

Yeats, Gilmer, Walker, Thomas, of Haywood, Thomas, of Davidson, and Shepard, joined in a...
The bill then passed its second reading.
And the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A message was received from the Senate, transmitting a Resolution in relation to the Assistant Engineering Clerks.
Mr. Stanley moved to lay the Resolution on the table.
Mr. Melan moved indefinite postponement of the Resolution. Carried.

The following engrossed bills were received from the Senate and passed last reading:
A bill to amend the act for perfecting the title of lands heretofore entered. To appoint new Commissioners on the Bridge over French Broad River, in Buncombe county. To incorporate Union Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Coleman introduced a bill for the relief of certain citizens of Buncombe county, which, on motion of Mr. C., was directed to be printed, and referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Hicks introduced a bill to incorporate Marion Carriage Company.
Mr. Ballard introduced a bill to provide for the better regulation of the town of Gatesville, in the county of Gates. Referred to committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Bragg introduced a bill to allow parties appealing from Justices' judgments to carry such appeals either to the County or Superior Courts. Referred to committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Fowbe introduced a bill to prevent fishing in the mouth of — Creek in Camden county. Referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Miller introduced a resolution to send a message to the Senate, proposing to set apart a parcel of land for appointing Justices of the Peace, which was modified by setting apart two acres, and adopted.

Mr. Stanley introduced a resolution to send a message to the Senate, to establish a Joint Rule by which a joint committee on Public Grounds and Buildings should be appointed. Adopted.

Mr. Steek introduced a bill to amend the 3rd section of the 73rd chapter of the Revised Statutes. Referred to committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Alkin introduced a resolution to adjourn sine die on the 15th of January, which, on motion of Mr. Wade, was laid on the table.

A message was received from the Senate, transmitting the following engrossed Bills and Resolutions:
A bill to establish a Toll Bridge across the French Broad River. Referred to committee on the Judiciary.

To provide for the settlement of Estates. Referred to committee on the Judiciary.
A Resolution in favor of Thos. Riddick. Referred to the committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Dancy, from the committee on Private Bills, reported favorably to the bill to incorporate Currier Lodge of I. O. O. F. in Beaufort. Also, to incorporate Phalanx Lodge of the Order of Masons, in the Town of Charlotte; passed its 2nd reading. Also, to incorporate the Mutual Life Insurance Company in the State of North Carolina; passed its 2d reading.

Mr. Rayner, from the committee on Internal Improvements, reported favorably to the bill to authorize Wm. R. Abbott to cut a Canal and make a Turnpike thereon, in the county of Pasquotank; passed its 2d reading.

The same gentleman reported unfavorably to the bill to clear out certain creeks and swamps in the county of Columbus.

Mr. Brogden moved to lay the bill on the table. Lost. Mr. Stevenson moved a reconsideration of the vote to lay on the table. Carried. The bill was then laid on the table.

Mr. Courts, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported favorably to the bill to alter an Act concerning a Road in the county of Iredell; passed its 2d reading.

Also, favorably to the bill authorizing Cornelius Shield to build a bridge across Bear Creek in the county of Moore; passed 2d reading.

Mr. Steele, from the committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill to amend the 73d ch. Rev. Stat. reported a substitute proposing material alterations to the Militia Laws of the State, which was adopted.

Mr. Caldwell, of Guilford, moved to lay the bill on the table and print. Carried. Also, favorably to the bill to incorporate the Wake county Rifle Company; passed 2d reading.

Mr. Satterthwaite, from the Select committee to whom was referred Whitney's plan of a Rail Road, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted by a vote of 70 to 24:

1st. Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, That we approve of the project of Mr. Am Whitney of New York for the construction of a Rail Road from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Ocean. It being an individual enterprise.

2d. Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolution to each one of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to the Governor of the several States of this Union.

Mr. Satterthwaite moved to take up and consider the bill to repeal an act to establish the county of Polk. Carried. The bill passed 2d reading.

Mr. Dobbin moved to make the bill to establish a Bank in Fayetteville, the special order of the day for Tuesday next. Carried.

On motion of Mr. Steele, the House adjourned.

SENATE.

Saturday, Dec. 30, 1846.

The following Bills from the House passed their first reading:
The engrossed bill to amend ch. 94, Rev. Stat. for the relief of James Stuart, of Cherokee county, to incorporate Pauline Encampment, I. O. O. F. in the Town of Washington; to authorize the Inspectors of provisions; to secure the more certain administration of justice; to exempt the Wardens of the Poor's County Prisons from militia duty; to incorporate Antioch Academy, in Robeson; to amend an Act of 1845, giving the County Court of Lincoln, exclusive jurisdiction over a certain public road.

The message from the House, to raise a committee on the Public Grounds, was concurred in.
Mr. Gilmer, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill supplementary to the act for dividing the county of Stokes, with amendments. They lie over.

Mr. Halsey, from the Joint Select Committee, reported arrangements for inducing into office the Governor elect. Concurred in.

The following engrossed bills from the House passed their first reading:
To incorporate the Duplin Guards. To amend the 4th ch. Rev. Stat. To incorporate the Grand Lodge of I. O. O. F. of North Carolina. To extend the corporate limits of the town of Lincolnton. Resolution for the relief of the County Court Clerk of New Hanover county. In favor of H. B. and Kinney. The bill to regulate the taking of depositions to be read in the Courts of other States. To incorporate Union Chapter, No. 17, in Beaufort. To alter the time of holding the meetings of the County Courts of Lincoln and Gates. To regulate the duties of Sheriffs. To empower the Justices of the Peace of New Hanover to sell their Poor House. To amend an act entitled an act to incorporate the Orange Canal and Turnpike Company. To amend an act supplementary to an act passed in 1843, to lay out and establish McDowell county. To incorporate Nene Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F. in Goldsboro. To in-

corporate Governor, under No. 17, I. O. O. F. in Greenville to amend an act entitled an act concerning Weights and Measures. To incorporate the Newbern Manufacturing Company. To alter the time of holding the Superior and County Courts of Lenoir. To amend and revise the 7th section of a supplementary act to lay out and establish the county of Johnston. More effectively to suppress the traffic with slaves.

Mr. Fowler offered a resolution empowering the committee of Privileges and Elections to employ a clerk, which, by general consent, was read three times and passed.

On motion of Mr. Gilmer, Mr. Lillington was examined from the said committee, and Mr. Smith appointed in his place.

Mr. Worth presented a bill to incorporate the City Mining Company.

Mr. Conner, a bill to improve the navigation of the Catawba river, which, with a memorial, was referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Passed third reading: The bill to open and improve the road from Ashe to Yancey county; to amend the 2d section 99th ch. Rev. Stat. entitled Religious Societies.

The resolution calling on the Treasurer for information concerning Internal Improvements, &c., in this State, was taken up.

Mr. Woodfin moved to amend, by calling for similar information from all other States, and remarked, that the proposed object of the resolution was to obtain information for the Senate; but the real effect, whether so intended or not, of the argument which precedes the resolution, was to project the public mind against the different projects which are brought forward for the benefit of the State.

Mr. Walker argued, that the effect of the amendment would be to defeat the object of the resolution, and deny the information called for, and its introduction was a want of courtesy.

Mr. Gilmer could not understand the gentleman from Mecklenburg. He viewed the resolution as calling for information to direct the action of the House. Where was the want of courtesy in extending the information farther? For, if the information first called for was necessary and useful, surely the extending it to other States could not be destructive. After a few other remarks, the discussion on this subject was suspended.

And the Senate proceeded to the order of the day, being the bill to provide for the establishment of a State Hospital for the Insane in North Carolina.

The bill was then read by sections, being open for amendment.

Mr. Gilmer remarked, that this subject had been under consideration for some four or five weeks, and he was prepared to vote for the bill. If there were objections to the bill, he hoped they would now be indicated, in order that they might be answered. The distinguished lady, who has pressed the subject upon the attention of the Legislature, and who had his success much at heart, could not long remain here, and he could see no reason for any further delay.

Mr. Boyer moved to postpone the bill, and make it the order of the day for Thursday next.

Mr. Patterson said, it was well known that this measure would be one of the most prominent before the General Assembly; and it seemed to him that ample time had been allowed for every one to make up his mind upon it. Now that the Session was drawing to a close, he did think that this matter should be disposed of.

Mr. WASHINGTON said—
Mr. Speaker: I do not rise to make a speech, upon the bill now before the Senate; I hope and believe that it is unnecessary; and if it were otherwise, I am not prepared at this time to do justice to the interesting subject to which it relates. But Sir, regarding it as I do, the most important bill which has been, or will be, brought up during the present Session, I cannot suffer the vote to be taken without expressing the deep interest which I feel in its fate, and my ardent desire that the Senate will on this last Legislative day of the present year, pass it unanimously. Disconnected as it is from political strife and party warfare, and appealing as it does not only to our sympathies as men, but to our justice, our patriotism, and our pride, as legislators, it is a measure in the support of which we may all unite heart and hand, and in the consummation of which, we should all delight to share.

For what, sir, are we here assembled? To do the will and alleviate the wants of our constituents—to improve the physical, intellectual and moral condition of the people of the State. What has been done in the accomplishment of this great and glorious object? Much, I am proud to say, much has been done. We have provided for feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, for educating the orphan, and protecting the helpless and disconsolate widow. We have supplied eyes to the blind, tongues to the dumb, and ears to such as could not hear. But yet the raving maniac, bereft of reason, and forsaken of men, has been left by the Legislature of North Carolina, to pine away in misery, desolation, and wretchedness. Sir, why is this so? Are they not flesh, that they can feel pain? Have they not immortal souls which must be saved or lost? Can we not minister to minds diseased? Is there no relief for the sufferings of the Lunatic's short of the grave? Yes, thank God, there is "balm in Gilead," even for their troubles—there is a healing, even for the lites which they are heir to. But it is to be found, Sir, not in darkness and in chains—not in harsh measures, or cruel restraints, but in proper and proper medical treatment, and the exercise of those eternal principles of benevolence, of charity, and of Love. To alleviate the untold sufferings of this numerous and unfortunate class of our Fellow Citizens, is the aim and object of the bill now before the Senate. It is a measure which in justice to them, to ourselves, and to our constituents, we ought to pass unanimously and at once. It is a measure, the consideration of which, we dare not postpone. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact, that there are at this moment within the borders of North Carolina, one thousand Lunatics, epileptics, and idiots, who are utterly incapable of taking care of themselves, and must be taken care of by others. Sir, how shall this be done? They must either be left to go at large, be confined in private dwellings, or the poor houses and public jails of their respective counties, or be transferred to Hospitals, provided expressly for their accommodation and relief. The safety of the individual, as well as the security of the public, requires that the raving maniac should not be suffered to go at large. There are Senators on this floor who know the fact, that an insane man is now going at large in this city, who has committed a homicide for which he was considered entirely irresponsible, and has therefore never been tried or arrested. Sir, this ought not to be. But where is the remedy? Will you confine the madman at his own home, and among his friends? Alas, too many are without homes and without friends; while others know at their homes and among their friends, though but pinching want and small poverty. But even among the wealthier classes of the community, where all the physical wants of life can be supplied, and even comforts and luxuries afforded, the confinement of insane persons in private dwellings, has been found not only painful to friends, but highly injurious to the Lunatic. One of the greatest masters of the human mind previous to us said, "Earth knows no rage like love to hatred turned, and it is a remarkable fact, that insane persons generally conceive the strongest dislike, and the most bitter hatred towards their nearest and dearest friends. Hence, it has been found from actual experience, that confinement of the insane at home and among their friends, has always aggravated the disease; and that a change of scene, of air, and of associates, was in special cases necessary to every

Will you confine them in the poor houses of your respective counties? Mr. Speaker, you and I know very well how those are generally conducted; but who conducted with all the decency and propriety possible, can they answer the desired object? Can they do more than alleviate the physical wants of the sufferer? Can they do anything for his mental maladies? Can they furnish even the requisite safety to the individual, or security to the public? No, Sir, No!

Will you then, confine the poor, miserable, but unoffending maniac to your county prisons? Will you thus put millions on an equality with crime? Will you degrade high-minded, honorable men, by an unwelcome and forced association with the felon and the murderer? Will you condemn the unfortunate, but innocent maniac to life-long confinement in chains and darkness—to hopeless despondency and gloom, in a place where joy never yet entered? In a place where honors only reign? Where groans are his music, and sorrow his companion?

Mr. Speaker, I do not possess the power of the orator; if I did, could, on this subject, secure an audience which would borrow up the spirits of Senators, and make their very souls rise in melody, at the monstrous oppression inflicted upon this poor and unfortunate class of our fellow-men.

Not only, sir, does every generous emotion of the soul, but every consideration of policy and of interest, proclaim the necessity and propriety of Hospital treatment for the Insane. There, the proper medical assistance and moral discipline can at all times be procured—there, the finer and nobler feelings of the heart be cherished and developed.

But, Mr. Speaker, where is this treatment to be found? In distant States? Sir, the poor cannot be carried there at all; and the rich, only at great risk, much inconvenience, and heavy expense. It has been ascertained by actual calculation, based upon authentic statistical information, that the money now expended for the support and medical treatment of our Lunatics at the Hospitals of other States, is amply sufficient to support a Hospital within our own borders; the advantages and benefits of which, the poor might share.

Besides, sir, shall the proud and patriotic State of North Carolina—the glorious "Old North," be dependent upon her sister States for the support, maintenance and care of her Insane? Sir, the idea is revolting to my feelings as a man—it is mortifying and humiliating to my pride as a Statesman. Disguise it as you may, shrink from it if you will, but there is one course for us to pursue on this subject, consistently with our duty to our fellow-men, to ourselves, or to our God; and that is, to establish at once, a Lunatic Asylum at home. Why should we hesitate? This is no new question before the Legislature of North Carolina. As early as the year 1825, the General Assembly adopted the following Preamble and Resolutions, which I beg leave to read:

"WHEREAS, it has pleased Almighty God, in His wise Providence, to visit many of our race with mental malady, producing obscurations of the light of reason, sometimes partial and temporary; and whereas, it hath been ascertained by experience, that like those of the body, they are curable of cure, and often yield to skillful and judicious treatment; and whereas, the management of these afflictions of the mind, require the use of means which can only be successfully applied in Institutions set apart for that purpose; and whereas, the sufferers under such calamities have a just claim upon the sympathy and assistance of all those who enjoy the inestimable blessing of sound understanding; and whereas, in other nations and in other States, Asylums, magnificently endowed, have been established by public authority, manifesting this sympathy, and affording this assistance, whose exertions have been signally blessed and prospered by the Almighty; and whereas, in this work of enlightened benevolence, dictated by humanity, approved by religion, and encouraged with success by Heaven, North Carolina hath yet made no effort; and whereas, it is a charity which every people, generous, humane, and intelligent, should commence with fervor and pursue with zeal, in which emulation is virtue, and success is glory; therefore,

"Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina: That it is expedient to establish and endow a Lunatic Asylum in this State.

"Resolved further, That Bartlett Yancy and John Stuart be appointed Commissioners to collect information, and prepare a plan to carry into effect the object of the foregoing Resolution; and that they report such plan as they deem advisable, with an estimate of the expenditure necessary to its execution, to the next General Assembly."

The Preamble and Resolutions which I have just read, Mr. Speaker, are the production of one of the most gifted minds in this or any other country. They were drawn up by the Rev. Dr. Hawks—under circumstances of peculiar and touching pathos; which decency and propriety forbid me to mention; and would, no doubt, have been carried out by the Legislature, but for the untimely fate of the distinguished gentleman appointed to effectuate the object of the Resolutions. From that time to the present, the Executive Department of the Government has continued to furnish the Legislature with the most important statistical information on this interesting subject, and to urge them to action, in terms at once eloquent, solemn and impressive; and yet, Sir, up to the present Session, nothing has been done by the representatives of the people to remedy the evil complained of. And even now, on this day, we are told the time has not yet arrived for action on this subject; that the people are not prepared for this important work. Sir, when will a more convenient season ever arrive? Why should we delay our action on this great and glorious work? Are not new cases of insanity accumulating daily? Are not the cases already existing becoming every day more difficult of cure? Are not hundreds of our fellow-men sinking to the grave averse, deprived of their reason, wretched and miserable? Sir, we must not falter—we dare not hesitate. It has been reserved for us to complete the good work which our forefathers began. It is an honor of which I am proud; it is a duty which I dare not neglect.

But, Mr. Speaker, how shall this Hospital be built? It is ascertained that an establishment to accommodate two hundred and fifty persons, cannot be built for less than eighty-six thousand dollars. How is this amount to be raised? "That is the rub."

Some gentlemen say, let us appropriate a small amount at the present session, as an entering wedge, and leave the balance to be provided by succeeding Legislatures. Sir, I am opposed to that course. I am unwilling thus to deal with the people. In the course of my experience, I have found that it is best always to deal honestly, fairly and candidly with our constituents. If we do what is right, the people will always sustain us. At that principle, I am for providing (\$86,000) eighty-six thousand dollars, the whole amount necessary for this work, now, and by this bill.

Again, Sir, it is insisted that we should appropriate the amount necessary for the work out of the Treasury, and leave future Legislatures to provide for the payment of the money. To this, Sir, I am opposed. We have already expended a sufficient amount of money, without providing the ways and means of raising it. "Out of debt out of danger," is an admirable motto, not only in private but in public affairs; and anxious as I am for the success of this work, I would not now a dollar for it, without at the same time providing ways and means of raising it. The bill now before the Senate is admirably framed for that purpose, and the author of the 2nd section (Mr. Dobbin) is justly entitled to the thanks, not only of the Legislature, but of the people of the State at large. Under its provisions, the amount necessary to be

raised in four years, will be the least possible inconvenience to the people. But, Sir, the idea of taxation, in any degree horrible to the minds of our constituents. I am glad it is so. "Thank God, our people are comparatively free from taxation."—Without taxable property than we possess, Maryland raises from her people more than half a million of dollars yearly, by taxes; while we collect out of our people, for State purposes, only about \$89,000; less than the revenue of the City of Richmond alone.

Where, sir, is the oppression of the people under this bill? It exists only in the imagination of Senators; it can not be shown by calculation, or supported by figures. Under its provisions, the poor man with five hundred dollars worth of land and no slaves, pays about eight and three-quarter cents per year; and in about four years acquires five cents; hardly the price of two good water-melons! Now, sir, suppose you were to start out with a subscription to raise money for this noble object? Do you believe you would find a man, however poor he might be, who would not willingly and cheerfully give his fifty cents, or his quarter of a dollar. No, sir, not one!

But, sir, it was said by the Senator from Ashe (Mr. Boyer) that he could not vote for the bill, because the money is to be raised by taxation on lands and negroes only, not even embracing town property. The Senator certainly spoke without reflection, for slaves in towns are certainly taxed by this bill, and town lands being included under the term "land," will be compelled to contribute their full share to this noble and patriotic work. And pray, sir, why should this tax not be put upon lands and negroes?

Who are the special objects of our care, under this bill? They are pauper Lunatics, who are now supported by the poor tax of the respective counties in the State, which is levied chiefly upon lands and negroes. When this hospital shall be completed and the Lunatics removed to it, the expense of supporting them in the Counties will cease; and for that reason, the several County Courts of the State, are authorized and empowered by this bill, to reduce the poor tax of the county, in precisely the same ratio in which the tax to the State is increased; so that in fact, the tax levied and raised under this Act, will not be an additional tax, but will simply be transferred and paid to the State, instead of the several counties.

But, Mr. Speaker, suppose we were to hear that on some distant Island of the Sea, there were ten citizens of our beloved State confined in dark and gloomy dungeons, without the possibility of hope of relief or rescue, save by our interference? Think you we would stop to count the cost of a few dimes or dollars, in extracting them from their position? No, sir, we should be ready to sacrifice our lives, our fortunes, our all, for their relief. Then, why should we draw back, or hesitate now? There are ten times ten, at our very doors, in a much worse condition.

Mr. Speaker, the work in which we are engaged is grand and glorious; worthy the emulation of us all. It shall receive my cordial and zealous support, regardless of all consequences. Yes, Sir, I would vote for this bill if I knew it was to be the last act of my public life.

gentlemen need not fear however, to meet their constituents on this question. The people are generally more just, more generous than their Representatives. I have the honor to represent on this floor an enlightened and liberal constituency, who know how to feel the woes of others. And, sir, whatever other political sins or blunders I may have committed, for my vote on this measure, I shall expect to receive at their hands the welcome plaudit of—"Well done, good and faithful servant." I say to my friends on this floor, be of good cheer. Before we have the bright example of our sister States, to guide and direct our steps on this subject; around us we have the approving smile of woman—"Heaven's best, best gift to man," to urge us on to this our duty. In the eloquent language of another, "I conjure you then, by your duty as wise legislators, by all the feelings of humanity and philanthropy, by the precepts of our Holy Religion, to resolve never to leave the seats which you now occupy, or to behold your fellow creatures who are deprived of reason, hope, friends and relatives—who are chained in the mad-house, or locked up in jail.

Sir, I could be glad to place my name side by side with that gentleman's, in favor of so great and good a cause, as opening a home for the poor, crazy maniac. And in doing so, I consider we would build a monument to ourselves, for our children and our children's children, to look upon, when we have passed away, and, promptly pointing to it, say, he had relations on the last day of the year, A. D. 1846, whose hearts could feel for, and whose ears could hear the lamentations and cries of the Insane of the good old North State.

Mr. Speaker, it has been urged that the further consideration of this subject should be postponed until a Revenue bill should be matured. Sir, why should we delay on that account? What, sir, does this bill ask for, to complete this Institution? I answer, it proposes to lay a tax of 1 1/2 cents on the hundred dollars worth of land, and 5 cents on the poll, for four years, which will raise money enough to complete the work. Yes, sir, or the man who pays for the poll, and one hundred dollars worth of land, by this bill, required to pay 6 1/2 cents a year, for four years, which will be for the whole cost 27 cents! And where is the man who would not give double that sum for the relief of one poor, unfortunate maniac? Here, Mr. Speaker is a duty to perform, and to-day let us take this subject upon its own merits, and pass the bill unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I again report to the Senator from Lincoln, that if he will consent to forego the pleasure of recording his vote on the final passage of the bill, for the sake of a few who may feel difficult in voting for it, I shall be much obliged; and will say that I will not draw another draft upon his magnanimity during the present session. And, Mr. Speaker, I feel satisfied that no date which you have been called upon to perform during this session, has been so pleasant as, when the vote is taken, that you may have the pleasure of announcing that this bill has passed unanimously—without a single No!

The Speaker noticed his assent, Mr. Conner yielded, (though with the remark that the bill could not pass unanimously,) and the bill passed its third and last reading.

was provided, where skillful and experienced managers would have the supervision and control of the patient. These three, whose cases were hopeless, might likewise receive the care and attention their condition required. I therefore most earnestly recommend, that ample provision be made for the education of the deaf, dumb and blind, for the restoration of the same, if practicable, and for the comfortable sustenance of all.

It may be said this is not a propitious time to undertake so great a work. A century has passed, and the time has not come. Another may pass, and it still may not come. If a bounteous Providence were to withhold his favors from us, so long as we withhold ours from his afflicted children, how quickly would we make that propitious time arrive! Now is the time. You have only to will it, and it is done. The means are at your command. That miserly constituent, who grudgingly yields the little portion which he would be required to contribute towards so good a work, deserves not the showers and sunshine of Heaven, and need not be—for a blissful fatuity. Without the aid of your benevolence, the government, gentlemen, that unfortunate class may bid farewell to hope, and welcome despair."

So anxious was Mr. G. as Governor Morehead on this subject, that on the very last day of his official term, in reply to the Speaker of the House of Commons, he used the following language:

"To those classes of our population, who are poor and friendless, you stand in the place of parents and guardians; without your aid, they have nothing to hope; and shall they look to you in vain?"

It is more than probable, that this is the last official communication I shall have the honor to make to your honorable body. Tomorrow covers the political life that now unites me. I retire from the distinguished position I now occupy, I leave it, pleading in behalf of those unfortunate and helpless creatures, who are unable to plead for themselves, and whose happiness or misery awaits your action.

I conjure you, then, by your duties as wise legislators; by all the feelings of humanity and of philanthropy; by the precepts of our Holy Religion, to resolve never to abandon the seats which you now occupy, nor to behold your fellow creatures who are deprived of reason, hope, friends and relatives—who are chained in the mad-house, or locked up in jail.

Mr. G. exclaimed, Mr. Speaker, this is a case of humanity—a cry that comes up from all the land, round about—an appeal for relief, urged to our most serious consideration by every principle of Christian philanthropy. Educated and nurtured by a pious mother, he had been, he should not feel until we had carried out this project.—"Talk about taxation! Among the people of North Carolina they will be found more liberally, more philanthropically, than Senators seem to be aware of. He would say to the gentleman over the way, that if any miserly constituent should complain of this small tax, tell him to visit his own county jail—there for a few moments inhale the sickening and noxious vapors of a dungeon, that now is, and has been for years, the home of some unfortunate fellow-being, whose only crime is the loss or affliction of mind. Then discuss the necessity of this law—provoke the miserable inmate to conversation—ask him where are his friends?—Why they do not feed and clothe him? Hear him reply, either that he has no friends, or that they are few and so poor, that in answer to his cry for bread, they can only return their sighs, and leave nothing wherewith to slake his thirst, but their gushing tears; and that such is the nature of his affliction, that they flee in terror at his approach. Talk of a little tax, in this humane and noble effort to relieve and ameliorate the condition of the poor and distressed lunatics and maniacs of the State—in this struggle to save and restore great and noble minds! Let that Senator sustain this bill, and he may be assured that it will not only increase his friends on earth, but will add stars to his crown of rejoicing in that great day, when the beings for whose benefit this bill is presented, cared of their maladies by the Great Physician, shall arise up in judgment against those who withhold their aid.—He would repeat, now is the time, and he hoped this bill would now receive the unanimous votes of the Senate.

The passage of the bill upon its third reading being about to be put, Mr. Conner, of Lincoln, called for the Ayes and Noes; when

Mr. Thomas, of Davidson, said—
Mr. Speaker—rise at this late hour, to detain the Senate but a very short time, upon the subject of the State's building a Lunatic Asylum. Indeed, sir, my principal object in rising, is to ask the Senator from Lincoln (Mr. Conner) to withdraw his call for the Ayes and Noes upon this question. I anticipate the reasons which have prompted that Senator to make the call—that his benevolent heart is touched at the wailings and cries of the frantic maniac, and that he desires, with me and others, to record his vote in favor of the call of that unfortunate class of our fellow beings, who are deprived of reason, hope, friends and relatives—who are chained in the mad-house, or locked up in jail.

Sir, I could be glad to place my name side by side with that gentleman's, in favor of so great and good a cause, as opening a home for the poor, crazy maniac. And in doing so, I consider we would build a monument to ourselves, for our children and our children's children, to look upon, when we have passed away, and, promptly pointing to it, say, he had relations on the last day of the year, A. D. 1846, whose hearts could feel for, and whose ears could hear the lamentations and cries of the Insane of the good old North State.

Mr. Speaker, it has been urged that the further consideration of this subject should be postponed until a Revenue bill should be matured. Sir, why should we delay on that account? What, sir, does this bill ask for, to complete this Institution? I answer, it proposes to lay a tax of 1 1/2 cents on the hundred dollars worth of land, and 5 cents on the poll, for four years, which will raise money enough to complete the work. Yes, sir, or the man who pays for the poll, and one hundred dollars worth of land, by this bill, required to pay 6 1/2 cents a year, for four years, which will be for the whole cost 27 cents! And where is the man who would not give double that sum for the relief of one poor, unfortunate maniac? Here, Mr. Speaker is a duty to perform, and to-day let us take this subject upon its own merits, and pass the bill unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I again report to the Senator from Lincoln, that if he will consent to forego the pleasure of recording his vote on the final passage of the bill, for the sake of a few who may feel difficult in voting for it, I shall be much obliged; and will say that I will not draw another draft upon his magnanimity during the present session. And, Mr. Speaker, I feel satisfied that no date which you have been called upon to perform during this session, has been so pleasant as, when the vote is taken, that you may have the pleasure of announcing that this bill has passed unanimously—without a single No!

The Speaker noticed his assent, Mr. Conner yielded, (though with the remark that the bill could not pass unanimously,) and the bill passed its third and last reading.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Wilkins introduced the following resolution: Resolved, That this House, from and after Monday next, take a recess from half after 1 o'clock until 3 P. M.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Johnson introduced a resolution authorizing

the Public Treasurer to pay certain monies to the President and Directors of the Liberty Bell, referred to the committee on Finance.

Mr. Turner moved to make the bill to incorporate the Charlotte and Danville Rail Road Company, the order of the day for Tuesday next at 4 o'clock. On this motion, there was an animated and somewhat protracted discussion, which was participated in by the following gentlemen: Moore, Rayner, Leach, Stevens, Shobe, Farringer, Keene, Jones, of Orange, Standy, Corris, McMillon, Caldwell, of Guilford, Caldwell, of Burke, Satterthwaite and Dobbin.

Mr. Percees from the committee appointed to make arrangements for inducing into office the Governor elect, reported a plan of arrangements, which was concurred in by the House.

The bill to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Watauga, passed its 2nd reading.

Mr. McDowell moved to make the bill for the creation of a new county by the name of Graham, the order of the day for Wednesday next at 3 o'clock. Carried.

The order of the day, the bill in relation to fishing in Albemarle Sound, was then taken up, and Mr. Ballard took the floor and protested to discuss the merits of the bill.

On motion of Mr. Dobbin, the House adjourned.

SENATE.

Monday, Jan. 1, 1847.

After some discussion sprung up by Mr. Conner, with respect to the vote by which the same Hospital bill was passed on Saturday.

Mr. Moye moved that the vote by which said bill was passed be reconsidered; which was negatived by Yeas and Nays, as follows: Yeas 21, Nays 23.

Mr. Patterson presented a petition of citizens of Wilkes county in relation to the administration of Justice, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Bell, a petition praying for Legislative action on the Outflow and Harlow's Creek Canal, which was referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Albright, a resolution calling for information from the Comptroller, in regard to Cherokee Bonds and the Cherokee Lands.

Mr. Shepard moved that the bill in relation to the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road be made the order of the day for Wednesday next.

Mr. Washington presented a bill to repeal an act passed at last Session relating to Pilots, which passed its first reading.

Mr. Ashe, a bill to locate the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity.

The bill to provide for making a Turnpike Road from Salisbury west to the line of the State of Georgia, was laid upon the table for the present.

The hour of 12 having arrived, the Senate, according to the joint agreement of the two Houses, proceeded to attend the Inauguration of Governor Alexander in the Commons Hall.

When the ceremony was concluded, the Senators returned to their Chamber, and the Speaker resumed the Chair.

The resolution in relation to the Colonial and Revolutionary History of the State, was then taken up and considered.