

General Assembly.

SENATE.

Friday, Nov. 23.—Mr. Speight, of Greene, introduced a bill to repeal the act of 1823, entitled "An act concerning the Roanoke Navigation Company;" which on the following day was referred to the committee on Internal Improvements. The resolution was accompanied by the following remarks:

Mr. Speight said, it would be recollected by the Senate, that on yesterday, he had the honor to introduce a bill concerning the navigation of the Roanoke river. Since that time, he had consulted with gentlemen on the subject, who had advised him to refer the bill to the committee on Internal Improvements. After some small degree of deliberation, he was led to believe it was the better course, and he was supported in that belief from the fact that the gentlemen who compose that committee are competent to do ample justice to this, or any subject that might be referred to them. It would be recollected by the Senate, that, on introducing the bill, he took occasion to remark that he was actuated by no other motive than a desire fairly to bring this subject before the Legislature. He repeated the same again. If the interest of the State required that the \$25,000 voted in 1823, should now be paid over, he felt a hearty willingness for it to go; but it would be recollected that four years had intervened between the passing of the act and resolution of the Board to lock in from the Basin at Weldon's Orchard; he should like to be informed what was the occasion of this delay; and it would also be recollected by the Senate, that the provisions of the act did not, as is usual on such occasions, direct that the money should be paid out of the fund set apart for internal improvements; but, on the contrary, it was to be paid out of any unappropriated monies remaining in the Treasury. He was well aware of the general jealousy that prevailed over the State, in the minds of the people, in regard to this subject; and he well knew the cause, which, however, on this occasion he would forbear to mention. During the last four years, he had not unfrequently been called on, whilst in the exercise of his legislative duties, to vote on this important subject; and he believed his votes would testify to the world that, on all questions of this nature, that were connected with the true policy of the country, as far as his abilities would allow, had found in him a zealous and efficient support. This, he hoped, would ever be his conduct, so long as he continued to exercise the rights of a member on this floor; but he was ready, at all times, to raise his voice against those wild and visionary schemes which were calculated to result in no practical good to the State. He held in his hand a resolution which would direct the attention of the committee to that subject; and, if agreed to, he would move also to refer the bill alluded to, to the same committee.

Resolved, That the committee on Internal Improvements be instructed to inquire, and report to the Senate, what progress has been made towards completing the navigation of the river Roanoke; and into the practicability of completing the same by locking in from the Basin at Weldon's Orchard, together with the probable expense of completing the same, and what practical good would result to the State from effecting the same.

Mr. Montgomery presented a bill, vesting the election of Sheriffs in the people.

Monday, Nov. 26.—On motion of Mr. Pickett it was resolved, that a joint select committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of amending and consolidating the several acts of the General Assembly, respecting the Treasury Department; and that said committee be instructed to examine the books of the Treasury, the monies in the Treasury office, and the sums deposited in the different Banks to the credit of the State.

Tuesday, Nov. 27.—Mr. Wilson, of Edgecombe presented a bill to alter the times of holding the Superior Courts in the third Judicial district.

Wednesday, Nov. 28.—Mr. Deberry presented a bill to provide for the final settlement of executors and administrators.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Saturday, Nov. 24.—The resignations of B. Wilkinson, Lieut. Col. of the second regiment; and of W. K. Bulluck, Major of the first regiment of Edgecombe militia, were read and accepted.

Monday, Nov. 26.—On motion of Mr. Wheeler, the committee on Internal Improvements were directed to inquire into the most practicable plan of opening a communication between the Albemarle Sound and the Atlantic Ocean.

Mr. Stewart presented a resolution, referring to a committee, composed of the members from Halifax, Bertie, Martin, Northampton, Washington, Hertford, and Chowan, the subject of regulating the fisheries on the Roanoke and the Cashee rivers and the Albemarle Sound; the laws now in force in relation thereto, being deemed unequal in their operation.

Tuesday, Nov. 27.—On motion of Mr. Bynum the committee of Finance, were instructed to examine into all disbursements of the public monies, within the preceding fiscal year, for the purpose of ascertaining whether such disbursements have been made under proper authority; and whether there have been made any improvident or improper disbursements by reason of any misconstruction or defects in the law, which may require legislative interposition.

On motion of Mr. Allen, a select committee were appointed to inquire into the expediency and necessity of establishing a Medical Board in this State.

On motion of Mr. Brevard, the committee on Military affairs were instructed to inquire into the expediency of altering the militia laws, compelling officers commanding companies, to exercise

their respective companies, from three hours on each parade day, to one hour. And, on motion of Mr. Taylor, the same committee were also instructed to enquire into the expediency of reducing the petty musters in each year to one; and that muster to precede the general muster, by a period not exceeding three months.

On motion of Mr. Fisher, the committee on Internal Improvement, were directed to enquire into the expediency of causing a survey to be made, with the view of ascertaining the best line for a Rail Road, from some point on the Yadkin river above the Narrows, to the town of Fayetteville.

Wednesday, Nov. 28.—On motion of Mr. Smith, the committee on Military affairs were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the militia laws of this State, as to compel the people, called Quakers, Moravians, Menonists, and Dunkards, to bear arms or pay an equivalent for exemption.

Political.

Mr. Clay.—In a speech delivered at Lexington, Ky. a few months since, Mr. Clay observed:

"I was afterwards informed that, when it (his nomination as Secretary of State) was acted upon, Gen. Jackson, and every other Senator was silent, no one presuming to question my honor or integrity. How can Gen. Jackson justify to his conscience or to his country this palpable breach of his public duty?"

The speech of Gov. Branch, on the occasion alluded to by Mr. Clay, which has recently been published, having placed Mr. Clay or his informant in the predicament of having stated what was not true, Gen. Harrison, of Ohio, has endeavored to exculpate Mr. Clay—but, as usual, in all the recent attempts to justify Mr. C.'s language or conduct, the direct point at issue is evaded. Gen. Harrison says that Mr. Clay applied to him to move for a committee of inquiry into his conduct, provided any thing should occur in Gen. H.'s opinion to make it necessary; and this application was repeated on the day that the nomination was taken up by the Senate—but does Gen. Harrison say that he told Mr. Clay every Senator was silent?—far from it—he says, from the position he occupied in the Senate Chamber, he did not distinctly hear the greater part of Mr. Branch's speech, and he applied to one or two other Senators to know whether any thing had been said which would render it proper to move for an enquiry—they said "that nothing had fallen from Mr. Branch which would make a motion of that kind necessary;" consequently Gen. Harrison says:

"On the day that the nomination was acted on by the Senate, or on the succeeding one, I informed Mr. Clay that nothing had passed in the Senate, which made it necessary to move for the investigation which he had solicited."

That it was not necessary "to move for the investigation," will be readily conceded; for no doubt it was as distinctly ascertained, before this nomination was acted upon in the Senate, who would, and who would not vote for Mr. Clay as Secretary of State, as it was a few days previous in the House of Representatives who would, and who would not vote for Mr. Adams as President—but this is not the point at issue: Mr. Clay said he was informed that "Gen. Jackson and every other Senator present was silent," and has made this the ground of an important charge against Gen. Jackson—the

testimony of Gen. Harrison does not sustain the declaration, and Mr. Clay must produce his informant, or stand self-convicted of wilful misrepresentation.

Kentucky.—John Calhoun (friendly to the Administration) has been elected a Representative to Congress from the District in Kentucky lately represented by Dr. Young, (who was also friendly to the Administration,) by a majority of 35 or 40 votes over Thomas Chilton, the Opposition candidate.

Remark.—At the close of the Congressional election in Kentucky last summer, notwithstanding the result was seven for the Opposition, and five for the Administration, the advocates of the latter claimed a majority of about 5000 votes in the whole State. In two of the Congressional districts, which gave about 7000 votes each, there were no Opposition candidates, consequently those two districts did not give a single vote to the Opposition—subsequently, the death of Dr. Young, made it necessary to select another person to represent one of these districts. At this time an Administration and an Opposition candidate were presented to the people; and the result, as above announced, gives the Administration candidate a majority of 35 or 40 votes, when agreeable to the own showing, his predecessor had about 7000 majority, a few months since. Mr. Chilton, the Opposition candidate is represented as a young gentleman of talents and much promise; but he is almost a stranger in the district, not having resided in it more than twelve or eighteen months, and in several counties was personally unknown. Mr. Calhoun, his competitor, has resided and practised law in the district for many years, and has been a member of the State Legislature—possessing these advantages, that he should be elected by such a lean majority, in a district which was thought to be decidedly for the Administration, affords a just ground of exultation for the Opposition. Indeed, so confident are the Opposition party in the State of having a majority, that they avow their readiness to give the Administration party a trial of strength on the General Ticket system.

New-York.—The Albany Advertiser contains a list of the members of the present Legislature of New-York, and an estimate of the strength of parties in reference to the Presidential question from which it appears, that in the Senate there are 23 for Jackson and 9 for Adams—in the House of Representatives, 94 for Jackson, 31 for Adams, and 3 doubtful—giving the doubtful votes to Adams, it would make on a joint ballot, 117 for Gen. Jackson, and 43 for Mr. Adams. The recent elections were generally decided in reference to the Presidential question, and the result has far exceeded the most sanguine calculations of the friends of Gen. Jackson.

Naturalized Citizens.—In speaking of the result of the last election in New-York, the "National Advocate," the leading Administration paper says: "We have among us half a million of Irishmen"—"the character of our country is degraded with the connection, the morals of our people injured by the contact; and the liberties and government threatened by the further accumulation of a population composed of such materials, without education and without attachment to the country which they have been forced to adopt, to escape starvation, or the