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July 3 21-1y

NOTICE.

HAVING RESUMED THE TIMBER INSPECTING BUSINESS, I would be glad to work for all my old friends. I will continue to sell, free of commissions for all who may favor me with their patronage. Persons sending me their PRODUCE will receive prompt personal attention.

W. M MONROE.
Wilmington, N. C., Sept. 4th, 1868.
sept 8 w3m

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

LEGISLATURE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, Dec. 1, 1868.

BILLS.

By Mr. Graham: The following resolution:

Resolved, That the Public Treasurer be requested to report to the Senate the names of the persons to whom he sold one hundred and eighty thousand dollars in bonds of the North Carolina Railroad Company, paid by that Company to the State on the 10th of October, as dividends; from whom proposals were received, and the prices offered, and what were the exigencies of the Treasury, which did not allow him to reject the bids.

Mr. Graham said: Mr. President, I see in the report of the Public Treasurer this statement: "One hundred and eighty thousand in bonds of the North Carolina Railroad Company were paid by that Company to the State, on the 10th of October. I lost no time in endeavoring to sell them. Failing to obtain an eligible offer at private sale, I advertised for sealed proposals to be opened at my office, on the 11th day of November, 1868. The bids aggregated $117,600. The exigencies of the Treasury did not allow me to reject these bids."

These bonds were 8 per cent. mortgage bonds, exempt from State and Federal taxation. The property of the N. C. R. R. Co., I understand, is estimated at five or six millions of dollars; a mortgage has been executed for $800,000 to secure the payment of the bonds when due, and provision made for a sinking fund each year, from the earnings of the Road, for this purpose. I also learn that only $486,000 of bonds have actually been issued. It is reported that the Treasurer, with the exception of $4,000, sold these bonds for 65 cents on the dollar. It is due to the people, and to that officer, that we should have a full explanation of the matter, and the exigencies which required him to submit to such a shave, fully stated. If our Treasury was so empty as to require the money at once, we have but a poor prospect of carrying on our Government for the next year and meeting our obligations, if we should see a private individual selling good bonds at such a discount, we would suspect that he was nearly, if not quite, bankrupt. I hope this is not the case with the State of North Carolina. I make no charge against the Public Treasurer, and introduce this resolution to give him an opportunity to vindicate his action. But I must state that I think it was an unfortunate trade, on the part of North Carolina, as these same bonds cannot now be bought for 80 cents in the dollar.

The resolution was adopted.

By Mr. Sweet: A resolution tendering the use of the Senate Chamber to the Presidential Electors, after 12 o'clock to-morrow; which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Robbins, the Senate agreed, when it adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Martindale offered a resolution in reference to an article, which appeared in the Raleigh Sentinel, of to-day. ("Judge Story said: If ever the day should come, when the best talent and best virtues should be driven from office and place by intrigue or corruption or by the ostracism of the Press, or the still more unrelenting persecution of party, honest legislation would cease, &c.")

The resolution proposed to raise a committee to inquire if Judge Story said so, and, if he did, was it true?

Mr. Sweet expressed his surprise at the introduction of the resolutions. He thought they should be stamped with the condemnation of every Senator on the floor. They were calculated to bring the investigation of the charges of corruption into ridicule and contempt, and, in this way, cripple the Committee in its effort to expose corruption. It was too much like cracking a joke at a funeral.

After he had pledged his word, as a gentleman and a Senator, to locate bribery, it is beneath the dignity of this body to tolerate such an attempt to belittle the investigation, and he would repeat again, in the most emphatic terms, that he could establish, beyond a doubt, the charges contained in those resolutions on bribery.

Mr. Davis desired to know if the Senator from Craven intimated that any Senator on the floor had been guilty of the charges specified in the resolutions.

Mr. Sweet said he did not intend to expose any of the facts in the possession of the committee. In fact, there would be no way of getting hold of them until they came out in proper form, as each member of the committee would be required to take an oath of secrecy. He could say, for the benefit of the Senator from Montgomery, that they had not received any information, thus far, which would criminate him.

Mr. Robbins said he desired to express his admiration and approbation of the remarks made by the Senator from Craven. He was surprised that his friend from Martin should have introduced these resolutions, and hoped that he would withdraw them. They may have been introduced in jest, but it was too serious a matter to jest about. There are two things that cannot be trifled with—one is the virtue of a woman and the other the honor of a man. He did not make these remarks because he thought these resolutions reflected on him, but because they appeared to ridicule the resolutions which he introduced on yesterday. There is something behind them. The scoundrels, who are guilty, are quaking in their shoes, but they cannot escape; they *shall not* escape that punishment which is due them.

Mr. Martindale said he did not intend to cast any reflection or odium on any Senator on the floor by introducing the resolution. The only object he had in view was to retaliate on the Sentinel.

After some further discussion the resolution was withdrawn.

On motion, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, Dec. 1, 1868.

The Chair announced, in accordance with the motion to refer J. F. Leary's resolution on the removal of disabilities to a special committee of five, the following gentlemen to compose said Committee, viz: Messrs. Bowman, Hodnett, Estes, Leary and Long, of Richmond.

By Mr. Estes: A resolution to raise a Joint Committee of five, with power to employ counsel and to send for persons and papers, to investigate the affairs of the Bank of North Carolina. Lies over.

The special order was then taken up, viz: The report of the majority of the committee on Public Buildings, recommending the adoption of Mr. Seymour's resolution reinstating the Supreme Court in their rooms.

Mr. French opposed the resolution. He said that in the committee there was only one majority for the recommendation. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction had to vacate his office the Auditor would have to be moved. It was necessary that those officers should remain where they were in order that they might be near the Executive Office, with which they had constant business, and there were many gentlemen calling on business upon those officers. The message of the Governor had informed them that the Executive Mansion was at the service of the authorities. He did not see why the Supreme Court could not have rooms in that building.

Mr. Downing also opposed the resolution, and so did Mr. Sinclair.

Mr. Seymour said that he had introduced the resolution at the request of some members of the Supreme Court. The room in which the Court is now was well known to all to be in every particular unsuited to the purpose. Among some of the objections was that the Clerk had to occupy the same room, and there was no place to which the Judges could retire to consult, as was frequently the habit. The members of the Bar had continually occasion to refer to the books which were now placed over the heads of the Judges. As to the Governor's Mansion, there were several objections to it. Though the present Governor may not desire to occupy it, yet some future Governor might do so, and, in that case, another removal of the Court would be required.

Mr. Hodgin, the Chairman of the House branch of the committee, reiterated his former remarks upon the subject. He opposed the passage of the resolution.

Mr. French offered a substitute, authorizing the committee to have rooms in the Executive Mansion prepared for the Supreme Court.

After considerable discussion Mr. Estes said the best mode of dealing with this matter was to let it drop here, and therefore he moved to lay both the original and substitute on the table.

Mr. Estes withdrew the motion in order to allow Mr. Robidson to make an explanation.

Mr. Robinson said he desired, as a member of the Joint Committee on Public Buildings, to make an explanation. He had attended all the meetings of that Committee, last session, except the last, which had been held just after he left for home, and immediately before the adjournment of this body. He desired the fact to be known that he was all the time opposed to changing or interfering, in any way, with the rooms so long occupied by the Supreme Court. He maintained that after the rooms had been set apart by a special act of the Legislature, the Committee under a simple resolution, had no authority, whatever to interfere, without first repealing that act. The Committee could with the same propriety, order the Executive office to be removed to the third story of this building. For these reasons he opposed the substitute of the gentleman from New Hanover, and favored the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. E. renewed his motion and it was adopted.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Sinclair: A resolution empowering the Governor to remove, when necessary, magistrates, &c. Referred.

By the same: A resolution requesting our Representatives and Senators in Congress to endeavor to get an act through that body relieving all the citizens of this State from the penalties of the 14th article. Referred to the Special committee.

Mr. French moved that each Saturday, 12 o'clock, be set apart for the introduction of such resolutions.

Mr. Sinclair moved to lay the motion on the table, and Mr. F. called for the yeas and nays.

The call being sustained the Clerk called the roll and the vote stood yeas 49, nays 37.

Mr. Foster moved to reconsider the vote.

J. S. Leary, colored, moved to lay that motion on the table.

Mr. French was allowed to explain his reason for making the motion.

Mr. Sinclair said it was useless for any one to endeavor to throw ridicule upon such resolutions. It was well for those who labored under no disabilities, or those who had been relieved, to laugh and make sport at them. But they should remember that they were trifling with some of the dearest hopes of many of the best citizens in the State. The time must, will and shall come, when all the citizens of our State shall enjoy equal rights and privileges.—The man who says "Let us have peace," will inaugurate such measures as will accomplish that end.

Mr. French disclaimed any intention of trying to throw ridicule upon such measures. His motion would not have that effect.

Mr. Pou said whether it was so intended or not, it would certainly have that effect.

Mr. Foster withdrew his motion to reconsider.

By Mr. Malone: A resolution raising a Special committee to inquire whether or not the Ku Klux have ceased to exist in the State. Lies over.

CALENDAR.

Mr. Estes moved to suspend the rules and take up Mr. Malone's resolution in reference to Ku Klux, and that he (Mr. Malone) and the gentleman from Anson (Mr. Ingram) be selected as the Special committee.

Mr. Bowman moved an amendment that the said committee be instructed to make a report early to-morrow morning.

Mr. Estes accepted the amendment.

House resolution No. 31, (introduced by Mr. Vest) that the Senators and Representatives from this State in Congress be requested to have alterations made in the laws, so that a poor man might have the same chance to distil whiskey as a rich man, came up.

Mr. Estes moved to refer.

Mr. French disliked the phraseology and moved to strike out the word "distil" and insert "drink." Such amendment would give the resolution as much force as it had in its present shape.

Mr. Estes' motion to refer was adopted.

The resolution of Mr. Justice, of Rutherford, that the House take a recess from the 21st of December to the 4th of January next, was next reached, and after various attempted amendments, was adopted in its original shape.

Mr. Pou moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday, by which the bill to limit sales of bonds issued by the State, in aid of railroads, to such sales as shall be made at par, was indefinitely postponed.—He said he did not expect the bill, if reconsidered, to be passed exactly in its present shape. Future sales by the railroad corporations might be limited to 80 or 90 cents in the dollar. That amendment would be a great advantage to the State and its tax-payers. The State bonds are being hawked about commercial centres at 64 and 65 cents in the dollar, to the damage of tax-payers and the depreciation of State credit. The rapid increase of the State debt presents many grave considerations. The Constitution forbids taxation on money, credits, investments in stocks, bonds, joint stock companies, and all real and personal property, beyond 66⅔ cents on the $100, of true value, per year, for State and county purposes combined.

If the State draws from these subjects of taxation 40 cents in the $100 per year, the sum of 26⅔ cents is left to be raised on each $100 of valuation of these subjects, and more. The Treasurer suggests 40 cts. in the $100, for taxes for the year ending Sept. 30, 1869. We may go through the present fiscal year, leaving to the County Commissioners 26⅔ cents on the $100 for county purposes—a small rate, truly, but made a necessity by our profuse liberality to Railroad Companies. But how stands the account for the next year, from October 1st, 1862, to Sept. 30, 1870, with the present indebtedness of the State, and supposing the expenses of the State government the same as for the present fiscal year? The amount to be raised by taxation will be greater by $477,633 than it is for the present year.

And if the Chatham Railroad and the Williamston and Tarboro' Railroad fail to meet their interest, the amount to be raised by taxation will be greater for the next year by the sum of $687,633. To meet such a sum, more than 40 cents in the hundred, as property tax, would be required—perhaps even the whole of the 66⅔ cts. allowed by the Constitution. Let us reconsider, then, our action of yesterday. If members here will persist in spending, on State account, the 66⅔ cents per hundred of property tax, they may see, in a few years, that their counties cannot feed prisoners or build bridges, &c.

Mr. Downing replied and concluded by moving to indefinitely postpone Mr. Pou's motion to reconsider.

Upon that motion, Mr. Pou demanded the yeas and nays. The call was not sustained, when Mr. Downing's motion was adopted.

The House then adjourned until to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 2, 1868.

Mr. Sweet rose to a question of privilege. He had seen in one of the morning papers an editorial article called "Practical Reconstruction," which, after charging himself and Senator Robbins with being in political sympathy with each other, and with selling out their political principles, concluded with the following paragraph: "Senator Robbins claims to be a Democrat and Senator Sweet claims to be a Republican, yet so complete is the sympathy between them that it is difficult to tell which is the Republican and which the Democrat. They have become moral Siamese twins, and their separation now would be almost impossible, and the only existing doubt is—*which party can claim both of them.*" He desired to say that these charges were false as hell, and that the writer of the article knew them to be so when he made them. He was as firm in his faith in Republican principles as any man. Those principles were implanted in him at his birth, and had always given them an earnest and unqualified support. He believed as entirely in the justice of the Republican party as men believed in God. It was a party that went in the highways, byways and hedges, and when it found a man created in the image of his God, prostrated by unequal laws, elevated him to the condition of a man. Republican principles were a part of his very existence and blood, and he who wrote that article well knew this, and had written it for a purpose. Why did certain persons thus gratuitously object to this investigation and try to bring this committee into ridicule? He would give a key to unlock this mystery, that would disclose the motive of this article and the course pursued with reference to the committee. Every member of the General Assembly, whether of the House or Senate, or only an humble member of the third house who sought to destroy confidence in the committee, are actuated by purposes of his own to prevent the committee from having the power to expose his own corruption, and he who wrote this article knew that he was implicated.—He would say to all that these attacks upon the committee would have no other effect than to accelerate pursuit. He would not descend to the cess-pool of abuse, but would say that individuals were trembling like aspen leaves because they knew they were guilty and that their guilt was going to find them out. He knew the rectitude of himself as chairman of the committee and thought each member of the committee controlled by the same aspirations as himself. He was also charged with claiming to be a representative man of his party in the Senate. No man could say he had ever proposed or suggested personal promotion, and he who made such charges made them for a falsehood and for a bad purpose. He would conclude by saying that he had no aspirations but aspirations for the welfare of North Carolina, and to be honest, and he should always expose corruption whenever it raised its hideous head.

Mr. Galloway would respectfully suggest to the Senator from Craven that a special joint committee, to consist of three on the part of the Senate and five on the part of the House, should be appointed and instructed to investigate the charge, and report to the Senate whether the Senator from Craven had sold himself to the Democrats.

Bill requiring Justices of the Supreme Court to issue official opinions out of term time when required to do so by the General Assembly, came up for second reading.

Mr. Barrow moved to amend by inserting the words "United States."

Mr. Sweet opposed the bill.

Mr. Hayes said the object of the bill was to enable questions of great public interest, which affected nearly every man in the State, to be settled permanently. The interest of the people demanded the passage of this bill, and therefore it should be passed. There was scarcely a Senator present who had not his pocket filled with letters relative to this very question. He said the interests of the people required a speedy passage of this bill that they might know how to act, and much trouble and loss to them be avoided. The question as to who was banned would be determined definitely and the public mind be at rest. The bill was necessary to affect this object as it might be a long while before the matter would be officially determined by the usual method. The Court only held for six months in the year, and he was informed that no case that could be made a test case was now before it. For these reasons he hoped the bill would pass.

Mr. Osborne was opposed to the bill.

Mr. Welker favored the bill.

Mr. Barrow had long felt the want of some similar bill and hoped this would pass.

Mr. Lassiter did not know that he would support the bill in its present form, but thought it was necessary to avail ourselves of the best lights we could, to enable us to guard against difficulties that lie in our pathway, and which are constituted one of the co-ordinate branches of the government, and at no time would he be willing to compromise the character of this body, yet he felt that there would be no subordination in seeking for information where it could be found. The Attorney General, the first law officer of the State, had acknowledged there were difficulties in the way, and it was just and proper to apply to that source for information which is presumed to be the embodiment of legal learning. The best of our committees are at a loss; the Senate could not well determine with safety, and should we refuse to apply to the Supreme Court? This course was not without precedent, and it was within the memory of men now here, that the General Assembly had applied to the Supreme Court Justices and asked their opinion upon the question of freehold suffrage, and that opinion, as declared, had been respected and had contributed much to settle a question of some trouble even in times of quiet, order and precedent. But now when we were setting in motion a new government without precedent and with but few lights to guide in the future, why not guard against blunders and save ourselves from trouble and the country from cost.

Mr. Osborne agreed with most of the remarks of the Senator from Granville, but thought it was lowering the dignity of the legislative body to seek the opinion of the Judiciary body.

Mr. Winstead had no objection at any time to hear the opinion of the Supreme Court, but was not willing to take the individual opinion of the Judges given here and there without proper consultation for a guide. He moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Moore, of Carteret, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 2, 1868.

Mr. French introduced a bill to better enable the Commissioners of New Hanover county to carry out the provisions of section 13, article 7, of the Constitution of the State.

Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[Sec. 13. Chap. VII. No county, city, town, or other municipal corporation shall assume or pay, nor shall any tax be levied, or collected, for the payment of any debt, contracted directly or indirectly in aid or support of the rebellion.]—ED JOURNAL.

Mr. French introduced a bill in relation to the weighing of rosin at the port of Wilmington.

Referred to the Committee on Corporations.

Mr. Morris introduced a bill to amend an act to establish a lien in favor of builders and mechanics.

Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Resolution to appoint a special committee to investigate the affairs of the Bank of North Carolina and the Bank of the State of North Carolina.

Mr. Estes offered amendments to include the Bank of Cape Fear.

Amendments agreed to and resolution adopted.

A message from the Senate was received, transmitting for concurrence a joint resolution to provide for the appointment of a joint special committee of three on the part of the Senate and five on the part of the House to investigate charges of bribery and corruption against members of the General Assembly; and announcing that the Senate had appointed Messrs. Sweet, Robbins and Forkner as the Senate branch of said committee.

Mr. Sinclair said that in effect this was not a resolution but a bill, and he moved that it be printed.

Mr. Estes moved to amend the motion by making the bill a special order for Saturday next at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Pou opposed any delay.

Mr. Estes said the reason of his moving to make a special order for Saturday was that there are already special orders for Thursday and Friday. He agreed that the matter should be acted upon immediately. But this is a Star Chamber proceeding. It is introduced by a gentleman who has pledged his honor as a Senator and gentleman to prove charges against members of this or the other House. He was willing to give him a fair chance to do so, but the bill gives all the powers necessary to make a man criminate himself. It gives the committee full power to call upon any member of this Legislature, the Governor and all his officers to bring papers here and make them criminate themselves. He thought it should be printed for the information of members, and considered as early as possible, and moved that it be made a special order for to-morrow at 11 o'clock A. M.

Mr. Harris, of Wake, was glad this subject has been brought up, because this body was affected to be held in disrepute by many persons, and it had now an opportunity to vindicate its character. He agreed that the resolution gave power to convict men before a petty committee, without a jury, without a notice of the charges preferred against them, without a hearing, and contrary to the letter and spirit of the declaration of rights in the constitution, sections 11, 12 and 13. He hoped the investigation would be thoroughly prosecuted, but hoped the resolution would be printed, so that members might act intelligently.

Mr. Pou said the arguments that had been urged for delay tended more strongly to convince him that there was no necessity for it. He agreed that the result of the investigation could be nothing more than the expulsion of a member from the Assembly if found guilty. If a man committed perjury that was a case for the criminal courts. He referred to the analogous case of C. W. Woolley, incarcerated by the House of Representatives of the U. S. Congress for contempt, to show that the legislative body could commit a person for contempt.

Mr. Downing favored the investigation, thought every member wanted it made; but he wanted to act intelligently, and desired the bill printed.

Mr. Seymour expressed surprise at the motion to delay for a moment. Every gentleman must have read the bill. He knew of no law by which a person testifying falsely before a committee could be punished for perjury. He did not think any member would desire to shield himself under a constitutional prerogative. He hoped every member would come through unscathed.

Mr. Estes had not seen them, but his attention was called to two sections, and he was told by some of the ablest lawyers of this city that they were infamous, that they delegated more power to the committee than any committee ever had in the United States.

Mr. French said he was not a member of the Assembly when this alleged corruption took place, and he could speak disinterestly. He agreed that any action ought to be made unanimous; and could not see why the phraseology of this resolution could not be changed so that it would agree with the views of every member. No member could be so base that he would not seek an investigation. He objected to extending the investigation to persons not connected with the State government, and hoped the matter would be postponed.

Mr. Argo said it was legitimate for the Legislature to arraign any citizen or any member for ever offering a bribe to a public officer.

Mr. Ingram opposed delay.

Mr. Durham said the resolution gave no power to compel witnesses to criminate themselves; it only gave the same power that a court has to compel witnesses to answer. The Constitution of the State provides that no witness shall be compelled to answer a question which criminates himself, but there is no provision which prevents a court or committee to ask the question. If any member refuses to answer, he must take the responsibility.

Mr. Sinclair said there was no proposition to delay the investigation, but he did not see what object would be attained by hurrying it on. What new incentive has been offered here, he asked, to hurry it through this House when it passed the Senate; but it was attempted to be rushed through the House, as much as to say that it is this end of the building that the stigma is cast upon. He wanted to meet the charge, and hoped every member of the House would be put upon his oath.

Mr. Harris, of Wake, said legal gentlemen told us this was a law, and it must be read three times, and must go over until to-morrow. Every man needed time to read it, so as to be able to act intelligently. He could point out a dozen instances in which investigation had been made, and never had such power been given. He would vote for a resolution to send for persons and papers; but should hesitate to support an act like this.

Mr. Bowman at 12 o'clock moved to take a recess until 1 o'clock to attend the meeting of the Electors.

The motion was agreed to.

At 1 o'clock Mr Pou resumed the chair, and the House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, Dec. 3, 1868.

By Mr. Welker: A bill for the relief of Executors, Guardians, &c.;

Bill to punish violence by persons in disguise; and

Bill regulating the investment of Trust funds.

By Mr. Stevens: A bill to prevent stock running at large and requiring farmers to keep up their fences.

Mr. Sweet, from the same committee, to whom was referred a bill to repeal an act restoring the common law right of dower to married women, reported adversely.—Placed on calendar.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, VIZ:

The resolution in relation to the Supreme Court—the question being on Mr. Winstead's motion to refer to the Judiciary Committee.

After considerable discussion, the Senate refused to refer, and the bill was amended and passed its second reading.

On motion of Mr. Sweet, the bill to consolidate the Atlantic and N. C. R. R. Companies was taken up, and after considerable discussion, was referred to the committee on Internal Improvements by a vote of yeas 22, nays 18.

On motion of Mr. Stevens, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, 11 o'clock.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 3, 1868.

On motion of Mr. Estes, the rules were suspended, and the unfinished business of yesterday taken up, (being the joint resolutions concerning black mail).

The resolutions were again read, when Mr. Estes said he arose to move the adoption of the resolutions. He intended, on yesterday, when he moved to make them the special order for to day, to vote for them. He would vote for them now, though he objected to them. His friends had told him it would not do for him to spoil his hands by touching them in any way—that public opinion would not sustain him in any opposition to them. He was not afraid of public opinion. He stood here a representative of the people, and deemed it his duty to stand out in defence of the dignity of this body. He regarded these resolutions as infamous, reflecting upon the honor of this entire body. So far as he was personally concerned, he was able to repel any insulting reflection upon his character, whether made by a Senator or a member of this House. A member of the Senate had pledged his word of honor to sustain the charges he has made; he is the chairman of this Court, and to his (Mr. Estes') mind, the manner in which that gentleman had made the charge was like a Judge delivering his verdict before he had heard the case. In order to allow that gentleman to make good his charges, these resolutions gave him the most extraordinary powers. He (Mr. Estes) was willing to allow him every latitude; therefore, notwithstanding his objections to the resolutions, he would vote for them. This affair had already cost the State nearly $1,000,000, for, being telegraphed all over the United States, it had caused our bonds to fall off from 3 to 5 per cent. He was anxious that a rigid investigation should be made, but he wished the resolutions to be properly shaped. Though the present ones did not meet his approval, yet he would vote for them.

Mr. Laflin said that, as he had been detained from his seat a greater part of the time for the last two days, he was not informed as to the discussion which took place yesterday. He had read the resolutions in the Sentinel. He, as Chairman of the Committee on Internal Improvements, and as a friend to such measures, had taken an active part in the introduction of such bills, and he felt it due to himself to have a rigid examination instituted. But he was not prepared to vote for the present resolutions, and, in order that he might have time to thoroughly understand and consider them, he moved to print and make the special order for to-morrow.

J. H. Harris, (colored,) of Wake, hoped the gentleman would withdraw that motion, and let us dispose of the matter at once. He would vote for the resolutions, but would do so under protest at having all this disparagement and discredit evidently intended to be heaped upon the Republican party. He believed that any man who charged any member of this body with corruption, uttered a falsehood, and thought the Senator from Craven (Mr. Sweet) must be *non compos mentis*.

Mr. Downing said he supported the motion to print, on yesterday, and would do so now. He had read the resolutions and thought them objectionable. In reading them in the Sentinel he discovered some strange passages; for instance, in one of the "*whereases*," we read of "buying black-mail." Can any one tell the meaning of that?

The Chair explained that it should read "*levying* black-mail."

Mr. Downing continued, saying that if mistakes and errors were made in one part, they were likely to occur in another!!! A substitute would be offered, doing away with the objectionable features of the present resolutions, and giving the proposed committee all reasonable powers. He would support that, for he desired a rigid and close examination of the matter to be gone into, consistently with the dignity and honor of this body. He would never vote for the resolutions in their present shape.—Never had such extraordinary resolutions been offered in this country, and if the Senator from Craven had not pledged his word and honor to make good the charges, he would move to indefinitely postpone.—Here was a small Committee with powers not only to arraign and try the whole Legislature, but the *Governor and all!* He had been in the Senate, when the matter first came up, and he had heard the Senator from Craven asked to name the men, and the reply was that they (the introducers of the resolutions) "were not willing yet to show their hands." The gentleman (Mr. Sweet) was using his influence in this House to secure the appointment of such a Committee as he wished to have. If he (Mr. Sweet) fails to substantiate his charges, it must result in his expulsion from his seat in the Senate. His political life hangs upon his success in this matter. He (Mr. Downing) was not afraid to stand here and protest against this indecent haste. If a resolution, properly drawn, looking towards the same ends, is offered, he would heartily support it, and give the Committee, when raised, all the aid and assistance in his power.

Mr. Sinclair followed in the same strain.

Mr. Seymour said he had not intended to say a word on this subject, but, as a personal friend of Mr. Sweet, he felt it to be his duty to say something.

As regarded the Representative from Wake, J. H. Harris, (colored,) calling Mr. Sweet *non compos mentis*, all he had to say was that he only wished for the sake of the State, that this body had more like him.—In regard to the wording of this resolution that did not touch Mr. Sweet. They were in fact a substitute of Mr. Robbins'. No man who knew Mr. Sweet, would venture to charge him with being influenced by improper motives in this matter. Nothing but patriotic motives and convictions of duty had led him to make these charges.—The resolutions did not throw any slur upon anybody. They merely gave the Committee power to be effective. Who will object to that? A full investigation is necessary, in order that the honor and dignity of the Legislature may at once be vindicated. The Committee would have power to send for persons and papers, and to report, what? Not conclusions, but facts. There was nothing unconstitutional in them, though, perhaps, they were not in the best shape. The House certainly cannot object to the Committee swearing their witnesses, and, if they are proven to have perjured themselves, to make them liable to the pains and penalties of that crime.—If there is no objection to those things, then whence does the objection come?—Some think these resolutions like the form of a regular enactment and require to be read three times.

Mr. Pou said that if these resolutions had been based merely upon report, he would not be in favor of noticing them.—But a Senator had pledged himself to prove the charges, and as for any indecency in relation to the hasty passage of the resolutions, he thought it would be more indecent in this body to hesitate in the matter a moment. There was a strong argument of haste advanced by those who opposed these resolutions. They say that this matter has caused our bonds to depreciate. Ought we not then to take steps that will lead to an immediate investigation, and have the affair at once cleared up, in order to relieve our State bonds? Nobody would be hurt by these resolutions, except the guilty parties, and, if there be such, no one, he knew would endeavor to shelter them.

Mr. French offered the following substitute, viz:

WHEREAS, A certain member of the Senate of this State has declared, in his place, that he knew that "dollars and cents" had been used to influence the votes of members of this Assembly; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of five, on the part of the House, to be joined by three on the part of the Senate, be appointed to investigate the charges and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Ingram said it was his pleasure to know both the Senators alluded to so often in this debate. He was sorry to hear their motives so bitterly denounced. He would support the resolutions as they came from the Senate, and would not allow himself to be driven from his position in the matter by threats and whispered insinuations of having "gone over." He was a Republican, and as good a one as any gentleman on the floor. He had his convictions of right and wrong, and intended to be governed by them.

Mr. French called the previous question upon his resolution.

Mr. Hodnett demanded the yeas and nays. The call being sustained, the motion for the main question prevailed by a vote of yeas 75, nays 32.

Upon the adoption of the substitute, Mr. Durham called for the yeas and nays. The call was sustained and resulted in the following ballot:

YEAS—Messrs Ames, Ashworth, Banner, Barnes, Blair, Carson, Carey, colored, Cawthorn, colored, Cherr, colored, Crawford, Dixon, Downing, Elington, Estes, Forkner, colored, Foster, Frankum, French, Gahagan, Graham, Gunter, Harris, of Wake, colored, Hayes, colored, Hodgin, Horney, Hudgins, Justice, of Rutherford, Kelly, of Moore, Kinney, Laflin, Long of Richmond, Mayo, colored, Moring, Morrill, Morris, colored, Pearson, Peck, Price, colored, Proctor, Ragland, Rea, Renfrow, Robbins, colored, Reynolds, colored, Sinclair, Snipes, Stevens, Stilley, Sykes, colored, Vest, Waldrop, White, Wilkie, Wilson and Wiswall—54

NAYS—Messrs Allison, Argo, Armstrong, Boddie, Bowman, Candler, Clayton, of Transylvania, Durham, Ellis, Ferebee, Gatling, Gibson, Green, Grier, Harris, of Franklin, Hawkins, Hendricks, Hicks, High, Hinnant, Hodnett, Hoffman, Humphries, Ingram, Jarvis, Justus, of Henderson, Kelley, of Davie, Leary, colored, Long, of Chatham, Malone, Matheson, McCanless, McMillan, Mendenhall, Moore, Nicholson, Painter, Parker, Pou, Proffitt, Robinson, Seymour, Shaver, Short, Siegrist, Simonds, Smith, of Alleghany, Smith, of Wayne, Stanton, Sweat, colored, Thompson, Vestal, Welch, Williams, of Harnett, Williams, of Sampson, and Williamson, colored—52.

The resolutions, as amended, were then adopted.

Mr. French, at his request, was changed from the Judiciary to the Finance Committee.

By Mr. Moore: A resolution instructing the Finance Committee to inquire into the expediency of selling the State's interest in the various Public Works. Referred.

By Mr. Vest: A resolution that inasmuch as the Principal Clerk of the House had certified that the Assistant Clerk was incompetent to discharge the duties of that position, the Principal Clerk be allowed to employ some competent person for $7 per day.

(Mr. Vest stated that the resolution was not his, but that he had offered it by request.) Lies over.

By Mr. Malone: A resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire and report whether the Legislature could discontinue the office of Code Commissioners, under the Constitution of the State. Lies over.

By Mr. Justice, of Rutherford: A bill to prevent the collection of debts contracted for slaves. Referred.

After the introduction of one or two other unimportant bills, the House, on motion of Mr Argo, adjourned until to-morrow, 11 o'clock.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe Converted.

We hear from Florida that Mrs. Beecher Stowe, the authoress of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," who a year or two ago bought a place on the St. John's River, near Jacksonville, says she wants to live long enough to write another book to correct the mistakes of "Uncle Tom," and show that a great blunder was committed when slavery was abolished. From original condition of sentimental attachment to the negro she has lapsed into a state of unconquerable dislike and aversion. She will not have them about her, either in doors or out. She turned them all off her place, and allows no one with a black skin to approach her. We are told that an acquaintance of ours sought to send her a message by a black stewardess on board a steamboat, but she refused to allow the negro to approach her. Her mind, as we have been credibly informed, is very much inflamed against the negro; and this, probably, from comparing their efficiency and aptitude as laborers and servants with that of the Northern whites. Her fancy picture of the African has been spoiled, and her sentimental affection has turned, in consequence, to violent aversion. Like Squeers, the milk of human sympathy in her bosom has all turned to curds and whey.

Macon (Ga.) *Telegraph.*

From Memphis—Jesse Thompson Arrested for the Murder of Gen. Hindman—Complimentary Dinner to Dr. Leftwich.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 1.—Jesse Thompson has been arrested at Vicksburg, charged with the murder of Gen. Hindman, he having confessed to a negro that he did the deed, though he now denies it.

A grand complimentary dinner was given to Dr. Leftwich, the Democratic candidate elect from this district, at the Overton House last night, by the business and professional men of the city, irrespective of party. Alderman McDarrett presided.—The best feeling prevailed. Speeches were made by Duncan, Upton and others—the latter in response to a toast to the President elect and the army of the United States. He assured his hearers that Grant would execute the laws for the benefit of the whole country, without regard to partisan measures. This is the first meeting since the beginning of the war, in which all parties were represented.

Atlanta (Ga.) Municipal Election.

ATLANTA, Dec. 1.—The mayor and municipal council have ordered the postponement of the municipal election until the assembling of the Legislature in January, taking the ground that negroes are not entitled to vote under the law granting the city charter, and that the election will be null and void unless the present Legislature strikes out the word "white" in the city charter.

The Democrats claim that the State constitution and reconstruction laws give negroes the right to vote, notwithstanding the municipal law, and propose holding a regular election, allowing blacks to vote, leaving the Legislature to decide as to its legality.

"Such is Life."

The ups and downs of life are completely and sadly illustrated in the lives of Geo. D. Prentice and Walter N. Halderman.—The latter, when a boy, entered the Louisville Journal office as a clerk, when Mr. Prentince was in the zenith of his power. Geo. D. Prentice, in those days, was a great man. He stood second to none among the editors of Whig journals in the land; indeed, he had a national reputation. He was known as a man of talent, power and influence in the country. Geo. D. Prentice was among the foremost journalists of the times; but now, alas, how changed.—He is in the employ of Mr. Halderman, his former clerk, now the principal owner of the Courier and Journal, and receives a salary of $40 per week. Such is life.

Washington *Republican.*

Election of United States Senators.

Letters from Minnesota state that the indications are Senator Ramsey will not be re-elected, owing to the Donnelley and Washburne quarrel, he having sided with the latter. Donnelley's friends can control the Legislature even if they cannot elect Donnelley.

In Missouri Ben. Loan is reported to have the inside track for Henderson's seat, and in Maine Hannibal Ham