MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

MONDAY, Feb. 6, 1860.

The House met.

Reading of the journal was dispensed with.

On motion of Mr. Van Eaton, the Senate bill in relation to the Circuit and Chancery Courts of Lawrence county, was taken up and passed.

The Speaker presented a communication from J. J. Williams, Secretary of the Agricultural Bureau, which was referred to the committee on Printing.

Mr. Merinar, from the Committee on Education, to whom was referred a bill to provide for the election of the trustees of sixteenth sections and for other purposes, reported the same back to the House with a recommendation that it do pass. Received and agreed to, and after an amendment thereto being adopted, the bill as amended passed.

On motion of Mr. Suratt, the House proceeded to the consideration of Senate messages.

On motion of Mr. Scales, the House concurred in the Senate amendment to the House bill to regulate the venue of actions against railroad corporations.

On motion of Mr. Ware, the House concurred in the Senate amendment to the House bill for the benefit of schools in township 3, range 3, east.

On motion of Mr. Suratt, the House concurred in the Senate amendment to the House bill to provide for the taking the census of the State of Mississippi in the year 1860.

Senate Bills.

For the benefit of the family of the Hon. B. R. Webb, late Secretary of State, was taken up and passed.

The Senate resolution in relation to the appointment of a commissioner to investigate the seminary fund and other matters was taken up and passed.

To extend the provisions of an act for the relief of the State University, approved March 6th, 1856, to the University of Mississippi for two years after 9th March next, was taken up and passed.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order, to-wit:

On the report of the majority committee made on the 9th day of December, 1859, recommending the passage of a substitute bill in lieu of the original bill to extend the time for the completion of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, and for other purposes.

Also, the reports of the majority and minority committees, made on the third day of January, 1860.

The question being on agreeing to the first report,

Mr. Campbell moved to amend the majority report by striking out all after the enacting clause of the substitute reported by the committee and inserting new sections in lieu thereof.

Pending the question

On motion of Mr. Thomas, the House adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The House met.

Leave of absence was granted Mr. Bradford.

The House resumed the consideration of the unfinished business pending the adjournment, to-wit:

The reports of the Committee on Internal Improvements in relation to the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Company. The report was received.

The question being on the amendment offered by Mr. Campbell to the first majority report, the amendment was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Campbell, the bill was considered engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

On motion, the House adjourned until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

SENATE.

MONDAY, Feb. 6, 1860.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

A House bill further to regulate the Militia and Volunteer System.

On motion of Mr. Starke, the Senate resolved itself into committee of the whole on said bill.

After some time spent therein the committee arose reported the bill back to the Senate, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same. Received and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Starke, the bill was referred to a select committee of three.

Mr. Mims called up the Senate bill to increase the salaries of certain officers therein named, it having been erroneously reported to the House.

On motion of Mr. Mims the Secretary was directed to make the necessary corrections and report it back to the House.

On motion of Mr. Davis the Senate adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

TUESDAY, Feb. 7th, 1860.

Senate met.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. McRae presented the petition of sundry citizens of the city of Shieldsboro', relative to free negroes. Referred.

Mr. Mason from the committee on Claims, to whom was referred a bill for the relief of L. D. Rhoades, Sheriff of the county of Rankin, reported the same back to the Senate and recommended that it do pass. Received and agreed to, and the bill passed.

Also, the petition of Henry Mayers, and recommended that the prayer of said petitioner be not granted.

A division being called for the report was received.

The question was then taken on agreeing to the report and decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Buck, the petition was recommitted to the committee on Claims.

On motion of Mr. Ellett, the petition of sundry citizens of Claiborne county, praying for the passage of a law for the expulsion of free negroes from the State, presented by him on a former day of the session, was taken from the table, and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A Message was received from the Governor with accompanying documents.

Mr. Buchanan, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of sundry citizens of Tunica county, on the subject of Levees, reported the same back to the Senate without recommendation, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same.—Received and agreed to.

Mr. Harris, from the committee to whom was referred a bill to legalize the leases of certain sixteenth section of lands in Kemper county, reported the bill back to the Senate without recommendation, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same. Received and agreed to.

The bill was taken up and passed.

Mr. West, from the committee to whom was referred a bill for the benefit of Ann Mataw, a free woman of color, reported the same back to the Senate without recommendation, and asked to be discharged from its further consideration. Received and agreed to.

Mr. Ellett, from the Joint Standing committee on the State Library, made a report which was received and agreed to, and the bill to amend the tenth chapter of Revised Code in relation to the State Library, reported by them was adopted.

Mr. Ellett, from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred a House bill to regulate the trial of slaves for capital offences, reported the bill back to the Senate and recommended that it do pass. Received and agreed to and the bill passed.

Also, a House bill to amend an act establishing Circuit Courts, &c. so far as the same relates to the compensation of witnesses, and recommended its passage. Received and agreed to, and the bill passed.

A bill to release to the heirs of W. H. Compton, the interest of the State of Mississippi, in and to certain lands therein designated, and recommended its passage. Received and agreed to and the bill passed.

Also, a House bill to authorize the proof of open accounts in certain cases, with an amendment, and recommended its passage. Received and agreed to, and the bill as amended was adopted.

Also, a bill to reduce the penalty of the bonds of Justices of the Peace and Constables in the county of Hancock, reported the same back to the Senate without recommendation, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same. Received and agreed to.

The bill was taken up and adopted.

Mr. Thomson introduced a bill to aid in the construction of the Grenada, Houston and Eastern Railroad. Passed.

Mr. McCord introduced a bill to amend art 107, sec. 74, chap. 64 of the Revised Code.—Referred.

Mr. Cord, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Pleasant Bearden and others, in Justices District, No. 6, in the county of Tishomingo, reported the same back to the Senate, and recommended its passage. Received and agreed to, and the bill passed.

Mr. Howry, from a select committee, to to whom was referred the bill to amend the Constitution of the State of Mississippi, reported the same back to the Senate, and recommended that it do pass. Received and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Buck, the bill was laid on the table.

Mr. Ellett offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That from and after one o'clock, on this day, no new business shall be introduced in the Senate during the present session, except by report from some committee already having a subject in charge.

Mr. Taliaferro from the committee to whom a bill to prevent the selling of spiritous and vinous liquors in the county of Panola, reported the same back to the Senate and recommended that it do not pass. Received and agreed to.

Mr. Harrison introduced a bill to amend an act to provide for the payment of interest on the Chickasaw School fund and for other purposes.

Mr. Quinn introduced a bill in relation to the swamp and overflowed lands in the county of Rankin. Passed.

Mr. Howry, from a select committee to whom was referred a bill to change the time of holding the Circuit Court of Panola county, and to limit the time of holding the said Court in Lafayette county, reported the same back to the Senate with an amendment, and asked the passage of the bill as amended. Received and agreed to, and the bill passed.

Mr. Buchanan, from a select committee, to whom was referred a bill to amend the various acts of corporation of the town of Coffeeville, in the county of Yallobusha, and for other purpuses, reported the same back to the Senate with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass. Received and agreed to, and the bill as amended passed.

On motion of Mr. West, a bill to annex a part of Tallahatchie county to the county of Sunflower, and for other purposes, was taken up and passed.

On motion of Mr. Buck, a bill to provide for the better securing of titles to lands held and claimed under tax sales and tax titles, was taken up and passed.

On motion af Mr. McRae, a bill granting to R. W. James a charter for deepening the rivers and channels in the Gulf of Mexico within the jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi, was taken up, and after several amendments thereto being adopted, the bill as amended passed.

Mr. Simonton presented the petition of Dillard Fillmore. Referred.

On motion, the Senate adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

The Governor's message was taken up, and the accompanying documents referred to the committee on the Library.

A bill to more effectually prevent hawking and peddling by non-residents in this State, was taken up and passed.

A bill to amend an act, entitled an act to authorize a compilation of criminal law, approved Feb. 21st, 1854, was taken up and indefinitely postponed.

A bill to incorporate the Holly Springs Life and General Insurance Company, was taken up, and the Senate disagreed to the House amendments to the 1st section, and a committee of Conference was appointed on the part of the Senate.

A bill to transfer certain collections in natural history therein named, was taken up and passed as amended by the House.

A bill to amend an act to incorporate the Merchants and Planters Insurance Company of the city of Enterprize, approved Dec. 3d, 1858, was taken up and the Senate refused to concur in the House amendments thereto, when a committee of Conference was appointed on the part of the Senate.

A House bill to provide for the sale of swamp lands in Wilkinson county was taken up and passed.

Mr. Oliver, from the joint standing committee on the Penitentiary, to whom was referred a resolution of the Senate instructing them to inquire into the expediency of separating the fiscal from the executive department of the institution, reported a bill to the Senate to provide for the sale of goods, wares and merchandize, manufactured in the Mississippi Penitentiary, and recommended that the bill so reported by the committee do pass. Received and agreed to, and the bill so reported was adopted.

Resolutions in relation to the Fair Grounds were taken up and laid on the table.

A bill to provide additional compensation to the Clerks of the Police Court of Yallobusha county, was taken up and passed.

A bill to incorporate the trustees of the Yazoo Educational Association in Yazoo county, was taken up and passed.

A bill to amend an act to incorporate the town of Oakland in Yallobusha county, was taken up and passed.

A bill to incorporate the town of Bahala in Copiah county and for other purposes, was taken up and passed.

A bill in relation to schools and school land in township 17, range 4, east, in Warren county, was taken up and passed.

A bill for the relief of Wm. Robertson, a free man of color, was taken up and referred.

A bill for the relief of purchasers of sixteenth sections of land in Jasper and Franklin counties, was taken up and passed.

A bill for the relief of Wm. Gallohen, J. J. Gallohen, C. D. Key, David Gallohen and Robert Davenport, was taken up and passed.

A House bill for the relief of Lorenzo R. Stewart was taken up and amended, and the bill passed.

A bill to amend an act to provide for an additional Justice of the Peace in the town of Ripley in Tippah county, was taken up and passed.

A bill to charter a turnpike across Hell Creek, in Tippah county, was taken up and passed.

A bill to amend an act to enlarge the time of holding the Circuit Court of Madison county, was taken up, and after being amended, passed.

A bill to incorporate Willard Male and Female Academies at the village of Flewellyn's Cross Roads, in DeSoto county, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Ellett, from a select committee, to whom was referred a House bill to further regulate the militia and volunteer system, reported the bill back with sundry amendments and recommended that the bill as amended do pass. Received and agreed to and the bill passed.

A bill to prohibit the sale of vinous and spiritous liquors in the town of Cockrum in DeSoto county, and vicinity thereof, was taken up and passed.

A bill authorizing the Board of Police of Covington county to reduce the price of swamp lands in said county, was taken up and passed.

A bill to submit to the voters of Issaquena county the question whether the county site shall be removed from its present location on the Mississippi river to some point on Deer Creek was taken up and passed.

A bill to loan at interest the fund arising from the sale of submerged land in Choctaw county was taken up and amended and passed as amended.

On motion, the Senate adjourned until 7 o'clock this evening.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

House Bills Passed.

To amend an act approved February 5, 1856, to incorporate the town of Huntsville, in Choctaw county, and for other purposes.

To incorporate the town of Vaiden in the county of Carroll.

To regulate the compensation of the Probate Clerk in Carroll county in certain cases.

To amend an act entitled an act to amend the charter of the city of Jackson.

To incorporate the Masonic Female Seminary in the county of Marshall.

To incorporate the town of Senatobia in the county of DeSoto.

To prevent the sale of vinous and spirituous liquors in the town of Danvill in Tishemingo county.

To remove the legal disabilities of Emily Hearn.

To amend article 24, section 4, chapter 15, of the Revised Code, in relation to collecting fines of defaulting road hands.

To increase the fee for apprehending runaway slaves in the counties of Tunica, Coahoma, Bolivar, Washington, and Issaquena.

For the relief of William K. Posey and John Y. Leatherwood in the county of Chickasaw.

On motion of Mr. Harrison, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

HOUSE.

TUESDAY, Feb. 7th, 1860.

The House met.

Reading of the journal was dispensed with.

Mr. Trotter, from the committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred a bill to authorize the Southern Railroad Company to change its alignment in the crossing of Pearl river, and to bridge the same, reported the same back to the House and recommended its passage. Received and agreed to, and the bill passed.

Mr. Dunlap, from the committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred a bill in relation to the keepers of livery stables, reported the same back to the House, with a recommendation that it do pass. Received and agreed to, and the bill passed.

Also, a bill for the benefit of "St. Mary's Orphan Asylum," and an accompanying petition from sundry citizens, and recommended that it do pass. Received and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Clark, the bill was read a third time and put upon its passage, and decided in the affirmative by a call of yeas and nays, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Bishop, Backstrom, Beaman, Barksdale, Clark, Chambers, Culbertson, Dunlap, Dickins, Evans, Ellis, of Copiah, Frith, Hamilton, Hill, Henley, Hudson, Jones, of Sunflower, Keith, Love, Lake, McRae, Miller, Pipes, Pinson, Reid, Smylie, Sanders, Smedes, Terrell, Thomas, Van Eaton, Valiant, Wilson, Weathersby, Ware, Williams, Walworth—38.

NAYS—Mr. SPEAKER, Messrs. Augustus, Akers, Bugg, Bell, Boon, Coffey, Duncan, Denney, Dantzler, Dean, Ellis, of Panola, Gilstrap, Gasque, Hall, of Leake, Holmes, Knox, Lyles, Matthews, Mernar, McDonald, McWhorter, Murphy, Owen, Palmer, Reasons, Rogers, Rutherford, Scales, Smith, of Jones, Smith of Lowndes, Suratt, Shelton, Trotter, Thomas, Van Eaton, Wilson, Winburn—53.

Mr. Terrell offered the following resolution, which was lost:

Resolved, That the use of the Representatives Hall be tendered to the concert of the Blind, on Wednesday evening next at seven o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Suratt,

Resolved, That when this House adjourns this evening, it will adjourn to meet at seven o'clock to-night, and the reception of reports from standing and select committees shall have precedence over all other business.

On motion of Mr. Love, the House adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The House met.

Resolution requesting the Senate to return to the House the resolution relative to the mileage and per diem pay of Senators and Representatives. Passed.

Resolution in relation to the course of our Representatives in Congress in the late struggle for Speaker of the House of Representatives. Passed.

House Bills passed with Senate amendments.

To authorize the proof of open accounts in certain cases, with Senate amendment.

For the benefit of the Probate Judges of Hinds and other counties, with Senate amendments.

To incorporate the town of Meadville, in Franklin county, with Senate amendment.

To authorize the Board of Police of Tippah county to invest the three per cent. fund due said county in the Ripley Railroad, with Senate amendment.

To declare Silver Creek a navigable stream, and for other purposes, with Senate amendment.

A Senate resolution authorizing the Governor to cause the cannon presented to the State by the late General John A. Quitman to be conveyed to the Penitentiary.

Senate Bills Passed.

To compel the attendance of witnesses before the Grand Jury, and for other purposes.

To amend article 40, of the Attachment law of this State.

A Senate resolution granting leave of absence to the Hon. T. J. Wharton for the years 1860 and 1861.

To increase the pay of jurors.

In relation to private burying grounds.

On motion of Mr. Suratt, the House adjourned until 7 o'clock this evening.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

House met.

Bills reported from Committees and passed.

To authorize R. C. Moore, guardian of the person and property of Sophia M. Moore, to sell certain lands.

To authorize the assessment and collection of a tax on the lands in Sunflower county, for the purpose of making roads and bridges.

To protect the county of Sunflower against cattle not the property of residents or land owners in the same.

A Senate bill appropriating, annually, the sum of nine thousand six hundred dollars for the support of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

On motion the House adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8, 1860.

The Senate met.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bill's Passed.

A memorial to Congress from the Legislature of the State of Mississippi in relation to public lands for the benefit of the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad.

A resolution to present to the American Association in London a copy of the Revised Code.

On motion of Mr. Harrison, the Senate adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

Bills Passed.

To make appropriations for the support of the Mississippi State Lunatic Asylum.

A House bill to provide for the payment of the indebtedness of certain counties of the Mississippi River Levee District was taked up and amended by striking out the proviso to the first section; also amended by adding additional section.

A House bill to authorize the Southern Railroad Company to change its alignment in the crossing of Pearl river, and to re-bridge the same.

A House bill to extend the time for the completion of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Buck, the Senate adjourned until seven and a half o'clock this evening.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

Bills Passed.

To amend the road laws of Washington county.

To provide for the removal of old buildings and nuisances from the public grounds, and for other purposes.

In relation to the Mobile, Mississippi and St. Louis Railroad Company.

To regulate the common schools and school funds in the county of Wayne.

To incorporate the Natchez Hotel Company.

To enable James Porterfield, a son of Wm. Porterfield, to sell and convey a lot of ground in the city of Vicksburg.

For the relief of J. W. Miller, of Lafayette county.

For the relief of Benjamin D. Chase.

To authorize and require the Board of Police of Choctaw county to hold an election in certain townships in said county for the purposes expressed in this act.

House resolution in relation to members of the Legislature receiving mileage for their attendance on this adjourned session, was taken up.

Upon the passage of the resolution, the yeas and nays were called for, and decided in the negative as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Buck, Brasher, Covington, Howry, Mims, McRae, Oliver, Rankin, Starke, Thames—10.

NAYS—Mr. President, Messrs. Davis, Ellet, Enloe, Harrison, Harris, McLain, Mason, Neill, Quin, Thomson, West, Wilson—13.

On motion of Mr. Ellett, the Senate adjourned, until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

HOUSE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8, 1860.

House met.

Reading of the journal was dispensed with.

Bills Passed.

Further to regulate the militia and volunteer system of the State as amended by the Senate.

To confirm the title of certain lands in the county of Jones.

For the relief of Jim Wall, a free man of color.

On motion of Mr. Chambers, the House bill to provide for the payment of the indebtedness of certain counties of the Mississippi river Levee district, was taken up.

Mr. Barksdale offered the following amendment:

Provided, however, that the counties of Panola, Tallahatchie, Sunflower and Yazoo shall be altogether exempt from the operations of this act for the years 1864 and 1865.

Mr. Chambers moved to lay the amendment on the table, which was lost.

The question was then taken on the passage of the amendment, and decided in the affirmative, by yeas and nays, as follows:

YEAS—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Armistead, Bugg, Backstrom, Bell, Boone, Beaman, Barksdale, Coffey, Downs, Dunlap, Dean, Dickins, Evans, Ellis of Copiah, Gilstrap, Gasque, Hamilton, Hill, Hall of Lauderdale, Hall of Leake, Holmes, Jones of Sunflower, Lyles, Love, Martin, Merinar, McDonald, Murphy, Owen, Palmer, Rogers, Reid, Rutherford, Scales, Sanders, Smith of Jones, Smith of Lowndes, Suratt, Shelton, Trotter, Tolson, Thomas, Wilson, Wheeler, Ware, Williams—46.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Bishop, Clark, Dantzler, Dunlap, Frith, Henley, Hooker, Hudson, Keith, Lake, Owen, Pipes, Purdom, Reasons, Smedes, Tolson, Wilson, Withers, Weathersby, Walworth.—22

Mr. Knox, from the committee on printing, to whom was referred the annual report of the Secretary of the Agricultural Bureau reported the same back to the House and recommended that said report be not printed. Received and agreed to.

A bill to create the office of State Superintendent of Common Schools and to define the duties of the same, was taken up and

On motion of Mr. Suratt, was laid on the table.

A bill for the benefit of the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad was taken up, and after being amended,

On motion of Mr. Van Eaton, the bill and amendment was laid on the table.

A bill to incorporate the Merchants Bank of Vicksburg was taken up and read the third time,

The question was then taken on the passage of the bill, and decided in the negative, by a call of the yeas and nays, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Akers, Boone, Culbertson, Dantzler, Dean, Ellis, of Panola, Hooker, Jones, of Sunflower, Long, Lake McWhorter, Pinson, Smedes, Tolson, Wheeler, Withers, Weathersby—18.

NAYS—Mr. SPEAKER, Augustus, Armistead, Bugg, Bishop, Backstrom, Bell, Barksdale, Clark, Coffey, Chambers, Duncan, Denney, Dunlap, Evans, Ellis, of Copiah, Frith, Gilstrap, Gasque, Hamilton, Hill, Hall, of Lauderdale, Hall, of Leake, Holmes, Keith, Knox, Lyles, Love, Martin, Matthews, Merinar, McLae, McDonald, Miller, Owen, Pipes, Palmer, Reasons, Ruffin, Rogers, Reid, Scales, Smylie, Sanders, Smith, of Lowndes, Suratt, Shelton, Trotter, Thomas, Van Eaton, Wilson, Winburn—53.

Mr. Terrell offered the following resolution, which was lost:

Resolved, That the use of the Representatives Hall be tendered to the concert of the Blind, on Wednesday evening next at seven o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Suratt,

Resolved, That when this House adjourns this evening, it will adjourn to meet at seven o'clock to-night, and the reception of reports from standing and select committees shall have precedence over all other business.

On motion of Mr. Love, the House adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The House met.

Resolution requesting the Senate to return to the House the resolution relative to the mileage and per diem pay of Senators and Representatives. Passed.

Resolution in relation to the course of our Representatives in Congress in the late struggle for Speaker of the House of Representatives. Passed.

House Bills passed with Senate amendments.

To authorize the proof of open accounts in certain cases, with Senate amendment.

For the benefit of the Probate Judges of Hinds and other counties, with Senate amendments.

To incorporate the town of Meadville, in Franklin county, with Senate amendment.

To authorize the Board of Police of Tippah county to invest the three per cent. fund due said county in the Ripley Railroad, with Senate amendment.

To declare Silver Creek a navigable stream, and for other purposes, with Senate amendment.

A Senate resolution authorizing the Governor to cause the cannon presented to the State by the late General John A. Quitman to be conveyed to the Penitentiary.

Senate Bills Passed.

To compel the attendance of witnesses before the Grand Jury, and for other purposes.

To amend article 40, of the Attachment law of this State.

A Senate resolution granting leave of absence to the Hon. T. J. Wharton for the years 1860 and 1861.

To increase the pay of jurors.

In relation to private burying grounds.

On motion of Mr. Suratt, the House adjourned until 7 o'clock this evening.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

House met.

Bills reported from Committees and passed.

To authorize R. C. Moore, guardian of the person and property of Sophia M. Moore, to sell certain lands.

To authorize the assessment and collection of a tax on the lands in Sunflower county, for the purpose of making roads and bridges.

To protect the county of Sunflower against cattle not the property of residents or land owners in the same.

A Senate bill appropriating, annually, the sum of nine thousand six hundred dollars for the support of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

On motion the House adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8, 1860.

The Senate met.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bill's Passed.

A memorial to Congress from the Legislature of the State of Mississippi in relation to public lands for the benefit of the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad.

A resolution to present to the American Association in London a copy of the Revised Code.

On motion of Mr. Harrison, the Senate adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

Bills Passed.

To make appropriations for the support of the Mississippi State Lunatic Asylum.

A House bill to provide for the payment of the indebtedness of certain counties of the Mississippi River Levee District was taked up and amended by striking out the proviso to the first section; also amended by adding additional section.

A House bill to authorize the Southern Railroad Company to change its alignment in the crossing of Pearl river, and to re-bridge the same.

A House bill to extend the time for the completion of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Buck, the Senate adjourned until seven and a half o'clock this evening.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

Bills Passed.

To amend the road laws of Washington county.

To provide for the removal of old buildings and nuisances from the public grounds, and for other purposes.

In relation to the Mobile, Mississippi and St. Louis Railroad Company.

To regulate the common schools and school funds in the county of Wayne.

To incorporate the Natchez Hotel Company.

To enable James Porterfield, a son of Wm. Porterfield, to sell and convey a lot of ground in the city of Vicksburg.

For the relief of J. W. Miller, of Lafayette county.

A House bill to amend the laws in relation to free negroes and mulattoes in this State and for other purposes, was taken up.

Mr. West moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed, which was decided in the affirmative, by a call of the yeas and nays, as follows:

YEAS—Mr. President, Buck, Brasher, Davis, McLain, Mason, McCord, McRae, Neill, Rankin, Starke, West, Wilson.—13.

NAYS—Messrs. Covington, Ellett, Enloe, Harrison, Harris, Howry, Huie, Mims, Oliver, Quinn, Thomson, Tallaferro—12.

On motion of Mr. Buck, the Senate adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met.

Bills Passed.

To aid in the construction of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad in the county of Attala.

To establish a system of common schools in the county of Coahoma, and for other purposes.

To authorize the Board of Police of Holmes county to salary its Secretary and publish its proceedings.

To provide for the election of trustees in the counties of Yallobusha and Tallahatchie.

To incorporate the town of Bonner, in Calhoun county.

To aid in the construction of the Grenada, Houston and Eastern Railroad, with House amendments.

To prevent the sale of vinous and spirituous liquors within three miles of State Springs Academy, in Calhoun county.

To incorporate the town of Ellistown, in the county of Pontotoc.

For the benefit of the Sheriff of Hinds county.

To incorporate the Brandon State Military Institute.

To provide for the better securing of titles to lands held and claimed under tax sales and tax titles, with house amendments.

To protect Levees in Warren county from injury.

On motion of Mr. Neill, the Senate adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M.

HOUSE.

THURSDAY, Feb. 9, 1860.

House met.

Reading of the journal was dispensed with.

Bills Passed.

To incorporate the Agricultural Society of Warren county.

For the relief of William Walker of Oktibbeha county.

Defining the duties of County Surveyors.

For the relief of Wm. F. Smith.

A Senate bill to provide for and to regulate divorces.

To amend the road laws of Washington county, with Senate amendment.

To distribute weights and measures.

A Senate bill in relation to the Criminal Court of Warren county.

A bill to suspend the operation of an act entitled an act to amend an act entitled an act to be entitled an act to aid in the construction of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, and other Railroads, approved Nov. 18, 1857, was taken up.

The question was taken on the passage of the bill, and decided in the negative by yeas and nays as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Bugg, Chambers, Dantzler, Hill, Keith, Lake, Owen, Pipes, Smedes, Van Eaton, Weathersby.—12.

NAYS—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Akers, Armistead, Backstrom, Bell, Barksdale, Coffey, Culbertson, Claiborne, Downs, Dunlap, Dean, Dickins, Evans, Ellis of Copiah, Gilstrap, Gasque, Hamilton, Henley, Hooker, Hall of Lauderdale, Hudson, Holmes, Johnson, Jones of Scott, Jones of Sunflower, Lyles, Long, Martin, Merinar, McLae, McDonald, McWhorter, Murphy, Palmer, Pinson, Reasons, Reid, Rutherford, Sanders, Shelton, Trotter, Thomas, Wheeler, West, Williams—39.

NAYS—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Adams, Akers Bishop, Clark, Chambers, Culbertson, Duncan, Denney, Dantzler, Frith, Hooker, Johnson, Keith, Lake, McRae, Pipes, Pinson, Ruffin, Suratt, Smedes, Van Eaton, Valiant, Wilson, Winburn, Withers, Weathersby, Walworth.—28.

To incorporate the Jackson Gas Light Company.

A Senate bill to empower the Inspectors of the Mississippi Penitentiary to contract for and purchase a certain lot of land therein described.

A committee of conference was appointed to act with a similar committee on the part of the Senate upon the matters of disagreement between the two Houses upon the following Senate bills:

A bill to incorporate the Holly Springs Life and General Insurance Company.

A bill to amend an act to incorporate the Merchants' and Planters' Insurance Company of the city of Enterprize, approved Dec. 3d, 1858.

On motion of Mr. Suratt, the House adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

House met.

Senate Bills Passed.

To incorporate Independent Fire Engine Company No. 1, of the city of Vicksburg.

To authorize —— McKenzie to receive from the proper authority license to practice law in any of the courts of this State.

Resolutions accepting the portraits of David Holmes and Thomas H. Williams presented by James S. Johnston, of Jefferson County.

To ratify sales of section 16, township 2, range 14, in the county of Clark.

To amend the law relating to paupers.

To appropriate $10,000 to the repair and improvement of the public buildings and grounds.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow morning at nine o'clock.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, Jan. 26, 1860.

The Senate met.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bills Passed.

For the relief of John J. McRae.

To regulate the contracts of hands on steamboats.

To amend the law relative to estrays.

Resolutions in relation to the Southern Pacific Railroad.

To incorporate the North Alabama Telegraph Company.

To regulate the collection of debts against absconding debtors.

In relation to the Circuit and Chancery Courts in the county of Lawrence.

For an increase of the revenue laws of this State.

To repeal articles 54, 55 and 56 of section 8, chapter 35, of the Revised Code.

To regulate the fees of the Clerk of the Circuit and Chancery Courts of Hinds county.

To prevent the destruction of oysters in this State.

To incorporate the Pickensville Branch Railroad Company.

In relation to the Bank of Mississippi incorporated by act of Feb. 26, 1836, as the Lake Washington and Deer Creek Railroad Banking Company, and whose name and style was changed to the Bank of Mississippi by act approved Feb. 16, 1838.

REPORT

Of the Joint Select Committee on the Planters' Bank Bonds.

The joint select committee to whom was referred the Governor's message on the subject of the Planters' Bank Bonds, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report, that, in view of the present aspect of political affairs, and the unexpected agitation of the question of the payment of the Planters' Bank Bonds, at this session of the Legislature, it would be impolitic to agitate a question of such magnitude, which must result in a division of the people of the State, and divert their attention from much more important questions of State policy, now impending and soon to be acted upon, which will require the united voice and action of our people successfully to defend. The committee, therefore, ask to be discharged from any further consideration of the subject.

SIMEON OLIVER,
Chairman of Senate Com.
C. W. McCORD,
T. L. HUDSON,
D. W. ROGERS.

Minority Report.

The undersigned, a minority of the joint select committee to whom was referred the messages of the late Governor in relation to the Planters' Bank Bonds with the accompanying memorials, cannot agree with the report of the majority of that committee; and they will now proceed to state their objections to the same, as well as to give the views which they entertain and think ought to prevail.

The report of the majority asks that the committee be discharged from any further consideration of the subject, upon the ground that in the present aspect of our political affairs, when the institutions and safety of the South are imperilled by the fanatical acts of the Northern people, the attention of our own citizens ought not to be diverted and distracted by the introduction of any other agitating topic. This we think is the position taken by the majority of the committee, and we proceed to answer it.

We will premise by the declaration that no citizens of the State feel more sensibly than we do the aggression and aggression of those Northern free States who assume to sit in judement upon the people of the South and their domestic institutions and pronounce their condemnation upon them; or who, by any conduct, whether it be through the press, on the stump, from the pulpit or in the halls of legislation, would interfere with the Constitutional rights of the Southern people, either in the States or territories of this Union, in the least degree. No citizens of the State condemn more emphatically, than we do, the evil spirit of sectionalism which has prompted a portion of the people of the North to array themselves on a sectional issue against the people of the South, and attempt to elect, by an organization based upon opposition to slavery, a President of the United States, in the expectation that he should be President of the whole Nation and not of the section which elected him. We recognize and admit the danger to our institutions and to the permanence of the present Government which grows out of such a state of things; and we do not hesitate to say that if persisted in and acted on by the Northern people it must inevitably lead to a dissolution of the National compact.

But we cannot see that this condition of our Federal relations, which we admit to be gloomy enough and to presage great danger in the future, and perhaps, not distant future, is any answer to the earnest entreaty of our patient and long forbearing creditors that the State should pay to them or make some provision for what she justly owes them. Whatever may be our political condition, whatever dangers may environ us, however dark the prospect ahead may be, it is no reason that the State should not make provision for her honest debts; is no excuse for her turning a deaf ear to her entreating creditor, who for nineteen years has, without any extenuation for it, been kept out of his just dues, by a State amply able to pay the debt during the whole time without oppressing one of her people, and almost without their being conscious of the fact. It is not necessary for us to state here at length the history of these Planters' Bank Bonds. They were issued by the State under laws past in the form by the Legislature, authorizing the Governor of the State to subscribe for two millions of capital stock of the Planters' Bank, and issue and sell the bonds of the State to that amount, and out of the proceeds of sale pay for the stock thus subscribed for.—These acts of the Legislature were passed in the years 1830, 1831 and 1833. They will be found in Hutchinson's Code, p. 314; and by these acts it is made the duty of the State, expressly pledged "for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds."

At that time no State in the Union enjoyed higher credit, either at home or abroad, than the State of Mississippi. The honor of none was more exalted or freer from stain. The bonds were sold readily in the market at a premium, and with the proceeds of sale the State paid for the two millions of stock which, by the original charter of the Bank, she had expressly reserved for herself. Banking at that time was profitable; and the stock of the Planters' Bank was sought for as an investment by capitalists and the value of it rose in the market until in a few years after its establishment it was worth one hundred and thirty dollars for one hundred dollars paid in. And had the State, at that time, sold out her entire interest in the Bank she would have realized upwards of one hundred thousand dollars upon her investment. But unfortunately she did not do so. She, however, did sell part of her stock which she had taken in the Bank by the investment of a portion of her trust funds and realized for those funds a handsome profit. The Bank steadily paid dividends on its stock, out of which the interest on the State bonds was regularly paid and the surplus of dividends paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the State, until the Bank was overtaken with financial reverses which involved nearly all the commercial world in the three or four years succeeding the great crisis of 1837, and about the year 1840, the Bank ceased to pay the interest on the bonds of the State. The State made no provision for it, and so the interest remained unpaid and the State was discredited and dishonored. From that day to this the State has failed to pay the semi-annual interest on these bonds or the principal as it has matured; and has allowed its plighted faith to be broken, its solemn promise to be disregarded; its honest, just, unimpeached and unimpeachable debt to go unpaid.

This is the simple and indisputable history of the Planters' Bank Bonds. They were issued and sold by the State to take stock in the Planters' Bank. The stock was taken, and so long as it was profitable and a making business, the State reaped the advantages and profit, but when it proved a failure and a loss, the State wholly failed to stand up to her obligations and bear the loss and discharge her obligation as she is upon every principle of legal and moral obligation bound to do. There is no room for casuistry or discussion. These bonds are the debt of the State, contracted in strict conformity to her constitution and laws, and, indeed, recognized in express words by the present Constitution of the State; and no good reason or justification has, to the knowledge of the undersigned, ever been offered, or ever can be offered to excuse the State for having failed to meet promptly the principal and interest of these bonds as they matured. Does the State mean to pay her debts? Or does she intend to set to her citizens the corrupting example of refusing to pay her just and honest obligations?

We say these bonds are constitutional and binding obligations on the State. The majority of the committee have not ventured to suggest otherwise. Not one member of the committee would declare or express his opinion that these bonds were not legal and valid obligations upon the State. No person who has ever been authorized to speak for the State, with one single exception, the late Governor McNutt—and his opinions may be found in the public archives of the State, both for and against the validity of these bonds—has ever expressed the opinion that these bonds were not just and legal and binding on the State. Governor after Governor who has filled the Executive Chair has proclaimed the liability of the State and urged their payment or adjustment. The Legislature has again and again recognized the liability of the State upon them, and the courts have adjudicated their validity. Every department of the Government is committed to their payment; and yet, the great State of Mississippi, proud of her achievements on the battle field, jealous of her constitutional rights, and boastful of her sovereignty, allows herself to be dishonored and discredited in the face of the world by failing to pay a just and admit