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Congress of the United States.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, November 19.

On motion of Mr. J. Clay, the house agreed to the resolution requesting the President to make to Capt. S. Decatur a present of a sword, and the officers and crew of the Ketch Intrepid two months pay, as an honorable testimonial of the sense which Congress entertain of their services in destroying the Tripollite frigate of 44 guns in the harbour of Tripoli.

The words at the end of the resolution "late U. S. frigate Philadelphia," on motion of Mr. R. Griswold, were struck out.

The Yeas and Nays were demanded by one fifth of the members present, and were Yeas 105, Nays 2, viz. Messrs. Wm Butler and R. Standford—Ordered to be enrolled—It was afterwards brought in and passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The act of the state of Tennessee, ratifying the act of North-Carolina, enabling the former state to perfect their title to certain lands, reserved by the cession act, was referred to the committee appointed on the 15th inst.

Mr. Standford moved to discharge the committee of Claims, as some embarrassment had arisen in the appointment of their chairman.

A desultory conversation arose on this subject, which terminated in a motion made by Mr. Dawson, directing that the chairman of a committee, shall be in future appointed by a plurality of votes of the members constituting the committee in cases where the chairman has been excused by the house from serving, or shall be absent.

Ordered to lie on the table as a matter of course, it being intended to vary one of the rules of the house.

Adjourned.

November, 20.

Dr. Mitchell, from the committee appointed on that part of the President's message respecting the lead mines in Louisiana, reported a resolution authorising the President to appoint an agent who shall be instructed to collect all the material information respecting the actual condition, occupancy and title of the same, and the agent to make report before the next session of Congress.—The resolution was read a second time and referred to a committee of the whole.

Gen. Varnum in the Chair.

Mr. Lucas suggested the propriety of altering the resolution so as to make it general as to all kinds of ore and even to embrace salt springs and licks. He knew there were other ores in that territory and had seen specimens of a very rich copper ore when he had gone into that country.

Dr. Mitchell said that the executive had anticipated the gentleman's object, and he expected the house would be soon gratified with an account of the discoveries now making by Major Lewis and other agents on the Missouri, Arkansas, Red river, &c. as they respect the mineral vegetable and animal kingdoms, on which account he preferred the resolution in its present state.

The resolution was carried without opposition, and adopted by the house after the rising of the committee, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

The committee appointed for the purpose reported a bill declaring the assent of Congress to the act of North-Carolina authorising the state of Tennessee, to perfect the title to land reserved by the cession act, the same was read a second time, and referred to a committee of the whole for to-morrow.

FROM THE LINGERER.

CONCERNING THE DEPOSITING OF TOBACCO IN THE BANK.

The directors of the bank have at last, after much opposition, consented to receive tobacco in pledge for loans of money. Some of those who opposed it, alleged, that the plan would enable monopolizers of tobacco to engross the capital of the bank, and that other dealers would thereby be deprived of equal benefits, forgetting that the directors would have the right of voting upon every application. If this allegation should prove true, it will shew, that the security of a tobacco note, is so much better than any other, that no director would take any other when that was offered. If this is so, why has there been a moment's delay since the question was first agitated? Or why has it been insinuated that the trade &

dealings of Virginia would not be sufficient to employ the capital of the bank? If the capital is too small, the legislature will either increase it, or grant another charter.

Let it be remembered, that the different branches of the bank may lend half a million of dollars per week. It is likely that tobacco will be received as deposits at the average of about fifty dollars per hhd. If so, it will require ninety thousand hhds. of tobacco to employ the whole capital. It is well known, that the chief advantages which are derived by the tobacco merchants, proceeds from shipments to foreign ports. The hogsheads which are deposited, cannot be shipped until they are redeemed, either by the payment of money, or by depositing other hogsheads of equal value; how then can it be pretended that the capital of the bank may be engrossed in this way?—Can any man of common understanding believe, that ninety thousand hhds. of tobacco, worth at least six millions of dollars, will ever be deposited in the different branches at one time? Would not the owners lose the use of all the difference of capital between the money borrowed, and the actual value?

The depositing of tobacco notes, will give great advantages to those who cultivate that article. It will enable him, by renewing the loan, to postpone sales until they are satisfied with the price. It will also enable other men, whose credit is not established, to become competitors in the purchasing market with those whose fame has gone abroad: And it will prevent a monopoly of another sort, that is, a combination of directors, such as lately happened at Norfolk, to divide the greatest part of the capital among themselves and adherents.

It is not insinuated that the directors of the bank of Virginia has such a combination in view—So far from it, their resolution to take tobacco as a deposit, proves the contrary; but as another election will soon take place, it seems necessary that this important question should be well understood, so that the stockholders and their agents may be able to judge between friends and foes, and vote accordingly.

North-Carolina Legislature.

MONDAY, NOV. 26, 1804.

Mr. Brasher presented a bill to restore Daniel Black, of Guilford, to credit—read and referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Parker presented a bill to repeal so much of the act of 1741, as exempts Constables from paying provincial, county and parish taxes.

Mr. M. Moore presented a bill establishing two separate general musters in Brunswick.

Mr. Gentry presented the Memorial of Ezekiel Witty, of Rockingham county, praying to be divorced, &c.—Referred to the committee of divorce and alimony.

Mr. Brownrigg presented a bill to exonerate Thomas Elinor from the payment of taxes, &c.—referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Joshua G. Wright, from Wilmington, appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

The resignation of Robert Carson, as major of Iredell militia, was read & accepted.

The bill to restore Arthur Daves, of Moore, was referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Received from the Senate a bill farther to alter and amend the judicial system—referred to the committee appointed to revise the judicial system.

The bill appointing the number of Jurors to be sent to Fayetteville superior court, was referred to the members from the district.

The bill establishing an Academy in Greene, and the bill establishing three separate election in Robeson; were read for the third and last time.

Mr. Cochran presented a bill to alter the mode, and provide more effectually for the election of the Commissioners of Fayetteville.

The resignation of John Moore, as Lieut. Col. Commandant of Lincoln Cavalry, and as a Justice of the Peace, was read and accepted.

The following letter was received from the Treasurer.

To the Honourable the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina: GENTLEMEN,

In fulfilling that part of the law, which requires an annual report on the state of the

Treasury, it becomes my duty to inform you, that the receipts at the Public Treasury of North-Carolina from the first day of November, 1803, to the first day of November, 1804, including arrearages, the public taxes of every description and the cotton gin taxes, amount to twenty-four thousand nine hundred pounds six shillings and four pence—which sum, added to the balance remaining in the Treasury on the first day of November, 1803, viz. fifty seven thousand four hundred and twenty two pounds seventeen shillings and four pence, as reported to the last General Assembly, make an aggregate amount of eighty two thousand three hundred and twenty three pounds three shillings and eight pence, (£ 82,323 3 8.)

Out of this sum disbursements have been made, within the time first above mentioned (including the cash burnt by the last Assembly) to amount of twenty-six thousand three hundred and nine pounds sixteen shillings and seven pence; the vouchers for which are delivered over to the Comptroler and deducted from the aggregate amount aforesaid, leaving a balance of 56,013 6 0 remaining in the Public Treasury on the first day of November, 1804, and yet to be accounted for.

From the bills forming the remainder, I have selected and set apart, as last year, the sum of £ 2,500, being much worn, and in my opinion, unfit for further circulation.

The Land Office, by which you will understand, the receipts at the Treasury for lands entered and paid for, has produced from the first day of November, 1803, to the first day of November 1804, £ 5,218 2 9 and no more. This sum, however, is wholly and completely covered by certificates and other vouchers, and does therefore in no manner affect my general account, in regard to the balance remaining in the Treasury on the first day of the present month, as above stated.

In compliance with the directions of the General Assembly of 1802, I caused to be purchased, since your last session and in the month of April last, two thousand dollars of the 8 per cent stock of the funds of the United States, with that part of the interest and reimbursement of principal which became due to this state on her stocks in the said funds, in the course and up to the end of the year 1803, and which had not previously been disbursed in purchases of the same kind: This purchase was made in Philadelphia at the rate of 106 1-4 per cent; and will, I hope be satisfactory to you.

With the interest which became due to the State in her stocks in the funds of the United States, up to the end of the September quarter of the present year, I have lately, that is to say, on the 8th day of November inst. caused to be purchased at the same place, two thousand other dollars of the 8 per cent of the United States, at the rate of 106 1-2 per cent:—The Warrants of transfer for this last purchase, are daily expected, and shall be placed on the books of the Loan-Office of the United States for North-Carolina, so soon as they shall arrive; where, together with the purchase first above mentioned and her other stocks, they will stand to the credit of this State.

As an act of justice towards the Sheriffs throughout the State, who have been employed in collecting the revenue of the last year, I would ask leave to conclude this report by adding, that their punctuality in accounting for the taxes of 1803, does them much credit, & exceeds all former example.

With every respectful consideration,

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN HAYWOOD,

Public Treasurer.

Raleigh, Nov. 26, 1804.

Tuesday, November 27.
A message was sent to the Senate, proposing to postpone the balloting for a Senator until Thursday next, and add to the nomination Gen. Montfort Stokes, Thomas Blount, and Benjamin Smith, Esquires.

Mr. L. Lea presented a bill to establish an Academy in the lower end of Caswell.

Mr. Rodes presented a bill to amend an act passed in 1802, granting compensation to witnesses & jurors to the district courts.

Mr. Mask presented a bill to amend the several laws establishing the dividing line between Montgomery and Moore.

Mr. Arnold presented a bill for the better regulation of Taverns within the state.

Received from the Senate a bill to authorise Constables to receive commissions on all monies collected by virtue of any ex-

ecution to them directed.—And a bill directing Sheriffs to take bail in the service of writs of ejectment.—Read and returned.

The bill to prevent free persons of colour from voting for members of the Legislature; was rejected.

Mr. Pearson presented the petition of George Bets and Betsy his wife praying to be divorced, and their property secured to them, which was accompanied with a bill to carry the same into effect.

Received from the Senate a bill giving further time for registering grants, proving deeds and mesne conveyances.

Wednesday, Nov. 28.

Mr. Brownrigg informed the House that the Public Treasurer had procured the bell which a former Assembly had directed him to purchase, which was now ready to be used as the General Assembly may direct.

Ordered, that one of the door keepers be directed to toll the bell every morning during the present session, immediately after the Speakers take their chairs.

The bill for the better regulation of Taverns, on the second reading, was rejected.

Mr. J. Moore presented a bill to repeal the 5th section of an act passed in 1800, to revise and amend the militia laws; and a bill to secure to Betty Sally Dillingham, such property as she now has, or hereafter may acquire.

Mr. A. Irwin, presented a bill to secure to Jane Hogan, such property as she now has, or hereafter may acquire.

Mr. McNeill presented a bill making further compensation to the jurors attending the county court of Cumberland.

Mr. Davidson presented a bill to restore to credit Ralph Stewart of Iredell county.

Mr. Arnold, presented a bill granting a separate election to the inhabitants of Randolph county.

Mr. Hudgens presented a bill to alter and amend an act to alter the time of electing Members of the General Assembly.

Mr. Yancy presented a bill to amend an act to regulate the Register's fees therein mentioned, so far as respects Granville county.

Received from the Senate, a bill to establish a separate election in the county of Anson, at the house of Jonathan Taylor.

A bill for the better regulation of the town of Smithville was read.

A bill to repeal part of an act allowing compensation to Superior and County Court Jurors so far as relates to the county of Burke.

A bill for laying a tax in the several counties within the district of Salisbury for the purpose of building a Goal for said district and county of Rowan, was read.

Mr. Griffin presented the petition of Wm. Hall, of Nash county; which being read, Resolved, that the said Wm. Hall, late a Captain in the militia of North-Carolina, and wounded and disabled at the battle of Rockfish, in the Revolutionary War, on the recommendation of the County Court of Nash, be placed on the pension list, and that he draw annually from the Treasury, 30l. Sent for concurrence.

The bill to enable commissioners of Fayetteville to erect a Tobacco Ware House in upper Fayetteville; was rejected—Yeas 28—Nays 8.

Thursday, November 26.

Mr. Knight presented a bill to emancipate and alter the names of Edward and Penelope to that of Edward Gantlet and Penelope Gantlet.

Mr. J. Cochran presented a bill to continue in force for a longer time, the act for the relief of non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the continental line and militia of this state, who having been disabled in the service of the United States or of this state during the late war, and who are not placed on the pension list of the United States, and are barred by the act of limitation.

Mr. Mobley presented a bill to establish the mode of elections in future in Sampson.

Received from the Senate a message propoling to withdraw the name of Jesse Franklin from the nomination for Senator—accompanied with the following extract of a letter from Mr. Franklin.

Washington, Nov. 14, 1804.

"Sir,—The time is approaching when a Senator to represent the State of North-Carolina in the Congress of the U. States, must be appointed to succeed me after the 4th March next—Doubts may exist in the minds of gentlemen respecting a further tender of my services for that appointment; you are authorized to say for me that I am not a candidate, claiming nothing in the course of past services but the merit of having done my duty. It will be with pleasure I shall retire. When I make this declaration I would withhold my services in any event from the State & people among whom I live, & who have heretofore given me so many repeated proofs of their attention and confidence would be more than I could justify to my own feelings; and if any contingency should arise in filling the vacancy that will take place in the opinion of gentlemen, which may make it necessary,