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North-Carolina Star.

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WILLIAM C. DOUB,
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North-Carolina Star.

RALEIGH, N. C.

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 16th, 1854.

THE LEGISLATURE.—On Thursday and Friday in the House of Commons a number of bills were offered, and several read the second and third times.

In the Senate, Mr. Gilmer replied, on Thursday, to the remarks of Mr. Biggs. Mr. Gilmer's speech was regarded on all hands as a strong and forcible argument upon the important question discussed. His facts and calculations were conclusive as to many of the hardships spoken of and cannot be denied by any.

On Friday, Mr. Hoke and Mr. Thomas, of Jackson, both spoke upon the constitutional question. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Hoke admitted that there would be no danger of a change of the basis, even if an unlimited convention were called to revise the whole constitution. He even went so far as to say that if such a convention were called to consist of Western men only, the basis would not be changed. This declaration ought to put an end to the hue and cry raised by the Standard and kindred prints that the West desires a convention for the purpose of changing the basis of representation.

On Friday, Mr. Fisher introduced a bill to raise the salaries of the principal officers of the State as follows, that of the Governor to $3,000 the Treasurer to $2,000; the Comptroller to $1,500, and the judges of the Supreme Court to $2,000 per annum.

BARNUM'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.—We have been furnished by the publisher, Mr. Redfield, of New York, through Mr. Pomeroy of this city, with a copy of this extraordinary production of a most extraordinary man. Barnum is the Prince of Humbugs, and when he does undertake to humbug the American people, he does it in the most magnificent style. All his enterprises show his ability in this line, and none in a more eminent degree than the publication of this book. Whatever may be its faults of style or matter, one thing is certain, as we can testify, it is a very exciting and deeply interesting book, one that will most assuredly be read by the million. The entire range of his enterprises is laid before the public with a completeness and detail that are truly refreshing. It will produce more excitement than any publication that has been issued for years.

For sale at Pomeroy's.

COLTON'S ATLAS.—We have just received the second number containing maps of Canada East, with vicinity of Welland's Cannel on a larger scale, Connecticut and Long Island, Alabama, Kentucky and Tennessee, with the letter press description belonging to each. The maps are of a very high finish and for accuracy and minuteness are of the first excellence. Everything connected with them is as perfect as art, genius, labor and research can make it.

We learn that some of the bound volumes have been received and may be seen by calling on Mr. Bostwick at the store of Mr. H. D. Turner.

KNOW NOTHING VICTORIES.—The telegraph announces the election by the Know-Nothings of local officers in various towns of Massachusetts. In Boston their candidate was the present Mayor, Dr. J. V. Smith, whose earnest and courageous devotion to the laws during the progress of the Burns' case, made him particularly obnoxious to the abolitionists. The Union and other papers that have endeavored to create the belief that Know-nothingism is only a phase of abolitionism, will find this an awkward fact to reconcile with their theory.

AMERICANS AT THE TABLE.—Robert Chambers in his recent volume on "Things in America," remarks that a person accustomed to visit among the middle classes in Great Britain is astonished at the profusion at table in all quarters of America. "There is," he says, "no stinting as to food." He adds, "It was often pressed to my notice in the United States, that the hired laborers in the field are provided with better fare than falls to the lot of thousands of the "*genteel*" classes in England.

☞ We are indebted to the Hon. Thomas H. Benton for a copy of his "discourse before the Maryland Institute, on the physical geography of the country between Missouri and California, with a view to show its adaptation to settlement, and the construction of a railroad." We doubt not this is an able and instructive address, and promise ourselves the pleasure of a perusal as soon as we find sufficient leisure.

INVITATION.—A meeting of the citizens was held in Wilmington on the 11th instant, and a committee was appointed to invite the members of the present Legislature to pay a visit to that town, and to extend the hospitalities of the place to them. We should be very happy to pay the enterprising town another visit—but we are not a member of the Legislature.

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE.—The December number of the University Magazine has been on our table for several days. We are pleased to see, from the editorial table, that the experiment has proved successful, and that the Magazine is a fixed fact in the North Carolina literary world.

☞ We have received from the publishers, Messrs. L. Scott & Co., 79 Fulton St., New York, the numbers of Blackwood's Magazine, and of the North British Review for November.

☞ Gen. J. H. Adams was elected Governor of South Carolina on Monday last.

Legislature of North Carolina.

RALEIGH, December 12, 1854.

SENATE.

Mr. Wiggins introduced a bill to amend the 7th section Chapter 17th of the Revised Code, entitled cattle, horses and hogs, which was referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. McDowell presented a resolution instructing the committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of so amending the revenue law, as to require the hirer to give in slaves subject to taxation, which was adopted.

Mr. Biggs, from the Committee on the Revised Statutes, reported the following bills which passed their first reading:

A bill concerning corporations.
A bill concerning county boundaries.
A bill concerning county revenue and charges.
A bill concerning county trustees.
A bill concerning court houses, prisons &c.,

Mr. Fisher introduced a bill to incorporate the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, which was referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

The hour of 11 having arrived, the special order, being the bill to amend the Constitution of North Carolina, was taken up upon its second reading.

Mr. Graham moved to strike out all after the words "a bill," and insert "the bill concerning a Convention to amend the Constitution of the State."

After several verbal amendments to the first named bill made on motion of Mr. Boyd.

Mr. Graham took the floor and advocated the bill concerning a Convention at some length.

On motion of Mr. Hoke, the bills were laid on the table and made the order of the day for tomorrow at 12 o'clock.

A message was received from the House of Commons proposing to raise a joint Committee of five on the part of the House and three on the part of the Senate to take into consideration the interests of the University, which was concurred in.

Mr. Wilder introduced a bill to authorize the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad company to take stock in the Roanoke Valley Railroad Company, which was referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

On motion of Mr. Hoke, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

After reading of the Journal of yesterday, Mr. Shipp presented a Petition from the Grand Jury of Rutherford in relation to the 6th and 7th Judicial Circuits. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Bogle presented a memorial from the Grand Jury of Alexander, praying a change in the time of holding courts, which was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Messrs. Baxter and Dargan presented memorials on the subject of Temperance, both of which were referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Selby introduced a similar memorial.

Mr. S. A. Williams moved to lay the same on the table. The House refusing, it was, on motion of Mr. Selby, referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. J. H. Headen presented a memorial praying the appointment of Wm. J. Jolly, Justice of the Peace in Chatham. Laid on the table.

Mr. J. Barnes, in behalf of the committee on Grievances, reported a substitute for the bill providing for the establishment of a new county to be called Wilson. The substitute passed its the file of bills on second reading.

Mr. Waugh, from the committee on Grievances reported on bills referred to them as follows:—

Adversely on a bill authorizing a new county to be called Graham.

Favorably to a bill to encourage the destruction of wolves in Jackson county.

Adversely to a bill in relation to Attorneys at Law.

Adversely on a Petition praying the enactment of a Law prohibiting the traffic in intoxicating liquors within 1½ miles of Clinton Female Institute in Sampson county.

Mr. Settle from the committee on Claims, reported favorably to a resolution in favor of W. W. Holden and Mr. DeCarteret.

Mr. Shepherd introduced a resolution proposing to send a message to the Senate to raise a joint committee on the condition of the University. The resolution passed.

Mr. Jenkins introduced a resolution in favor of the Sheriff of Warren; and Mr. Bogle a similar resolution in favor of the Sheriff of Alexander, both of which were referred to the committee on Claims.

Mr. Baxter introduced a bill to incorporate the French Broad Rail Road Company. Referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Sherrill introduced a bill to incorporate the Town of Newton in Catawba county. Referred to the committee on Corporations.

By Mr. Oglesby, a bill in relation to a Land Grant to certain citizens of the county of Carteret. Referred to the committee on Private Bills.

By Mr. Vance, a bill to incorporate the Holston Conference Female College, in Asheville. Referred to the committee on Corporations.

By Mr. Oglesby, a bill to confirm a Grant in favor of certain citizens in Carteret. Referred to the committee on Private bills.

By Mr. Smith a bill concerning Free Negroes, which was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

[Provides that all free negro children, over 10 years of age and under 16, shall be bound out, and all over 16 shall be bound out until 21 years old—the hire of such to be vested for their benefit to be paid to them when 21, upon condition that they leave the State and never return.—Provides further, that *all* free negroes over 21 may be hired out by the county courts, unless they give bond and security for their good behavior and for the proper raising of their children—the hire of such to be invested for their benefit, and, when a sufficient sum is raised thereby, to be paid to them on condition they leave the State.]

By Mr. Shepard, a bill to amend the Charter of the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road Company. Referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. S. A. Williams moved a call of the House. Refused.

By Mr. N. B. Whitfield, a bill to prevent the felling of timber in North-East Branch, Duplin county. Referred to the committee on Private Bills.

By Mr. Myers, a bill to incorporate the Mutual Insurance Company in the Town of Charlotte. Referred to the committee on Corporations.

Received from His Excellency, Warren Winslow, Governor *Ex officio*, a message informing of four vacancies in the Board of Trustees in the N. C. University.

Mr. Barringer inquired if the House had ever been officially informed of the Speaker of the Senate attaining to the Governor's chair.

The Speaker informed him that such information had never been officially communicated; but agreed with Mr. Barringer that it should have been done; however, he should recognize the message as coming from the Governor.

On motion of Mr. Singeltary the message was transmitted to the Senate.

The bill authorizing limited partnerships was taken from the file of bills on their second reading, and referred to the committee on the Judiciary on motion of Mr. Steele.

Bills on the second reading:

A bill to incorporate the Chatham Rail Road Company. Argued by Mr. J. H. Headen and passed by the House. This bill asks for no appropriation by the State.

A bill to improve a Road from the Wilkes county line to Tennessee line. Amended and passed.

A bill to establish a new County to be called Alleghany.

Mr. Steele opposed the bill on the grounds of constitutional requirements.

Mr. Settle hoped the bill might pass and gave reasons why it should.

Mr. J. M. Leach argued at some length the merits of the bill.

Mr. Jordan favored the bill and advocated its passage in strong appeals.

Mr. McKesson said that he felt a deep interest in the bill under discussion; and should have said nothing if he had not heard distinctly the remarks of his very distinguished friend from Richmond. He regretted Mr. Steele confined himself so closely to the constitution if he had not, the merits or demerits of the constitution, fully tested in the other wing of the Capitol a few days since, and found it quite elastic it might not have been tested in this House. He thought the House could with impunity, test its elasticity a little farther; and from the very liberal views expressed by his worthy friend from Rockingham, he had no apprehensions of its ultimate success. He concluded his remarks by passing a very handsome eulogy on the ladies of Ashe.

Before the vote was taken on the bill Mr. Dortch moved an adjournment, on which the Ayes and Nays were demanded.

Ayes— 29
Nays— 83

The House refusing to adjourn. Mr. Dargan obtained the floor and opposed the bill at some length.

Mr. Norment thought the only question that should actuate the House was whether the citizens of Ashe were oppressed.

Mr. A. J. Jones offered an amendment providing for taking the population of the new county. The amendment was lost by a vote of Ayes 42; Nays 57.

Mr. Amis moved an adjournment. The House refused.

Mr. Singeltary offered an amendment. [Provides that the act shall continue in force until the taking of the next census, then if there shall not be a sufficient number, to be repealed.]

A motion was made to lay the amendment on the table. The Speaker on inquiring decided that if it carried the bill would go with it.

On the motion to lay on the table there were ayes 54; nays 57.

Mr. Amis obtained the floor and opposed the amendment. He thought it a scheme to secure the votes of those opposed to the bill. As he yielded the floor, Mr. Houston moved an adjournment which prevailed.

SENATE.

Dec. 13th 1854.

Memorials were presented by Messrs Walker and Sanders.

Messrs. Graham, Person and Ashe were appointed the committee on the part of the Senate, on the University.

Mr. Biggs, from the committee on the Revised Statutes, reported the following bills which passed their first reading.

A bill concerning courts of equity.
A bill concerning the supreme court.

Mr. Fisher, from the committee on Internal Improvements, reported favorably upon the following bills, which were read a second time and passed.

A bill to provide for the issue of additional stock in the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad Company.

A bill to authorize the County Court of Macon county to levy a tax for the construction of a railroad through the county.

A bill concerning the Fayetteville and Centre Plank Road Company. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Thomas presented a memorial from 600 citizens of his senatorial district, praying the extension of the North Carolina Railroad west to Chattanooga in Tennessee, which was referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Boyd, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported the bill to emancipate John Good, with several amendments, which, after some discussion, passed by Ayes 28—Nays 17.

A message was received from the House of Commons transmitting a message from the acting Governor, informing the General Assembly that there are four vacancies on the board of Trustees of the University.

Mr. Boyd, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported the bill to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Vernon, with a recommendation that it pass.

Mr. Rayner moved that the bill be laid on the table and be made the order of the day for the 5th of January, which motion prevailed.

The hour of 12 having arrived, the special order, being the bill to amend the constitution of the State, was taken up.

Mr. Biggs opposed, at considerable length, the amendment of Mr. Graham.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, of Jackson, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

After reading the Journal of yesterday, the Speaker announced the amendment of Mr. Singeltary to the bill authorizing the establishment of a county by the name of Alleghany to be the first business before the House.

Mr. McKesson stated that the amendment was not acceptable to the friends of the bill and it was hoped it would be voted down.

Mr. J. G. Bynum thought that the regular morning business should first be taken up.

The chair decided that according to his understanding of the rule the unfinished business of yesterday should be transacted after reading the Journal.

Mr. Singeltary moved to lay on the table in order to test the question of dispute.

Mr. Outlaw appealed from the decision of the chair in order to test the sense of the House on the rule.

The Speaker remarked the appeal should have been taken immediately on the decision.

Mr. Outlaw said he thought he still had the right; that he intended to make the appeal at the time, but the gentleman from Pitt was too fast for him.

Mr. Singeltary said he would withdraw his motion.

Mr. Martin said that he made the motion allowed to and should not withdraw it.

The chair so decided.

On vote, the House refused to lay on the table.

Mr. Outlaw then appealed from the decision of the chair.

Mr. Baxter remarked that he should vote to sustain the chair, but owing to the difficulties that sometimes arose by making the decisions of the chair the rule of order, he would be glad if the gentleman from Bertie would introduce a resolution.

Mr. Dortch informed Mr. Baxter of a change having been made in rules since last session and read.

The rules were explained by Messrs. J. G. Bynum, Settle and Dargan.

Mr. Winston thought the rule was clear that the reception of memorials and petitions should be first.

Various opinions were expressed, when the decision of the chair was sustained by *Ayes 69; Nays 37.*

The amendment was then taken up and read.

Mr. Gorrell moved an amendment. [To insert after the word Alleghany "and also in Ashe."] He thought there might not be the requisite federal population left in the old county.

Mr. J. M. Leach thought both amendments should be voted down; for they would in effect defeat the objects of the bill.

Mr. Gorrell said he was opposed to the amendment out and out. He said he had no idea there would be found the requisite amount of federal population.

Mr. D. F. Caldwell—Had formed a resolution to trouble the House as little as possible. He alluded to the manner in which new counties had heretofore been formed. That it was on the assurance of gentlemen whose honesty the House had no right to question; and that too often it was by a system of logrolling. He was opposed to the bill and all its amendments. He desired that the bill might be divested of all its amendments and let it stand on its own merits, or on its merits fall. He thought it a violation of the Constitution to erect new counties without the requisite population. He spoke of the taxes incident to the establishment of other Judicial circuits, which of necessity would have to be done if new counties were continued to be formed. He concluded by alluding to the preponderance of power that would or might be given between the East and West.

Mr. Settle replied to the arguments of Mr. Caldwell. He regretted to hear the balance of power alluded to; and the gentleman after signing the memorable Western address should be the last allude to the subject.

Mr. Caldwell replied. He said he had no animosity to the east or particular love for the west. He appealed to his past course to prove that he had been as liberal in his legislative votes to one as the other. He had never had cause to regret signing the Western Address. He was not ashamed of it for the principle was just. He said he did not spring from a stock changing its political character to suit popular issues.

Mr. Settle replied. That a person was not responsible for his contracts before the age of 21. That he had never given a whig vote and did not think he ever should.

After further debate, Mr. Gorrell's amendment was taken up and lost.

Mr. Waugh offered an amendment to Mr. Singeltary's amendment. [Proposes to strike out census and insert next apportionment of members of General Assembly.] The amendment was lost.

Mr. Singeltary's amendment coming up it was lost by Ayes 31; and Nays 80.

Mr. J. B. Bynum moved an amendment. [That Act shall have no effect unless the counties of Ashe and Alleghany together shall be entitled to two members at the next apportionment.]

Mr. Amis, after remarks, moved to re-commit the bill to the committee with instructions to report in detail.

Mr. Martin moved to lay the motion to recommit on the table. Ayes 51, Nays 51.

The chair voted in the negative, and the other House refused to lay on the table.

Mr. Barringer hoped the amendment would not be accepted. He was in favor of the Bill, but thought all such should stand or fall on their own merits. He thought that discussion had given the Bill an importance which it did not deserve. He thought the citizens interested were the proper tribunal before which it should be decided. If they were aggrieved and were willing to impose on themselves the taxes the House should give them an opportunity. In relation to the discussion on the ratio of population he said it would not effect the apportionment for twenty years, and in all probability a Convention would be held; what the action of that might be he would not pretend to say.

The question arising on Mr. Amis' proposition to recommit it was lost by a vote of Ayes 46; Nays 52.

Mr. Dargan moved to lay the bill on the table. Lost; Ayes 39; Nays 74.

Mr. J. M. Leach proposed an amendment.—[Provides that the Act shall be in force from the time of its enactment until the year 1870, and afterwards unless it be found that there is not a sufficient federal population to constitutionally entitle it to representation.)

Mr. Jenkins proposed an amendment to Mr. Leach's amendment. [Requiring the county of Ashe also to present a requisite population.]—This amendment was rejected.

Mr. Leach then withdrew his amendment, and the question recurring on the original bill to lay off a new county to be called Alleghany, was then [illegible] Ayes 52; Nays 61. So the bill on its second reading was lost.

Received from the Senate a message concurring in the proposition to raise a joint committee on the University, and informing of Senate branch.

Messrs. Shepherd, Barringer, J. G. Bynum, Lyon and Outlaw were announced as the House branch of the same committee.

The special order of the day having arrived—to take up and consider the bill incorporating the Wilmington and Charlotte Rail Road Company, Mr. Dortch moved to lay the order on the table, which the House refused.

The bill then being announced on its second reading, Mr. Steele said:—

Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to take advantage of any one in pressing this bill through at this time. [The seats were for the most part empty.] I desire no advantages, and, therefore, move to lay the bill on the table, in which the House concurred.

Mr. Stubbs presented a memorial from citizens of Beaufort County in relation to the Courts of said County, which, on his motion was referred to the committee on Grievances.

Mr. Selby introduced a memorial from the citizens of Hyde in relation to changing the time of holding courts. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Dortch, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported on the following bills and resolutions referred to them:—

Unfavorably on a bill increasing the compensation of Jurors. [The committee had heretofore reported a general bill thereon.] On motion of Mr. Smith the bill referred to the committee was laid on the table.

Unfavorable in relation to County Courts.

Unfavorable in relation to authorizing the sale of real and personal estate of wards.

Unfavorable on a bill to establish the competency of evidence in certain cases.

Mr. Cansler, in behalf of the committee on Internal Improvements, reported favorably to a bill amending the charter of the Charlotte and South Carolina Rail Road.

Mr. Amis introduced a resolution in favor of Mr. Gilliam, of Granville, for injuries inflicted on his slave on the Raleigh and Gaston Road.—Referred to the committee on Claims.

Mr. Dortch introduced a resolution proposing to adjourn on the 15th of January to meet again in Asheville in next June. On his motion it was laid on the table.

By Mr. J. G. Bynum, a resolution proposing to change the 13th rule of order. Lies over.

By Mr. Martin, a resolution in favor of citizens of Franklin in relation to injuries sustained by the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road. Referred to the committee on claims.

By Mr. Stubbs, a Bill to tax nonresidents selling goods in this state by sample. Referred to the committee on Finance.

By Mr. Selby, a Bill to change the time of holding County Courts in Hyde. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Williams, of New Hanover, a Bill to incorporate the Wilmington Steam Tug Company. Referred to the committee on Corporations.

By Mr. J. G. Bynum, a Bill in relation to the Banking business. Referred to the committee on Banking.

By Mr. Thornburg, a Bill for the better regulation of the town of Franklinsville. Referred to the committee on Corporations.

On motion of Mr. Dortch the Bill to divide the State into 9 Judicial Circuits was made the special order for next Friday, 11 o'clock.

Mr. Horton introduced a Bill in relation to public road in Watauga County. Passed to the file of Bills on their second reading without reference.

On motion of Mr. Houston the Bill in relation to establishing a new County to be called Wilson was re-committed to the committee on Grievances.

Mr. J. G. Bynum introduced a Bill concerning trials in capital cases. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Dargan moved an adjournment. Ayes 26; Nays 53.

Mr. Phillips was excused from serving on the committee on the Deaf and Dumb, and also, on Corporations.

On Motion of Mr. Dortch the House adjourned.

SENATE.

December 14th, 1854.

Memorials were presented by Messrs. Morrissey, Sanders, Tayloe, Davis, McDowell and Faison.

Mr. Boyd, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported the following bills which were placed in the file of bills upon their second reading:

Unfavorably upon the bill to amend the charter of Davidson College so as to prohibit the sale of spirituous liquors within three miles of said College.

Favorably upon the bill to amend the 7th section Chapter 17th of the Revised code entitled cattle, horses and hogs.

Also, from the same committee, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message as relates to Common public highways, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the same. Discharged.

Mr. Biggs, from the committee on the Revised Statutes, reported a bill concerning ... and ..., which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. McDowell, from the committee on Corporations, reported the bill to incorporate the Washington Savings Institution, in Beaufort County.

An engrossed resolution, requiring all railroads, plank roads, and some other corporations to make reports to the General Assembly, was read and adopted.

A message was received from the House of Commons, proposing to go into the election of four trustees of the University, at 11 o'clock to-day, which was concurred in.

Mr. Wilder introduced a bill to incorporate the Gardiner Hill Mining Company, when it was read and referred to the committee on Corporations.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, of Jackson, the bill to authorize the County Court of Macon County to levy a tax to pay for damages if any are assessed for the construction of a railroad through the county, was taken up, read the third time, and, on motion of Mr. Graham, laid on the table.

The Senate then proceeded to vote, by ballott, for four Trustees of the University.

On motion of Mr. Rayner, a message was sent to the House of Commons, proposing to raise a joint select committee of three on the part of the Senate and five on the part of the House, to take into consideration so much of the Governor's message, as relates to the erection of a monument to the signers of the Declaration of Independence, in Independence Square, Philadelphia.

Mr. Haughton introduced a resolution in relation to the Geological survey, which, on his motion, was laid on the table for the present.

On motion of Mr. McDowell, a message was sent to the House of Commons, proposing to raise a joint committee of two on the part of the Senate and three on the part of the House, to consider the question of the State's giving aid to the Seaman's Friend Society.

The engrossed bill to emancipate Jerry, a slave, was read the first time and referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

The special order, being the bill to amend the constitution of North Carolina was then taken up. The question being on the motion of Mr. Graham to strike out all after the words "a bill" and insert the bill presented by him concerning a convention to amend the constitution of the State, when.

Mr. Gilmer advocated the amendment at great length.

Mr. Biggs made an explanation when,

On motion of Mr. Martin, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

After reading of the journal, Mr. Patterson introduced a memorial in relation to Turnpikes. Referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Memorials on the subject of a Prohibitory Liquor Law were presented by Messrs. McKesson, Norment, J. G. Bynum, Whitlock and Hugh Leach, all of which were referred to the committee on Grievances.

Mr. Williams, of New Hanover, presented a memorial for the mechanics lien law. Memorial read and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. C. W. Williams presented a memorial from the Grand Jury of Yadkin county in relation to time of holding courts. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Divers resignations of Justices of Peace were received.

Mr. Dortch, in behalf of the committee on the Judiciary, presented the following reports:

A substitute for the bill in relation to prohibiting the traffic in intoxicating liquors among Free Negroes; and favorably upon a bill to facilitate trials at law.

The resolution introduced by Mr. J. G. Bynum on yesterday proposing a change in the 13th rule of order, was taken up and adopted.

Mr. Love introduced a resolution instructing the committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of erecting a new County taken from Haywood and Buncombe to be called Mt. Pisgah. The resolution was lost.

By Mr. Rolen, a resolution in favor of Mt. Pleasant Academy, in the town of Murphy.—[Proposing a loan of $2500 from the Literary Board.] Referred to the committee on Education.

Mr. Patterson introduced a resolution calling of the acting Governor for the contract of Prof. Emmons in relation to the Survey, which was adopted.

Mr. Carmichael introduced a bill to amend the act in relation to the Agricultural and Mechanical Arts, which was referred to the committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. J. H. Headen, a bill to amend the Revenue Laws. [Provides for a tax of $500 on Billiard tables instead of $100.] Referred to the committee on Finance.

By Mr. Baxter, a bill to lay off a new county to be called Buffo, to be taken from Haywood, Henderson and Jackson. Referred to the committee on Grievances.

By Mr. Shipp, a bill to incorporate the Broad River Rail Road Company. Referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

By Mr. Love, a bill to exempt certain citizens of Haywood from military duty. Referred to the committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Williams, of New Hanover, introduced two bills to secure Architects, Carpenters, Ship builders and others. These are lien laws. They were referred to the committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report a general bill thereon.

By Mr. Lancaster, a bill to prevent the felling of timber in Haw River and Great Alamance.—Referred to the committee on Grievances.

By Mr. Mebane, a bill concerning Haw River. [Makes the River a lawful fence in the county of Alamance.] Referred to the committee on Grievances.

On motion of Mr. Stubbs, a message was sent to the Senate proposing to go into election of four Trustees for the N. C. University.

Mr. Houston moved a reconsideration of the vote taken yesterday in relation to the proposed county of Alleghany.

Mr. J. M. Leach moved to lay the motion on the table, to which the House agreed by Ayes 59; Nays 56.

Received from the Senate a bill concurring in the proposition to go into the election of four Trustees at half past eleven o'clock.

Mr. Lyon was placed on the committee on Corporations, and Mr. Chadwick on that of the Lunatic Asylum in the place of Mr. Phillips excused.

Mr. Craven introduced a bill to prevent the felling of timber in Big Brush Creek, in Randolph county. Referred to the committee on private bills.

Mr. Vance introduced a resolution in favor of the Holston Conference Female College. Referred to the committee on Education.

Mr. Settle moved to take up a resolution in favor of Messrs. Holden and DeCarteret.

Mr. Mebane objected. He thought Messrs. Holden and DeCarteret were in no greater need of money than was the N. C. Railroad. He thought the Speaker should announce the business before the House.

Mr. Settle's motion was lost.

Mr. Shepherd desired that bills on their second reading might be taken up in order to clear the table. He thought business originating in the House should be gone through with. He moved that the file of bills on their second reading might be taken up.

Mr. Barringer said it was the peculiar province of the Speaker to announce the business before the House.

The file of bills on their second reading was taken up as follows:

A bill to incorporate the Cape Fear and Waccamaw Canal Lumber Company. Passed.

A bill to amend an act entitled an act to prevent the obstruction of fish in Blount's Creek.—On motion of Mr. Smith, laid on the table for the present.

A bill to open and improve a Road across the Ridge at Fisher's Gap. Lost by a vote of Ayes 55; Nays 65.

On motion of Mr. Stubbs, the bill above in relation to fish in Blount's Creek, was taken up and passed.

A bill to give County and Superior Courts of Mecklenburg jurisdiction over the sale of real estates of joint tenants and tenants in Common. Amendments were offered by Messrs. Phillips and Stubbs. The first proposing to make it a general law and the latter to strike out the words Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions and insert Superior Courts of Law.

Mr. Baxter moved to recommit the bill and amendment to the committee on the Revisal of Statutes.

After being debated by Messrs. Black, Phillips and Dargan, the two former in favor and the latter opposed,

Mr. Phillips accepted the motion of Mr. Stubbs.

Mr. Baxter then withdrew his motion to recommit to the committee on Revisal of the Statutes, in order to test the sense of the House.

Mr. Amis renewed the motion, which was carried and the bill and amendments were referred to the committee on the Revisal.

The House adjourned.

SENATE.

Dec. 15th 1854.

Nathan Winslow, Senator from Pasquotank and Perquimans, appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

Memorials were presented by Messrs. Graves and J. W. Thomas.

Mr. Fisher, from the committee on Internal Improvements, reported with a recommendation that it pass, the bill to authorize the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad Company to take stock in the Roanoke Valley Railroad Company.

Also, that the committee could not agree upon the report of the bill to incorporate the French Broad Railroad Company. The bill was recommitted.

Mr. Boyd, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported a bill to authorize William S. Ballard and others to erect a dam across Neuse River in Johnston County, which passed its first reading.

Also, the bill to emancipate Jerry, a slave, with a recommendation that it pass.

Mr. Biggs, from the Committee on the Revised Statutes, to whom was referred a resolution offered by Mr. Wood, in relation to the protection of religious assemblies, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same. The committee was discharged.

Also, a bill concerning criminal proceedings, which passed its first reading.

The committee appointed to superintend the election of four trustees of the University, reported that John G. Bynum had received a majority of the votes cast, who was therefore duly elected.

A message was received from the House of Commons proposing to go into the election of three trustees of the University, which was concurred in.

Mr Graham introduced a resolution calling upon the public treasurer for a statement of the amount of premium received from the sale of State bonds, how appropriated &c., which was adopted.

Mr. Fisher introduced a bill concerning the salaries of certain officers, which was referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances. [It fixes the salary of the Governor at $3,000 per annum, that of the treasurer at $2,000, of the Comptroller at $1,500, of the Judges of the Superior Courts at $2,000.]

Mr. McDowell, from the committee on Corporations, reported favorably upon The bill to incorporate Glen Anna Female Seminary, in Davidson County.

On motion of Mr. Biggs, the resolution heretofore presented by him in relation to the division of the State into 9 Judicial circuits, and the bill concerning the 6th Judicial circuit, were made the special order for Monday at 11 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, of Jackson, the bill to authorize the County Court of Macon County to levy a tax on lands for the construction of a railroad through that county, was taken up, amended, read the third time and passed.

The bill to authorize the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Craven County to pay the wardens of the poor, was read the second time, amended by inserting Nash, Sampson, Stokes and Forsythe, and passed.

The resolution to furnish the public Treasurer with one hundred copies of his report, was read the second and third times, and ordered to be enrolled.

The following bills were read the second time and passed.

A bill concerning county boundaries,
A bill concerning corporations.
A bill concerning county revenues, and charges.
A bill concerning county trustees.

The Senate voted by ballot for the trustees of the University.

The hour of 12 having arrived, the special order was taken up.

Messrs. Hoke and Thomas, of Jackson, addressed the Senate in opposition to the amendment of Mr. Graham.

On motion of Mr. Haughton, the bills were made the order for to-morrow, at 12 o'clock.

The Speaker announced the following committees:

On the Marine Hospital.—Messrs. McDowell and Cherry.

On the monument in Independence Square.—Messrs. Rayner, Graves, Hoke, Ashe and Martin.

The following bills were read the third time and passed.

A bill concerning common law.
A bill concerning charities.
A bill concerning cattle, horses and hogs.
A bill concerning commissioners of affidavits and probate of deeds.
A bill concerning clerks and masters in Equity.
A bill concerning coroners.
A bill concerning Constables.
A bill concerning comptroller.
A bill to provide for the issue of additional stock by the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad Company.

The committee to superintend the election of Trustees of the University, reported no election.

On motion of Mr. Mills, the Senate adjourned

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

House called to order and the Journal of yesterday read.

A message was announced from the Senate proposing to raise a joint committee on the subject of erecting a Marine Hospital at Wilmington also, in relation to a committee to take into consideration that part of the Governor's Message concerning the erection of a National Monument to the signers of the Declaration of Independence on Independence Square, Philadelphia. The Message was concurred in and the following committees announced on part of the House:—

On Marine Hospital:—Messrs. Williams, of New Hanover, Baxter and Chadwick.

On National Monument:—Messrs. Lyon, Wilkins, A. D. Headen, H. Leach and Cofield.

A memorial was presented by Mr. Horton in relation to changing the Watauga and Wilkes County line, which was referred to the committee on Grievances.

Temperance memorials were presented by Messrs. Vance, McMillan, Sutton and Smith, which were severally referred to the committee on Grievances.

Mr. Lancaster presented a memorial from citizens of Alamance in relation to prohibiting the felling of timber in Haw River and Alamance, which was read and referred to the committee on Grievances.

Mr. Williams, of New Hanover, in behalf of the Committee on Education, reported adversely to the bill submitted to them in relation to the distribution of the School Fund according to the white population.

The Committee on Private Bills, through Mr. Lancaster, presented favorable reports with amendments on the following matters submitted to them: Amending the charter of the town of Greenville; and in relation to the number of Justices in Randolph county. The same committee presented unfavorable reports on propositions to emancipate Isham and Thomas, slaves.

Mr. Steele, from the committee on Corporations, presented favorable reports upon propositions to amend the charter of the Town of Charlotte; and in relation to chartering the Holston Conference Female College.

Mr. Waugh, from the committee on Grievances, reported favorably in relation to a Public Road in Rowan.

The committee superintending the election of Trustees, reported John G. Bynum having received a majority of the votes cast, was elected.

On motion of Mr. Jenkins the Report of the President of the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road was taken from the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Winston a message was ordered to be sent to the Senate proposing to go into the election of three Trustees of the University at 11½ o'clock to-day.

Mr. Williams, from the committee on Education, reported favorably upon the following resolutions with amendments:

In favor of Holston Conference Female College.
In favor of Mount Pleasant Academy.
In favor of Laurenburg High Academy.

[All the above propose loans from the Literary Fund with bond and security.]

Mr. Dortch, in behalf of the committee on the Revised Statutes, presented the following reports:

In relation to holding sessions of supreme court in the western part of the State. A favorable report, and, on motion of Mr. Dortch, laid on the table for the present.

On a resolution in relation to guardians investing the funds of wards in State bonds, that no further legislation was necessary.

Unfavorably upon a resolution changing the election of constables from annual to bi-ennial.

Mr. Humphrey introduced a resolution providing that from and after Monday next the House shall take recess from half past one to half past three o'clock.

Mr. Amis moved to lay resolution on the table but at the request of Mr. Patterson he withdrew the motion.

Mr. Patterson remarked that perhaps there was no member more anxious to get through the labors of the session than himself. He said there was a vast amount of work before the committees and that their time was wholly employed during the afternoon.

Mr. Singletary concurred with Mr. P. in the amount of labor before the committees, but owing to the fact that the resolution was not to take effect until some days, he thought it proper to adopt the resolution.

Mr. Amis also alluded to the work before the various committees; and said that if those who seemed so desirous to get through the work of the session would employ their idle hours in reading the printed bills and documents already laid before them much useless discussion would be avoided when the bills came up.

Mr. J. G. Bynum offered an amendment [to adjourn at 2 and meet at seven P. M.]

Mr. Dargan thought the motion infinitely worse. After some few remarks he renewed the motion to lay on the table, on which the ayes and nays were called. Ayes 70, nays 45.

The special order of the day having arrived, to take up and consider the bill to divide the State into nine judicial circuits and other purposes, was, on motion of Mr. Dortch, postponed until Tuesday 11 o'clock.

A message was received from the Senate concurring in the proposition to go into the election of Trustees of University at 11½ o'clock.

Mr. Singletary offered a resolution to take recess from and after Monday next, from 1½ to 3½ o'clock, and during the evening session no bills except those on their first reading shall be considered. Which was adopted.

Mr. J. H. Headen introduced a bill to incorporate the Bank of Pittsboro'. Read first time and referred to the committee on banking and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Waugh moved a reconsideration of the vote in relation to the improvement of the Road at Fisher's Gap. He said he was a friend of the bill, and changed his vote on yesterday in order that he might make the motion.

Some discussion arose as to the right of Mr. Waugh to change his vote for the purpose as expressed by himself. Messrs. Amis and Smith thought according to parliamentary rule he had not. The Speaker thought, in accordance with a special rule of the House, he had the right.

Mr. Waugh afterwards moved to lay his motion for reconsideration on the table, which prevailed.

Mr. Vance introduced a Bill exempting certain persons in Buncombe for working on the Asheville and Greenville Road, which was read the first time.

Mr. Lancaster introduced a Bill to exempt Females from appearing in Courts as witnesses in cases. [Provides for taking their depositions before Magistrates.] Read first time and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Lyon moved a reconsideration of the vote rejecting a Resolution proposing a new County to be called Mt. Pisgah.

Mr. Bryson, moved to lay the motion on the table, which was carried by Ayes. 54; Nays, 28.

Mr. Gilliam introduced a Resolution providing that no Bill for the erection of new Counties be considered until after the 4th of January. Lies over under rule one day.

Mr. Dortch introduced a Resolution concerning Literary Institutions. [Provides that no Institution shall confer Degrees without the consent of Legislature.] The Resolution was rejected.

Mr. Outlaw introduced a Resolution to amend Rules. Lies over one day.

Mr. McDuffie introduced a Bill to regulate the registration fees in Cumberland. Referred to the committee on private bills.

Mr. Williams, of New Hanover, introduced a resolution in relation to the expenses attending the Literary Board. Which passed.

Bills and Resolutions on their second reading:

A bill to amend the Common School law requiring Teachers to present certificates in the County of Cleveland. Unanimously rejected.

A bill to pay Tales Jurors in Rowan. Laid on the table.

An engrossed resolution from the Senate authorizing the clerk of the Senate to furnish his office. Laid on the table.

An engrossed Resolution in favor of John Green. Passed.

A Bill limiting the time allowed Justices of Peace elect for qualification. Laid on the table on motion of Mr. Baxter.

A Bill incorporating the Concord and Cheraw Railroad.

Discussed by Messrs Dargan, Williams and others, pending which the House adjourned.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec'r 12.—A most destructive fire occurred here last night. Cornelius' five story Lamp and Gas Fixture Factory together with a number of dwellings, were entirely consumed. The Factory was situated at the corner of Cherry and Eighth streets, and with its stock was valued at $200,000!!!

By this disaster, four hundred workmen have been turned out of employment, and fifty families rendered houseless.

DIED.

Suddenly, of congestive chill, on Sunday evening, December 10th, Missouri A., daughter of James A. Jenkins, Esq., of Portsmouth, Virginia. She was one of the most gentle, docile, and beloved of the pupils of St. Mary's School.