

New Orleans Republican. OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEW ORLEANS

SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

SEVENTH DAY'S SESSION. SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, January 14, 1874.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by Hon. C. C. Anderson, Lieutenant Governor of the State and President of the Senate.

On call of the roll the following Senators answered to their names: Messrs. Anderson, Alexander, Blackburn, Barber, Belden, Blunt, Bovee, Brewster, Butler, Burch, Cade, Chadbourne, Crawford, Greene, Harris, E. F. Herwig, Harper, Ingraham, Kelo, Pollard, Rey, Sypher, Twitchell, Weber, Wharton, Whitney—26.

The President announced a quorum present. Prayer by the chaplain. The reading of the journal of yesterday's proceedings was dispensed with, and the journal adopted.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, New Orleans, January 14, 1874. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed by the House to ask the concurrence of your honorable body in the following House bill, viz: House bill No. 23, substitute for House bill No. 2, entitled an act making an appropriation for the payment of the mileage and per diem and contingent expenses of the General Assembly of the State for the regular session of 1874, and describing the manner in which the same shall be paid.

Also, House bill No. 7, authorizing the appointment of a commission to examine into charges against the clerk of the court of the parish of St. James. Very respectfully, JOHN W. ROXBOROUGH, Assistant Clerk.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS. By Mr. Burch: The petition of S. Wrotowski, late president of the board of control, Louisiana Penitentiary, asking his salary as a member of that board.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON CLAIMS. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES. BY MR. INGRAHAM, from the Committee on Enrollment: CONGRESS ON ENROLLMENT, New Orleans, January 14, 1874. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I have the honor to herewith report as having been duly engrossed Senate bill No. 43, an act proposing amendments to the constitution of the State of Louisiana. Very respectfully, JAMES H. INGRAHAM, Chairman.

By Mr. Twitchell, late chairman committee on auditing and supervising the expenses of the Senate for the extra session of 1872 and regular session of 1873: Your committee on auditing and supervising the expenses of the Senate for the extra session of 1872 and regular session of 1873 respectfully submit the following report:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes Committee on Enrollment (\$1,825.00), Secretary's department (7,291.32), Sergeant-at-arms department (4,528.00), Incident expenses (193.45), Committee on Finance (203.00), Committee on auditing and supervising expenses of Senate (221.00), Committee on Elections (196.00), Postoffice department (196.00), Private secretary of Lieutenant Governor (203.00), Mileage and per diem of Senators (12,341.10).

privileges to the inhabitants of the city of Baton Rouge, in the parish of East Baton Rouge, and to provide for the government of the affairs thereof, and to repeal an act entitled an act to amend the several acts relative to the police and government of the city of Baton Rouge, approved April 2, 1853, and to repeal an act provided for the government of the city of Baton Rouge, approved March 8, 1856, and to repeal all acts amendatory thereto.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS. By Mr. Weber: A bill to be entitled an act to amend an act to incorporate the town of St. Francisville, in the parish of West Feliciana. The bill was read the first time.

The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read the second time, and referred to the Committee on Corporations and Parochial Affairs. By Mr. Masco: A bill to be entitled an act to create an insurance department, and to regulate the management of insurance companies.

The bill was read the first time. The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read the second time and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures. By Mr. Ingraham: A bill to be entitled the general insurance act of Louisiana.

The bill was read the first time. The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read the second time and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures. By Mr. Brewer: A bill to be entitled an act submitting to the voters of the State a proposed amendment to the constitution prohibiting the General Assembly from lending the credit of the State to any railroad or other corporation, and prohibiting the State from subscribing to the stock of any railroad company or other corporation.

The bill was read the first time. The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read the second time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary. By Mr. Gage: A bill to be entitled an act to consolidate and incorporate the towns of Lockport and Longvile, in the parish of Lafourche, under one title; to fix the boundaries of said towns, and to provide for the administration of the affairs thereof.

The bill was read the first time. The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read the second time and referred to the Committee on Corporations and Parochial Affairs. By Mr. Brewer: A bill to be entitled an act proposing amendments to the constitution of the State, providing that the people of this State shall never be taxed for the promotion of private interests, and prohibiting the General Assembly from granting or authorizing any exclusive privilege or monopoly whatever to individuals or corporations; providing that no license tax shall be imposed upon any industrial pursuit whatever.

The bill was read the first time. The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read the second time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary. By Mr. Brewer: A bill to be entitled an act fixing the time for the regular meeting of the General Assembly. The bill was read the first time.

The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT. By Mr. Anderson: A bill to be entitled an act to dispose of the proceeds of land and land scrip donated to the State of Louisiana by the act of the Congress of the United States approved July 2, 1862, entitled, "an act denoting public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts."

The bill was read the first time. The constitutional rule was suspended, the bill was read the second time and referred to the Committee on Public Education. JOINT RESOLUTION. By Mr. Anderson: Joint resolution relative to the one hundredth anniversary of the independence of the United States in the city of Philadelphia in 1776.

The bill was read the first time. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS. By Mr. Burch: Resolved, That the Committees on Charitable Institutions and Penitentiary be and are hereby instructed to proceed to visit the various charitable institutions existing in the State located at Baton Rouge and Jackson, at as early a day as practicable, and that one of the clerks of the Senate be detailed to accompany said committees and assist them in their investigations.

Lies over. Resolved, That no special committees shall be appointed, which shall in any manner interfere with the duties of any standing committee, but this resolution shall in no manner relate to the creation of joint special committees. Lies over. RESOLUTIONS LYING OVER. Mr. Weber called up the following resolution: Resolved, That the Committee on Contested Elections be and is hereby instructed and directed to investigate the alleged claim of George Swazie, claiming a seat in this body as Senator for the twelfth senatorial district. That said committee have power to send for persons and papers, and report the result of its investigation as soon as practicable.

Mr. Harris proposed to be added at the end of the resolution the words, "without expense to the State." The amendment proposed by Mr. Harris was accepted by Mr. Weber, and the resolution was adopted as amended. Mr. Weber called up the following resolution: Resolved, That the committee appointed by the President of the Senate to examine the books and accounts of the Auditor of Public Accounts and the State Treasurer, in compliance with sections 1540 and 1552 of the Revised Statutes, be and is hereby instructed and directed to report the result of their investigation to this body ten days from and after the passage of this resolution.

Mr. Weber offered the following amendment: Resolved further, That said committee be and is hereby specially instructed and required to ascertain the amount of cash paid into the treasury by the different tax collectors in the State, or from other sources, and ascertain what disposition has been made by the Auditor and Treasurer of the same. The following amendment was offered by Mr. Barber, to the amendment of Mr. Weber: To insert "during the year 1873," after the word "treasury," and, also, to amend the original resolution, by striking out "ten days," and inserting "twenty days."

Mr. Barber, or Caddo, presented the following petition, which was ordered to be printed in the journal: To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana: Four memorialists respectfully represent that the fire department of the city of

Shreveport is composed of about two hundred and thirty of mainly the active young men of said city who have for several years past devoted themselves to a noble and worthy of the cause, to the organization of a fire department, which is not only creditable to our city, but a great source of protection to the city, and a service which is gratuitous, and is intended still to be so, and the only consideration which has been received by those rendering such services has been an exemption from jury duty. At the last session of your honorable body a law was passed repealing this exemption and compelling the members of fire companies to render service.

Now we respectfully submit that an active member of a fire company is entitled to some exemption, especially when he receives no compensation for his services. Under the operation of the old law, which exempted active firemen from jury duty, our department has flourished, and indeed has become highly creditable to our rapidly growing young city. Under the same law it will continue to flourish and grow with the city's growth. The new law, however, repealing the exemption, has thrown a damper on the energy of our citizens, and the inducements to our citizens to connect themselves with fire companies. There are people enough in Shreveport competent for jury duty, but they have not the same law always ready to render gratuitously and efficiently.

Respectfully asking that the law repealing the exemption of active firemen from jury duty be repealed, at least so far as this department at Shreveport is concerned, we will ever pray. P. W. H. CUMMINGS, J. L. PYRON, Committee. Approved and recommended. F. N. SANCHEZ, Chief of Shreveport Fire Department; SAM LEVY, Mayor; LOUIS DAVIS, Administrator of Improvements; H. C. ZEIGLER, Administrator of Assessments; R. REINRO, Administrator of Accounts; H. C. ZEIGLER, Assistant Chief Fire Department, Shreveport; R. H. LINDSAY, President Plaquemine Fire Company No. 3, Shreveport, La., December 31, 1873.

REGULAR ORDER OF THE DAY. On motion of Mr. Brewer, House bill No. 23, substitute for House bill No. 2, an act making an appropriation for the payment of the mileage and per diem and contingent expenses of the General Assembly of the State for the regular session of 1874, and describing the manner in which the same shall be paid. The bill was read the first time.

On motion of Mr. Harris, the constitutional rule was suspended and the bill read section by section. Section one was read and adopted. Section two was read. Mr. Harris moved the following amendment to be inserted at the end of the section: And that no warrant, vouchers, or other evidence of indebtedness issued prior to January 1, 1874, shall be paid out of the appropriation made by this act. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Harris, the following additional section was added as section three: That this act shall take effect from and after its passage. The bill was then adopted as a whole on its second reading. Mr. Barber moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Finance, but subsequently withdrew the motion.

On motion of Mr. Harris, the constitutional rule was suspended and the bill read the third time, and was finally adopted, title to stand. On motion of Mr. Brewer, House bill No. 23, substitute for House bill No. 2, an act making an appropriation for the payment of the mileage and per diem and contingent expenses of the General Assembly of the State for the regular session of 1874, and describing the manner in which the same shall be paid. The bill was read the first time.

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On motion of Mr. Harris, the constitutional rule was suspended and the bill read the third time. Mr. Harris moved that the bill finally pass, and called the previous question. On call of the yeas and nays, the main question was decided by the following vote: Yeas—Barber, Belden, Bovee, Brewster, Cade, Chadbourne, Crawford, Greene, Harris, E. F. Herwig, Harper, Ingraham, Kelo, Masco, Pollard, Rey, Sypher, Stamps, Whitney—26. Nays—Anderson, Alexander, Blunt, Burch, E. F. Herwig, Twitchell, Weber, Wharton—8.

The question recurring on the final passage of the bill yeas and nays were called, and the bill finally passed by the following vote: Yeas—Anderson, Barber, Belden, Bovee, Brewster, Cade, Chadbourne, Crawford, Greene, Harris, E. F. Herwig, Harper, Ingraham, Kelo, Masco, Pollard, Rey, Sypher, Stamps, Whitney—26. Nays—Anderson, Alexander, Blunt, Burch, E. F. Herwig, Twitchell, Weber, Wharton—8.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Eighth Day's Proceedings. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, New Orleans, January 14, 1874. The House met pursuant to adjournment, Speaker Charles W. Lowell in the chair. On call of the roll the following members answered to their names: Speaker Lowell, and Messrs. Allan, Armstrong, Bowman, Boyd, Benham, Blackburn, Bickham, Cary, Carr, Conant, Conin, Dennis, Davidson, C. Davis, R. E. Davis, Dick, Dwyer, Dewees, Editor, Fontelle, Greene, Grant, Gray, Guichard, Harris, Humble, Hubert, Hill, Hain, Keith, P. Jones, M. Jones, Johnson, Keating, Kirkman, Kern, King, Keys, Y. O. King, Lewis, Linder, Lyles, Little, Marvin, Moreland, Murrell of Lafourche, Murrell of Madison, Mahoney, Mayo, Martinet, Marie, Norris, Price, Preston, Page, Prescott, Paris, Dewees, Rochon, Rodrigue, Sauer, Sawyer, Stewart, Sartin, Sner, Smit, Southard, Smith, Sutton, Sewell, Smart, Thomas, Turvay, Wanda, Ward, Washington, Ward, Wanda, Young, Washington, Ward.

A quorum present. Prayer by the Rev. E. Green. On motion of Mr. Dejoie, of Orleans, the reading of the journal in detail was dispensed with. On motion the journal was approved. Mr. Wanda, of Tangipahoa, chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, presented the following communication from the Auditor: STATE OF LOUISIANA, New Orleans, January 13, 1874. Hon. J. B. Wanda, Chairman Committee on Ways and Means.

When I wrote you my note, this morning, it was based upon information from the printer that my report would be ready tomorrow morning. Since then, I have been informed that it can not be completed before to-morrow evening—probably too late to lay before you that day—but, if I am not disappointed again, you can have it the morning of the day after, viz, Thursday. Respectfully, etc. CHARLES CLINTON, Auditor.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS. Mr. Heffner, of Caddo, presented the following petition, which was ordered to be printed in the journal: To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana: Four memorialists respectfully represent that the fire department of the city of

Shreveport is composed of about two hundred and thirty of mainly the active young men of said city who have for several years past devoted themselves to a noble and worthy of the cause, to the organization of a fire department, which is not only creditable to our city, but a great source of protection to the city, and a service which is gratuitous, and is intended still to be so, and the only consideration which has been received by those rendering such services has been an exemption from jury duty. At the last session of your honorable body a law was passed repealing this exemption and compelling the members of fire companies to render service.

Now we respectfully submit that an active member of a fire company is entitled to some exemption, especially when he receives no compensation for his services. Under the operation of the old law, which exempted active firemen from jury duty, our department has flourished, and indeed has become highly creditable to our rapidly growing young city. Under the same law it will continue to flourish and grow with the city's growth. The new law, however, repealing the exemption, has thrown a damper on the energy of our citizens, and the inducements to our citizens to connect themselves with fire companies. There are people enough in Shreveport competent for jury duty, but they have not the same law always ready to render gratuitously and efficiently.

Respectfully asking that the law repealing the exemption of active firemen from jury duty be repealed, at least so far as this department at Shreveport is concerned, we will ever pray. P. W. H. CUMMINGS, J. L. PYRON, Committee. Approved and recommended. F. N. SANCHEZ, Chief of Shreveport Fire Department; SAM LEVY, Mayor; LOUIS DAVIS, Administrator of Improvements; H. C. ZEIGLER, Administrator of Assessments; R. REINRO, Administrator of Accounts; H. C. ZEIGLER, Assistant Chief Fire Department, Shreveport; R. H. LINDSAY, President Plaquemine Fire Company No. 3, Shreveport, La., December 31, 1873.

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fully urge this on your immediate consideration. WILLIAM F. KELLOGG, Governor. FIRST DISTRICT LOUISIANA STATE MILITIA, New Orleans, January 14, 1874. His Excellency William F. Kellogg, Governor of Louisiana.

The violent demonstrations in some of the parishes of the State seem to indicate the probable necessity for the use of our militia force in preserving peace and good order. As we have no means of meeting the expenses already incurred, or of providing for future contingencies, I beg leave to suggest that a special appropriation be asked of the Legislature, for meeting the liabilities already incurred and to meet our probable wants prior to the passage of the general appropriation bill. I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant. JAMES LONGSTREET, Major General Commanding District.

On motion of Mr. Benham, of Carroll, that portion of the above message, which relates to appropriations, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations; that portion relative to militia, was referred to the Committee on Militia. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE. SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, January 14, 1874. To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives:

I am directed by the Senate to ask the concurrence of your honorable body to the following Senate amendments to House bill No. 28, substitute for House bill No. 2, an act "making an appropriation for the payment of the mileage and per diem and contingent expenses of the General Assembly of the State for the regular session of 1874, and describing the manner in which the same shall be paid."

The following amendments at the end of section two, to add: That no warrant, vouchers, or other evidence of indebtedness issued prior to January 1, 1874, shall be paid out of the appropriation made by this act. Also the following additional section: Sec. 3. That this act shall take effect from and after its passage. Very respectfully, W. H. GREEN, Secretary.

Mr. Murrell, of Lafourche, offered the following resolution: Whereas, It is generally rumored that the parish of Terrebonne is in a state of anarchy; and Whereas, This rumor tends to reflect upon the good name of said parish, to the detriment of the commercial, agricultural and general prosperity of the people residing therein; be it resolved, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives be and he is hereby authorized and directed to appoint a committee of three to inquire into the condition of said parish, and report to the House of Representatives, and they are hereby authorized to send for persons and papers.

Which was adopted. In accordance with the above resolution, the Speaker appointed the following gentlemen as the special committee: Messrs. Murrell, of Lafourche; Sauer, of Avoyelles; Marie, of Terrebonne. Mr. Demas, of St. John the Baptist, offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the offices of assistant chief clerk, chief clerk, and the first assistant sergeant-at-arms, be, and they are hereby declared vacant, and that we proceed forthwith to fill said vacancies. Lies over under the rules.

Mr. Paris, of Orleans, offered the following concurrent resolution: Resolved by the House and Senate concurring, That a joint committee composed of three members of the House of Representatives and two members of the Senate be appointed for the purpose of investigating the act of all officers of the First District Court for the parish of Orleans. Which was adopted.

Mr. Dewees, of Red River, offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the Committee on Contingent Expenses report forthwith to this House what payments, if any, have been made to those members of the General Assembly whose names appeared on the roll of the House, but who were absent in attendance upon a revolutionary day within a week of the close of the last session. Referred to the Committee on Contingent Expenses.

Mr. Heath, of Webster, offered the following resolution: Resolved, That Senate bill No. 122 be withdrawn from the Committee on Ways and Means, to be printed, and referred to committee of the whole House. Lies over under the rules. Mr. Montaldo, of Orleans, offered the following resolution: Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed to investigate the causes of the many accidents occurring by the use of coal oils and other burning fluids in the city of New Orleans, and that said committee shall have power to send for persons and papers, and report by bill or otherwise. Which was adopted.

Mr. Allain, of West Baton Rouge, offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the Committee on Appropriations be authorized and empowered to employ a clerk on the very important work of the general appropriation bill, and that said clerk be paid for his services the same salary as that of clerk of the Enrollment Committee. Which was adopted.

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN GAVE NOTICE THAT ON SOME FUTURE DAY THEY WOULD INTRODUCE THE FOLLOWING BILLS: By Mr. Paris, of Orleans: An act to create a board of appraisers in and for the city and parish of Orleans, to appraise all property to be appraised under judicial order. By Mr. Montaldo, of Orleans: An act to amend and re-enact article ninety-nine of the Civil Code of the State. By Mr. Allain, of West Baton Rouge: A joint resolution in regard to the employment of convict labor by the lessees of the State Penitentiary at Baton Rouge. By Mr. Bickham, of Washington: An act asking for an appropriation for the repairing of bridges on what is termed the five thousand dollars road, running through the parishes of Washington and Tangipahoa. Said road is a State road.

By Mr. Sauer, of Iberia: An act for the relief of W. A. White. By Mr. Sage, of Iberville: An act to exempt the town of Plaquemines, parish of Iberville, from the payment of parish taxes. By Mr. Sutton, of St. Mary: An act for the relief of W. E. White. By Mr. Wilson, of East Baton Rouge: An act repealing section 257, part of section 373 and section 374 of the Revised Statutes of 1870.

By Mr. Kern, of Jefferson: An act to incorporate the Good Intent Fire Company No. 2, of Gretna, parish of Jefferson. By Mr. Grant, of Morehouse: An act incorporating the Lake Lafourche Toll Bridge Company, and for other purposes. By Mr. Gair, of East Feliciana: An act fixing a license for luring cotton seed in this State. By Mr. Marvin, of Catahoula: An act for the relief of the heirs of Aboula Wiggin.

Mr. Benham, of Carroll, called up House bill No. 28, substitute for House bill No. 2, entitled an act making an appropriation for the payment of the mileage and per diem, and the contingent expenses of the General Assembly of the State for the regular session of 1874, describing the manner in which the same shall be paid, with amendments from the Senate, which were agreed to and the bill sent to the Enrolling Committee for enrollment. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS. According to previous notice the following bills were introduced, and passed their

first and second readings, under suspension of the constitutional rules, and referred to their appropriate committees: By Mr. Dewees, of Red River: House bill No. 37, entitled an act appropriating two thousand dollars for the purpose of preparing the manuscript of a State legislative and parochial hand book. Referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Also, House bill No. 38, entitled an act relative to crimes and offenses; to declare the sale of illegal lottery tickets on the drawing of any illegal lottery a misdemeanor, and to provide for the punishment of the same, and to regulate the evidence to be received upon the trial of such offenses. Referred to Committee on Corporations.

Also, House bill No. 39, entitled an act relative to the unlicensed sale of lottery tickets in the city of New Orleans, and conferring on the police courts the power to suppress the same. Referred to Committee on Corporations. By Mr. Carey, of Orleans: House bill No. 40, entitled an act to incorporate the Siam Sons' Benevolent Association of New Orleans, Louisiana. Referred to Committee on Corporations.

By Mr. Hill, of Ouachita: House bill No. 41, entitled an act to amend section five of an act to incorporate the city of Monroe, to fix its boundary, to provide for its government and create a corporation of the same, approved May 4, 1871. Referred to the Committee on Corporations.

By Mr. Sauer, of Iberia: House bill No. 42, entitled an act to amend section two of an act entitled an act to form a new parish, to be called the parish of Sabine. Referred to the Committee on Parochial Affairs. By Mr. Keating, of Caddo: House bill No. 43, entitled an act to authorize the council of city of Shreveport to levy a police tax; to regulate levies of taxes; the proceedings of tax sales, and the jurisdiction of the parish court for the parish of Caddo in reference thereto; to define and punish forgery in certain cases; to authorize the funding of the floating debt; to consolidate, limit and provide for the debt of the city of Shreveport, principal and interest; to authorize a tax for the support of the city government, and to establish a fiscal agency defining its duties, and for the better enforcement of the collection of all taxes, and for other purposes.

Referred to the members from the parish of Caddo, and ordered to be printed. By Mr. Grant, of Morehouse: House bill No. 44, entitled an act authorizing planters to mortgage their crops for supplies or money necessary to their places, and making it a penal offense for the disposal of the same without the knowledge of the furnisher of the same. Referred to the Judiciary Committee and ordered printed.

By Mr. Murrell, of Lafourche: House bill No. 45, entitled an act to emancipate Paul Cote, of Terrebonne, Louisiana. Referred to the Judiciary Committee. By Mr. Gair, of East Feliciana: House bill No. 46, entitled an act to exempt the Clinton and Port Hudson railroad from taxation. Referred to the Judiciary Committee and ordered printed.

Also, House bill No. 47, entitled an act fixing the time for making sheriff's sales under writs of fieri facias and writs of sequestrum and sale. Referred to the Judiciary Committee and ordered printed. Also, House bill No. 48, entitled an act to amend and re-enact article 229 of the Revised Code of Practice. Referred to the Judiciary Committee and ordered printed.

By Mr. Young, of Concordia: House bill No. 49, entitled an act to equalize the rank of privileges for rent and supplies furnished, and according a right of privilege to the furnisher of supplies. Read first time and placed on the calendar. By Mr. Kenyon, of Iberville: House bill No. 50, entitled an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to incorporate the town of Plaquemine, in the parish of Iberville, approved February 20, 1867.

Referred to the Committee on Corporations. By Mr. Preston, of De Soto: House bill No. 51, entitled an act authorizing police juries to fix the fees in all cases of such officers as are paid from parish treasuries. Referred to the Committee on Parochial Affairs.

By Mr. Dejoie, of Orleans: House bill No. 52, entitled an act to amend and re-enact section 3525 of the Revised Statutes of 1870, of Louisiana. Placed on calendar. By Mr. Baker, of Bossier: House bill No. 53, entitled an act authorizing sessions of the parish courts at any time for the trial of criminal cases in certain instances.

Also, House bill No. 54, entitled an act in relation to the waiving of the exemptions on property now exempted from seizure for debt. Also, House bill No. 55, entitled an act in relation to confessions of judgment. All referred to the Judiciary Committee. By Mr. Southard, of Ouachita: House bill No. 56, an act providing for the appointment of appraisers of succession property, and for their payment, and prohibiting judges from appointing certain attorneys at law to act as attorneys of absent heirs, and for other purposes, and prescribing fees of attorneys for absent heirs.

Also, House bill No. 57, entitled an act providing for the institution of suits involving right to office in and to the Superior District Court for the parish of Orleans. Referred to the Judiciary Committee. By Mr. Antoine, of St. Mary: House bill No. 58, entitled an act directing parish recorders to provide a book, in which shall be inscribed all inventories and proceedings of family meetings; requiring all orders of parish courts appertaining to successions be directed to and be executed by the parish recorder, providing for the fees to be charged and collected in the premises, and to repeal all laws contrary to or inconsistent with this act.

Referred to the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Murrell, of Madras, presented the following report of the Administrator of Commerce, and also the report of the Committee on Unfinished Business, which was ordered printed in the journal: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, New Orleans, January 12, 1874. See Charles Menardo, Chairman Committee of the Mercantile House of Representatives. Agreeable to understanding with your honorable committee, I beg leave to furnish information upon the subject of private markets of this city.

The Administrator of Commerce, under the law, has been careful to examine into the interest of the city has been most injuriously affected, financially, under the operation of the law, which has been passed, to the extent of \$150,000 per annum, as exhibited in the falling off in the revenue of the markets since the passage of the law, to the extent of \$111,000; sale of markets for the year 1873, \$306,093.

At an early stage of the term of the present Council I took an active stand in behalf of the city's interest against the system of private markets, convinced of the impolicy demonstrated in many respects.

Any cardinal objection is that in a climate like ours, upon sanitary rule, no such license should be allowed as the establishment, at the option of the citizen, of a business, the nature of which is to be conducted in an established neighborhood and detrimental to the public health. What can be more prejudicial, in either case, than a close proximity to decaying animal and vegetable matter, during the summer, our regular season, which can be safely put down as one-half of the year? I took occasion to visit, individually, several of the private markets during last summer, and to observe these grave nuisances.

Under the law the city enjoys no such supervisory power as in the case of the public markets, particularly in the suburban districts of the city, would extract from you a convincing indorsement of my abhorrence of the system.

The law reads that the owners of private markets shall pay the same license as retail dealers, which, under the license ordinance of the city, is only \$15 to \$25. In many of these markets is sold groceries, and in fact, everything else that can be found in any of the large public markets. Last year the city imposed a license of \$100 on each of about four hundred only collected from seventy-two—\$7200.

The Council, taking into consideration the unjust discrimination in favor of the owners of private markets, and the complaints of stalls in the public markets, increased the license on the former to \$300 each for the present year. A butcher in any of the public markets pays \$210 to \$237 25 per annum for a single stall, and \$10 license besides, and can only sell meats, while the private market owners can sell anything they please, and are not obliged to pay the license of a retail dealer, \$15 to \$25.

The public markets are closed at twelve o'clock, M., for sanitary purposes, and enforcement of the collection of all taxes, and for other