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THE SENTINEL.

The Legislature of North Carolina.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, Nov. 26, 1869.

Mr. Pou in the chair.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Mr. Du Pam moved that the clerk address a note to the Public Treasurer, D. A. Jenkins, requesting him to appear before this committee at half past one o'clock.

After the lapse of a few moments Mr. Treasurer Jenkins appeared before the bar of the House. The resolution going into the committee of the whole was read. The Chairman then stated the information wished, was the amount of bonds issued under appropriation of this Legislature, since July 1-1868 and to whom issued.

Mr. Durham said-If the Treasurer wished time to refer to his books, he moved he be allowed it.

Mr. Treasurer said that all the details would be found in his report and the Chief Clerk would prepare a list of the appropriations, and he could not, unless the Committee meet [illegible] he should be away here until to-morrow night.

Mr. Durham moved that the Chairman propose such questions he saw fit and the clerk take down his answers. Carried.

The Chairman said as was customary he would administer the usual oath.

Question by Chairman. What amount of bonds have been issued to various Railroads by act of this Legislature since July 1st, 1868?

Answer. $12,600,000.

On motion, the Treasurer was allowed to read from a tabular statement, drawn up by the Chief Clerk of the Treasury. To the Fayetteville and Williamson R. R. $300,000, delivered to President Stubbs, Western Division of the Western N. C. R. R. amount authorized, $6,000,000, amount issued $0,-000,000, amount in Treasury $200,000, delivered to G. W. Swepson or order. Eastern Division, an act authorized $333 1-3, issued $273,000, in Treasury $60,000, delivered either to Dr. McNair or Mr. Tate, the report would show. W. L. Clark and Richmond R. R. authorized $4,000,000 issued $1,500,000, $2,500,000 yet to be delivered, $1,-000,000 to Col. Cowan, $500,000 to Dr Sloan, North Western N. C. R. R. amount required by certificate $1 440,000 as seven per cent, $1,080,000 delivered, $360,000 in the Treasury. Western R. R. amount authorized $1,500,000, amount issued $1,020,-000 in Treasury $180,000, delivered to A. J. Jones.

The Treasurer said that they could only sell the bonds as issued as the law required him to keep a certain amount to secure the payment of the interest.

A. T. & O. R. R. amount authorized $2,000,000. Exchange of bonds amount delivered $1,760,000, in Treasury $240,000 delivered to Col. Johnston, or under his order to Mr. McAden.

These amounts constituted the valid appropriations in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Court. Question by Mr. Durham. Has any interest been paid on any of these bonds, if so, to whom and to what amount?

Treasurer. I can hardly answer the question without giving the details of all by ——

Mr Moore, of Chowan. Stop Mr. Witness, I insist that every word of your answer shall be in writing.

Treasurer. Understanding that our bonds would be worthless, I objected ——

Again Mr. Moore raised the same objection.

Treasurer. Interest has been paid, but from the way of the transaction, I did not know whether I had paid ——

Again Mr. Moore insisted that the witness's answers should be in writing, in accordance to the rule just adopted.

Treasurer. It is impossible for me to answer the question unless I can go into a detailed explanation.

Pending further examination, on motion of Sweat, (col) the Committee arose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The Chairman reported progress, when,

On motion the House adjourned.

NOTE.—Messrs. Argo and Robinson in voting upon the Preamble and Resolution in reference to the removal of disabilities, said if they placed the same definition upon it, as Mr. Durham, they should certainly vote against it, but as it proposed merely to acknowledge the civil and political equality of the colored race, so far as the letter of the law does, they supported it on the ground that issues involving that question had been finally decided.

As far as marriage between the races was concerned, the law, as construed by the Supreme Court, settled that question.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, Nov. 27, 1869.

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

The President, Mr. Caldwell, in the Chair.

The President presented a communication from Mr. Barrow, Senator from the 4th District, tendering his resignation.

Mr. Winstead presented a memorial from Miss Catharine Boylan, praying the General Assembly to make a proper compensation for her property, taken for the use of the Penitentiary. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Sheffner presented a memorial from R. S. Tucker, showing that he was entitled to a claim against the State amounting to $14,000. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Smith, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported favorably on the following bills, viz:

Bill to prevent the sale of spirituous liquors within three miles of Silver Hill, Davidson county.

Bill to extend the powers of Coroner to the Commissioners of wrecks in certain cases.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By Mr. Smith: A bill to incorporate the town of Wilkesboro'. Referred to the Committee on Corporations.

By Mr. Sweat: A bill to provide for the payment of the interest on certain bonds of the State, and to create a sinking fund for retiring or redeeming the same. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Jones, of Mecklenburg: A bill to conform the fees of Solicitors to the act in relation to punishments, ratified on the 10th of April, 1869. Referred to the Committee on Salaries and Fees.

By Mr. Love: A bill for the relief of the sureties of J. W. C. Penny, late sheriff for Cherokee County.

By Martindale: A joint resolution protesting against any further increase of the State debt. Lies over.

By Mr. Sheffner: A joint resolution proposing to adjourn on Monday the 21st of December to meet again on Monday, the 3rd of January, 1870. Lies over.

A message was received from the House relative to a joint resolution concerning the removal of the political disabilities of all the citizens of this State. Lies over.

CALENDAR.

Bill to repeal the 1st section of an act to require the registration of deeds. Passed its second reading.

Bill to prevent the sale of spirituous liquors within three miles of Silver Hill, Davidson county. Passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules.

Bill to incorporate the Granville Railroad Company was amended and passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules.

Bill to repeal certain sections of an act to establish a Turnpike road from Marion to Asheville. This bill created some discussion.

Mr. Respass urged its adoption, for the reason that he could not appropriation [illegible] in making a road to run through a section of country where there was not a house in twenty miles, in fact, nothing but a little grass.

Messrs Ball, Moore of Yancey and Bailey, opposed the bill, it was finally laid on the table on motion of Mr. Ball, by a vote of, yeas 19 nays 18.

Mr Ball in opposing the bill, said, the Senator from Beaufort had begun his retrenchment at the wrong end. Last session the Senate had voted for every extravagant Railroad scheme that was proposed, and every canal and turnpike in the East. Let the Senator begin his reform with his Railroad appropriations, and not attack little items of state economy in turnpike. If the Legislature of the Senator had such power in one session against the "green grass" of Watauga it fed with equal weight on the hogs and terrapins of Adams's Creek, in the gentleman's district, and would favor sweeping away Adams' Creek turnpike.

Bill of fering the consent of County Commissioners in certain cases came up and was acted on in the Committee, was adopted and passed its second reading.

Bill to amend and consolidate the several acts relating to the University. Passed its second reading.

On motion of Mr. White the bill establishing a township in the counties of Chowan, Gates, Washington and Tyrrell passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules.

To incorporate the Commissioners of Perquimans county to issue bonds. Passed its second reading.

On motion the Senate adjourned until Monday at 10 o'clock.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, Nov. 27, 1869.

House met at 10 o'clock.

Leave of absence granted Messrs. Wilkie, Williamson, col., Cherry, col., and Long of Chatham.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Whitley for the Committee on Corporations, reported favorably on several bills, which were placed on the calendar, and will be acted on when they come up for action.

RESOLUTIONS AND BILLS.

By Mr. Clayton, a bill in favor of the Sheriff of Transylvania county, referred.

By B. W. Morris, col.: A bill to prevent slander, referred.

By Mr. Gilbert: A bill to amend the act to prevent the sale of liquor on the N. C. R. R. Referred.

By Mr. Moore of Chowan: A bill to establish towns ps in certain counties. Referred.

By J. Leary, col.: A bill in favor of the Sheriff of Cumberland county. Referred.

By Mr. Barnett: A resolution that the investigation of alleged Railroad frauds shall commence with the examination of the Presidents of the different roads, from the 1st day of May 1865, and be full and thorough from that day to the present.

He moved to suspend the rules and put the resolution upon its passage at once.

Mr. Durham said the adoption of the resolution would defeat further investigation.

Mr. Pou contended that the resolution was out of order, as the House was engaged in no examination of frauds, but merely looking into the condition of the affairs of roads in which the State was interested.

The Speaker decided against the point of order, and on an appeal to the House by Mr. Pou, the Chair was sustained, ayes 72, noes 1.

The motion to suspend was then put and lost.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Mr. Pou for the Committee of the whole, reported proceedings of yesterday, and the report was received.

CALENDAR.

The bill amending an act concerning fisheries in Carteret was taken up, but laid over without action.

Mr. Pou moved that the House now resolve itself into Committee of the whole.

Mr. Malone suggested that no progress could be made by the Committee to-day, and that it should not sit until Monday.

Mr. Vest moved to amend, that the House go into Committee of the whole next Thursday at 10½ o'clock, a. m.

Mr. Pou accepted the amendment and the motion was agreed to.

The business on the calendar was then resumed.

The bill for removing obstructions in Lumber river, passed over.

Resolution of Mr. Ellis, asking Congress to abate the collection of U. S. direct tax on real estate, was read.

Mr. Ellis explained that he introduced the resolution to endeavor to relieve the people from the payment of this tax, levied for war purposes, and which would soon be collected, amounting to three or four millions, in the Southern States, and its collection from our impoverished people would be particularly distressing.

Mr. Vestal and Leary, col. favored the resolution.

Mr. Hodgin was opposed to it.

The question was put and the resolution adopted, yeas 59, nays 8.

The eight negative votes were, Ames, Gahagan, Graham, Hodgin, Horney, Kinney, Morris, Reviere and Wilson.

The resolution requesting the opinion of the Supreme Court in reference to the tenure of office of members of the Legislature, was next read.

Mr. Ellis moved to amend the resolution as ridiculous, and hoped it would not be adopted. He reminded the House of the refusal of the Court to give an opinion in the homestead matter, and he could not see how they could give one in this until it came before them in legal form.

Mr. Vest favored the adoption of the resolution.

The matter under discussion was postponed for a few moments, the rules were suspended and several unimportant private bills were taken from the calendar, read, and passed their several readings under a suspension of the rules.

The consideration of the tenure of office resolution was resumed.

Mr. Durham offered the following substitute:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this General Assembly, the term for which the Senators and Representative were elected, will expire on the first Tuesday in August, 1870.

J. H. Harris, of Wake, (col.) opposed the substitute and advocated the original proposition. (Seize Resolutions.)

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, spoke a few words.

The question on the adoption of the substitute and on the adoption of the original proposition. (Seize Resolutions.)

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, spoke a few words.

The question on the adoption of the substitute and offering, and it was a matter upon which the Legislature should have the opinion of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Pou opposed Mr. Durham's substitute.

Mr. Durham. Does the gentleman from Chowan, Mr. Moore, allow that the General Assembly can have no binding effect?

Mr. Moore. Yes sir but we should get the best opinions, and five names, of able men compose the Supreme Court.

Mr. Durham. Then the matter might as well be referred to five eminent lawyers of Raleigh, or any other place. He could not see what effect such a course would have. If the House was the ultimate judge, there was no use might as well be made to any other five lawyers. He wish'd to know of Mr. Moore what the people thought who they elected them.

Mr. Moore. I don't know what the people think, but I don't care what they think in the matter. They must have faith in their action in the construction of the provisions of the Constitution.

Mr. Durham concluded by saying that he could take the responsibility to assert that not one in a thousand of the people knew that the members of the Legislature which voted for, that beg were to sell for four years, but the time was to expire on August, 1870.

The substitute was put to a vote and rejected by the following ballot:

YEAS.—Messrs. Armstrong, Barnett, Boddie, Candler, Clayton, Davidson, Durham, Ellis, Ferebee, Gatling, Gibson, Grier, Harris, of Franklin, Hawkins, Hicks, Hodgin, Hunnant, Jodnett, Horney, Humphries, Jarvis, Kenny, of Davie, Kelly, of Moore, Malone, Mathewson, McMillan, Mendenhall, Painter, Robinson, Shaver, Smith, of Alleghany, Smith, of Wayne, Thompson, Whitley—34.

NAYS.—Messrs. Ames, Ashworth, Banner, Carson, Carey, Dixon, Eagles, Folk ner, Gahagan, Graham, Harris, of Wake, Hendricks, Holden, Holtzclaw, Jarvis, of Henderson, Justice, of Rutherford, Kinney, Leary, Long, of Richmond, Mayo, McCanless, Moore, of Chowan, Morrill, Morris, Parker, Peck, Pou, Price, Proctor, Ragland, Renfrow, Reynolds, Simonds, Smith, of Martin, Snipes, Stanton, Stevens, Sweat, Sykes, Vestal, Vest, Waldrop, Wilson—45.

Mr. Jarvis moved to amend the resolution by striking out after the word "House," and insert "the Code Commission be, and are hereby instructed to report a bill, providing for a election on the 1st Thursday of August, 1870, for members of the General Assembly."

Mr. Jarvis supported his amendment in remarks of some length. He concurred with the arguments of Mr. Durham. He read an extract from the Constitution which *makes it* is mandatory that such election shall be held.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, said he would read, without expressing an opinion, the 27th section of the same article, (No. 2 Legislative Department.)

This section puts a somewhat different phase upon the matter than did the 29th.

Mr. Jarvis replied that the 27th section had nothing to do with the matter, as far as the time of holding the election was concerned.

The amendment was put to a vote and rejected by the following ballot:

YEAS.—Messrs. Armstrong, Barnett, Boddie, Candler, Clayton, Durham, Ellis, Ferebee, Gatling, Gibson, Grier, Hawkins, Hicks, High, Hunnant, Jodnett, Humphries, Jarvis, Kelly, of Davie, Kelly, of Moore, Malone, Mathewson, McMillan, Mendenhall, Painter, Robinson, Shaver, Smith, of Alleghany, Smith, of Wayne, Thompson, Whitley.—32.

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Mr. Durham offered the following substitute:

WHEREAS, There is a difference of opinion in regard to the term for which the Senators and Representatives of this General Assembly were elected, and, whereas, the people of the State elected the members of this General Assembly believing that their term would expire on the 1st Thursday in August, 1870, Therefore,

Be it Resolved, That the members of this General Assembly ought to tender their resignations to take effect on the 1st Thursday in August, 1870.

Mr. Ladin moved to amend by inserting after the word "1870," the words "or sooner."

Mr. Durham, said the amendment was offered to kill the effect of the substitute and called on the Reporters to note the fact.

Mr. Candler said he had been voting with the Democrats because he thought it right. He would support the substitute. The people thought they had been elected for two years and no more, &c.

Mr. Ladin withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Durham's substitute was voted down by the following ballot:

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