

THE NORTH-CAROLINA STAR.

THOMAS J. LEWIS, Editor.

NORTH CAROLINA—“Powerful in intellectual, moral and physical resources, the land of our sires and home of our affections.”

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AGRICULTURAL.

From the Western Democrat.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Mr. Editor: We are sure your readers will join us in rejoicing at the recent establish- ment of the institution, with which we are equally con- fident that they will coincide in opinion with us when we say that such a thing was much needed. We hail it at the dawn of a brighter day for the Agricultural and industrial interests of our good old State. Year after year has rolled by, session after session of our Legislature has met and adjourned; various reforms have been proposed and adopted; the “dear people” have at times almost been persuaded that wisdom was born with them, and that when they “shuffled off their mortal coil” wisdom would do duty; yet after all these things have taken place, with all their reputed wisdom, they have never even whispered into the ears of their law- makers and representatives that there was one interest, which, above all others, they regarded as of vital importance—the interest of Agriculture and rural economy. But it seems that their representatives in clear and plain language, the language of one of the old common law maxims, (for surely it cannot be said in this case that “the memory of man runneth not to the contrary”) have of themselves at last come to that sage conclusion, and have or- ganized a State Society; which Society has memorialized the Legislature to make an annual appropriation for its better promotion and efficiency. We repeat that we hail it as an indication of a more prosperous future, and believe that it will be of more real benefit and lasting advantage to the State, than all the Rail-Road-across-the-Blue-Ridge schemes that ever entered the mind of visionary dreamer.

Our State is undeniably far behind her sis- ters States in Agricultural improvement, and we fear that in this immediate section of the State, there is less interest manifested in it than in any other section. Why this state of things among our farmers? It is because there are no longer sufficient in- ducements to arouse their dormant energies and urge them on to renewed action! In the language of one of the most eloquent sons of our State: “See what a country is given us—how widely spread—stretching herself, and inviting the weary children of toil, how numerous sower, to come and draw nourishment, rich and abundant, from her spacious bosom! Think you that this fertile and wide-spread country is a mere wanton ex- penditure of Almighty power? Or that our destiny being cast in it, is purely an acci- dental arrangement, having no meaning? Does it seem that the same hand that placed Adam, and placed Adam there to dress it, had created this goodly land, and placed us here to till it, and elaborate its inexhaustible re- sources? These facts would seem to be sufficient to cause our farmers to throw off the lethargic spell that binds them. But the inducements to renewed exertion do not stop with what nature has done for us. The facilities for transportation will soon be within convenient proximity to the great majority of our planters, and so far as our immediate section is concerned, already the shrill tones of the “iron horse” as he goes bounding over the glowing landscape of arable fields, proclaim to their proprietors with a voice more irresistible than the eloquence of man, that in- cessant inactivity and careless indifference are not the order of the day. Will not the farmers, then, arouse themselves to a due sense of their real interests, and at as early a day as practicable, meet together and revise that laudable and defunct organization, known as the “Mechlenburg Agricultural Society.” Let them do this, and the day of its resurrec- tion will take its place on the historic scroll beside the 29th May, '78, and the 28th Oc- tober, '52.

Now we are not speaking out of a mere mindless infatuation. No; but we would fain wake up to a just appreciation of the importance of their pursuits, that great body of our countrymen, who are emphatically called—farmers; men who stand upon the soil and are identified with it; for there rest their own hopes, and there the hopes of our children; men who are, in fact, the foundation, the main pillars and Doric columns of our great social edifice.

SAVOYARD.

Pleasant Retreat, Swannanoa,
November 10th, 1852.

Brother T. W. Atkins—Please accept, as an emblem of my profession, the vegetables and fruits I send you by the bearer. I have been more fortunate this year than usual in the general products of my farm, and feel that all who have made the proper exertion equally as much so.

I am anxiously awaiting the return of the newly made Vice President of the State Agri- cultural Society of our section of the State, to see how practicable, from a Society in our midst. It certainly will give stimulus and an increasing desire to improve our farm- ing; and will modestly mention, and name to my brother farmers, J. M. Smith, J. P. Smith, N. W. Woodfin, J. W. Woodfin, J. R. Osborn, and J. Burgin. Equities, that I am willing to pay, out, them, one or more acres of Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn and Potatoes or fifty ten months old shoats, to be exhibited the ensuing season, or if agreed on, to let the committee of the Society examine each of our premises and report at the annual meeting. Now I name any one of the above or the whole—hoping that the above enterprising brother farmers may see this, and take up the glove.

I remain, respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

THOS. T. PATTON.

With the above note, I received a hand- some present of muskmouth potatoes, cabbage, turnips, beets, and apples. Oh, but it would do a hungry man good to look at the pile! One peep at the cabbage would show a Dutchman into convulsions! And thus I wish to see a box reaching twelve pounds! We return a thousand thanks to Col. Pat- ton, and will back him against any or all of the members of the State Agricultural Society, if he fails to carry off the first Prize. We will foot the damages.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE.

Monday, Nov. 15, 1852.

Mr. Steele introduced a bill to amend an act of 1850-51, to incorporate the Anson Plank Road Company, which passed its first reading.

Mr. Person introduced a bill, accompanied by a memorial, to emancipate James Langford, a slave; which passed its first reading and was referred.

The bill to pay taxes jurors in Northampton, was amended, so as to embrace Wake in its provisions, and under the suspension of the rule, passed its second and third readings, and was ordered to be engrossed.

The bill concerning the Conrad Gold Mining Company passed its second reading.

The bill to amend the act to incorporate Lewis Gold Mining Company, passed its second reading.

The bill to incorporate the Gulf and Graham Plank Road Company, was read the second time, the amendments proposed by the committee on Corporations were rejected, and the bill ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Watson, from the committee on Proprietary Grievances, to whom was referred the bill giving the election of Clerks and Masters in Equity to the people, and the bill to divide the county of Iredell, reported the said bills back to the Senate, and recom- mended their passage. Laid on the table in the case that “the memory of man runneth not to the contrary.”

Mr. Person introduced a resolution proposing that the Legislature adjourn sine die on the 15th day of December next; which passed, 38 yeas, 3 nays.

The Senate proceeded, under a joint order, to vote for Secretary of State, under the superintendence of Messrs. Steele and Cunningham, when the vote of the Senate was unanimously given for the Hon. William Hill.

Mr. Cunningham, from the committee to superintend the election of Secretary of State, reported that Wm. Hill had received the whole number of votes given by the two Houses, and was duly elected.

The engrossed bill concerning the Superior Court of Randolph, Alamance, and Currituck Counties, under the suspension of the rule, passed its second and third readings.

The bill to exempt persons of 65 years of age and upwards from serving as jurors, was read the second time.

Mr. Woodfin said the committee had recom- mended the rejection of the bill. He thought there was no necessity for its pas- sage. The court would always exempt aged men, in extreme cases; but men of the age referred to were generally best qualified for the duties of jurors.

Mr. Brogden advocated the passage of the bill on the ground that men, generally, after having passed the age of 65, were infirm, and entitled to exemption. The bill did not un- derstandly exempt them, but left it optional with them to plead that age or not; and it appeared to him to be founded upon justice and approved by reason. The law exempts persons after the age of 45 from serving in the military and from working on roads; and he could see no reason why a similar exemption, after 25 years' service, should not be extended to those required to serve on juries. It was hard to compel old men to attend court, when there were young men enough amply qualified for the duty of jurors; and there was nothing more detrimental to patriotism than tyranny and oppression.

Mr. Lillington said the committee on the Judiciary had unanimously recommended the rejection of this bill. He was then of opinion there was no reason for its passage; and the arguments of the gentleman from Wayne had not changed his opinion. He had strag- gled from the subject, but he thought it was his duty to say that as the law exempted persons over 45 from working on roads and performing military service, therefore persons over 65 ought to be exempt from serving as jurors. The two cases, said Mr. L., are totally dis- similar. In the one case physical strength was required, and in the other mental. After 45, men failed in bodily strength; but at 65 were generally in the perfection of their mental powers. As an illustration of this, he referred to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who is an ornament to the State, and whose loss all would deplore as a most serious calamity; he also instanced other judicial officers. Judges and jurors should be men of age and experience.

Mr. Brogden replied briefly.

Mr. Caldwell made one objection to the bill. The law requires the Sheriff to summon whom he pleases. How could he tell who was 65 years of age?

Mr. Brogden. The County Courts are the ones to judge.

Mr. Caldwell. Then the duty is thrown on the grand jury.

Mr. Gilmer said that in the practice of law one of the great difficulties that he had ob- served, was that the jurors were unable to apply the law to the case under considera- tion, and this occurred most frequently when the jury was composed of young men. Policy therefore required that as many men of mature age and judgment as possible should be retained on our juries.

Mr. Brogden replied to Mr. Caldwell, and explained that there was no provision of the bill that imposed on the grand jury the duty of deciding who were of proper age to be exempt; and afterwards further remarks from Mr. Caldwell, the vote was taken, and the bill rejected.

The bill to incorporate the Greensborough Mutual Insurance and Trust Company, was read the second time, and laid on the table.

The bill authorizing justices of the peace to resign to the county court, was read the second time and passed.

The bill concerning the printing of the private Acts of the General Assembly, was read the second time and postponed until the 4th of March.

The bill to expedite the trial of suits in certain cases in courts of law, was read the second time, laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Murrell introduced a bill to incor- porate the Kingsbury and Locksville Plank Road Company. Passed first reading and referred.

Mr. Cowper introduced a bill to incor- porate the Wesleyan Female College, Morriceborough, which passed its first reading.

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, November 15, 1852.

Mr. J. F. Lyon, member elect from Orange and Alamance, appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

A message was received from the Senate proposing to raise a joint committee of three from the Senate and six from the House to examine and report upon the present condition of the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, the manner in which it has been conducted, &c. Concerned in, and the following gentlemen appointed as the House part of the commit- tee: Messrs. J. Turner, J. B. Bynum, W. J. Long, Foreman, Shimpcock and Christmas.

The committee on the Ruanock and Me- herring connection consists of Messrs. Smith, Cherry, Lockhart, Daniel and Mooreing.

Memorials were presented by Messrs. Stubbs, George, Cooke and Burton, all of which without being read, were referred to appropriate committees.

Mr. Munday presented a petition from Joseph Brudie, of Marion County, praying the State to refund to him \$250.00 with inter- est from 1848, which was referred.

Mr. Hill, of Caswell, from the Judiciary committee, reported the bill to establish a bank at Yanceyville, with some amendments, and recommended its passage. The amend- ments of the committee were adopted.

Mr. Holeman, of Person, offered to amend by striking out “or its equivalent,” where- ever it occurred in the bill, and demanded the yeas and nays on the question to strike out. The amendment was rejected by a vote of 65 to 34.

Mr. Holeman then moved to amend by providing that if the bank shall fail, any holder of the notes may collect the amount from any who are then, or have previously been, stock- holders. Rejected.

The bill then passed its second reading.

Mr. Avery, from the committee on Internal Improvements, reported the bill to incorpo- rate the Chapel Hill and Durhamville Plank- road Company, and recommended its pas- sage. Read 2d time and passed.

A message was received from the Senate proposing to go into an election of Secretary of State today at 12 o'clock. Concurred in, and Messrs. Amis and S. P. Hill appointed a committee on the part of the House to superintend such election, which resulted in the election of William Hill unanimously, he hav- ing received 166 votes, 115 in the House and 51 in the Senate.

The special order of the day, being the bill to abolish jury trials in the county courts and for the better administration of justice, was then taken up, and the House went into committee of the whole, Mr. Cherry, of Ber- tie, in the Chair.

Mr. Saunders, of Wake, made a few re- marks, and Mr. Baxter of Henderson, ad- dressed the committee at length.

Mr. Puryear moved to change the number of circuits from nine to eight. Not agreed to.

The vote then being taken on changing the number of circuits at nine, the Chairman de- cided that it prevailed.

Mr. Long, of Randolph, moved to strike out that portion of the first section which provides for dividing the State into three judicial districts; which was discussed by Messrs. Long, Hill of Caswell, Saunders and Avery, when the committee rose, reported progress and begged leave to sit again.

The House then adjourned.

SENATE.

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1852.

On motion of Mr. Boyd.

Resolved, That the committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the propriety of so amending the revenue law of last session of the General Assembly, as to embrace the following propositions:

1st. To equalize the tax on who may buy and sell slaves, and those who buy and sell other species of trade.

2d. To amend the second section so as to strike out the words *de procebu*, so that profits made by *bona fide* placed on the same condition as other dividends or profits.

3d. To further amend the second section, so as to strike out the words “that any person shall have thirty dollars of interest, dividend or profit,” and insert, in lieu thereof, sixty dollars.

4th. The propriety of laying an ad valorem tax on every species of personal property not already taxed except slaves, which are now exempt by the Constitution.

Mr. Thomas introduced a bill to incorpo- rate the Charlotte, Blue Ridge, and Chattanooga Railroad Company; which passed its first reading and was referred.

Mr. Cannady introduced a bill to incorpo- rate Mount Energy Lodge, No. 140, in Gran- ville county; which passed its third reading and was referred.

The bill concerning the Conrad Hill mining Company, passed its third reading and was ordered to be engrossed.

The engrossed bill to amend the act of 1850-51 incorporating the Western Plank Road Company, passed its third reading and was ordered to be enrolled.

The bill authorizing justices of the peace to resign to the county court, passed its third reading, and was ordered to be engrossed.— Also the bill to amend the act incorporating the Lewis Gold Mining Company, and to incor- porate the Padon Plank Road Company.

The engrossed bill to incorporate the Gulf and Graham Plank Road Company, passed its third reading with an amendment, and was sent to the Commons for their concurrence.

The bill to lay off and establish a county out of a portion of Ashe, to be called New River, was read the second time and postponed until to-morrow.

The bill to divide the county of Iredell, was now taken up, and on motion of Mr. Parks, ordered to be laid on the table.

The engrossed bill to incorporate the Greensborough Mutual Life Insurance and Trust Company, was taken up, read the second time, amended, on motion of Mr. Clark, and passed. On motion of Mr. Gilmer, the rules were suspended, and the bill was read the third time and passed, as amended, and a message sent to the Commons, asking their concurrence therein.

The engrossed bill to repeal an act of 1850-51, to prevent the obstruction of the passage of fish at Inlets on the coast of the State, passed its first reading and was referred to the committee on Proprietary and Grievances.

Mr. Cowper introduced a resolution, to send a message to the Commons proposing to go into an election to-morrow at 12 o'clock for a Solicitor for the first Judicial Circuit; which, on motion of Mr. Hoke, was laid on the table. The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, November 16, 1852.

A message was received from the Senate informing the House that it had rejected the bill to extend the right of appeal in certain cases.

Also that it had adopted a resolution pro- posing that both Houses of the General As- sembly adjourn on the 18th of December, and asking the concurrence of the House.

Mr. Williams, of Warren, moved to lay on the table, which was not agreed to—yeas 26, nays 72.

Mr. Seales, of Rockingham, moved to postpone the further consideration of the resolu- tion till December 10th, which did not prevail—yeas 45, nays 65.

The resolution was then concurred in, yeas 72, nays 38.

A message was received from the Senate transmitting the engrossed bill to repeal an act of 1850-51 establishing the county of Jackson, which passed its first reading.

On motion of Mr. Love, of Haywood, the rules were suspended and the bill put upon its second reading.

Mr. Love then moved to amend by striking out after the enacting clause and inserting as a substitute, a supplemental bill to carry into effect the act establishing the said county.

On motion of Mr. Wheeler, of Lincoln, the bill and amendment were laid upon the table and made the special order of the day for Tuesday next.

Mr. Blow, of Pitt, introduced a bill to amend an act of 1850-51 to incorporate the Greenville and Raleigh Plankroad Company. Referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Also a bill to amend 104th chapter of Re- vised Statutes, concerning public roads, ferries and bridges. Passed first reading.

Mr. Strange, of New Hanover, a bill to incorporate the Seaman's Friend's Society. Referred to committee on Corporations.

Mr. Caldwell, of Guilford, from the com- mittee on Corporations, reported the bill to incorporate the Franklinville Manufacturing Company, in the county of Randolph. Read second time and passed.

Mr. Cherry, from the committee on Fi- nance, reported adversely on the bill to repeal sec. 2 chapters 79 and Revised Statutes, concern- ing chaplains' license. Referred to committee.

Also adversely on the resolution to enquire into the expediency of laying a tax on ready made clothing brought into the State, re- port concurred in and committee discharged.

Mr. Thornburgh, of Randolph, introduced a bill to incorporate the Ewarhrie and Yadin plankroad Company. Referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Calloway, of Ashe, a bill to authorize E. C. Bartlett, sheriff of Ashe, to collect ar- rears of taxes. Referred to committee on Private Claims.

Mr. Webb, of Rutherford, a bill to lay off a road over the Blue Ridge at Jude's gap. Referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Bynum, of Northampton, a bill to in- corporate Cherish Division, No. 35, S. of T. Referred to committee on Corporations.

Mr. Munday of Macn, a bill to expedite trials and avoid unnecessary cost in punishing petty offences. Referred to committee on the Judiciary. (Gives justice of peace jurisdic- tion in cases of assault and battery, with right of appeal only where security is given to indemnify the county against costs.)

Mr. Carmichael, of Wilkes, a bill to re- peal in part an act of 1850-51 establishing a Superior court of law in Watauga county. Referred to committee on Proprietary and Grievances.

Mr. Brooks, of Pasquotank, a bill to in- corporate Jonesborough Division, No. 201, S. of T. Referred to committee on Corporations.

On motion of Mr. Saunders, of Wake, the House went into committee of the whole, Mr. Cherry, of Bertie, in the Chair.

The question being on the amendment of- fered on yesterday by Mr. Long, of Randolph, Mr. Puryear, of Surry, offered to amend by striking out the original bill and substitut- ing one providing for one additional Judicial circuit, to be called the 8th circuit.

The committee was addressed by Messrs. Puryear, Caldwell of Guilford, Miller, Sax- ter, Hill of Caswell, Dobbis, Leach, San- ders of Wake, and Reid of Duplin.

Mr. Avery raised the point of order whether Mr. Puryear's amendment could be con- sidered, the amendment of Mr. Long being before the committee first.

The Chairman decided that Mr. Puryear's amendment was not in order.

On motion of Mr. Reid, of Duplin, the committee rose.

Mr. Cooke of Wilkes, offered a resolution authorizing T. Dyer, late Sheriff of Wilkes, to collect arrears of taxes. And the House adjourned.

SENATE.

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 1852.

Mr. Clark, from the committee on cor- porations, to whom was referred the bill to incorporate the Cumberland Academy, re- ported the same, with a proposition to strike out the second section. Laid on the table.

Mr. Clark, from the same committee, to whom was referred the bill to incorporate Mount Energy Lodge, reported that as there was a general law for such purposes, the committee asked to be discharged from the fu- ther consideration of the bill. The committee was accordingly discharged.

Mr. Woodfin presented a memorial, which was read and laid on the table.

The bill to increase the revenue of the State by the sale of her bonds, was read the third time.

Mr. Hoke asked what coupons bonds were, which were provided for in the bill?

Mr. Clark said coupons were checks for the periodical amounts of interest, attached to the principal bonds, and so arranged that the holders had nothing to do, as the accruing interest became due from time to time, but to clip off the checks, or coupons as they are called, and present them for payment.

Mr. Hoke said he knew that. He wanted to know the advantages of the coupon?

Mr. Clark. The great convenience they afforded in collecting the interest, and consequent enhancement of the value of the bonds.

The bill then passed its third reading, and was ordered to be engrossed.

The bill concerning the jurors of Green, passed its third reading and was ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to amend the act of 1850-51, to in- corporate the Anson Plank Road Company

passed its third reading; and, on motion of Mr. Lillington, reconsidered, amended, on motion of Mr. Steele, passed and ordered to be engrossed.

The engrossed bills to incorporate the Fayetteville and Raleigh, and the Haywood and Chapel Hill Plank Road Companies, passed their third reading and were ordered to be en- grossed.

Mr. Gilmer introduced a resolution authorizing the Assistant Door-keeper to employ an assistant until the principal Door-keeper shall recover from his indisposition and be able to attend to his duties; which was adopted.

The bill to give the election of Clerks and Masters in Equity to the people, was read the third time.

Mr. Caldwell said he had voted for the bill on its second reading under a misappre- hension; and he should now vote against it.

Mr. Shaw said he should be glad to hear the reasons why the Senator from Mecklen- burg opposed the bill.

Mr. Caldwell replied that one very strong and sufficient reason was, that it was an im- portant office, requiring high qualifications for the duties, taking accounts, &c., and with- out two or three hundred dollars—that com- petent men could not be induced to canvass for it before the people. Giving the election to the people, would, therefore, lead to confusion and operate unfavorably.

Mr. Shaw said so far as concerned the in- significance of the office, he thought it super- ior to that of Clerk of the Superior Court, and the election of the one might as well be given to the people as the other. He was in favor of it on the broad ground of republi- can principle, and it was in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution. He was among those who had an abiding confidence in the capacity of the people for self-govern- ment, and was not only willing to trust the people, but thought it proper to invest them with the right to elect their civil officers.

Mr. Kelly knew it was not a very popular thing to doubt the ability of the people to elect suitable agents, and he would not question their capacity to do so. But he was opposed to the bill for the reason stated by the Senator from Mecklenburg. Not that the office was insignificant; but the compensation was so small, they could not find men competent to take an account who would go out and canvass for the office, and the consequence would be, persons totally unqualified for the duties would be elected. In many of the counties the pay, he said, was not more than two hundred dollars, while the duties of the office were very difficult and important.

Mr. Lane said he had introduced the bill in accordance with the wishes of his constituents. They desired it; and therefore he should vote for it.

Mr. Kelly was willing to give it to the people of Randolph if they desired it. He did not wish to put them to inconvenience; but he was opposed to making it a general law.

The question was then taken on the pas- sage of the bill, and decided in the negative, 25 to 18. So the bill was rejected.

The resolution to allow Rufus H. Page \$50 for making a tabular statement of the cen- sus, was read the second time.

Mr. Steele moved that \$50 be stricken out, and that \$25 be inserted in lieu thereof; which motion, after explanation by Mr. Boyd, he withdrew. The resolution then passed, and a suspension of the rule, its second and third reading and was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Hoke introduced a bill to confirm the grants heretofore made for bounty land to iron works; which passed its first reading.

The bill to lay off and establish a county out of a portion of Ashe, by the name of New River, being the order of the day at 12 o'clock, was taken up and read the second time.

Mr. Bower moved to amend by inserting the name of the county Sevier instead of New River, which was agreed to.

Mr. Bower then proceeded to advocate the passage of the bill at some length. He said when they took into consideration the great inconveniences which the people there labor under, their rapid increase in population, and the fact that before twenty years shall roll round, the county will have more than the requisite population for a representative, he hoped the Senate would not hesi- tate to grant this new county. The county of Ashe, he said, had now a federal popu- lation of 9,000, lacking only about 1000 of the excess required for a member. There is not a county in the State increasing so rapidly in agricultural improvements and in popu- lation as the county of Ashe. The emigra- tion to that region was unexampled, occasioned by the law of Virginia authorizing the counties to tax the people for carrying through the said counties their railroad to Tennessee, and on account of high waters, one half the time they cannot get in court but at the risk of their lives. There was, therefore, a great necessity for a new county.

Mr. Steele said he did not want the neces- sity to be forced upon him of voting for the repeal of another county. The Senator from Ashe admitted that the county now proposed was not a general law for such purposes, the committee asked to be discharged from the fu- ther consideration of the bill. The committee was accordingly discharged.

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