas 75, Nays 42.

Mr. Wyche, from the committee of Finance, to whom was referred the bill to authorise the issuing of Treasury notes, and for appropriating the same to the several counties in this State, reported that the committee asked to be discharged from the further consideration thereof; which was concurred in, and the bill, on motion of Mr. Brittain, of Burke, postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Bynum presented the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Judiciary committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the law relative to the election of constables, so as to require them to be elected by the votes of the several districts in each county; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

The question to concur with said resolution was determined in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Stedman, the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law as to compel constables to return warrants in the district in which the defendant lives, in certain cases, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

The bill to vest the right of electing sheriffs in the free white men of this State, was taken up in committee of the whole house; Mr. Gaston in the Chair. Mr. Harper moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed, which was not agreed to, 73 opposing and 55 voting for the motion. A motion was then made by Mr. Bynum to strike out the word *white*, in the title of the bill, which was negatived 73 to 51. Mr. Montgomery moved to amend it, so as to provide for the election of Clerks of the County Courts, also, by the people, which was rejected, 97 to 21. The bill was read the second time and passed—yeas 63 nays 59.

The resignation of Lunsford W. Scott, Major of the 2d Regiment of Halifax militia, was read and accepted.

The remainder of the setting of this day was consumed in committee of the whole, Mr. Gaston in the Chair, in the consideration of the bill to erect that section of country, called the Cherokee purchase, into a separate county to be called *Macon*. It gave rise to a long and animated debate; after which the bill passed its second reading—yeas 65 nays 62.

A message was received from the Senate, asking concurrence to a bill to incorporate the Edgcombe Manufacturing Company.

The bill to compel Quakers, & Moravians, Menonists & Dunkards to bear arms, or as an equivalent to pay an exemption tax, was rejected by a vote of 63 to 59.

Mr. Bogle presented a bill to prevent a sacrifice of real estate, and for other purposes.

Mr. Spruill, from the joint select committee on the Banks, made a report, accompanied by a bill imposing a penalty of per cent. on all the Banks of this State which may after the

day of next refuse to pay specie on demand for their notes; and Mr. Potter, on behalf the minority of said committee, presented a counter report. Which reports were read and ordered to be printed with all the accompanying testimony and documents.

The bill requiring registers, clerks of the Superior and County Courts, and clerks and masters in equity to keep their offices at the court houses, was read the third time, passed, and ordered to be engrossed—66 to 57.

The bill to vest the right of electing Sheriffs in the people, was read the third time, amended, & the question on the final passage of the bill was decided in the negative by a vote of 71 to 53.

Mr. Spruill presented a bill for revising, digesting, and amending the laws relating to executors and administrators: which passed its first reading,

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

The Bill to authorise the President of the United States to cause the several lead mines in the State of Missouri, to be exposed to public sale, together with the amendment offered by the Committee, was considered by the Senate as in Committee of the whole.

Mr. BRANCH observed that he would be glad to hear the reasons why the bill should pass. He was opposed to the sale of the public property in the way proposed, unless there should be a manifest necessity for such a measure. He could discover no such necessity at present, and as no satisfactory reason had as yet been given why the government should *force* a sale of their property mentioned in the bill, he should certainly vote against it.

Mr. BENTON said, the subject had been before the Senate repeatedly. The facts in relation to it, had been often presented to their consideration. There was no *coercion*, said Mr. B., on the part of the government to bring the mines into market, and it was proposed by the bill that six months previous notice of the sale should be given in all the public papers throughout the United States, to the end that bidders might come from all quarters. I would be glad if gentlemen, opposed to the measure, would give their reasons why they would have the mines to remain unsold.

Mr. BRANCH replied, that it was conceded that where an authority is given by law to the President, it was equivalent to an expression of the will of Congress, that that power should be exercised; and if the restriction were only removed, the President would be unceasingly called upon to bring those lands into market. But, asked Mr. B., why should we with a prospect of those valuable minerals being greatly enhanced, force them into market? Are not the mining districts the common treasure of the nation? Is the State of Missouri alone interested? No Sir, these lands were paid for out of the common fund of the nation, and we are bound to see them properly disposed of. He appealed to the Senator of Missouri himself, if it would not be most proper to husband our resources, and place these lands into market, for the benefit of the whole, at a more auspicious period. These were the views he had taken of the subject, and he was sorry the gentleman had not concurred with him.

The bill was finally ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following resolutions, proposed yesterday by Mr. Verplanck, and laid on the table, was read and agreed to:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House, if it be not in his judgment incompatible, with the public interest, the information in relation to intended frauds upon the revenue which has rendered necessary the stationing addition-

al troops on the Niagara; and also any other evidence in possession of the government, which may make the employment of a regular armed force necessary for the enforcement of the revenue laws.

On motion by Mr. Chilton, the Committee on Roads and Canals were instructed to inquire into the expediency of adopting some system by which appropriations of public money for internal improvement may as nearly as practicable, be apportioned among the several States and Territories belonging to the American Union, in reference to boundary, population, and the internal condition of said State or Territory.

Mr. Smyth introduced a resolution amending the Constitution, so that after the 3d of March, 1829, no person who shall have been elected President shall be again eligible to that office, and that no Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any office or employment under the authority of the United States.

Affairs at Washington.—We learn from Washington that there is not much disposition to make this a session important either as to legislative excitement or debate. It is a sort of political *interregnum*, and every one is waiting and looking for the 4th of March.—There appears to be a settled determination not to stir the tariff question during the present session; but it is evident that this is to be the prominent business of the next. Without reference to parties or to districts of country, the present tariff is too injurious to the general interests of the nation to remain the permanent law of the land; and we shall probably be led to what is very much wanted, a general revision of our revenue laws. The commencement of a new administration, whose legislation will be conducted more with a view to the real interests of the country, and less to those of parties, is the fittest, and, if we may judge from the experience of the last session, is perhaps the only time to frame wise, salutary, and durable laws.
N. Y. Ev. Post.

Suicides.—We learn that Col. Samuel Neill, of Mecklenburg county, hung himself on the 21st ult. He was in affluent circumstances, highly esteemed and respected, and an exemplary member of the church; but during a temporary alienation of mind, he hurried himself out of existence. His melancholy exit will be most deeply deplored, by his relatives and acquaintances.—*West. Car.*

Fires.—From an official statement presented to the New York Corporation, it appears that during the first eleven months of the present year, there have occurred 125 fires, the damage from which is estimated at \$680,000.

Foreign.—An arrival at Charleston brings Liverpool dates to the 9th November.—The papers do not furnish any intelligence, political or commercial, but what has been anticipated by arrivals at Philadelphia and New York.