LEBISLATIVE DEBATES. SPEECH OF MR. RAYNER, OF HERTFORD,

On the Bill to provide for the establishment of a State Hospital for the Insane in North Carolina ; delivered in the House of Commons, December 21st. 1845

Mr. R. said, that in contributing his humble aid towards the accomplishment of the purpose roposed by the Bill before the House, he could ruly say be never performed a more agreeable duty, as a public man. It accorded with his views of duty is a representative, his sense of State pride as a North Carolinian and his feelings of humanity as a man, The object of govern. ment. (said Mr. R.) is to take care of all. And the Representative of a confiding and generous people can perform no more welcome task, than that of providing for a mitigation of one of the most awful calamities visited upon our race. The true, those bereft of reason are disconnected with the political influences which make and unmake public men ; they have no agency in sending us here, in elevating us to still higher places, or in visiting censure upon us for what may be our mindeeds. But whilst this consideration does not release us from the obligations of duty. what a noble opportunity does it at the same time afford us, for the exercise of disinterested good. To our pride as North Carolinians, this measure appeals in the most forcible and patriotic language. North Carolina is the last of the old thirteen, with the exception of Delaware, that has not made provision for the indigent insaue. Shall we allow this reproach of insensibility to human suffering longer to rest upon our name ? So far from shunning the responsibility of this measure, we ought rather to rejoice at the opportunity it affords us, of vindicating the generosity of our people, and elevating the character of our State. To our feelings of humanity as men, the appeal is irresistible. And it is indeed a consoling reflection, that amid the din and confusion of political strife, we may here for a while at least, find a resting place, and engage in a work calculated to still all the angry passions of our nature ; we may for a time, pause in our partizan strug. gles and vie with each other in doing the work of good.

In this age of discovery and improvement, with the recorded experience of so many countries, and such a length of time, it would be labor lost, to attempt to prove that these institutions for the especial benefit of the insane, with buildings and fixtures erected with a peculiar view to the purpose contemplated, and ander the control and management of those exclusively devoted to such duties, are better calculated to restore those who

clouded in its vision by the dark curtain of despair, heaven can chain it down to earth. Deprive it, in Change of scene and association, genial food, person-I comfort, balmy air, and cheerful views, tend to divert the mind from its painful contemplations, and at the same time to invigorate the physical system ; whilst " kindness and firmness," those great agents in | for that comfort and relief they cannot find at home. governing and directing the human mind in all pha- By examining the reports from these institutions in ses of its condition, serve to guide and control it, in other States, we find that many of them not only go its straggles to throw off the shackles of darkness. | a great way towards paying their own expenses, but Confine the poor maniae with felons and criminals; in some few instances they have actually yielded a instead of hearing the accents of kindness, let him nett income besides. Let us not then, by a false hear only the clanking of his chains ; instead of his | economy, throw away what we do appropriate. Let vision being greeted with the appliances of a cheer. us not, for the sake of saving a few thousands now, ful chamber and a comfortable couch, let him see nothing but the walls and grates of his dungeon, and ted. Let us erect such an institution as will answer his bed of straw; instead of witnessing the impul- the wants of all our insane, both the rich and the ses of feeling hearts, let him discover that he is cut poor; that the former may be induced to seek that off from all sympathy of his race, (for strange as it | relief from it, which will enable us, in a great measmay seem, his perceptions are rather quickened than | ure, to take care of the latter. As to the method proposed in the bill before us. destroyed by his malady.) and instead of subduing the wild passions of his distempered mind, you only of raising the money necessary for the erection of stamp it with a conviction of his degradation, and he this institution, by a slight increase of the tax on sinks down in hopeless and incurable despair .-real estate and on polls, I think it eminently prop-These indispensable means to which I have alluded. er, and by far the most sure and practicable. 'Tis cannot be secured in the busy and anxious theatre | true, it falls upon all classes and interests in society. And it is right that it should-not only because it of industry and agitation, in which the world is engaged. The domestic hearth, with all its sympa- is intended for the benefit of fall classes but because thies and kindness, cannot command them. Then every one should be allowed to contribute in proportion to his ability, to what will belong to all. It is you must resort to comparatively isolated locations; you must obtain the services of those who devote | right that the poor man as well as the rich should feel their lives exclusively to this noble and praise wor- that having aided in its establishment, he and his children have a vested interest in its benefits. It is thy vocation ; you must congregate those unfortunate victims, where time, opportunity, knowledge, and for no temporary purpose, it is for no sectional adexperience can all be commanded in ministering to vantages. It is for posterity. It is right then, that the land which is immovable, that the permanent their wants.

Whilst the balance of the christain world is mov- | wealth and capital of the country, should bear the ing on in these noble enterprises, shall North Car- charge. Again, the method proposed is certain and olina, our native land, where repose the ashes, our definite. Make a charge upon the treasury generfathers, and where the destiny of our children is ally, and I fear, that after providing for our liabilities, which must be paid, nothing will be left for the cast-shall North Carolina stand still, with folded arms and slumbering eyelids? Shall our people purposes of charity. This method of raising the longer bear the reproach of insensibility to human money is recommended by another consideration .who; or of niggardliness, in refusing to grant a pit- The people will submit to it without murmur or tance of that bounty with which kind Heaven has complaint. It is not like imposing a tax for any blessed us, for the purpose of lifting that dark cur- sectional improvement, the benefits of which may be tain which shuts out the light of reason from the local, and against which the feelings and prejudices substitute reported by the Judiciary Committee, mind of so many of our fellow beings? Shall we, of other sections may be aroused. It is for no pur- which was adopted, and the bill passed its second are not incurable, and to administer to the com- as the chosen guardians of the rights and interests pose of doubtful utility. It appeals to all the nobler reading. fort of those who are, then any other system ever of a confiding people, repose so little trust in their and better feelings of our nature, and every generyet devised. The great utility and incomparable generosity, their humanity, their justice, as to fail ous heart in the State must acknowledge its imporblessings of these institutions are not to be es- to do that, which appeal to us not only in the lan- tance. The demagogue who prates so much about readin, guage of sympathy, but in the stern demands of du- | the rights of the poor. will be disarmed. and hissed ty? Read that Memorial now lying on your desks, from the stump, when he attempts to excite against lot bill. Carried. to which is affixed the name of one* who is devo- us the prejudices of the poor, by crying out, taxes! ting her life to doing good ; who comes among us as | taxes! It is mainly for the wants of the poor, that | Smaw advocated the indefinite postponement of the the friend of the unfortunate, the poor and the nee- we now propose to provide I would not, if I could, bill, and was replied to by Mr. Washington. Afdy; who is an ornament, not only to her sex, but to deprive the poor man of the privilege of siding in the ter some further debate, the bill passed its second human nature itself; whose meekness and gentleness | erection of this institution. The poor man will of character, and whose labors, fatigues and expo- scarcely feel the addition of the slight tax proposed. sure in behalf of suffering humanity, appeal to us Small as may be the pittance paid by the poor man, by all the ennobling considerations of chivalry and | yet it is his right to contribute it, and it would be a | Town of Windsor, passed their third reading. devotion to her sex. Read that memorial, the un- hardship to deprive him of it. Like the mite that / bribed and disinterested tribute which a feeling heart constituted the offering of the poor widow in pays to misfortune's claims, and you will there see the Scripture, it will be hallowed by the feelings and our duty inscribed in language which it requires a motives that actuated the giver. heart of adamant to disregard. You there see that | I am aware it may be said, there is no pressing necessity for our founding an institution for the Inthere are hundreds within the borders of our State, who are immured in noxious cells, inhaling the "va- sane in this State; inasmuch as the number of such pors of dungeons," confined with felons, and drag- institutions in other States affords every facility ging out a miserable existence on beds of straw -- | and convenience for the relief of the afflicted among and for no other crime, than that of being the vic- us. The mere statement of this objection carries its tims of an afflicting dispensation from Heaven .- | own refutation with it In the first place, our State And must this continue to be? 'Tis true, these vic- pride should revolt at this idea of dependence upon tims of calamity cannot appeal to our judgments in the liberality and benevolence of our sister States. the language of reason; but they appeal to our How can we reconcile ourselves to the thought, of hearts in the tones of lamentation and wo. If we relying upon the labors of others, for those blessings fail to perform our duty, the shriek of every mani- which are equally within our reach, as the reward ac in our borders will hereafter sound the note of of a discharge of public duty? How can we absolve reposch upon our names. Their dismal cries and ourselves from the obligations of this duty, by availawful groans will hauat us in our slumbers, and ing ourselves of the means afforded by those who their ghastly visages will freeze our hearts with ter- have performed theirs, instead of their reasoning on ror, even to our dying day. Whilst to our shame, the false premises thus advanced? In the second we must admit, that North Carolina is behind most place, this reliance on the institutions of other States of her sisters in the great physical improvements provides for the rich only, who can afford to bear and enterprises of the age ; yet it has ever been our | the expense ; whilst it leaves the poor and needy to boast, that in all the attributes of the private and suffer. And it is mainly for the poor and the des-

Experience, that teacher whose precepts carry the reach of restoration forever. How much better, that that hereafter, some shild of misery, in whose the House, the vote he had just given, the vote he had just given, the vote he had just given, the vote he had just given. by the tortures of the manine. The manine is it, but their relief. Let gentlemen recollect, that it is the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The manine of man, where the tortures of the manine. The main of manine is the torture of the tortures of the manine. The main of the torture of the torture of the tortures of the manine. The main of man, where the tortures of the tortures of the manine. The main of the torture of the tortures of the t ther same or insame, whether aspiring in its loftiest flight to the sublime and the infinite, or whether ously by the people. As a mere question of econo-every consiperation of patriotic pride, of representaomy, then, we may well conclude, that such an insti- | tive duty, and of an expanded benevolence and chriscan not be chained and tethered by human force. - tution will lessen the burthen now imposed for the tain philanthropy-but we are appealed to by what It came from God, and nothing short of the fiat of relief of the poor, to as great or even a greater ex- may be wants and sufferings of our own flesh and tent than will be necessary for its establishment and blood, to act, and to act promptly. Let us lay the its dark state of gloom, of those genial influences successful operation. In considering the item of foundation of an institution, to which our posterity which nature alone, aided by those heavenly quali- expense, we should also recollect, that the more com- can point with pride, whenever they mention our shrinks back within itself, and literally devours its we provide for taking care of the poor, the wealthy and benevolence erect her shrine-within whose own existence. On the other hand, a proper regard who may seek an asylum beneath its shelter, are walls, the unfortunate of posterity shall find a reto physical and mental culture at the same time, if expected to pay for the benefits received. If then, fuge and a home, when we shall be no more. We applied in season, rarely fails of affording relief .- you make a meagre appropriation for the erection of shall thus erect to our memories a monument more a building that will barely answer for the wants of imperishable than one of brass; and we shall inscribe on grateful hearts, in letters of enduring affection, the destitute, we cannot expect those who are wealthe name of her,* from whose efforts are issuing thy or in even comfortable circumstances, to place streams of goodness, that are beginning to overflow their friends there. They will resort to other States for the benefit of mankind. *This noble and praise-worthy woman, Miss D. L. Dix, of New York) has long been devoting her

life and fortune to the relief of suffering humanity, especially of the indigent iusane. She has, by her unremitting exertions and personal appeals, succeeded in inducing the Legislature of many of the States to make provision for the insane; and is now urgrun the risk of a failure in the purpose contemplaing upon Congress to appropriate five millions of acres of the public lands to this humane purpose .-May her efforts be crowned with success.



TUESDAY, Jan. 9. SENATE. Mr. Miller presented a memorial on the subject

Buncombe County, passed its last reading. Mr. Caldwell, of Burke, introduced a resolution of County Courts, which was referred. Mr. Patterson, from the Joint Select Committee on Cherokee Lands, reported a bill which lies ever. The Senate proceeded to the unfinished business, sitions. and the supplementary bill to divide the County of Stokes, passed its 3d reading.

The Engrossed bills to improve the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers above Fayetteviile; to incorporate the Union Guards ; 'to amend the Rev. Stat. entitled forcibly entry and detainer; to incorporate the N. C. Blues, in Wake ; to amend the acts to lay off and establish the County of McDowell, passed their third reading.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the Senate took up and by a vote of 61 to 43. considered the bill to amend the Rev. Stat. entitled Turnpike Company, was read 3d time and passed. On motion of Mr. Hicks, the House adjourned. Guardians and Wards, the question being on the

The engrossed bill to incorporate Union Manu facturing Company, in Fayetteville. Passed its 3d

Mr. Courts, from the Committee on Proposihe asked leave to change his vote in favor of the tions and Grievances, to which was referred the netition of ---- Nizon, praying the emancipation A Message was received from the Senate trans- of his slave Sam, recommended that the prayer mitting the engrossed bill to locate the Judges of the petitioner be not granted. Concurred in. Mr. Smith, from the Committee on Private bills. reported favorably to the bill to incorporate a The order of the day, the bill providing for a. Masonic Lodge in the County of Stokes. Passed mendments to the Constitution, was next taken 2d reading. Also, favorably to the bill to repeal Mr. Hicks offered an amendment, that in the in part an act of Revised Statutes, Chapter 16. arrangement of the Senatorial Districts, the white

Passed its 2d reading. Also, unfavorably to resolution allowing Joshua Patterson to erect two gates across a Public road in Surry County and to be exempted from taxation on same. The

of the bill, and addressed the House in opposition to it, denouncing it as a question fraught with resolution did not pass. Also, favorably to the bill to amend an act to alter the mode of electing Constables in Wilkes County. Laid on table.

diciary, reported favorably to the bill to abolish jury cases in the County Courts of Burke County. Passed its 2d reading

ciary, reported favorably to the bill concerning

Mr. Satterthwaite, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a substitute for the bill granting to the Superior Courts of Lincoln and Gaston Mr. Rayner then took the floor, and was speak. | exclusive jurisdiction in all cases where the intervention of a jury may be necessary. The bill as amended passed its 2d reading.

Mr. Rayner, from the Select Committee to whom received 123 votes, Dobbin 16, Strange 2, Biggs | was referred the Governor's communication in rela-4, Hall 1, Rodman 1, C. Edney 1, Graves 4, tion to the system of Alex. Vattemare, submitted a long and able report, approving of his plan of ex. changes-resolutions to furnish him with copies of certain works-and a bill to keep up this system. On motion of Mr. Dobbin, the resolutions and bill were laid on the table, and ordered to be print-

> Mr. Keene moved to take up and consider the bill to incorporate the Charlotte and Danville Rail Road. Before this question was taken, the Speaker announced the arrival of the hour for taking up the order of the day, the bill providing for the amendment of the Constitution, Mr. Rayner was entitled to the floor, but gave way for Mr. Satterthwaite, who moved that the House resolve itself into committee of the whole. Carried.

Mr. Rayner then moved to strike out all of the original bill, after the preamble, and insert the substitute offered by him; and on this question, addressed the House briefly.

glesby and Keene-the amendment was rejected. Mr. Caldwell, of Burke, offered the following Mr. Person offered another amendment, which amendments: 1st. Amend the Preamble by inserting after the Mr. Coleman moved that the House adjourn, and

word "State," in the 7th line, the following, to wit: lemanded the Ayes and Noes. The House refused and gives to the minority of the people, a majority of the Representatives. The bill to incoporate the Martin and Bertie

2d. Insert in the 14th line of Section 13th. after the word "Assembly," the following, to wit: and shall so provide that the members of the Senate and House of Commons shall hereafter be appointed among the several Counties of this State, according to the white population.

Mr. Drake, from the Committee on Finance, re-On these amendments, Mr. Caldwell addressed parted a bill to amend the Rev. Stat. relating to the House. After which, there was a discussion, on the hill, between Messrs Stevenson and Ravner. Mr. Leach, of Davidson, arose to speak, when Mr. Stanly begged him to give way, and moved that the Committee rise, report progress and beg leave to sit again. Carried. Mr. Mebane then reported that the Committee had had under consideration the bill providing for amendment of the constitution, but had come to no definite conclusion, and begged leave to sit again .--Concurred in. A message was received from the Senate, proposing to adjourn sine die on 20th. Laid on the table. The House then took recess.

The question was then taken on the motion for indefinite postponement, and decided in the neing when the Speaker announced recess. Mr. Scott, from the Committee to superintend the election of Judge, reported that, Battle had Hon. W. H. Battle was therefore declared duly According to previous decision, the House proceeded to the consideration of bills on their 2d read-

Mr. Barringer inquired of Mr.- Keene if he voted for the Hon. D. S. Reid, in the August Mr. Keene replied that he did, but because his opinions and those of the Hon. D. S. Reid accord-

Mr. Hicks spoke briefly in favor of his amend.

Mr. Caldwell, from the Committee on the Ju-

Mr. Dobbin, from the Committee on the Judi-Widows. Passed its 2d reading.

Barnard, B Drake, Exe Moye, Mur Speight, T Watson,

The Ser to consolid mon Schoo Mr. Gil Lill, to con distributio

> hereafter b The am

> > The Se Courts in

> > ed and pas

The Se

ness being

ceeded to

mer's ame

of the distr

The ar

Mr.

that an abi

forms, in

furnished S

indefinitely

13. Noes 34.

Mr. Sm

Mr. Smi

of Superinte

Mr. Wast

Mr. Ken

appointmen

obligatory u to act, unde

allowing the

necessary a

tion, provid

perintendan

ing to cone

the Peace fe

the Senate,

tices of Gal

olution in fi

J. Daniel.

and 3rd re

6th sect. 31

up, and ind

bill to incor

road Co. (

Dowell of In

sider prevai

arrival of th

Mr. Cleme

61 to 52.

day until to

The spe

ment of the

the House,r Mr. Meban

vidson, bei

Jones, of Re

rise and rep

Mr. Met

ments back

ceeding, th

much time

mentary Ru

tion before

report of th

House. C

The spec

Mr. Barri

Mr. Lon

Mr. Lill

A message

Mr. Bow

tion.

31.

Mr. Wo

Mr. Sm

Mr. W

providing

the morig

years from

notice has

The am

mended, Y

er this a

The Se

of the day.

Carolina

on its pass. Mr. Ken

the bill n

reading)

shall not b

present sh

Albright,

Hargrove,

Lane, Mi

Smaw, Th

wood, Tho

fin, Worth

Those

These w

Mr. Lilli

The bill

ried.

tablished by any process of logical deduction. They do not rest on any learned and plausible theories of the physiologist and the physician, nor on the fanciful and ingenious speculations of the phrenologist and metaphysician. They are confirmed by the facts of inductive experience, by the records of statistical data carefully preserved ; a 'snowledge of which places the matter beyond controversy.

These statistical data prove conclusively, that in most cases, insanity proceeds from physical disease, acting through neglect or improper treatment upon the natural functions of the brain. How apparent then, must it he to every one, who has witnessed much of the sufferings, and difficulty of treatment of mere physical disease, that this malady of the mind, depending in a great degree on physical derangement, requires a degree of care, of knowledge, of unremitting attention, of peculiar capacity on the part of those entrusted with its relief, that the ordinary physician has neither the time, the ability, nor the adaptation of character to apply to it. It requires a peculiar endowment of moral as well as intellectual facu!ties, to "minister to a mind diseased." This kind of talent is rare ; but thanks to a kind Providence, such is the expansive and prolific nature of the human mind, that the supply thus far has kept pace with the demand, which the benevolence of government has created. This remarkable kind of talent, however, flourishes, and finds a theatre for its exercise, not in the crowded thorough-fares of commerce, not in the turinoil and agitation of worldly employment, not in gay saloons of fashion ; but in the quiet and partially isolated retirement of nature. Unpretending, benevolent, and gentle in its character, it shrinks from rude contact with the noisy world. Hence pride, that there are none, it is, that these institutions for the relief of the insane, must assume a regulation somewhat paternal and domestic in its character. Genial air, cheerful prospects, and healthful exercises, are and Commercial Marts; although we may not have indispensable to their successful operation. In a country of such practical habits, and of such sparse population as ours, such requirements as these I have mentioned, are even for the affluent, beyond the reach of private enterprise ; and as for the indigent, charity feels that its duty is performed in merely "feeding the hungry and clothing the poor." It requires the sanction of government to provide permanently for the wants of those who appeal to us only through their maniac cries ; and who usually excite our horrors as much or more, than they do our sympathies. Government owes it not only to the destitute manise, to provide for his sufferings, but it owes it to the more fortunate, to protect them, from the horrifying spectacle of an aberration of intellect. in their fellow beings. And in accomplishing so benificent a purpose, for both the sane and the insane, can it, ought it to hesitate, in imposing the paltry burthens upon those more highly favoured by the God of nature, necessary for their own, as well as for the good of their stricken brethren.

The system now generally pursued for the treatment of the insane, in nearly all the States of this Union, as well as in all civilized countries, belongs to the discovery of modern science and to the progress of modern improvement. Until within the period of the existence of our own government, young as it is, the old plan of the dark ages-which grew out of the idea, that those bereft of reason were the vistims of God's especial displeasure, and therefore had no claims on man's sympathy of treating the insane as out-casts, was the only one known. The dark and noisome cell, the chain and the hand cuff. the bar

social virtues, we acknowledge no superior. Let us | titute that we are called on to provide. 'Tis true, now prove that this is no vain and idle vaunting .- | they have nothing to give in return but the tribute Whilst other States may excel us in enterprise, in of grateful hearts ; and what higher reward ought a wealth and in public spirit, yet let us recollect, in | benificent government to desire. The duty of govthe language of a lamented son, it has long been our ernment to provide for the physical wants of the poor, is recognised and observed by all Christain

- Whose doors open faster.

At the knock of distress, or the tale of disaster.

Although we may not boast of our populeus Cities as many proud Seminaries of learning; although we mental suffering. For, what are hunger, nakedness may not cover our surface with a net-work of Rail- and want compared with the loss of reason T W hat roads and Canals; yet let us prove that we have hearts to feel for misfortune and the personal comforts of our people, if we are somewhat regardless of their | ing the thousand shapes of fury" ?

public pride and prosperity. I am aware that this bill may be objected to on account of what may seem to be the magnitude of the sum proposed to be appropriated. The amount is not large, compared with the purposes contemplated, and the benefits to be realized. It cannot be less, if the institution is to answer the ends designed. If we are to provide for the insane at all, we must make provision for the whole of them. From the best in- political economy, is decidedly objectionable. It formation that can be obtained, there will probably carries the money, and that to no considerable exbe not less than 250 patients in the State. And the tent, from our borders; not to come back to us same information authorises the conclusion, that a building necessary for the comfortable provision of that number cannot be built for much less than \$100,000. Plearn that about ten years since, the State of Tennessee-that noble daughter of the Old North State, who here presents to her mother such sort to early remedial treatment, which experience glorious example-erected an institution for the has fully established to be so absolutely necessary to mane at a cost of about 25 or 30 thousand dollars. | the restoration of the insane. Distance, expense, it was found to be atterly unfit for the purposes in-

tended-and one year since, the Legislature of that public eye, deter the friends of the unfortunate from State concluded to abandon it as an outlay of so much an early resort to distant asylums, until delay fremoney lost, and made an appropriation of \$100,000 quently places the suffering beyond the reach of cure. for the erection of new one. Let us take warning How necessary then, to have the means of relief near by this example. If we attempt to provide for the at hand, to have an asylum of our own, inviting the insane at all, let us do it in a style commensurate | wretched to its hospitable shelter ; a structure built all, commensurate with the wants of our people .- | land may feel he has an interest. Gentlemen should recollect that a building of this

us then, instead of wasting \$30,000 or \$50,000 to no impose the slight tax proposed, lest heartless dema-

Mr Sut Ird mor

After an explanation by Mr. Washington, Mr. reading-Ayes 23, Noes 20.

The bills concerning an Academy in Buncombe; concerning the County of Catawba; concerning the The bills to incorporate the Grand Lodge, I. O. G. F. of North Carolina; the engrossed Resolution in favor of the Clerk of the County Court of New

Hanover; the Resolution to extend the limits of Lincolnton, passed their second reading. The Senate then proceeded to vote for Superior

Court Judge. Hos. William H. Battle was duly elected by the Joint vote; having received 123 out of 156 votes cast-scattering 33. Mr. Rogers offered a Resolution, proposing to

send a Resolution to the House, fixing the day of adjournment on the 20th inst. Adopted. Mr. Worth introduced the following Preamble

and Resolution: Whereas, there are many and important measures for Internal Improvement in the State, now before the General Assembly:

And whereas, inasmuch as the aid of the State will be required for their successful prosecution, it is deemed right and proper, before they are entered upon, to direct the public mind to the subject, and ascertain the public will: Therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Governor of this State be, and he hereby is requested to convene the General Assembly, in special Session, sometime in the Fall of the present year.

The order of the day, being the bill concerning the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company, was then taken up.

The main objects of the bill are-1st, to extend he credit of the State to said Company, to enable them to raise \$520,000, for the purpose of laying down the road with better iron; and 2d, that one-Countries; and in our own State, the law makes provison for that. If it is the duty of the Legislahalf of the Stock of the State in this Road, may be expenditures, until we could establish some great ture to provide for the corporal wants of the poor, transferred to the Wilmington and Manchester plan, and vote appropriations to all. Mr. Worth how much greater the obligation to provide for their Road.]

The discussion on this bill had proceeded to considerable length, when the Senate took a recess.

EVENING SESSION.

The Senate met at half-past six, bat without transacting any business, adjourned to attend the Lecture of Mr. Vattemare, on a system of International Exchanges.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Presentation of Bills, &c.-By Mr. Dobbin, a bill concerning Widows-referred to Committee on Judiciary. By Mr. Mebane, a resolution to instruct the Judiciary Committe to enquire into the propriety of repealing an Act to prevent the imprisonment of honest debtors-adopted. By Mr. Dobbin, a resolution for the relief of S. W. Tillinghast and others-referred to committee on Private bills. By Mr. Martin, a resolution in favor of Young Pattersonreferred to committee on Private bills. By Mr. Wiliamson, a bill to incorporate the Columbus Guards. By Mr. Dobbin, a bill to incorporate Concord-Division No. 1, Sons of Temperance. By Mr. White, a bill to amend a certain Section of the Revised Statutes, concerning prison bounds-referred to Judi-ciary Committee. By Mr. Brogden, a bill supplemental to an act repealing the County of Polk By Mr. Walser, a resolution fixing the time of adjournment sine die, on the 22d January-laid on the table. By Mr. Nicholls, a resolution to receive no bills of with our pride, our character and our ability ; above at the public charge, in which every freeman in the a private character, from and after Saturday nextadopted. Mr. Caldwell, of Burke, moved that the Judicia-

ry Committee be allowed to hold its meetings during the sittings of the House. Agreed to. A message was received from the Governor, trans-

Mr. Woodfin, from the Judiciary Committee, reported the bill to incorporate the town of Goldsboro'; also, a bill supplementary to the act establishing a State Hospital for the Insane; also, a bill to amend the 65th chapter of Revised Statutes ; also, the bill making more suitable provision for femmes covert, with an amendment. These reports lie over. Mr. Albright introduced a resolution respecting Weights and Measures in Chatham County. Mr. Spicer, in relation to the late Sheriff of Ons-

of the Superior Court-passed its 1st reading.

Mr. Keene moved the indefinite postponement

population should only be considered.

ed on other political questions.

gative by a large majority.

Whitaker 1, Craige 1.

The House then took recess.

EVENING SESSION.

ing, when the bill to attach a portion of Yancy to

in relation to the contested election from Surry, gi-

ving the sitting member until the 22d, to take depo-

Mr. Person, of Moore, offered an amendment to

the resolution, by striking out 22d, and insert 18th.

mover, and Messrs. Caldwell, of Burke, Stanly, O-

SENATE.

was also rejected, and the resolution prevailed.

On this there was a short discussion between the

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10.

the direst evils.

ment.

elections.

elected.

0.0 Mr. Halsey, a resolution providing for a recess from half past one till three o'clock. Adopted.

Mr. Gilmer, a bill in relation to honest debtors. Referred.

Mr. Hawking, a bill to extend the corporate limits of the town of Warrenton, with a protest. Refer-

Mr. Washington, a bill to amend the Revised Statutes relating to bills, bonds, promissory notes, &c. Referred. Mr. Smaw, to incorporate Bear Creek Canal Com-

pany. Passed its 1st reading. On motion of Mr. Woodfin, Mr. Lillington was

added to the Judiciary Committee. The Senate proceeded to the unfinished business, being the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad bill, \$10.

the pending question being on Mr. Worth's motion to postpone the bill indefinitely. Mr. Joyner took the floor in opposition to this motion, and went into the merits of the bill, sustaining and enforcing reasons for its passage. He was replied to by Mr. Worth, who stated that he opposed the bill, not because he did not believe it right and necessary, but because he wished to act upon

broader grounds. His views were that we should establish great works of Internal Improvements ; and when we lend aid to one work, we should lend to all. He was in favor of the principle of this bill, but opposed to partial legislation; because by it, when all other works were refused aid, this one only would be completed. He could not vote for any further alluded to the steady opposition of all the members from Wake County, to every appropriation of money for any improvements, and argued that if this

Session passed without any relief to the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, that public opinion would either force them to support that Road or resign. Mr. Thompson, of Wake, rose in reply, and disclaimed having ever been opposed to a judicious system of Internal Improvements; he was no longer disposed to associate the subject of improvements with party politics; he was willing, if there could be any plan suggested to save the State, and improve

her condition, to embrace any judicious system calculated to effect these ends. Mr. Ashe then took the floor in support of the

bill, and was followed by Messrs. Worth, and Thom- transfer of Stock, &c. as, of Davidson; after which Mr. Worth withdrew his motion for indefinite postponement.

Mr. Joyner offered an amendment to the bill, in the 12th Section, to strike out "Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company," and insert "State of North Carolina," so as to provide that the benefit of the subscription in the Manchester Railroad shall accrue to the State, which was adopted.

Mr. Worth moved to strike out all after the 10th Section, except the last, so as to give no authority for raising additional money to lay the road with heavy iron.

Mr. Gilmer then made a forcible and eloquent Speech in favor of the bill

When he had concluded, the Senate resolved it self into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. Halsey in the Chair, and

Mr. Graves (the Speaker.) addressed the Senate in favor of Internal Improvements generally, and also of this bill.

On motion of Mrs Joyner, the Committee then rose and reported the bill to the Senate.

The whole evening Session was occupied in the appointment of Justices of the Peace.

> THURRDAY, Jan. 11. SENATE.

Mr. Patterson, from the Committee on Internal Improvement, to whom was referred a bill to improve the navigation of Catawba river, reported a substitute, and recommended its passage.

Mr. Watson, from the Committee on Finance, to whom the subject was referred, reported a bill to raise the tax on retailers of Spirituous Liquors to

Mr. Conner, from the Committe on Claims, repor-ted the resolution in favor of the Adjutant General, with an amendment. These reports lie ever.

Mr. Gilmer introduced a bill to repeal certain acts heretofore passed, in relation to Insolvent debtors, &c ; also, to amend an act to regulate Ordinaries, Sec.

Mr. Watson, a bill to incorporate Johnston Academy in Johnston.

Mr. Spicer, a bill to repeal so much of the 3d Sect. of an act of 1846-7, as relates to the County Courts of Ouslow.

Mr. Woodfin, a bill concerning the Supreme Court holding its Sessions at Morganton.

Mr. Smith, a bill to provide for the removal of civil process from the County to the Superior Courts. Mr. Patterson, a resolution in relation to the dis-

ribution of the laws and Military tactics. Mr. Woodfin, a resolution in favor of Joseph Liv-

noston. These bills and resolutions passed their first read-

Mr Thomas, of Davidson, introduced a memorial of sundry citizens of Lexington, and its vicinity, praying that the advantages of Lexington be considered favorably as a suitable place to locate the Lunatic Asylum, Laid upon the table.

The Sounte resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, being the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad bill, the question being on the motion of Mr. Smith to amend by striking out part of the 12th Section-the effect of which would be to cut off the

Mr. Woodfin took the floor against the amendment

and in favor of the bill. Mr. Exum defined his position. He had always gone against expenditures by the State, and also a-gainst binding the State as security for works and improvements. His votes were recorded, and when the question was taken it would be seen how he would vote. But this is no new project-the work had been begun-unwise as it was-the investment of the State was now worth nothing-and he believed it was right that we should pass this bill in order to enable the State to realise a revenue. He should vote for the measure—but if any new preject came up, he might probably act differently. Mr. Worth was very glad to perceive that we were

daily making converts to the cause. He had strong hopes for the complete salvation of the gentleman from Wayne. His (Mr. Worths) object was, not to refuse this measure, but to hold it in suspense, antil we can get the great work of Internal Improvement now projected, passed by this body. Mr. W. then read from a former report of the Wilmington Com-

The Speake fore the Ho of Mr. Ray Mr. Cal amendment dressed the in some very Mullen also The Spea The follo 3d time and

Nut Turnp County Rif tual Life In Phalanx L Concordia] authorize V a Road the bill to ame across High lish a new authorize C Bear Creek missioners Wilkes; b for the bett ton; bill to Association in lavor of

for the app Swamp.

through the regular channels of commercial exchange. but keeping up in proportion to its expenditure, a constant drain upon our circulating medium, the current of which has no reflux. In the fourth place, a reliance upon distant institutions prevents that re-

exposure both to the accidents of travel and to the

purpose, expend what is requisite; and there it is for generations, complete in all its parts, the memorial inflame the public mind? Sir, the people will sus-to the Senate.

are all the tortures of the quivering flesh, compared with those of the brain, through which are "whirl-"For pleasures, hopes, affection gone,

The wretch may bear, and yet live on ; But there's a blank repose in this, A calmn stagnation, harrowing pain, To the keen, burning, that were bliss,

Thats' felt throughout the breast and brain.' In the third place, this dependence on the instiations of other States, considered as a question of

Under these considerations, Mr. Speaker, can we sort is not like a private dwelling. Space, air, pros-pect, peculiar arrangement are indispensable. Let shall we fail to perform it? Shall we hesitate to

*Miss D. L. Dix. After the shock, and the mind becomes eclips After the voting was over. Mr. Mosely re- ed with maniac darkness. Yes sir, who of us knows marked that as there was no Democratic Nominee Improvements, reported favorably to the hill to foreclosed without the consent The mo		ple, it is strongly recommend on the score of con- ony. Have gentlemen ever turned their attention to the sums annually expended in some of the coun- out. Have gentlemen ever turned their attention to the sums annually expended in some of the coun- out. Have gentlemen ever turned their attention to the sums annually expended in some of the coun- ties of the State, for keeping in confinement the in- ing worther impeters of derangement—first gave the impetus to that benevolent system, which and disid up so many tears hea'ed so many wound alleviting the materies of derangement—first gave the impetus to that benevolent system, which and cheers, and southed so many pargs of suffer- ing. With rapid strides, this humane and wise giand foremest as the always is in deeds of great. This expense is now incurred in keeping them in prison, beyond the reach of relief; we propose to convert it into the means of ministering to their com- fort, and restoring them to reason. Acan example of this false notion of economy, I learn there is a maniae in the prison of Stokes County, the keeping of whom for several years has cost the County some stations, and in commiting it with the tears of allows, and in commiting it with the tears of forings of millions yet unborn.	sympathy and of feeling, and to them will we appeal. We shall receive their gratitude, instead of their censure. Think of how many many minds now shrouded in darkness, we may be the means of restoring to the light of knowledge and of christain hope. Think of the many whose awful ravings of despair, we may convert into grateful invocations of bleasings on our heads. Think of how many anxious and watchful mothers' and sisters' checks, that are now suffused with the tears of sorrow, we may hear and enliven with the samiles of joy. Think of how many a fond father's heart now sunk in despondency, at the contemplation of the suffering of an afflicted son or daughter, will leap with joy at the successful issue of our labors. Although the thanks dad the prayers of their grateful hearts may never reach our ears, yst like holy incense they will ascendant of one of ourselves, may be overtaken with misfortures, may pine in penury and want, may suffer the gaawing pangs of hunger, may feel the horrors of ignoming and shime—till the brain reels under the shock, and the mind the more dimers.	which would be, that no part of the State's Stock in this Road shall be sold, and that the mortgage au- thorised to be made by this bill, and which has pri- ority over the State's shall not be foreclosed, with- out the consent of the State. The bill was farther debated by Messrs. Smith, Joyner, and Lillington. When the latter concluded, the Senate took a re- cess. EVENING SESSION. Mr. Ashe introduced a bill respecting Justices of the Peace in New Hanover. Passed it 1st reading. A number of engrossed bills and resolutions paas- ed their second and third reading. The rest of the sitting was spent in acting upon resignations of Justices of the Peace. HOUSE OF COMMONS. Mr. Person introduced a bill to incorporate Crane Creek burial ground. Passed its 1st read- ing. Mr. Blow, a bill to lay off a road in Yancy County. Referred to Committee on Internal Improvements.	to show how Mr. Exum would be inconsistent, if he voted for this hill. Gentlemen who vote for lifting the mortgage, are indirectly appropriating \$250,000 for that road; but they are unwilling to go for the great Central project, which is to benefit the whole State. He was willing to take them all up and pase them, but not to give this the preference. Mr. Exum replied to Mr. Worth, and was followed by Mr. Miller. The views expressed by this latter gentleman were of an eulightened and patriotic char- acter. He goes heart and haud for the improvement of the State, in all measures calculated to advance her henor and interests. Mr. Ashe followed, in an examination of the trans- actions, situation and prospects of this Railroad Com- pany, and in favor of the bill. The question was then taken on Mr. Smith's amendment, which, by Yeas 20, Nays, 27, was rejected. Mr. Thompson, of Hertie, offered an amend- ment, requiring indemnifying bonds from the Stockholders of said Company. This amendment was considered as fatal to the bill. The question was decided in the negative Mr. Smith moved a provise, that pune of the	The reso in place of Mr. Jones, der of the a Mr. Stan Lost. On tions a prot pated in by Batterthwa Mr. Stan Mr. S. th Satterthwa indefinitely Mr. Jone of some of The Hou Mr. Caid adjourn. I Mr. T. R recess—lost Another journ. Mr. Stan at some ten the 4th Res by himself. Mr. Stee Stanly. The moti not preyall.
---	--	---	--	--	--	--