GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

BY AUTHORITY OF CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, July 18, 1868.

The Senate was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Dr. J. B. Smith.

A message was received from the House, transmitting the report of the Committee on Adjournment, with a resolution proposing to adjourn on the 10th. of August next, and to meet again on the 10th. of November next; also, a resolution allowing *per diem* and mileage to certain Senators, who were banned from taking their seats. (Subsequently, Mr. Robbins moved that the Senate concur, when Mr. Jones, of Wake, thought it would cause debate and moved an adjournment.)

Mr. Lassiter presented a telegram from the Hon. Nathaniel Boyden, stating that the disabilities of the Senator from Mecklenburg, Mr. Osborne, had been removed.

The Chair invited the Senator forward, and he was qualified by Judge Jones and took his seat.

A message was received from the House, transmitting an act to provide for the qualification of certain officers, recently elected under the provisions of the Constitution of the State of North Carolina, with amendments.

Mr. Sweet offered to amend the 1st section. The Chairman decided that the motion to amend was out of order—the bill having passed its third reading in the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Sweet, the Senate refused to concur in the amendment from the House, and appointed a Committee of Conference.

Messrs. Sweet and Robbins composed the Senate branch.

Subsequently, the report of the Committee was concurred in; when

Mr. Hayes moved (the House concurring) that 2,000 copies of said bill be printed in order that the Sheriffs of the several Counties may be supplied. Agreed to.

(We will publish this bill as soon as we can procure a printed copy of it, as finally amended and passed.)

Mr. Blythe introduced a bill to amend an act to incorporate the Greenville & French Broad Rail Road Company.

The following bills were acted upon on their third reading and disposed of as follows, viz:

Bill to legalize and confirm a decree made by the Court of Equity at the Fall term, A. D. 1867, in the county of Buncombe, in favor of the heirs at law of G. W. Candler, deceased. On motion of Mr. Blythe, it was laid on the table.

An act entitled an act concerning Inspectors for the city of Wilmington, was, on motion of Mr. Robbins, referred to a Special Committee of three. The Chair designated as follows, viz: Messrs. Sweet, Hall and Legg.

An act to amend chapter 85 of the Revised Code, providing for the election of Commissioners of Pilotage for the Cape Fear Navigation, was, on motion of Mr. Robbins, referred to the Committee on Corporations.

Bill to incorporate the town of Brevard, in the County of Transylvania, passed.—(The bill reads that the corporate limits shall extend from a central point one mile each way. This is a round town, six miles in circumference.)

An act to regulate the collection of taxes throughout the State, (Senate bill by Mr. Colgrove,) which reads as follows:

SECTION 1. *The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact,* That it shall be the duty of each Sheriff, on receiving the tax list of his county, to give at least ten days' public notice in each township or precinct, for the purpose of receiving said taxes, and all who neglect to pay on that day, or within fifteen days thereafter, shall pay *ten per cent.* additional fees.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the Sheriff shall have the power to levy on real estate for taxes, and sell the same after giving forty days' public notice thereof; *Provided,* There is not enough personal property to be found to pay said taxes.

SEC. 3. This act shall apply to all uncollected taxes.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Mr. Robbins moved its indefinite postponement. He was surprised that any Senator should have introduced such a merciless bill. He supposed that it must have originated from some man *who does not love North Carolina!* He protested against this bill, in the name of the suffering people of this State. The laws upon this subject were already stringent enough. This bill would enrich the Sheriff, but was death to our poverty stricken people.

Mr. Colgrove was willing that the bill should be referred to an appropriate Committee, but was opposed to its indefinite postponement.

Messrs. Osborne and Barrow concurred in the position taken by Mr. Robbins. The Committee of Finance would introduce a general bill covering this subject, and they were in favor of its indefinite postponement.

The bill was postponed indefinitely by a vote of 31 ayes to 1 nay—Mr. Colgrove alone voting in the negative.

Bill appointing Judges of Superior Courts, Clerks of Superior Courts and Chairmen of the Boards of County Commissioners to take privy examination of *feme covert* in the conveyance of *real estate,* was amended and passed.

On motion of Mr. Jones, of Wake, the Senate adjourned until Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(BY UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.)

SATURDAY, July 18, 1868.

The buzzards congregated at the usual hour.

Prayer by the Rev. Ashantee Epps, (negro of the darkest hue and member of the Senate,) of "jackass and *other* horned cattle" notoriety.

The record of yesterday's scallawagism was produced and enjoyed.

Justice, of Rutherford, said something exquisitely unimportant, which met the general approval of the scallawag portion of the "House."

Renfrow introduced a resolution, authorizing the Speaker to make a requisition on the Secretary of State for *postage stamps* (look out, stamps!) for the use of the body. Lies over.

By Vestal: A resolution in regard to *per diem* and mileage—allowing the Speakers $8 per day, and members, Clerks, Doorkeepers, &c., $5 per day, and 20 cts. mileage. Referred to the Committee on Per diem and Mileage.

Mendenhall stated that there was a resolution to the same effect before the Committee, and that he did not see the necessity of this.

By Peck: A bill to suspend the collection of taxes for 1868. Referred.

By the same: A bill authorizing out-going sheriffs to turn over to their successors all processes in their hands, &c. Referred.

By the same: A bill to incorporate the Union Joint Stock Banking Co. Referred.

By Estes, (Chief of the carpet-baggers:) A bill to regulate the mode of proceeding in contested elections. Lies over.

By the same: A bill to allow the Wilmington & Weldon R. R. Co., to construct branch roads, in order to encourage agriculture in Eastern Carolina.

A bill to provide for the attendance of witnesses in certain cases. Referred.

By Mr. Parker: A bill to allow the Sheriff of Northampton county until the 1st of June, 1869, to settle for taxes. Referred.

By Sykes, (a very respectable negro:) A resolution regulating the election of members of Congress. Referred.

Estes moved to reconsider the vote on the bill fixing the bonds of officers. (Some Radical, recently elected to office, who can't give a good bond, wants the liabilities reduced.) The motion was put and, a quorum not voting, the motion was lost.

Mr. Pou moved a call of the House. Agreed to. The news being spread that the roll was about to be called, there was a general rush of the "cheese and cracker" brigade to come in and answer to the names under which they now pass.

A quorum being ascertained to be present, Mr. Pou renewed the motion to reconsider.

The motion was ruled out of order by Prince Joe.

Estes not having the audacity to appeal from the decision of the "heir apparent," the ruling was acquiesced in.

Harris, of Wake, (negro, known as Pound Jim,) moved to reconsider the vote by which the motion to reconsider was lost.

The Prince, being in a bad humor, visited a portion of his wrath on the head of Jim, and ruled him out of order.

Harris, (negro,) determined not to be outdone even by his royal Highness, moved to reconsider the vote by which the House concurred in the Senate's action in this matter.

The motion was put and lost—a quorum again not voting.

Jeems wanted to know if there was no rule to compel members in the Hall to vote.

The Prince said that this could be done only when the yeas and nays were called.

Harris, (negro,) then moved that the yeas and nays be called upon the motion.

The Sprig of Royalty in the Chair said the question had been put and lost, from the fact of a quorum not voting. Therefore, the motion to call the yeas and nays was out of order.

A message from the Senate was read, asking the concurrence of the House in a resolution, instructing the Committee on Printing to make arrangements to print the Code Commissioners Report. Referred.

CALENDAR.

A report from the Judiciary Committee which had been placed upon the Calendar, was taken up and read. (The report recommends that the consideration of the bill to change the mode of electing Superior Court Judges be postponed until next session.)

Mr. Bowman moved that the House adopt the recommendation. Carried.

A report from the same Committee was read, recommending the passage of a bill to prohibit the sale of liquor on days of election.

Mr. Bowman moved to amend by extending the provision of the act to days on which the terms of the Superior Courts are held.

Mr. Pou said the effect of Mr. B's amendment worked such a material change in the bill, that he wanted time to consider it; and, therefore, moved to make the bill the Special Order for Wednesday next at 11 o'clock. Carried.

The Chair announced the hour for the special order, viz: the bill in relation to provisional municipal officers. The bill was put on its second reading and read section by section.

Mr. Durham called attention to Section 5, Article XIV, of the Constitution, pointed out, in an able and lucid argument, the objects of the Section, and proceeded to show that conferring such powers upon the Governor, as was provided for in the bill, would be plainly a violation of their oaths to support the Constitution.

Mr. Seymour endeavored, by extracts here and there in the Constitution, to show the constitutionality of the measure.

Mr. Durham said that it was a maxim, known to all, that Constitutions should be construed strictly, and suppositions as to intended meaning should never be called up, when a vital principle of the instrument is discussed. They had no right to take merely the verbiage of one section and twist its construction to suit their purposes. It should be taken as a whole, and the bearing of one section upon another should be considered.

Mr. Seymour merely reiterated his former views.

Stilley jumped up and read something totally foreign to the subject.

Mr. Durham again addressed the house, showing up completely the illegality of the bill and the iniquity in which it was conceived.

Somebody here trod on old Mr. Downing's toes and woke *him* up. He rubbed his eyes and asked information on several points in the argument.

Stilley must say something, and, so, in endeavoring to further elucidate the subject, succeeded perfectly in muddling the whole matter.

Mr. Bowman took the *Chair,* and the royal young 'un took the *floor,* and proceeded, in the most approved "spread eagle" style, to talk in favor of his august papa's measure. He particularly exploded upon Gen. Canby's order, and the true meaning of the article in question, and gave a metaphysical disquisition on the words "appointed and chosen," which would have struck Locke dumb in admiration.

Jeems Harris (negro) thought the intention of the bill as clear as the noon day's sun.

Mr. Seymour, greatly lamenting the absence of Shaker Joe in this present difficulty, labored faithfully to make every body look through his spectacles.

Mr. Pou thought the bill expedient, and should vote for it, if it could be proven satisfactorily that its passage did not violate the Constitution, and thought if this bill should be decided unconstitutional, that the House could remedy the evil by passing a bill providing for early elections.

Stilley attempted to make a point, but he drew it so excessively fine that no one could see it.

Mr. Argo replied to the artistic use of words by the Prince, and proceeded, in an able and effective argument, to expose the unconstitutionality of the bill and the evident malignant and wicked purposes of it.

After much talk, the further consideration of the bill was postponed until Monday, 11 o'clock.

The Committee, to whom was referred Mr. Sinclair's bill, regulating taxes in corporate towns, reported upon it unfavorably.

Mr. Bowman moved, as Mr Sinclair was absent, that the bill be passed over. Carried.

The Committee, to whom was referred the bill to continue in office the municipal authorities of Salisbury, reported, recommending its passage.

Mr. Bowman moved to postpone it until Monday next. Carried.

By Laflin [c. b.]: A resolution that the Committee on contested elections be discharged from the further consideration of the Camden County case, and that it be transferred to a special Committee appointed to investigate the matter. Adopted.

House bill No. 26, introduced by Justice, of Rutherford, proposing to prevent land holders from discharging their employees, &c., was taken up, when Mr. Moore moved to lay it on the table.

The motion to table was put and lost by a strict *party* vote.

After some further unimportant business, the gang took a notion it was time to quit; whereupon, some unknown individual made the necessary motion, which, being put, was carried.

SENATE.

MONDAY, July 20, 1868.

The Senate was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hudson, of the City.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. White: A bill for the protection of mechanics and laborers. (This bill gives laborers a lien on all work done by them, to better secure their payment.)

By Mr. Sweet: A resolution instructing the Secretary of State to furnish, for the use of the General Assembly, a tabular statement of the vote in the recent State election.

By Mr. Colgrove: A resolution authorizing the Code Commissioners to prepare rules for the regulation of registration throughout the State.

By Mr. Blythe: A resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to report a bill for the organization of the State Militia, the white and colored races to be organized in separate Companies.

The following Bills and Resolutions came up and were disposed of as follows, viz:

Bill extending the tax lists of the Counties of Washington and Martin. Passed its second reading.

Bill providing for filling vacancies occurring in offices provided for in article 7 of the Constitution of the State.

Mr. Robbins proposed to amend, by striking out the clause which empowers the Governor to appoint in certain cases, and inserting "by special election, to be held by the Sheriff of the county under a writ of election to be issued to him by the Governor of the State."

The amendment was rejected and the bill passed its second reading.

House resolution providing for separate schools for the two races. On motion of Mr. Brogden, it was referred to the Committee on Education.

Bill to incorporate the North Carolina Life Assurance, Annuity and Trust Company, to be located in the city of Raleigh, was referred to the Committee on Corporations.

Bill to incorporate the Enterprise Manufacturing Company (principal office to be established in the city of Philadelphia:) Referred to the Committee on Corporations.

Bill requiring the Trustees of the University to reside in the counties for which they have been chosen, passed its second reading.

Bill ratifying and confirming the corporation of the Western North-western North Carolina Railroad Company, passed its second reading.

Bill to increase the capital stock of the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, passed its second reading.

The Resolutions introduced by Mr. Robbins, a few days since, defining the distinctions between the two races, coming up, Mr. Shoffner moved their reference to a special Committee of Five.

This motion created some debate.

Messrs. Robbins and Love opposed the reference, believing the object was to dodge the responsibility of a vote upon them, and that the reference would be so considered by the people at large.

Mr. Lindsey opposed its reference because he desired to be put on record immediately relative to this matter, and did not desire to have the impression made that he was disposed to dodge the vote.

Messrs. Shoffner, Cook, Blythe, Welker and Brogden favored its reference; and the reference was made by the following vote:

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs. Barrow, Beasley, Bellamy, Brogden, Burns, Blythe, Colgrove, Cook, Davis, Eaves, Etheridge, Eppes, negro, Forkner, Hayes, Harrington, Hall, Legg, Lassiter, Long, Martindale, Rich, Smith, Shoffner, Sweet, Welker, White, Wynne, Winstead and Wilson.

Those who voted in the negative are Messrs. Lindsey, Love, Melchor, Mason, Osborne, Purdie and Robbins.

The Chair designated Messrs. Robbins, Shoffner, Osborne, Sweet and Brogden, as the Committee.

The Resolution allowing *per diem* to members banned by the Howard Amendment, up to the 16th of July:

Mr. Forkner moved its reference to the Committee on Finance. The motion was lost.

Messrs. Robbins, Osborne and Love urged the adoption of the resolution. Those gentlemen were sent here by their constituents with a certificate of election from Gen. Canby; they are excluded from their seats by this body, and it is not just that they should be compelled to defray their own expenses under these circumstances.

Messrs. Smith, Blythe, Forkner, Brogden and Cook were opposed to the resolution and were not ready to pay men for opposing the government.

On motion of Mr. Cook, its further consideration was postponed until Wednesday next, at 11 o'clock.

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs. Beasley, Brogden, Burns, Blythe, Colgrove, Cook, Davis, Etheridge, Forkner, Hayes, Harrington, Hall, Legg, Long, Martindale, Rich, Smith, Shoffner, Sweet, Welker and Wynne.

Those in the negative are Messrs. Barrow, Bellamy, Eaves, Eppes, (negro,) Lindsey, Lassiter, Love, Melchor, Mason, Osborne, Purdie, Robbins, White, Winstead, and Wilson.

On motion of Mr. Winstead, the Judiciary Committee was increased from seven to nine. The Chair appointed Messrs. Osborne and Forkner as the additional members.

On motion, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at the usual hour.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

[BY UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.]

MONDAY, July 20, 1868.

The House was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Smith.

Proctor, evidently ashamed of the record, moved to suspend the reading of the Journal, but, the motion not meeting with a second, the Journal was read and approved.

Hodgin presented a memorial from citizens of Guilford, in regard to the abolition of capital punishment. Referred.

Banner moved to reconsider the special order for 12 o'clock. The motion was put and lost, as a quorum did not vote.

Harris, of Wake, (negro,) then tried his hand at it, but also failed.

Seymour moved to take from the table, under a suspension of the rules, the resolution fitting up an office for the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The rules were accordingly suspended and the resolution was taken up and read; when

Seymour moved to insert in it, that the said office shall not cost more than $30 per month. The resolution as amended was then adopted.

A message was received from the Senate, in regard to printing 2,000 copies of the bill relative to the qualification of officers regularly elected under the Constitution.

On motion of Seymour, the message was concurred in.

By ——: A resolution that 10 copies of all acts, &c., shall be printed for each member. Lies over.

By Laflin, (carpet-bagger from New York,): A resolution directing the "Governor" to call upon Gen. Grant for two Regiments of Infantry.

Laflin and Pou sustained the resolution.

Mr. Durham opposed it. He asked Laflin whether the application should be made to the President of the United States or to Gen. Grant, saying he thought the President, by the Constitution, was the Commander-in chief.

Laflin replied that *he* stuck to the Congress.

Sweat, (negro,) opposed the resolution and favored the organization of the militia in the State. He said he could not trust Federal soldiers, they would fall certain victims to Southern society,—to "cake and wine."

Mr. Hodnett favored a reference to a special Committee, to examine if the allegations charged in the resolutions were true.

Williamson, (negro,) also opposed the resolutions and favored the immediate organization of the militia. He (like Sweat) was afraid to trust United States soldiers. He said that they could not withstand this "cake and wine" influence.

Seymour, (c. b.) favored *both* the call for the troops and the immediate organization of the militia.

Estes, (carpet bagger,) opposed the resolution, on the ground that Gen. Grant did not have the power to establish a separate district and supply it with troops. He said that there were already troops enough in the State to do the work.

Justice, of Rutherford, was proceeding to fulminate, when the Chair announced the special order, viz: Mr. Hodnett's bill to repeal the ordinance of the Convention, that provides for the immediate payment of the interest upon the public debt.

The bill was read, when Mr. H. addressed the House in its support, urging the inability of the people to pay their present and prospective onerous taxes.

Estes (c. b.) moved its reference to the Committee on Finance, and, after some little debate, the reference was made.

Laflin's war resolution was resumed.

Mr. Bowman said he did not believe that there would be any organized resistance to the government, and, therefore, he was opposed to the resolution, and did not see the necessity of it.

Harris, of Wake, negro, favored the resolution.

Mr. Barnett moved to lay the whole matter on the table.

Upon this motion the yeas and nays were called, with the following result:

YEAS.—Messrs. Argo, Armstrong, Bowman, Boddie, Barnett, Barnes, Candler, Clayton, of Transylvania, Davis, Durham, Davidson, Ellis, Ellington, Estes, Farrow, Ferebee, Gatling, Gibson, Hodnett, Hicks, High, Humphries, Harris, of Franklin, Hodgin, Hinnant, Hawkins, Hendricks, Jarvis, Kelly, of Davie, Long, of Chatham, Leary, negro, Moore, McCanless, Nicholson, Parker, Proffit, Robinson, Smith, of Alleghany, Sweat, negro, Shaver, Stanton, Vestal, Williamson, negro, Whitley and Williams—45.

NAYS.—Messrs. Ashworth, Carson, Cherry, negro, Crawford, negro, Cawthorn, negro, Dixon, Downing, Foster, Franklin, Gahagan, Gunter, Gilbert, Graham, Hutchings, Harris, of Wake, negro, Hayes, negro, Ingram, Justice, of Rutherford, Kinney, Long, of Richmond, Laflin, Mayo, negro, Morrill, Mendenhall, Moring, Pou, Proctor, Robbins, negro, Renfrow, Rea, Stilley, Simmons, Seymour, Siegrist, Wilson and Waldrop—36.

By Gilbert: A resolution in regard to the removal of disabilities from loyal men—Lies over.

A message from the "Governor," enclosing papers from Gen. Canby in regard to quarantine regulations in this State. Read and ordered to be transmitted to the Senate.

CALENDAR.

The bill legalizing the acts of the municipal authorities in the town of Salem, was taken up, read and rejected upon its second reading.

The bill in regard to regulating proceedings in contested elections, was, on motion of Mr. Durham, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The hour of 12 having arrived, the House proceeded to consider the special order, viz: "An act in relation to Provisional Municipal officers."

Dr. Ellis opposed the whole bill. His argument was very able and well fortified by the Constitution, from which he made many extracts. (The speech being too long for present publication, it may appear hereafter.)

Seymour supported the bill.

Mr. Pou made an argument against it.

Leary (negro) favored the passage of the bill.

Laflin (c. b.) read a written speech in favor of it.

Mr. Durham, with his usual ability, held the friends of the bill to the Constitution. While he himself had opposed the ratification of that Constitution, he now was one of its most faithful supporters, and he threw it in the path of the rampant Radicals, and compelled them to stumble over it in their greed for office.

Seymour moved the previous question upon the adoption of the bill, on its second reading. The call was sustained, and upon its passage the yeas and nays were called for, with the following vote:

YEAS.—Messrs. Allison, Bowman, Barnett, Blair, Barnes, Carson, Candler, Cherry, (negro,) Crawford, (negro,) Dixon, Downing, Foster, Franklin, Gahagan, Gunter, Gilbert, Graham, Hutchings, Harris, of Wake, (negro,) Hodgin, Hayes, (negro,) Hendricks, Ingram, Justice, of Henderson, Justice, of Rutherford, Kinney, Leary, (negro,) Laflin, Mayo, (negro,) Morrill, McCanless, Moring, Peck Proctor, Pearson, Robbins, (negro,) Renfrow, Rea, Smith, of Martin, Stilley, Simmons, Seymour, Stevens, Sweat, (negro,) Sykes, (negro,) Siegrist, Vest, Wilson, Whitley, White, and Waldrop.

NAYS.—Messrs. Argo, Armstrong, Boddie, Clayton, of Transylvania, Cawthorn, (negro,) Davis, Durham, Davidson, Ellis, Ellington, Farrow, Ferebee, Gatling, Gibson, Hodnett, Hicks, High, Humphries, Harris, of Franklin, Hinnant, Hawkins, Jarvis, Kelly, of Davie, Long, of Chatham, Moore, Mendenhall, Nicholson, Pou, Parker, Proffit, Robinson, Smith, of Alleghany, Shaver, Stanton, Thompson, Vestal, Wiswall, and Williams.

On motion of Seymour, the rules were suspended and the bill was put upon its third reading.

Downing moved to strike out in section 2, line 3, the word "October," and insert "January." Carried.

Sweat, negro, offered an amendment, making every man, within the limits of the town, on the day of election, a voter.

Mr. Durham denounced the amendment, and moved to adjourn,—calling for the yeas and nays upon the motion.

The yeas and nays were called and resulted in the motion being lost.

The question recurring upon Sweat's amendment.

A motion to lay the amendment upon the table was made and lost.

After much difficulty, the Radicals persuaded Sweat to withdraw his amendment, as Mr. Durham had moved its indefinite postponement, and had called for the yeas and nays, in order to make them go on record.

After some further wrangling, the bill passed its third and last reading, in the following shape:

AN ACT IN RELATION TO PROVISIONAL MUNICIPAL OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. *The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact as follows:* That all municipal officers in all towns, cities and incorporated villages, in the State, which have been filled under the Provisional government since the close of the war by election or appointment, be and are hereby declared vacant, and the Governor is directed hereby to fill such offices with appointees, who shall hold such offices and discharge the functions thereof until an election may be held under the Constitution of North Carolina.

SEC. 2. That in all towns, cities and incorporated villages, an election for municipal officers shall be held on the first Monday of January next, and regularly each year thereafter.

SEC. 3. The officers to be appointed by the Governor shall attend to the registration of voters in said municipal corporations, and hold the elections above provided for.

SEC. 4. All charters, laws, acts, and parts of acts, inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are repealed.

SEC. 5. Any provisional officer refusing to comply with the provisions of this act, and deliver his office, books, papers, records, &c., to his successor duly elected, or appointed and qualified, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and may be fined not more than five thousand, nor less than one thousand dollars, and imprisonment at the discretion of the Court.

SEC. 6. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

On motion of Seymour, the House adjourned.

THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT.

The following paper from Mr. Seward, in regard to the action of the several States on the Howard or 14th amendment, was sent to the Senate, by the President, accompanying his message and other documents. Mr. Seward's letter is quite as *significant* as the President's proclamation announcing the ratification of the amendment by North Carolina, &c. It ought to be put upon record. It is as follows:

To the President: The Secretary of State having received a resolution of the Senate of the 9th inst., requesting him to communicate to that body, without delay, a list of the States of the Union whose Legislatures had ratified the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution of the United States, with copies of all the resolutions of ratification in his office, and to communicate to that body all resolutions of ratification of said amendment which he may hereafter receive so soon as he shall receive the same respectively, has the honor to report to the President that official notice has been received at this Department of the ratification of the amendment referred to, by the Legislatures of the following States, to wit: Connecticut, Tennessee, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, West Virginia, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Maine and Iowa. Besides these acts of ratification, notices and certificates have also been received by the Secretary of State, that the same proposed amendment has been ratified by the Legislatures of the States respectively of Arkansas, Florida, and North Carolina, which notices and certificates last mentioned were received from the the newly constructed and established authorities assuming to be and acting as the Legislatures and Governors of the said States of Arkansas, Florida and North Carolina. These acts of ratification are for this reason stated in this report separately and distinctly, and, for the more accurate information of Congress, a copy of all the acts and resolutions of ratification of all said Legislatures is herewith subjoined, together with a copy, also, of certain resolutions of the Legislatures of Ohio and New Jersey, which purport to rescind the resolutions of ratification of said amendment, which had previously been adopted by the Legislatures of those two States, respectively, and to withdraw their consent to the same.

Respectfully submitted,
WM. H. SEWARD.

THE HON. GEO. H. PENDLETON addressed the State Democratic Convention, at Grafton, West Virginia, on the 16th. There was an immense attendance of citizens. The speech of Mr. Pendleton was all that might have been expected from his great ability and lofty patriotism. The following are the opening sentences of his speech:

"*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:*—The Chairman of your State Executive Committee, when he invited me to attend your meeting to-day, told me that I had no truer friends in the Union than I would meet here in West Virginia. You have proven his statement to be true. I came obedient to your bidding. I desired to see you, to make your personal acquaintance and to return to you my thanks for the warm and constant support of your delegates to the National Convention. I came to show you that no personal disappointment lingers in my breast or dampens for an instant the ardor of my efforts for the success of our party—(cheers)—but that far above all personal considerations I rate the success of the principles in which I believe, and that whoever shall bear the flag on which these principles are inscribed, I shall be found close by his side in the thickest of the fight, to cheer him with my voice and to aid him with my arm. I came to urge upon you, democrats and republicans alike, to trample under foot every prepossession and prejudice and passion, if it were as dear as life itself, and, rising to the height of this great struggle, to remember that we have only a life to give and a noble and enduring government to save."

INDIGNATION MEETING OF PROMINENT ISRAELITES IN MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS, July 15.

A mass meeting of Hebrews was held at their club rooms to-night to consider Gen. Grant's order expelling Jews from the army limits. Speeches were made by Rabbi Tuska and others, denouncing the order in the severest terms and calling on the people of that race to redress the wrong at the polls.

The Jacobins are very vigorously lying about Seymour's record and Blair's intentions. Neither is in issue. What is to be settled is, whether the country is to be "run," at the North, in the interest of bondholders, and, at the South, in the interest of negroes and carpet-baggers. This is what the people will vote on in November.—*Chicago Times.*

There are said to be three Governors in South Carolina, and it is difficult to tell which is the real one—Canby Orr Scott.

The New York *Herald* is out for Grant,—Poor Grant! This is the straw that will break that unfortunate radical camel's back.

TELEGRAPHIC.

FROM WASHINGTON.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, July 18, M.

It is stated that there was a three hour's session of the Cabinet yesterday, which was very important, and that some Executive suggestions regarding the Presidential election will be sent to Congress to-day and that the veto of the bill regulating the Electoral College will be withheld until Monday.

The Senate, last night, passed the Alaska treaty bill, with amendments ignoring the joint power of the House with the Senate and the President in making treaties. The bill, as it passed the Senate, simply appropriates money to fulfill the stipulations of the treaty.

The House considered the funding Bill.

The Southern Representatives conduct themselves quietly, voting with the Radicals on all questions. Their prompt party votes, on subjects which have been seriously discussed for months, and upon which the most shrewd legislators are doubtful, provoke smiles on the floor of either House.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, July 18, P. M.

SENATE.—South Carolina's ratification of the 14th Article was presented.

Applications from the Georgia and Mississippi Conventions for loans were indefinitely postponed.

A Bill protecting naturalized citizens abroad was discussed in Executive Session.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.—Ninety days were allowed the Election Committee to investigate "disloyalty" in the Missouri contested election.

The Louisiana Representatives, Vidal, Sypher, Newsham and Blackburn, and the South Carolina Representatives Goss and Whittemore, were seated.

The Tariff Bill was recommitted to the Ways and Means Committee, which kills it for this session.

The funding bill was resumed and discussed to adjournment.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, July 18, P. M.

Among the rejections, to-day, was Collector Smythe, of New York, as Minister to Austria.

Mr Burlingame, Minister from China, is giving the Press a grand Dinner to-night. A very handsome affair.

A grand ratification meeting of the New York nominations is progressing.

VETO OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE BILL—SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

WASHINGTON, July 18, P. M.

The expected veto message was sent in to-day. Quoting General Jackson in support of his views, arguing that, by the present system, the will of the majority of the people is liable to be defeated in the choice of the President, and arguing in favor of the election of State Senators by the people, instead of by the State Legislatures and limited instead of life tenure of the Supreme Court Judges, and pointing out the interest the Chief Justice and Vice President have in cases of Presidential impeachment, the President closes his argument as follows:

"Time, observation and experience have confirmed these convictions, and, as a matter of public duty, and with a deep sense of my constitutional obligation to recommend to the consideration of Congress such measures as I deem necessary and expedient, I submit the accompanying propositions and urge their adoption and submission to the judgment of the people."

He then proposes the following amendments to the Constitution:

"The President's term shall be six years. The States shall be divided into equal Districts, corresponding with the number of Representatives and Senators in Congress, and each District shall count as one vote for President and Vice President respectively. The person in each District receiving the highest number of votes from the voters qualified to vote for the popular branch of the State Legislature within said District, receiving the vote of the District. These facts shall be certified to the Governors of States to Senators in Congress from such State, to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House.

The Federal Congress shall be in session on the 2nd. Monday in October, 18—, and every sixth year thereafter, and the President of the Senate shall, (both Houses being present,) open and count the votes. The persons receiving the highest number shall be President and Vice President, respectively, if they have a majority of votes cast; otherwise, the second election occurs between the two highest for each office. If, at the second election, both receive a like number of votes of the Districts, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the largest number of the States shall be President. The same rules apply to Vice President. But in case of a second election being necessary for Vice President, but not for the President, then the Senate shall elect the Vice President from the candidates receiving the highest number of votes of Districts.

No President shall be eligible for a second term.

In case of the President's removal by any cause, the office devolves on the Vice-President, and, in case of the Vice-President's removal, the Presidential office devolves on the Secretary of State, following whom, as successors, come the Secretaries of the Treasury War, Navy, Interior, Post Master General and Attorney General, who shall exercise the functions of the office, until disabilities are removed or a new election held.

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by electors of the State Legislatures and to hold six years, each of the Senators having one vote.

Judges of the Supreme Court shall hold twelve years.

The President, after the adoption of the proposed amendment, shall divide the Judges into three classes, expiring the fourth, eighth and twelfth years, so that one-third may be chosen every fourth year."

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, July 20, M.

The Senate has confirmed R. W. Mullins as Collector of Customs at Teche, La.; and E. H. Smith, as Internal Revenue Collector, First District, South Carolina. It has rejected A. H. Wallace as Postmaster, at Montgomery, Ala.

The Artist, Leutze, died here on yesterday.

FROM WASHINGTON—THE VETO OF THE ELECTORAL BILL.

WASHINGTON, July 20, P. M.

Vetoing the Electoral College bill, the President mentions that the Southern States were never out of the Union, and asserts that they were, practically and constitutionally, restored, previous to March, 1867.

Narrating the provisions of the Constitution, the President says:

"The joint resolution, by implication, at least, concedes that these States were States, by virtue of their organization, prior to the 4th. of March, 1867, but denies to them the right to vote in the election of President and Vice-President of the United States. It follows, either that this assumption of power is wholly unauthorized by the Constitution, or that the States, so excluded from voting, were out of the Union by reason of the rebellion, and have never been legitimately restored. Being fully satisfied that they were never out of the Union, and that their relations thereto have been legally and Constitutionally restored, I am forced to the conclusion, that the joint resolution, which deprives them of the right to have their vote for President and Vice-President received and counted, is in conflict with the Constitution, and that Congress has no more right to reject their votes, than those of the States which have been uniformly loyal to the Federal Union.

It is worthy of remark, that if the States, whose inhabitants were recently in rebellion, were legally and constitutionally organized and restored to their rights, prior to the 4th of March, 1867, as I am satisfied they were, the only legitimate authority under which the election for President and Vice President can be held therein must be derived *from the governments instituted before that period.* It clearly follows that all the State governments, organized in those States under acts of Congress for that purpose and under military control, are illegitimate and of no validity whatever, and, in that view, the vote cast in those States for President and Vice President, in pursuance of acts passed since the 4th of March, 1867, and in obedience to the so-called reconstruction acts of Congress, cannot be legally received and counted; while the only votes in these States, that can be legally cast and counted, will be those cast in pursuance of the laws in force in the several States, prior to the legislation by Congress upon the subject of reconstruction.

The President proceeds to argue that, while the people of the Southern States are not in rebellion, some people of the Northern States are in rebellion, and that the pretext for exclusion applies logically and equally to New York and Virginia.

The message concludes:

"If Congress were to provide, by law, that the votes of the States should be received and counted, if cast for a candidate who differed in political sentiment with a majority of the two Houses, such legislation would at once be condemned by the country, as an unconstitutional and revolutionary usurpation of power. It would, however, be exceedingly difficult to find, in the Constitution, and as authority for the passage of the joint resolution under consideration, than for an enactment looking directly to the rejection of all votes not in accordance with the political preferences of a majority of Congress, &c."

CONGRESS—PASSAGE OF THE COLLEGE BILL OVER THE VETO.

WASHINGTON, July 20, P. M.

SENATE.—The rights of naturalized citizens abroad was discussed all day,—interrupted only by reading of the veto and passage of the College Bill, notwithstanding, 45 to 8. The Southern Senators, except Pool, who was absent, voted with the majority.

HOUSE.—The credentials of Lash, from North Carolina, and Bowen, from South Carolina, were referred to the Election Committee.

Vinnie Ream was restored to her studio in the Capitol by a resolution.

Lash and Bowen were seated.

The Electoral College Bill passed 134 to 36.

Adjourned.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, July 20, P. M.

The President has signed the new Tax Bill.

The Secretary of War has issued orders enforcing the eight hour law.

SEYMOUR AND BLAIR RATIFICATION MEETING.

A number of the citizens of Anson being assembled in Wadesboro', on Tuesday, the 14th. inst., and there being no Court, it was thought then was as good a time as any to hold a general meeting to ratify the nominations of Messrs. Seymour and Blair, for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, recently made by the National Democratic Convention. Upon proclamation being made all assembled at the Baptist Church (temporarily used as a Court-House) when Dr. John G. Smith was called to the Chair, and Major H. G. Fladger and Dr. H. W. Robinson were appointed Secretaries.

On motion of Col. R. T. Bennett, the Chair appointed the following named gentlemen a committee to draft resolutions: W. H. Cox, Dr. J. C. Smith, S. C. Jones, A. Baucum, B. C. Hutchinson, Thos. Robinson, W. L. White, M. W. Mask, B. D. Henry, Col. R. T. Bennett.

The committee, after retiring and consulting, returned, and through their chairman, Colonel R. T. Bennett, reported the following:

Resolved, That we hereby heartily ratify and approve of the nomination, by the National Democratic Convention, of Horatio Seymour, of New York, for the Presidency, and Francis P. Blair, of Missouri, for the Vice-Presidency; and that we unreservedly commend the platform of said Convention as the true exposition of the Constitution of the Union, and as entitled to the support of all good citizens.

Resolved, That we commend Andrew Johnson for his defense of the Constitution.

Resolved, That we feel a deep and thorough respect for the impartiality of Chief Justice Chase as the presiding officer of the court of Impeachment.

Resolved, That we commend the determination and sense of justice of those able and independent Senators who, rising above party, voted for the acquittal of Andrew Johnson.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Gen. A. J. Dargan, being present, was called upon and delivered a most eloquent and telling speech, occupying the attention of the audience for some time.

The General was followed by Colonel R. T. Bennett, at the call of the audience. He also delivered an eloquent, effective and telling speech.

At the conclusion of his remarks the Wadesboro' *Argus* was requested to publish, and other Conservative papers to copy, the proceedings of the meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

J. G. SMITH, Chairman.

H. G. FLADGER, } Secretaries.
H. W. ROBINSON, }

DONATIONS FOR GENERAL BUTLER.

We learn that for some months past that most callous and impenitent of thieves, B. F. Butler, has been made to roar like a pricked bull calf, by the diverting persecutions of a countless host of tormentors.

From all sections of the country—from the North, the South, the East and the West—worthless old spoons have been sent to the Beast by express and by mail. Spoons of wood, bone, horn, pewter, tin, iron and brass, pour in upon him at all hours. The plague of spoons is becoming more unendurable to Butler than a plague of frogs.—Baskets of spoons are brought to him from the post-office, and the express carts are constantly delivering them at his door. And the donor of each spoon accompanies his present with remarks by no means flattering to Butler's integrity. And as the spoons are utterly worthless, they are said to drive the Beast almost mad with rage. It was once a custom to pillory a rogue at some street crossing, where every passer-by might hurl a rotten egg at him or a few abusive words. Let the people of this country keep up this wholesome custom of sending Butler spoons. Let him be reminded every hour and day of his life that he is everywhere remembered as a robber of plate chests. Let every family make annually the votive offering of a broken and battered old spoon to "B. F."—*Richmond Enquirer.*

CHEERING.—The Missouri *Republican* says cheering accounts reach it from all quarters in regard to the success of the Seymour and Blair ticket. It says:

"Everywhere it appears to be felt that unless Radicalism is defeated in the present Presidential contest there will never be another Presidential election, but that the Republic will have been lost forever, and given over to military domination. The purpose of the people is evidently deep and resolute to step forward in this crisis and literally save the country. Hundreds of changes have already come to our own knowledge among those who have been heretofore acting with the Republican party, supposing it to be a loyal, an honest and a decent party, but who have become disgusted with its false pretences, its corruption, its recklessness and its profligacy. The defection in the Republican or Radical ranks is really amazing, and it is fast becoming a rout and a panic."

Some of the Generals now on police duty in the South are endeavoring to make it appear that military rule there is drawing to a close. If so, how comes it that the Paymaster General has just submitted the following estimate of the amounts required for the execution of the reconstruction acts in these States *up to June 30, 1869?*

In the First Military District [State of Virginia] to June 30, 1869, $100,000.

In the Second Military District (States of North Carolina and South Carolina) to June 30, 1869, $24,000.

In the Third Military District (States of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida) to June 30, 1869, $150,000.

In the Fourth Military District (States of Mississippi and Arkansas) to June 30, 1869, $108,400.

In the Fifth Military District (States of Louisiana and Texas) to June 30, 1869, $80,000.

The New York *Tribune,* in giving its reasons why Missouri will not go for Seymour and Blair, says "the Republicans hold the Registries"—thus having the brazen effrontery to adduce as an argument a fact that all know, viz: that the Radicals stuff the ballot boxes and make false returns.