

A resolution reported by the Committee on Printing, was read a second time.

Mr. Kelly moved that the words "by Messrs. Smith & Bartlett," be stricken out of said resolution; which motion was lost.

Said resolution was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

The Senate having gone through with the orders of the day, Mr. Carter moved that the vote taken this morning, ordering seventy-five copies printed of the bill, to be entitled "An act taxing law suits to pay jurors," be re-considered; which motion prevailed, and said bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Senate then took a recess until 3 o'clock P. M.

3 o'clock, P. M.

A quorum being present, Mr. Johnson moved that the rule be waived, and he permitted to introduce a bill, in pursuance of previous notice given; which motion prevailed, and a bill entitled an act to authorize Reason F. Swilley, administrator of Calvin E. Swilley, deceased, to sell the real estate of said deceased at private sale, was read the first time, and ordered for to-morrow.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Johnson, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, 1st December, 1846.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment; and a quorum being present, the journal of yesterday's proceedings was read and approved.

Mr. Fairbanks gave notice that he would, on some future day, ask leave to introduce a bill to make the certificates issued by the Treasurer, receivable in payment of all public dues throughout the State.

Mr. Carter gave notice that he would, on some future day, ask leave to introduce a bill, to be entitled an act to provide for the payment of jurors.

Mr. Lorimer gave notice that he would ask leave, on some future day, to introduce a bill for the payment of jurors.

Mr. Broward, pursuant to previous notice, introduced a bill, to be entitled an act for the relief of persons unjustly sued in the circuit courts of Florida.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A resolution relative to transmitting public documents to the Librarian of Harvard University, was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for to-morrow.

Preamble and resolutions asking an appropriation of Congress, for the erection of a light house at Egmont Key, was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for to-morrow.

An act to authorize Reason F. Swilley, administrator of Calvin E. Swilley, deceased, to sell the real estate of said deceased at private sale, was read the second time, and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A resolution calling on the Treasurer and Comptroller to report the state of the finances, was read the third time, and adopted.

A resolution reported by the Committee on Printing, appointing Messrs. Smith & Bartlett printers for the Senate, was read the third time, and adopted.

The following bills, ordered to be printed on yesterday, came up on their second reading, viz:

A bill to be entitled an act to make certified copies of records, &c., evidence, which was ordered to be engrossed for to-morrow; also,

A bill to be entitled an act so to amend the constitution of this State, as to extend to all free white male inhabitants, being citizens of the United States, who shall have resided in the State one year, the elective franchise; which was referred to the Committee on Amendments and Revisions of the Constitution; also,

A bill to be entitled an act so amending the constitution of this State, as to make the sessions of the Legislature biennial, instead of annual; which was also referred to the Committee on the Amendments and Revisions of the Constitution.

His Excellency transmitted to the Senate the following Messages:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
November 30, 1846. }

*Gentlemen of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:*

You have herewith enclosed a copy of a Report and Resolutions, passed by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, transmitted to this Department, with the request that it be laid before the General Assembly of this State.

This communication is made, more from respect for the body from which it emanated, than from a conviction that the subject matter of the Report and Resolutions is in any way connected with the interests of this State.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. D. MOSELEY.

Which was read; and the resolutions enclosed referred to the Committee on Federal Relations; also the following:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
November 30, 1846. }

*Gentlemen of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:*

I have the honor herewith to transmit the Report of the Trus-

tees of the Seminary Lands—to which reference was made in my late annual communication.

The subject to which it relates, and which is discussed with such signal ability, will, I am sure, (without any recommendation on my part,) bespeak for it the attentive and deliberate consideration of the Representatives of the people.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. D. MOSELEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

On Seminary Lands, Funds, &c., for 1846.

TALLAHASSEE, 23d November, 1846.

The Trustees of the Seminary Lands beg leave to submit to the GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE of the State of Florida, the following Report for the current year:—

Since the last annual report of this Board, the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States has communicated his approval of the selection of two additional sections of public lands, for a Seminary of learning, containing 1,274 acres as part of the Township "east of the Apalachicola," under the provisions of the Act of 29th January, 1827. This, added to the approvals previously reported, increases the amount of Seminary lands, under the Act of 3d March, 1823, to 29,194.48 acres.

There have been further examinations of public lands made during the year, by agents acting under the appointment and instruction of his Excellency, Governor MOSELEY, from which selections have been made, under the Acts of 29th January, 1827, and 3d March, 1845, by the President of this Board with his Excellency's authority and sanction. These selections have been duly reported to the Secretary of the Treasury for his approval. These selections amount to upwards of 30,000 acres; and a descriptive report thereof will be made as soon as the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury is known. The Governor liberally accorded to the views of the Board, in permitting them to select the best of the lands examined, so far as these were found in whole sections, or in bodies of one mile square: the construction adopted at the General Land Office, of the above mentioned acts (of 1827 and 1845) having restricted the selection of seminary lands to this form.

It is to be regretted that an Act of Congress was not obtained at its last session, to authorize the selection of Seminary lands in smaller bodies than sections. A precedent having been set in the case of Illinois, the Board cannot suppose that there is any serious objection to grant to Florida the like privilege of selecting these lands in quarter sections. Without this alteration it is apparent that some of the choicest lands cannot be secured for the purposes of education, and in consequence, the State will be obliged to fill these and her other grants by taking much land of very little value.

The Board are not aware that any action has been had by Congress, at its last session, to further any one of the objects contemplated in the Resolutions of the last Legislature (See No. 3, page 146,) "in relation to Seminary lands, &c." The views of the Board, on all the points embraced in those resolutions, were fully expressed in the report of last year, and the subject is now recurring only for the purpose of repeating that it still appears important that Congress be urged to pass the laws then applied for.

Upon organizing at the beginning of the year, the Board adopted the following preamble and Resolution:

"AND WHEREAS, It appears to the Board from the Act passed at the last session of the Legislature, entitled an Act 'To establish the office of Register of public lands for the State of Florida,' that it is the intention of the Legislature that the monies belonging to the Seminary fund should be used to meet the expense of further selections of Seminary lands. Therefore,

Resolved, That at present it is inexpedient to place at interest any part of the funds in hand; and that the President be authorized to hold the same, subject to the above purpose, in such manner as the Governor may direct."

In pursuance of this resolution the funds collected during the year have not been loaned out on bond and mortgage, as directed to be done in the law of 1843, organizing the Board. The President, however, by purchasing certificates issued by the State Treasurer, which he was enabled to do at a discount, before the taxes came into the Treasury, has realized nearly, or quite as much as if the funds in hand had been put out at interest. While the fund itself, by the subsequent collection of taxes, is, and will be, ready to meet the expense of locating seminary lands, when called for.

It was stated in the report of last year, that there was in the "School fund" of the Territorial Treasury, the sum of \$85.25, arising from rents of Seminary lands which fund consisted of Territorial scrip and Bank of Florida bills, and a further sum of \$55.35, of rents of seminary lands, had been paid into the general fund. The State Treasurer has turned over the Bank of Florida bills to this Board, amounting to \$100, which the President has sold at eighty cents in the dollar, and added to the Seminary fund.

There has been received during the year, a large payment on the money at interest; also a great part of the back rents due from lessees of seminary lands for the years 1844 and 1845. It is probable that one or two small sums due from lessees, cannot be collected, although great vigilance has been used by the agents to guard against any loss.

The Board have fixed on the sum of two dollars and fifty cents per day, as a compensation to their agents for the time necessarily spent in making leases, examining the condition of rented lands, and collecting rents, in lieu of all other charges. They have also agreed to defray the expense incurred by distant members in attending the meetings of the Board.

The State Treasurer has been appointed by the Governor to receive from the Treasury of the United States the 5 per cent. on nett proceeds of sales of public lands within this State, under the compact by which Florida was admitted into the Union. For the year 1845, the sum of \$975.80 has been received, and forms part of the Education fund, but has not been taken charge of in any way by the Board. As the sales of public lands have greatly increased during the present year, it is presumed that the 5 per cent. fund for 1846 will amount to near \$2,000.

The annexed table, marked A, exhibits the condition and extent of the Seminary funds, made up to the 4th instant, at the meeting of the Board, intended to conform to the fiscal year.

The Seminary Lands have been again leased, as far as practicable, for the current year; and generally at better rents than heretofore. These rents will add to this fund, during the next year, about \$1,000. A list of them will be found in the annexed table, marked B.

It is believed that these various resources will furnish ample means to defray all the expenses of selecting the residue of the four Townships granted for Seminaries of Learning.

The experience and reflection of another year have more strongly confirmed the Board in the opinion, expressed in the report of last year, unfavorable to the system of leasing the Seminary lands. The reasons there assigned, (See report of 1845, page 5,) need not be here repeated, but one or two additional views seem worthy of consideration.

It is evident that Congress intended these lands to constitute a *permanent endowment*; so that the *fund itself* or principal should not in any way be lessened or trenced upon, and only the interest, or *annual income* should be used.—

If, therefore, the plan of leasing be permanently adopted, the lands will be gradually worn out, stripped of their timber, &c., and the fund inevitably diminished. The amount of rents will greatly vary from year to year. No calculation can be made with any reasonable certainty of future annual income from rents: and of course this uncertainty will seriously interfere with any plan of establishing or supporting respectable Seminaries of learning.

When the whole of the Seminary lands are selected, (92,160 acres,) the effect of withholding so large an amount of lands from sale, will be to retard the settlement of the country, and this will operate very unequally on different counties. In some, these lands are selected in large quantities; while in other counties there are none at all. And as these lands will pay no tax, they continue the property of the State, a further injustice will accrue to some counties in that way.

The Board are unanimous in their opinion, that it is the wisest course to authorize the sale of these lands. Their sale must be a work of time, and therefore it ought to be begun without delay. The planting interests generally, and the staple products of our favored climate in particular, appear to be receiving a new impulse. A spirit of emigration to Florida exists at this time, and should not be checked, by suffering the impression to go abroad that the State is a large competitor in taking up extensive bodies of the most valuable public lands, and designs to keep them out of market.

If it were practicable to sell for cash, it would be far preferable to do so. But it is probable that this cannot be done, except in a very few instances, unless at a sacrifice. The Board, therefore, suggest the following plan for placing these lands in market:

When any bodies or tracts of land are believed to be saleable, let them, after suitable notice, be offered at public sale, at the court house of the county in which the same may lie—the terms to be, one-fourth or one-third of the purchase money in cash, and the balance in a bond, with credits of one, two, and three years, with interest—the whole interest on the credits to be paid at the end of each year. In default of the payment of any instalment, principal or interest, after giving sixty days' public notice, the land to be resold at auction, at the risk of the first purchaser—the amount then due to be required in cash, and such credits for the balance as were extended at the original sale. A certificate to be given for each instalment when paid in, which may be transferred by assignment, but to become void upon default in paying any future instalment. When all the payments are made, titles to be executed to the purchaser, his heirs, or assigns. Each body of land, before it is offered at public sale, to be appraised, and have a minimum price set upon it, below which it shall not be offered. And if not sold at public sale, shall, at any time thereafter, be subject to private sale at said minimum. Provided, that when there are competitors at private sale, the highest bidder shall be preferred; and provided, also, that the minimum may be increased or diminished, when deemed for the interest of the fund; but that, if diminished, the lands must be again offered at public sale.

The Board venture also to suggest, that it will be better to invest the proceeds of these sales in public, or government stocks, than to continue the plan, now fixed by law, of lending to individuals, upon bond and mortgage of real estate. It is true that the method of investment proposed, will yield a lower rate of interest, but the fund will be more secure, the interest will be paid with greater regularity, and collected with less trouble and expense. If the impolicy of having a large number of our citizens debtors to the States forms a strong objection to selling the lands on a credit, when the indebtedness of the purchasers would never, at any one time, amount to one-fourth part of the whole, how much more objectionable will it be to have the entire fund converted into a standing debt from private individuals.

In offering the foregoing suggestions, the Board feel conscious that they are going beyond the strict line of official duty. But, upon a subject of such deep and lasting importance, they throw themselves upon the liberality of the Gover-

nor and Legislature, to indulge them in a still wider latitude of remark, while they present some views respecting the disposal of the public lands, and the management of the education funds of the State generally.

The public lands granted to Florida, besides those for seminaries of learning already considered, and 5,120 acres for fixing the Seat of Government, consist of—

1st. The sixteenth sections, for the support of public schools, which amount to about 500,000 acres, so far as the public domain has been surveyed; and,
2d. Of 500,000 acres for Internal Improvements.

In the act of Congress, 3d of March, 1845, supplemental to that by which Florida is admitted into the Union, "the sixteenth section of every township or other lands equivalent thereto, are granted to Florida, for the use of the inhabitants of such township, for the support of public schools." And during the Territorial Government, Congress (by act of 29th January, 1827,) authorized "the Governor and Legislative Council of Florida to take possession of the lands granted for the use of schools, and to lease the same from year to year—the money arising from the rent of said lands shall be appropriated to the use of schools, in such manner as they may direct; and they shall have power to pass laws for the preservation of said land from intrusion and trespass, until Florida shall be admitted into the Union as a State."

Under this trust, reposed in the Territorial Government, numerous laws* were enacted by the Governor and Legislative Council, for renting the lands, for protecting them from trespass and waste, and for applying the funds to the use of schools. Some of these laws exceeded and violated the powers conferred by Congress. They contain several different plans for leasing the lands, and for placing them under the charge of persons, variously appointed, for that purpose, and for preserving them from waste and intrusion; and they provide no less than four different schemes for establishing public schools. But, after eighteen years' experience, the whole may be considered a failure. No adequate income has been derived from the system of leasing. Many of the finest sections have been materially lessened in value by cultivation, pillage, and waste. And no instance is known to the Board, where public schools have been established or supported by funds derived from these lands.

The opinion, before expressed, adverse to renting or leasing Seminary lands, has been greatly strengthened by witnessing these results of the same system so long tried with the sixteenth sections; and the reasons for selling the former description of lands, operate with equal force in favor of selling the latter also.

The Board believe that there is a radical defect in the disposition required by law to be made of the common school fund, arising from sixteenth sections.... The act of Congress, (3d March, 1845,) granting these lands to Florida, is very precise in confining the benefits of each 16th section to the inhabitants of the township in which it lies. Now, as regards the settlement and population of the country, this division into townships is perfectly arbitrary. They are often fractional, or divided by rivers, swamps, or county lines, which prevent them from becoming convenient school districts. Four-fifths of the 16th sections may be estimated as worth nothing. It generally happens that the most valuable of them are surrounded by large bodies of fertile lands, owned by persons who need no public aid to educate their children. While the poorer population, who require such aid, are usually scattered about on thinner lands, where the

*See, 1. An Act, approved 21st November, 1828.

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|----|---|---|----------------------|
| 2. | " | " | 11th February, 1832. |
| 3. | " | " | 15th February, 1834. |
| 4. | " | " | 13th February, 1836. |
| 5. | " | " | 12th February, 1837. |
| 6. | " | " | 2d March, 1839. |
| 7. | " | " | 2d March, 1840. |
| 8. | " | " | 15th March, 1843. |
| 9. | " | " | 15th March, 1844. |

school section is of no value. The operation of the present law, therefore, is, *to provide a school fund for the rich, and withhold it from the poor.*

By a decision of the Secretary of the Treasury, which has come to the knowledge of the Board since their last year's report, the act of 15th June, 1844, (see page 12 of that report,) does not authorize the selection of other lands, in lieu of the 16th sections of those townships covered by the Forbes and Arredondo Grants. This construction of the law reduces the quantity of school lands to be selected at least 40,000 acres, and leaves the whole of Wakulla, three-fourths of Gadsden, and nearly one-third of Leon and Alachua counties, without any provision for common schools. The subject is presented to the notice of the Legislature, in order that early application may be made to Congress to remedy this defect of the law, at the ensuing session.

If it is desirable, then, to have the benefits, arising from this fund, so distributed as to do the greatest amount of good, as well as to secure the most efficient system of public education, *the proceeds of the School Lands, must be consolidated into a common fund and placed under a common superintendence.*

By the grant, Florida holds these lands as a mere Trustee, and any change made in the terms of the trust, must be with the consent of Congress, and of those for whose benefit it was created. Congress has authorized several of the States, (Ohio, Alabama, Indiana, &c.) to sell the Sixteenth Sections, and to invest the money arising from the sale, in some productive funds, and the proceeds thereof to be forever applied for the use and support of Schools. But in every instance, has tenaciously required that the inhabitants of each Township shall consent to the sale of their 16th section, and that the proceeds shall enure to their separate use and benefit; "this consent to be obtained in such manner as the Legislature of said State shall by law direct."

If therefore Florida shall apply for authority *to sell, and to consolidate the proceeds into a common fund*, Congress will certainly require that the like consent shall be had, to both of these measures, of the inhabitants of the several Townships. And it will be well for the present Legislature to adopt means for obtaining the expression of this consent, in time to meet such law as Congress may enact.

The sale of the School Lands will also be a work of time, and can now be effected, to any advantage, only in the older settled parts of the State. The terms and regulations for selling them, and for investing the proceeds, may be the same as already proposed for the Seminary Lands. It is however supposed, that not one fourth, perhaps even less than one fifth part, of the whole amount of the Sixteenth Sections already surveyed, are of any value. They will therefore form a very inadequate fund to sustain such a system of Public Education, as it should be the ambition of every patriotic citizen to see successfully introduced and supported in Florida. It then behooves the Legislature, in the commencement of our career as a State; to examine well all those resources which may be rendered available to this end, before they are diverted and exhausted upon other objects of less importance to the public welfare.

In this connexion, the Board may be pardoned for referring to the magnificent donation, by the General Government, of 500,000 acres of public lands, for Internal Improvements. No doubt that this fund might be judiciously expended in Internal Improvements, so as greatly to benefit local interests, in various parts of the State. But to accomplish any works of moment the *whole fund* must be embarked, and ultimately expended. † If they end in failure (and how often have State enterprizes of this sort thus terminated!) the error can never be retracted. † If conducted with the best judgment, and crowned with the utmost success, still their benefits are very unequally diffused, in reference to all parts of the State. † On the other hand, the advantage of a good system of Public Education will be diffused through every neighborhood, will reach every hamlet, will be seen and felt in our Courts, in our Elections, in our Churches. The poorest Families, the feeblest Counties will be the greatest gainers from such a system. It will recognize no geographical distinctions, but the extreme parts of the

State, and the centre, will be alike partakers of the light and life it diffuses. But the Board will not discuss the comparative importance of the two objects. If this latter fund were added to those already pledged to the cause of education, Florida would then be scarcely upon a footing with those States which have become conspicuous for success in their public schools and colleges. Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia, have each an education fund of three millions of dollars. Connecticut, with a territory less than a tenth part as large as Florida, can boast of her school fund exceeding two millions. And in all these States, their colleges and universities have large separate endowments,

Congress would no doubt promptly consent to the change. These lands can then be disposed of, and the funds derived from them be invested in the manner recommended for Seminary and School lands. The principal would thus remain untouched. And if any one now apprehends that the proposed change may be a subject of future regret, let it be made with a proviso, that, at the end of 20 years, the fund may be reverted to its original purposes, if those, who will then have the power, choose to do so.

Escheated estates, and fines and forfeitures, have also been appropriated in other States, to enlarge their education fund.

In the hope that the foregoing hints and suggestions may be favorably considered by the Legislature, the Board will close their report, with a remark of two on such initiatory measures, as may prepare the way for commencing a system of Public Education.

After the maturest reflection, it is submitted to the sound discretion of the Legislature, *whether the superintendence of public education should not be as carefully separated from all other public offices, as is the judicial department of the government.* Its great importance, the distinct nature of its duties, the peculiar habits and qualifications it requires, and the labor, time, energy, and independence, necessary to conduct its business with success, all show that it should be disconnected from any other important public matter. In some of the States, these duties are made the mere appendage to other public offices, and it is not to be wondered at that their systems of public education are attended with so little success.

It is also submitted that measures be taken to have a system of common school education prepared, and laid before the Legislature at its next session; so that *as soon as the public funds will warrant, every capable child in the State shall be taught at least to spell, and read, and write.*

Those persons charged with preparing an efficient system for common schools, will derive great aid from correct statistical information, in the following particulars: The number of white inhabitants, in three classes—1st. under 6 years of age; 2d. between the ages of 6 and 12; and 3d, of 12, and under 18—distinguishing those who can, and those who cannot read and write, in the 3d class; those who live in cities, towns, and villages, and those in the country, designating their residence by the township, range, and section. These returns to be rendered by parents and guardians, in families—with their ability or inability to pay for the teaching of their children, and the number of these kept at school during any 3 months of the year; the number and names of teachers; the branches of education taught by them; the number of months employed during the year; the average number of scholars per quarter; rates of tuition; the number and description of school houses, &c.

These statistics may be obtained, through the agency of tax assessors and collectors, at no farther expense, than in the printing and distributing of the necessary blank forms; to be returned, when they make their tax returns.

The assessors might also be required to inspect and value the sixteenth sections in their respective counties, and return in the same manner such valuation, with an accurate description of the quality and condition of these lands. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

BENJ. F. WHITNER,
President of Trustees of Seminary Lands.

A.

STATEMENT OF SEMINARY FUNDS.

DR.

CR.

	\$		\$		
By cash on hand rep't'd in '45,	115	85	To Gov. Moseley for locating agents,	600	00
" part of 8 pr ct. loan of 1844,	952	00	" Agent for Gadsden, acct. 1844-5 and 6,	147	50
" rents col. in Gadsden, '44-5.	589	38	" Jury fee in case of G. King,	3	00
" " " Jackson, "	129	50	" Dr. White for expenses,	5	97
" Bank of Fla. bills of Treas'r.	100	00	" disc't on bank of Fla. bills,	20	00
" Prem. on treas'y certificates	83	18	" paid postages, paper, &c.,	2	32
	\$1,969	91	" B. Barkley, locating agent,	129	50
			" balance in Presdt's hands in cash and Treasury certificates, 4th Nov.	1061	62
				\$1,969	91
By am't. brought down,	1061	62			
" 5 pr. ct. fund of '45 in hand of B. Byrd, treas'r.	975	80			
" bal. of 8 pr ct. loan and int.,	888	32			
" rents in Gadsden for 1844,	55	00			
" " " " 1845,	179	50			
" " Jackson, " "	5	00			
" unsettled acct. of Hon. T. Baltzell,	74	56			
" am't. in Territorial treas'ry,	55	35			
" school fund in Ter. treas'ry.	85	25			
	140	60			
Ded. bank Fla. bills, 100.00					
By balance due Sem'ry Fund,	40	60			
	\$3,280	40			

B.
STATEMENT OF LESSEES AND RENTS FOR 1846.
GADSDEN COUNTY.

NAMES OF LESSEES.	PRICE.	NAMES OF LESSEES.	PRICE.
William S. Gunn,	75 00	Alexander Campbell,	18 00
Elizabeth McLauchlan,	75 00	William E. Howell,	17 00
John Buté,	60 00	William B. Seely,	15 00
Thomas J. Kain,	50 00	Harris T. Wyatt,	15 00
A. H. Campbell,	45 00	Thomas D. Wilson,	15 00
David W. Holloman,	35 00	William Swann,	15 00
Uz Williams,	35 00	A. H. Alley,	10 00
Robt. S. Tucker,	35 00	Thomas King,	10 00
John McUlly,	35 00	Jonas Woodberry,	10 00
Peter Wylie,	30 00	John Cla,	5 00
Geo. W. Phillips,	30 00	William Edwards,	3 50
William Russel,	30 00	Daniel Leslie,	2 00
Charles S. Sibley,	30 00	B. J. Lambert, adm'r.,	20 00
William Mitchell,	25 00		
Roderick K. Shaw,	20 00		155
Samuel Woodberry,	20 00		650
William J. Atwater,	20 00		
	\$650 00		\$805 50

JACKSON COUNTY.

NAMES OF LESSEES.	PRICE.	NAMES OF LESSEES.	PRICE.
John G. Russ,	17 50	Thomas M. White,	77 50
John P. Lockey,	12 00	Joseph T. Russ,	17 50
Elizabeth Tanner,	35 00		
Joseph W. Ross, (nominal),	1 00		95 00
Richard G. Cooper, do.	1 00		74 00
James E. Coulette,	7 50		
	\$74 00		\$169 00

MADISON COUNTY.

NAME OF LESSEE.	PRICE.
R. G. Mays,	

Which was read, and 500 copies of the Report of the Trustees ordered to be printed.

The Senate received from the House the following Message:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
 November 30, 1846.

Hon. President of the Senate—Sir:

The House have appointed Messrs. Russell, Tanner, and Finlayson, a committee of three, to act with a similar committee on the part of the Senate, to examine the Comptroller's Office, and to report to this House the condition of said office, and whether the Comptroller has discharged his duties according to law, as required by the 9th section of an act, entitled an act to organize the office of Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Florida.

Respectfully, your obedient servant, M. D. PAPY,

Clerk House of Representatives.

Which was read; and Messrs. Kelly, Lorimer, and Carter appointed a committee on the part of the Senate.

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

WEDNESDAY, December 2, 1846.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment; and a quorum being present, the journal of yesterday's proceedings was read and approved.

Mr. Carter presented a petition from Daniel Morgan and Levi Wright, 1st and 2d Lieutenants of Capt. Payne's company, in 1838, praying the passage of a resolution in their favor, asking payment from Congress for services in the Seminole war; which was read, and referred to a Select Committee—Messrs. Carter, Goodbread, and McLean, were appointed said committee.

Mr. McMillan presented the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, the establishment of a mail route from the Town of Milton, (the County site of Santa Rosa County, in this State,) via Escambia settlement, in said County by Nathansville in Conecuh County Alabama to the town of Sparta in said County of Conecuh a distance of about seventy-five miles would be the means of furnishing a Post Office at said settlement on Escambia River, which is a large and flourishing neighborhood, also a large neighborhood at Nathansville which places are now entirely destitute of Post Offices. It being thirty miles from the former and twenty-seven from the latter, to the nearest Post Office. And whereas it is believed that the income of Post Offices at said places would be sufficient to defray the expenses of said proposed route.

Be it therefore Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Florida, in General Assembly convened, That our Senators and Representative in Congress, be requested to use their best exertions towards obtaining the passage of a law establishing a mail route from the said Town of Milton via Escambia & Nathansville to Sparta Alabama. And that a copy of this Preamble and resolution be transmitted by his Excellency the Governor to our Senators and Representative in Congress.

Which was read the first time, and ordered for to-morrow.

Mr. Bird, from the Committee on the Executive Department, presented the following report:

The Committee on the Executive Department, beg leave to

REPORT:

To the Senate that His Excellency the Governor has placed in their hands the Seal; which he has prepared (in obedience to the Constitution) as the great seal of the State; and the committee herewith submit the same for the inspection of the members of the Senate. The committee recommend to the Senate for its adoption the following Joint Resolution: