

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1895. TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS: ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE...

THAT IS THE LEGAL RATE NOW. No hearing of Democrats—No speaking in the Hall—No election of Senators...

JOE WORK OF ALL KINDS. If you want a copy of THE GAZETTE, you can get it...

TO AMEND THE TOWN CHARTER. Whereas it is printed the full text of the amendments...

Section four provides for extending the corporate limits one fourth of a mile further east.

Section five provides for the division of the town into wards and the holding of elections by wards.

Section six confers powers of quarantine against places, persons, and property believed to be infected by contagious diseases.

Section seven gives the Board of Commissioners authority to buy and sell land.

Section eight and nine provide for an election to establish and maintain graded schools.

The bill altogether is an important one and for further details our readers are referred to the full text printed this week.

OUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. The Progressive Reformer week before last was indignant at the county commissioners of Gaston because Sheriff Loftis was "forced to appear before these gentlemen with two such attorneys as Judge Burwell and Wm. H. Lewis, Esq., to defend his bond."

Somebody hinted to the Progressive Reformer that it was none of its business what Gaston's commissioners did. It replied to this by saying, "Gaston has adopted this street as her organ, and the truth is to have a larger circulation in that county than any paper in it."

Now, as to what business the Progressive Reformer has in Gaston's affairs—we shall not fall out about that. Only let us not, however, in seeking to maintain our right to discuss questions of public concern transgress the bounds of truth.

The Progressive Reformer knows that Gaston county never adopted it or any other paper as an organ. And as to its having a larger circulation in Gaston than any paper in the county, the Progressive Reformer says made an assertion that it didn't know to be true.

Remembering to the matter of the bond of Mr. Loftis: the commissioners of Gaston county accepted his bonds and indicted him into office. What more could they have done? Had he been a Democrat, he couldn't have expected them to accept his bonds as first tendered. Our recollection is, that Mr. Loftis's attorneys at the close of the two days' session in December thanked the commissioners publicly for their courtesy and fairness and indulgence in the matter.

At the January session the bonds were found greatly fortified and were accepted, even against the advice of the Board's counsel. The simple facts of the case are, that the Sheriff of Gaston has to give a large bond and that Mr. Loftis, though so fault or discredit of his own, was bound by peculiar difficulties in making so large a bond.

The commissioners recognized this, gave him thirty days extension, and in January accepted his fortified bonds.

The commissioners of Gaston may have made and may yet make mistakes, for they are but fallible men like the rest of us. But if they have committed any high-handed wrong, it was not against Sheriff Loftis. They are good men, as good, as fair, as honest as any the men in any county. The Progressive Reformer either doesn't know what it is talking about or else is so full of the gross passion of partisanship that it can see no good, or merit, or honesty in the earth except among the devoted worshippers of its favorite political shrine.

President Doughton called the joint session to order and directed the clerk of the Senate to read so much of the Senate Journal of yesterday as referred to the election of United States Senators. By direction of Speaker Walker the clerk of the House read the part of the House proceedings bearing on the same subject. A great throng of people completely filling the lobby and galleries, witnessed the proceedings, many of them being of the number. President Doughton declared that the journals showed that the votes cast were as follows: Butler 117, Mason 43; Pritchard 116, Overman 48. Speaker Walker said that it appearing that the two houses had thus elected Senators, the President of the Senate and himself declared Fritchard and Butler duly elected Senators of the United States. President Doughton declared the joint session closed and the Senate returned at 12:30 to their own end of the Capitol. Mr. Ewart then spoke in support of the majority report in the Farnico election case. He said the returning board did not deny Abbott's election. Mr. Ray attacked the majority report and said it was the plan to amend every Democrat. Mr. Peebles asked for the reading of the evidence in this case. Mr. Ewart objected to this and intimated that such privileges might be used for obstructive purposes. Mr. Peebles denied any such purpose. Mr. Turner, of Mitchell, asked if the evidence was not printed. It was told no. Mr. Peebles then asked for the reading of the part of the evidence on which the majority based its report. Mr. Lusk said he had that part of the Ten Commandments read which says "Thou shalt not steal." Mr. Peebles retorted: "I have no doubt that you need to have them all read." Mr. Cox denied that the purpose of the elections committee was to throw out all Democrats. He accused Mr. Ray of arousing prejudice every time he spoke. Mr. Cox said any sort of talk ought to be counted as a matter which the color of the paper or the design. He said the only thing to be done was to count the vote for the man for whom the voter cast it. The majority report was adopted; 60 to 41.

THURSDAY, JAN. 24. SENATE. Bills and resolutions introduced as follows: By Mr. Westmoreland, to amend chap. 53 of the Code in relation to the public printing and binding; Mr. Fortson, for the improvement of the public roads of the State; Mr. Hamrick, resolution to amend the charter of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, passed second and third readings; to construct a bridge over Tuckahoe river, passed second and third readings.

The Senate then proceeded to the House to pass the vote for Senators. On the consideration of the bill to restore 6 per cent. as the legal rate of interest.

The debate lasted until 3 o'clock. Mr. Moody's amendment was voted down and a substitute, offered by Mr. Cook, of Warren, was adopted, all save two members (Abell and Sigmon) voting for it. It makes 6 per cent. the rate of interest.

Mr. Starbuck offered an amendment that upon charging a greater rate than 6 per cent. the lender shall forfeit the whole debt, principal and interest. Mr. Dowd moved to re-refer the whole matter. He favored a 6 per cent. law, but thought the bill should be perfected. The Senate declined to re-refer. The question recurred on the amendment of Mr. Starbuck. Mr. Rice called for the yeas and nays. Ordered. The vote stood yeas 5, nays 44. The question recurred upon the passage of the bill as amended by the amendment of Mr. Cook. Mr. Cook demanded the yeas and nays. Ordered and the bill passed.

The following is Mr. Cook's substitute: "That the legal rate of interest shall be 6 per cent. for such time as interest may accrue, and no more; that violation of this rate shall involve a forfeiture of the entire interest, and that the party or corporation by whom a greater rate of interest has been paid may recover back the amount of interest so paid in an action for debt. Such action must be begun within two years after the payment of the indebtedness. That in action to recover on such note the party against whom the action is brought may plead as a counter-claim a penalty above provided, viz: twice the amount of interest paid, and also the forfeiture of entire interest."

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Bills were introduced as follows: By Mr. Clark, to change the method of drawing jurors, so that the sheriff and clerk of court shall from the tax list each September select the names for jurors; Mr. French, to provide for the collection and display of this State's resources at the Atlanta Exposition; Mr. Flock, for the relief of Tax Collector Beaman, ofutherford; Mr. Ellis, to abolish the office of keeper of the State and to establish the office of superintendent of public buildings and grounds; Mr. Mitchell, to reduce the fees of cotton weighers in Franklin county; Mr. McLean, to establish a new county out of part of Robeson; Mr. Reinhardt, to reduce costs in criminal prosecutions; Mr. Burham, to return to the tax lists all lands on which taxes have not been paid for three years; Mr. Ewart, to reduce the pay of clerks and door-keepers of the Legislature from \$5 to \$4 a day.

Mr. Smith, of Gates, rose to a question of personal privilege and read an editorial in the Quaker, criticizing the minority in the House in contested elections cases and charging that the minority wasted time by dilatory motions, etc., and also with obstructing the passage of the law. Mr. Smith said this was a plain mis-statement and misrepresentation of facts so far as he was concerned. He said the editorial was either a threat to those whose names were contested or else done to arouse prejudice against the minority. He said his desire to do his duty was greater than his desire to keep his seat, and that the writer of the editorial had certainly a low estimate of the duties of members. Mr. Payne also rose to a question of personal privilege, saying that the Quaker article did him also a great injustice in referring to him in these election cases as he had taken no part in them. All the Democrats desired was not to obstruct legislation but to put themselves on record. He said he believed the fusionists at least desired to be fair. He said a sitting member, even if his seat was contested, must continue to perform a duty. He declared he should never flinch from any duty.

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of the sheriffs and tax collectors of the State. Mr. Dowd announced that J. A. Green, of Halifax, Senator from the fourth district, was present, and asked that he be sworn in. Senator Green then came forward and took the oath of office. (Green is a Democrat.)

The calendar was then taken up, and the following bills and resolutions were disposed of: A resolution to amend the act of 1893, which provided for the appointment of a board of examiners to examine the accounts of the sheriffs and tax collectors of the State. This bill was passed.

The bill to establish graded schools at Mt. Airy, passed its second reading; also a bill to amend Mr. Airy's charter so that the people and not the commissioners will elect the mayor. The latter then passed third reading.

SATURDAY, JAN. 26. SENATE. Bills and resolutions were introduced as follows: By Mr. Hoover to admit the Farmers' Alliance to the same privilege as other benevolent societies as regards insurance; Mr. Westmoreland to incorporate the Charlotte and Mecklenburg Railroad Company; Mr. Grant to require examinations of the teachers of public schools; also to regulate the appropriation of the State University.

The calendar was taken up and the following bills and resolutions disposed of: To allow a rebate of tax for the maintenance of the public graded schools at Charlotte, passed second reading. To provide for instruction in vocal music in the public schools of the State, tabled. Mr. Moody moved to amend by adding that one committee man by a lady. Mr. Francis objected to having a lady on the committee, for, said he, the men would always agree with the school. Mr. Moody said she would be a woman. Mr. Francis asked if the constitution would not have to be changed; that it was an office. Mr. Moody thought not. Mr. Newburne favored Mr. Moody's amendment and said he believed he would like to have two women on the committee. Mr. Marshall moved to amend by adding that the committee should be composed of two men and two women. Mr. Starbuck opposed it and moved to table. The Senate refused to table—yeas 8; nays 35. Mr. Newburne favored the Populists had in the late canvass advocated equal rights to all and special privileges to none; that the time had come for them to show their hand. The previous question was ordered and the bill was tabled. Adjourned.

Bills were introduced as follows: By Mr. Campbell to restore Mitchell county to its eighth congressional district; Mr. Ray to provide for the just distribution of the school fund to the State Board of Education among the various counties on the basis of school population.

The bill to amend the charter of Mt. Airy and establish graded schools there passed third reading, 91 to 0. A bill passed second reading to so change the charter of the Farmers' Mutual Fire and Stock Insurance Co., of Greensboro, as to allow it to have a separate branch in each county.

A bill to appropriate \$3,340 to enable the directors of the insane asylum to furnish the new female infirmary was taken up. Mr. Young moved that the bill be referred to the finance committee. The motion to refer was withdrawn and the bill passed its second and third readings.

The bill to require railroads to redeem the unused parts of excursion tickets was tabled, as was one regulating the number and length of the arguments of counsel in the Superior Courts. (This was some laughing at the latter bill.)

A resolution in favor of the election of United States Senators by the people came up with an unfavorable report and was promptly tabled.

Mr. Peebles rose to a question of personal privilege on an editorial in the Quakerian of 19th, which termed him a "chain jumper" and a "leader of the obstructionists," and said he had a right to his seat. He showed why he held the seat from Northampton in past years, and said that as long as he was a member of the House he was entitled to all its privileges. He said that any attempt to muzzle him would fail. He read an article from the Quakerian of July, 1892, saying that it "greatly feared that the People's party would put on a State ticket, and that such a course was greatly to be deplored, and asking, 'what was to be deplored, by defeating the Democratic ticket?' and then stating that if the People's party and the Republicans joined forces the latter would be the bosses. As to his being a 'chain-jumper,' Mr. Peebles said he hoped the time would never come when he would be joined by a party in an hour of need, to join forces to secure a temporary advantage of power and place. He would not desert his political principles at a time when his fellow-countrymen appear as a reward for infidelity to political principles.

MONDAY, JAN. 28. SENATE. A petition was filed from citizens of Mt. Airy for the repeal of the merchants' purchase tax.

The principal bills introduced were by Mr. McCaskey, to authorize a substitute for the act of 1893, which provided for the management of the Mecklenburg Hospital for the insane; by Mr. Lindsey, to prevent the competition of public schools with high schools; by Mr. Farthing, to amend the acts of 1893 regarding fishing in Catawba river; by Mr. Fortson, to enable magistrates at Henrietta Mills to deal out exact justice; by Mr. Bellamy, to amend the law in regard to the sale of liquor by Mr. Moody, to abolish the sale of liquor to the State.

A resolution was introduced by Mr. Abell that the public printing be let to the lowest bidder. He said that he heard that the committee would meet to-morrow to let it, and he introduced the resolution out of the abundance of caution. Mr. Newburne offered an amendment adding after ten days' notice in a newspaper published at Raleigh, Mr. Marshall offered an amendment "ad idem" "responsible." Both were accepted by Mr. Abell.

This gave rise to a long and at times warm discussion. Mr. Starbuck offered a substitute for Mr. Abell's resolution, that the committee on printing be instructed to report a bill at once to let the printing to the most responsible bidder and that it should not be let until such bill is reported and acted upon.

The bill passed on the national flag on the Capitol as did also the bill in regard to the Charlotte graded school and the bill to make certain scrip, checks and due bills negotiable and payable in cash. This is to pre-

vent cotton mills and other corporations from issuing such checks and compelling the holders to trade it out.

A resolution of inquiry was introduced regarding salaries of professors at the University. Mr. Wooten introduced a resolution in regard to the salaries of officers at the insane asylum.

Bill to build a bridge over the Tuckahoe river, passed third reading; to amend section 618 of the Code. This bill is in regard to the title to public office. It provides that a bond be given by contestants in the sum of \$300, which may be increased by the judge, to recover fees and emoluments which the incumbent may have collected while he was in office. In such suit the incumbent is compelled to testify, but such evidence, if it incriminate him, cannot be used in any original proceedings against him. Passed second and third readings.

Resolution to investigate the charges of Mrs. Pettie D. B. Arrington, which was withdrawn yesterday, was put back on the calendar and Mr. Lindsey, who introduced it, spoke in advocacy of it, in the face of an adverse report by the committee. Mr. Cook chairman of the judiciary committee, which reported on the bill, replied. He said she was one of the persons charged by Mrs. Arrington. He had been charged against her with purchasing witnesses for her with purchasing witnesses for her. He thought all her other charges were false. If she believed what she said, why did she not charge the judges with it and have that charge impeached if she established her charges? She only charged the judiciary generally. Mr. Carver had not read Mrs. Arrington's open letter to the Legislature, but he had suffered at the hands of a judge; that in a suit of his the presiding judge was intimidated by a layman on the floor and thereby he had lost several Senators' votes. Several Senators arose and asked the name of the judge. He said it was Senator Cook. He said he was surprised and he must be mistaken. Mr. Carver said he believed it but he might be mistaken. The resolution was tabled.

To give dentists further time in which to register, passed second and third readings.

To regulate the forwarding of freight by railroads. Fowler advocated it warmly and asked if the Senators, after all their pledges to the people were going to sell out to the railroads. Mr. Starbuck said he was not doing anything of the sort, but railroads had rights as well as individuals, and they should be protected. Mr. White, of Alamance, opposed the bill and said the railroads were a great benefit to the people. This bill makes railroads liable for twice the value of the goods. Mr. Cook amended by making it \$10 per day. Mr. Marshall favored the bill and opposed the Cook amendment. The question recurred upon the Cook amendment. Yeas and nays ordered: yeas 95, nays 8. A amendment adopted. Bill passed second and third readings, and the Senate adjourned.

NOVEMBER. An unfavorable report was made on the bill changing the manner of drawing jurors by taking that power away from the county commissioners. A favorable report was made on the bill to aid the public schools by local assessments.

Hills were introduced as follows: By Mr. Henderson, to compel fire insurance companies to pay the full value of the face of the policy; by Mr. Morris, to afford better fire protection and to furnish the female department of the insane asylum at Raleigh; by Mr. French, to prevent the adulteration of candy; by Mr. M. L. Man, to enact a law for the sale of liquor in North Carolina on the plan of that in force in Missouri; by Mr. Juss, to regulate the hours of labor for women, children and others in factories, making nine hours a day's work.

Mr. French chairman of the committee on rules, made a report and read the new rules. The Speaker is allowed to designate a Speaker pro tem for two days instead of one day. Smoking in the House is prohibited. All members within the House are to vote unless excused and not over two minutes is allowed in explanation of a vote. Another rule is that a majority of all the members elected may suspend a rule (heretofore a two-thirds majority has been required). Yet another rule allows no member to speak more than twice on the same question, nor over 20 minutes for the first speech, and 10 for the second. Mr. French antagonized this as limiting debate. He said previously was 30 minutes and asserted that two-thirds of the House must vote to change a rule under which it had worked. Mr. French said there was a precedent, this being the constitutional convention of 1875, the highest body which had set in 30 years ago. He denied the accuracy of Mr. Peebles' position. Mr. French said in the absence of rules the general parliamentary rules governed, and he declared that Mr. French had cited no authority. The Speaker ruled in favor of Mr. French's position, citing the rules of Congress as authority, and that a majority of this House could adopt any rule at any time. The rule as to the suspension of debate was then adopted. Mr. Peebles demanded the yeas and nays on the rule that a majority of all the members "elected" can suspend a rule. The word "elected" was added by the rules committee. Mr. French saying that 61 votes were required under this new rule, and that its purpose was to require more than a mere majority of the members present to suspend a rule. Mr. Winborne offered an amendment to the rule and said the purpose in making a two-thirds vote necessary to a suspension of the rules was in order to prevent hasty legislation. Mr. Henderson said that though the Democratic members talked and talked yet it was only to filibuster, but that he was here for business. He said the fusionists had the count. He said that the majority had twenty years of Democratic legislation to undo and about ten years work to do. A Democrat asked Mr. Henderson if the fusionists proposed to put the State where it was twenty years ago. There was a big laugh and much applause at this. Mr. Henderson said the fusionists proposed to allow the Democrats might little time hereafter. Mr. Ray said Mr. Henderson's venom as exhibited to-day was that of a serpent. Mr. French said, "as ours is the responsibility here we ought to be allowed to do business in our own way." Mr. French rebuked Mr. Henderson for the latter's language. Mr. Henderson advanced and shook his finger and said, "I am personally responsible for all I say." Mr. Ray replied, "and so am I." The

Speaker here called both to order. Later Henderson apologized for his remarks regarding Mr. Ray. The latter did the same.

A vote was then taken on Winborne's amendment, requiring a two-thirds vote to suspend a rule and prevent two readings of a bill on the same day. The vote was yeas 37,