VOL. 5.

The Semi-Weekly Sentinel.

RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1870.

NO. 30.

W. A. Blount

THE SENTINEL

Legislature of North Carolina.

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, December 21.

The Senate met at 10 o'clock. President in the Chair.

Prayer by Senator Norment.

Mr. Leftwich rose to a question of privilege, and read the report in the Sentinel of the proceedings of this, while it differs from the report he had handed in, he would state that he had changed his views, as expressed in the Sentinel, by voting that to call a convention to the Legislature it required two-thirds vote of the General Assembly, for the reason that the Constitution is one of limitation of powers, and that while the people are not bound by such limitation in calling a convention, yet the Legislature

[illegible] Treasurer of the State to apply $75,000 of the special tax, hereafter to be collected, to be applied to above institutions at his discretion.) The bill was put on its several readings, passed and ordered to be enrolled.

Mr. Gregory asked leave to call up Senate bill No. 125, to extend the time of collecting and paying over taxes for the county of Martin, and the bill passed its several readings and was ordered to be enrolled.

On motion of Mr. Dunham, bill in relation to municipal elections was taken up. (Bill enacts that no person shall be entitled to vote for Mayor, Intendant of police, Alderman or other officer of an incorporated town or city a any election unless he be an elector of the State of North Carolina, and shall have resided next preceding the election 20 days in the corporation, and 10 days within the Ward in which he claims to be a voter. Registrars of the election to be appointed by the Mayor or other officer unless a qualified voter therein. Challenges may be made and disqualified persons excluded.

Sec. 2 of an act ratified Dec. 16, 1868, entitled an act to provide for the holding of municipal elections in North Carolina repealed.

Sikes, col., moved to postpone until the 24th day of January, 1871, objecting to general legislation on particular bills, and demanded the yeas and nays on postponement. Motion lost, yeas 31, nays 19.

Mabson, col., called for the reading of the bill which was read with the amendment proposed by the Committee.

Reavis, col., moved to strike out 90 days in the first section and insert 10 days, and called for the yeas and nays. Lost, yeas 20, nays 50.

Page, col., moved to strike out 90 days and insert 30, and demanded the yeas and nays on his amendment. Lost, yeas 35, nays 45.

Mr. Toulinson, in explaining his vote on this amendment, said that he objected to the bill because it was against the will of the towns interested. They had not asked for it, and therefore he would not force it upon them. He would vote "no."

Mr. Hargrove moved to strike out so much of the bill as allows challenging on day of election and called for the yeas and nays. Lost, yeas 32, nays 22.

Page, col., moved to strike out the 4th section which provides for challenging, &c.

Mr. Phillips moved to amend the amendment reported by the Committee which excepts the town of Fayetteville from the operation of the bill by adding the city of Raleigh. Upon a call for the yeas and nays it was lost, yeas 36, nays 39.

Page, col., moved to amend by excepting Elizabeth City and Oxford from the operations of the bill. Lost, yeas 31, nays 35.

The bill was then put on its second reading and passed; yeas 44, nays 28.

On motion of Mr. Crawford, the House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21.

House called to order at the usual hour.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Mason of the city.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

Mr. Settle, from the Committee on Claims, Mr. McAfee, from the Judiciary Committee, Mr. Powell, from the Committee on Engrossed Bills, and Mr. McNeill, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, submitted reports from their respective Committees.

By Mr. Toulinson: A bill to provide for the better protection of the wool growing interest of North Carolina and to provide a fund for educational purposes; referred.

Mr. Robinson, from the Committee on Enrollment, reported a number of bills and resolutions as correctly enrolled.

By Mr. Johnston of Buncombe: A bill to authorize the construction of a Turnpike road from Malone's Store, McDowell county to Flat Creek, Buncombe county.

Mr. Johnson moved to suspend the rules and put the bill on its passage, saying that the bill asked no appropriation but merely asked a charter that certain gentlemen in Buncombe county be allowed to proceed to construct the road which was very much needed in that section, &c.

The rules were suspended and the bill passed its several readings.

On motion of Mr. Smith of Wayne, the rules were suspended and the House bill to amend the charter of the town of Goldsboro, was taken up.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the amendments by the Senate were concurred in.

By Mr. Waring: A bill to ascertain and determine the rights of the State in the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad, without further litigation, and to amend the charter; rejected.

Mr. McCauley, from the Committee on Counties and Townships, submitted a report on various bills, which were appropriately disposed of.

Mr. Dunham moved to suspend the rules and take up the bill in reference to municipal elections; lost for want of a quorum voting.

Dudley, col., moved a call of the House; lost.

Mr. Dunham renewed his motion, and called for the yeas and nays. The call was sustained, and the motion carried by a vote of yeas 57, nays 28.

The Clerk read the bill. [Bill makes a residence of ninety days within corporate limits, and ten days in ward, as a qualification for voting, puts the time of holding elections on first Monday in May, and excepts the towns of Fayetteville and Washington from its provisions.]

A number of members gave notice of amendments.

Mr. Dunham called the previous question. The call was sustained by a vote of yeas 56, nays 34.

During the ballot on the previous question, in recording his vote, Mr. Grayson said he voted for the previous question in order to cut off this everlasting debate. The opposite side had called the yeas and nays on this bill at least about twenty times, most unnecessarily, which had cost the people at least $33 each time. He had no patience with those who squandered the people's money in such a manner.

Ellison, col. Rep., in recording his vote, replied to Mr. Grayson, saying when bills come up which Republicans did not like they would give all the trouble they could, and would call the yeas and nays if it would cost $40,000 each time instead of $33.

Page, col., moved to amend by striking out the exceptions in the bill in favor of the towns of Washington and Fayetteville. The amendment was put and rejected by a vote of yeas 39, nays 54.

Mr. Sparrow moved to amend by inserting after the word "Washington," in the 5th line, 6th section, the words "and Goldsboro," and at the end of the clause add the following: "And all officers who shall be elected in said towns of Washington and Goldsboro, at the election in January, 1871, shall continue to hold office until the regular election in May 1872. *Provided further*, That in all cities and towns [illegible] shall continue in office in virtue of any election shall continue in office until the next general election in May, 1871.

The amendment was put to a vote, and adopted.

Mabson, col., moved to amend by striking out the words by which a vote may be challenged on the day of election.

On the adoption of the amendment Ellison called the yeas and nays. The call being sustained, the amendment was rejected by a vote of yeas 31, nays 52.

Mr. Ashe moved to insert in the proviso the words "or the city of Wilmington."

Page, col., called the yeas and nays. The call being sustained, the amendment was adopted by a vote of yeas 49, nays 29.

Page, col., offered an amendment to strike out the 4th section, upon which he called the yeas and nays, but was not sustained by his party friends, and the amendment was put to a vote and rejected.

Ellis, col., offered an amendment proposing to strike out the clause fixing the election "January" instead of "May," and called the yeas and nays. The call was sustained, and the amendment was rejected by a vote of yeas 19, nays 23.

The question recurred upon the bill on its third reading.

Page, col., called the yeas and nays. The call being sustained, the bill passed its final reading by a vote of yeas 54, nays 33.

By Robbins, col.: A bill to give County Commissioners the power to fill vacancies occurring in their boards; referred.

FIRST SPECIAL ORDER.

Senate Resolution taking a recess from Dec. 22, 1870 to Jan. 11th 1871.

Mr. Currie moved to amend by inserting the 26th of Dec. 1870 and 18th of Jan. 1871; lost.

Mr. Sparrow moved to amend by inserting Dec. 24th 1870 and Jan. 16th 1871; adopted.

The resolution as amended passed its several readings.

SECOND SPECIAL ORDER.

Bill to be entitled an act concerning a Convention of the people. [The bill provides for an election for a restricted Convention on the 15th of Feb. 1871, and if a Convention be called, to assemble at Raleigh on the 1st Monday in April 1871. The following are the restrictions:

[illegible] power to consider and propose all necessary amendments and alterations to the Constitution of the State, (excepting the restrictions hereinafter mentioned,) not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States. But said Convention shall have no power or authority whatever, to offer or propose any amendment or alteration of, or in anywise interfere with, repeal or modify the Homestead and personal property exemptions, as provided for in Article 10 of the Constitution of the State, nor shall they in any way interfere with, modify, repeal or do any other act to restrict, or impair the rights, privileges, or immunities, of any person in the State, on account of race, color, or previous condition, which are now guaranteed to him, by the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution of the United States; nor shall they propose any amendment to the Constitution of the State, in any way impairing or restricting said rights, privileges or immunities; nor shall said Convention pass any ordinance, or propose any amendment to the Constitution of this State which shall in anywise provide for payment to the late slave holders of the State, or any other person, for the loss sustained by them by reason of the emancipation of said slaves; nor shall said Convention pass any ordinance, or offer any amendment, which shall in anywise provide for the payment of any debt, or debts, contracted in aid of the late rebellion; nor shall said Convention pass any ordinance, or offer any amendment which shall in anywise provide for the infliction of corporal punishment for criminal offences; nor shall said Convention have power to abolish the present system of public instruction, but to make such alterations to said system, as said Convention may deem necessary and proper; nor shall said Convention have power to pass any ordinance to abolish, or in any way interfere with the meetings or adjournments of this General Assembly; nor shall said Convention propose any amendment or alteration, requiring any property or educational qualification for voters or officers; nor shall said Convention change the present ratio between the poll and property tax, or provide for raising the poll tax, on one poll above two dollars for all (ordinary State and county,) purposes; nor shall said Convention be allowed to pass any ordinance or ordinances legislative in their character, except such as are necessary to submit the Constitution as amended, to the people of the State for their ratification or rejection, and provide for filling such vacancies as may occur by reason of any amendment or amendments made by said Convention to the Constitution of the State; and except ordinances in relation to the public debt, nor shall said Convention have any power to modify or repeal that clause in the present Constitution, which provide that there is no right to secede, and that every citizen owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and government of the United States. (Article 1, sections 4 and 5.)

On motion, it was agreed to consider the bill section by section.

The first section was read, when Mr. Harris, of Guilford, moved to amend by striking out the 16th of February, 1871, as the time of holding an election for a Convention and insert the 16th of March, 1871, instead.

Mr. Toulinson thought that a Convention was needed, and he would like to vote for some such bill, but he had pledged himself against a Convention, and, therefore, he would move to postpone the bill until the first Wednesday after the recess, so that gentlemen might go home and consult their constituents in regard to this matter. He thought the people would sanction, by a large majority, a Convention called in accordance with some such bill as the one under consideration, if some little time was given for them to consider the matter.

Mr. McAfee was in favor of the bill as it came from the Senate, and though it might contain some inconsistencies, he would vote for it just as it stood, without amendment or discussion. He was a Convention man, and he believed the people demanded one. He would take the bill as it came from the Senate.

Mr. Wilcox was opposed to a postponement of the bill. The people had had time to consider this matter. They knew well the only way in which speedy relief could reach them was through a Convention. True, he was pledged against a Convention, but that was a Convention called by the Legislature, and not against one restricted in its operations, and left to the decision of the people. Under the present onerous and burdensome Constitution the people were taxed nearly into ruin, the day of State was fast drawing, (if it had not already arrived there,) upon the brokers of disgraceful bankruptcy, and if we wait for relief by legislative enactment, which would take three long years, disgrace, ruin and poverty would overtake the State and the people. Relief must be had, and that in the most speedy manner. The condition of the State demanded it, and the condition of the ruined and heavily taxed people also demanded it.

Mr. Harris, of Franklin, Rep., favored the motion to postpone. He knew the Constitution needed amendment, and if time was given for consideration and consultation with the people, he might vote for the bill. This Township system was especially unsuitable to the condition of our people.

Mr. Toulinson said as gentlemen wished to discuss the full scope of the bill, he would withdraw his motion to postpone.

The motion was accordingly withdrawn.

Mr. Sloan moved to amend by striking out Sec. 3, by adding after the word "ticket" the words "printed or written on white paper, without any device of any kind."

After some debate Mr. Martin withdrew the amendment.

Mr. Settle moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until this evening at 7 1-2 o'clock; lost.

The question recurred upon Mr. Harris' of Guilford amendment.

Mr. Jones of Caldwell, took the floor and argued at length in opposition to the amendment.

Mr. Luckey was in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Johnston of Buncombe, was opposed to the amendment because it placed the time for holding the election at the most inclement season of the year in the Western portion of the State &c.

He was glad to see that the Republicans of the House met the question in a proper spirit. He had not been influenced by any partizan feeling when he introduced this bill. He had not offered it to further any party scheme. He offered the bill because the condition and necessities of the people demanded it. A Convention was the only means by which the people could hope to obtain that speedy relief which their embarrassed condition imperatively demanded. He was in daily receipt of letters urging that the Legislature was the only way in which the people could possibly obtain that immediate relief which their distressed and burdened condition made necessary.

Mr. Lyon favored the amendment.

Mr. Nicholson opposed the amendment. He said the people had had ample time to consider the question of "Convention" or "no Convention." His people were almost unanimous for the passage of a bill like this. In regard to postponement he did not see what advantage the adoption of such a course could produce. In March the farmers were generally very busy attending to their farms and could ill afford to give the time necessarily expended in going to the polls, but in the month of February they had more leisure time, to attend an election as it did not interfere with their pursuits.

Mr. McAfee said, he was in favor of a Convention. His people ask and demand a Convention as soon as possible, and he believed the people of the State are anxious for a Convention because they feel that they cannot get relief any other way except through a Convention. The Legislature may cut down salaries and fees but that is only a drop in the bucket. Every effort at real and substantial relief offered by the Legislature falls still-born because the Constitution stands in the way, our hands are bound, and we call on the people to allow us, through a Convention, to relieve them and us. The Legislature cannot, except by a two-thirds vote, call a Convention, but the Legislature can authorize and give the people a way by which their wishes can be known and expressed, and then the Convention will be called in accordance with law by the people and restricted by the people—they themselves, having the authority to limit and restrict the power of their servants or delegates. For the further reason that his people wished to get back to the old landmarks with the change in accordance with the Constitution of the United States and the reconstruction measures, he asked for a Convention at once.

Mr. Jarvis said that as a great difference of opinion existed upon this question of the time of holding the election, he would, to compromise the matter, move to amend the amendment by placing the election on the 1st Thursday in March.

Mr. Harris, of Guilford, accepted the amendment, and the amendment as amended was adopted.

The 1st and 2d sections of the bill were then adopted.

In section three Mr. Harris, of Guilford, moved to change the "10th of March" to the "20th of March." [Applies to the time of counting the ballots cast in the election in the presence of the Governor, Treasurer and Secretary of State.]

Mr. Jarvis moved to amend the amendment by inserting the "24th of March," which was carried, and the amendment as amended was adopted.

[The Reporter cannot report many of the amendments offered, as to make them intelligible to the reader, without giving the bill in full, and that being impossible, they are omitted.]

In section 3, line 10, Mr. Dunham moved to strike out the "first Monday," and insert "third Monday." [Applies to the assembling of the convention.] Carried.

Sections 3 and 4 were then adopted.

In section 5, Mr. Harris, of Franklin, moved an amendment which in effect did away with the provision that all voters should vote in the precinct in which they resided; lost.

The section was then adopted.

Sections 6, 7, 8 and 9 were adopted.

In section 10, Mr. Waring moved to insert in line 10, after the word "State," the words "except in this particular only, that the Convention shall incorporate a clause in said Constitution recognizing and declaring that the doctrine laid down and the decision made in the 63d volume, page 431, N. C. Supreme Court Reports, in the case of Sarah Hill vs. Tobias Kessler, to be the true and final decision of the question. [The decision affirms the constitutionality and legality of the homestead provisions applying to old as well as new debts.]

Mr. Waring, in an able and forcible speech, advocated the adoption of his amendment. He urged the importance of putting the question of the provision of the homestead, both as regards old and new debts, beyond all question or cavil. He wanted the bill passed with this provision in it in order that the State might have a Judiciary that would for all time respect and regard as sacred the immunities and privileges of the homestead.

[Mr. W's remarks will appear hereafter.]

A vote on the amendment, by acclamation, was held, and the Speaker being unable to decide, had a division.

The amendment was carried, with the majority of the Republican members rising and abstaining from voting one way or the other.

Page, col., Rep., moved to reconsider, saying that he had voted with the majority and had a right to make the motion.

Mr. Strudwick, Dem., moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table; carried.

Mr. Ashe moved to strike out the word "Rebellion" and insert the word "War;" carried.

Mr. Anderson offered an amendment that the Convention should have no power to interfere with the provisions of article 5, section 3 of the Constitution in regard to lending the State's credit to unfinished Railroads.

Mr. Jarvis opposed the amendment, saying that under this clause of the Constitution a greater part of the trouble which the State had seen for the last two years, had arisen. As far as he was concerned, he hoped no Legislature would for the next fifty years, issue bonds for Railroads, or anything else, and he would be glad to see it embodied in the Constitution, and eliminated. The yet unborn child of the youngest member on the floor, if it lived to a green old age, would see the end of the trouble caused by this clause.

Mr. Johnston of Buncombe, favored the amendment. Though local prejudices might have warped his judgment in this matter, yet when he remembered the long years during which his section had been in every energy to obtain appropriations in order to complete its great enterprise, and the vital importance the consumation of this enterprise was to his people, he could not but use all of his power and influence for the adoption of this amendment &c.

Pending any definite action, the House, on motion of Mr. Phillips, adjourned until 7 1-2 o'clock this evening.

NOTE.—Mr. Waring said when voting for the municipal bill on its third reading, that a portion of his constituents had requested its postponement and another portion earnestly advocated the immediate passage of the bill. Under these circumstances as none of them wished to except Charlotte from its provisions and all wished to enjoy its benefits when it became a law, he would vote for its passage.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, Dec. 22, 1870.

The President (Mr. Warren) in the chair.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Lehman presented a petition from the Commissioners of Hyde County, praying the General Assembly to authorize them to levy a special tax for County purposes, with a bill to accomplish said object, which was placed on calendar.

Mr. Crowell presented a petition from Miss Anna Elizabeth Henderson, of Lincoln County, praying the General Assembly to authorize the issue of new bonds for certain bonds which she holds, and which have been declared by certain legislation to be invalid, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By G. W. Price, col.: Bill supplementary to an Act concerning the city of Wilmington, ratified December, 1870. Referred to the Committee on Corporations.

By Mr. Graham: Bill in relation to vacancies occurring in County offices. Placed on calendar.

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. Mauney: Resolution proposing to print ten copies each of the Governor's message and the Auditor's report, for each member of the General Assembly.

On his motion the rules were suspended for the purpose of putting it on its passage.

On motion of Mr. Whitesides, it was amended so as to prohibit the printing of any accompanying papers, such as proclamations and evidence in *habeas corpus* cases; in fact, nothing but the Governor's message proper, and passed.

By Mr. Olds: Resolution in favor of Q. Adams. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Norment: Resolution in favor of the Sheriff of Hoke. Referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. Linney.

FROM THE HOUSE.

A message was received from the House transmitting a bill relating to municipal elections, with amendments, asking the concurrence of the Senate in the same, which was concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Morrison, the rules were suspended for the purpose of taking up, and putting through its second reading, bill No. 58, (Senate bill) to investigate alleged frauds in the disposition of bonds of the State, issued to Railroad Companies, and for other purposes.

Mr. Lehman moved an amendment to the bill, extending the scope of the Commission, which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Gilmer, the blanks in the bill, providing for the appointment of the Commission, were filled with the following names, to wit: Messrs. David Coleman, Robert Johnson, and Peter Adams.

On motion of Mr. Worth, the name of M. S. Robins, of Randolph, was added to the Commission.

On motion of Mr. Graham, the bill was amended so as to prescribe what roads should be investigated, to wit: Eastern and Western Divisions of the Western North Carolina Railroad, Western Railroad, and the Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Railroad.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the bill was amended so as to authorize the Commission to report to this body at the next session, or during the present session, if in their discretion it may seem proper.

The bill passed its second reading, and was read a third time, when

Mr. Gilmer moved to amend further by including two other roads, to wit: Atlantic, Tennessee & Ohio Road, and the Chatham Road, which was adopted.

Mr. Jones moved to strike out the Atlantic, Tennessee & Ohio Road, which was lost.

Mr. Flemming moved to lay the bill on the table.

Mr. Merrimon called the previous question, which was sustained, and the bill passed its third reading by the following vote:

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Albright, Bennett, Bellamy, Brawley, Cook, Cornell, Crowell, Currie, Gilmer, Graham, Hawkins, Hyman, (colored,) Jones, King, Lathrop, Mauney, McClammy, Merriman, Moore, Morehead, Murphy, Norment, Price, (colored,) Robbins, of Davidson, Robbins, of Rowan, Skinner, Troy, Waddell, Whitesides, and Worth—31.

NAYS—Mr. Flemming—1.

On motion of Mr. Merriman, the bill was ordered to be engrossed and sent to the House at once.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the rules were suspended and the bill to incorporate the Hebrew Benevolent Society, of Charlotte, was taken up and passed its several readings, and was ordered to be engrossed and sent to the House at once.

Resolution in favor of M. A. Hodges.

Mr. Brawley moved to lay the resolution on the table.

This motion was discussed at length. Finally, on motion of Mr. Gilmer, its further consideration was postponed for the present.

Mr. Robbins, of Davidson, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as properly enrolled, the bill concerning municipal elections, which was ratified.

On motion, the President was authorized to appoint a Senator in his own stead on the Committee to prepare rules of procedure in the trial of impeachment, and Mr. Gilmer was designated.

On motion, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

EVENING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21, 1870.

House called to order at half past seven.

[illegible] amendment offered by the gentleman from Clay, (Mr. [illegible]) was taken up and lost.

Section 10 was adopted.

Sections 11 was read, and Mr. Houston offered an amendment to the effect that so much of the constitution as was in existence on the 20th May, 1861, be adopted, with the restrictions and limitations proposed in the bill, together with so much of the constitution as had been found acceptable to the people.

Mr. Houston thought gentlemen exhibited too much anxiety to hurry the bill through, while there was reason for deliberate action. Because the people of Lincoln (he was no longer afraid that they should be hurt, because a man wants a wife, there was no reason why he should count the cost, woman do not. He objected to the bill because it makes an unjust discrimination against the white man in favor of the colored man, and gives no guarantee for the security of the rights of the former. He was in favor of limitation. While the bill was for a convention nearly as authorized as that of 1868, and by reducing back to the people, we will get nearly the same constitution. The constitution of 1865 specified two sets of restrictions, what the convention might do, and what it might not do. The best of those days were jealous of their rights and liberties, and we should be the same. He proposed to blend all that had endeared itself in the old and new constitutions into one harmonious whole, to define the action of the convention within prescribed limits and the conservatives would be bound by these limitations. The people would have no reason to fear that the freedman system would be abolished, the old county court system returned, the Supreme and Superior courts restored to their former number of judges.

[illegible] vote for three men of calling a convention had listened with patience and freedom from prejudice, but we must remember that the colored people had everything to fear and nothing to gain by it, and would go against it with all the influence.

Tucker, col., had also been rather favorable to a convention, but he had lost a confidant the Conservative party. Time short to discuss and in the matter, with the little knowledge he had of their objections, he would let the enfranchisement of the colored man. If they had been more kind, he could trust them now, but he would follow the example set him. With reference to the convention, it was the last bullion. He would hold it out on that line. They had sown the wind, they would reap the whirlwind.

Smith, col., of Halifax, made a long talk against the bill generally, the speaking extending to indulgence in a speech entirely wholly from the question before the House. He was frequently interrupted by his colored friends, who were impatient at the consumption of time, but he manfully persisted, and finished a speech as satisfactory to the House as it was to himself.

The amendment of Mr. Houston was then put and lost.

Section 12 was adopted without amendment.

Sections 13 and 14 were read and adopted.

The bill as a whole was then put on its 3d reading.

Mr. Phillips remarked that he had taken no part in the discussion of this bill. His friends had put it in a shape to suit their views, without reference to all else on the matter, and he only wished to see it out of the way, as he had not the time to attend to it. He objected to the bill because it makes an unjust discrimination against the white man in favor of the colored man, and gives no guarantee for the security of the rights of the former. He was in favor of limitation. While the bill was for a convention nearly as authorized as that of 1868, and by refusing back to the people, we will get nearly the same constitution. The constitution of 1865 specified two sets of restrictions, what the convention might do, and what it might not do. The best of those days were jealous of their rights and liberties, and we should be the same. He proposed to blend all that had endeared itself in the old and new constitutions into one harmonious whole, to define the action of the convention within prescribed limits and the conservatives would be bound by these limitations. The people would have no reason to fear that the freedman system would be abolished, the old county court system returned, the Supreme and Superior courts restored to their former number of judges.

[illegible] Republicans voted against the bill, and the Democrats voted against it because they thought it was too much like a Convention, and they had pledged themselves against a Convention. He was in favor of a convention because the people asked it, and they ought to have it. He was in favor of a convention because the people asked it, and they ought to have it. He was in favor of a convention because the people asked it, and they ought to have it