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PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY CH. C. RABOTEAU,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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TERMS.

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COMMITTEE ON NEGRO SLAVERY.

Monthly Report, submitted by Mr. Avery in the House of Commons, December 11.

The minority of the committee, to whom was referred sundry resolutions upon the subject of negro slavery and federal relations, in addition to the resolutions agreed on by the committee, ask leave to report to the Legislature additional resolutions, to which they request their assent:

The minority believe that the time has arrived when it becomes a matter of imperative necessity, both for the salvation of the Union, and the correct administration of the General Government, that the States should ascertain distinctly whether they have any rights, or whether the terms section of the amendments to the Constitution mean nothing, and should be considered as meaning nothing.

It cannot be denied, that since the establishment of the Constitution of the United States, there has existed two parties in the country, one contending that said Constitution delegated only certain enumerated and defined powers, and that all the powers, incident to sovereignty, which were not thereby granted, were reserved to the States respectively; the other party contending that the Government created by that instrument was a consolidated Government, with no limit to its power but its sovereign will and pleasure. Although in the exercise of ambition, and the strife of sectional interests, these great landmarks of party may have been forgotten for a time, or partially obliterated, still, in the opinion of the undersigned, they cannot be overlooked, without great danger to the people, and a final overthrow of our republican system of Government. To the neglect or forgetfulness of the limited character of our Government, are solely to be attributed our present difficulties and dangers. When we regard the vast extent of the American Union, reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, embracing in its wide domain individuals of every race and nation, and every variety of interests, it requires very little political sagacity to foresee, that if we acquiesce in the doctrine, that the Government at Washington is all powerful, and that the States have no rights, we will very soon erect an imperial tyranny under the form and outward show of a Republic. Let us regard for a moment what would be the condition of the slaveholding States under a consolidated Government.

A consolidated Government must always respond to the wishes of a majority of the aggregate mass of the whole people of the United States.—And can we doubt that what wish is now, or shortly will be, upon the subject of slavery? If we do, we must shut our eyes to numerous signs which are visible in every part of the political horizon. It is said, Congress will never interfere with slavery within the bounds of a State! Even suppose we could have the most undoubted assurance of this fact, there are means of annoyance and destruction of this institution without venturing within the limits of a State, which an all powerful and consolidated Government can easily put into operation. The individual right of resistance to tyranny, or revolution, was certainly not that which was meant by our complicated theory of Government; if it was, a great deal of useless labor was taken to express a right we enjoy in common with the profane slave, or the humblest worm which is trod upon—the mere toad's right!

"That they should take who have the power, And all should leap who can."

It would be an humble boast of our experiment in the science of government to admit, that it meant nothing more than this.

The wise men who framed our Government, were not only lovers of liberty, but they established certain checks and balances with a hope of preserving and perpetuating that liberty, and among the chief and most efficient of these were the rights reserved to the States, in their organized communities as political powers. The true question then for us to decide, is this: does the State of North Carolina, as an organized political community, possess the right to secede or withdraw from the Union, in case the General Government willfully omit or refuse to fulfill her constitutional obligations, or in order to protect her citizens against an unconstitutional or oppressive act of the General Government, and for the purpose of making that protection effectual, can she command the undivided allegiance and assistance of all the individuals within her territory?

Unless the people of the State possess this right, and have not surrendered it by the Constitution of the United States, it is their right to talk of their reserved rights—they have none, and the sooner it is known, the better it will be for all the parties concerned. This right was undoubtedly intended by the framers of our theory of Government as the great safety valve of the Union—the only means by which it could be preserved, and prevented from bursting upon one hand, into consolidation, or the destruction of our liberty; and upon the other, into insurrection and domestic violence, destructive of all order.

It is said by many, who admit the right to exist, that it is imprudent to exercise it. The minority cannot perceive any imprudence in asserting it; but on the contrary, they believe, that its distinct and unequivocal avowal, will do more to settle our difficulties, and awaken the whole North to the danger she is bringing upon the Union, than all the resolutions of resolution, and rebellion we can pass. The majority of the people of a State will never consent to withdraw from the Union, except by the vote of the whole people, and the result of a

conviction, that such a step is the only resource left them to protect their rights from intolerable tyranny and oppression.

Among the few subjects which could possibly induce a State to withdraw from the Union, negro slavery stands pre-eminent. This institution forms the substratum of southern society. It is so intimately connected with our social and domestic relations, that its destruction, or material injury, would not only produce universal poverty, but overthrow States. This vast institution is unknown to a majority of the States of the Union, and is regarded with hostility by a majority of the people of those States; certainly then, if any question can ever arise, of sufficient magnitude to call into action any reserved powers, which may exist, for the preservation of the Union and protection of the people, this question is one.

The minority believe it is a grievous error and a bitter sarcasm, against the honor and justice of the people of the United States, to assert, that the exercise of this power would necessarily destroy our Union. The Constitution of the United States makes provision for its amendment; should any one State determine to withdraw from the Union, before taking that step, she would doubtless inform the rest of the States, and the world, of the reasons which had induced her to take so solemn and important a position. Would it not then be the interest, as well as the duty of the other States, so to amend the Constitution of the United States, as to dissipate all such fears, and remove the danger which had induced the withdrawing State from the Union? We are continually amending State Constitutions; why is it we cannot amend the Constitution of the United States? Is that the only instrument of the kind which is so perfect, that it cannot be amended? Let the constant agitation and discussion of its powers answer the question. Upon this slave question alone, why should not the Constitution be so amended, as to calm the fears of the Southern people, and place it beyond a doubt, that Congress never would, in any manner, attempt to interfere with it, or deny to the southern States their rights as equal members of the confederacy. No doubt, a State, previous to withdrawing from the Union, would propose to the other States such amendments to the Constitution as might think her safety required, and it would be for the other States to decide, whether such amendments were unjust or could not be assented to.

But certainly it is unworthy of American wisdom and experience to say, this constitution cannot be amended, or that we cannot trust the justice and fairness of our countrymen with the task of amending it. The non-slaveholding States, certainly, could not object to settle this question forever, and place it for all future time beyond the reach of political agitation, unless they intend hereafter, when might makes right, to avail themselves of a doubtful or contested power for some injurious purposes. Should the State of North Carolina admit, that she has no right under any circumstances to withdraw from the Union, but must rely for her protection upon what has been called her natural rights, and resort to rebellion or insurrection, she releases thereby her own citizens from all allegiance to obey her commands; for, if she has parted with all her sovereignty, she has no claim to obedience in such an emergency. She may raise the standard of revolt, and collect around her banner all the disaffected and discontented, but in doing so she admits she is guilty of treason, and all who follow her fortunes, may share the fate of traitors. In all civil conflicts "the king's name is a tower of strength," and the soldier is doubly armed, who believes, that his cause is not only just, but lawful.

The right to withdraw from the Union, as a last appeal to the justice and forbearance of the other States, the minority believe is not only indispensable for the safety of the States, but is in strict conformity with our theory and form of government, and was so understood and meant by its framers; else, why was the tenth amendment attached to the Constitution, which expressly reserves to the States all powers not granted? This amendment was attached to the Constitution at the instance of those States which, by their acts of ratification, expressly required it, and among them, none were more urgent than Massachusetts. That State ratified the Constitution with this proviso: "That it be explicitly declared, that all powers not expressly delegated by the aforesaid Constitution, are reserved to the several States to be by them exercised."

What these reserved powers were, or how they were to be exercised, the minority cannot comprehend. If the ultimate right herein insisted on, is denied or abandoned.

The minority will not insist the understandings of the members of the Legislature, by an argument to convince them, that the right herein contended for, is very dissimilar from nullification, nor can it be confounded with that doctrine, except by individuals who are willing to deceive the people to aid their selfish and sinister purposes.

In conclusion, the minority, for fear of misapprehension, beg leave to state, that they propose the following resolutions, with no view of advocating or urging disunion; on the contrary, they yield to none, in their sincere attachment to the Union of the States. They believe the Constitution of the United States, honestly and fairly administered, the greatest triumph of human intellect and virtue, but that in order to insure the object for which it was ordained, it should be administered with the same justice and forbearance, towards the weaker members of the confederacy, with which it was established. When, however, it ceases to pursue the glorious objects of its institution, and is seized upon by a dominant majority to insult and oppress a smaller portion of the confederacy, the only refuge from intolerable tyranny and oppression, will be found under the banner of the several States.

With a view therefore of asserting the rights of the people of North Carolina, and the citizens of the world, that the people of North Carolina do not deny a primary allegiance to their native State, but as an ultimate resort, will rally around her banner in the hour of trial and danger, as the ark of their salvation, the minority propose the following resolutions and ask their adoption:

Respectfully submitted,
HENRY T. CLARK,
W. B. SHEPARD,
G. W. CALDWELL,
W. W. AVERY,
SAM. J. PERSON,
SAM. N. STAVES,
M. H. FLEMING,
W. J. BLOW.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the Constitution of the United States is a compact between sovereign and independent States, and all powers not therein delegated, are reserved to the States respectively—that among the attributes of sovereignty retained by the several States, is that of settling over the operations of the General Government, and protecting her citizens from unconstitutional abuse on the one hand, and securing to them, on the other, a strict fulfillment of the obligations imposed by the Constitution upon the General Government.

Resolved, That the people of North Carolina, as an organized political community, have the right to secede or withdraw from the Union whenever a majority of the people, in convention assembled, shall decide a withdrawal necessary to protect their property or persons from unconstitutional and oppressive legislation by the General Government, or whenever, by the failure of the General Government to fulfill her Constitutional obligations, the people of the State may deem such a step necessary, in order to secure the enjoyment of the rights, privileges and protection guaranteed to them by the Constitution of the United States and in such an emergency, a majority of the people of North Carolina, acting through the organized authorities of the State, would be entitled to the sole and undivided allegiance of all her citizens.

MR. RAYNER'S RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Rayner wished to state that he did not concur with the report of the majority, nor with the views of the minority. He stood by himself and presented the following resolutions, not as a minority report from the committee, but as an individual member of the House. He gave notice that when the report of the majority of the committee was taken up for consideration he should move to substitute his resolutions therefor. The resolutions were read as follows:

WHEREAS, the continued agitation of the various questions connected with the subject of negro slavery is fraught with the most serious and portentous consequences; and whereas, the people of the slaveholding States, feeling duly impressed with a sense of what are their rights, and determined to maintain and defend those rights by all constitutional and lawful means; and whereas, the Union of these States which was designed by its founders and adopted by the people of the respective States, in order to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, and secure the blessings of liberty to them and to their posterity, should be sustained and protected until time and experience have proven it to be utterly incompetent to the answering of these great purposes; and whereas, in case it should become necessary for the slaveholding States to resort to a redress of their grievances, growing out of Northern interference with their domestic institutions, that can be much more effectually attained by unanimity and concert of action than by local legislation or irresponsible conventions:

Resolved, That the institution of slavery, as it exists in the Southern States, is a subject with which the people of the North have neither the constitutional power nor the moral right to interfere, either directly or indirectly, either by legislative enactment or social organization; and that all such interference should be resisted as an unwarranted assault upon our rights.

Resolved, That the territorial lands of the United States, whether purchased by the common treasury, or conquered by the common arms, ought to be free to the common enterprise, and open to the common emigration of all sections alike, that any discrimination by Congress, which shall prohibit the owners of any species of property peculiar to any section would be subversive of that justice and domestic tranquility, and to those "blessings of liberty" which the Constitution was designed to establish, ensure and secure; and that any amendment of the territorial bills passed at the late session of Congress, which shall make such discrimination, would authorize and demand of the slaveholding States, measures of retaliation as hereinafter suggested.

Resolved, That the owners of slaves in the District of Columbia, hold that kind of property under the guaranty of the Constitution, which declares that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law"; and that those who remove slaves from one slaveholding State to another, for the purpose of sale or settlement, are entitled under the Constitution, to all the rights and privileges of slave owners in the States where they may happen to be; that the abolition of slavery in said District of Columbia would further invade a gross breach of faith towards one of the slaveholding States; that such abolition in said District, or such interdiction of the removal of slaves from one slaveholding State to another, could be regarded in no other light than as a blow aimed at slavery in the States; that the passage of either of these measures by Congress could not fail to exert a most injurious influence on the institution of slavery throughout the South, and would authorize and require of the slaveholding States, those retaliatory measures, hereinafter suggested.

Resolved, That the series of acts passed at the late session of Congress, constituting a general

territorial "Compromise," viz: The act admitting California as a State—the act establishing a territorial government for Utah—the act for the adjustment of the Texas boundary—and the act establishing the territorial government of New Mexico—the act providing for the surrender of fugitive slaves—and the act abolishing the slave trade in the District of Columbia—having become the law of the land, and obligatory on all sections, States, communities and persons, ought to be obeyed; and the Executive is bound by the most solemn obligation to see that they are enforced, should any resistance be offered to their execution.

Resolved, That the people of the slaveholding States, yielded much in some of the measures of that "Compromise" for the sake of conciliation and peace, with scarcely a renouncing benefit in the passage of the act for the surrender of fugitive slaves; that the repeal of said fugitive slave law, would be a manifest breach of faith on the part of Congress to which the people of the South cannot assent, and will not, quietly submit; and that, in case of such repeal, the retaliatory measures on the part of the slaveholding States, hereinafter suggested, would be authorized and demanded by the occasion.

Resolved, That any system of organized opposition to the execution of the said fugitive slave law in the non-slaveholding States, either by legislative enactment, by police regulations, by lawless violence, or by overbearing demonstrations of physical force, the result of which shall be to render this law practically inoperative, will also justify and require of the slaveholding States, those retaliatory measures hereinafter suggested.

Resolved, That North Carolina entertains the most sincere and abiding attachment to the Union of these States; that we will not stain and defend the Union, and sustain the constituted authorities of the Government as long as the same can be done consistently with the preservation of our liberties, and the enjoyment of those rights and privileges which the Union was designed to secure, and the Government to protect; that it behoves the Southern States to resort to every mode of redress not incompatible with the Constitution, before they should contemplate the alternative of disunion; and that if disunion must come, they should so act as to throw the responsibility on those who are disposed wantonly to insult us, and to invade our rights.

Resolved, That in case Congress shall hereafter so alter the laws of the last session establishing territorial governments, as to apply to them the principles of the Wilmot Proviso, or should repeal the law providing for the surrender of fugitive slaves, or so change that law as to render it inefficient for the accomplishment of the purpose designed by it, or should pass any law for the abolition of the institution of slavery in the District of Columbia, or interdicting the removal of slaves from one State to another,—it will then be the duty of the slaveholding States to send delegates to be appointed under authority of law to a convention, the business and authority of which convention shall be to devise and recommend to the said slaveholding States respectively such retaliatory measures, not inconsistent with the Constitution, as may be demanded by the exigencies of the occasion, and with a view to obtaining that unanimity and concert of action, without which all attempts at redress will be in vain.

Resolved, That it be and hereby is recommended to the respective slaveholding States of the Union, to provide by law for the assembling of their Legislatures, for the purpose of regulating under the authority of law, the appointment of delegates to said Convention in case of such change by Congress of the territorial bills of the last session, or of the repeal or modification of the fugitive slave law as before suggested, or the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, or the interdiction of the removal of slaves from one State to another; and in case of the necessity of holding such Convention, each State should be entitled to the same number of delegates as it will be entitled to electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States, under the census just taken—the manner of appointing said delegates to be regulated by law in each State as the Legislature thereof may provide—a majority of the delegates appointed to said Convention to constitute a quorum—the manner of voting to be regulated by the convention itself—and that it shall be the duty of said convention when assembled to devise and recommend a series of retaliatory measures, not violative of the Constitution of the United States, to the Legislatures of the slaveholding States for their adoption.

Resolved, That the following propositions among others, be submitted to the notice of the slaveholding States as proper for the consideration of said Convention, in case its assembling shall be necessary, under either of the contingencies before suggested, viz:

The passage of a law (preceded by an amendment of the State Constitution, when necessary) providing for reducing to a state of slavery, all the free negroes within their respective limits, in case they do not leave the State within a certain prescribed period—and the further permanent provision of establishing freedom to any colored person within the fourth degree.

The imposing a personal tax, either specific or ad valorem, by the State Legislatures on all persons who sell goods, wares or merchandise, either the manufacture or growth of, or purchased in, a non-slave holding State.

The granting of bounties by the respective States to manufacturing capital and industry, and the exemption of the same from taxation.

The imposition of a new tax of so much per cent, on all monies expended in the non-slaveholding States, whether for purposes of travel or pleasure, the education of youth, and all purchases made in the same, whether in person or by order; and such other retaliatory measures, the details of

all of which to be regulated by law, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, as may be deemed advisable.

Resolved, That in case a majority of the slaveholding States, shall, through their respective Legislatures, respond favorably to these propositions, then, in case of any change by Congress of the territorial laws of the last session, which shall apply the principles of the Wilmot Proviso, or of the repeal or modification, so as to render it inoperative for the purposes designed, of the fugitive slave law of the last session, or of such resistance generally to the execution of said fugitive slave law in the non-slaveholding States, as shall render it practically inoperative, or of the abolition of slavery by Congress in the District of Columbia, or of the interdiction of the removal of slaves from one State to another, the Governor of this State be, and he is hereby requested to convene the Legislature of this State by proclamation, for the purpose of providing by law for the appointment of delegates to represent this State in said proposed Convention of the slaveholding States, and of taking such further steps in the premises as may be thought meet and proper for the occasion.

Resolved, That whilst we are not to be understood as expressing any opinion in regard to the policy of a tariff for protection, or of the influence of such a system upon the interests of the southern States, or as to the course which should be pursued by southern members of Congress upon this subject, did the causes of our complaint not exist, or should they be hereafter removed, yet as the non-slaveholding States are so much more deeply interested in such protection than the slaveholding States can now be, we therefore think that the Senators and Representatives in Congress from the slaveholding States should firmly oppose all increase of duties on foreign importations, as long as public opinion in the North shall tolerate facilities in their resistance or evasion of the fugitive slave law, and the interference by agitators with our domestic affairs.

Resolved, That the Governor of this State be requested to transmit duly certified copies of these resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States; and that they be requested to lay them before their respective bodies, and also a copy to the Governor of each and every State in the Union, with a request that they be laid before their respective Legislatures.

MR. HILL'S RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Hill, of Caswell, stated that he agreed neither with the majority nor minority of the committee. He asked leave to present the following resolutions, as a report for himself:

Resolved, That the repeal or modification of the fugitive slave law by the Representatives and Senators of the non-slaveholding States, or if it be rendered inoperative by the constituted authorities of the Northern States, will be conclusive evidence to the people of this State, that the aforesaid States desire and intend a dissolution of the Union; and therefore under such circumstances, the people of this State will not hesitate to gratify them.

Resolved, That whenever there is a repeal or modification of the fugitive slave law, so as to weaken and destroy its force and efficiency, by the Senators and Representatives of the non-slaveholding States, or whenever it is rendered inoperative by the constituted authorities of the aforesaid States, the Governor of this State is hereby authorized and required to convene the Legislature of this State at the earliest moment after the happening of either of the aforesaid events, in order to take into consideration the ways and means by which the happiness of the people of North Carolina is to be advanced, their property protected, and their liberties preserved.

Resolved, That the Governor of this State is hereby requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the Governor of each State in the Union, with a request that they be submitted to the Legislatures of said States; and also that a copy be sent to our Senators and Representatives in Congress with the request that they lay them before their respective bodies.

General Assembly.

SENATE, THURSDAY, DEC 12th.

Mr. Courts, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the bill to repeal the act of 1848-49, entitled an act to amend the Charter of the Hickory Nut Turnpike Co.; reported the same to the Senate and recommended its passage. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr. Cameron, from the committee on corporations, to whom the same had been referred, reported the following bills and recommended their passage, viz:

A bill to incorporate the Rock Spring Camp Ground.

A bill to incorporate Coal Spring Tert, No. 363 of Reclabites in Fayetteville. The bill to incorporate the Fayetteville and Warsaw plank road Co. The bill to appoint Commissioners, for the town of Jamestown.

The bill to incorporate the trustees of Topsoil Academy, and the bill to amend an act passed at the last session of the General Assembly entitled an act to incorporate Antioch Academy.

Mr. Drake from the Committee on claims to whom was referred a resolution in relation to the Salisbury and Western Turnpike, made a report and the report was ordered to be printed.

The crossed bill concerning original attachments passed and ordered to be printed.

The bill concerning the duties of Sheriffs in the County of Brunswick, passed.

The bill to incorporate the Fayetteville and Centre Plank Road Co., was read and then passed.

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Brogden rose for the purpose of explanation, and asked leave to withdraw certain expressions employed by him in reference to the Speaker of the Senate, who gave the casting vote in favor of the N. C. R. Road. Mr. B. declined any imputation of disposition to reflect upon his colleague.

A message was received from the Senate announcing the passage of the enrolled bill to incorporate the Raleigh and Greenville P. R. Co., with certain amendments, which were concurred in.

Messrs. Stovall and Jenkins obtained leave of absence for one day, to enable them to attend to their duties as members of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Hill, of Caswell, introduced a bill relative to sales of lands by sheriff. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Piquet, a bill to incorporate a Division of the State of Pennsylvania in Fayetteville.

Mr. Gordon, a bill to incorporate the Yadon Navigation Company. Referred to Committee on Internal Improvements, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wilson, a resolution that a Joint Committee, of two from each House, be appointed to wait on the Governor and inform him of his election, and ascertain when he will be ready to assume the oath of Office.

Mr. Piquet, a bill to repeal an Act of 1844-45 in which that portion of Carter County, called Oconocock, to Hyde. Referred to Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Piquet gave notice that he would move on tomorrow, a resolution limiting the length of Speeches to 30 minutes.

Mr. Fleming, a bill to grant pre-emption rights to actual settlers on Cherokee lands, and moved its reference to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Hayes moved to amend by referring to Joint Select Committee on Cherokee Lands, which was rejected by a vote of Ayes 45, Nays 47 and Mr. Fleming's motion prevailed.

Mr. Steele, a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to alter the punishment for trading with slaves.

Mr. Stevenson, a Resolution requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to make efforts to secure a Hydrographic survey of certain waters.

Mr. Hayes a Bill to suppress gaming with Cards. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Wiggins, a Bill to incorporate Tuscarora Lodge of York Masons.

Mr. Ames, a Bill to incorporate Oxford Division, S. of T. Also, to incorporate Trustees of Tar River Academy.

The special order of the day—being the Bill to appoint Superintendent of Common Schools—was postponed until Saturday; and

THE HOUR OF TWELVE, having arrived, Gen. Saunders continued at much length his remarks on the resolutions of Mr. Brogden relative to the N. C. R. Road.

Mr. Courts next addressed the House, and stated that, though originally opposed to this particular project, he regarded the present resolutions as endeavoring to effect indissiduously what the House had repudiated in another form. So regarding them, he left it to his duty to cast his vote against them.

Mr. Winston made some remarks, substantially assuming the same position with Mr. Courts.

The discussion was further continued by Messrs. Shepard, Wilson, Bond, Martin, &c.

The question recurring on the indefinite postponement of the resolutions, it was carried by the following vote:

Adams, Amis, Avery, D. A. Barnes, Blow, Bogie, A. H. Caldwell, D. F. Caldwell, Campbell, Cherry, Clayton, Cokerlin, Davidson, Boothill, Drake, Dunlop, Durham, Eaton, Erwin, Farmer, Fleming, Floyd, Foy, Foxville, A. G. Foster, A. M. Foster, Gordon, Harrison, G. W. Hayes, J. Hayes, J. H. Hill, Wm. Hill, Johnston, Jones, Kalkan Kelly, A. J. Leach, J. M. Leach, Locke, Love, Marshall, Mauldy, McKoy, McLean, McMillan, Montgomerie, Newson, Parham, Peterson, Piquet, Piquet, Pool, Powers, Rayner, Rollins, Ruffin, Russell, Sanders, Saunders, Sanderson, Scott, Sharp, Shook, Sherrill, Shimpcock, Siler, Simmons, Sloan, Steele, Stevenson, Strubbs, Thornburgh, Thornton, Tripp, Walton, Wang, Webb, Wiggins, Wiley, Williams, and Winston—80.

Those who voted in the negative were Messrs. Bares, J. Barnes, Bond, Byrd, Byrd, Bridges, Brogden, Cotton, Dickinson, Eare, Hackney, Herring, S. P. Hill, Jarvis, Martin, Mathis, McDowell, McCleese, McNeil, Mizell, S. J. Person, T. J. Person, Pope, Rankin, Reardon, Sherrill, Stove, Sutton, Swanson, Taylor, Tharp, Williams, Wilson, Winstead, Johnson and Stewart—39.

SENATE, FRIDAY, DEC. 13.

Mr. Wilby presented the proceedings of a public meeting held in Edenton on the subject of slavery, read and laid on the table.

Mr. Shepard, from the Committee on the Literary Fund, reported a bill to incorporate the Union Institute in Raleigh County, a Normal College; recommending its passage. Mr. S., from the same Committee, reported a bill to change the mode of dividing the proceeds of the Literary Fund, and recommended its rejection.

Mr. Washington, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to repeal the act of the last Assembly, providing for the subject of a system of International, Literary and Scientific exchanges and recommended its passage.

The bill to incorporate the House Guards and the bill to authorize the building of a toll bridge on Dan River in Caswell county, were read the third time and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Woodfin introduced a bill to improve County prisons and to establish houses of correction.—Read first time and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Washington, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill in relation to slaves and free persons of color and other purposes. And also the bill to prevent the Clerks of Courts from issuing certificates to free negroes and free persons of color, reported a substitute.—Read first time and ordered to be laid on the table and printed.

The Resolutions making alterations and improvements in the hall of the House of Commons and in the Senate chamber, were rejected.

The bill to enlarge the powers of the Comm. shoners of the town of Wilmington was read second time and passed.

Mr. Hoke introduced a bill concerning the right of appeal in criminal cases. Read first time and referred to Judiciary Committee.

The bill concerning corporations, and to encourage the investment of capital in mining and manufacturing purposes, were several times read the second time and passed.

The Senate then took up the bill to incorporate a Bank in the town of Washington, and some time having been spent in the editorialization thereof, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A resolution from the Senate in favor of John H. Wheeler, granting him the use of the State Library for twelve months, to aid him in completing his work on North Carolina, was read and adopted.

Mr. A. H. Caldwell introduced a bill to incorporate the Salisbury and Taylorsville Plank Road