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WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1824.

No. 4.



THE RECESS.

Legislature of Virginia.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Thursday, Dec. 2.

Petitions were presented from sundry inhabitants of Frederick co. praying a separate election district on the east side of the Shenandoah river, in that county:—*Referred to the committee of propositions and grievances.* From Samuel Kercheval of Frederick, for compensation for a considerable quantity of flour furnished for the use of the public in the Revolutionary War, at the Winchester Barracks, by a certain Philip Helphinstone, the certificate of which was transferred to the petitioner:—*Referred to the Committee of Claims.*

Friday Dec. 3.

A petition was presented from sundry inhabitants of Frederick co. praying an additional election district in the said county:—*Rejected.*—(We are ignorant what petition this can be.—(Ed. Win. Gaz.

Mr. Upshur asked leave to bring in a bill to alter or amend the act regulating the solemnization of marriages, &c. In asking this leave he explained that he acted under the instruction of the grand jury of his county, who whilst they felt it their duty to present certain individuals for intermarrying with their deceased wife's sister, and with the widow of their deceased uncle, expressed an unanimous opinion that the law under which they acted was unjust and impolitic, and requested their representatives, to endeavor to procure the repeal of the law in these respects.

Messrs. Eerkshire and Bowers were both charged with petitions on the same subject, and tendered them to the House. Leave was granted to bring in the bill; and the petitions alluded to were referred to the committee directed to bring it in.

The House came to the resolution to proceed on Tuesday next, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the election of a Senator of the United States, in place of the late col. John Taylor.

Mr. Garnett presented a memorial from the President, Masters, and professors of William and Mary College, praying the passage of a law authorizing the removal of the same.

Mr. Crawford moved that the C. for C. of J. be instructed to enquire into the expediency of amending or repealing the law concerning imprisonment for debt.—*Determined in the negative.*

Saturday, Dec. 4.

A message was received from the Senate, that they had agreed to the joint resolution to proceed on this day, to the election of a Public Printer. And the House proceeded to the election.

Mr. Sexton nominated Thomas Ritchie, another person being put in nomination. The committee retired to count the votes. Mr. Sexton then reported the election of Mr. Ritchie.

Mr. Raymond offered the following resolution:—*Resolved,* That hereafter it shall be the duty of members presenting petitions to this House, to present the object of the petition upon its presentation called for by some member; but referred to the proper Committee, if not so called for; and the Members presenting any petition, shall endorse on its back his name, as a guarantee that the language is decorous and respectful towards the House.

Mr. Yancey submitted the following resolution:—*Resolved,* That henceforth no petition shall be read by the Clerk in the House unless particularly required by the member presenting it; that the member presenting a petition shall name the petitioner, the nature of the application, and endorse his name in a fair hand, on the back of the petition, which shall be considered as a pledge that the petition is drawn in respectful and decorous language, and ought to be examined and reported upon by a Committee of this House, whereupon the petition shall be handed to the Clerk, and by him, be laid before the proper committee.

Mr. Patterson was also in favor of the experiment to abridge the duration of the sessions; and submitted the following by way of amendment to the substitute:—*Resolved,* That it shall be the duty of a member, when presenting a petition, to state in general terms its object, and whence it comes; after which it shall be disposed of without being read, unless for reasons assigned, some member should desire its reading.

After some discussion, Mr. Patterson's proposition was rejected.

Mr. Yancey's amendment was then agreed to, ayes 105, noes 80.

CONVENTION.

Mr. Sexton offered a petition from the county of Frederick, praying that a law may pass to take the sense of the people on the propriety of calling a Convention. Mr. Harvie, of Richmond, offered a similar petition, from the citizens of Richmond.—After some conversation as to the propriety of referring these petitions, and all of a similar nature, to a select Committee, or to the Committee of the whole, they were referred to a select Committee, with power to report by bill or otherwise; and a Committee was appointed, of Messrs. Sexton, Rutherford, Ship, Hines, Martiney, Colston, Turner, Garland, Gordon, Wicher, Hooe, Upshur, and Winston.

On Mr. Sherrard's motion, the Militia Committee were instructed to enquire into its propriety of reducing the expenses of the Militia, which he said had greatly exceeded the amount of Militia fines for the last year.

Monday, Dec. 6.

Mr. Bowyer, from the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, That the petition of sundry persons, representing that they, or the greater part of them, reside in that part of the county of Frederick, lying on the east side of the Shenandoah river: praying that a separate election district may be given them, at some central point, east of the Shenandoah river, is reasonable.—*Agreed to by the House.*

On Mr. Sexton's motion, *Resolved,* That so much of the Governor's Communication as relates to the propriety of punishing free white persons with stripes in public; and the transportation of free persons of color beyond the limits of the United States, there to be sold as slaves for life, be referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice to report by bill or otherwise.

On Mr. Sexton's motion, a resolution was adopted for proceeding on Wednesday next, to the election of a Governor.

Mr. Winston submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That leave be given to bring in a bill, to amend the 28th section of the act entitled "An act to reduce into one, the several acts and parts of acts concerning the establishment, jurisdiction and powers of the Superior Courts of Law," so as to authorize and require the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law in this Commonwealth, to hold intermediate courts in civil, as well as criminal cases, where from any cause the regular courts are not holden.

Mr. Thompson of Fairfax moved to amend this resolution by striking out the words "leave be given to bring in a bill to amend," and inserting in lieu thereof, the words "the Committee for Courts of Justice be instructed to enquire into the expediency of amending."

This amendment was rejected; and the original resolution agreed to by the house.

Messrs. Winston, Parker, Briggs, Thompson of Fairfax, Randolph of Cumberland, Morris of Wood, Jacob, Dromgoole, Watkins of Prince Edward, Laidley, Gholsom, Branch, Rutherford and Stuart were appointed a Committee to prepare the bill.

Mr. Upshur, according to order, presented a bill to alter and amend the act regulating the solemnization of marriages, prohibiting such as are incestuous or otherwise unlawful; to prevent forcible and stolen marriages, and for the punishment of the crime of bigamy.—*Read the first; and ordered to be read the 2d time.*

Tuesday Dec. 7.

Various reports were made by the chairmen of the standing committees, and laid upon the table.

On Mr. Armistead's motion, the House proceeded to execute the joint order of the day, which had for its object the election of a Senator of the United States in place of Col. John Taylor, deceased.

Mr. Armistead then nominated Mr. John Tyler of Charles City.

Mr. Loyall nominated Mr. Littleton W. Tazewell of Norfolk.

The nominations gave rise to a long debate, which turned upon the principles and qualifications of the nominees.—It occupied nearly two hours.

The nomination of Mr. Tyler was supported by Mr. Jones of York, and Mr. Garland.—That of Mr. Tazewell was supported by Messrs. Thomas M. Randolph, Upshur, Thompson of Fairfax, and Mason of Southampton. The ballots were,

For Tazewell	159
Tyler	80
Scattering	3

So Mr. Tazewell was declared duly elected.

A Bill, "to alter and amend an Act, entitled, an Act to reduce into one, the several acts, to regulate the solemnization of marriages, prohibiting such as are incestuous or otherwise unlawful, to prevent forcible, and stolen marriages, and for the punishment of the crime of Bigamy," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Wednesday Dec. 8.

The Senate having concurred in a resolution to proceed to the election, JAMES PLEASANTS, was re-elected Governor of this Commonwealth, for one year, without opposition.

The contested Hanover case was taken up. The Committee of Privileges and Elections had reported in favor of sending the election back to the people.—But Mr. Thompson of Fairfax, now proposed a substitute, permitting Doctor Berkeley to keep his seat.

On Mr. Harvie's motion, however, both the report and substitute were laid upon the table, to allow Mr. Hector Davis to appear at the bar of the House in support of his claims to the seat.

Mr. Davis was accordingly admitted to the bar, and heard in support of his claim.

He then withdrew; and the House decided in favor of Mr. Thompson's substitute.

The annual report of the Commissioner of the James and Jackson's River Canal, was received—and ordered to be printed.

[Richmond Compiler.]

HAYTI.—A letter received at New-York, from Port au Prince, dated the 15th ultimo, says—All is tranquil, and government is not making any preparations of defence, as many foreign journals have been pleased to represent.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

INTERESTING PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

Among the Documents which have been laid before the present General Assembly, the following are particularly worthy of attention. The Report on the University is drawn up by Mr. Jefferson—that alone is a sufficient passport to public attention.

REPORT ON THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

Richmond, 28th Nov. 1824.

Sir—By the 2d section of the act entitled "An act to require all annual reports to be made to the Legislature on the first day of the Session, and for other purposes," the Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia are directed hereafter to make their annual report to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, on or before the first Monday in December in each year, to be laid before the General Assembly at the commencement of each session. I have now the honor of laying before the General Assembly, the report of the Rector and Visitors for the present year, received by me as President of the Literary Fund. I am, with great respect, your obedient servant, JAMES PLEASANTS.

The Hon. the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

To the President and Directors of the Literary Fund.

In obedience to the law requiring that the Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia should make report annually to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, (to be laid before the Legislature at their next succeeding session) embracing a full account of the disbursements the funds on hand, and a general statement of the condition of the said University, the said Rector and Visitors make the following REPORT.

In that of the preceding year it was stated that the buildings, for the accommodation of the Professors and Students, were in readiness for their occupation, and that the walls of the larger building, intended for a library, and other purpose, were completed. In the course of the present season this building has received its roof, and will be put into a condition for preservation and use, although its interior cannot be completed. It was then also stated, that, without awaiting that completion, the institution might be put into operation at the close of this present year, were its funds liberated from the incumbrances with which they were charged. This obstacle was removed by the act of the Legislature of January 27, of the present year, concerning the University of Virginia.

In consequence of this liberation, the Board of Visitors, at their ensuing meeting on the 5th of April last, proceeded to take such preparatory measures as could be taken at that time, to carry the views of the Legislature into effect with as little delay as practicable. From the accounts and estimates then rendered by the Bursar and Proctor, it appeared that on the last day of the preceding year 1823, the funds in hand, and due to the University, of the last loan, and of the arrearages of subscriptions, would be sufficient, when received, to pay all debts then existing on any account, and to leave a sum of about \$1,000, applicable to the building of the Library; which, with the sum of \$19,370 40 1-2 already paid, or provided for that edifice, would put it into a state of safety and of some uses, until other and more pressing objects should have been accomplished. They considered the University, therefore, as having had in hand on the first day of the present year, 1824, the annuity of this year (clear of all prior claims) as a fund for defraying the current expenses of the year, for meeting those necessary towards procuring Professors, paying any commencement of salaries, which might be incurred to the end of the year, and to leave a small surplus for contingencies.

They found, from a view of the future income, consisting of the annuity and such rents for buildings as may be reasonably required, that it would not be adequate to the full establishment of the ten professorships contemplated by the Legislature in their act of January 25, 1819, for establishing the University; but that it might suffice for instituting eight professorships for the present, and that the branches of science proposed to be taught in the University, might be arranged within the competence of that number for a time, and until future and favorable circumstances might enable them to add the others, and to lighten duly the professorships thus overcharged with duties.

They proceeded therefore to settle the organization of the schools, and the distribution of the sciences among them, and they concluded on the same as follows:

In the University of Virginia shall be instituted eight professorships, to wit: 1. of Antient Languages. 2. Modern Languages. 3. Mathematics. 4. Natural Philosophy. 5. Natural History. 6. Anatomy and Medicine. 7. Moral Philosophy. 8. Law.

In the school of Antient Languages are to be taught the higher grade of the Latin and Greek languages, the Hebrew, Rhetoric, Belles-lettres, Antient History and Antient Geography.

In the school of Modern Languages are to be taught, French, Spanish, Italian, Ger-

man, and the English Language in its Anglo Saxon form, also Modern History and Modern Geography.

In the school of Mathematics are to be taught Mathematics generally, including the higher branches of Numerical Arithmetic, Algebra, Trigonometry Plane and Spherical, Geometry, Mensuration, Navigation, Conic Sections, Fluxions or Differentials, Military and Civil Architecture.

In the school of Natural Philosophy are to be taught the laws and properties of bodies generally, including Mechanics Statics, Hydrostatics, Hydraulics, Pneumatics, Acoustics, Optics, and Astronomy.

In the school of Natural History are to be taught Botany, Zoology, Mineralogy, Chemistry, Geology and Rural Economy.

In the school of Anatomy and Medicines are to be taught Anatomy, Surgery, the history of the progress and theories of Medicine, Physiology, Pathology, Materia Medica, and Pharmacy.

In the school of Moral Philosophy are to be taught Mental Science generally including Ideology, General Grammar and Ethics.

In the school of Law, are to be taught the common and statute Law, that of the Chancery, the laws Feudal, Civil, Marcatatorial, Maritime, and of Nature and Nations, and also, the principles of Government, and political economy.

But it was meant that this distribution should give way to occasional interchanges of particular branches of science among the professors, in accommodation of their respective qualifications.

The Visitors were sensible that there might be found in the different seminaries of the United States, persons qualified to conduct these several schools with entire competence; but it was neither probable that they would leave the situations in which they then were, nor honorable or moral to endeavor to seduce them from their stations; and to have filled the professional chairs with unemployed and secondary characters, would not have fulfilled the object or satisfied the expectations of our country in this institution. It was, moreover, believed that to advance in science, we must avail ourselves of the lights of countries already advanced before us. It was therefore deemed most advisable to resort to Europe for some of the Professors, and of preference to the countries which speak the same language, in order to obtain characters of the first grade of science in their respective lines; and to make the selection with proper information, caution, and advisement, it was necessary to send an agent of science and confidence. Francis W. Gilmer, a learned and trust-worthy citizen of this state was appointed, and has proceeded on the mission; and should his objects be accomplished as early as expected, we count on opening the institution on the 1st February next.

Could the donation of the last Legislature, out of the debt due to this State from the United States, have been obtained for the purpose of procuring a Library, and the apparatus necessary for the several schools, the opportunity would have been highly advantageous of having them chosen by this agent, while in Europe, with the advice and assistance of the respective professors. But the application was not in time to be acted on before the adjournment of the late Congress. Yet some books were indispensable, and some apparatus to make even an imperfect commencement. To procure these articles, and to defray the expenses necessary for the other objects of the mission, the board was under the necessity of applying to these purposes a sum of \$10,500 of the annuity of the present year, and to leave the internal finishing of the Library, however much to be regretted, until some opportunity of greater convenience should occur.

There is some reason to doubt, from the information received, whether our agent will be able to effect his objects at as early a day as we had expected. But of this, more will be known in time for its communication by the Rector with this report. Were it still possible to obtain from the United States a settlement of so much of the claim on them as was appropriated to this institution, in time to find our agent and Professors yet in place to invest it, our University would open under auspices highly propitious, in comparison with those to which it will be subjected by this unfortunate delay.

The success of our Collector, in his applications for the arrearages due from subscribers, has not been as great as it has been in further securing the sums which had not yet been secured. The receipts from this resource, since the date of our last report, have amounted to 2,069 dollars 88 1-2 cents, and the sums deemed separate and still to be received, amount to \$7,468 92 1-2. The accounts of the receipts, disbursements, and funds on hand, for the year ending with the last month of September, as rendered by the Bursar and Proctor, are given with this report, as is required by law.

TH: JEFFERSON, Rector. October 5, 1824.