# CAPTION OF LAWS

PASSED BY THE

## General Assembly of North Carolina,

AT ITS

## Session of 1856-'57.

### PUBLIC LAWS.

REVENUE.

1. An Act to amend the 99th chapter of the Revised Code, entitled revenue. [We give only the alterations made in the Revenue Act of 1854-'55—the parts not altered being still in force. On every $100 worth of land, including improvements thereon and entries of land, a tax of 15 cents. On all taxable polls, 50 cent. Discontinues the tax heretofore levied for the Insane Asylum. On turnpike toll-gates, $15; on other gates permitted to be erected across roads, $5; on public ferries a tax equal to seven times the largest toll demanded; on toll bridges, $15. On stands and jacks, $8, unless the price for a season be more than that sum, and then the tax to be highest season price. Owners of such animals, living out of the State, and standing them in it, to pay the tax forthwith to the sheriff. On every dollar of net interest, over $6, a tax of four cents. Upon every dollar, more than $6 of net dividend or profit, upon money invested in steam vessels of twenty tons burden and upward, or in stocks of any kind, or in shares of any incorporated or trading company, whether in or out of the State, and including bank dividends, bonds and certificates of debt of any other State, a tax of four cents. On every $100 employed in negro trading, 33½ cents—in any other species of trade, whether carried on with cash or upon credit, 20 cents. Upon each sulky, jog, buggy, barouche, carriage and other pleasure vehicle, of the value of $50 and upwards, one per cent. on the value thereof. Upon gold and silver plate and ornamental jewelry, except that worn by females, of as great value as $25, a tax of 1½ per cent. on the value thereof; tax on each gold watch in use, $1 25; on each silver or other watch, 30 cents; on each harp, $2 50; on each piano forte, $1 50; on each pistol and bowie knife, $1 25; on dirks and sword canes, 65 cents. On licensed retailers of wines, spirituous liquors, &c., $30. On gold headed walking canes, 50 cents; on silver headed canes, 25 cents. On all keepers of houses of public entertainment, whether in town or country, whose receipts amount to $400 or more, a tax of one-fourth of one per cent. On every public billiard table, $128, unless there be more than one kept in the same room, and in that case a tax of $65 on each additional one. On private billiard tables, $25 each. On each bowling alley, $50; and on each additional one kept by the same person, 15. On each livery stable, $25. On each pack of playing cards sold, 35 cents, to be paid by the seller. On all peddlers of patent soaps, patent medicines, razors, razor strops, toothache remedies, &c., a tax of $10 for each county in which they peddle. On persons putting up lightning rods, $30 for each county. On daguerreotypists, ambrotypists and photographists, $10 for each county in which they take likenesses. On each mortgage deed, marriage contract and deed in trust, $1. On marriage licenses, $1 each. Taxes imposed on retailers, ordinaries and inns, and tavern keepers, peddlers, billiard tables, bowling alleys and livery stables to be paid in advance to the sheriff. On every merchant, merchant tailor or jeweler, one-third of one per cent. on all goods, wares, &c., except ready-made clothing; and on the amount of purchases of ready-made clothing whether for males or females, one per cent. On every merchant, apothecary, druggist or other dealer, consignee or agent, selling at wholesale or retail, spirituous liquors, wines or cordials, five per cent. on the capital employed. Agents selling patent medicines, to pay 33½ per cent. on the value. On commission merchants, two per cent. on their commissions. Auctioneers to pay five per cent. on the value of goods sold by him when such goods are brought into the State by non-residents. Merchants to pay their tax to the sheriff on the first of April. On peddlers of riding vehicles manufactured out of the State, $40 for each county; on all horses and mules brought into the State for sale, $12 50 for each county. Both these items to be paid in advance to the sheriff. Every person, whether by agency or otherwise, engaged in buying and selling riding vehicles, not of the manufacture of this State, to pay a tax of one per cent. on the sum of their purchases. On amount of purchases of parts of such vehicles brought from abroad, one half of one per cent. On manufacturers, of whatsoever calling, to pay a tax of one-half of one per cent. upon all sums of their purchases made out of the State.—On dentists, physicians, lawyers, State and county officers, persons in the employ of corporate and private companies, and all persons, ministers of the Gospel excepted, whose practice, salaries or fees, or all of them together, shall yield an annual gross income of $500, a tax of $3; and for all sums so received over $500, a tax of one per cent. On each attorney's license granted, $15. On all insurance companies in the State, $100; and on all agencies of such companies, incorporated out of the State, $100 for each county in which an agency may be established. On all agencies of banks incorporated out of the State, a tax of $500. On express companies, $10 for every county in which they may deliver packages. On circuses and menageries, $75 for each county in which they exhibit. On stage and theatrical companies, rope dancers, slight of hand performers, tumblers, &c., $40 for each county. On exhibitors of natural curiosities, not already mentioned, $20 for each county. On singers, dancers, lecturers, &c., for reward, $10 for each county. The comptroller to have printed forms of tax lists sent to each county court clerk. Clerks to return an abstract to the comptroller on or before the 1st day of June. Sheriffs and other receivers of public money to settle with the comptroller here on the last day of June and the first day of October. The sheriff to return, upon oath, to the court of pleas and quarter sessions of his county, at the term next preceding the time at which he may settle with the comptroller, a list of all moneys which he may have received from the clerks of court, or as double taxes from taxes imposed on unsold property, or on merchants, merchant tailors, jewelers, hucksters by small measure, venders of patent medicines, keepers of public entertainment, ordinary or inn keepers, billiards tables, bowling alleys, stage players, sleight of hand performers, rope dancers, tumblers, wire dancers, circus riders, venders of patent medicines, collectors of natural or artificial curiosities, jugglers, showmen, stage, non-residents, owners of stallions and jacks, horses and mules brought into the State for sale, sellers of carriages, buggies and other riding vehicles manufactured out of the State, on the sales of the purchases brought into the State of any parcel or parts of such riding vehicles, and on all other manufactures, upon the sums or amount of the purchases made out of the State, peddlers, brokers, auctioneers, agents, agencies of banks incorporated out of the State, exhibitors of natural curiosities, sleight of hand, stage players, rope dancers, jugglers, showmen, menageries, persons practicing the profession of physic or surgery, or any of the branches thereof, in this State, and all other persons or companies liable to taxation, and not otherwise provided for by this act, shall be taxed in the manner and form prescribed by this act, and shall be liable to pay the taxes imposed by this act.

2. An Act to extend the provisions of an act passed by the present General Assembly entitled "An Act to amend the 99th chapter of the Revised Code, entitled revenue," ratified the 22d day of December, 1856, to the year 1857. [Extends the provisions of the above act to the year 1857.]

3. An Act to exempt the property of the Insane Asylum from taxation. [Exempts the property of the Insane Asylum from taxation.]

4. An Act for the benefit of the Insane Asylum.—[Appropriates $35,000 for erecting enclosures, supplying water, &c.]

5. An Act concerning the coupon bonds of the State.—[Authorizes the public treasurer to issue coupon bonds of the denomination of $500.]

6. An Act to provide for the better securing costs in actions of ejectment. [Defendant to give bond for payment of costs, in case of failure to successfully defend the action.]

7. An Act to declare the meaning of that portion of the Revised Code which relates to fire-hunting by night. [True intent and meaning of the act is to prevent fire-hunting for deer with a gun or guns in the night time.]

8. An Act to secure the holders of the coupon bonds of this State against loss by accident, &c. [The public treasurer to register such bonds, with amount, number, date, &c., in a book to be kept by him, and such registry to be evidence when the bonds are lost or destroyed. Such registered bonds to be transferable only at the office of the public treasurer.

9. A supplementary act to take the sense of the people of the State relative to the proposed amendment to the Constitution. [People to vote for or against Free Suffrage on the first Thursday in August, 1857.]

10. An Act concerning registration of sheriffs bonds, &c. [Sheriff's and Constable's bonds to be registered in the register's office, and certified copies from the register's book to be read in evidence when the original bond is lost or destroyed.]

11. An Act to amend the 8th section of the 45th chapter of the Revised Code. [Strikes out the word "seizure" in the 6th line and inserts "sale."]

12. An Act to repeal in part the 17th section of the 85th chapter of the Revised Code. [When a master of a vessel, on the Cape Fear river, refuses a pilot, such pilot shall be entitled to the full pilotage as though he had performed the service. Repeals the law to the contrary.]

13. An Act to amend an act, entitled "An Act supplemental to an act, entitled an act to lay off and establish a county by the name of Polk," passed at the session of 1854-'5. [Courts to be held and records kept at the town of Columbus, in said county.]

14. An Act to amend the Constitution of the State of North Carolina. [The Free Suffrage act.]

15. An Act concerning gaming. [Playing at a Faro bank or table a misdemeanor—fine not to be less than twenty-five dollars.

16. An Act to extend the time for registration of grants, deeds and other conveyances. [Allows a further time of two years from the passage of this act. Does not apply to mortgages and conveyances in trust, nor to marriage settlements.

17. An Act to amend section 6th and repeal section 7th of chapter 36th of the Revised Code, entitled Currency. [Repeals the clause making it penal to pass or receive one and two dollar bills.

18. An Act to amend section 7th, chapter 17th of Revised Code, concerning cattle and other stock. [Makes the killing of cattle, &c., on railroads *prima facie* evidence of negligence. The benefit of the act not to apply unless suit is brought within six months.

19. An Act concerning the Clerks of the Supreme Court. [Declares that 25th section, 103d chapter of Revised Code, is applicable to each of the clerks of said Court.

20. An Act concerning the Common Schools of North Carolina. [Chairmen to be elected on the 3rd Monday in April—their official bonds to be good and valid against them and their securities until renewed, or until final settlement—sheriffs to pay over taxes collected for school purposes to chairmen on the first Monday in October in each year. General superintendent to furnish printed blank notices of the election of committees, &c.—sheriffs to post such notices. Board of superintendents to allow reasonable compensation to examining committees. General superintendent to collect and consolidate the common school laws, &c., &c. Governor to have printed 1,000 copies of the general superintendent's annual report.

21. An Act to provide for the distribution of the proceeds of the literary fund. [Provides for the distribution of said fund to the counties recently erected, or which may hereafter be erected.

22. An Act assenting to the purchase by the United States, of a certain parcel of land on the Cape Fear river, as a site for a marine hospital and pest house.

23. An Act to create a sinking fund. [Hons. Thomas Ruffin, W. N. Edwards and D. L. Swain, commissioners of said fund. All receipts derived from the State's stock in railroads, plankroads, &c., to constitute the sinking fund.

24. An Act to prevent the felling of timber in Eno river in the county of Orange and Flat river in the county of Surry, Jenning's creek in the county of Davidson, and McAlpin's creek and Big Sugar creek and its four principal tributaries of the same name in the county of Mecklenburg.

25. An Act concerning trials before justices of the peace. [Extends the provisions of the act concerning the places of trial to Brunswick county.

26. An Act to authorize the examination of the wife in certain cases. [Makes the wife competent to give evidence against the husband in prosecution for assault and battery by him on the person of the wife.

27. An Act to establish standard weights of grains, &c. [Makes the following weights constitute a bushel, viz: Wheat, 60 pounds; rice, 44; rye, 56; indian corn, 54; buckwheat, 50; barley, 48; oats, 30; flaxseed, 55; clover seed, 64; peas, 50; corn meal, 46. Does not prohibit the buying and selling by measure. Penalty twenty dollars for taking more weight per bushel, than above fixed.

28. An Act to amend the 60th and 731 sections of the 99th chapter of the Revised Code, entitled Revenue. [Real estate to be listed in the county in which it is situated. If partly in one county and partly in another, it is to be listed in the county in which the owner resides, if he resides in either. If he resides in neither county, the land to be listed in the county in which the greater portion lies.

29. An Act to provide for the maintenance of the Insane Asylum.

### PRIVATE LAWS.

1. An Act to give additional authority to the commissioners of the town of Tarboro. [Authorizes them to sell burial lots in the Tarboro cemetery, now to which a portion of the town has extended, and to exercise corporate limits.

2. An Act to amend an act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Trustees of Davidson College," passed in the year 1838. [Has amount of real and personal estate it is entitled to hold increased to $250,000. Provides that the trustees of the late Mary M. Chambers may sell certain real estate.

3. An Act to authorize the executors of John D. Hodges, deceased, late sheriff of Hertford county, to collect arrears of taxes due for the years 1853 and 1854.

4. An Act to incorporate the North Carolina and New York Steamship Company.

5. An Act to repeal the 11th section of the act passed in 1854, entitled "An Act to authorize the commissioners of the town of Wilmington to establish streets in said town, and for other purposes."

6. An Act supplemental an act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Credit Tunnel Company," passed at the session of 1854-'55.

7. An Act to amend and consolidate the acts incorporating the Jonathan's Creek and Tobacco Mountain Turnpike Company in the county of Haywood.

8. An Act to incorporate the town of Rockingham, in the county of Richmond.

9. An Act to incorporate the town of Yadkinville, in Yadkin county.

10. An Act to amend the charter of the Fayetteville and Western Plankroad Company, and for other purposes.

11. An Act to amend the charter of the Western Plankroad Company, passed at the session of 1850-'51.

12. An Act to incorporate the town of Troy, in Montgomery county.

13. An Act to incorporate the town of Thomasville, in Davidson county.

14. An Act to authorize Plankroad and Turnpike Companies to use stone and gravel in the construction and repair of their roads.

15. An Act to protect the citizens of the town of Wilson.

16. An Act to incorporate the Macon County Turnpike Company.

17. An Act to authorize and empower the sureties of James A. Brown, late sheriff of Pitt county, to collect arrears of taxes due for the years 1852 and 1853.

18. An Act to incorporate the town of Salem, in Forsythe county.

19. An Act to amend the act incorporating the Wilmington Savings Bank, passed February 24, 1855.

20. An Act to revive and amend an act incorporating the Camden and Pasquotank New Cut Canal Company.

21. An Act to change the name of "New Institute," in Iredell county, to "Olin."

22. An Act to change the time of holding the courts of pleas and quarter sessions for Chowan county. [Changes the time to the 4th Monday in March and September, and 3d Monday in June and December.

23. An Act to incorporate the town of Waynesville, in Haywood county.

24. An Act to alter an Act to incorporate the trustees of the New Institute, in Iredell county. [Changes the name to Olin High School. Increase the number of trustees to fifteen; and grants the privilege of erecting the school into a college when $40,000 shall have been subscribed as a permanent fund for the endowment of the institution.]

25. An Act to authorize Samuel S. Biddle to build a bridge across Neuse river, in Craven county.

26. An Act concerning the militia in Union county.

27. An Act to increase the pay of witnesses in Duplin, Rowan and Robeson counties.

28. An Act to allow the clerk of the court's court of Craven more time to make out his tax list.

29. An Act to incorporate the town of Marion, in McDowell county.

30. An Act to abolish jury trials in the county courts of Polk county.

31. An Act enlarging the powers of Green Hill Academy, in Haywood county.

32. An Act to regulate the fishing with seines in North river. [Prohibits fishing with seines from 7 o'clock p. m. on Saturday, until sunrise on Monday morning of each and every week. Penalty $100.

33. An Act to extend the time of payment of the bonds due from the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad Company to the State. [Gives five years from 1st January, 1857,—interest to be paid semi-annually.

34. An Act to incorporate the Albemarle and Suffolk Railroad Company.

35. An Act to incorporate the American Exchange Mining and Smelting Company.

36. An Act to amend an act incorporating the town of Strickland-ville, in Duplin county; and to incorporate the commissioners of said town.

37. An Act to amend the charter of the Atlantic and North-Carolina Railroad Company.

38. An Act extending the powers of the Roanoke Valley Railroad Company.

39. An Act to incorporate the Salem Cemetery Company.

40. An Act to amend an act incorporating the Quankey and Occanauka Turnpike Company, in Jackson county.

41. An Act to incorporate the trustees of Mount Orest Academy, in Randolph county.

42. An Act to revise and consolidate the charter of the City of Raleigh. [Extends its corporate limits.

43. An Act to authorize the wardens of the poor of Rutherford county to sell and convey the lands on which the poor-houses are situated.

44. An Act to amend the charter of Carolina Female College, in Anson county. [Allows the trustees to hold property to the amount of $150,000.

45. An Act to incorporate Yeates Collegiate Institute, in Alexander county.

46. An Act incorporating the county of Granville.

47. An Act to amend an act incorporating the town of Grahams, in Alamance county.

48. An Act to incorporate the Warrenton Female Academy.

49. An Act to amend an act for the better regulation of the town of Canton.

50. An Act to prevent the sale of spirituous liquors within miles of Western Carolina Male Academy, in Cabarrus county.

51. An Act to incorporate the town of Albemarle, in Stanly county.

52. An Act to incorporate the Graysburg and Warrior Railroad Company.

53. An Act for the better government of the town of Graysville, in Gates county.

54. An Act to restore jury trials in the County Courts of Robeson county.

55. An Act to amend an act incorporating the Western N. C. Railroad Company. [Authorizes the directors to open books of subscription for $200,000 or $300,000, or some intermediate sum, and when five per cent. on such subscriptions is paid in, the State to subscribe double the amount subscribed by individuals. That section of the road to extend to Morganton Road to be located within two miles of Newton, or a branch built to that village. Directors authorized to open books for subscription to an amount sufficient to meet one-third of the expense of second section, (which second section shall extend from Morganton to a point not more than ten miles east of the western portal of the Swannanoa tunnel,) and the State's subscription of two-thirds not to be called for until the first section is completed and equipped.—Subscriptions by counties to be made by a vote of the people, after the amount is determined on by a majority of the directors.]

56. An Act concerning the bank of Cape Fear. [Repeals the 12th, 13th and 22d sections of the charter granted last session. Gives an annuity for seven years not less than $3. General Assembly, within five years, may increase the capital stock to $3,000,000—the State to be allowed to take as much stock in it as in the bank of the State.]

57. An Act to incorporate the town of Fowlsville, in Granville county.

58. An Act to establish a Superior Court in Haywood county.

59. An Act to incorporate the town of Burnsville, in Yancey county.

60. An Act to revive the charter of the Neuse river manufacturing company and for other purposes.

61. An Act to re-charter the Bank of the State of North Carolina. Extends the corporate existence of the bank to 1885. Increases the capital stock from $1,500,000 to $3,000,000; the State to take a half million, to be paid in annual instalments of $125,000 in State bonds; and individuals may, within twelve months, take from may remain unsubscribed at the end of twelve months may be taken by the State, in bonds. New subscribers to have the preference over the present stockholders in taking stock.—The tax is thirty cents per share, but may be increased to one dollar. Dividends may be taxed to the same extent (but no further) as interest on money loaned. Bank required to loan $200,000 to the State on sixty day's notice. A certain amount of one and two dollar notes may be issued. The other provisions are similar to those in other bank charters.

62. An Act to incorporate the Mountain Railroad company. [Road to extend from some point on the Western N. C. Railroad in Catawba county, to or near the town of Lenoir, in Caldwell county. No appropriation from the State.]

63. An Act to incorporate the North-Carolina Gas, Coal and Transportation company.

64. An Act to incorporate the town of Columbus in Polk county.

65. An Act to extend the charter of New Garden boarding school, and for other purposes.

66. An Act to amend the charter of the town of Hillsboro.

67. An act to amend the charter of the Indian Grave Gap turnpike road.

68. An Act to incorporate the Hyde county steamboat joint stock company.

69. An act to incorporate the Male and Female academy in Greensboro.

70. An Act concerning the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal. [The company to surrender the bonds guaranteed by the State, and the State to take stock to the amount of $250,000, payable in six per cent. coupon bonds running 30 years. When $200,000 shall have been subscribed and paid by individuals, the State to pay $100,000 more. Company authorized to increase its capital stock to a sum not exceeding $1,500,000.]

71. An Act concerning a public road in Yancey and Burke counties. [Road from some point on New Road to Piedmont Springs, and by way of Cranberry Iron works to the Tennessee line.]

72. An Act concerning pilots at Ocracoke and Hatteras Inlets.

73. An Act concerning Greenville and French Broad Railroad. [Authorizes the company to construct the northern portion of the road, with such gauge as they choose. Directors may call for instalments of ten per cent.]

74. An Act to incorporate the Cheraw and Coalfields Railroad Company. [Capital stock not more than $2,000,000. No aid from the State.]

75. An Act for the completion of the Atlantic and North-Carolina Railroad. [Public Treasurer to loan the Company a sum not exceeding $400,000, and the road to set aside its profits as a sinking fund to pay the debt and interest. State to take a mortgage on the road.]

76. An act to authorize the North-Carolina Railroad Company to issue bonds to an amount not exceeding $350,000, running ten years, and to bear eight per cent. interest.

77. An Act to amend the charter of the Wilmington and Rutherford Railroad Company [Takes off certain restrictions.

78. An Act to repeal an act to fix and settle the dividing line between Chatham and Alamance counties.

79. An Act to incorporate the trustees of the Female College of the Methodist Protestant Conference of North Carolina.

80. An Act to incorporate the trustees of Warsaw High School, in Duplin County.

81. An Act to incorporate the town of Germanton, in the counties of Stokes and Forsythe.

82. An Act to amend the charter of Pittsboro.

83. An Act relating to the Fayetteville and Albemarle Plankroad Company. [May use other materials than plank in the construction of the road from Little's Mills to Albemarle. Dividends to be made 1st of February and August.

84. An act to exempt from taxation and to fix the rate of interest on the bonds of the North-Carolina Railroad Company.

85. An Act to incorporate the Yadkin Manufacturing Company in Montgomery county.

86. An Act to authorize certain free persons of color to reside in Northampton county for the space of eighteen months.

87. An Act to incorporate the town of Jackson.

88. An Act to incorporate the Male and Female Academy in Swansboro', N. C.

89. An Act to incorporate the Shepherds Point Land Company.

90. An Act to alter the line between Wilkes and Caldwell counties.

91. An Act to amend the 6th section of the 120th chapter of the Revised Code, concerning wreck sales.

92. An Act to incorporate the Oak City Guards of Raleigh.

93. An act concerning a public road in Wilkes and Caldwell counties.

94. An Act to lay off and establish a public road in the counties of Davie and Davidson, and to establish a public ferry across the Yadkin river.

95. An Act to incorporate the Currituck Hotel Company.

96. An Act to incorporate the Currituck Steamboat company.

### RESOLUTIONS.

1. A Resolution concerning the distribution of the Geological report. [Giving copies to clerks and reporters.

2. A Resolution in favor of James Blevins.—[Secretary of State to issue a grant to him.

3. Resolution in favor of J. H. DeCarteret & Son.

4. Resolution in favor of Mrs. Martha Speers.

5. Resolution in favor of W. E. Baird.

6. Resolution in favor of Bedford Sherrell.

7. Resolution in favor of John Foster.

8. Resolution in favor of Sarah Avery.

9. Resolution in favor of Joseph Ramsay.

10. Resolution in favor of Quentin Bowles.

11. Resolution in favor of Thomas Diggs.

12. Resolution in favor of Francis L. Hawks, D. D., allowing him access to the records and library of the State.

13. Resolution concerning the Cape Fear and Deep rivers.

14. Resolution for the relief of William M. Ross, County Court Clerk of Haywood.

15. Resolution in favor of the agent appointed under the resolution of the last General Assembly, to procure documentary evidence in relation to the history of North Carolina.

16. Resolution remitting a fine imposed on William M. Daniel, Clerk of the County Court of Halifax.

17. Resolution concerning wool.

18. Resolution in favor of a Naval Depot at Beaufort, N. C.

19. Resolution in favor of Mrs. Eliza Hempbill.

20. Resolution in favor of James Morrison.

21. Resolution in favor of Elizabeth Kissam, Administratrix of Samuel Kissam.

22. Resolution concerning the coupons in the Comptroller's office. [Governor, Treasurer and Comptroller to procure some suitable instrument to cancel said coupons.

23. Resolution in favor of Jas. Malvin, sheriff of Bladen county.

24. Resolution in favor of Alex. Johnson, sheriff of Cumberland county.

26. Resolution giving copies of the Geological report by the Engrossing Clerks and Doorkeepers.

27. Resolution in favor of Joseph Clarke.

28. Resolution in favor of Thos. H. Willie.

29. Resolution in favor of J. M. Lovejoy.

30. Resolution in favor of P. H. Dozier.

31. Resolution concerning the Executive mansion.

32. Resolution authorizing the Literary Board to change the debt due them by the State into State bonds.

33. Resolution authorizing the Governor to furnish the Departments of the General Government with Acts of Assembly.

34. Resolution in favor of Sarah Charlton.

35. Resolution in favor of Samuel Williams & Son.

36. Resolution in favor of Henry Troutman.

37. Resolution concerning the Geological Cabinet [To be kept by the State Librarian, who is allowed therefor $50 a year.

38. Resolution giving the principal clerks of the two Houses $125 extra.

39. Resolution concerning the statute of Washington. [Governor to contract with Mr. Hubard for the bronze statue of Washington.

40. Resolution in favor of Lemuel Wilkerson, A. C. Murdock and Hurdle & Hurdle.

41. Resolution authorizing the Public Treasurer to borrow money.

42. Resolution in favor of Frank N. Roberts and R. M. Orrell.

43. Resolution requiring the Secretary of State to furnish the clerks and sheriffs, with copies of the Revenue law.

44. Resolution concerning the Secretary of State. [Authorizes Mr. Page, deputy, to countersign grants in the name of his principal.

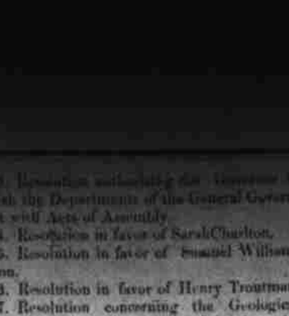
45. Resolution in favor of James Roberts.

46. Resolution requesting the assistant clerks to collect and arrange the records of their respective Houses.

47. Resolution increasing the fees of the Governor's private secretary.

48. Resolution in favor of the Doorkeepers.

49. Resolution in favor of B. H. Stanmire.




# CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

*SALISBURY, N. C.*

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 10, 1857.

TERMS OF THIS PAPER $2 00 CASH.


## THE LEGISLATURE.

It can hardly be questioned that the democratic Legislature of North Carolina, which closed its session on the 4th instant, was the *smallest* affair of the kind, that ever occupied the Capitol of this State. We very much fear that a degeneracy has commenced in this country, though yet in its early years, which but too surely points to an end as fatal to the cherished hopes of our fathers as to the grand experiment of self government, renewed here with so many encouragements for its triumphant demonstration. Why, what do we see? We see learning, experience and virtue, put to contempt. The wise and good are pushed aside, and regarded as curious specimens of an era long since past, and now only worthy of the contemptuous neglect of this *fast* generation. We see corrupt, and corrupting individuals, with impious, brassy faces, recklessly treading where consternation and ruin has men were wont to go softly and with slows off. We see them like hungry vultures around a carcase, swarming the portals of the people's treasury, devoutly bent on seizing same, and leaving their constituents to take care of themselves. We see them variously lobbying, quirking, twisting, doing and undoing; pretending one thing and designing another, or doing nothing; scheming and planning, plotting and ranting—all, all resulting in strife, or party, and the disappointment and disgraination of the State.

In casting about for a remedy for this state of things—for a hook on which to hang a hope that it may come to an end, and that we may witness the reinstatement in public favor, of virtue, wisdom and learning, the common school system of the State, the active efforts of the good, and the pulpit, are all the instrumentalities that can be trusted. These should be brought to bear with steady, unyielding firmness, else truth crushed to earth, will rise no more; and the black cloud of error, hanging like a curse over the country, will blast the nation in its youth, and consign it to an untimely and ignominous grave.

The labors of the last Legislature, feeble, vain, *good*, bad and indifferent, as they were, we shall find occasion to speak of from time to time, with the view of spreading them before the public. Infatuated, as democratic men are, by the allurements of party, we have little hope it will result in much practical good; but however that may be, it is no less a duty we owe our patrons and the State, and it shall be met. In the mean time, we shall avail ourself of the views of others, that out of the months of many witnesses, facts may be established.

Read the following:

## ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE.

One o'clock, a. m., on Wednesday, terminated a Session of the Legislature of this State which will mark an era in Legislative annals the world over. Many things transpired to make this Legislature memorable. The canvass for seats in this body of conscripts, was a fit overture to the grand Opera that followed, and the grand crash of *brass* and *wind* instruments which accompanied its *denouement*. This canvass, by which the Democratic party carried the Legislature by an unprecedented majority, is memorable for the paucity of talent which characterized the Democratic exponents of the "sweet voices" of the people—the abundance of promises made, and the wholesale vituperation, and calumniation of every man who contended that "Americans should rule America," and the scum of the old world, the Exiles of Wind Hower, and graduates of Penitentiaries, "Patriots who leave their country for their country's good," should *not* rule America. These efforts of stump demagoguism, spiced as they were by artful, and but too successful appeals to verdant Whigs, that the institution of slavery could alone be secured by the election of James Buchanan, carried the State elections in August and the State for the Democracy in November. Of the fruits of the August election, there now can be no *conjecture*.—Certainty piled on certainty, and proof-mounted on proof, attest that they are as bitter as the waters of Marah, and threaten to poison the body politic down whose throat they have been crammed by as insolent and ignorant a majority of Democratic Charlatans as ever sat under one roof to curse the deluded people who trusted them. We say this in no partizan or factious spirit. There were some of the Democratic members (precious few) who we *know* looked on in sorrow at the mischiefs they were impotent to avert. Insolence, party tyranny, small beer wit, and bullomery "ruled the hour," day by day, and night by night. Never did such a Legislature meet before, either here or elsewhere in the United States.

Although but recently a citizen of the State, we know its legislative history in its palmy days, when its *Gaston*, its *Stanly*, its *Fancy*, &c., adorned the Halls of its Capitol. But they are gone to their reward in a better world, leaving the rich legacy of an example, which has been prodigally thrown away by the Democratic rulers of the present day.—There are others of both political parties whom we knew at a later day, who have either "gone on the dark voyage" or have been deemed too "just" to "die the State some service." At any rate it is positively certain they have not been here for a winter. "The light of other days," if seen at all, was seen "through a glass darkly" by the Democratic Session of the late Legislature. How sickening to compare the past with the present: how revolting to think of demagogism, ignorance and lust for office, in contrast with lofty talents, exalted patriotism, and an incorruptibility that the most audacious grasp of power dared not approach with insolence. To think of the present and the past, is to think of a brigade of pygmies marching around the base of an Egyptian Pyramid. There was talent, information and patriotism in the late Legislature; but what availed it? It was on the minority side in Federal politics, and a grinding majority rendered its voice impotent in all matters to which the test of party could be applied properly or improperly. Professing to be the economical party, the State, the Democracy of the late Legislature, with a full control over legislation and the disposition of finances, were in session for nearly three months, and when they did adjourn, left a most important work in which the State is deeply interested, in a condition so problematic as to render a great loss extremely probable, if not absolutely certain. This we will make apparent hereafter, and bring to our assistance in the work of proof, high Democratic authority. Professing to be the Internal Improvement party of the State, we should like to know what great work has received the fostering care of the Democrats of the late Legislature in fulfilment of their stump-delivered professions? Professing to be preeminently the poor man's friend, we should like to know how the scale of taxation was adjusted so as to bear as *lightly as possible* on the poor man? We put this and other kindred contemporary of the Standard to answer a great many questions, which he would find it hard to answer, and which he would be loth to answer, for the reason that he knows nothing, and he is generally correct when he speaks from a knowledge of the matter in hand.

We mean, in a word, to expose the devilish deeds of this Democratic Legislature, which the Democrats of the Legislature themselves panted promptly and successfully. The business of feeding out the public pap to hungry seekers thereof, commanded their early and earnest attention, and was punctually discharged. Nothing that the most inveterate spy-eye could detect in the way of specie, escaped the sharpened optics, the acute ears, they did have *ears*, and the sensitive, but by no means delicate touch, of these Democratic *Cæsars*, who would have "travelled their rings" down any sort of gap—not like the Roman, to close it for his country's good, but in the hope they might find some buried dimes below, which they could bring up, and operate on, upon top. Not only were others paying much, or little, snapped up with a shark swallow, but other trusts and stations, not paying *one*, but placing the incumbents in a line for "something good" in the future, were given out with the most commendable alacrity. Nothing escaped the party grasp that was *geographic*. Even the subject of education, the last temporal subject to be sucked into the maelstrom of party politics, has not escaped the anxious glance of these Democrats.

At dead of night, with doors closed, these "midnight assassins" of the cause of education, determined on a movement which if not indignantly frowned down by a virtuous and patriotic people, will bode fatally a University whose Alumni can proudly be compared with a like number sent forth from any University or College in the Union. We say nothing of the qualifications of the five gentlemen who were "caucussed into the Trusteeships, for the stations they occupy. Personally, we know nothing of their fitness for the post, nor is it in the least necessary to our argument that we should be posted on that head. It each of them possessed in combination the wisdom, and attainments of Newton, Bacon and Locke, the mode of appointment and the governing motive for said appointment, would stamp it as an outrage to be met by prompt reprobation.

Having thus given a general account of the doings or misdoings of the late Democratic Legislature, we propose hereafter to take up more in detail their proceedings.—*Raleigh Register.*

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We put it to the calm consideration of every unprejudiced man in the State, whether a more inefficient Legislature ever convened in its limits than the one which brought its extraordinary labors to a close on Wednesday last. What has it done to benefit North Carolina? What real, valuable, practicable enterprise, de-

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What has been done to aid Wilmington on in that glorious example of enterprise which, at great cost and labor to her people, she has set the State? Nothing. She went before the Legislature with but two projects, the river improvement and the road to Rutherford—measures too, let it be remembered, of incalculable importance not only to her but to the State at large—and her reasonable requests were refused. The bill in aid of the river improvement, notwithstanding the powerful influences it was enabled to bring to bear in its favor, was slaughtered; while the bill concerning the road hence to Rutherford was so riddled and patched up, as scarcely to be recognisable by its own friends. A feeling of jealousy, of positive ill will to wards this community, which of all others in the State *deserved* the fostering care of the General Assembly, was engendered, and, strange to say, this feeling was permitted to control legislation. The ridiculous charge that Wilmington desired everything, was bandied about, until members came to believe it, and the result is she got nothing.

And Fayetteville—poor Fayetteville—she has received gross treatment at the hands of this Legislature. She had a right to expect simple justice. Her claim upon the liberality of the General Assembly in aid of her Coal Fields enterprise had been refused, and it was generally believed and expected that at this session the injustice would be repaired, but she has been again rudely repulsed.

And the West—what of her claims?—and, indeed, of every section? The answer comes back—Nothing for the West, nothing for the centre, or for the East.

It is has been a session of blunders and of deaths. They slaughtered the river improvement bill, and the Fayetteville and Coal fields bill, and the W. C. & Rutherford bill, and the Western Extension bill, and the Rockingham rail road bill. True, one if not more of these, deserved to be slaughtered, but the others were worthy of a different fate. And then after this wholesale murder of noble State works, they attempted to kill the remainder of the rail road enterprises of North Carolina by giving a charter to a work, the Cheraw and Coal fields scheme, which so certainly as it is constructed will prove ruinous to these enterprises. In fact the Legislature has done nothing but pass a bill, which of all others should never have been permitted to become a law, selling its face like a flint against the measures without which North Carolina can make no advance in prosperity.

This is very bad. The error arises from sending incompetent men to the Assembly—men who are afraid to do anything for the State because it may impair their chance of a re-election—men unaccustomed to business, who are about as fit to make laws as sinners saints. Pigmy politicians wrapped up in self, prepared to weigh every measure however grand or important, in the scale of their home popularity and decide accordingly. When will this evil be rectified?

Such is the great Democratic Legislature of 1856, '7, which had a clean Democratic majority of 50 on joint ballot, which made fine promises and did nothing, and which must shoulder the responsibility of its errors, botches, and short comings, as best it can.

*Wilmington Herald.*

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*Our Streets and Sidewalks.*—We think our streets, side-walks and crossings, were never in so horrible a condition as they have been for some time past. Mud! mud!! Men, booted in thick leather up to the knees, with their pants rolled up, can travel at a tolerable rate, if they are content to plunge through; but what a disgusting condition! And if it is so to gentlemen, upon whom the custom of the country bestows a monopoly in *pants* and heavy soled boots, what must it be to ladies, doomed by the same law, to wear long skirts and light encasements for the feet? Surely no more cruel nor distressing infliction could well be imposed upon them. For when they go upon the street, a graceful and attractive carriage is not only absolutely impossible, but the more essentials, comfort and ease, are also out of the question. With blanched cheeks and fearful hesitating steps, they slowly advance, picking their way most doubtfully. We sincerely hope that, grieved as they must be, they will concert plans and put them in execution, (wonder if they can't do it!) by which our city fathers shall be taught a lesson on this important subject. Our Town charter is not all that it should be, (if indeed we have any left,) and we would here throw out a suggestion in connection with that fact, which may not be without use to those upon whom the tyranny of custom imposes inconveniences for the sake of grace. Our town charter, then, needs amendments; and while about it, a clause allowing the ladies to *vote* for Intendant, Commissioners, &c., could easily be inserted! With this amendment, it is not difficult to foresee what would be the result. In what other way could gentlemen, occupying influential