

OFFICIAL JOURNAL, PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE, SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY, STATE OF LOUISIANA.

Continued from our last Number

No. 188, an act granting wharf privileges to James H. Crogrove, of Natchitoches parish.

No. 198, an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to regulate the oyster fisheries on the bays and coasts of the State of Louisiana, being act No. 18 of the regular session of 1870.

No. 202, an act providing for the removal of obstructions in Bayou Bleu, in the parish of Lafourche.

No. 113, an act supplementary to the several acts relating to the town of Tangipahoa, fixing the salary of the mayor and councilmen, and granting to said mayor and council certain powers.

No. 286, an act to renew the corporation of the town of Wingfield, in the parish of Winn, to provide for the government of the same, and to repeal all laws heretofore enacted, on the same subject matter.

House bill No. 186, an act to incorporate the Draining Company of New Orleans, to provide for the drainage of New Orleans and the neighboring parishes to make a protection levee from the land excavated by the drainage and the construction of said levee, and fix a compensation therefor, to expropriate the land necessary for the purpose, to lay out, construct and equip a shellroad and railroad on the same, give the right to sell said land when reclaimed, and to charge toll on said shell and railroad, and to repeal the act known as the Ship Island Canal bill, passed March 2, 1869, an act amendatory thereof, approved March 17, 1870.

And to inform the Senate that the House has concurred in Senate bill No. 4, an act to be entitled an act for the relief of Norbert F. Spoinand Francis Lattier, and to pay the damages due and assessed on the tenth day of May, 1860, under the provisions of an act to provide for the making of a cut off at Scopini's point, on Red river, approved on the thirteenth of March, 1860.

Also, to ask the signature of the President of the Senate to the following enrolled bills:

An act to extend the limits of the corporation of the town of Mandeville, and to give the corporate authorities thereof the exclusive control of the license and sale of intoxicating liquors within said limits, and the disposition of the revenues arising therefrom.

An act creating a commission to locate the site of a new State House in the city of New Orleans, to purchase the necessary grounds therefor, and making an appropriation to pay for such grounds, and to build a State House and other buildings necessary for State purposes, and improving the same.

An act to redistrict the parish jury wards of the parish of Livingston.

An act ratifying and confirming a contract between the Louisiana Levee Company and the Governor of the State of Louisiana.

An act to create a Board of State Engineers.

An act to compensate John Ray for superintending the printing of the Revised Civil Code of Practice, and compiling a digest of the statutes of the State of a general character under the appointment of the General Assembly for that purpose, by the section two of an act No. 95 of the regular session of 1870, approved March 16, 1870.

An act to amend an act entitled an act incorporating the Southeastern Railroad Company, approved March 15, 1855, and granting aid therefor.

An act entitled an act to amend an act to regulate public education in the State of Louisiana and city of New Orleans, and to raise a revenue for that purpose, approved March 16, 1870.

WILLIAM VIGERS, Chief Clerk.

MESSAGES TO THE HOUSE

The Secretary presented to the House for its consideration the following bill: Senate bill No. 35, for the relief of W. Jasper Blackburn.

Senate bill No. 201, to amend and re-enact an act creating the Mississippi Packet Company, etc.

Substitute for Senate bill No. 122, to amend and re-enact section 2115 of the Revised Statutes of 1870.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

Mr. Thomas presented the remonstrance signed by the citizens of Bogier against the formation of the parish of Webster.

The President of the Senate presented a communication and petition from the Land Reform Association, which were read and referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Fish presented a petition from the citizens of Carrollton, asking for the annexation thereof to the city of New Orleans.

On motion of Mr. Todd, the petition was laid on the table, subject to call.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Ray, from the Committee on Judiciary, submitted the following report:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, New Orleans, February 23, 1871. To the President and Senators of the Senate of Louisiana.

The Committee on Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate bills Nos. 44, 115 and 167, providing for the adoption by the State of a magistrates' manual, and proposing several books on that subject, direct me to report the same back to the Senate, and recommend that the said "bills," with the "manuals," be submitted to the Chief Justice, the Attorney General and the Judge of the Eight District Court, for their inspection, with a request that the said committee examine the same and report the result of their inspection, and recommend to the General Assembly the best book for adoption.

JOHN RAY, Chairman Judiciary Committee.

Laid over.

Mr. Lynch from the Committee on Finance, reported favorably on Senate bill No. 236, to be entitled an act indorsing an ordinance of the Police Jury of Morehouse parish, relative to courthouse tax.

Laid over.

Mr. Herwig, from the Committee on Militia, submitted the following report:

COMMITTEE ON MILITIA, New Orleans, February 23, 1871. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

This committee has the honor to return herewith Senate bill No. 161, with the following report:

We would recommend that the following amendment be made to section two, by striking out the words "the Christian" therein, and making this portion of the section read, "The chaplain so appointed must be a regularly ordained minister of religion."

Also, that the following addition be made to section five, inserting after the concluding word therein, "and also that the Governor, as commander-in-chief, shall have authority to order boards of officers, to consist of three or more officers of experience, to examine and report upon the qualifications and efficiency of officers who may be reported as being incompetent, and may discontinue the commissions of such as may be reported unfit for service, and fill vacancies that may be caused by this action, according to the rules and regulations that may be established under the militia law of the State."

Also, that the following addition be made to section 4, inserting after the concluding word therein: "That the commanding officers of the First, Second, Third and Fifth regiments of infantry, and the commanding officer of the regiment of field artillery, shall constitute a board, of which the Adjutant General of the State shall be ex-officio chairman—which shall be known as the Military Board of the State of Louisiana; and that no purchase of arms or ammunition, nor any expenditure whatever, shall be made from the funds appropriated by the State for the militia, unless approved by a majority of the military board."

Also, that the following amendment be made to section six, by striking out the words "two hundred" before the words "thousand dollars," and inserting therein the words "seventy-five," making it read "seventy-five thousand dollars," and inserting therein, after the word "net," the following: "Provided, That in case of emergency, insurrection, invasion, or other imminent danger, a further sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to provide for the public safety, or so much thereof as may be deemed necessary therefor by the Governor," and after the word "provided," occurring in said section, the word "further."

The bill, amended as above, meets with the approval of this committee, and we would respectfully recommend its passage, as amended, and would submit further, in connection with our report, a communication received by this committee from field officers of several militia organizations, which is herewith attached, marked document A, and made a part of this report.

P. F. HERWIG, Chairman. PATRICK O'HARA, SAMUELS BOWMAN

HEADQUARTERS LOUISIANA FIELD ARTILLERY, New Orleans, February 21, 1871.

To Hon. P. B. Pinchback, Chairman of the Committee on Militia, Senate of the State of Louisiana.

Sir.—We would respectfully request that the committee, of which you are chairman, report favorably on the militia bill now before you.

The amount of two hundred thousand dollars, in our opinion, is not too much, as most of this appropriation will be expended in purchasing improved arms. The artillery is unprovided with its proper arms, and we should have, in this important branch of our service, at least eight Gatlin, six twelve-pounders, eight Napoleons and six ten-pounder Parrott guns. The infantry should be armed with the Remington rifle, an arm superior to any now in use.

Every citizen of this State, with which we have conversed upon this subject, is of the opinion that the General Assembly should make liberal provision for the militia, and encourage us in keeping up our organization.

JAMES LEWIS, Colonel Second Regiment Louisiana State Militia.

CHARLES N. SQUIRES, Colonel Commanding Regiment Field Artillery, Louisiana State Militia.

E. B. BRIGGS, Major First Infantry.

JAMES INGRAHAM, Colonel Commanding Third Regiment Infantry, Louisiana State Militia.

Mr. Pinchback, from the Committee on Enrollment, submitted the following reports:

COMMITTEE ON ENROLLMENT, New Orleans, February 23, 1871. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

Gentlemen—Your Committee on Enrollment beg respectfully to report as duly enrolled the following bills: Senate bill No. 21, an act to locate the seat of justice and courthouse in and for the parish of Plaquemine, and to repeal certain acts therein named.

Senate bill No. 61, an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to incorporate Harmony Fire Company No. 1, of the town of Franklin, parish of St. Mary, approved February 28, 1856.

Senate bill No. 55, an act to incorporate the Young Veterans 1842-65 Benevolent and Mutual Aid Association of New Orleans.

Senate bill No. 38, an act to authorize Mrs. Louisa Bourgeois, wife of Thomas Taquira, to mortgage or alienate her dotal property.

Substitute for Senate bill No. 63, an act to provide for the drainage of New Orleans.

Senate joint resolution No. 12, granting leave of absence to Thomas Reber, Parish Judge of the parish of Concordia, Louisiana.

P. B. S. PINCHBACK, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ENROLLMENT, New Orleans, February 21, 1871. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

Gentlemen—Your Committee on Enrollment beg respectfully to report as duly enrolled the following bills:

Senate bill No. 46, an act for the relief of the University of Louisiana, to repair the west wing of the university, and to preserve the public property therein.

Senate bill No. 134, an act making appropriation to pay Simpson Belden, Attorney General, for collection of State taxes in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson.

Senate bill No. 140, an act to authorize Ambrose Lecomte Herzog to assume the name of Ambrose Herzog Lecomte.

Senate bill No. 95, an act to authorize the change of the name of Louisa Parly Word, to Louisiana Parly Campbell.

Senate bill No. 89, an act giving consent of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana to the purchase by the United States of land within this State for public purposes.

Senate bill No. 90, an act to provide for the relinquishment to the United States, in certain cases, of title to lands for sites of light stations on the coasts and waters of this State.

P. B. S. PINCHBACK, Chairman Enrolling Committee.

COMMITTEE ON ENROLLMENT, New Orleans, February 23, 1871. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

Gentlemen—Your Committee on Enrollment beg respectfully to report, as being duly enrolled, the following Senate bills:

Substitute for Senate bill No. 31, an act providing for the improvement of the navigation of Bayou d'Arbonne and Corne, and making an appropriation therefor.

Senate bill No. 2, an act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public lands of the State.

Senate bill No. 67, an act for the relief of F. G. Liorens.

P. B. S. PINCHBACK, Chairman Committee on Enrollment.

Mr. Hunsaker, from the Committee on Public Lands, submitted the following report:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, New Orleans, February 23, 1871. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed by the Committee on Public Lands to report to the Senate bill No. 233, and to recommend its passage.

OSCAR F. HUNSAKER, Chairman.

Mr. Campbell, from the Committee on Railroads, reported favorably upon Senate bill No. 149, to be entitled an act to incorporate the New Orleans, Lafourche and Terrebonne Railroad Company, and to facilitate and expedite the construction of the same.

Laid over.

Mr. Twitchell, from the Committee on Elections, submitted the following report:

COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS, New Orleans, February 23, 1871. To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

Gentlemen—Your Committee on Elections and Qualifications have the honor to report that, upon a careful examination of the evidence submitted to them in the case of J. H. H. Camp, contestant versus Edward Butler, together with the evidence before the House committed bearing on the same case, they are of the opinion that the case does not warrant further investigation, and would respectfully recommend that Edward Butler, the present sitting member, be confirmed in his seat.

M. H. TWITCHELL, Chairman.

By unanimous consent, the report of the committee was taken up, and adopted.

Mr. Pinchback moved to reconsider the vote by which the report was adopted.

Mr. Hunsaker moved on the motion to reconsider on the table, which was adopted.

Mr. Lewis, from the Committee on Corporations, reported favorably on Senate bill No. 235 to be entitled an act to incorporate the town of Waterproof, in the parish of Tensas.

By unanimous consent the bill was taken up.

The section of the first blank was filled by inserting the words "first Monday in June"; the second blank was filled by inserting the words "such place as may be designated by the magistrates presiding."

On motion of Mr. Whitney the amendment was adopted, the section was then adopted as amended.

The bill was considered engrossed.

The constitutional rule was further suspended by a four-fifths affirmative vote, the bill read its third and last time, and finally adopted with its title.

Mr. Sypher, from the Committee on Drainage, Lands and Inland Navigation, reported favorably upon Senate bill No. 321, to be entitled an act making an appropriation to close Kimball's bayou, in Concordia parish.

Laid over.

Mr. Anderson, from the Committee on Charitable Institutions, submitted the following report, which was ordered printed in the journal:

To the President and Members of the Senate: Your Committee on Charitable Institutions respectfully submit the following report on the condition of the asylum for the insane at Jackson, Louisiana.

The location of this important institution is remote from the great routes of travel. This adds very greatly to the expense of building and to the cost of subsistence, while it prevents the Board of Administrators from procuring many comforts for patients. At that place it is almost impossible to obtain a full supply of many articles needed for the health of the inmates of an asylum whose successful treatment depends greatly upon a wholesome, generous and varied diet. This can not be procured at so great a distance, from market except at an enormous expense, wholly out of proportion with the usual annual allowance. While, therefore, the management has been humane and efficient, the results are not satisfactory to the Superintendent, to the Board of Administrators and to your committee.

Nearly two hundred patients were under treatment during the year 1870, yet only nine were discharged as recovered, and two as improved. This is owing, in part, to the condition in which patients are brought, being mostly cases of long duration. If the asylum was of easy access, properly supplied, attracting by its appearance and comforts, and in all respects what such an institution ought to be, patients would be sent in an earlier stage of their malady, and before their cases became chronic.

A good asylum for the insane should combine a well equipped hospital with a comfortable home. The demand upon the State for charities are now quite numerous, involving heavy expenses, but there are no classes of the unfortunate who appeal to sympathy and philanthropy for better cause than those whose loss of health is joined with a loss of mental and moral faculties. They are far away from us, but they should not, therefore, be forgotten. They are neither related nor known to us, but they are our kindred by the ties of humanity; nor can we escape from the responsibility which their residence within the State imposes upon us.

Whenever kindness, scientific skill judicious treatment, perseverance and vigilance can rekindle the light of waning reason, and restore the unfortunate to usefulness, it is the highest exhibition of philanthropy. Our State Asylum for the Insane is intended to do, on a large scale and with the methods taught by experience, these acts of charity toward the afflicted. It represents the embodied philanthropy of Louisiana, and an intelligent stranger to our laws and people would draw from it a proper inference as to our character for benevolence. If there are in other States improved methods of treatment and management, the means necessary to their adoption ought to be provided.

In view of the urgent necessities of the asylum, your committee recommend such an appropriation as will admit of some needed repairs and extension of buildings, the introduction of warming apparatus, bathrooms, five engines, music implements for recreation, books, dining-room, kitchen, bakery, etc. While voting an appropriation it will be well to provide against the loss of \$14,000, incurred by discounts on State warrants last year. In order to carry out the objects above mentioned, your committee recommend that the sum of \$14,000 be appropriated for the use of the Asylum for the Insane at Jackson, Louisiana.

THOMAS C. ANDERSON, SAMUEL S. BOWMAN, S. M. THOMAS, J. B. LEWIS, L. B. JENKS.

Mr. Harris, from the Committee on Engrossment, reported the following bills as being duly engrossed:

Senate bill No. 62, to be entitled, an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled "an act to reorganize the State Land Office, and to provide for the disposition of public lands and for the survey of unsurveyed approved swamp lands, and to make appropriation therefor."

Also, substitute for Senate bill No. 215, to be entitled an act to establish a institute for the deaf and dumb at Baton Rouge, etc.

By Mr. Ray: Of a bill to be entitled an act for the relief of Harrison & Durai.

By Mr. Anderson: Of a bill to be entitled an act for the relief of the Centenary College of Louisiana.

By Mr. Ingraham: Of an act to be entitled an act to authorize the city of New Orleans to contract for the building of a sheli road on Frenchmen street, to allow toll to be collected thereon for fifteen years.

The following bills were introduced, according to previous notice:

By Mr. Wilcox: An act to be entitled an act to relieve the tax-payers of the State, and make State warrants receivable for State license and the State tax of four mills on the dollar.

Passed its first reading. The constitutional rule was then suspended by a four-fifths affirmative vote, the bill put on its second reading, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Pierce: Of a bill to be entitled an act to provide for the adjustment and settlement of Metropolitan Police claims and accounts.

Passed its first reading. The constitutional rule was then suspended by a four-fifths affirmative vote, the bill put on its second reading, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Daigle: A bill to be entitled an act to place the Franklin College at Opelousas, Louisiana, under the control of the State Board of Education, for the purpose of establishing a normal school therein, and the appropriation of moneys for its repair and the liquidation of claims against said college.

Passed its first reading. The constitutional rule was then suspended by a four-fifths affirmative vote, the bill put on its second reading, and was considered engrossed.

[Continued in our next Number]

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