

lie of Anny Young, representative of a deceased soldier of the revolution which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Turner, from the committee of accounts, made a report on the contingent expenses of the House, concluding with two resolutions allowing a percentage of two and a half per cent. to the clerk on all disbursements of the contingent fund, and requiring from that officer bond and security for the proper application of and accountability for the monies hereafter appropriated for the contingent expenses of the House. The report was referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Morrow, from the committee of public lands to whom has been referred the bill from the Senate for the establishment of a land office in the treasury department reported the same with amendments; which were read and referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Newton, from the commercial committee, to whom the subject had been referred reported a bill to establish a new judicial district in the state of New-York, and for other purposes; which was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Wright, the committee of the whole were discharged from the further consideration of the bill to amend the militia laws of the District of Columbia and the same was re-committed to the committee who reported it.

Mr. Wright also, from the military committee, to whom was referred the petition praying for the erection of a manufactory of arms at Louisville, Ky, reported that in the opinion of the committee it is inexpedient at present to erect a manufactory of arms at Louisville or elsewhere.

The following letter from the Secretary at War accompanied the report:

War Department,

March 12, 1812.

SIR,—I have the honor to state in answer to your letter of the 7th instant that the public armories at Springfield and Harper's-ferry, are in operation and well conducted; that in the year 1811 they yielded 22020 stand of arms, viz. at Springfield 12020, at Harper's-ferry 10,000. Orders have recently been given to increase the number of armories, and it is presumed the manufactory at these places may be gradually extended to afford 30,000 stands of arms annually beyond which it is considered inexpedient to extend those establishments. A scite was purchased and buildings erected for an armory at Rocky Mount (S. C.) in the year 1803; but from the difficulty in obtaining suitable workmen, and various other considerations, those buildings were converted into arsenals and store houses for the safe-keeping of such arms and munitions as exigencies may require in that part of the country.

The arms delivered on private contract in the year ending 30th Sept. 1811 amounted to 11,801, which is far short of the number contracted for; but from the improved state of private manufactures a greater number may be calculated on in future.

Should additional means be thought necessary to meet the Legislature in arming the whole body of the militia, the purchase of one or more scites, and the erection of new arsenals and armories, will be considered the most eligible and expeditious mode of accomplishing this object.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

W. EUSTIS.

Hon. R. Wright, Chairman.

The question on the adoption of the report produced some discussion. Messrs. Macon, Rhea and Williams, opposed the report, & Messrs. Wright, Stow & Nelson supported it. On the one hand the expediency, if not the necessity, of having an armory in the Western country was pointed out, & it was contended that the supply of arms for the United States ought to be of so certain a character as not to depend on the contingency of private contract; that the system commenced by the law of this session for arming the whole body of the militia would require a much larger supply than the present armories would furnish, and that the public armories should be so extended as to furnish the number of arms which would be annually required under that law. On the other hand it was contended that the sources of supply were already ample, and that arms made by contract would generally be a better quality, if properly inspected, than those made at the public works; that it would be at least 18 months before a gun could be finished at any new armories, if they were instantly to be set about, so that for the present supply the public service would be more benefited by the purchase of arms from private manufacturers &c.

Mr. Rhea moved to amend the report by striking out the words "or elsewhere," after the word "Louisville."—Motion lost.

Mr. Blackledge moved that the report lie on the table.—Motion negatived.

After further desultory debate, the question was taken on the report, which was adopted without a division.

Mr. Morrow offered the following resolution, observing that the report of the land commissioners had been forwarded, but he understood that it was so voluminous that it would not be transcribed in time to be laid before Congress at their present session; that in consequence of some of their decisions there would be some difficulty as to the surveys, &c.; and in relation to the other part of his resolution, that it was understood certain unauthorised persons had taken possession of some lead mines belonging to the United States, respecting whom it would be proper some steps should be taken.

Resolved, That the committee of Public Lands be instructed to enquire whether any and what provisions are necessary to be made by law for adjusting and settling claims to lands and for surveying lands, claims to which have been confirmed by the land commissioners in the district of Louisiana; and also what provision ought to be made respecting the lead mines the property of the United States in the said territory—and that the said committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The resolution was adopted without opposition.

The bill reviving the act respecting the mode of obtaining pensions, passed through a committee of the whole, Mr. Desha in the chair, and was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill for the relief of Wm. Hubbell passed through a committee of the whole, Mr. STANFORD in the chair, and was, after considerable discussion, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

FROM THE RALEIGH MINERVA.

**Electoral Bill.**—The simple object of this bill has been plainly avowed in the last Register, viz. "the re-election of our present amiable & excellent chief magistrate." Thus the thing settles itself down to its proper basis; and thus is the sole motive for passing the act made manifest, which, during the session of the assembly, was so carefully kept out of view. And yet the reprehensions excited by the measure have been called forth for 'electioneering purposes;' when the very law itself was expressly designed as an *electioneering trick!* So far from being party clamor is the opposition heard, that it is notorious men of each party unite in hostility to the measure. But says the Register, when the act is understood, the people will no longer oppose it. This is rather a left-handed compliment to the understandings of our citizens: as if they were not able, in three months, to gather the import of a plain law. But it is understood; the people well know that its object was to render the entire electoral votes of North-Carolina of one complexion; to sink the larger counties down to a level with the smaller; to overwhelm and drown the voice of any distinct portion of our people, differing from the general voice desired; and, finally, to invest the legislature with new powers of which the public were to be deprived. It was necessary, as the people were to be *bridled* in some shape or other, that but few mouths should hold the *bits*. The *reins* would then be the more easily managed at Washington.

We wonder how it was discovered that every description of citizens in North-Carolina are desirous of Mr. Madison's re-election. Is this the fact? God forbid. If it be so, all our wits have been shattered by the late earthquakes, and our senses swallowed up in the Buncombe volcano!

The people must have better apologies for the electoral law, than the last Register furnished, before they fall in love with its features. At this important crisis, it has deprived the Tarborough district, by the lamented death of Gen. Blount, of the possibility of being represented during the present session of Congress. In short its absurd and iniquitous are so glaring, it deserves and is daily further receiving the disapprobation of a large majority of the people of North-Carolina. It is not made a party question; men feel their rights invaded; their confidence abused; their understandings insulted; their feelings outraged; and they are not yet insensible of the duty which they owe to their own dignity and the welfare of the state.

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA,  
JOHNSTON COUNTY.

Superior Court of Law, March Term, 1812.

THE GRAND JURORS for the State and County aforesaid, present as a public grievance, a certain act of the General Assembly passed at their last Session, entitled, "An act to repeal an act passed in the year 1802, entitled 'An act for dividing the State into districts for the purpose of

electing representatives to Congress; and an act passed in the year 1803, entitled 'An act directing the manner of appointing electors to vote for President and Vice President of the United States.'"

By this act the right of participating immediately in the election of the highest Officers of the National Government, which has heretofore been exercised by the Free-men of the State, has been wrested from them and transferred, without their knowledge or consent, to the members of the General Assembly.

The plea of necessity urged by the usurpers of the people's rights is as weak, as it is wicked. It is the common defence of all those who commence invasions on the liberties of the people, and ought to be resisted in the beginning.

The Grand Jurors will not here enter into a detail of all the well founded objections to the said act, arising out of the constitutionality or expediency of the measure: They are conscientiously satisfied that it is unconstitutional, inexpedient, and in palpable violation of the rights and privileges of the people.

When the servants of the people so far forget the rights of, and the respect due to those by whose voice they are elected, and at whose pleasure they hold their offices, as to trample on their well known privileges, it becomes the bounden duty of the people to protest against their conduct.

The Grand Jury for the county aforesaid, do therefore, for themselves and the body of their said county, PROTEST against the said act, and recommend to their fellow citizens the necessity of adopting such measures as will ensure the repeal of the said act, and the restoration of the inviolable right of suffrage in the election of electors to vote for President and Vice President of the United States.

WM. W. BRYAN, Foreman,  
JOHN PARISH, WARREN ANEAL,  
PHILIP PEARCE, JOHN SMITH, jun.  
HARDY FALOR, JAMES HOLT,  
JOHN WOOD, BARNABY INGRAM,  
JOSEPH HINTON, WILLIE JOHNSON,  
THOS. ATKINSON, HENRY STEVENS,  
WILLIAM RIVERS, WILLIAM HINTON,  
ISAAC TSALLINGS, JESSÉ ADAMS,  
EDWARD STEVENS.

The Grand Jurors request that the foregoing Presentment be entered on the Journals of the Court, and a copy be transmitted to the Star for publication.

WM. W. BRYAN, Foreman.  
The request of the Grand Jurors being refused by the Court, "as it would be reprehensible to make an order in a judicial capacity, on a subject of a political nature," it is therefore requested by the said Grand Jurors, that their Foreman transmit copies of this Protest to the several editors of the *Star*, *Minerva* and *Register*, for publication, three weeks in succession.

I certify the above to be a true copy.

WILLIAM W. BRYAN,  
FOREMAN.

**Johnston Presentment.** The following has been handed to us for publication, being the reasons assigned by the court for making no order with respect to the presentment by the Johnson Grand Jury:

*Gentlemen of the Grand Jury,*  
Had it not been for the request in writing accompanying your presentment, I should not have troubled you with the following remarks. Your presentment is of a political nature such as the charge of the court did not notice as within the jurisdiction of the judicial department of the State. I have seen in public prints presentments of a similar nature, but as well as I remember, they were all made by county court juries at the sessions of the county court. In character in which I now act, I wish it to be explicitly understood, that I do not give any opinion, nay, that in my judicial character I disclaim the right of giving any opinion as to the propriety or impropriety of any public or political measure that you either in the character of citizens, or that of a grand jury may think proper to adopt.

The constitution of the state has placed the legislative and judicial powers and authorities separate, distinct, and co-ordinate. In my judicial character I utterly disclaim the right of arraigning any of the proceedings or public acts of the legislature brought before me in the shape of a presentment by a grand jury. Our representatives in their legislative capacity, possess the sovereign power of the state; as such they are not amenable to this or any other tribunal except that of the people to whom every appeal ought to be made, and not to this court.

Gentlemen, your own good sense on a moment's reflection will point out to you how highly improper it would be for me in my judicial character to make any order respecting this presentment. Was I in obedience to your request to order it to be placed on the records of this court, and that it should be printed, &c. or to make an order refusing it a place on the records thereof, either course would be judicially

recognizing it, which I certainly have no authority to do.

A very great judge in the United States has been very severely, and I think very justly, reprehended, for attempting in his judicial character, to direct and give tone to the politics of the country, and thereby influence the councils of the nation.

Gentlemen, you will take what step you may adjudge proper as regards your presentment, and I am sure, if not at this moment, upon reflection you will approve of my conduct as one of your judges in the exercise of his official functions.

SAMUEL LOWRIE.



POETICAL.

LITTLE THINGS ARE BEST.

A JEU D'ESPRIT.

Addressed to Miss —, a little, short Lady.  
WHEN any thing abounds, we find  
That nobody will have it,  
But when there's little of the kind,  
Don't all the people crave it?

If wives are evils, as 'tis known  
And wofully confess'd,  
The man who's wise will surely own  
A little one is best.\*

The god of love's a little wight,  
But beautiful as thought;  
Thou too art little, fair as light,  
And every thing in short! †

O, happy girl! I think thee so,  
For mark the Poet's ‡ song—  
"Man wants but little here below,  
"Nor wants that little long!"

\* See Josephus de Uxoribus .... a very ancient and serious jest.  
† Nulla voluptas longa est Seneca.  
‡ Dis. Goldsmith and Young.

DECOMPOSITION OF A BEAU.

Not long since a dashing shop keeper between the third and fourth act of the play at Covent Garden Theatre had a serious accident, in consequence of one of his artificial whiskers having dropped from one of the boxes into the pit. It was elevated on the end of an umbrella, and excited much laughter. The owner made a precipitate retreat into the lobby, and put his other tremendous whisker in his pocket, and then returned to his seat, without being known from the great alterations in his visage.  
(London paper.)

STATE BANK OF N. CAROLINA.

NEWBERN BRANCH, APRIL 1, 1812.

NOTICE is hereby given that books will be opened at this Bank on Saturday the 18th instant, and subscriptions received for Five Hundred and Eighty eight Shares of Capital Stock, on the following terms—The Books will continue open for sixty days unless the shares shall be sooner taken up—One third of the amount of each share shall be paid at the time of subscribing, one third on or before the 18th of June, and the remaining third on or before the 18th of August next.

Payments shall be made in Specie, or in Paper money at a Discount of five per cent.

JOHN F. SMITH, Pres't of said  
WM. SHEPARD, Cash' } Branch

TO LEASE—OR RENT,



THE HOUSE lately occupied by Mr. Charles Sanders opposite to Mr. Buxton's.

For terms, apply to  
JOHN SEARS.

April 4, 1812.

25 Dollars Reward.



WHEREAS, my Negro fellow JOE has without provocation, absented himself from my service, and keeps lurking about James Herri-tage's, and Gen. Thomas A. Green's plantations, and committing acts of Felony in my neighbourhood;—I will give any person the above reward for killing said fellow or five dollars if confined in the jail of Newbern—said Joe has been legally outlawed.  
JOS. MARES.

April 4, 1802.

For Sale,

By the Subscriber at his Store on the Old County Wharf, for Cash—

50 Barrels Mess Pork,  
30 do. Cargo do

5 do. Peach Brandy

LEWIS CARRON

Newbern, March 21, 1812.