

Carolina Sentinel.

Volume V.)

NEWBERN, N. C. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1822.

(Number 245.)

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY

Pasteur & Watson,

AT \$5 PER ANNUM—HALF PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

General Assembly.

SENATE.

MONDAY, NOV. 18.

After the qualification of the members, an motion of Mr. Glisson, Bartlett Yancey, Esq. was chosen Speaker of the Senate; and on being conducted to the Chair, observed—

"Gentlemen—Permit me to assure you, that I duly appreciate, and take this opportunity of acknowledging, the deep obligation I am under to the Senate, for the uniform confidence with which they have honored me.

It may be in the power of your presiding officer to do much towards maintaining the dignity of the body, and promoting the decorum of debate, but you must all be sensible that this can be much more effectually attained by the efforts of individual members. The department of this House, for several years past, affords the best evidence of what may be expected at the present session.

In the discharge of my official duties as Governor, I have often needed and often received your kind assistance and support; and permit me to hope for it at this session: With a hope that our deliberations may be harmonizing, and our labours useful to our country, I shall commence the duties of the station to which you have called me."

On motion of Mr. Glisson, Gen. Covington was appointed Clerk, and Colonel Clark Assistant Clerk of the House; and T. B. Wheeler and Robert Ray, Doorkeepers.

On motion of the same Gentlemen, a committee was appointed to draw up Rules of Decorum for the government of the Senate, consisting of Messrs. Glisson, Branch and Cameron.

On motion of Mr. Wade, a writ of election was ordered to issue to the Sheriff Wayne, to hold an election on Thursday the 28th instant, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Ephraim Daniel, Esq.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19.

The Senate was chiefly occupied in balloting for Engrossing Clerks, which resulted as stated in the minutes of the House of Commons.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20.

Mr. Sullivan presented a bill concerning the town of Lumberton, which passed three readings and was ordered to be engrossed.

THURSDAY, NOV. 21.

Mr. Cameron from the select joint committee appointed to prepare and report rules for the transaction of public business, reported the same, which were concurred with.

Mr. Barringer from Barraus, presented a bill to repeal an act passed in the year 1820, entitled, An act limiting the time in such judgments before a justice of the peace may be revived; also an act passed in 1821, entitled, An act to explain and amend an act passed at the last session of the General Assembly, entitled, An act limiting the time within which judgments before a justice of the peace may be revived; which bill was read the first time and ordered.

Mr. Spaight presented the following resolutions, viz:

1. Resolved, That so much of the Governor's Message as relates to Internal Improvements be referred to a select committee.

2. That so much as relates to the militia and the public arms, be referred to a select committee.

3. That so much as relates to Education, be referred to a select committee.

4. That the Reports from the Legislatures of South-Carolina and Massachusetts, on an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to the establishment of a national Bank, be referred to a select committee.

5. That the report and resolutions received from Massachusetts, relative to the appropriation of a portion of the public funds for Education, be referred to the select committee, to whom is referred that part of the Governor's Message which relates to Education.—And the foregoing resolutions were read and agreed to.

Mr. Cameron presented the following Resolutions, which was read and adopted, viz:

Resolved, That a select committee be appointed to whom shall be referred all bills or other propositions relating to the Judiciary.

Mr. Hiker, of Gates, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the repairs of the State House be referred to a select committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, NOV. 18.

This being the day appointed by law for the meeting of the General Assembly, a large majority of both Houses appeared and being duly qualified proceeded to business.

Mr. Pugh moved that John D. Jones, the Representative from the town of Wilmington, be appointed Speaker of the House of Commons; and Mr. Hill from Stokes, moved that James Mebane, one of the Representatives from Orange be appointed. Whereupon a ballot took place, and Mr. Jones was reported as duly elected, 65 votes to 55; and on being conducted to the Chair, observed—

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons—Accept my sincere thanks for the distinguished and unexpected honor you have conferred on me. I am fully sensible, gentlemen, that I am deficient in the talents requisite for filling this chair with the ability and dignity that should belong to it; and I should shrink from the performance of the duty, were I not flattered with the belief, that, with your kind assistance in time of need, and indulgence for my errors, I shall be enabled to discharge the trust, if not with ability, at least with impartiality. I again, gentlemen, tender you my sincere acknowledgments for the honor you have done me."

Pleasant Henderson was appointed Clerk, and Wm. B. Lockhart Assistant Clerk.

A nomination for Doorkeepers was made; but from the death of Thos. Pound, one of the old Doorkeepers, there being many candidates, the balloting was postponed until to-morrow.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19.

Mr. Barringer from the balloting committee for Doorkeepers, reported that John Lumsden, (the old doorkeeper was duly elected, but that no other person had a majority of votes.

A joint committee of both Houses was appointed to wait on the Governor, to inform him that the two houses are formed, and ready to receive any communication which he may be pleased to make them.

Mr. Fisher, from the committee appointed to wait on the Governor, reported that he would make his communication to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

After several ballotings for a Doorkeeper, Richard Roberts was reported to be elected.

On motion of Mr. Hill a message was sent to the Senate, proposing to appoint a joint committee to report rules of proceedings for both houses. The Senate concurred in the message, and a committee was accordingly appointed.

A proposition was agreed to, to ballot for three Engrossing Clerks.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20.

Mr. Beall, from the balloting committee for Engrossing Clerks, reported that Saml. F. Patterson and Thomas Armstrong, were duly elected; but that no other person had a majority of votes.

After two other ballotings, Robert Potter was duly elected the third Engrossing Clerk.

The following Message of his Excellency the Governor was then received, read and ordered to be printed.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

Raleigh, N. C. Nov. 18, 1822.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina.

GENTLEMEN—Called together to consult for the general welfare, from among our fellow-citizens in the various counties of the state, and well acquainted with their interest and wishes, you have ever been viewed as a most interesting body. It is with peculiar satisfaction that I once more witness your meeting, confident as I am that under the guidance of our excellent constitution, you will steadily pursue the common good. Chosen from among the people for your knowledge of their interests and devotion to their welfare, we may with safety rely on your patriotism and firmness never to abandon or neglect them, or suffer yourselves to be warped by sectional prejudices and local views, losing sight of the good of the whole. For let us bear in mind that the good of the whole, if not immediately, will always eventually prove the good of every individual.

I beg leave to call your attention, in a few observations, to some of the most prominent objects which claim your deliberation, without pretending even to name many things which your wisdom will suggest as requiring legislative interference. But it will be found that by effectively promoting a few objects of fundamental importance, others which are highly desirable and useful will follow of consequence, or at least with much less immediate aid.

The improvement of the navigation of our rivers, an object which has for some years occupied the attention of the Legisla-

ture, and excited a great deal of interest throughout the State, will no doubt again come before you. It is a desirable thing to all that every facility within the power of the state should be afforded to our internal trade.—It gives excitement to industry, and produces individual and state wealth. It improves the agriculture of the country, by making it the interest of every man to add to the productiveness of his lands. As it enhances the value of the farmer's lands, it makes him content to live and labour on his fields, rather than abandon them, for a trifle, and rove in quest of wealth in countries more convenient to market. It diffuses knowledge among the people, by throwing open the avenues of communication, and affording free scope to the interchange of opinions, and the circulation of useful information; and so intimately are the operations of government connected with the agriculture, the arts, and the commerce of the country, that the farmer, while his interest leads him to avail himself of every source of knowledge within his reach relating to his avocations, will necessarily be led, in proportion to his opportunities, to a knowledge of the nature and administration of his government; taught to estimate his national blessings; to watch with an intelligent eye the conduct of those in office; and to guard against the artifices of designing and intriguing men. In fine, so general and extensive is the influence of convenient channels of intercourse, that there are but few objects of legislation of common interest, with which the subject has not some important relation.

It is therefore unnecessary to say that I feel a deep interest in the internal improvement of the state; or to endeavor to impress more deeply on your minds its very great importance. The laudable zeal which you have so long manifested in this grand project is an evidence that you are sensible of its importance, and will not neglect it. But as to the particular objects which should be first effected, there has, I know, been a diversity of opinion. We have, I think, all seen, that had our limited funds been originally directed to a few points of primary and more general importance, and not dispersed in small portions throughout the state, the result would have been more beneficial to every section. Had we begun at the mouths of our rivers, and proceeded upwards, every step would have given additional impulse to those immediately interested in the work, and this impulse would have continued to spread until the whole state would have felt it. For example—If the channel of the Cape-Fear, between Wilmington and the Bar could have been deepened, so as to admit vessels that could cross the Bar to come up to the town with their loads, and to go out with the same freight, without the aid of lighters, it is easy to perceive to what great extent the effects would have been experienced, both in stimulating the Navigation Company to vigorous exertions in clearing the river higher up, and in affording better prices to the planter for his produce, and lessening the cost of salt and other articles.—But the truth is, by dividing our strength so much in attempting to effect every thing at once, we have effected, comparatively, nothing, and it is to be feared that few facilities to trade exists now that did not exist before the commencement of our improvements. And what, but the one before assigned, can have been the cause of the failure of our works? We have for several years had the services of an able Engineer, who has explored our rivers, pointed out the various obstructions to their navigation, and given instructions in what manner they were to be removed; a zealous and intelligent Board of gentlemen have been watching over every project, and pushing them forward by every means in their power, and still our progress is so gradual as to be almost imperceptible. The reason is obvious.—We have not concentrated our money in sums sufficiently large to effect the objects to which they have been applied. If a remedy is still within our power, it is for your wisdom to devise and apply it. I have already said more than I intended, designing only to call your attention to the subject. The interest which I feel in improving the condition of the people, the sovereignty and strength of our country; will, I trust, claim your forbearance, and excuse the freedom and candor which I have used. The report of the Board of Internal Improvements will shortly be submitted to your honorable body, which will afford you every information with regard to our public works.

Before we leave the subject of Internal Improvements, suffer me to call your attention to a subject which has hitherto been too little regarded, and to which some of the foregoing remarks have reference. I mean the opening and improving of our Roads. While we are expending the public treasure in improving the navigation of our rivers, we owe it to those who live remote from navigable streams, and who, in many sections find it necessary to go to market by land, to open Roads which may intersect and unite at convenient points,

and lead to good markets. By this means too, we should keep in our own state a good deal of produce, which at present enriches other states, and draw capital to our market towns, which our own produce has helped to centre in theirs. Although it is desirable that every man should have a convenient channel to carry his surplus produce to market, even though he should be adding to the wealth of another state, yet it is but justice to ourselves, that while we expend the public wealth, we should at least, give our own markets a fair competition. While our treasures are employed in public improvements, it is, surely, desirable that those improvements should be so directed as to repay us. It is, therefore, of the highest importance, while we open rivers which lead into other states, and give the farmers inducement to carry their produce away, that we should likewise make roads to our own market towns, give our merchants a fair competition, and add to our wealth; and this is still more desirable, when we consider that it would be to the manifest advantage of the planter, by giving him a choice of markets. I might point out particular roads which seem to claim your prompt assistance, but the circumstance that some of you come immediately from them, and are, therefore, much better prepared to explain and enforce their importance, renders it useless. Your own discernment will follow the subject throughout its extensive bearings, and your wisdom and attachment to the common wealth are a sufficient guarantee that you will give it your mature deliberation, and adopt such measures as are practicable and conducive to the great ends in view. The improvement of roads and rivers would soon enable our citizens to get out of debt, and would be the surest means, by affording a strong motive to industry, by keeping them from the ruinous and visionary schemes of speculation.—Talk not of Banks—of an increase of circulating medium, as a means of extricating them from their embarrassments. It will only "put off the evil day" of payment.—Our countrymen taught in the school of sore experience, begin to see the wisdom of economy, and to feel the necessity of reformation. They are in the very situation, then, to return to habits of industry and morality; and they will do it, and will soon rid themselves of debt, if you will offer them every inducement, and every facility in your power. They will presently get into the good old ways of certainty and safety, and will be content with a more moderate increase of wealth.

By a judicious and well conducted plan of Internal Improvements—by opening, so far as our resources will permit, our roads and rivers, always taking care to begin with such works as are of more general utility, the effects of which would be most extensively experienced, we should go far towards accomplishing another most important object of state policy, viz. the improvement of the agricultural condition of the country. The planting community are the very strength and sinews of the government, and in proportion as they are suffered to languish, must the government become feeble and inoperative, and all other objects of public utility experience a depression. The effects of roads and navigation on agriculture will always be mutually felt, and if the Legislature would give to agriculture even a small share of direct aid and encouragement, there is no doubt the effect would be reciprocated in a much higher ratio. With the increase of agriculture, indeed, every thing else is made to flourish. Wealth, knowledge, and virtue conspire to make us happy, and perpetuate the inestimable boon of freedom and independence.—Contentment smiles in the cottage, and wealth diffuses its genial influence to all around.—There is an inspiring beauty and harmony in the aspect of a well cultivated country which seem to be reflected from the countenances of the people; and I never presented to my imagination a more delightful image than that of flourishing fields, cultivated by free and happy people. Born in the country and raised a planter, I have always felt a degree of enthusiasm in contemplating the subject, bordering, perhaps, on extravagance. But its importance is by no means diminished by the coolness of deliberation; its consequence, indeed, is the more obvious and home-felt; for its practical and universal necessity goes into every man's door, and is experienced alike by all classes of society. Why our agriculture has been so long neglected by the Legislature, and is so far behind hand with respect to our sister states; and whether it be not high time that you should extend to it your fostering care, appear to me to be inquiries well worthy your attention. Their solution I leave to your own wisdom, and the remedy or remedies to your own judgment, far better than mine, will suggest. If the reclaiming of our exhausted lands could be commended by offering premiums or by any other better means, the beneficial results I apprehend, would very soon appear. Could you induce farmers to make

experiments on their lands, in new methods of cultivation, and the introduction of articles not of common growth, and which have been found to be profitable, not only as valuable articles of produce, but as enriching the soil, a very great improvement would, without doubt, be thereby effected. But to you, gentlemen, with confidence and with pleasure, I submit the subject, without pretending to dictate to your wisdom, or believing that I can add to your zeal for the common good.

In connection with this and the subject of education, to which I must beg leave to invite your attention at the present session, I would mention one defect, which appears to exist generally in the education of our young men of liberal advantages: They know little or nothing of agriculture, and are not taught to hold it in proper estimation. The consequence is, that they nearly all devote themselves to the learned professions, and leave the calling of husbandry, equally as respectable and more useful, to those whom they consider their inferiors.—By this defect, and these consequent mistaken notions, we lose the talents and influence of many a young man, who lags and withers in one of the professions, when he might be an ornament and guide in the quiet walks of agriculture, and constitute one of that most excellent and useful class of society, good citizens. It is truly melancholy to witness the crowds of drones that hang upon the rear of the learned professions, burdens to themselves and burdens to society, because they are useless; and many of them—perhaps I might say a large majority—men of talents, but unhappily misapplied. I trust if they are beyond the saving influence of the Legislature, that you have it still in your power to prevent their accumulation, and to diffuse the talents of our state into more extensive usefulness. Should the Legislature even practically unite in the important truth, that it is of the last moment to the stability and security of our republican institutions, that all kinds of useful knowledge should be extended to our youth, the poorest as well as the richest it is to be hoped that they will not overlook the article of agriculture; and in the present flourishing state of our University, when its wealth has received such an addition in western lands, its number of students such an increase, its buildings receiving such improvement and extension, and its able Faculty and Trustees are so zealous and indefatigable in raising its reputation, and extending the sphere of its usefulness, it appears to be an auspicious period to introduce the subject of agriculture within its walls, and lend it your aid. Were you even to devote a considerable sum of money to this purpose, how manifold would be the interest which the people would receive in its advantages? Young men of liberal education would leave our University with proper ideas of the dignity and usefulness of agricultural avocations, and with much useful knowledge relating thereto. They would go into the different parts of the state, and devote themselves to agriculture, and associate in Societies with men of more limited opportunities, where their knowledge and their influence would be widely diffused, and give a life and vigor to agriculture, of which we can easily form some conception. But I would not have you suppose that this subject is altogether neglected in our University. We have there a professorship of chemistry and mineralogy, which bear an intimate relation to agriculture; and it gives me much pleasure to state, that I have been informed that the gentleman who has charge of that department of instruction, takes a lively interest in the improvement of the agriculture of the country, and devotes a part of his course of lectures to that subject alone, and loses no opportunity of imparting to his pupils every article of knowledge which will be of service in the business of life. I am happy that I have it in my power to make known the fact, that our University is not confined to those studies which, though of the highest importance in a liberal education, have no immediate relation to the concerns of life. I have said the more on this subject, because it derives additional importance from the fact that we are and, from our geographical situation must continue to be an agricultural rather than a commercial people. I trust that this fact, and the intrinsic importance of the subject, will lead you to a serious consideration of it, and (for it is surely practicable) to give it your aid and protection.

With regard to education, although we have been considering an important part of it, you are by no means to stop here.—Our constitution has made it your duty to encourage and promote every kind of useful learning. Its wise and patriotic framers, who were about to burst from the thralldom of oppression, and who were sensible of the enslaving influence of ignorance, ordained it to be their own duty and the duty of their sons, to whom they were soon to bequeath the inestimable legacy of freedom, to diffuse learning among the people—and they no doubt looked for