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From the Fayetteville Observer.

INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS.

We have an invaluable friend who never goes any where without thinking of the Observer, and never tires in writing out for it whatever he may see or hear that will be likely to interest its readers. He has happened to be in Raleigh during the last few days, and to him we and our readers are deeply indebted for the sketch of the interesting and important debate in the House of Commons on Monday and Tuesday.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.

RALEIGH, February 2.

My Dear Sirs:—The Senate refused to reconsider the Fayetteville and Coal Field road by a vote of eighteen to twenty two—and for this Session, and it may be for all time, your hope of State aid has vanished.

The friends of the road were prepared to offer a substitute for the defeated Bill—that after they had graded the road to the Coal Fields the State should then issue her bonds for $10,000 per mile to buy and lay the rails and furnish rolling stock.

The Bill is defeated, and yet not more than ten members can be found who do not acknowledge fully the merits of the scheme. But between the influence of rival schemes and political considerations, it has been defeated.

The friends who voted for it have been active, true and reliable throughout, and are entitled to your thanks.

The Senate is now upon the road from Greensborough to the Dan coal beds. They ask no money, and it would pass but for local causes, acting on individuals; and through them upon their friends. Its fate cannot be foretold, as its enemies are clogging it with amendments.

The friends of the Cape Fear and Deep River bill are sanguine they can carry it this evening in the House of Commons. Tremendous exertions are being made, and the cry now is, you must sustain the Governor, upon whose message the bill was gotten up.

Both houses resemble a party at midnight, when half the guests have gone home and the other half feel jaded. Some members have gone home, others are absent preparing, but whenever an important bill comes up in either house, members flock in, as was the case on your coal field road.

FEBRUARY 2d—EVENING.

In the Commons, on a Bill authorizing the Cape Fear Bank to issue one and two dollar notes, Col. Outlaw was opposed to granting that Bank the privilege, and was in favor of taking that privilege from the Bank of the State.

Mr. Leach of Davidson contended, that as the privilege was granted to the State Bank, the same privilege should be extended to the Cape Fear Bank, because the State had the same interest in the one as the other, and that it would be an odious discrimination to give one the privilege and not the other.

The Bill, on motion of Col. Outlaw, was indefinitely postponed.

The Cape Fear and Deep River Bill coming up, Mr. Cotten of Chatham, moved to amend by striking out $300,000 and inserting $100,000—$25,000 to be paid by the State whenever individuals pay $25,000, until all is paid.

Whereupon Mr. Lewis of Wake, argued that inasmuch as the Directors were superseded and the Bill provided for making the Governor and Board of Internal Improvements its Directors, that makes it a State work; and as water communication is cheaper than rail road, he was in favor of making the appropriation as in the Senate Bill, in conformity with the Report of Major Gwynn. Make the appropriation now asked—they will never ask more—because the surplus income will complete the work with stone locks and Dams. Notwithstanding the State is in debt, yet the wealth in the Coal Fields justifies the expenditure. Mr. Lewis's 15 minutes having expired, leave was not granted to proceed.

Mr. Dargan of Anson, said he had voted for every appropriation heretofore made; but he was opposed to any and every further appropriation. The work was impracticable—no prospect of completion—it would be as wasteful as pouring into a hole to give more money. Major Gwynn says it needs $150,000 to repair and $1,200,000 to make permanent. He preferred making the larger appropriation, if he had any confidence in the estimates of a man who had followed Thompson's estimates that $100,000 was sufficient to complete the work. And he felt assured that when he was laid beneath the sod, a spirit should come here, it would not be quiver clamoring for money. Some certainty of estimates can be made for Railroads, but not so for slack water navigation. Some of the dams were in a rotten sinking condition.

Mr. Ferrebee of Camden—interested in the honor of the State, and developing resources of the State—could not let the vote be taken without replying to the gentleman from Anson. Mr. F. passed his opinion on Major Gwynn's report, and read from it extracts showing its fallibility. And when he calculated the wealth to be developed, he was in favor of completing the work. Major Gwynn's endorsement of Thompson's report was based on a lower grade of work than that completed. He read from the report his explanations, and went on to show how the wooden locks could be displaced by stone. To quit the work now, principal and interest up to the time the bonds fall due, will bring upon the State a loss of $750,000—a thing he wanted to do. He read from Emmons's report the quantity of Coal on Deep River.

Mr. Cotten of Chatham, was in the Legislature when Internal Improvements commenced, and when the State was asked to take two-thirds in internal improvement schemes. But now this company asks for *all* aid from the State, and will make no private subscription whatever—and yet the River is not completed and they have come again. He reviewed the history of the work, and the various Engineers, Presidents, &c. He is willing to aid the work dollar for dollar, but the owners of land on the river should do something. If Emmon's report is true, 18 inches of land would complete the work. The River has been engineered to death. The bill was lost in the Senate, 24 to 16. Gov. Bragg's recommendation he had confidence in, but the Governor could only send some man who would turn out like the rest. If his amendment passes, he will vote for the bill; otherwise he will not. Eight hundred men in Chatham had memorialized him to vote for the road to Fayetteville, but not one had requested him to vote for the river. He believed they were opposed to it.

Mr. Meares of Brunswick, was in favor of the River—regretted that the Governor had not come out in a manly manner and recommended it. Major Gwynn had not surveyed the river; he had only overlooked Thompson's calculations and reported on that, until his recent survey. The work was to pass into other hands—the Governor's. The previous board had not managed well—but now that the state had chartered the Cheraw and coal field road, and refused to charter the road to Fayetteville this river was the only outlet for the Coal through our own ports. He eloquently vindicated Major Gwynn as a man of high toned chivalrous feeling.

Mr. Cotten said that he had not assailed Maj. Gwynn.

Mr. Dargan said he had not; he was basing his action upon his recent exploration and report, where he says $450,000 would put it in repair. Mr. D. offered an amendment to exclude all previous Directors, officers and contractors from acting in the new Board.

Mr. Gilliam, of Washington, spoke at some length, ably representing the views that operated upon the committee, causing them to report the bill. He had based his views on Gwynn's report—and unless this bill passes, a Northern company will pay $1,000,000 for the franchise, provided that the State will not grant aid to any railroad to the coal fields.

At night, Messrs. Gilliam and Cotten spoke, and the amendment offered by Mr. Cotten was adopted, 55 to 36.

Mr. Dargan's amendment was adopted without a call of the House. Whereupon,

Mr. Little of Richmond, offered an amendment "provided that no further appropriation ever be made to said work."

Upon which, Mr. Lewis of Wake, made a speech insisting that Mr. Cotten could not be a Democrat when he voted against the Governor's recommendation. He spoke at some length in favor of the scheme, and defended the Governor from the remarks of Mr. Meares. He thought the Governor had acted right in suggesting rather than dictating.

Mr. Cotten replied at some length, giving hard hits right and left, and restating that he was for the road; that he was a Democrat before the gentleman from Wake was born; and could settle with his constituents without paying a fee to the knight from Wake; and he wouldn't notice himself to the cut of any Governor whatever.

Mr. Meares of Brunswick, replied to Mr. Cotten's remarks about Major Gwynn's estimates on the North Carolina Rail Road, and insisted that the rise in iron justified the difference in his estimates. In reference to the remarks of Mr. Lewis, Mr. Meares insisted that the Governor should have recommended something.

Mr. Little withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Ward of Opslow made a very sensible speech in favor of passing the original Bill as it came from the Senate, and he did so notwithstanding it was the rival of his favorite rail road scheme. His speech was listened to with much attention.

The vote was taken on the whole Bill, and it was lost, 31 to 32.

Mr. Gilliam of Washington moved reconsideration, for the purpose of offering a substitute, which should provide for a surrender of the State's interest to the private stockholders.

Mr. Ferebee of Camden was anxious for a reconsideration; and urged as a reason that unless the work is completed by the next session of the Legislature—according to the terms of charter—their chartered privileges will expire. He thought we were casting reproaches on the honor of the State.

Mr. Outlaw of Hertford, said it was an important matter, and he unfortunately those who have the management of it had not deal with candor towards the representatives of the people, in stating what amount was needed. But we have now investigated the matter, and have reports from Engineers and Geologists, showing the feasibility of the scheme and quantity of Coal—and now we cannot abandon the work—especially the Democrats are bound to come up and sustain their Democratic Governor's recommendations. They dare not go home and answer their constituents. He felt there had been gross mismanagement—the evidence before the Committee satisfied him of that fact. Money had been expended which he felt had injured it down the River. He hoped they would not desert her.

Mr. Dargan of Anson, regretted he could not agree with the gentleman from Hertford—but he could not vote from Governor any help—he should have him from but a opportunity to examine a work, as it could had asked as early towards the representatives of the people. He had the work and contained the managers of the work, and its present condition. It was more than a year ago. Come up for a session and a quarter. I will share the responsibility and not [illegible] action. I go for ascertaining the actual [illegible] sinking the money already expended. Good engineers are men of fancy. They say one note figure is worth more than the Rivers of North Carolina. I do not believe it, because if that is so, then as there are 40 miles Chatham is to be than all the Union. Such figures he could not believe so long as he had his common sense, and will oppose the bill in all its forms.

Mr. Outlaw said he was not operated on by outside pressure. No man dared approach him on that or any other subject. But he was ready prepared to abandon the money already invested. He knew the Governor will [illegible] with him politically—but knew him as a man of integrity, industry and sense, who would administer the money faithfully.

Mr. Lewis of Wake called upon the Democrats by whom he was surrounded to come to the rescue and answer the appeals from the other side of the house. We are responsible for the legislation of the State, and will be held responsible. Come up then, and stand by our integrity and our Governor and the wealth of the coal fields. Charter no rail road to Cheraw, and leave your own ports impoverished. If Democracy is so selfish, let it be written down as the history of the party that they would not stand by their beloved Governor and his recommendations.

Mr. Bridges of Edgecombe had examined the subject calmly and closely; had been in doubt; is still in doubt; but is in favor of reconsideration. As all other bills had been reconsidered, he appealed to his friends on this side of the house to allow the reconsideration, not under the lash from other side, but from courtesy.

Mr. Jenkins of Warren; I rise to day this scheme has had no more bitter enemy than he; and he thought the speech of the gentleman from Wake, who likes no right to [illegible] his fellow democrats, had injured the work more than any thing else that has been said or done, and he hoped democrats would not come in under the lash or abandon their convictions of duty except on principle. He admonished the manner in which the work had been done.

Mr. Leach of Davidson, asked if the Governor had not appointed a majority of the Directors, and if the democratic party was not responsible.

Mr. Jenkins was unwilling to make this a party matter. Up to to-night he was in doubt; but after listening to speeches, he was in favor of the Senate bill, and called upon all parties to stand by it. He was tired of hearing of parties, and hoped we would act as a band of brothers on this matter. Change the Directory—let the Governor and Internal Improvement Board manage it. Thomas Bragg would not let money be wasted: he was willing to trust him rather than let it be sold to the Northern people. Come up, not as Whigs or Americans or as Democrats, but as North Carolinians. As he had been the enemy till to-night, he would blame no one for voting contrary to him.

Mr. Jones of Craven said the system of reconsideration was all wrong; it was a great waste of time. If the work is what its friends say, why is it that those who own the coal fields and the land along the road are unwilling to take some of the stock? He is opposed to granting further State aid.

Mr. Lewis thought he must have been misunderstood. He had no power to lash in, and no inclination. He just wished to rouse his friends—as appeals came from the other side of the house—for the Democratic party to come up to the mark.

Mr. Pitchford of Warren was not to be driven from his positions and opinions by the speeches of any one.

Mr. Scales of Rockingham had doubts on the subject; he blamed no one, Whig or Democrat, who did doubt. The State has given $450,000 and the work is not yet completed. Is it strange the democratic party should hesitate and deliberate? They have deliberated, have received reports, appointed committees, and received reports from them. All are anxious to reach the Coal Fields. The Joint Committee had presented a bill, and the Senate had passed it. That bill is before us, and presents the question whether the scheme is practical or not. If practical, let us carry it out; if not, let us abandon it like men. But whilst doubts exist, shall we smother the bill, or shall we consider and reconsider? Let us act like men, calmly and dispassionately and deliberately. With parties I have nothing to do; but when the gentleman from Bertie appeals to me *as a man*, my very heart responds to his call, because I know him to be an honest, enlightened, patriotic gentleman, who will come up, not as a partisan, but as a patriot, and share his part of the responsibility involved in this scheme.

The vote to reconsider prevailed by 55 to 31.

I know I have done injustice to all the speakers. It was a discussion which brought out the best talent of the House. It lasted from 3 till 10½ o'clock. The last speaker, Mr. Scales, without committing himself for the bill, made a very impressive speech in favor of reconsideration. The bill is the special order for tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

The Senate has been occupied to-day on the Rockingham railroad, which its enemies attempt to defeat by parliamentary tactics, call for yeas and nays, &c.

RALEIGH, Feb. 3.

To-day the Deep river bill passed its 2d reading by a vote of 47 to 41. To effect this result, some 8 or 10 members who had voted No when the roll was called, changed their votes to Aye. The Rules were suspended, and the bill put upon its 3d reading.

Mr. Ferebee moved to strike out Mr. Cotten's amendment, which had been adopted on the previous day.

Mr. Leach of Davidson was opposed to striking out that amendment—and said a letter was now in the city stating that Jones' Lock and Dam had been washed away. The correctness of which information Messrs. Ferrebee and Jenkins denied. Mr. Leach proceeded to argue from Gwynn's report. Dams were subject to be washed, and probably were washed away, as the river had risen some 50 feet, and proceeded to argue against the State investing more money in companies and individuals subsidized by grants. The Governor had been responsible and the time he appointed a majority of the Directors. He resented that the work would not pay, whereupon a number of private profits would be made. He was sorry that so many members had been induced to change their votes. He had been a Whig vote,—Mr Jenkins from Warren had been liberal—and yet suddenly had turned over in favor of throwing away State money with out stockholders subscribing a dime. He preferred giving $1,200,000 rather than $450,000.

Mr. Caldwell of Guilford had opposed it heretofore—he opposed the rail road but not passed—but because it had not passed he was unwilling to let the dog in the manger, and told some good anecdotes. An illiberal spirit had been manifested by the people of Fayetteville, which he had regretted. He did not think the appropriation was enough.

Mr. Jenkins of Warren thought justice to himself required he should notice the remarks of Mr. Leach of Davidson. His record this session shows that he is a better internal improvement man than Leach, and had voted for the tax bill, which he had not. Leach had voted for measures to run past his own door—he had asked for nothing for his people. His repentance and conversion was not sudden. He had been investigating the subject, and his conclusions had just been made. If this river scheme succeeds, then there will be several roads running to it, and then the Fayetteville road will be built. He hopes party will not be again mentioned in this discussion.

Mr. Pickett of Anson was opposed to any further appropriation, and thought we had expended too much already, for that was all lost—and illustrated his views by telling the anecdote of the dog with a piece of beef in his mouth, and seeing it reflected in the water, jumped at the shadow and lost all.

Mr. Hackney of Chatham was not opposed to all internal improvements; was not instructed, but was opposed to it because he did not think the work was practicable. He knew the men who owned the lands on Deep River, and knew that if 20 per cent. could be made, they were the very men to avoid themselves of such profits. But they had no faith in the work—they had tested it and had failed. At first they were unwilling the State should be the largest stockholder, because at that time they had confidence it would be paying stock. Now they had no confidence, and asked the State to take all. The dams could not be made to stand, and if they could, the sand and mud would fill them up and make the channel shallow. His friend Lewis from Wake had opposed the rail road from Fayetteville by vote and speech; and it seemed strange to hear him advocating the river. As to Ferrebee, who had said that the work had been increased since Maj. Gwynn endorsed Thompson's reports, he was mistaken. The original object of the work was to carry off coal. He hoped the bill would pass with amendments in order to pay off the debts of the Company.

Mr. Ferrebee regretted the measure had been mixed up with its rival scheme the road; he was for both—was still for both—and thought both should receive aid. He again sustained Major Gwynn and his reports, and reviewed, generally all the objections made, and thought a steam dredge boat could remove in 48 hours the accumulated mud of 10 years. He read Gov. Bragg's message bringing the subject to the attention of the Legislature, and went into statistics.

Mr. Settle of Rockingham, for two days, from personal considerations, had declined to strike a blow at this work; but justice to himself and his constituents required of him that he should now speak. The scheme is impracticable. Even below Fayetteville there are sand banks in the river that prevent boats bringing up even dry goods, as is demonstrated in the case of Boner & Crist, in 1 Jones's Reports. And then again it rises 40 feet in as many hours, and even more—has risen 50 feet in a day and night.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After an interesting discussion on the Lunatic Asylum bill—

Mr. Settle proceeded to say that the slides below the dams had been washed away, and the dams were standing on the brink. In estimates—if I am once deceived it is his fault who deceived; if deceived twice it is my own fault—and as he had been deceived thrice upon estimates he would not again be deceived. Maj. Gwynn has surveyed the river and says $450,000 will make a temporary improvement. You don't even come up to that. This work is a drain on the treasury. It is now time the drain was stopped. An argument pressed on him in the lobby is—as the State is in for its $460,000 we must go farther. Not so; and any kind of message may come before me, but I will not heed them or be governed by them. The Company has forfeited its charter, but I will pass that by. Grant $300,000 now and next session the lobby will be crowded, asking more. I have voted against the Fayetteville road because the treasury was empty. I would rather vote a million to that road than one dollar to the river. Clamor has no terrors for him; better adjourn now than add one dollar to this work. If the dams are so fragile as not to stand two years, we had better abandon them now, rebuke the Company, and sell out the works, as the sheriff sells out the property of a private citizen. I have cut loose from many of those with whom I have ever acted; but upon the heel of the session I feel constrained from a sense of duty to act as I have, and I ask no favors from those with whom I differ. I am responsible to my constituents alone.

Mr. Outlaw, of Bertie, rose to correct some misapprehensions. No dam, after being completed, has been washed away—they have washed away in an unfinished state, and super-structures raised to protect them had been wasted away. He repeated what he said last night, that the Democrats were in power, and appealed to them to come up as Carolinians and develop the wealth of the State, and not allow the wealth on Deep River longer to remain there. He will take the word of a man of science sooner than the opinions of the members from Chatham. If he could look at the measure in a party view, he would be glad of its defeat, because it would be an acknowledgment on the part of the Democrats that they had not the nerve, or the pride to develop the resources of the State, but he stood here as a North Carolinian—proud of his State—anxious to elevate her to her true position among her sister States.

Mr. Settle: I am a Democrat—my party friends have asked me to keep my seat—but if I can defeat this scheme, humble as I am, I shall feel proud, and shall not be afraid of the responsibility, but will glory in it. I desire not to waste capital—I have been here as often as I desire—and have no end in view but the interest the glory and prosperity of the State. I feel right—that is enough for me. It my breast is bared to the torrent and storm, let it come; if injury comes to me, let it come, from whence it may. I shall say the State $300,000, and I shall not quail.

Mr. Holmes of New Hanover said he was disposed to have kept quiet and given a silent vote in its favor, but when gentlemen were giving in idle reports about the Dams being washed away, he could not remain silent. A letter had been referred to as coming from Fayetteville, saying the Dams were washed away, and yet here is a paper published on yesterday in Fayetteville says nothing about it. In justice to Fayetteville and Wilmington he felt bound to say, boats of light draught had been put upon the River, such as were not known at the time Boner & Crists' suit was instituted. Boats now and for five years have run daily, and any quantity of Coal can be carried from Fayetteville to Wilmington. He then went into the general condition of the work and argued that it should be completed.

Gov. Bragg was seated in the gallery during the afternoon's discussion.

THE CLOSING SCENE.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. Coxe of Perquimans introduced an amendment providing that the Governor should have leave to prosecute the work or sell, at his option, and pay off the indebtedness of the Company.

Mr. Gilliam of Washington thought we ought not to cast on the Governor the responsibility of selling or retaining—a responsibility which this House ought to assume.

Mr. Outlaw of Bertie was of a similar opinion.

A division of the question was called for, and a vote taken upon striking from the bill Cotten's amendment, which was lost, by a vote of 30 to 43.

After which Mr. Gilliam of Washington offered a substitute that the Gov'r and Int. Imp. Board shall sell out to Marshall Parks, Addison Burt, and others, for $2,000,000, all the rights, privileges and franchises of the C. F. & D. R. Company, and the rights and franchises of the *old Cape Fear Navigation Company, below Fayetteville*—and further, that the State shall grant no aid to any other works except to a road to the N. C. Road.

Mr. Shepherd of Cumberland left the Chair, and by leave of the House was permited to address the body. He remarked that the proposition embodied sentiments so monstrous as to rouse all the feelings of his nature. A degree of liberality had been manifested towards the Eastern part of the State in granting liberal aid to the ship canal; but not satisfied with that, they ask that Marshal Parks and Addison Burt shall have granted to them a monopoly and the sovereignty of the State. I would rather be driven from the House with a censure upon me—yes, would rather bare my breast to the assassin's dagger, and tell him to strike home to the heart, than have this Bill passed. I would rather pass a Bill granting Ten Million of Dollars than so far disgrace the State, by surrendering her sovereignty to these men. I have been taunted by some friends that the State had better appropriate half a million of dollars and buy up the Town of Fayetteville; but pass this bill, and under the operation of the reign of Parks and Burt—the town would soon go down. Parks and Burt have had free access to the lobby of this hall. Are we only fool for men from other States to fatten on? I do not wish to leave my native land; but pass this Bill, make Parks and Burt our sovereigns instead of the Old North State, and all from Cumberland will take up their line of march to other and better lands. Give up the lower Cape Fear, the noblest river in the Southern States, to mere adventurers! No never! never! The chartered rights of the old Cape Fear Company to be surrendered to them! never! I do not stand here as the accuser of the President and Directors of the C. F. & D. R. Company; many of them I know well, men of kindly feelings and honorable sentiments, men who would scorn to do a corrupt thing. But if the alternative is to be pressed upon us, I would rather vote for ten such Bills as came from the Senate than for this bill, which would stamp lasting disgrace upon the State!

Mr. Gilliam of Washington argued the State owned but 3-5th of the C. F. and D. R. and it was but right that the purchasers should acquire the interest in the river below Fayetteville. *The bill had been submitted to the Governor and meets his approbation.* Lobby members have been from Fayetteville and have invaded the sanctity of their seats with garbled statements against the river, and have injured the road.

Mr. Shepherd stated the interest the State has in the old Company below Fayetteville, and the profits the State can realize if coal is carried down. He had said in the outset, with money enough the C. F. and D. R. could be completed, and although he has been stricken down upon his favorite scheme, yet he can never abandon his State pride, or transfer his allegiance to Parks and Burt; but rather prefer that an appropriation should be made—provided the amount is large enough to make permanent locks and dams.

Mr. Jenkins of Warren thought when the bill was read it was a joke or a ruse to bring parties to support the bill as it came from the Senate. He was opposed to the substitute, but in favor of granting an appropriation. Was unwilling to go home without doing something, and the conduct of the House somewhat justified the gentleman from Washington in introducing the substitute, to the bill. He went into the general merits of the work, and would rather appropriate two million dollars than sell the work to Northern men.

Mr. Bridgers of Edgecombe had now road up his mind. If the wealth is there cannot the owners of the land carry the evidence to capitalists and get the stock taken? I shall vote against every proposition except the one that will enable the company to open their books, increase their stock and manage their affairs in their own way. He was opposed to the State becoming the managers of public works. If this company cannot get the stock taken or if the wealth is not on Deep River, the whole scheme should be driven from the house.

Mr. Bullock of Granville moved to amend by striking out the names of Parks and Burt, and inserting the names of J. G. Shepherd, Jenkins, and Bridgers.

Mr. Gilliam moved to strike out that part of the bill restricting the State from extending aid to other works and letting the Governor sell to the highest bidder.

Mr. Dargan of Anson desired to say, he looked upon the substitute as monstrous. The attempt to infringe upon the chartered privileges of the old C. F. Company, so long a source of revenue to the State, was an outrage scarcely heard of in N. C. Legislation. In his youth he was credulous—read Gulliver's travels, Sinbad the sailor, and believed all the read of the marvelous wealth of the regions described. He did not believe in the wealth at Deep River except in part, and was opposed to the bill and the scheme to the bitter end; and felt he was serving the best interests of the State in defeating it.

Whereupon the substitute and all the amendments were voted down, by overwhelming majorities. The parliamentary manœuvre after another was resorted to in order to get a vote upon a motion to strike out all of Cotten's amendments, upon which Mr. Dargan moved to lay the bill on the table; which motion did not prevail.

Mr. Settle thought when the present freshet subsided some of the dams would be washed away; and he wished to wash his hands of such a slippery thing. If it rots, let it rot, rather than expend more money upon a work which at every session of the Legislature is just about to be washed away unless more money was appropriated. He then read from the case of Boner & Crist, to show that at Spring Hill there was but 3 inches water for some weeks, and that in 1859 the "Ready Money" lighter had to be towed over the shoals by a windlass and negroes wading in the water and pushing her over with poles. Imagine a great work and large bodies of coal to be carried down the river with a windlass and poles! He was not to be alarmed by the clamor that we ought not to leave till we had done something for the River. It would be a blessing from kind Providence to have it washed away, rather than lavish more money upon it. He wanted it sold. It will be no reproach to the State to sell her interest in the work. Her investment has proved unprofitable. Pennsylvania is trying to sell out her interest in all her public works. Let us go home; the Governor will not call us back.

Mr. Holmes of New Hanover was not afraid to hear of any of the dams being washed away. The river was the best he knew of. The Hudson river was frozen up 5 months in the year. The Ohio river and the Alabama river were still lower than the Cape Fear. The Companies had bought Steamers of light draught and do now carry all the produce that comes or can come to Fayetteville. He was strongly opposed to a sale or transfer of the State's interest to foreign companies. His constituents are deeply interested in this work. They desired to be the owners of the road, they were stockholders to the extent of tax payers in the State, and on that account were entitled to some consideration at the hands of this body.

Mr. Caldwell of Guilford said the case of Boner & Crist only proved that the Cape Fear was a low river month in the year. If rots, it was then it was the most constant river in the world. Go to Connecticut; Massachusetts, New York, and there their rivers and canals are frozen up five months in the year. The noble Ohio that drains one-half the continent, is sometimes frozen the Cape Fear. Gov. Bragg was a patriot for sending in the message, and would be a wise man if he did not call us back. He has done his duty, let us do ours. He had heard some men say in 1848, they were willing to sell the Raleigh and Gaston road. Where are they now? Driven from the halls of legislation,—and those who had courage were here now. Daniel O'Connell said he loved Ireland, fought for her in life and in death desired his body to lay with her in her soil, and his heart to be sent to Rome. Robert Bruce, the patriot king of Scotland acted in the same way. But when I die, I have no other land to consign my body and heart to but the Old North State. And he desired to be buried there; and also, he wanted her to be a glorious land for his remains to slumber in—glorious for improvements, and wealth, and law and literature.

Mr. Mann of Pasquotank was originally opposed to this measure; his mind had been prejudiced and biassed by garbled statements in the Carolinian; but when the Senate bill came in, which takes the control of the work from the old Directors, he concluded to support it. Parks and Burt are gentlemen of high character; they were here on other business—had not opened their mouths till approached, and then said they would give the amount named in the bill—but he as a North Carolinian could not vote to sell even *to them*, on the terms in the bill introduced by Mr. Gilliam.

On motion of Mr. Ferebee, the House, by a vote of 34 to 24, agreed to reconsider Mr. Cotten's amendment. Whereupon

Mr. Dargan moved to amend, by striking out $300,000, and giving the Company one hundred dollars.

Mr. Erwin of Buncombe thought if this Democratic Legislature granted money to this Company they might prepare to follow the money into the river. The outside pressure from interested persons in these lobbies is greater than he ever saw, and members of this body should be above their influence. He was willing to vote it all he thought it was worth, $100.

The House agreed to strike out $300,000, and on motion of Mr. Green of Franklin it was proposed to give the Company $200,000 whenever private stockholders paid in $100,000.—Upon which he made a very sensible speech.

It was moved to amend this by providing that whenever private stockholders paid in $50,000, the State should pay $100,000, until the State pays $300,000 and individuals $400,000.

Several votes were taken, but not on the main question, and

Mr. Ferebee of Camden introduced a new bill as a substitute, giving the entire franchise to private stockholders, and authorizing the Gov'r to sell the stock in the Cape Fear Navigation Company below Fayetteville.

Mr. Bridgers objected to interfering with the C. F. Co. that has so long been chartered, and objected to the substitute because it allows the stockholders the right to sell the negroes and release them the State on the negroes, and yet take no stock.

Mr. Ferebee replied, but evidently the bill had been pinged in his hand—as he did not seem to make a distinction between the "Cape Fear & Deep River Navigation Company" and the "Cape Fear Navigation Company," upon which Messrs. Bridgers and Ferebee had an interesting discussion.

The bill was withdrawn, and Mr. Outlaw moved to insert $300,000, and make the bill what it was when it came from the Senate; which was lost by a vote of 15 to 46.

Motions of recess and extending the time for adjournment, &c. Much excitement prevailed, but the hands of the clock began to point to 1.

At 10 minutes to 1 o'clock, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Hon. J. G. Shepherd, Speaker; when he rose, and by his feeling and eloquent tones soon calmed down the excitement of the House, and it became as calm and silent as the grave. His valedictory was sensible, manly, free and eloquent, in good taste, and evinced the deepest emotions of the heart. As he took his seat the clock struck 1—an hour which rung the dying knell of the hopes of State aid to your River, and to the River. The Legislature was declared adjourned *sine die*.

At some inconvenience I have endeavored to put on record the spirit and sentiment of the memorable discussion on this Deep River bill. It may be interesting hereafter, as well as now. I disclaim any attempt to give the words of the speakers, and many of their ideas do not appear. All I claim is, that where I attempt to give the ideas, I have endeavored to do it honestly—sometimes scathing, I admit, harsh terms and epithets applied to the Directory and officers of the Company.

Whilst all was excitement in the House, I occasionally stole into the Senate chamber, where all was calm and quiet. They seemed to be listening about as if at a depot waiting for the cars which were too late.

From thence I stepped out to the portico of the noble capitol, and gazed upon the clear and sparkling stars that decked the vault of heaven, and the old oaks that adorn the capital square. All was tranquil—no excitement or passion or anxiety was visible there;—and I could not but think of Davie, Gaston, Toomer, Stanly, Iredell, Strange, Eccles, and a host of others, whose talents elevated the character and affected the legislation of the State, who when in life had mingled in such heated contests as raged within, but who have passed to the tranquility of the grave. With this train of thought I witnessed for the first time the adjournment of a Legislative body. When that occurred, I was a looker on, and rejoiced heartily the instantaneous scattering for darkness of all the unpleasant occurrences of the session, and the apparent determination to carry thence nothing but the recollection of the pleasant and agreeable events.

P. S. Since writing the above, I have met Governor Bragg, and he assures me the member from Washington had misunderstood what he said to him about his substitute bill. That he wished to sell the franchise below Fayetteville, as I was opposed to restricting the State from granting aid to other works leading to the River. [illegible] the State were I but [illegible] works, as the only provision should be made for the repose of it in some way. That portion of the bill met his approbation, and that portion only. But he regrets that he was misunderstood by the member from Washington as I do, I am satisfied, was a mere misapprehension on his part. He is too noble and too honorable to mistate, except in a mistake. [illegible] what the Governor said when [illegible] him.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

C. F. & D. R. BILL IN THE SENATE.

RALEIGH, Feb. 2.

MESSRS. E. J. HALE & SON: Knowing that another correspondent will furnish you a full account of the action of the Commons on the Deep River Bill, permit me to detail that of the Senate, in order that your paper may have a "faithful record" of the action of both Houses on it.

This bill has been more thoroughly lobbied than any other bill ever before the N. C. Legislature—the Governor, Treasurer, and every influence about Raleigh, together with ex-Governors, ex-Chargés and ex-and *would-be* every thing else, was brought to its aid.

[illegible]

HOW TO TAKE OUT THE SCENT.

Sitting on the piazza of the Cataract, was a young, loppish looking gentleman, his garments very highly scented with a mingled odor of musk. A solemn-faced, old looking man after passing the dandy several times, with a look of aversion which drew general notice, suddenly stopped, and in a confidential tone, said;

"Stranger, I know what'll take that scent out of your clothes; you—"

"What! what do you mean, sir?" said the exquisite, fired with indignation, starting from his chair.

O, get mad, now—swear, pitch round, fight—just because a man wants to do you a kindness!" coolly replied the stranger. "But I tell you I know what'll take out that smell—phew!—You just bury your clothes—bury 'em a day or two. Uncle Josh got a foul of a skunk, and he—"

At this instant there went up from the crowd a simultaneous roar of merriment, and the dandy very hastily "cleared the house" and rushed up stairs.

Long Sermons.—At the South Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the presiding Bishop decided long sermons, except on very special occasions, to be improper, contrary to the discipline, to the practice of the "Fathers," and, to some extent, subversive of the ends of the Christian ministry.—The limit, on ordinary occasions, according to the Bishop, should be from thirty to forty-five minutes.

Wonders Will Never Cease.—We have long since exhausted our faculty of wonder. Hence we are not at all astonished from the following advertisement clipped from the N. Y. Herald:

"Matrimonial Guide Book and Fortune's Register."—Containing the name, address and personal description of the most fashionable belles, not only in the Fifth Avenue of New York, but in all the large cities of the Union, together with reliable statements of the exact fortune (whether in their own right or in prospect) of more than five thousand marriageable ladies. As but a limited number of this truly unique and valuable work have been published, and no second edition will be issued and it cannot be procurred at any book store, persons desiring a copy forwarded by mail, post-paid, to any part of the United States, should enclose one dollar without delay to the address of ——, N. York Post Office."