

General Assembly.

SENATE.

The engrossed bill requiring registers and clerks of the Superior and County Courts, and clerks and masters in equity, to keep their offices at the court houses, was rejected on its second reading.

The bill in aid of the fund for internal improvements, was indefinitely postponed on its second reading—37 to 17.

Mr. Croom presented two resolutions, instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law, as to render any slave who may attempt to poison any white person, guilty of felony without benefit of clergy; and of so amending the law, as to render any legacy or distributive share belonging to any person not residing in the State, subject to attachment and execution in the hands of the executor or administrator; which were adopted.

Mr. Shober, from the select joint committee on the subject of a Penitentiary and Lunatic Asylum, made a detailed report, accompanied by "a bill for the purpose of collecting information of matter, connected with the Penitentiary system and Lunatic Asylum."

Mr. Mears reported a bill more effectually to punish persons who attempt to poison others.

Mr. Mebane, from the committee on Internal Improvements, reported a bill to incorporate the Mattamuskeet Lake Canal Company, without amendment.

Mr. Croom presented a bill to provide for the gradual diminution of the capital stock of the banks of the State, by the purchase and extinguishment of shares.

Mr. Alexander, from the committee to whom was referred that part of the Governor's message in relation to certain resolutions and reports of the Legislatures of Vermont, Ohio, Georgia, and South Carolina, respecting the power of the general government to appropriate funds for the purpose of aiding the colonization of free persons of colour, made a report, accompanied by resolutions declaring that Congress have no such power. Which resolutions were laid on the table.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The bill to erect the Cherokee Purchase into a county, by the name of *Macon*, passed its third reading—63 to 61.

Mr. Nash, from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred the bill to prevent the emancipation of slaves, and the bill to regulate the emancipation of slaves, made a report, recommending the rejection of the first named bill, and the passage of the last with several amendments. The first member of the report was concurred in. Mr. Bethell, then moved that the bill to regulate the emancipation of slaves, be indefinitely postponed; which motion was decided in the affirmative—63 to 54.

Received from the Governor a message transmitting a letter from the President of the Dismal Swamp Canal Company relative to an alledged nuisance created

by the erection of a bridge across Pasquotank river, and a communication from the Governor of Virginia on the same subject, and furnishing information relative to Lunatic Hospitals in that State; and also a letter from Dr. Mease of Philadelphia, in relation to a Penitentiary.

Mr. Spruill, from the joint select committee on the subject, reported a bill concerning the lands formerly occupied by the Tuscarora Indians, lying in Bertie county; which passed its first reading.

Mr. Nash, reported a bill for the relief of insolvent debtors.

The bill to provide for the draining of Mattamuskeet Lake, was indefinitely postponed on its second reading—36 to 32.

Mr. Smith, of Anson, submitted a resolution to appoint a select joint committee to inquire into the expediency of passing a law to prevent the shaving of notes; which was read and rejected.

Mr. Saintclair presented a bill to amend the act of 1814, concerning divorce and alimony; which was rejected.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Nash in the Chair, on the reports of the majority and minority of the joint select committee on Banks, and, after a long debate, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Mr. Wilkinson presented a bill to regulate the fisheries of Tar & Pamlico rivers; and Mr. Fleming a bill to regulate the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court; which passed their first reading. [The latter bill fixed the salary of the Judges of the Supreme Court at 2,000 dollars.]

Mr. Gaston a series of resolutions, relative to the operations of the Banks of the State and the depreciation of the currency, and directing the manner in which the Banks shall proceed for the purpose of remedying the evil alluded to; which resolutions were referred to the committee of the Whole on the subject of the Banks, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wyche presented a resolution instructing the representatives of the State in the Board of Directors and in the meeting of stockholders to use their influence to prevent the winding up the business of the State Bank too rapidly; to demand from its debtors not exceeding five per cent at every renewal, if the safety of the Bank will permit, and continue steadily to pursue such measures as will enable the Bank to resume specie payments without distress. Which resolution was read referred to the committee of the whole on the subject of the Banks, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wyche presented a bill regulating the practices of the Banks in certain cases; and which were referred to the committee of the whole on the Banks, and ordered to be printed.

The committee of the whole resumed the consideration of the Reports relative to the Banks, Mr. Nash in the Chair; and, after a debate of several hours, rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.



Tarborough,

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1829.

Preaching.—Elder ROSS is expected to preach at Tarborough, on Monday 2d February next; Tuesday 3d, at Town Creek; Wednesday 4th, at Fork M. H.; Thursday 5th, at Dr. Williams's; Friday 6th, at Forbs' M. H.; Saturday and Sunday 7th and 8th, at Grindle Creek... *Com.*

Congress.—The late Washington papers state that the Senate is principally engaged in discussing the bill allowing an additional drawback on the exportation of refined sugar—and the House of Representatives, the bill to authorize the occupation of the Oregon river. In the H. of Representatives, on the 30th ult:

On motion of Mr. Long, the Committee on Roads and Canals were instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing a subscription of stock on the part of the U. States, to the Yadkin Navigation Company in North Carolina.

On motion of Mr. Sawyer, the Committee on Roads and Canals were instructed to inquire into the expediency of re-opening Roanoke Inlet, in North Carolina.

Raleigh, Jan. 2.

Legislative.—The House of Commons, on Monday and Tuesday, were occupied, (in Committee of the Whole, Mr. Nash in the Chair,) in the consideration of the Reports made to the Legislature, by the Select Joint Committee on the subject of the Banks, which gave rise to a long and animated discussion. The debate was opened by Mr. Potter, on a motion to substitute the Report of a minority of the Bank Committee, for that of the majority. Mr. P. spoke at considerable length in favor of the Report which he had made to the House in behalf of the minority, and in favor of the course proposed by the resolutions with which it concludes, directing a judicial inquiry to be instituted into the conduct of the Banks. And also in favor of a bill which he read and laid on the table, which proposed that when the operations of the present Banks shall have been closed by means of the proceedings which were recommended, a new Bank shall be established on the funds obtained from them, aided by an issue of Stock on the faith of the State.—Mr. W. J. Alexander also supported the course proposed by the minority of the Committee.

Mr. Gaston, Mr. Swain and Mr. Spruill opposed the course proposed by the Report of the minority. They admitted that the Banks had not, in certain particulars, conformed to their Charters; but that the Legislature had also acted improperly in extending the Banking Capital of the State, contrary to the wishes of the Directors of the Institutions themselves.—They deprecated the proposed judicial proceedings against the Banks, which would have no effect but to sink the value of our circulating medium, and of

course augment the present embarrassments of the People. On the contrary, they were of opinion, that the best course would be to suffer the State Bank to wind up its concerns as it proposes, so that it does not oppress the people by requiring them to pay their debts by too large instalments, which the State could prevent by its *large vote* in all meetings of the Stockholders; to suffer the other Banks to go on, one of which had already become a specie-paying Bank, and the other was using means to become so. That these Banks, with the aid which might be afforded by the Bank of the United States, would afford a sufficient circulating medium for the business of the State; and that the people, having become more economical, and more desirous of getting out of debt than formerly, it was hoped when the proceeds of the present plentiful crop should be realized, they would be able to meet their engagements without the great distress which had been apprehended.

Neither the Resolutions offered by Mr. Gaston, the Resolution and bill presented by Mr. Wyche, or Mr. Fisher's Bill have yet been discussed.

On motion of Mr. Alexander, the further consideration of this subject was postponed to yesterday. The Debate will appear hereafter in full.

On Wednesday, in the House of Commons, Mr. Potter introduced a bill for the relief of the people of North-Carolina.—It provides that no land or poor tax shall be exacted from the people the present year, but that \$60,000 shall be issued in Treasury notes to meet the exigencies of Government.—*Reg.*

Raleigh, Jan. 1.—The bill to erect a new county in this State, by the name of *Macon*, has passed both branches of the Legislature, and is therefore a law.—*Star.*

Distressing calamity.—On the 13th instant, the dwelling house of Mr. Nathan Hargis, in Person county, was consumed by fire; and Mrs. Hargis, in attempting to extinguish the fire, perished in the flames.—*ib.*

Ohio.—Mr. Mulenburg, a Jacksonian, has been elected to Congress from Ohio, in the place of Mr. Creighton, resigned. Of the Delegation of Ohio in Congress, nine are friendly to Gen. Jackson, and five to Mr. Adams. Previous to the last election, eleven were for Mr. Adams and three for Gen. Jackson.

Norfolk, Dec. 23.

Cotton.—We are much pleased to observe this important commercial staple finding its way to our market, from the neighboring counties of our own state and those of North Carolina, previous to the opening of our Canal, which in a few days now, may be expected to waft into this part the rich products of the Roanoke country and of the more interior counties. In addition to the 25 bales of middling quality, which arrived here from Southampton County on Thursday last and were