

THE LAW MAKERS.

CONDENSED REPORT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE LEGISLATURE.

MOST IMPORTANT BILLS INTRODUCED AND PASSED.

Many Bills and Resolutions Introduced—Some of the Important Measures of Greatest Interest to Our Readers.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Senate—The Senate was notified by a committee from the House of the passage of the impeachment resolution by that body.

Senator Speight introduced a joint resolution expressing the regret and sympathy of the Legislature at the death of Dr. George L. Kirby, Superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane at Raleigh, which was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

Senator Woodard introduced a bill providing for the incorporation of the State prison and to regulate the government thereof.

By Bray (by request)—To prevent the use of tobacco by school teachers. Bill was referred to committee on education.

BILLS PASSED FINAL READING.

To establish graded schools in the town of Smithfield.

To authorize New Hanover county to issue bonds for road improvements.

To incorporate the town of Raeford, in Cumberland and Robeson counties.

To prevent locust pin factories in Mitchell county from obstructing the streams of that county, by dumping saw dust, etc., therein.

To authorize Seaboard Air Line Railroad to consolidate with other railroads, the Richmond, Petersburg and Carolina Railroad particularly, and exercise the powers given those roads at present by the laws of North Carolina and Virginia, etc.

To amend chapter 198, acts of 1889, in regard to pensions of Confederate veterans—making alterations in existing law, was made special order for Saturday.

House—The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Seawell—An act to protect inhabitants of towns and cities in the right of self government.

By Mr. Nicholson—An act to pay the claim of \$100 by J. F. Foster in the interest of the shell fish commission.

By Mr. Thompson—An act to prevent fishing for perch with seines, or nets, in certain parts of New river, Onslow county.

By Mr. Sims—An act supplementary of the act creating the Text Book Commission ratified February 8, 1901—this being an act to exempt from the provisions of said former act the graded schools of Raleigh township, Wake county.

By Mr. Carleton—An act to establish a stock law in Warsaw township, Duplin county.

By Mr. Watts of Iredell—An act to provide for the placing of statues of Nathaniel Macon and Zebulon B. Vance in the Hall of Statuary at the capitol in Washington, D. C.

By Mr. Hoey—An act to place certain portions of Burke and Cleveland under the provisions of the stock law.

By Mr. Mastin—A resolution to pay J. W. McNeill expenses in the contested election case of McNeill vs. Green.

By Mr. Moore—Resolution to pay Cyrus Thompson, ex-Secretary of State, \$874.94 for extra clerical assistance.

By Mr. Pearce—An act to prevent stock from running at large in parts of Craven county.

By Mr. Allen—An act to restore to the governor the power of appointing the members of the Board of Internal Improvement.

By Mr. Burlington—An act to prevent the throwing of dynamite and other explosives in streams in Mitchell county.

By Mr. Ebbas—An act to pension certain ex-Confederate veterans.

By Mr. Dees—An act to better protect property from fires.

BILLS PASSED.

Joint resolution in respect to the memory of the late Dr. George L. Kirby.

To authorize the commissioners of Granville to levy a special tax.

positions and Grievances Committee. By Mr. Furshee—To authorize the city of Durham to collect arrearages in taxes. Referred to Propositions and Grievances Committee.

By Mr. London (by request)—To prohibit the sale of liquor near any church in Chatham county. Propositions and Grievances Committee.

By Mr. Aycock—To provide for the securing of evidence to suppress gambling. Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. G. G. Gudge—Authorizing Madison county to levy a special tax. Calendar.

By Mr. McNeill—To amend the charter of Fayetteville.

BILLS PASSED FINAL READING. Authorizing McDowell county to issue bonds to improve and enlarge courthouse.

To authorize commissioners of Johnston county to work convicts on public roads of that county.

To authorize Haywood county to levy a special tax.

To prevent live stock from running at large in Bladen county.

Supplemented to act to prevent the running at large of stock in Mitchell, Watauga and Wilkes counties.

To prevent live stock from running at large in Alleghany county. Resolution relative to Committee on Rules to prepare rules for the government of the impeachment trial of the Supreme Court Judges.

To regulate the sale of liquor at town of Clayton, Johnston county. (Establishes dispensary system.)

To revise the jury list of Chatham county.

To regulate sale of deadly weapons. (Imposes a tax of \$25 on dealers in pistols, brass-knives. Referred to Finance Committee to be incorporated in revenue bill, if deemed wise.)

To protect owners of timber in Wilkes county.

For the benefit of the office of the clerk of the Superior Court of Scotland county.

To prohibit hunting and fishing Mitchell county without owners consent.

To repeal chapter 16 of Vol. 2 of the Code (in reference to indictments, etc.) Senator Henderson explained that this chapter provided for the regulation of elections, and that its repeal was desired so as not to have any conflicting laws to interfere with the new election law on the subject.

To incorporate the Southport, Durham and Wilmington Railroad Company.

By Mr. Dule (by request)—An act to amend chapter 54, Laws of 1899, relating to insurance companies.

By Mr. Carr—An act to pay the expenses of the committee visiting the University and the Normal School.

BILLS PASSED THIRD READING. To amend and consolidate the Union county dispensary laws.

To incorporate the Oxford Seminary for Girls.

To pay expenses of the visiting committee in visiting University of North Carolina, Normal School at Greensboro and other institutions.

To protect game birds in the counties of Currituck, Camden and Pasquotank.

To amend section 1717 of the Code so as to allow the narrow-gauge and tramroads of the State to carry passengers and freights without being subject to the fines as now imposed under the law.

At 1:30 o'clock the House adjourned in honor of the birthday of George Washington.

To authorize and empower the county commissioners of Sampson county to issue bonds and levy a special tax.

For the relief of certain citizens of Bladen county, relating to costs in certain actions.

To authorize Secretary of State to issue land grant to J. M. Kitchener, Confederate soldier, to peddle without license; general bill.

To protect and promote the oyster industry of North Carolina. This bill was prepared by the joint Committee on Oyster Laws.

Amending an act relating to State Board of Health, enlarging the board and changes the terms of office from two years to six years; county physician from one to two years; creates a county sanitary commission, composed of the county commissioners and two physicians, whose duty it is to look after the health of the county, with same powers as county commissioners have now.

To establish a graded school in Marion, McDowell county. Levying a special tax on liquor.

Authorizing any town or city along the line of the Great Eastern Railway to subscribe capital stock.

BILLS PASSED.

The following bills passed their final reading.

To prevent the running at large of live-stock in Alleghany county.

To amend chapter 501 of the Code, in reference to homesteads. This is the Vann substitute for the Henderson bill. Amended on final reading by Mr. Vann, as follows: "That the running of the statute of limitations be suspended as to judgments under which homesteads are allotted, and all other judgments." As amended, the bill passed.

To regulate the State printing, placing letting of contract in hands of Executive Council, at not to exceed rates stated in bill. Present rates paid. Sent to House.

To amend, revise and consolidate the Union county dispensary law.

The divorce bill was again postponed, until next Tuesday.

HOUSE—The following new bills were introduced:

By Mr. Wilson—An act authorizing the commissioners of Caswell to levy a special tax.

By Mr. Ardrey—An act to amend chapter 431 of the Laws of 1897, relative to the passage of fish in the Catawba river.

By Mr. Mauney—An act to change the line between the counties of Graham and Macon.

By Mr. McIvor—An act to prevent the use of profane language in the presence of women.

By Mr. Yarborough—An act to establish a live-stock law in Franklin.

By Mr. Gattis—An act to raise revenue.

By Mr. White of Jones—An act to prevent the falling of timber across certain streams in Jones and Lenoir counties.

By Mr. Roberson of Guilford—An act to except High Point from the act creating the text-book commission.

By Mr. Blythe—A resolution to adjourn at noon in honor of the birthday of George Washington.

By Mr. Dean (by request)—An act to amend section 1, chapter 65, of the Laws of 1895, relating to barbed-wire fences.

By Mr. Moore—An act to prohibit the manufacture of whiskey and brandy in Clay (by request).

By Mr. Smith—An act to incorporate the Raleigh & Virginia Railroad Company.

By Mr. Dule (by request)—An act to amend chapter 54, Laws of 1899, relating to insurance companies.

By Mr. Carr—An act to pay the expenses of the committee visiting the University and the Normal School.

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A WOMAN'S HOTEL.

New York seems to be about to attempt One at Last.

Harper's Weekly.

The Woman's Hotel Company in New York is reported to have bought land in East Twenty-ninth street, near Madison avenue, and to have definitely determined to put up a modern hotel big enough to hold 500 women and make them comfortable.

The project has been hanging fire for a good while, and the evidence that it will now be put through is not quite convincing yet. It is said that the company has subscriptions amounting to \$300,000 with which to start. Similar hotels are avowed to be in successful operation in Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Chicago, Boston and Baltimore, but possibly even that does not assure success in New York. The idea is to furnish better board and lodging to lone working women than they can get elsewhere. There are 60,000 or 70,000 self-supporting women in New York and they have not so wide a choice of lodging as men have.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

What "South" Thinks of Things in General.

The 25th Senatorial District has the two smallest men in the Senate.

It is coming down to the genuine old English doctrine that whoever fears is not fit to live.

The voice of God can be felt and heard without intermediary assistance.

A paradox but true, in temple, forum or tabernacle, that lessons can be learned from ignorant people, who are the closest observers of God's laws and the Dispenser's keenest watchers of the laws.

The installment plan of action on pianos, fertilizers, organs, etc., is the farmer's worst enemy. It teaches easy buying and hard paying.

A REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.

Mrs. Martha Washington, widow of George Washington, died on Feb. 22, Washington Post.

Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 22.—Mrs. Martha Washington, widow of George Washington, died this morning at her home in Bellare.

It is a remarkable coincidence, the names being the same as those of the first President of the United States and his wife, and the day of her death being Washington's birthday.

BIG FIRE IN ATLANTA.

\$500,000 Property Burned in the Heart of the City.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 21.—Fire this morning broke out in the business section bounded by Deatur, Lloyd and Wall streets, and Railroad avenue. The flames destroyed business property valued at half a million dollars. This is in the heart of the city, and came near causing the largest conflagration in the city's history.

Horrible Death of Mrs. Gurley.

The Goldsboro correspondent of the Charlotte Observer of last week says: Mrs. Eddie Crawford Gurley, wife of Mr. L. G. Gurley, of Walter, this county, was burned to death at her home yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Gurley had been threatened with vertigo for several days. Mr. Gurley had just given her a dose of medicine and had gone to put a plow to the house he found his wife burned beyond recognition. Her lap board was under her, her scissors in her hand, and her face and shoulders in the fire. This is in the heart of the city, and came near causing the largest conflagration in the city's history.

Won Without Trying.

London Labor Leader.

A minister was one day walking along a road, and to his astonishment he saw a crowd of boys sitting in front of a ring with a small dog in the centre. When he came up to them he put the following question: "What are you doing to the dog?"

One little boy said: "Whoever tells the biggest lie wins it."

"Oh," said the minister, "I am surprised at you little boys, for when I was like you I never told a lie."

There was silence for awhile, until one of the boys shouted: "Hand him up the dog!"

Two Girls Burned to Death.

Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 27.—Bessie and Alice Wilkes, aged 16 and 18, were cremated in a fire at the home of their widowed mother, Mrs. Wilkes, at Prattville, last week. The charred remains of one of the young girls was found with a mattress over her head, which she placed there in endeavoring to protect herself from the flames.

Thirteen Negroes Entombed.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., Feb. 21.—As a result of the giving away of a wall the Asylum mines here were flooded yesterday afternoon and thirteen negro miners were entombed in ten feet of water, with little prospect of being rescued. When the first rush of water entered the mine eleven miners were able to get out.

The Old Sport.

Philadelphia Times.

"He's now making more money backing horses than he ever did."

How?"

"He's working on a dump."

THE RIO WRECKED.

THE PACIFIC MAIL STEAMER—SUNK OUTSIDE OF SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR.

OVER ONE HUNDRED PEOPLE GO DOWN TO WATERY GRAVES.

Consular Widman and His Family Returning from Hong Kong and Captain William Ward are Among Those Who Perished—Capt. Ward was a Native of Idaho.

San Francisco, Feb. 22.—The Pacific Mail steamer Rib de Janeiro ran on a hidden rock while entering the Golden Gate early this morning in a dense fog. She sank a few minutes after striking.

The latest figures place the loss at 122 persons, most of whom were Chinese and Japanese, but it is impossible to ascertain the exact number, owing to the fact that Purser John Rooney, who had the passenger list and roster of the crew is among the missing.

At 5 o'clock this afternoon ten bodies had been recovered, two white women, one white man and seven Chinese. The most prominent passenger on the steamer was Rouseville Widman, U. S. Consul at Hong Kong, who was accompanied by his wife and two children. It is thought all were drowned.

The ship was in command of Pilot Frederick Jordan when she struck. He was rescued. Captain William Ward went down with his vessel.

The officers were cool and gave the necessary orders with the least possible excitement.

Captain Ward, who was on deck when the vessel struck, at once gave orders to the crew on watch to hurry the passengers to the forward deck. The quartermaster on duty sounded the signal for fire drill and within five minutes all the men were at their stations. The captain gave orders to lower the life-boats and life rafts. There was not much confusion until fifteen minutes after striking the bow of the vessel suddenly plunged under water. Then there was a wild rush for the boats. Two boats had already been lowered and others were getting away as rapidly as the trained discipline of the crew could prepare them. A thick fog enveloped everything and as yet no sign had come from the life-saving stations. Darkness was all about and with this added horror the people on the Rio had to cope.

A number of Italian fishermen who were just starting this morning saw the sinking of the Rio and hastened to render assistance. Meantime many of the terrified people rushed to the railings and jumped overboard. Some were picked up, others drowned. The Chinese crew, numbering over a hundred, was terrorized. Many jumped into the sea.

Captain Ward remained on deck until the vessel had settled and the water was engulfing him. Then he went up on the bridge to issue directions.

That the steamer sank almost immediately after striking is the opinion of the majority of those rescued. The wreck was about three-fourths of a mile south of Fort Point, about a thousand yards off the rocky shore. The smokestack and a portion of the upper works of the ill fated steamer are visible.

Three survivors say that they saw Captain Ward to the last, but Frederick Lindstrom, the quartermaster of the Rio, emphatically declared that Captain Ward emulated Admiral Tyron of Her British Majesty's ship Victoria, in going down to his cabin, where he met his doom behind a locked door.

THE MAIL BAGS RIFLED.

The Italian fishermen brought to the Merchant's Exchange station at Meigs's wharf twelve bags of mail, which they picked up at the scene of the wreck. These include two pouches from the United States military station in China. Also two bags of registered mail. When the registered bags were delivered it was found that they had been ripped open with a knife and all their contents stolen. When this crime was committed it was questioned but the fishermen who brought them in are not suspected, and it is impossible to determine who the robbers are.

The Rio carried in all 200 bags of mail.

CAPT. WARD A NATIVE OF RALEIGH.

Captain Ward was a native of Raleigh and lived here for many years. Messrs. Frank and John Ward, of Raleigh, are his brothers. They received a telegram from San Francisco Friday night stating that their brother was down at his post and had not been seen since. The brothers have the sympathy of the people of Raleigh in their grief.

The city council of Danville has passed the Hampton curfew ordinance by a vote of 10 to 3. The ordinance was indorsed by the W. C. T. U. and many citizens.

Mrs. Moes Stickle, of Berryville, Va., in some way scratched her hand with a pin one day last week, blood poison set in and on Monday night she died after great suffering.

BOER LEADERS ISSUE PROCLAMATION.

British Charged With Ill-Treating Women and Children South-African War Still Rages.

President Steyn and General De Wet have issued a proclamation announcing that the war forced on the Transvaal republics by the British Government, still rages over South Africa and asserting that the British do not observe all the customs of civilized warfare and the Geneva and the Hague conventions; that the enemy capture and deport doctors and ambulances and seize ambulance material; arrest neutrals, arm Kaffirs and natives, and use them against the Boer forces; and they send out their hands to plunder the country and insult, rape or give harsh treatment to women and children. The proclamation says that nearly all the houses in the republic have been destroyed and that the British charge of misuse of the white flag is an everlasting calumny against the Afrikaner. After pointing out that the war is still on and the Boer forces are still led by responsible leaders, supervised by the government of both republics, the proclamation says:

"The burghers would be less than men if they allowed the enemy to go unpunished after ill treating their wives and destroying their houses from sheer lust of destruction. Therefore, we warn officers of His Majesty's troops that unless they cease the destruction of the property of the republics we shall wreak vengeance by destroying the property of His Majesty's subjects who are unkindly disposed. But we hereby openly declare that their wives and children will always be unharmed, in spite of anything done to us by His Majesty's troops. We request nothing from our brothers in the colony, but call on them, as well as on the civilized world, to assist in behalf of our joint civilization and Christianity, in putting an end to the barbarous manner of the enemy's warfare."

MORPHINE FIEND'S TRICK.

Arrested While in Bed with His Clothes On—Has Not Been Identified.

Danville, Va., Feb. 23.—C. M. Roper is in jail here charged with attempting to work a voucher of the North Carolina penitentiary on a Reidsville bank. The voucher was drawn in favor of the Roper Lumber Company, of Norfolk. Evans, the bank cashier, paid the voucher of \$274, and afterward becoming suspicious, caught a freight train and traced the man here.

Roper had invested in a horse and buggy, driving here and putting up at the leading hotel. He was found in bed at an early hour with his clothes on. He drew a revolver on the cashier, who was in company with the chief of police. The weapon was taken from him.

The man is a confirmed morphine user, and has a full set of instruments with him. He broke down and cried when disarmed, and pleaded his habit as his defense, saying he was unconscious of his actions. He is apparently a well-to-do man, though no one has identified him. He is now in jail. Roper begged to be sent to a Richmond sanitarium for treatment.

HAVE YOU TALENT?

It is Not Difficult to Discover for What One Has a Natural Aptitude.

"One good way, I think, to judge whether we have a talent for anything or not is to watch the motive that draws us toward doing a thing," writes Helen Watterson Moody in the March Ladies' Home Journal.

"If we do it because it is the fashion, or because other girls are doing it, or because we have to do it for some useful purpose, it is not probable that we have a real talent for it; but if we find ourselves doing it just because we really love it, and would rather do it than not; if it is doing the thing itself that attracts us, and not the eclat it is going to give us in the eyes of others—why then I think we may reasonably conclude that God has given us a real talent for that particular sort of thing."

MRS. NATION MAY VISIT US.

May Snatch Disparagement as She Smashes Anything That Smashes the Darlings.

A special to the News and Observer from Rutherfordton, N. C., says: C. D. Wilkes, of the News Bureau, telegraphed Mrs. Carrie Nation, asking if she was coming to North Carolina and if she smashed dispensaries.

The following reply was received: Topeka, Kan., Feb. 21.—Will see you later. We smash anything that smashes our darlings.

MRS. CARRIE NATION.

WHITES DISGUISED AS NEGROES.

Commit Two Robberies They Secure Little Booty.

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 22.—Two more persons were waylaid and robbed in this city last night. They were Edward Duffey, a young white man, and Will Hall, a negro. The first named was robbed of his overcoat and \$1.10; the latter was relieved of a dollar.

Both robberies occurred in the same section of town and near the same time. The robbers were white men in the disguise of negroes.

Bill Flinging Bachelors Did not Pass.

Hartford, Conn., Feb. 26.—The Connecticut house of representatives has concurred with the State senate in rejecting a bill flinging bachelors \$100 if married after the age of 40 years.

MR. EBB'S ON THE IMPEACHMENT.

His Speech Was Full of Legal Arguments That Could Not Be Refuted. The Protest Against Impeachment Was Introduced by Mr. Ebbas.

In our last issue we gave the speeches by Mr. Stubbs and Mr. Owen (of Sampson) on the impeachment proceedings in the House. We give this week the able speech by Mr. Ebbas of Madison, and also the protest against the impeachment resolutions.

The protest against the passage of the impeachment resolution was introduced by Mr. Ebbas of Henderson. It is signed by the Republican and Populist members of the House, and is as follows:

PROTEST INTRODUCED BY MR. EBBAS.

To the Honorable Speaker and Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

We, the undersigned, respectfully request to enter this our protest against the passage of the resolution to impeach Chief Justice David M. Furches and Associate Justice Robert M. Douglas, and ask that same be printed in the Journal of this House, viz:

1. It is the province of the Legislature to enact laws, and the province of the courts to interpret, construe and apply the laws. Robinson vs. Bartlett, 6 N. C., 390, etc.

2. The power to interpret, construe and apply the laws is conferred by the Constitution; therefore any act of the Legislature attempting to prevent the courts performing this function is void.

3. The decision in the case of White vs. Hill, 125 N. C., giving White the remainder of a term of office for which he had been appointed, and the salary being continued, was in accordance with the unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court in Hoke vs. Henderson, 15 N. C., 1, and upheld by the present court in Wood vs. Bellamy, 129 N. C., and State vs. Southern Railway, 1