

Wednesday, Dec. 5.

A joint select committee was formed to superintend the public buildings and the expenditures of appropriations thereon on the part of the House of Commons, Messrs. Taylor, Clancy, M'Lean, Sellers, and Martin, were appointed; and on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Cox, Wall, Speight, Marsh, and Marshall.

Mr. Hill, of Franklin, from the committee to whom was referred the Resolution relative to an amendment of the Judiciary system, so far as regards the Circuit Courts, reported a bill to amend and extend an act passed in 1806, for the more convenient administration of justice within this State, by providing relief for the counties in which suits in their Superior Courts of Law and Equity, have or may so accumulate, that they cannot be tried at the regular terms of those Courts; which was read the first time.

The bill authorizing the building of a Toll Bridge over Roanoke river, at the town of Halifax, was read the third time and passed.

Monday, Dec. 1.

Mr. Williams, from the balloting committee for Governor, reported that Gabriel Holmes was duly elected.

Mr. Wellborn presented a bill to amend an act to extend and improve the two roads leading from Wilkesborough to the Tennessee line, so far as respects the appointment of commissioners; also a bill to amend an act to appoint commissioners to view and lay off a road leading across the mountain from Wilkesborough to Mrs. Bogle's, in Iredell county; which were read the first time, and the latter referred to the committee of Internal Improvements.

Mr. M'Leod presented a bill to repeal the latter clause of the 8th and the whole of the 9th, 10th, and 11th sections of an act passed in 1822, to promote Agriculture and Family Domestic Manufactures in this State; which was read the first time and referred to the committee on Agriculture.

The bill to divorce Elizabeth Wilkins, of Burke, from her husband, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Hill presented a bill to legitimate Sarah Smith, of Stokes; which was read the first time.

The engrossed bill for the relief of Ed. Owen, was read the second time. Mr. Seawell moved to amend the same by adding the following section:

"And be it further enacted, That all and every person heretofore convicted of the crime of petit larceny in this State, be and is hereby restored to credit in the same manner as if he, she or they had never been convicted of any crime."

Mr. Speight called for the Yeas and Nays on the adoption of this amendment, which were Yeas 2—Nays 55. The bill was then read the third time and ordered to be engrossed.

The engrossed bill concerning Michael Rymer, of Rowan, was read the third time and ordered to be enrolled.

The bill to regulate the practice in the several Courts of Equity in this State, was read the third time and ordered to be engrossed.

Tuesday, Dec. 2.

Mr. Wellborn presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to examine and report to this House, the expediency of so altering the present law that a *cor so shall not issue* against the body of any person while he is possessed of real or personal estate sufficient to satisfy the plaintiff's demand; and report by bill or otherwise.

Which resolution was referred to the committee on Criminal Law.

Mr. Forney, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of William Welsh and others, of Stokes county, praying for authority to erect gates, reported a bill, empowering the County Courts to grant leave for the erection of gates across public roads in their respective counties; which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. Forney, from the same committee, to whom was referred the petition of Joseph Byers, of Iredell county, praying authority to erect a gate on a road therein mentioned, free from the payment of tax, made a report unfavorable to the prayer of the petitioner; which was concurred in.

Received from the House of Commons, a message, stating that they have passed a bill to incorporate a Light Infantry company in the town of Edenton; and a bill to emancipate Sally Zimmerman, a slave belonging to the estate of Andrew Caldwell, deceased, of Rowan county. The first mentioned bill was rejected on its second reading, and the last was read the first, second and third times, and passed, and ordered to be enrolled.

A message from the House of Commons, stating their concurrence in the amendment made by the Senate to the bill to repeal, in part, the 4th section of the act of 1806, to revise the militia laws of this State relative to the artillery companies of light infantry, grenadiers and riflemen. Thereupon the said bill was ordered to be enrolled.

Mr. Callaway presented a bill to alter and amend the laws now in force relative to the Supreme Court; which was read the first time and passed, and referred to the committee on Criminal Law.

Mr. Cameron presented a bill to amend the act of 1818, concerning the Supreme Court; which was read the first time and passed.

Received from the House of Commons, a message, stating that they had passed a bill incorporating Morganton Academy; a bill to incorporate the Sandy Creek Library Society; a bill for the better regulation of Statesville; a bill to amend the act of 1822, supplemental to the act of 1784, appointing commissioners, and establishing the town of Morganton; a bill to repeal the 5th and 6th sections of the act of 1820, concerning the marriage of infant females; and a resolution in favor of Arthur Hutchins; which bills and resolution were severally read the first time and passed, and the resolution was ordered to be enrolled.

On motion of Mr. Bowers, it was Resolved, That the committee of Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reducing the tax laid on trading vessels on navigable streams and on pedlars; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Forney, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, reported a resolution in favor of Wm. Deloach; which was agreed to.

Mr. Martin, from the committee on Criminal Law, to whom was referred the bill to compel an executor or executrix to give security in certain cases, reported the same, with sundry amendments, which were agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Martin, from the same committee, reported a bill for the relief of Amos Harmon; which was read the first time and passed.

The bill for the relief of Jordan Denison, late Sheriff of Franklin, was read the second and third times and passed, amended, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Pearsall presented the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Whereas, many of the good citizens of this State sustain great inconvenience and injury from liberties given to slaves on days of musters and elections within the several counties of this State to attend the same: Therefore, Resolved, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances be instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing an act to prevent all slaves from attending musters and elections in this State, under proper restrictions; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

The bill empowering County Courts to grant leave for the erection of gates across the public roads in their respective counties, was, on its second reading, indefinitely postponed.

The engrossed bill to repeal the act of 1822, altering the times of holding two of the County Courts of Burke, was ordered to be enrolled.

Mr. Seawell presented a bill to repeal so much of the several acts as requires persons who complain of injury done to the health of their families to petition to the County Courts; and a bill to amend the Militia laws; which were severally read the first time and passed. The last mentioned bill was referred to the Military committee.

On motion of Mr. Bryan, Resolved, That the committee of the whole House, to whom was committed a bill to amend the act of 1806, for the more convenient administration of justice, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of dividing the State into districts composed of two or more counties each; for the purpose of holding a Superior Court of Law and Equity in each of said districts, at some convenient place therein; and that they report thereon.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Nov. 27.

On motion of Mr. Leonard, it was Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be required to examine into the propriety of so amending the public road laws, as to supersede the necessity of the same being given in charge to grand juries; and report by bill or otherwise.

Bills presented—Mr. Roane, a bill for the regulation of the town of Morganton; Mr. Barrow, a bill to repeal the act of 1822, directing the time and place of selling lands and slaves under execution, so far as respects the counties of Perquimons, Pasquotank and Camden; Mr. Hill, a bill for the better regulation of the town of Statesville; and Mr. Cole, a bill to regulate the County Courts of Richmond. Which bills were read the first time and passed.

The bill concerning Thomas Small, of Chowan county; and the bill for the relief of Edward Owen, of Person county, were respectively read the second time, and rejected.

Mr. Ward moved for the re-consideration of the bill for the relief of Edward Owen; which motion passed in the affirmative, and the said bill was, thereupon, read the second and third time and passed.

Mr. Croom presented a bill concerning the navigation of Neuse river; and Mr. Hargrave, a bill to amend the act of last session, supplemental to an act for the division of Rowan county; which bills were read the first time and passed.

Mr. Croom presented a bill to repeal the 44th section of the act of 1741, concerning servants and slaves; and Mr. Worth, a bill for the better regulation of elections in Guilford county. The former bill was referred to the Judiciary committee, and the latter passed its first reading.

Received from the Senate, a message, informing that they had passed a bill making compensator to jurors of the Superior and County Courts of Tyrrell; also a bill exempting certain citizens in Tyrrell county from public duty; also a bill to restore to credit John Clewis, of Brunswick county. The said bills were read the first time and passed.

Friday, Nov. 28.

Mr. Mebane from the Committee to whom was referred that part of the Governor's Message which relates to reser-

vation of lands which certain Cherokee Indians claim under the provisions of the treaties concluded at the Cherokee Agency on the 8th of July, 1817, and at Washington City on the 27th day of February, 1819, within the limits of this State, reported a Bill respecting said reservations; which was read the first time.

Messrs. Fisher and Henderson were appointed a Committee on Enrolled Bills.

Mr. Beall presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That a select committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of repealing the act of 1815, providing for the election of Electors to vote for a President and Vice President of the U. States by a general ticket; and in lieu thereof to restore the district principle of electing Electors for the same purpose: And that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Alston said, this was a question of principle which might as well be brought before the House at once, as the House would at last have to decide the question. He should, therefore, oppose this Resolution which proposes to refer the matter to a committee.

Mr. Stanly thought the House frequently erred in coming directly to the decision of questions of importance without going into a previous enquiry into the expediency of the object proposed. It was the practice of most Legislative Bodies first to make this enquiry, and if the measure proposed be deemed expedient, a bill to effect the object is introduced. This appeared to him a correct mode of proceeding. Regarding the present Resolution, he thought it would be well to make it the order for some certain day. On this subject, however, and on every other in relation to general politics, he had an opinion, which he was always prepared to give. He was not disposed to flatter any man, but to speak freely, regardless of the consequences. Respecting Elections, if there were any corruptions on earth to be peculiarly guarded against, they were such as might injure the right of election—and on this foundation our country had attained the pinnacle of the highest glory, and become the admiration of the world.

Mr. S. recollected to have heard a sentiment expressed when a boy, which then greatly shocked him, but the truth of which he had since believed to have witnessed on some occasions—that "Monarchies govern by force, Republics by fraud."

By the general ticket, what interest do the people take in the election of a President of the United States? Look at the returns of the three last elections. How many votes were given in the whole State? Not, he would venture to say, 6,000 out of 60,000.—And yet, he asked, is there a subject on which freemen ought to be more alive? Do not our lives, our liberty, our all, depend upon the right administration of our General Government? yet you have cunningly devised a system by which the freemen of the country are deprived of their influence—they know nothing of the men proposed to be elected as Electors, and they therefore feel no interest in the election.

But by the general ticket, it is said, we give the State its proper weight in the election of a President. The eastern and western divisions of the State differ materially in their interests. The east export naval stores, lumber and cotton—to one market the west drive their Beef to Augusta. Where, then, is the propriety of our acting together upon the choice of President? We are told the State is benefited by it. How? Is it that citizens of the State may share the loaves and fishes? If this be the motive, it is a base one. I spurn it. Let us look for what we are entitled to from the General Government, on the ground of our merits; not on account of our giving to the President our 15 undivided votes.

But how have we succeeded in our calculation. Look at the State of Delaware, sometimes called the little Republic of St. Marino, and you will find that she receives more attention from the General Government than the State of North-Carolina. We are, said Mr. S. mere Puppets moved at the command of some Jugglers who hold the wire behind the curtain.

The Eastern part of the State, he said, were cursed with a large slave population, the possession of which gives a considerable addition to the number of our votes for electors.—The people of the west have fewer slaves; the curse bears more lightly on them; the price of the increased number of electors is paid by the East, why then should we not have them?

Yet although we ought to have, by federal numbers, half the Electors; though every man in the East should unite in support of one man or one ticket, under the present general ticket law, the west, exceeding us in the number of votes, can elect the whole.—The East loses all weight in the election.—This sacrifice of right was once made on the altar of party—its necessity does not exist—it is unjust and should be abolished.

In his view, Mr. S. said, the fairest possible mode of electing Electors, was, to lay off the State in districts, let every district have his Elector, and every man his vote.

But by the mode of electing by general ticket, how is the ticket agreed upon? A few men at Washington, unknown to us, not trusted by us, debarr'd by the Constitution from the trust, Traitors to the Constitution, form what they call a Caucus, and tell us who shall be the president. Our State Legislature, acting "like master, like man," go into a caucus too, and determine who shall be electors. There is not, said Mr. S. a greater fraud upon the Constitution, a greater curse, or more dangerous invasion of the rights of the people, than this Caucus System.

My opinion is, that the law providing for the election of Electors by general ticket ought to be repealed, and every thing which gives countenance to Caucuses should be put down. I would prefer the District System; but if that cannot be got, I would be in favor of giving the Legislature the power of appointing Electors; for as an Election of the Legislature would take place before the Electors would be appointed, the people would have it in their power to elect such persons to seats, as would faithfully represent them. He hoped the Resolution would for the present be permitted to lie on the table.

Mr. E. Brown concurred in opinion with the gentleman from Newbern, that the Resolutions ought to lie on the table, and be made the order for some distant day. The subject was too important to be decided without consideration. He moved that it be made the order of the day for Wednesday next.

Both motions were agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Polk, a message was sent to the Senate proposing to ballot

immediately for a solicitor for the 8th Judicial District, and stating that Jos. Wilson and Hugh M. Stokes are in nomination for that appointment. This message was not concurred in by the Senate.

Mr. Blackledge presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of Beaufort County, praying to be exempted from serving as Jurors; and Mr. Clement presented the petition of Wm. Neale, of Rowan County, praying for leave to erect a Gate on a public road running through his lands—These petitions were referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Stanly presented a memorial from the Society of Friends, at their yearly meeting, held at New Garden in Guilford, on the 11th inst. praying that measures may be taken to ameliorate the condition of Slaves.—Referred to Messrs. Stanly, Ward, Blackledge, Pugh and Love.

Mr. Stanly presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Davidson, respecting the location of the seat of Justice in said county.—Referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Fisher presented the petition of the Executors of Andrew Caldwell, late of Rowan, praying that certain negroes, mentioned in said petition, be emancipated agreeably to the wish and direction of the Testator.—Referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Melcher presented a Bill to amend an act passed in 1819, relative to the apprehension of runaway slaves.

Mr. Williamson presented a Bill prescribing the duty of Constables and other officers in certain cases; which was read the first time.

Mr. Stanly, from the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred the resolution instructing them to enquire into the propriety of amending the Laws providing for Widows, reported a bill to amend said laws, which bill was read the first time.

Saturday, Nov. 29.

Mr. Alston offered the following Resolution, which was, on motion, laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Public Treasurer be directed to lay before this House, a particular account and statements of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Board of Internal Improvement for the two years past, up to the first day of this month (November.)

Mr. Ward from the Committee appointed to conduct the balloting for a Treasurer, Comptroller, and Secretary, reported that John Haywood was elected Treasurer, Joseph Hawkins Comptroller, and Wm. Hill Secretary.

Mr. Blackledge, from the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of the Executors of Andrew Caldwell, late of Rowan County, reported a bill favorable to the prayer of the petitioner, which was read the first and second time, and passed.

Mr. Iredell, who voted in the majority for the indefinite postponement of the Bill for the relief of David Blalock, of Orange county, moved for the reconsideration of the vote. The vote was reconsidered, and the bill passed its first and second readings.

Monday, Dec. 1.

Mr. Williamson, of Northampton, from the balloting committee for Governor, reported that Gabriel Holmes, Esq. was duly elected.

Mr. Hastings presented a bill to establish the mode of elections in future in Wayne county; and Mr. Flynt, a bill providing for the more extensive distribution of the Journals of the Legislature; which bills were read the first time and passed.

Mr. Elliott presented the petition of the Justices of the Peace of Perquimons county, praying to be exempted from serving as Jurors; and Mr. Alston, the petition of Wm. Clopton and others of Halifax county, praying for the appointment of special justices in said county. The said petitions were referred to the judiciary committee.

Mr. Ward, from the Committee of Claims, reported unfavorably on the petition of Jarrett Weaver, of Halifax county, recommending its rejection; which report was concurred in.

The bill from the Senate, authorizing the building of a toll-bridge over Roanoke River at the town of Halifax, was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Blackledge, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Jacob Smith and others, of Burke county, made a report unfavorable to the prayer of the petition; which was concurred in.

Mr. Blackledge, from the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, reported a bill in favor of Sally Hampton, of Stokes county; which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. Blackledge presented a bill to alter the present mode of electing Sheriffs; which was read and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Stanly, from the judiciary committee, reported a bill to secure the rights of landlords and tenants holding over after the expiration of their terms; which was read the first time and passed, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Sheppard presented a bill to amend the act of 1777, appointing Sheriffs, and directing their duty in office, &c. which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. Blackledge reported a bill autho-

rising Wm. Neal, of Rowan county, erect a gate on his lands; which was the first time and passed.

Mr. M'Farland presented a bill to amend, in part, the act of 1821, regarding the patrol of Richmond county; which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. Mebane, from the committee on Internal Improvement, reported to facilitate the navigation of the river. The bill passed its first reading.

On motion of Mr. J. A. Hill, Resolved, That the committee on Education be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing, by law, schools throughout the State, in conformity to the 41st section of the Constitution, which makes it the duty of the Legislature to establish schools for the general instruction of the youth of the State, and to provide for the due encouragement of useful learning.

Mr. Mebane, from the committee that part of the Governor's Message which relates to the Cherokee, reported a bill concerning the same in Haywood county; which was read the first time.

The bill for the better regulation of the town of Windsor, was read the third time and passed, and ordered to be enrolled.

Mr. Barnard presented a bill to amend a part of Currituck county to county; which passed its first reading.

Mr. Stanly, from the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred the repeal the 5th and 6th sections of the act of 1820, to prevent the marriage of infant females, made a report, mending that the said bill be passed to a law. The report was concurred in and the bill passed its second reading.

The resolution offered by Mr. Alston on Saturday last, moved in the House, Mr. Iredell moved to amend by striking out the words "resolved," and substituting "referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances;" which was agreed to.

That the Public Treasurer report to this General Assembly the amount of monies he has received during the years appropriated to the Board of Internal Improvement, and the amount he has expended of the said fund according to law; and Resolved, further, That the Board of Internal Improvement be directed to report to this General Assembly a condensed statement of their accounts, from the commencement of their operations to the 1st of November, exhibiting an account of the monies received from the Public Treasurer, and disbursements made by them, specifying the objects to which such monies have been applied, and accompanied with such explanations as the Board may think proper to make.

The amendment was agreed to, and the resolution passed its first reading.

Tuesday,

The House proceeded to consider the petition of sundry citizens of the county of Bladen and Cumberland, presented by Mr. Ashe on the 23d ultimo, and ordered to lie on the table. The petition was referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Clancy, from the committee appointed to conduct the balloting for Solicitor of the 6th Judicial Circuit, reported that Joseph Wilson was elected.

On motion, Messrs. Holland, Hunter, Melcher, Bowers, M. Wilkins, Stuart, Bartow, C. Bryan, Watson, Ward, Leavelle and Sellers, were appointed a committee on Militia.

The bill to divorce Elizabeth Wilkins, from her husband, was read the second time, and the act encouraging the apprehension of runaway slaves in the Great District, also the bill to regulate the practice in the several Courts of Equity in this State; also the bill directing the manner the laws of our sister States, be received in evidence in this State, were severally read the first time and passed.

Mr. Stanly presented a bill to amend certain limitations of slaves or writing; and Mr. Lowrie, a bill to amend the manner in which the tax laid for building a Court house in said county; which bills were read the first time.

Mr. Croom, from the balloting committee for Brigadier General, reported that Henry H. Hargrave was duly elected.

The bill for the more extensive distribution of the Journals of the Assembly, was, on its second reading, postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Pugh, from the balloting committee for a Public Printer, reported that Gales and Son were duly elected.

Mr. Ashe presented the petition of sundry citizens of Bladen county, praying that a petition, presented to the Assembly for the purpose of amending the laws of the county of Bladen, be rejected. The petition was referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Fisher presented the resolution, which was read, and ordered to be printed, and made the order of the day for Friday next.

The General Assembly of North-Carolina with zeal and veneration principles on which the Constitution is established, and the principles which animate the Federal System, with distrust and apprehension, view these principles, or to violate the history of all governments shows that the people are in less open violence, than from secret encroachments. In the first place, people are apprized of the danger which is impending over them, and coming under the mask of patriotism is lulled, and its danger unperceived.