

The Old North State

RALEIGH, FRIDAY, NOV. 12, 1870.

THE LEGISLATURE—IMPEACHMENT.

The Legislature met at the Capitol in Raleigh on Monday last in pursuance of the law of the State. Up to this time nothing has been done in the shape of legislation. The two Houses adjourned on Monday and on Tuesday adjourned over to Friday to enable their members to attend the memorial exercises in honor of Gen. Lee on Wednesday, and observe Thanksgiving day on Thursday. The proceedings thus far will be found in another column, to which the reader is referred.

Mr. A. G. Moore, one of the Alamance prisoners, has presented a memorial to the Speaker and members of the House of Representatives in favor of the impeachment of Gov. Holden and Chief Justice Pearson. The memorial sets forth that in the month of July last the county of Alamance "was invaded by an armed force of militia, mostly from Tennessee, under the command of one George W. Kirk, who acted under the orders and direction of Gov. W. W. Holden. The proceedings thus far will be found in another column, to which the reader is referred.

While those things against humanity and civilization were perpetrated, A. G. Moore and other good citizens of the county petitioned Chief Justice Richmond M. Pearson for writs of habeas corpus; the writs were granted, but the Chief Justice did wickedly and corruptly refuse to give them the relief which that great writ guarantees and secures to every citizen.

Wherefore, and inasmuch as the said Governor, W. W. Holden, and the said Judge R. M. Pearson did outrage and oppress your petitioner and divers others of said county in their persons and did violence to the dearest and most sacred rights of every free man of North Carolina; the Governor by acts of commission and the Judge by acts of omission, your petitioner prays that the conduct of said Governor and Chief Justice be enquired into by your honorable body, and if convicted with justice that they be impeached, compelled and deposed. And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

From the above it will be seen that the grounds relied upon for the impeachment of the Chief Justice consist only in "acts of omission." It is not charged that he has actually committed any act for which justice and the laws of the State demand that he should be impeached. No one has attempted to show that he did not lay down the law correctly in his opinion in the case of A. G. Moore et al.

What ground is there for supposing that the venerable Chief Justice acted "corruptly," as charged in the memorial of Mr. Moore? The Governor, it will be remembered, had directed Col. Kirk not to deliver the prisoners in obedience to the mandate of the Chief Justice's writ, and had assumed all the responsibility of his refusal to do so. Here was a direct conflict of authority between the Chief Justice and the Executive of the State. Gov. Holden had five hundred armed men of his own in the field, and was sustained, as was generally believed at the time, by the Executive of the United States. The President had actually sent a number of the regular troops of the United States Army into the State to sustain the Governor, as was believed, in his movements. With these facts before the eyes of the Chief Justice might he not have reasonably concluded that he had no power, with the posse at his command, to enforce obedience to his authority? Might he not have reasonably concluded that an attempt to enforce his authority would bring on a conflict between his forces and those of the Executive of the State, and that a terrible civil war would ensue?

Did the Chief Justice have sufficient reasons to sustain him in the conclusions to which we believe he honestly came? We have stated them above, and the reader must judge for himself. We will only say that the reasons brought forward in the memorial are such as would justify any man in the same conclusions at the time, as they did the minds of many others, who applauded the Chief Justice and denounced him now. It is not an honor to be in the case of A. G. Moore et al. We expressed our gratification that the Chief Justice was what it was, "as it paved the way for peace, if that peace was disposed to be." It is true that subsequent events led us to doubt their correctness, and conclude that we, as well as the Chief Justice, may have been mistaken—that President Grant only intended to support Gov. Holden in the execution of the laws of the State as enjoined by the Supreme Judiciary of the State. But, we ask again, must the Chief Justice be impeached for a mere mistake—an honest mistake? No right thinking man will answer this question in the affirmative.

whole. Mr. Desney nominated J. T. Ball of Wake. Mr. Moore moved to dispense with the reading of the memorial until such time as he had been declared duly elected.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the House was called to order at 12 o'clock by John H. Boner, Esq., Principal Clerk of the last House. The following members appeared and were qualified: Messrs. Anderson, Armstrong, Ash, Atwater, Ashmore, Brooks, Broadford, Brown, Bunn, Bryson, Bryan, Chamberlain, Harris, Cinnard, Colli, Crawford, Copeland, Dickey, Dudley, Duckworth, Ellison, Fisher, Faulkner, colored, Fletcher, French, Gamber, Gulick, Gregory, Grayson, Garrison, Hamilton, Houston, Harris, of Franklin, Harts of Gaston, Harrogate, Harts, Hill, Hinnant, Hampton, Johnston, James, of Caldwell, Joyner, of Johnston, Joyner, of Pitt, Jordan, Kincaid, Jarvis, Kelly, of Dargy, Kelly, of Moore, Kincaid, Rollins, Lucas, Mackey, Miller, Martin, McAllister, Martin, Mabson, McNeill, Maxwell, Mitchell, Marler, Nelson, Nicholson, Powell, Page, Parrot, Robbins, Reavis, Rankin, Robinson, Reid, Smith of Anson, Sparrow, Standish, Stewart, Scott, Stradwick, Sykes, Wilcox, Small, Shell, Tomlinson, White, Wilcox, Womack, Willis, Welch, Waring, Young of Wake, Young of Yancey, York.

Mr. French of New Haven, nominated Mr. T. L. Hargrave. A vote being taken the following ballot resulted: Mr. French of New Haven, 10; Mr. Hargrave, 10; Mr. French of New Haven, 10; Mr. Hargrave, 10.

On Tuesday, Nov. 22, 1870, the Senate met at 11 o'clock. The President, Mr. Caldwell, proceeded to address the Senate as follows: SENATE. Monday, Nov. 21, 1870. The President, Mr. Caldwell, proceeded to address the Senate as follows: SENATE. Monday, Nov. 21, 1870. The President, Mr. Caldwell, proceeded to address the Senate as follows: SENATE. Monday, Nov. 21, 1870.

On Tuesday, Nov. 22, 1870, the Senate was called to order at 10 o'clock. The following Senators came forward and were qualified, viz: Messrs. Adams, Linney, Plythe, Murchison and Hawkins—5. The Senate agreed to go into the election of an Assistant Doorkeeper.

On Tuesday, Nov. 22nd, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

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On Wednesday, Nov. 23, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Thursday, Nov. 24, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Friday, Nov. 25, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Saturday, Nov. 26, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Sunday, Nov. 27, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Monday, Nov. 28, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Tuesday, Nov. 29, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Wednesday, Nov. 30, 1870, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Jarvis in the Chair. The journal of yesterday was read and approved. The Principal and Assistant Clerks took the usual oath of office.

On Thursday, Nov. 17, by Rev. R. G. Barrett, Capt. Mark Holman, to Miss Jos. Earnhardt, both of Lexington, N. C.

In Salem, on Thursday the 10th inst., by Rev. Mr. Johnson, Dr. J. H. Shelton to Miss Ellen E. Belo.

In Salem, on Thursday the 10th inst., by Rev. Mr. Oerter, Mr. S. T. Macey to Miss Paulina Hege.

In Salem, on Wednesday the 10th inst., by Rev. Mr. Oerter, Mr. Thomas Parrnell, of Wilmington, to Miss Adelia Zevely.

At the residence of the bride's mother, in Rockingham county, on the evening of the 9th inst., by Rev. Dr. N. P. Holl, Mr. W. A. Horney and Miss Jennie Johnston.

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