

General Assembly.

[Abstract of such of the proceedings of the Legislature as we consider interesting to our readers.]

SENATE.

Thursday, Nov. 22.

Mr. Martin presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed:

WHEREAS questions of deep and vital importance to the future welfare of our common country, are under consideration in some of the Southern States; it is therefore believed to be the duty of this General Assembly, as the representatives of the free people of North Carolina, respectfully to make known our sentiments, and, as we believe, the sentiments of our constituents, on the present interesting crisis of our internal affairs.

1. *Therefore Resolved*, That this General Assembly continues to cherish a sacred attachment to the Constitution of the United States, and consider the advantages of the Federal Union, in sustaining our civil institutions, and perpetuating our liberties, to be incalculable: That we deprecate the doctrine of Nullification, as founded on principles subversive of the Constitution, and as having a direct tendency, if practically enforced, to sever the bonds which now unite us together, as one great and powerful Republic.

2. *Resolved further*, That we still rely on the wisdom and integrity of the constituted authorities of the General Government, and confidently look to their patriotism for ultimate redress of all our real grievances; and as the States are prohibited by the Constitution from entering into alliances, compacts, or agreements among themselves, and being aware of the excitement and sectional feeling which already pervades the country to a fearful extent, this General Assembly, under existing circumstances, deprecate the policy of a Southern Convention.

3. *Resolved*, That the Governor be, and he is hereby requested to forward a copy of these Resolutions to the President of the United States, and to the Executives of each of the States of this Confederacy.

On motion of Mr. Montgomery, of Hertford, the committee on education and the literary fund, were instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing by law a Central School in the State of North Carolina, for the purpose of educating and preparing instructors of elementary schools for their profession—and that they report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, a message was sent to the House of Commons, proposing to ballot immediately for a Solicitor in the first Judicial Circuit, and stating that John L. Bailey is in nomination for the appointment.

Mr. Montgomery, of Orange, presented sundry resolutions, referring the subjects contained in the Governor's Message to separate committees; which were read and adopted.

Friday, 23d.

Mr. Montgomery, of Orange, presented the petition of Peggy Johnson, praying the passage of an act to secure to her such property as she may hereafter acquire—Also, the petition of John Johnson, praying to be divorced from his wife Peggy Johnson. The said petitions were referred to the committee on propositions and grievances.

Received from the House of Commons a message, stating that they have passed the engrossed resolution, expressing the regret which the Legislature feel on receiving intelligence of the death of CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton, in which they ask the concurrence of the Senate. The resolution was amended by adding the following: "Resolved, that a copy of the above resolution be transmitted by his Excellency the Governor of North Carolina to the representatives of the deceased, for his family." The resolution was then passed and sent to the House of Commons for their concurrence in the amendment.

Saturday, 24th.

Mr. Leake presented the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS questions of deep and increasing importance now agitate some of our sister States, growing out of the exercise of powers, which are supposed to belong to the General Government on the one hand, and of the rights which are said to appertain to the States on the other. And whereas an expression of opinion on the part of the Legislature seems to be called for, that silence may not be construed into a virtual acquiescence of the powers claimed for the General Government; nor yet as being indifferent to consequences which necessarily flow from the enforcement of Nullification:

Be it therefore Resolved, as the opinion of this Legislature, that while we disapprove the doctrine of Nullification as unconstitutional, violent and of a revolutionary tendency, we are nevertheless feelingly alive to the cause which has given rise to it.

Resolved further, That the powers which have been ceded by the States to the General Government, were delegated in trust for the accomplishment of certain limited and defined objects; and that any exercise of those powers to foster manufactures directly, is viewed by this Legislature as a violation of the spirit of the Federal compact.

Resolved further, That while we deprecate the doctrine of Nullification, as being wild and visionary in theory, dangerous and violent in practice, we at the same time cannot but consider a Tariff of duties looking to protection (as does the present) as an unwarrantable assumption of power.

Resolved further, That we still rely on the wisdom and integrity of the constituted authorities of the General Government, and confidently look to their patriotism and love of Union for ultimate redress of all our grievances.

Resolved further, That we recognize in the Tariff of the 7th June, 1832, a modification of duties, both in the "gross and in the detail," and we behold it as an entering wedge which shall ultimately fritter down the duties to a revenue point.

Resolved, That the Governor be, and he is hereby requested to forward a copy of these Resolutions to the President of the United States, and to the Executive of each of the States of this Confederacy.

Which after having been read, were on motion of Mr. Skinner laid upon the table and printed, one copy for each member of the Legislature.

Mr. Carson presented a bill to provide for the registration of grants for land in this State, when the original has been lost or is beyond the reach of the party interested in the lands for which the grant is issued. Referred.

The Senate proceeded to ballot for Secretary of State, which resulted in the election of William Hill, the present incumbent, without opposition.

Mr. Wilson presented a resolution, providing that the present session of the General Assembly be closed, by the adjournment of the two Houses, by their respective Speakers, on the 20th day of December, 1832. Laid upon the table.

Monday, 26th.

Mr. Dobson presented a bill vesting the right of electing Clerks of the Superior and County Courts in the several counties in this State, in the free white men thereof. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wilson submitted a resolution authorizing the committee of finance to burn all the Treasury notes on hand at the Department. Mr. Wellborn moved to amend it, by restricting the burning to those which are unfit for circulation, but was negatived, and the original resolution was adopted and sent to the House.

A message was sent to the House of Commons, proposing to ballot on Thursday next for Governor, and stating that John Branch and Thomas G. Polk are in nomination for the office.

Tuesday, 27th.

Mr. Allen presented a bill to erect a new county out of a portion of the counties of Burke and Buncombe, by the name of Yancey. Read the first time.

Wednesday, 28th.

Mr. Martin presented a bill to establish the Bank of North Carolina.

Mr. Boddie, a bill to amend the several laws of the State relative to the duties of Clerks and Sheriffs.

Mr. Seawell, a bill to incorporate the Experimental Rail Road Company of Raleigh.

Mr. Allen, a bill concerning the Supreme Court. (Provides for the appointment of a fourth Judge.)

These bills passed their first reading.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Nov. 22.

Mr. Pearson submitted the following resolution, which was read the first, second and third times, passed, and ordered to be engrossed and sent to the Senate for concurrence:

Resolved unanimously, by the Senate and House of Commons of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, that it is with feelings of profound regret they have received intelligence of the death of CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton, the last of that band of patriots and sages who proclaimed the Independence of the United States of America, and pledged for its support their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. And that this General Assembly, with the people whom they represent, cherish a deep veneration for the virtues, the services and the character of the deceased, and sympathize with his family, his friends and the country, in the bereavement which all have sustained.

Mr. F. A. Sawyer presented the petition of Abner H. Grandy, contesting the seat of Benj. D. Harrison, one of the sitting members from the county of Camden. Referred.

John L. Bailey was duly elected Solicitor of the first Judicial Circuit, without opposition.

Friday, 23d.

The Speaker appointed the following committee on the subject of re-organising the Congressional districts, viz: Messrs. Sumner, Pearson, Bragg, Eccles and Potts.

On motion of Mr. Peebles, the committee on the judiciary were instructed to inquire into the propriety of so amending the act of 1823, entitled an act to amend the law relative to the collection of debts from the estate of deceased persons, as to provide that the real estate shall be charged with the costs incurred in all suits against executors, when the plea of "fully administered" is found in favor of the defendants.

Saturday, 24th.

Mr. O'Brien, from the committee of privileges and elections, reported unfavorably on the petition of Abner H. Grandy, contesting the right of Benjamin Harrison, of Camden county, to a seat in this House, and recommended a rejection of the petition. Concurred in.

Mr. F. A. Sawyer presented a bill to amend an act, passed in the year 1821, to incorporate a company entitled the Roanoke Inlet Company, and for other purposes, and an amendatory of the same, passed in the year 1828. Referred.

Mr. Bonner presented a bill fixing a uniform mode of assessment of real estate with the improvements thereon. Referred and ordered to be printed.

Monday, 26th.

Agreeable to notice, the House proceeded to ballot for Public Printer. On the third ballot, Charles R. Ramsay (editor of the Constitutionalist) was elected. The balloting resulted as follows:

	1st	2d	3d
Charles R. Ramsay,	86	92	98
Lawrence & Lemay,	79	83	80
Scattering,	16	15	10

Mr. Bonner introduced a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the punishment of branding. Rejected.

Mr. O'Brien presented a bill to vest the right of electing the Clerks of the County and Superior Courts in this State, in the free white men thereof—and Mr. Saintclair a bill to exempt from execution a portion of the land of the citizens of North Carolina. Read and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Pearson presented a resolution providing that a message be sent to the Senate, proposing to raise a joint select committee on the subject of a Convention. Passed its first reading.

On motion of Mr. S. T. Sawyer, it was resolved, that the Governor be requested to communicate for the information of this House, the number of Indians resident in this State, together with the extent of territory they occupy, the character of their laws and form of government, their habits and pursuits, the nature and design of the aggressions committed upon that region of country, by some of the citizens of Georgia and other States; and whether by the laws of the State any authority is vested in the Executive to repel such aggressions and to protect said Indians and territory.

Mr. Clayton presented a bill to erect out of a portion of the counties of Burke and Buncombe a separate and distinct county by the name of Yancey. Referred.

Mr. Long introduced a bill, making an appropriation and appointing commissioners for the re-building the Capital in the city of Raleigh. Read and ordered to be printed.

Tuesday, 27th.

On motion of Mr. McNeill, it was resolved, that the committee on military affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the militia laws as to exempt persons who have held commissions for five years and discharged the duties assigned them faithfully, from the performance of military duty afterwards, except in cases of invasion or insurrection.

On motion of Mr. Borden, a message was sent to the Senate informing that

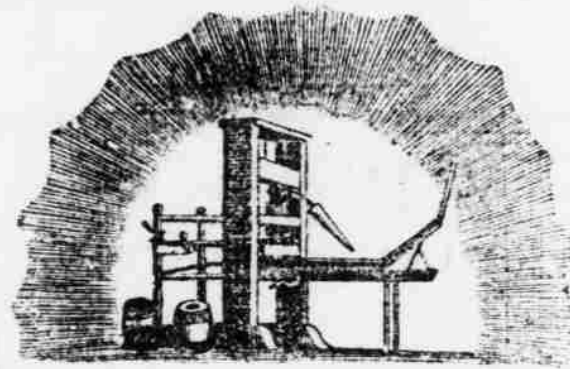
body that the name of Richard D. Spaight is added to the nomination for Governor.

Mr. S. T. Sawyer presented a bill defining and limiting the power of Courts in inflicting punishments for contempts. Read and referred.

Wednesday, 28th.

Mr. Wiseman presented a bill to amend an act passed in 1822, for the relief of debtors for debts which may be contracted after the first of May next.

Mr. Lancaster submitted a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of compelling executors and administrators of insolvent estates to make *pro rata* payments of all claims against the estates of their testator or intestate.



TARBOROUGH.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1832.

THE PATRIOTIC DISCOURSE.

WE have suffered to pass unnoticed, the misstatements and misrepresentations which have occasionally appeared respecting a publication issued from this office, under the impression that "truth is mighty and will prevail," and with a fixed determination to avoid religious controversies—but we feel it a duty we owe to the cause of truth, to the citizens of this place, and to the respected author of the publication referred to, to correct some of the many inaccuracies abounding in a letter in the Christian Index of Sept. 29, last, addressed to the Editor by the Rev. OBADIAH ECHOLS, of Jasper county, Georgia. It seems that Mr. Echols has been informed and believes, that the Rev. JOSHUA LAWRENCE, author of the Patriotic Discourse delivered in this place on the 4th July, 1830, combines much of the Solomon and of the Sampson, and that on the delivery of this Discourse he had armed men around him, who would have shot any man who molested him—that Mr. Lawrence lost preferment in the Missionary line, and here lies the whole secret of his hate—that after denouncing five or six societies, he tried to establish one of formidable size and shape, and presented himself as the chieftain of that society. Doubtless our citizens, as well as Mr. Lawrence, will be more amused than enraged at this gross caricature—but, that the truth may be known to Mr. Echols and all others, we will state that Mr. Lawrence was requested to deliver a Patriotic Discourse on the day above mentioned, by the committee of arrangements appointed by the citizens of this place—that an unusually large and attentive congregation was present, and so far as our observation extended, not a single deadly weapon was to be seen, nor any intimation given of hostility towards Mr. Lawrence or his doctrines—that a copy of the Discourse was solicited for publication, but being too lengthy for insertion in this paper, at the urgent solicitations of numerous respectable individuals it was issued in pamphlet form from this office, at the Editor's expense and risk; the first edition was rapidly disposed of, and a second printed also for the benefit of the Editor. As regards Mr. Lawrence, we will merely observe, that he has been a preacher of the gospel upwards of thirty years—has never expressed a desire nor evinced any anxiety, so far as we have heard, for political preferment—is extensively known and universally esteemed, and stands second to no man in the performance of moral and religious duties, nor in the social relations of life as a husband, father and neighbor—and although "a Sampson" in stature, exercises nought but his mental powers in contests with his opponents. And further, we speak advisedly when we state that Mr. Lawrence is not opposed to masonry, to temperance, education, or to the spread of the gospel or its doctrines, through the proper distribution of the bible, by religious publications, or by the personal exertions of the gospel missionary—but he condemns *in toto*, the mingling of professors and non-professors of religion in societies; and the making "a craft" of religious matters, by professors, in every shape and form whatsoever.

The Editor of the Christian Index is respectfully solicited to give the above a place in his paper, that it may be as extensively circulated and take the same direction, as the letter of Mr. Echols.

Pickpockets.—On Monday evening of last week, the pocket book of Mr. Jo. P. Pitt, of this county, was stolen from his pocket at Mr. Bell's tavern in this place—the pocket book contained about \$120 in money and sundry papers. Suspicion fell upon a man named Davis, said to be from Beaufort county, who decamped early the next morning. Pursuit was made and he was arrested at his own house, about 18 or 20 miles