

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SENATE.

Monday, Dec. 20.

Mr. M'Leod presented his written protest against the passage of the bill altering the present mode of electing Sheriffs, and vesting the right thereof in the people. Mr. M'Leod observes, that he thus formally opposes the bill, that his fellow citizens and posterity may witness his willingness to avert the manifold evils that will inevitably attend its practice.

The amendment proposed in the House of Commons, to the bill authorizing the making of a Turnpike Road from the Saluda Gap in Buncombe to the Tennessee line, having been concurred in by the Senate, the same was read and ordered to be enrolled. It is therefore a law.

A resolution in favor of Eleanor True-love of Chowan, was received from the House of Commons and adopted.

The names of George Washington Jeffreys and John M'Dowell of Rutherford, were added to the nomination for Councillors of State.

Mr. Carson presented a bill to appoint Commissioners to run and mark the dividing line between the counties of Lincoln and Burke; and

Mr. Montgomery presented a bill concerning Overseers of Roads; which were read the first time.

Mr. Forney from the Committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Burke, reported a bill authorizing the Board of Internal Improvements to cause a survey of a road to be made from Morganton across the Yellow Mountain to the Tennessee Line, which was read the first time.

The Senate resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill to carry into effect a contract entered into by Benj. Robinson and Wm. Robards, Commissioners on the part of the State, with certain Indians of the Cherokee nation. After some time, the Committee rose, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

TUESDAY, DEC. 21.

Mr. Williams of Beaufort, presented a bill to amend an act, to authorize two or more Fire Companies in the town of Washington.

Mr. Daniel presented a bill to incorporate Zion Lodge in Jones county.

Mr. Marshall, a bill to extend the provisions of an act passed in 1822, granting further time to perfect titles to lands within this state—which were read the first time.

A number of bills from the House of Commons were read the first time.

On motion of Mr. Wellborn, the Senate proceeded to the second reading of the bill to compel the banks of this State to pay specie in certain cases.—The question of indefinite postponement of this bill was determined in the negative Nays 30. Yeas 27.

The bill was then amended in several particulars and passed its second reading, Yeas 34. Nays 23.

The following bills were read and ordered to be enrolled; They are therefore laws.

The bill authorizing the building a dam across Ararat river in Surry county—the bill to allow Adam Luckhart, of Anson county further time to collect certain taxes—the bill authorizing the County Courts of Hyde and Tyrrell to issue licenses to retail spirituous liquors, at or near the Court House—the bill to exempt certain persons in Hyde, from serving on Juries—the bill for the better regulation of the third regiment of Burke—the bill to empower the Commissioners of the town of Elizabeth City, to appoint a fire company—the bill to establish Mount Prospect Academy in Edgecombe—the bill to amend an act passed in 1819, to annex Smith's Island at the mouth of Cape Fear River to the County of Brunswick and a part of Eagle's Island to New-Hanover county—the bill fixing the places where the elections are to be held in Gates and a bill to amend an act to establish an Academy in the town of Halifax, passed in 1821.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22.

Mr. Love from the select committee on the subject, reported a bill to amend an act passed in 1823, for the relief of such persons as become purchasers of the Cherokee lands sold under the authority of the State. The following engrossed bills were read and ordered to be enrolled. They have therefore become laws, viz: the bill authorizing the Commissioners of the town of Halifax, to make a settlement with the Commissioners appointed under the act of 1818, to sell and lay off the town lots and for other purposes—the bill to appoint Commissioners to contract with Jer. Land for the purchase of a piece of land for the use and benefit of the county of Currituck—the bill to prevent any person from falling under in the Tuckasee River and Cary Park thereof, within the county of Chowan—the bill to establish New Hope Academy in Randolph, and to incorporate the Trustees—the bill concerning the Town of Fayetteville—the bill directing the time and place of selling lands and slaves under execution

in Buncombe—the bill to repeal an act passed in 1822, making compensation to the Jurors of the Superior and County Courts of Franklin and Camden—the bill to repeal an act passed in 1823, to repeal an act passed in 1818, to repeal the first section of the 26th chapter of the acts of 1791, so far as relates to Columbus, Robeson, Richmond, Ashe, Duplin, Moore, Carteret and Johnston—the bill to incorporate the Clinton Library Society in Stokes—the bill making compensation to the Jurors of the Superior and County Courts of Columbus and for laying a tax for defraying the expenses of the same—the bill authorizing Wm. Cathey and Asaph Wilson of Haywood to erect gates, and the bill for the better regulation of the town of Greensborough in Guilford.

The Select committee to whom was referred the resolutions of the Georgia Legislature, proposing an amendment to the Constitution were discharged from the further consideration thereof.

Mr. Wellborn from the committee of Divorce and Alimony, reported bills to carry into effect the petitions of Jas. Bullock and Major Gurganus of Martin; Hannah Bray of Camden and Mary Barker of Robeson and reported unfavorably to the petition of Marian White of Pasquotank.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, Dec. 20.

Mr. Picott presented a bill, regulating and defining the tax on the navigable streams of this State.

Mr. Donoho, a bill authorizing Golden Fleece Lodge, No. 74, in the town of Milton, to raise certain sums of money by way of Lottery—which bills were read the first time.

On motion of Mr. Ashe, Resolved, That a select Committee be appointed to prepare and report to this General Assembly, a bill more effectually to suppress the practice of treating with and in spirits, or using any undue means by candidates for any public appointment whatever.

Mr. Hill from the Committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred the resolution instructing them to enquire into the expediency of reducing the number of members composing the Board of Internal Improvements, reported a bill fixing the number at three, instead of six as at present, which bill was read the first time.

Mr. Busbee presented a bill authorizing the County Court of Wake, to appoint special Justices of the Peace in the City of Raleigh, and making compensation to such Justices for certain services. Read the first time.

A number of bills from the Senate were read the first time.

The following bills having passed three readings in each house, were ordered to be enrolled and have consequently become laws:—the bill to establish a Poor House in the counties of Jones and Randolph—the bill authorizing the Commissioners of Plymouth to make conveyances of lots in the said town in certain cases—the bill for the relief of Jas. Longon of Loui-burg—the bill to establish Harmony Grove Academy in Edgecombe, and to incorporate the Trustees thereof; and the bill authorizing the County Court of Haywood to contract for the repairing of Catahoche road.

TUESDAY, DEC. 21.

The names of Meshack Franklin and John Owen were added to the nomination of Councillors of State.

Mr. Fay presented a bill to establish Swansboro Academy, and to incorporate the trustees thereof. Read 1st time.

Mr. Lamb presented a Resolution requiring the Governor to instruct the Attorney-General to file an information in the nature of a quo warranto against the Banks of this State, on the ground of their having transcended their charters. Ordered to lie on the table and to be: rind.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22.

Mr. Ramsay presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Orange, Chatham, Guilford and Randolph, praying for the erection of a new county out of said counties—ordered to lie on the table until 1st of March next.

The following bills were presented and read the first time, viz:

By Mr. Shepherd, a bill fixing certain fees of the Clerks of the County and Superior Courts.

By Mr. S. Miller, a bill to appoint commissioners to run and mark the dividing line between Duplin and Wayne counties.

By Mr. Polk, a bill to extend the provisions and penalties of an act passed in 1819, more effectually to punish the making, passing or attempting to pass counterfeit bank notes.

The following bills were read and ordered to be enrolled, they are therefore laws, viz: the bill for the more convenient administration of justice in the counties of Guilford, Caswell, Sampson, Burke and Wilkes—the bill to amend an act for the better regulation of the town of Statesville in Iredell county—the bill to allow compensation to the Jurors of the Superior and County Courts of Surry, and the bill authorizing the payment of persons summoned to serve as Talesmen Jurors for the County of Brunswick

Mr. Hill presented a resolution authorizing the Board of Internal Improvements to purchase a Mud Machine, to be employed in opening the channel of the Cape Fear River below Wilmington and to appropriate for that purpose not exceeding seven thousand dollars—ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Williamson presented a resolution instructing the Board of Internal Improvements to ascertain the practicability of canal communication between the Cape Fear and Neuse Rivers—which was read and rejected.

The bill for the more convenient administration in the County of Surry, was read and indefinitely postponed.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Register.

GENTLEMEN—I have heard with more regret than I can express, that attempts are making in the General Assembly to dismiss the Civil Engineer, either directly or by reducing his salary, and to abolish the Board for Internal Improvements.

It does seem to me most extraordinary, that at a moment when all the rest of the States, without exception, and indeed all the civilized world, are directing their energies to their internal improvement, North-Carolina should take a different course, and that too, after having made advances in her public works, that have given her a high respectability. Is it possible that we are about to retrograde? Is it possible that our character is to be given up? That those works which bid fair not only to form the pride of the State, but to advance her prosperity infinitely beyond any thing that has yet been attempted, are to be abandoned! We deserve not to be a State, if we have neither pride to sustain her character, nor liberality to promote her interest. What can we do without an Engineer? What work can be prosecuted without his aid? And of what use will be the Board of Internal Improvements without him? It is certain that if the Engineer be dismissed, all the public works commenced in the State must be abandoned, and God only knows when others will be attempted. It is said much money has been wasted. This is true; but when did this waste take place and by whom? This waste took place before Mr. Fulton was employed, or in works which he neither planned nor directed. I do not hazard any thing in saying, that no man could excel Mr. Fulton in the economy with which the public works planned and directed by him, have been executed. And there is no doubt that under his direction, this state will make her Internal Improvements with as little money as improvements of the same magnitude either have been or can be made in any State in the Union. Mr. Fulton has had the entire management only of the works below Wilmington and those now in progress between Wilmington and Fayetteville: on these he has expended about 20,000 dollars, I understand. The improvements below Wilmington are likely to be worth millions to this State. If fourteen feet water be obtained over the Plats in the Cape Fear, no man can calculate the extent of the benefit which this State will derive from it. The works between Wilmington & Fayetteville will, when completed, make this latter town a good market for the middle and western parts of the State. Mr. Fulton will complete all these works for less money than was wasted by the Navigation Company in one summer. They did as well as they knew how: they had no one to plan their work, no one to direct how the works ought to be executed.

The General Assembly for some time past has been pursuing the proper course, by confining the operations of the Engineer, and the expenditure of the public money, to one river, until its navigation can be made good. The Cape Fear River is the most important River to the commerce of the State, and that river has been first selected. Within two years more, the works on this river can be completed up to the junction of the Haw and Deep Rivers, and the Energies of the State be directed to another point.

Then as to the money. All we ask of the General Assembly is to let things run in as they are. There is a fund set apart for Public Works—This fund is constantly accumulating and will improve the State astonishingly in a few years. No one complains of the taxes, it is not asked that they be increased. Let the Finances of the state move on as the General Assembly have heretofore directed, and our public works will be executed without any burthen upon the community.

Then as to Mr. Fulton's salary: I say that it is better to retain him upon any salary that he would ask, than to dismiss him and give employ to another. We know Mr. Fulton's abilities, his industry and his energy: we know also the economy, the rapidity and skill with which he executes a gr-at work. He has acquired a perfect knowledge of our geography, and we might add, of our topography, at all points where such a knowledge is required. It has required years of laborious application to obtain this knowledge, and if we

were to get another Engineer he would not be able to render us half service until he had acquired it. Mr. Fulton is the first Civil Engineer in the United States, and his talents are not to be expected at a small price. This subject ought to be left to the Board of Internal Improvements; they can act upon it with more discretion than the General Assembly. His salary is the same that Virginia gives to her Engineer; but Virginia and New-York have both left the subject of salary to the Engineer and his employment, to their respective Boards for Internal Improvements.

Shall we abandon our roads across the mountains, our rivers, our ports? If things were to come to this, God help poor North-Carolina! for all wise men will say, she knows not how to help herself.

A FRIEND TO IMPROVEMENTS.

FOR THE REGISTER.

Messrs. EDITORS:

The publication in the last Register, under the signature of A. D. having changed in some degree the ground of complaint on the subject of any Sermon before the North-Carolina Bible Society, I think it respectful to the public to state the simple fact, that the thought, how far it would be candid to preach such a Sermon as I could in conscience preach, without previously notifying them of its tendency, never entered my mind. If I have erred in this respect therefore, it is from inadvertence, and I must take such blame as the friends of the Society choose to lay upon me: And I prefer this course to sheltering myself under any subterfuge whatever—though I might say, that it was certainly incumbent on the Managers to take care who they selected for this purpose; it not being a necessary consequence, that every Minister of Religion was bound to think with the North-Carolina Bible Society.

Whether as a Body, they knew any thing of my sentiments on such subjects, may very properly be doubted. But individually, as members and managers, and residing in this place, some of them might have known them, as they have never been kept back in conversation. The necessary connection also of these sentiments with my known and declared principles on other ecclesiastical points of difference, could have escaped no reflecting mind.

The public is also requested to consider, whether a refusal on my part, on such grounds, and on only four or five days notice, to the Managers, (for such was the short interval between my receiving a copy of the Constitution and the day appointed to preach) would not have given ampler ground for misrepresentation of all sorts, and involved greater difficulty, in putting the people fully in possession of the subject.

That this may be done, in the manner best calculated to bring the public mind to bear upon the principle adopted by the North-Carolina Bible Society, and arraigned by me as unscriptural and dangerous, and ultimately subversive of all REVEALED RELIGION, the Sermon will be published forthwith.

JNO. S. RAVENSCROFT.

Raleigh, Dec. 22, 1824.

FOR THE REGISTER.

GENTLEMEN,

In the last paragraph of Bishop Ravenscroft's note in the last Register, is the following passage: "Whether the people of this state will agree with the Bishop in the Antichristian tendency of such principles, he does not pretend to know. Certainly they will not, so long as they are kept dozing under the lullaby of anniversary eulogiums on such principles, while the principles themselves are artfully covered up under the veil of a spurious charity."

The author of one of the above mentioned lullabies must be permitted to vindicate himself from the charge of advocating principles of an anti-christian tendency and of a want of honesty in conducting his argument. In a preceding paragraph of the note, it is said, the Bishop shewed the only practical meaning of the second article in the Constitution of the North-Carolina Bible Society to be, "that the distribution of the scriptures without note or comment is the only just principle on which to disseminate divine truth." If Bishop Ravenscroft thinks he established his position, he differs in opinion from many of his hearers, who still believe, that its present constitution remaining, they may lend their patronage to that society without sanctioning in any degree, the erroneous principle which he denounces. They still believe, that the revelation of his will which the God of mercy has made to his creatures, is not a dark enigma, the general import even of which it requires great learning to apprehend; but that if this book be put into the hands of plain, unlearned persons, and they study it diligently, nineteen out of twenty of them will derive from it so much of sound doctrine as will secure their salvation, and that to assert the contrary is to speak irreverently of the Divine goodness and wisdom. They would willingly send the sacraments along with the word, but as they have not the

means of doing this they regard it as a work of enlightened charity to send the latter alone. It is for these reasons, and on grounds not anti-christian, but scriptural as well as catholic, such as these, that all denominations have met for the distribution of the scriptures without note or comment. And it is as the advocates of such principles, and not as the Apostles of Inidelity, that those who have formerly preached the anniversary Sermons of the Bible Society have called upon their audiences to yield it their cordial support.

But furthermore, and especially, the clergymen who have preceded Bishop Ravenscroft in the duty of addressing the Bible Society are accused by him of concealing their real sentiments, and carrying their duplicity with them even when going to minister in the sacred office at the altar of Almighty God—These are such charges as no Christian Minister should bring against another, unless he presents his evidence at the same time, they were undemanded. The persons against whom they are preferred, are many of them men whose piety as well as talents we have been accustomed to respect. It is expected that Bishop Ravenscroft will either abandon these charges as publicly as he has made them, or produce his proofs, that these dissemblers may stand exposed to the world.

In the reference to the literary character of the discourses of his predecessors, there is also, unless his meaning has been misunderstood, a want of that courtesy which the Pastors of different churches should exhibit towards each other. Bishop Ravenscroft did not hear them, he knew nothing, and therefore should have said nothing about them. CLERICUS.

DECEMBER 28.

THEATRE.

For Mrs. HARTWIG'S Benefit.

THE Theatians of Raleigh having volunteered their services to give Mrs. Hartwig a benefit, on Saturday Evening next will be presented the Grand Melo-Drama in 3 acts, called

ELLA ROSENBERG.

To which will be added the laughable after-piece of

'TIS ALL A FARCE,

With other entertainments as will be expressed in the bills of the day.

Tickets to be had at Rufin's Hotel, Gales & Son's Bookstore, and at the Theatre door.

Grand display of Fire Works.

THE Subscribers to Dench & Lyons Proposals are respectfully informed that their exhibition of Fire Works will take place on Tuesday Evening Dec. 28th in the Capital square directly in rear of the Governor's Office, at 7 o' clock precisely. Those gentlemen who have liberally subscribed, will be provided with tickets and with comfortable seats, every exertion will be used by Dench & Lyons to maintain strict order inside as well as outside of the enclosure, having proper officers employed. Handbills describing the exhibition will be furnished.

Tickets of admission one dollar each, children half price, to be had at Rufin's Hotel, at the Bookstore of Messrs. Gales & Son, at Mr. King's Boarding house, at Mr. Gougeon's store, of the subscribers at Willie Jones's Tavern, and at the entrance to the enclosure. Raleigh Dec. 23, 1824. 116-

Warrenton Male Academy.

THIS institution will be open for the reception of students the first Monday in January next. The studies are preparatory to admission into the University of North Carolina. A strict compliance with the rules and regulations of the Academy will in every instance be rigorously exacted.

Great attention will be paid in imparting an accurate and critical knowledge of the subjects embraced in the Academic course. Students entering at any time previous to the expiration of the first quarter, will be charged for the whole session.

Tuition \$125 and board \$50 per session, to be paid in advance.

JAMES H. OTEY.

Dec. 15th, 1824. 16-St.

Tarborough Male and Female Academy.

THE Exercises of the Female Department of this Academy will re-commence on Monday the 3d January next, under the superintendence of Miss Anna Maria Ragsdale, a lady eminently qualified to discharge the various duties of a mistress, in the branches of Education assigned to her Department, which embraces all those branches of education, which constitute useful, accomplished, and polite literature. Miss Ragsdale has taught in this Department of our Academy for the last two years, and the parents and guardians of those young ladies who have been placed under her care, and the Trustees of the institution, pronounce, unhesitatingly, that their expectations and wishes have been realized, and that in every particular, the most entire satisfaction has been given.

The Trustees take great pleasure in informing the public, that they have engaged Mr. Farnam to take charge of the Male Department of the Academy for the ensuing year. Mr. Farnam is a gentleman of moral and gentlemanly deportment—he is a native of Ireland, and admirably well qualified to discharge the duties of a teacher. He is a gentleman of classical knowledge and polite literature, a complete master of the dead languages, together with the Spanish, French and English. We have no hesitation in saying, as a linguist, that Mr. Farnam has not a superior in this State. Mr. Farnam has had charge of the Academy the last quarter of the present year, and the Trustees & Parents feel much pleasure in stating their entire satisfaction at the progress of the school of the skill and manner in which the school is conducted. Mr. Farnam is eminently qualified to teach any branch of Education, and even is taught in any of our Academies, and even of College. Board and tuition can be had upon reasonable terms, in the most genteel families. ROBT. JOYNER, Sec'y. Tarborough, Dec. 29. 15-4t