

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

MONDAY, DEC.

Mr. Mason proceeded to fill the vacancy...

The Senate proceeded to the order of the day...

The Senate had made some progress in the consideration of this bill...

The bill which passed the House of Representatives on Friday last...

On motion of Mr. Barbour (who thought it best before the Senate proceeded further with their own bill...

This bill was then twice read by general consent, and the Senate proceeded to its consideration in committee of the whole.

Mr. Barbour rose to move that the bill of the Senate be substituted for that of the House of Representatives...

The bill was then reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a 3d reading by general consent; and

On motion of Mr. Barbour, it was read a 3d time, without objection, passed, nem. con. and returned to the other House.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, DEC. 16.

On motion of Mr. Newton, it was resolved, That the committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of placing a light vessel at or near Cape Hatteras in the State of North-Carolina.

Mr. Farley submitted the following motion for consideration: Resolved, That the committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the propriety of making some provision for the support of the widow and child of Lieut. George Pierce, of the United States Navy, who lately died of the yellow fever, contracted on board the frigate Macedonian, when in the service of his country.

The question was taken on agreeing to the resolution, and decided in the affirmative by a small majority, (57 votes to 54.)

Mr. Coker moved the following resolve: Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this House a statement showing the amount expended for the current expenses of the Ordnance Department during the years 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820, and 1821, and as much as can be shown of said expenditures for the year 1822; with the particular items for which the money was expended, the place where, and the persons to whom paid, what quantity of timber has been procured for gun carriages and caissons, its cost annually, and where deposited; the quantity of ordnance of every kind that has been procured during these years, or paid for; the sums expended in the purchase of sites for arsenals since the peace, the cost of the buildings erected thereon, and whether all those arsenals are necessary for the service of the United States.

The resolve, according to the rule, lies on the table one day, before being acted upon.

Mr. Stewart moved the following: Resolved, That the subject of Roads and Canals be referred to a select committee.

On motion of Mr. Cannon, the House resumed the consideration of his bill to provide for clothing the Militia of the United States when called into actual service, which, after an amendment and considerable debate, was then ordered to be engrossed for a 3d reading.

On motion of Mr. Bassett, the House then resumed the consideration of the bill concerning the disbursement of public moneys, and the amendments made in committee of the whole were agreed to.

On motion of Mr. B., the bill received a further small amendment respecting the settlement of particular accounts in the War Department; and the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow.

TUESDAY, DEC. 17.

Mr. Eastis, from the committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to continue the present mode of supplying the Army of the U. States, (that is, the commissariat system)—which was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Little, the resignation of Mr. Smith, a member of this House, having been announced, the Speaker was instructed to inform the Executive of the state of Maryland thereof.

On motion of Mr. Walker of N. C. it was resolved, That the committee of Ways and Means be directed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation, to defray the expenses of holding a treaty with the Cherokee nation of Indians, for the purpose of extinguishing their claim to land within the limits of North-Carolina.

The House took up the resolution yesterday moved by Mr. Coker, calling upon the President to cause to be laid before the House a particular statement of ordnance expenditures, &c. Mr. C. modified his motion so as to require in addition, a statement of the whole amount of ordnance of every description now belonging to the United States—which was then agreed to without objection.

The bill to provide for clothing the Militia of the United States when in actual service, was read a third time, passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The engrossed bill "concerning the disbursement of public moneys," (forbidding advances on contracts) was read a 3d time; and after a debate of considerable length, the question was taken on the passage of the bill, and it was passed by a large majority, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House then, according to the order of the Day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the resolution respecting the articles of cession and agreement between the United States and the State of Georgia, as affected by the Creek and Cherokee Treaties—Mr. Bassett in the chair.

But before the question was taken, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again upon the subject.

The next bill in order was the bill to provide for the occupation of the mouth of the Columbia River, and the House went into a committee of the whole on the subject.

On motion of Mr. Floyd, the blank for the number of miles square to which the Indian title is to be extinguished was filled with thirty; and the blank for the number of acres to be allowed to each actual settler who is the head of a family, was filled with three hundred and twenty.

After several attempts to fix the salary of Governor of the proposed Territory of Oregon, the sum proposed by Mr. Floyd, (\$3000) was agreed to.

The bill having been gone through—Mr. Floyd delivered a speech of nearly one hour in support of his bill, abounding with luminous facts and interesting information. When Mr. F. concluded, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18.

On motion of Mr. Harden, of Ky. it was resolved, that a committee be appointed to inquire what further retrenchment can be made in the expenditures of government, without detriment to the public service.

Mr. J. S. Johnson, of Louisiana, offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the Secretary of State be requested to lay before this House so much of the letter of Mr. Prevost as relates to the establishment at the mouth of Columbia River, and such information as he may have in his possession in relation to the arrangements made about the year 1814, by the North West Company, with the proprietors of a settlement made by the citizens of the United States, at the mouth of Columbia River, by which that company became possessed of that settlement.

This resolution, from its nature, lies on the table one day of course.

On motion of Mr. Coker, it was resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire what number of public lots in the City of Washington have been sold by the Agents of the United States, when sold, by whom, and for what price; what part of the purchase money has been paid, the amount due, and when payable; whether the debts are well secured, whether the money received has been applied to objects authorized by any existing law; how much thereof has been paid into the Treasury; when, and by whom paid, and what disposition has been made of all the money arising from the sales of said lots; and that the said committee have power to call for persons and papers.

Mr. Metcalf submitted for consideration the following resolution: Resolved, That the President be requested to inquire into the progress has been made in the execution of an act of the last session, entitled "An act to abolish the Indian Trading Establishments;" with a report from the factories respectively, as the same may be made to him.

This resolve, from its nature, lies on the table one day of course.

Mr. Walworth submitted for consideration the following resolution: Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this House the several laws which have been made by the Governor and Legislative Council of Florida, together with such information relative thereto as may be in possession of the Executive not improper to be communicated, showing the necessity, propriety, and practical effect of such laws.

This resolution, also, lies on the table one day of course.

The House then, according to the order of the day, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill to authorize the occupation of the mouth of the Columbia River.

Debate or proposition being offered thereon, the committee rose and reported the bill to the House with the amendments.

The amendments were severally taken up and agreed to by the House, and the further consideration of the bill was postponed to the second Monday in January, that more time might be afforded for the purpose of collecting information on the subject.

THURSDAY, DEC. 19.

The House took up the resolution yesterday moved by Mr. Johnson, of Lou. requesting the Secretary of State to communicate certain information respecting the Territory at the mouth of Columbia River—which, after being amended, was agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting the books containing the decisions of the commissioners on the claims to land, derived from French and Spanish titles in the late territory of Missouri and the territory of Arkansas, called for on the motion of Mr. Scott; which were referred to the committee on Public Lands.

The House then took up the bill "to abolish imprisonment for debt," which was re-committed to a select committee.

The House then went into a committee of the whole on the bill to provide for an additional Judge in the territory of Michigan; which, after a few remarks, was ordered to be engrossed, and read a third time to-morrow.

On motion, the bills concerning the collection of the revenue, &c. passed over this morning, were taken up, and the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on that subject. No debate or objection being made to the bill to make perpetual the act of 3d March, 1815, for regulating the collection of the duties on imports, it was reported to the House, and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20.

Mr. Sloane, from the committee on Elections, made the following report: The committee on Elections, to whom was referred certificates of the election of members returned to fill the vacancies in the present Congress, have examined the same, and report the following persons duly elected, and entitled to seats in this House, viz: From the State of Maine—Mark Harris, do. Delaware—Daniel Rodney, do. Virginia—Jas. Stephenson, do. Indiana—Jon. Jennings.

The resolution yesterday moved by Mr. Trimble, requesting from the President of the U. States, information and estimates of the expense of fortifying Thompson's Island, commonly called Key West, on the coast of Florida, was then taken up; and the question being on agreeing thereto, was determined in the affirmative.

Mr. Fuller offered the following: Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy Department be directed to inform this House

what rules and regulations have been proposed by the Board of Commissioners and approved by the President, for the government of the Navy of the United States, and how far a revision of the same may be necessary.

This resolve lies over for one day. Mr. Wright submitted the following: Resolved, That the committee on the Militia be instructed to enquire into the expediency of arming the militia with rifles, except those residing in cities, towns, and villages, and report thereon by bill or otherwise.

Which was ordered to lie on the table.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Fuller, took up the bill, lying on the table from the last session, for incorporating the United States Naval Fraternal Association for the relief of the families of deceased officers; which was ordered to lie on the table; but was subsequently taken up, on motion of Mr. Fuller, and re-committed (for such amendment as Mr. F. thought would take away all objection to it,) to the committee on Naval Affairs.

The engrossed bill to make perpetual the act of March 3, 1815, to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, was read a third time, passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The following committees have recently been appointed in the House of Representatives: On Roads and Canals.—Messrs. Stewart, Reid, of Geo. Hawks, Matson, Ball, Burton, and Vance.

On Retrenchment.—Messrs. Hardin, Whipple, Tracy, Holcomb, Ross, Williams of N. C. William Smith.

On the Sales of City Lots, &c.—Messrs. Coker, Woodcock, Warfield, Floyd, Lincoln.

On the bill to abolish imprisonment for debt.—Messrs. J. Speed Smith, Nelson of Va. and Cuthbert.

General Assembly.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, DEC. 19.

Mr. Cameron presented a resolution, authorizing the Public Treasurer to pay to the Clerks of the Superior Court of Wake county the amount of all such costs and charges as have been incurred in behalf of the state in carrying on the prosecution against Gen. Roberts, of Carter county; which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. Cameron, from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred a bill for the better preservation of health in the city of Raleigh; and a bill pointing out the duty of justices of the peace and constables—reported the same without amendment, and they were, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Cameron, from the same committee, to whom was referred a resolution, relative to the expediency of amending the act of 1820, pointing out the duty of guardians, so as not to require such guardians whose bonds are good and solvent, to renew them every three years, returned the same to the Senate, requesting to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject; which was agreed to.

Received from the House of Commons, a message stating that they have passed the engrossed bill declaring what slaves and headings shall be merchantable, with an amendment, and asking the concurrence of the Senate; which was read and agreed to.

The following bills were presented: By Mr. Sewell, a bill to amend the act of 1821, entitled "An act in addition to the former acts passed for the government of the city of Raleigh.

Mr. M'Leary, a bill making compensation to the Jurors in the Courts of Mecklenburg County.

And Mr. Williamson, a bill to advance the administration of justice in the Supreme Court—which bills were severally read the first time, and the latter referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

The bill to establish Courts of Equity separate from the Courts of Law, being read the 2d time, was, on motion of Mr. Branch, indefinitely postponed—yeas 38, nays 22.

Received from the House of Commons a message, stating their concurrence in the several amendments made by the Senate to the bill supplemental to the act of this session, for the division of R wan County. The bill was ordered to be enrolled.

The bill making compensation to the Jurors in the Courts of Mecklenburg, was read the 2d and 3d times, and ordered to be engrossed.

The engrossed bill, making compensation to the Jurors of the Superior and County Courts of Franklin and Camden, was read the first time.

Received from the House of Commons a message, stating that they have passed a bill to amend the act of 1819, giving to the County Courts power to regulate separate elections, &c. also, a bill granting further time to perfect rules to lands within this State—which bills passed their first reading.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20.

Mr. Branch, from the committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred a resolution, directing an inquiry into the expediency of appropriating a sum of money for clearing out and rendering navigable Waccamaw river, reported that the measure was inexpedient.

Mr. B. also reported without amendment, the bill which was referred to the above committee, to appoint commissioners to lay off the great state road from Jonathan Woody's old blacksmith's shop to Salem; and, on motion, the said bill was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Cameron, from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred sundry resolutions, adopted by the Senate, on the subject of granting letters of administration, &c. reported a bill further to amend an act concerning the proving of wills, granting letters of administration, and to prevent frauds in the management of intestates' estates, passed in 1715, which passed its first reading.

Mr. Miller, from the committee to whom was referred the subject of ceding

to the United States the jurisdiction of certain lands which had been moved to be discharged from further consideration of the subject; which was agreed to.

Mr. Shober presented a resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of extending the benefit of the act for ascertaining the method of proving book debts to guardians of persons found non compos mentis; which was agreed to.

The following bills were presented: By Mr. Baird, a bill to repeal all acts and clauses of acts, offering a premium for wolf scalps; and a bill to incorporate the Free Bridge Company, in Buncombe County; and

Mr. Shober, a bill regulating the duties of the Clerks of County Courts and others; which were read the 1st time and passed.

The bill to amend an act of 1798, empowering the County Courts of the several counties to order the laying out of public roads, and to establish and settle Ferries; and so appoint where bridges shall be built, and to clear inland rivers and creeks being amended, was read the 2d and 3d times, passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

SATURDAY, DEC. 21.

Mr. Blackwell from the committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of issuing a further sum of Treasury Notes, reported a bill to raise a fund to liquidate the debt which the State owes to the State Bank; which was read the first time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Outlaw, the following resolution, (reported by the committee on the subject) was taken up, and agreed to.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to make any change in the present arrangement of the congressional districts of this State.

Mr. Shober, from the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, reported a bill to authorize the securities of William Barr, late Sheriff of Stokes County, to collect arrears of taxes; which was read the 1st time and passed.

Received from the House of Commons a message, stating that they have passed the bill to provide a revenue for the payment of the civil list and contingent charges of government for 1823, with sundry amendments—which were read and agreed to.

The following bills were presented: By Mr. Carson, a bill to prevent the Clerks of Record from practising as attorneys or counsellors within their respective counties. Mr. Glisson, a bill to extend certain privileges to the securities of persons who may hereafter take the prison bounds; and Mr. Lindsay, a bill to prevent the destruction of Oysters in this State; which bills were read the first time.

The engrossed bill to repeal the second section of the act of 1821, respecting the Supreme Court, was read the 2d time, and after being amended, was read the third time, & ordered to be engrossed.

The bill for the better regulation of the militia of this State was amended on its second reading, and then read the third time, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to regulate, in part, the practice in the County and Superior Courts, was read the second and third time.

The bill to repeal, in part, the act of 1805, concerning the encroachment and unappropriated lands, was read the third time.

MONDAY, DEC. 23.

Mr. Wim. V. Speight, the Senator from Greene, elected to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Abraham Dargen, was qualified, and took his seat.

Received from the House of Commons, a message stating that they have passed a bill for the relief of debtors, for debts which may be contracted after the first of May next, which was read the first time and passed.

Received from the House of Commons, a resolution, adopted by that House, proposing to appoint a joint select committee to enquire into the expediency of amending the inspection laws relative to tar, pitch and turpentine; which was agreed to by the Senate.

Mr. Sneed, from the select committee to whom was referred the bill to consolidate and amend the several laws relative to the possession of land, reported the same without amendment, which was, on motion of Mr. Sneed, indefinitely postponed.

Received from the House of Commons, a message stating that they have passed the engrossed bill to incorporate the Mecklenburg and Robeson Agricultural Societies, with an amendment. The said amendment was agreed to by the Senate.

Mr. McKay presented a bill to promote agriculture and family domestic manufactures within this state; which passed its first reading.

Received from the House of Commons, a bill appointing commissioners to extend and mark the dividing line between Bladen and Cumberland; which passed its first reading.

Mr. Williams, from the committee appointed to conduct the balloting for a Major General of the third division, reported that Jehu Bird was duly elected.

The bill to cede to the United States that part of Chowan river between Sandy Point and the mouth of Bonnet's creek, and the bill to limit the term of office of certain officers therein named, were severally read the second and third times, passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

TUESDAY, DEC. 24.

The engrossed bill to repeal part of the act of 1784, to prevent the exportation of unmerchantable commodities, was on its 2d reading, rejected.

The bill to fix the time of appointing County Trustees, was read the 2d time, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to amend the act of 1806, for the more uniform and convenient administration of justice, after several propositions being made for its amendment, was rejected on its 2d reading—yeas 23, nays 24.

The engrossed bill to amend the act of 1806, for the more convenient administration of justice, by giving relief for counties in which suits accumulate, that they cannot be tried at regular terms; was on its 2d reading, rejected—yeas 25, nays 24.

The engrossed bill to amend the act of 1819, to give to the County Courts power to regulate separate elections, was on its 2d reading, indefinitely postponed.

The engrossed bill directing the time and place of selling land and slaves under execution, passed its 3d reading.

The bill to encourage the establishment of runaway slaves in the Great Dismal Swamp, was read the 3d time, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to authorize two or more companies in the town of W. Shober, to the bill to extend and improve the State Roads leading from Wake county to the Tennessee line—yeas 23, nays 24.

The bill to amend an act of 1806, giving the 8th division of militia; and the proposition in favor of James Patton, James Buchanan and John S. Emerson, were read the 3d time, and ordered to be engrossed.

Received from the House of Commons, a message, stating that they have passed a bill to incorporate the State Bank, No. 78; also a bill to incorporate a light ferry company in Newbern; also a bill authorizing Thos. Cobbs to erect a bridge across N. S. river; also a resolution in favor of John Ferguson; and a bill for the concurrence of the Senate—which were read the first time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, DEC. 19.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, the committee on Internal Improvement was instructed to inquire into the expediency of appropriating a sum of money from the funds set apart for Internal Improvement, for the purpose of opening a Road from W. Woodward's, in Buncombe County, to the Tennessee line, so as to intersect the road laid out by the State of Tennessee from King's Salt Works.

Mr. Strange, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of the town of Fayetteville, made a report favorable to the prayer of the petitioners, recommending the passage of a bill to incorporate the Cape-Fear Steam Boat Company.

The bill to provide a revenue for the payment of the civil list and contingent charges of government for the year 1823, was read the first time.

On motion of Mr. Gilchrist, the committee on Internal Improvement was instructed to inquire into the expediency of appropriating \$500 from the fund set apart for Internal Improvement to facilitate the navigation of Lumber River.

Mr. Burgin, from the committee, to whom was referred the resolution directing them to inquire into the expediency of repealing the act of 1815, providing for the appointment of Electors to vote for President and Vice President of the United States, so far as the same provides for their appointment by general ticket, reported that it is inexpedient to repeal said act, which was concurred in—yeas 36, nays 25.

The bill to amend an act to empower the County Courts to provide for the safe keeping of the Estates of Idiot and Lunatic, was on its second reading, indefinitely postponed.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Jones, for the indefinite postponement of the bill for the relief of debtors which may be contracted after the first day of May next; which was negatively 13 to 16. The bill then passed its 3d reading, and was referred to Messrs. Henry, J. Gen. Am. Mebane, Fisher & Moore.

The bill to improve the navigation of the Cape-Fear River below the town of Wilmington, passed its 3d reading.

On motion of Mr. Baird, the committee on Internal Improvement was instructed to enquire into the expediency of appropriating from the same fund \$1000, for the purpose of opening a road where the road laid out by Tennessee crosses Smoky Mountain in the town of Franklin, in the Cherokee purchase.

The bill to prescribe the time at which the office of Sheriff shall expire, the bill to amend an act passed in 1821, to provide for the execution of process where there shall be no proper officer to execute the same; the bill to repeal part of the 4th section of an act passed in 1813, to establish the mode of elections in Buncombe County; the bill to restore Davis Etheridge, of Camden County, to credit the bill to prevent the hunting of fowl in Currituck County; and the bill to appoint commissioners for the town of Kinston, in Lenoir County, and to enlarge their powers, were read the first time.

The following bills were presented: By Mr. A. B. M'Millan, a bill for repairing and improving the road leading from Hatterasville, in Surry county, over the Blue Ridge, in Ashe County, to the Virginia Line.

Mr. M'Laurin, a bill pointing out the qualifications of Officers of Roads—The bill was indefinitely postponed on its first reading, and the former referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Barnett, a bill to prevent Hogs from running at large in certain parts of Currituck County—which passed its first reading.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20.

Mr. Henry, from the special committee to whom was referred the bill for the relief of debtors, for debts which may be contracted after the 1st day of May next, reported the bill with sundry amendments—which were concurred in, and the bill passed its 3d reading.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Fisher in the Chair, on the revenue bill, which having been gone through, the Speaker resumed his seat, and the Chairman reported that the Committee had made several amendments to the bill, which amendments were concurred in, and the bill passed its 2d reading. A motion was then made for its third reading, which was pending, Mr. Graves moved to further amend the bill, by increasing the tax on Brokers from 200 to 1000 dollars, which was negatively 72 to 41, and the bill passed its 3d reading.

The bill authorizing the Sheriff of Bladen county to collect the arrears due him, was referred to Messrs. Baker, Elmer, Shepard, Ward and Dockery.

Mr. Lamb presented a resolution requesting the Board for Internal Improvements, to furnish to the Legislature, a detailed statement of all their expenditures, from the time of Mr. Fulton's engagement in Europe, to the present day, &c. A motion was made for its