

The Standard.

LEGISLATURE OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, DEC. 19, 1860.

The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Mason.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Brown presented a series of resolutions passed at a meeting of citizens of Caswell, recommending the arming of the State and the call of a Convention, desiring a conference of the Southern States, and expressing devotion to a Constitutional Union.

Mr. Brown then addressed the Senate at some length, which will be seen in another column.

Mr. Barringer presented the proceedings of, and a memorial from, a meeting of citizens of Cobarrus county, stating that if guarantees were not speedily made, he knew nothing of this meeting until several days after it was held, but was glad to find that his constituents were supporting him in the positions he had taken; that this was no partisan meeting; that Cobarrus was a unit in this matter; that twenty-five men could not be found in that county opposed to the sentiments set forth in these resolutions. The Senator hoped that in these matters all party distinctions should be ignored. He thought the Senators from Caswell, Richmond and Guilford should lead young America in the defence of their rights. He said that he was a pure and simple federalist; that his county had always been a federal county, and supported federal measures and men.

Mr. Brown proceeded to reply to Mr. Barringer, and made an enquiry of that gentleman.

The hour of 12 having arrived, the bill introduced on yesterday by Mr. Erwin, to appropriate \$300,000 for the arming of the State, being the special order was taken up.

Mr. Erwin proposed to substitute the bill reported by the Military committee which he held in his hand for the special order, and asked its immediate consideration. He said that there was very good reason why this bill should be passed at an early day, that the arms could be purchased now at a fair price, and that the demand would soon be so great that they could not be so obtained. The bill was read.

Mr. Blodgett moved to amend the bill by giving the Governor and Council power to increase the appropriation to \$1,000,000, should they deem it necessary.

Mr. Blodgett said, that he was opposed to appropriating so small an amount as \$300,000 for arming the State—that he was obliged to differ with the committee with all due deference to their opinions. He was willing to trust the Governor with the amount proposed by his amendment. If it were intended to make an appropriation let us make such an one as will answer the purposes for which it is made.

He was in favor of preparing to protect the State from violence from within and without. He said that in the event of the abolition of slavery in North Carolina, free negro labor would be put in competition with white labor, and that the free negro could starve out the white man in that event.

Mr. B. said this was no time for counting dollars and cents; his constituents were clamorous for arms, and he would be recreant to his duty if he did not use his best endeavors to get a suitable appropriation.

Mr. Erwin said he would favor the amendment of the Senator from Wake, if it came as a separate proposition, but he thought it would, in its present shape, embarrass the original bill, that he did not want an appropriation for the suppression of insurrection of slaves; he hoped the Senator would withdraw his amendment.

Mr. Brown hoped the amendment would be withdrawn.

Mr. Avery also appealed to the gentleman to withdraw it.

Mr. Erwin was opposed to the amount proposed to be appropriated by Mr. Blodgett's amendment—that he saw no cause for making preparations for war, when war had not been declared—he thought the State had sufficient arms for the present—would support the bill, but opposed the amendment.

Mr. WALKUP also opposed Mr. Blodgett's amendment; thought the amount too large.

Mr. Hall thought that as the committee had reported the bill appropriating \$300,000, that there was no necessity for making the appropriation proposed in the amendment.

Mr. Worth said, he had received no special directions from his constituents, but he was opposed to hasty legislation, and thought that if these arms were to be purchased, some directions shall be given in regard to their distribution. He did not believe these arms could be purchased at cash prices, and paid for in state bonds, and that he believed they were asked for for a different purpose than that expressed by gentlemen favoring the appropriation.

Mr. Pitchford said he was what is called a Union man—that he thought secession was impossible without a conflict with the general government; if it is necessary, let it come. He thought an appropriation of \$300,000 was sufficient at present for the purchase of arms, and hoped the gentleman would withdraw his amendment.

Mr. Dockery then obtained the floor, and made remarks in opposition to Mr. Blodgett's amendment. He thought that there was no farther cause for alarm now than in the late election. Mr. Dockery addressed the Senate as some length.

A message was received from the House, transmitting a letter from the Governor, inquiring the Legislature that Hon. R. H. Smith and L. W. Garrett were in the city, as commissioners from the State of Alabama, with a proposition to appoint a committee of three on the part of the House and two on the part of the Senate, to make preparation for their reception and to invite them to take seats in the two Halls.

Mr. Erwin then replied to Mr. Dockery at length. Mr. Dockery rejoined.

Mr. Outlaw then addressed the Senate.

Mr. Outlaw moved to adjourn, with the acquiescence of the gentleman.

The motion to adjourn was lost.

Mr. Sharpe then proceeded to address the Senate at length.

Mr. Burton spoke in reply to Mr. Dockery.

Mr. Outlaw again moved to adjourn.

Mr. Avery called for the yeas and nays.

The motion was lost—yeas 12, nays 29.

Messrs. Barringer, Dockery, and Blodgett, made further remarks.

Mr. Sharpe moved to amend the amendment, by moving that the arms purchased by the Governor be distributed according to adult population in the different counties.

Mr. Blodgett's amendment was lost—yeas 7, nays 30.

Mr. Sharpe moved to adjourn; which was lost.

The question recurring on the proposition to make the bill the special order for 7th January, it was lost.

The substitute offered by Mr. Erwin, appropriating \$300,000 passed its first reading.

On motion of Mr. Burton, the rules were suspended, and the bill passed its second reading.

On motion of Mr. Avery, the rules were suspended, and the bill passed its third reading, and was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Avery then moved to re-consider the vote by which this bill was carried, and to lay that motion on the table, which was carried.

On motion of Mr. Brown, the Senate adjourned.

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