

General Assembly.

SENATE.

Mr. Mebane presented a resolution in favor of Benjamin Britain and Isham Matthews, allowing them pay for the time they were detained by illness at Raleigh after the adjournment of the last session; which passed its first reading.

The bill more effectually to suppress the practice of usury, was indefinitely postponed on its second reading—34 to 21.

Mr. M'Farland presented the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Commons, That this Legislature adjourn on Thursday next sine die.

Mr. Boddie moved that the resolution be laid on the table; which was not agreed to. The question was then taken on its adoption, and decided in the affirmative—37 to 16.

The engrossed bill to regulate the fees of clerks and sheriffs, was rejected on its first reading.

The engrossed bill regulating the inspection of fish for the town of Murfreesborough, was amended on motion of Mr. Matthews, by extending its provisions, to the town of Halifax.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Fisher presented a resolution requesting the Governor to address a letter to the President of the United States, asking that he would order to this State a detachment of topographical engineers for the purpose of making a survey, with a view of ascertaining the best line for a rail road from Fayetteville to some point on the Yadkin river above the Narrows, and from the Yadkin to the Catawba, so as to connect the valleys of the Catawba and Yadkin with the Cape Fear; and also to make an estimate of the cost of erecting such rail road. Which resolution, on motion of Mr. Fisher, was laid on the table.

The bill to provide for obtaining statistical information as to the resources of the State, was read the third time, amended, and rejected—64 to 58.

Mr. Wyche from the select joint committee to whom was referred the remonstrance of the Dismal Swamp Canal Company, reported a bill to provide for the removal of an obstruction to the passage of masted vessels from the Dismal Swamp Canal to Albemarle Sound; which bill passed its first reading.

Raleigh, Jan. 8.

The Banks.—On Monday, Mr. Potter's Bill and Resolution again came up for consideration, and were, on his motion, amended by the substitution of an entire new bill, with the exception of the enacting clause. By this it was provided that the Attorney General should proceed against the *State Bank* only, either by information in the nature of a writ of *quo warranto* or other legal process; that the Supreme Court should have jurisdiction of the cause, and should meet on the first Monday of February next, and enter upon the trial; that in

case the corporation should be dissolved, such dissolution should not work an extinguishment of the debts either due to or from the Bank; that the court should appoint commissioners, whose duty it should be to take into possession all the effects of the institution, and proceed to wind up the affairs thereof; and that so soon as this object should be effected, and a detailed statement of their proceedings in writing be delivered to the Court, that thereupon the Court should make such decree as should be compatible with the rights of the stockholders, the claims of creditors, and the condition of debtors. These, according to our understanding, were the most prominent features of the amendment. Upon the adoption of this amendment, Mr. Nash moved to lay the bill on the table, in order that the House should not proceed further without a day's reflection. This course was opposed by Messrs. Potter, Cooper and Fisher, and the motion was lost by a small majority. The bill, as amended, was read the second time and passed—Ayes 62, Nays 54.

On Tuesday, Mr. Wyche moved an amendment, which provided for the punishment of any officer of the Banks, who should for, or on account of such Bank, trade in articles not permitted by the charter—should buy the notes of such Bank, either in this State or elsewhere, at a price below their nominal amount—or should require an exchange of the notes of any other Bank as a condition of granting a loan or discounting a note, or of more favorable terms of renewal.—For these several offences, heavy fines, and in some cases, imprisonment was to be inflicted; and lastly, it proposes to make the Banks pay ten per cent. per annum, interest on all notes presented for payment after the 1st January, 1830. It was opposed by Messrs. Potter, Fisher, Shipp & Cooper, and lost. The bill was then read the third time, when considerable debate ensued, in which Messrs. Nash & Jones of Rowan opposed, and Messrs. Allison, Shipp and Bynum advocated it. The ayes and nays having been called for by Mr. Graham, the Clerk announced the result to be, in favor of the passage of the Bill 59. The Speaker (Mr. Settle) voted with the minority, and the bill was rejected.

Yesterday the same bill, or one similar to it, was introduced in the Senate by Mr. Alexander; which was rejected on its first reading—29 to 28.

During the discussion of this subject, which has excited so much interest in both Houses, we carefully forbore to express our opinion or views concerning any of the measures proposed, believing that it would be improper and indelicate in us to attempt to forestall public opinion one way or the other while the debate was going on. Now that it has passed the ordeal of the Legislature, we have no hesitation in giving it as our deliberate opinion, that the Banks have violated their charters, and, in many instances, acted contrary to the correct principles of banking; but, like many others,

we are unable to point out a course calculated to remedy the evil, under which so many of our citizens are suffering.

On Tuesday last, the following gentlemen were chosen Counselors of State for the ensuing year: Gideon Alston, William B. Lockhart, George W. Geffries, Archibald M'Bride, Alexander Gray, Thomas Kenan and Nathan B. Whitfield.

On Monday last, the following gentlemen were elected Trustees of the University of this State, to supply vacancies in the Board: John M. Morehead, Hugh Waddell, John Giles, John L. Baily and William S. Mhoon.—*Star*.

Statistics.—While at Raleigh, we amused ourselves in gathering the following statistical facts, in relation to the vocations, presidential preference, and matrimonial condition, of the members composing the present legislature of North Carolina.

VOCATIONS.

Farmers -	143
Lawyers -	34
Doctors -	8
Mechanics -	6
Merchants -	4
Sea Captain -	1

POLITICS.

For Jackson -	153
For Adams -	39
Neutral -	4

MATRIMONIAL CONDITION.

Married -	140
Bachelors -	43
Widowers -	13

Western Carolinian.



Tarborough,

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1829.

General Assembly.—The Legislature of this State adjourned on Saturday last, having passed 45 Acts of a public nature, 122 private acts, and several resolutions. We are indebted to the politeness of Gen. L. D. WILSON, Senator from this county, for a copy of the Captions of the Laws, passed at this session. In our next paper we will insert all the public acts—the following are the acts and resolutions which we conceive to be most interesting to our readers:

More effectually to enforce the payment of taxes from free negroes and mulattoes. [Provides that the owners of lands, on which free negroes and mulattoes reside with their permission, shall be liable for the public, county and parish taxes of said free negroes and mulattoes, and for refusal or neglect to give them in as free polls in their list of taxable property, the owners of land as aforesaid shall be liable to the same penalty as for a neglect or refusal to give in their own list of taxable property.]

Amending the act to prohibit the trading with slaves. [Prohibits any white person from selling to a slave any fire arms, powder, shot or lead, under a penalty of 100 dollars; and also declares such trading to be an indictable offence. It also provides that if any free negro or mulatto shall trade in the above enumera-

ted articles, he shall, on conviction, receive 39 lashes.]

To restrain the justices of the County Courts in granting licenses to retail spiritous liquors. [Provides that licenses shall not be granted to any but a free white person of good moral character, to be testified to by at least two witnesses.]

PRIVATE ACTS.

Concerning the town of Tarborough. [Relative to working on the streets.]

Providing for the removal of the obstructions to the passage of masted vessels from the Dismal Swamp Canal to Albemarle Sound.

Directing the time and place of selling land under execution in the counties of Halifax, Northampton, Hertford and Martin.

Incorporating the Edgecombe Manufacturing Company.

Establishing and incorporating Rocky Mount Academy.

Regulating the inspection of fish for the towns of Murfreesborough and Halifax.

RESOLUTIONS.

Surrendering the right of the State of North Carolina to take shares in the stock of the Roanoke Navigation Company.

Instructing the Public Treasurer to make no further investments of the funds of the State in the stock of either of the Banks of the State.

Congress.... This Body has been five weeks in session, yet but little business of importance has been done in either House. The present Congress, it should be remembered, expires constitutionally on the 4th of March; and time wasted now, may be regretted towards the close of the session. In the House of Representatives, Mr. Floyd's Bill, authorising the establishment of a Territorial Government at the mouth of Columbia River, has been the principal subject of discussion for a number of days, and has furnished the theme for many a dull, tedious harangue....not that we have read the one half of the Speeches on the Oregon project as they have been published in the National Intelligencer; but we judge the debate to have been extremely wearisome, from the circumstance that on Tuesday last the question upon an amendment proposed by Mr. Taylor could not be decided for want of a quorum!—Now, if Members of Congress will not listen to each other's Speeches, how can they expect other people to read them when printed? We seriously think, if one of our long-winded Orators, when he rises to *inflict* a speech, could be induced by some means to reflect a moment on the *cost* of the *time* he is about to consume, and how very long it takes to sift a small quantity of grain from a great bulk of chaff, he would, if rational, pause ere he proceeded so far in his wordy career as to drive his compeers from their seats, and thereby put a stop to the public business.—*Pet. Times.*

No arrivals—no News.—Week after week we have been expecting that some one of the many Ships due, would come into port, and