

Miscellaneous.

THE "CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION."

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22, 1868.

The convention was called to order at 11 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. G. W. Brodie, ne- gro.

Mr. Glover, of Hyde, appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

Head, negro, gave notice, that Mrs. Harper, colored, would give a lecture, to- night, at the African M. E. Church.

Mr. Patrick offered a resolution, re- questing Gen. Canby to stay collections of debts. Laid over.

Galloway, negro, a resolution, asking Gen. Canby to stay the sale of property until the assembling of the next Legisla- ture. Laid over.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, a resolu- tion requesting the Judiciary Committee to frame an ordinance to make all State and County officers elective by the peo- ple. Laid over.

An ordinance, by Mr. Abbott, reducing the amount of bonds authorized to be issued by the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford R. R. Co., was referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Parker, a resolution in favor of a property qualification for members of the General Assembly for the Commons 8250. Senate \$600. Laid over.

Mr. Tourgee, a resolution of instruction to the Committee to visit Gen. Canby, to inquire whether he would issue an order to stay the collection of debts, except in cases of fraud or wages.

Mr. Pool, a resolution instructing the Committee of 16 to report an article in relation to impeachment. Laid over.

Mr. Tourgee, a section for the Bill of Rights, in relation to rights of persons in criminal cases, providing for speedy trial, &c., and that no one should be made to pay costs, until convicted for an offence. Referred.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, a resolution that members should not receive a per diem for more than 30 days. Laid over.

Mr. Walker, a resolution that the com- mittee of 16 suggest another committee on Miscellaneous Affairs. Laid over.

Mr. Tourgee, a resolution adding the words "Public Charities" to the name of the committee on "Punishments and Penal Institutions." Laid over.

Mr. Mann, a resolution to organize the militia immediately after this convention the per diem.

Mr. Mann withdrew his former resolu- tion in regard to the militia.

Mr. Mann's resolution inviting U. S. officers, on duty at this post, to the floor, was adopted.

Mr. Abbott's resolution, appointing a Committee of three to wait on Gen. Canby, and present matters of public interest, was adopted.

The Chair announced the appointment of the following additional standing com- mittees:

On Privileges and Elections.—Ab- bott, McCabins, Sweet, Forkner, Ful- lington.

On Printing.—Abley, Andrews, Man- ner, Dickworth.

On Contingent Expenses.—King, of Lenoir, Head, negro, Morton, Read, Trog- den.

On Enrolment and Enrollment.—Pool, Durham, French, of Chowan, and Harris, of Wake, negro.

Mr. Holt, of Orange, moved to lay the ordinance on the table, and said the newspapers would tell a great deal more, as he had, than the Convention would like to hear. He called for the yeas and nays, and, being called, they resulted in the ordinance being lost—yeas 22, nays 83.

Mr. Durham moved to strike out that portion of the ordinance which contem- plated expenditures from the State Treas- ury. Not adopted.

The question occurred on the passage of the original ordinance.

Mr. Durham called for the yeas and nays, and the call being seconded, the Secretary proceeded to call the roll.

With the following result, yeas 79, nays 25.

THURSDAY, JAN. 23, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 11 o'clock.

There being no minister of the city present, prayer was offered by Rev. J. W. Hood, (negro.)

Mr. Parker offered a resolution in re- gard to suffrage—prescribing six months residence in the State, and three months in the District, before an election.

Mr. Duckworth, a resolution, instruct- ing the Committee on Education to con- sider and report, as a part of the Consti- tution, that there shall be levied a Poll Tax for Educational purposes, not exceed- ing one dollar. Referred.

Mr. Sullivan, a resolution in regard to pay of members of House of Commons and Senate. (Prescribes five dollars per day for 40 days, and not exceeding \$2.50 for the excess.)

Hays, of Halifax, (negro,) a resolution that no person shall be eligible as Gov- ernor or Lt. Governor, unless he has been a resident of the United States seven years and a resident of this State two years, and shall have attained the age of 25 years and have a freehold of the value of \$500. Referred.

Hays, of Halifax, (negro,) a resolution that no amendment shall be made to the Constitution, disqualifying any citizen, on account of race or previous condition. Referred.

Mr. Hagland, an ordinance regulating the jurisdiction of the Courts of Law and Equity. Referred.

Mr. Tourgee, an ordinance authorizing the creation of a County Registering Board with power to disfranchise every person who aided, abetted or gave comfort and influence, with intent to dissolve or break up the United States government, before, or in time of, or since the rebellion, or who have, and are, throwing obstructions in the way of reconstruction. [The Board to consist of three "loyal" men, who can take the just oath.] Referred.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Mr. Patrick's resolution, asking a sus-

pension of the collection of debts, was re- ferred.

Mr. McDonald's resolution, instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to frame an ordinance, provided there be no distinction on account of color. Laid over.

The Committee to wait on His Excellency, the Governor, reported that the Governor would communicate with them to-morrow.

Mr. Bryan's amendment to Mr. Rich's amendment, in regard to the per diem, was taken up, put and lost.

After some time spent in further con- sideration of the matter, the previous question was called, and Mr. Rich's amendment substituting "85," was adopt- ed.

Mr. Rose, voting yea, Messrs. McCub- bins and Hobbs voting nay.

Mr. Rich moved to reconsider, and hoped the House would refuse to do so.

Mr. Tourgee moved to lay the resolu- tion to reconsider on the table.

Harris, negro, moved to lay that motion on the table. Carried, and so rests an ordinance to make all officers, State and county, elective by the people, was re- ferred.

Mr. King's resolution, that no member shall receive a per diem for more than 30 days, was taken up and considered.

[Here the Convention got into another one of their pickles. Some were of the opinion that the vote, yesterday, had set- tled the matter, while Mr. K. contended that his resolution was a separate and distinct proposition. The Chair decided Mr. K. out of order. Mr. K. appealed from his decision, but withdrew his appeal.—The resolution, nevertheless, was put to a vote and lost.]

Mr. Durham's resolution, declaring the State debt invalid, was, at his request, referred to the appropriate committee.

The following message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, thro' his Private Secretary, Wm. H. Bagley, Esq.:

Gentlemen of the Convention: I had the honor, on yesterday, to be in- formed, through your committee, that your body is duly organized and ready to receive any communication that I may be willing to make.

I desire you to accept my thanks for this mark of your courtesy. I regard your resolution simply as an official notice of your organization, with a view to such official intercourse and communi- cation as may be deemed necessary, as it seems to me it would be improper, if not indecorous, that I present to you any view of mine, touching the object for which you are assembled, unless in response to a specific inquiry.

Upon due notice of your wish to be furnished with any information contained in the archives of the State, under my con- trol, such information will be promptly supplied.

May a superintending Providence in- spire you with wisdom to conduct your labors to results beneficial to our unhappy and distracted people!

JONAHAN WORTH.

The message was read and ordered to be spread upon the record.

Mr. Henton expressed the wish to record his vote on the per diem question, as voting against the eight dollars. No ob- jection being made, it was so ordered.

Mr. Pool submitted a request to employ a clerk, signed by the chairman of several committees.

Harris, of Wake, (negro,) was in favor of granting it.

Mr. Durham objected, saying that it was another innovation; that gentlemen must certainly think that the Treasury was filled to overflowing with money.—They had already created and elected too many useless and unnecessary officers.—The committee ought to do their own writing. Some members thought they had nothing else to do but to spend the public money, and eat out the substance of the people. He moved to lay the propo- sition on the table, at request of Mr. Rodman, who moved to refer to the Com- mittee on Contingent Expenses. Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the Conven- tion adjourned.

SATURDAY, JAN. 25, 1868.

The convention was called to order at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Abbott submitted a report from the Committee on Finance, in relation to an ordinance staying the collection of debts, and recommended that it do not pass, until it comes before the Convention in a more tangible form.

Harris, of Wake, negro, a memorial from the "loyal" people of J. Sorrell's, praying the disfranchisement of all Con- federate officers, of the rank of Colonel and upwards, &c. Referred.

Mr. Bryan submitted a report from the Committee on the Militia, regulating the military duties of citizens in times of peace and war. Referred to Committee of the Whole, and made the special or- der for Monday next, at 12 o'clock.

Mr. Grant, of Wayne, a resolution praying Gen. Canby to postpone the col- lection of debts contracted since 1865, until 1869. Referred.

Mr. Kinney, a resolution that every member of this Convention, who favors the Reconstruction acts of Congress, be requested to furnish a list of the names in their respective counties who have given material aid in the work of reconstruc- tion, and who, technically, labor under the disability imposed by the 3rd section of the Howard amendment; and that the Committee, to whom this resolution shall be referred, report to this Convention whom they deem justly entitled to relief. Referred.

Mr. Mulliken introduced a resolution, that any member, absenting himself with- out leave, shall forfeit his per diem dur- ing such absence. [After some debate, on motion of Mr. Dowd, it was laid on the table.]

Galloway, negro, resolution, instruct- ing the Judiciary Committee to enquire into the practicability of inserting into the Constitution some provision, by which persons, [formerly held as slaves,] who, when slaves, purchased property through an agent, or master, and are now depriv-

ed of that property, shall be compensat- ed for said property. Referred.

Mr. Watts, a resolution to relieve po- litical disabilities, and provide for the formation of a Committee of nine to prepare a memorial to be submitted to Congress.— Referred.

Mr. Congleton, a resolution declaring that this convention has the right to de- clare, and now declares, that all laws passed heretofore, by any convention or Legislature of North Carolina, are held to be null and void, and shall so remain until the assembling of the next Legisla- ture of North Carolina, except what re- lates to marriage. Referred.

Mr. Tourgee's ordinance, inquiring into the propriety of taking steps in regard to members of this body who are disquali- fied by the provisions of the 2d. section of the act of March 2d, 1857, which was referred, some days ago, by mistake, was, by consent of the House, taken up.

Harris, of Wake, negro, moved to lay it on the table.

Mr. Tourgee thought that, in courtesy to him, he should be allowed to say some- thing on the subject, before such action.

Harris withdrew his motion, when Mr. Tourgee said that he had under- stood that there were members on this floor disqualified by the aforesaid act.—He thought that action should be taken irrespective of political affiliations. He thought if some such action was not taken, that this thing might invalidate the proceedings of this convention. He did not care particularly to discuss the matter to-day, but wished to refer it to Committee of the Whole, on Monday next.

[The President vacated his seat calling Mr. Rodman to preside.]

Mr. Abbott thought that if the subject was referred to the Committee of the Whole and such committee went into an examination of such cases, too much time would be consumed.

Harris, of Wake, negro, concurred with Mr. Abbott, and thought Gen. Canby the proper person to be applied to in such cases; that the Convention had no au- thority in the matter, and renewed his motion to table.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, called for the yeas and nays.

The call was not sustained, and the question on the resolution being put, re- sulted in haying the same on the table.

A communication from C. L. Bonford, acknowledging the invitation to U. S. officers on duty at this Post, to the floor of the House, was read and ordered to be spread on the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

The resolution of Mr. Jones, of Wash- ington, requesting the Treasurer to fur- nish a statement of the amount of stock held by the State, in the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal Company, was taken up and adopted.

Also a motion, by the same, requesting the Treasurer to furnish a statement of the amount of the State indebtedness.— Adopted.

A resolution by Robbins, negro, pro- hibiting the hauling of scines on the Sab- bath, was taken up.

Galloway, negro, objected to its pas- sage and hoped it would be voted down.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, moved to lay it on the table. Carried.

Mr. Rodman's resolution, in regard to printing, was next reached and passed.

GENERAL ORDER.

Mr. Walker's ordinance, in reference to the liabilities of Banks, was taken up and referred.

The ordinance, by the same, providing for the admission of members of the B. R. of other States, to practice in the Courts of this, upon the presentation of license, was also referred.

On motion of Mr. Ellis, the Conven- tion then adjourned.

Congress.

House.—The D-Edgely Bill was re- manded; the Reconstruction Bill was read, and the question on the bill was taken up.

Mr. Doolittle objected to a second, reading, and it went over, under the rule.

The Conference committee's report on the auto-contracting bill was adopted and the bill goes to the President.

The amendment to the cotton tax bill, ad- justing foreign cotton duty free, was re-affirmed by the Senate.—25 to 15. The committee will probably agree to disagree, and the bill will fail.

Washington, Jan. 22.—House.—A bill re- lative to additional bounties passed.

The death of Mr. Hamilton, of Ohio, was announced and the House adjourned.

Senate.—The reconstruction bill was read the second time.

Mr. Doolittle spoke in opposition, and when the morning hour expired he was allowed to proceed, by a vote of 20 to 17.

The cotton tax Conference Committee re- ported, agreeing to the House bill excepting the section exempting cotton from import duties after April 1st. The report was agreed to.

Mr. Doolittle resumed his speech. He said: "When Libanus, a Roman Province, revolted, and the revolt was suppressed, the question arose in the Senate, 'What shall be done with Libanus and the people of Libanus?' There were some who said—disfranchise them; others said confiscate their property. There were none who said subject them in vassalage to their slaves. But old Camillus, in that speech which revealed his greatness and made his name immortal said—'Senators, make them your fellow-citizens, and thus add to the pow- er and glory of Rome!' Mr. D. added: 'In this high place in this Senate of the great Re- public of the world—outgrowth of the civiliza- tion of all ages—cannot we, Senators, rise to the height of that great argument?'

Mr. Turnbull followed, when the Senate ad- journed in honor of Mr. Hamilton of Ohio.

Bill—Containing the Powers of the Supreme Court, &c.

Washington, Jan. 23.—The Reconstruction committee, this morning, agreed to report the following bill:

Be it enacted, That the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the United States shall extend to any act done, or which shall be done, or to any proceeding had, or which shall be had, under and by virtue of the act entitled "An Act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States, approved March 2d, 1867," or the several acts supplement- ing the same, either by appeal or otherwise, from any proceeding had in the premises in any District or Circuit Court of the United States, shall be deemed by said Supreme Court, and no record of any proceedings had, or which might be had, under either of the District Commanders, or either of the acts, shall be removed to, or reviewed in any tribunal, either upon writs corpus, quo servavit or in any other manner whatever, by any court, either State or Federal, until the Supreme Court, shall have affirmed the same.

The vote upon the bill, in committee, is un- derstood to be Yea, Stevens, Dingham, Paine, Boutwell and Beaman, Republicans.

Nays, Hubbard, Republicans, Brooks and Beck, Democrats.

Non-Kettle Coombs is nominated U. S. Mar- shal for Kentucky, vice Meriwether, whose term has about expired.

The customs for the week ending Jan. 18th, were \$2,900,000.

The State Department has official notice of the execution between the United States and the Republic of Columbia, of a treaty for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien.

The President has nominated Jas. M. John- son, U. S. Marshal for Virginia.

Virginia Convention.

Richmond, Jan. 23.—In Convention to-day, among the resolutions referred, was one for a law compelling children to attend school, and prohibiting special privileges to any company engaged in bringing immigrants to Virginia.

Dr. Sears, Agent of the Peabody Fund, ad- dressed the Convention on the subject of Ed- ucation. Ten thousand copies of his address were ordered to be printed.

The Bill of Rights occupied the remainder of the day.

Georgia.

Milledgeville, Jan. 23.—The Georgia State Road has advanced \$10,000, which has been paid to Atlanta by Captain Rockwell, the Military Treasurer, for the payment of the con- vention.

Atlanta, Jan. 2.—An order has appeared from Gen. Riker, the Military Governor, re- sponding Gen. Jenkins' order suspending the collection of taxes.

The army officer, detailed as Comptroller, orders the tax collectors to immediately collect and forward to the State Treasury all the un- paid taxes of last year.

From Washington.

Washington, Jan. 23.—There was no session of the Senate to-day.

The resolutions of the House was devoted to spread-rail speeches.

The National Bank circulation is \$209,500,000.

Habeas Corpus—Virginia Conven- tion.

Richmond, Jan. 23.—The Habeas Corpus bill, before Judge Underwood, to test the con- stitutionality of the Reconstruction Act, was to-day adjourned until Wednesday. The Com- mandant of the Libby produced the prisoner, and made return that he was held by General Schofield, under authority of the Reconstruction Acts.

The prisoner was represented by four prominent lawyers, all members of the Conservative Central State committee, which body brings the case up with the intention of carrying it to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Nothing important in the Convention.

Mississippi Convention.

Jackson, Miss., Jan. 23.—A report from a select committee was received, respecting General Gilliam to suspend collection of poll tax for 1867, on all persons denied representation.— Re-committed, and the suspension of the rules.

The Convention went into an election of Treasurer; provided for by tax ordinance.— Parsons, one of Adams county delegates, was elected. A resolution was adopted, that no delegate, representing a county, shall be con- sidered for his county shall receive any com- pensation for services in the Convention, until sufficient amount is collected by said county to pay said services; provided, an investigation, it be found that said collector is an irrespon- sible person.—The Convention proceeded to appoint collectors for such counties as were prepared to nominate of fifty-two appointments only one known to be colored.

Hon. W. L. Sharkey, E. M. Yergler, and A. H. Handy, have been appointed to represent the Democratic party of Mississippi in the National Democratic Committee.

Georgia Convention.

Atlanta, Jan. 25.—The Convention voted \$50 to each member, out of the \$10,000 voted yesterday.

Four additional sections of the Bill of Rights (none of a novel nature) was adopted.

The committee on Finance reported that Gen. Meade had appealed to Grant for a loan of sufficient amount, of the funds sent by the State of Georgia to pay its indebtedness to the government, on the Western and Atlantic Rail- road, to delay all the expenses of the Conven- tion, and that Gen. Grant accepts the propo- sition, so far as his power extends. Will an- swer definitely to-day, if possible. Should this proposition fail, will direct Gen. Ruler to ascertain immediately upon what terms the money can be procured from parties in Sa- vannah.

Three candidates for Governor, under the new Constitution, if ratified, have been nomi- nated.

Vessels Captured by Confederate Cruisers.

The New York Herald publishes a list of vessels of such various capture by the Confed- erate Cruisers Alabama, Shenandoah, Florida, Somer, Tallahassee, Teacy, Clarence, Sal- lenger, Davis, Retribution, Georgia, Winlow, Charamanga, Cluette, St. Nicholas, Calhoun, Nashville, Boston, Savannah, Echo, York, Tus- carora, and others.

The American ships—barks, brigs, &c. cap- tured by these Confederate and privateers, lose up two hundred and eighty-four in all.

The largest number captured were by the Alabama, being sixty-nine of the whole—or nearly one-fourth.

A Suggestion.

Manybody wants to know how a horse gets on a bitter morning, when a frozen bit is placed in his mouth, let them first place a piece of frozen iron upon their own tongues. Having done this, let the coachman or driver see that the bit is warmed before being fixed in position: The horse will look, though he cannot say, "thank you."—Philadelphia Gazette.

Warning to the North by a Union Man.

The Hon. T. A. R. Nelson, of Tennessee, whose address to the Union during the war, our readers recollect brought him into prom- inence with the Confederate government, is making a noble, though we fear a futile effort to check the millions of the North and save the republic, though now in the rapid, for the Ni- agara towards which she is hurrying. From a recently published letter by him, the prophetic and admonitions of which should not pass un- heeded, we extract the following earnest in- vocation:

"Let the North remember that there is a just God, who will punish the crimes of Heaven and earth, who governs nations as well as men; that He used the Assyrians as instru- ments to punish the rebellious Jews; but when the Assyrians persecuted them from year to year, when they showed us mercy, when upon them they fell very heavily their yoke, when he raised up Cyrus to take Babylon, and when the conquerors, who had been His instru- ments, most severely, let them remember, that although the South is conquered and sub- jugated, helpless and powerless, bound hand and foot and bleeding at every pore, though her rich men have been humbled in the dust, though her servants are now upon her, and her princes are wailing as servants upon the face of the earth; though famine broods over her, though she has drunken the dregs of trembling and agony, and wrung her neck, and shrieks of agony will go up to Heaven, and sooner or later, will be heard; and in some form, now hid from mortal ken, 'His who forgetteth not the cry of the humble,' will be her friend and her avenger."

A Faithful Old Negro.

We saw on record yesterday, at the office of the county clerk, the will of Tinsley Ashe, a faithful old negro, who died on Rocky Point some two or three months since. He was formerly the property of Mr. Thomas S. Ashe, of this county, and before and since the death of his master, he served the family with faithfulness and zeal. He was among the very few who did not recognize the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln and the rights of the negroes to be free, but even after the war, continued to labor for the family, placing in the hands of his mistress, as was customary with him, a portion of his earnings, which were a source of much relief amid the destitution which then generally prevailed. By honest industry Tinsley amassed a comfortable little property, and being impressed with the near approach of his end, he daily had made a will bequeathing his property to those for whom he entertained the greatest affection and regard. This will was admitted to probate at the December term of our county Court.

The first bequest mentioned, was that he be- lieved should have a decent Christian burial, and be interred near the remains of his beloved master as would be agreeable to the family.— He directed that his debts should be first paid, and out of the sum remaining he bequeathed to his kind nephew, for whom he expressed great affection, \$500. To another member of the family he left \$200, to his executor, a citizen of this place, \$100, to his attorney, \$50, and to a gentleman of this city, his horse, from whom it was formerly purchased.

A Remarkable Grand Jury.

The grand jury of the Court of Common Pleas at Charleston, this morning, in their own organization, as if by magic, declaring that any persons who may be tried and executed on in- dictments for which they have found true bills will be tried and executed without war- rant of law, because the statutes of South Car- olina, which provides for the empanelling of juries, have been disregarded, and obedience yielded to the orders of a military commander, whose office and whose authority he held not upon State recognition, but are created solely by an act of Congress, unconstitutional, unjust, and oppressive.

They still have patriots in Charleston, it is evident.—W. Journal.

THE MENDESHALL LOOM.

Dr. McClintock, a native of the South, one of the proprietors of the patent to this loom in the Southern States, is in this city for the purpose of selling the right of the State.—We witnessed the operation of the loom, on Wednesday, and our opinion of its value is very high.—The loom occupies a small space, is very simple in its machinery, and we judge, durable. A woman or man of ordinary strength can weave, on this loom, from 20 to 60 yards of cloth per day, accord- ing to quality. The whole operation is carried on by turning the machinery with a crank. It will weave any kind of cloth, of almost any style, and does its work well. We saw the Dr. and others, weaving a pretty piece of cassimere or jeans, twilled on both sides. He had a variety of styles of cloth woven upon it. The Company that purchased the right of Georgia is manufacturing these looms at \$150 a piece. They could be manufactur- ed cheaply and easily in this city, and we should be glad if a company of gentle- men would purchase the right of the State, and open a factory here. A few of these looms could clothe the people without resorting to power looms. We judge a beautiful gingham could be made by them at a very small cost. The plan would be to buy the yarn already dyed and warped, &c., whether wool, cotton, fax or hemp, and go to weaving.—Rat. Sentinel.

VIRGINIA TO BE MANACLED

The New York Times says: General Butler is reported to have said in Washington, on his return from Rich- mond, that "the Radicals in Virginia can- not carry their Constitution unless they have the State government given to them."

We may look, therefore, for the speedy introduction into Congress of an other reconstruction bill, entitled "a bill making the Radicals a present of the State government of Virginia in order to enable them to carry the election and for other purposes." The Supreme Court will probably be prohibited by an act of Congress from declaring such a bill un- constitutional except by a unanimous vote, or from pronouncing the decision even then until after the election has been carried.

From one of the claimants in the city, we learn that several years before the war a family in England sent for the above property, but the Queen's Bench decided the heirs had emigrated to Virginia, so that the Heit family was well known in Norfolk, Charles City, and other portions of the State, who doubtless come in for a large share of the above estate. We also learn that arrangements are being made for a meeting of representatives of the different branches of the family to take place in Rich- mond, on an early day.—Dem. Times.

State of North Carolina, DAVIDSON COUNTY.

The Creditors of the Thomsville Bank.

The creditors of a defunct and void of the Court of Equity, made in the above named cause, notice is hereby given to all the creditors of the said "The Thomsville Bank," that said Bank has filed a bill in the Court of Equity for said County of Davidson, to close the business of said Bank and surrender the chartered rights and franchises of the Stockholders of said Bank, a possession of an Act of Assembly, entitled "An act to enable the Banks of this State to close their business