

CONGRESS,  
SECOND SESSION.—SIXTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.  
SENATE.

TUESDAY, DEC. 10.—Agreedly to motion, Mr. Johnson, of Ga., having obtained leave, introduced a bill to abolish imprisonment for debt; by the Courts of the United States, and the bill was twice read by general consent, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

In introducing this bill, Mr. J. made a few general remarks, explanatory of the justice and expediency of such an act; intimating that he should go more fully into the merits of the measure, when the bill should come up for consideration.

The following Message, from the President of the United States, received yesterday, was read:

To the Senate of the United States.

Recent information of the multiplied outrages and depredations, which have been committed on our seamen and commerce, by the Pirates in the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico, exemplified by the death of a very meritorious officer, seems to call for some prompt and decisive measures on the part of the government—

At the public vessels adapted to that service, which can be spared from other indispensable duties, are already employed in it; but, from the knowledge which has been acquired of the places from whence these outlaws issue, and to which they escape from danger, it appears that it will require a particular kind of force, capable of pursuing them into the shallow waters to which they retire, effectually to suppress them. I submit to the consideration of Congress the propriety of organizing such a force for the important object.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, 6th Dec. 1822.

The Message was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, to consider and report.

SUPPRESSION OF PIRACY.

THURSDAY, DEC. 12.—Mr. PLEASANTS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following bill, which was twice read by general consent:

Bear enacted, &c. That, for the purpose of enabling the President of the United States to afford more efficient protection to the commerce of the United States, from the depredations of Pirates in the Gulf of Mexico and the West Indies, sum the sum of —— dollars, a hereby appropriated to be paid out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, which sum shall be used by the President in providing such an additional force as in his judgment shall be best calculated to answer the end aforesaid.

Accompanying this bill, Mr. PLEASANTS, said before the Senate, a communication from the Secretary of the Navy to the Chairman of the Naval Committee, furnishing estimates of the additional force deemed necessary for the suppression of piracy, and the expense thereof. The Secretary, having the concurring opinion of the Navy Board in his favor, recommends an additional force, of

First, 1 Steam Boat of 90 to 120 tons, to carry two 18 pounders, and two 12 pounders, upon travelling carriages, so as to fire from any part of the ship.

Second, 10 fast sailing Schooners, of 45 to 60 tons burthen, to draw not more than 5 to 7 feet water; each to be armed with one long 12 or 18 pounder, mounted on a circle, with two 12 pound carriages; with the necessary number of small arms, to row from 20 to 24 sweeps; and

Third, 5 light double bank Cutters, each to row 20 oars, and adapted to carry 40 men, well armed with muskets, pistols, boarding pikes, cutlasses, &c.

The whole cost of providing these additional vessels, and of equipping and fitting them for service, is estimated at 44,000 dollars.]

The Senate then adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, DEC. 10.—On motion of Mr. J. J. JOHNSON, of Ky., it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing to the widowed mother of Lieut. W. H. Allen, of the United States' Navy, a half pay pension for five years.

CLOTHING THE MILITIA.

The House then, on motion of Mr. CANNON, resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill for clothing the Militia when in actual service—Mr. COX, in the chair.

The bill was read through.

No amendment being proposed to it, the committee of the whole rose and reported it to the House. On the question to engross it for a third reading—

Mr. HARVEY suggested that this bill ought to have a more full examination before it was finally acted upon; and he therefore moved that the bill lie upon the table, and be printed for the use of the members.

Which motion was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11.—Mr. JOHN L. ARTHUR, elected in the place of Mr. BLAIR, of South Carolina, resigned, appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. COOPER, of N. J., offered the following resolution:

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary and Clerk of the respective Houses to lay before Congress, at the commencement of every session, a detailed statement of the expenditures of the contingent fund of each House during the preceding session, stating the items, quantity, price, and to whom payment is made.

TUESDAY, DEC. 12.—Mr. CANNON, from the Committee on the Militia, reported the bill for disciplining the militia of the U. States, in an amended shape; which was ordered to lie on the table.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13.—Mr. FULLER, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred the message of the President, upon the subject of piracy, reported "A bill authorizing an additional naval force for the suppression of piracy;" which bill was read the first and second time, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union.

Mr. HENFILL, from the committee appointed on that part of the President's message which relates to the Cumberland Roads, reported a bill for the preservation and repair of the Cumberland Road; which bill was read the first and second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Mr. HENFILL, from the same committee, also reported a bill making appropriations for the Cumberland road; which was read the first and second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, DEC. 13.—Mr. Vanhook presented a resolution, instructing the Military Committee to inquire into the expediency of having the military laws, heretofore passed, and which may be past this session, stitched up in a pamphlet form, and sent with the acts of Assembly, one copy for each field officer and captain—which was agreed to.

SATURDAY, DEC. 14.—Mr. Graves presented a resolution instructing the military committee to inquire into the expediency of amending the militia laws, that some certain system of uniformity may be established in uniform of militia officers—which was agreed to.

RECEIVED FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

A message, stating that they have passed a bill appointing commissioners to view and lay off the road leading across the mountains from Wilkesborough to Mrs. Bogie's in Ireland; also a bill directing the time and place of selling lands and slaves under execution; and also a resolution in favor of Samuel Whitaker—which were read the first time.

The bill to repeal in part, an act directing the designation of roads, and how they shall be compelled to work under overseers of roads in the counties of Lincoln, Columbus, Burke and Rockingham, was read the third time.

MONDAY, DEC. 16.—Mr. Cameron, from the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred a resolution, directing an inquiry into the expediency of amending the laws touching the removal of suits from one county to another—also, the laws granting appeals from the Superior in the Supreme Court, reported a bill to amend the act of 1821, to promote the administration of Justice—which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. Branch presented a resolution proposing to appoint a joint select committee to inquire into the administration of the Banks of this State, whether any of them have exacted more than six percent for discounts; and whether they have in good faith complied with the terms of their charters, by paying specie for their notes—which was agreed to; and Messrs. Branch, Williamson, Seawell, Miller and Outlaw, appointed a committee on the part of the Senate.

The bill to repeal part of the act of 1819, establishing the mode of elections in Buncombe County—the bill to regulate the patrol of Richmond—the bill to incorporate the Mecklenburg Agricultural Society; and a bill to appoint commissioners, and to incorporate the town of Huntsville, in Surry county, were read the third time and ordered to be engrossed.

TUESDAY, DEC. 17.—Mr. Shober, from the select committee, to whom was referred the engrossed bill, supplemental to the act passed this session, for the division of Rowan County, reported the same with sundry amendments—which were read the 2d and 3d times.

Mr. J. J. White, a bill to establish Miltontown Academy in Anson county, and to incorporate the trustees thereof—which bills were read the first time and passed.

TUESDAY, DEC. 17.—The following bills were presented:

By Mr. S. A. Bryan, a bill for the better regulation of apprentices from the offices of Justices of the Peace.

Mr. J. J. White, a bill to establish Miltontown Academy in Anson county, and to incorporate the trustees thereof—which bills were read the first time and passed.

TUESDAY, DEC. 17.—The following bills were presented viz:

By Mr. Baird, a bill supplementary to an act passed in the year 1784, to appoint commissioners and to establish Morganton, in Burke county.

Mr. Brickell, a bill to repeal part of the 3d section of an act passed in 1789, to amend an act directing the mode of proceeding against the real estate of deceased debtors where the personal estate is insufficient for the payment of debts.

Mr. Fisher, a bill concerning Notary Publics, Clerks of the county courts and county Solicitors.

Which bills past their 1st reading.

Mr. Lamb, a bill respecting the pay of the Judges of the superior courts in certain cases. [Proposed to deduct \$1200 from their allowance, for each day, he may fail to attend their courts regularly.] This bill was read the first time, and on motion of Mr. Moore, indefinitely postponed—Yea 70. Nays 35.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18.—On motion of Mr. Burin, the committee on Internal Improvements was instructed to inquire into the expediency of appropriating — dollars out of the funds set apart for Internal Improvements, for the purpose of opening a road from Morganton to the North Cape, in Burke county, thence to the Tennessee line.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole House. Mr. Graves at the chair, on the bill to alter the mode of electing Sheriffs, and to vest the right of creating in the people. After consideration the committee rose, and on motion, the bill was indefinitely postponed.

RECEIVED FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

A message, stating that they have passed a bill to amend and extend the act of 1808, providing relief for the counties in which suits in their Superior Courts of Law and Courts of Equity may accumulate that they cannot be tried at the regular term of those courts.

On motion of Mr. Person, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill establishing the Bank of North Carolina, which being read the second time, and on motion of Mr. B. V. of Gates, indefinitely postponed—Yea 36. Nays 24.

The engrossed bill to amend the act of 1817, authorizing the county court of Wilkes to appoint a committee of finance; the bill to appoint commissioners to lay off the road from Wilkesborough to Mrs. Bogie's; also the bill to incorporate Shady Grove Academy; and the engrossed bill for the better regulation and discipline of the militia of Ashe county, were each read the 3d time and ordered to be engrossed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, DEC. 13.—Mr. Mebane, from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred the resolution directing them to inquire into the expediency of altering or amending the laws relative to vagrants, gamblers, &c., made a report recommending the passage of a bill to amend an act to empower the County Courts to provide for the safe keeping of the estates of idiots and lunatics—which bill was read the 1st time.

The bill to repeal the 13th section of an act passed in 1818, respecting the reporting of the decisions of the Supreme Court; and also an act passed in 1821, on the same subject, were read the 3d time, amended and passed.

Mr. Barringer presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Raleigh, praying that the day for the meeting of the Assembly be altered to some other day in the week, in order to prevent the violation of the Sabbath, occasioned by the members' arrival in the city on that day. Referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

The bill to alter the time of the meeting of the General Assembly, on motion of Mr. Pugh, was indefinitely postponed—Yea 82. Nays 48.

SATURDAY, DEC. 14.—The bill to amend an act passed in 1807, to regulate the charges of Sheriffs, Coroners, &c., passed its first reading.

Mr. McRae from the committee on the Cherokee Lands, to whom was referred that part of the Governor's message which relates to reservation of lands by Cherokee Indians, under the provisions of the Treaties concluded at the Cherokee Agency in 1817, and at the city of Washington in 1819; also the resolution directing them to inquire into the propriety of applying to Congress to extinguish such claims, made a report recommending the passage of a resolution requesting our Representatives in Congress to use their influence to effect the extinguishment of said claims.

SUNDAY, DEC. 15.—Mr. McRae presented a resolution directing the Secretary of State to issue to the Trustees of the University, military land warrants in every case, founded on the muster roll of the continental line of this State, for such quantities of lands as the soldiers themselves, or their representatives, are entitled to, which warrants have not been heretofore issued; and that they hold the same in trust for those justly entitled to them, which was agreed to.

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