

and number of criminal prosecutions throughout the state," returned to this office, agreeable to a Resolution of the Senate of the 14th inst.

Very respectfully, Your Ob'd't servant,

N. P. BEMIS, Comptroller.

(For statement referred to see Appendix.)

Which was read and referred to the committee on claims and accounts.

Having gone through with the orders, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, 18th December, 1846.

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

Mr. Floyd pursuant to previous notice introduced the following bill to wit:

A bill to be entitled an act to amend an act giving a lien to mechanics, overseers and others, which was read the first time and ordered for to-morrow.

Mr. Austin obtained leave to have the following protest spread upon the journal, viz:

The undersigned, Senator from the county of Gadsden, claims his privilege of having his protest spread at large on the journals of the Senate, against the bill entitled "an act to authorize the payment of Jurors," as passed by a vote of the Senate on yesterday.

Because, it is unequal in its operation, as it is believed that the jury fees of a large number of the counties of this state will amount to more than the revenue which they pay into the state treasury; and consequently the burden of supporting the expense of state government must fall upon a few of the larger counties of the state.

Because, it is irregular, inasmuch as it provides that the clerks of the respective counties, shall certify the accounts of the jurors, which, "when approved by the Judge of the circuit court, shall be redeemable by the collectors of taxes, in the payment of taxes, or in cash, at their certified value," thereby giving to the clerks and judges, the power of auditing public accounts, and to the collectors the power of paying them. Which is in direct conflict with the laws defining the powers and duties of the Comptroller and Treasurer.

Because, it is impolitic, inasmuch as it opens a door for speculation and imposition upon the Treasury Department.

And, because, it is unjust, inasmuch as it creates a favored class of creditors, who have a summary and extraordinary mode provided for the liquidation of their accounts, and can arrest the public money before it reaches the treasury; whilst all other

creditors of the Government, are required to pass the ordeal of the Comptroller's office, before they can apply at the Treasury for the payment of their accounts, if they should be so fortunate, as to find any money in it.

JOSEPH AUSTIN.

Mr. Walker pursuant to previous notice introduced a bill to be entitled an act to regulate the pilotage of the port of St. Marks, which was read the first time and ordered for to-morrow.

Mr. Kelly from the committee on the State of the Commonwealth made the following,

REPORT: The committee on the state of the Commonwealth to whom was referred a resolution to adjourn on the 24th inst., have had the same under consideration, and report: That your committee have carefully examined the business now in progress before the General Assembly and such as is in possession of the several committees and also the various important subjects of legislation yet unacted upon which needs the action of the present session, and are driven to the conclusion, notwithstanding their desire to adjourn at an early day, that it will be inexpedient to adjourn on the 24th inst. Your committee therefore, return the same to the Senate and recommend that said resolution be not adopted.

W. W. J. KELLY, Chairman.

Which was received and read and the resolution referred to placed among the orders.

The following bills were received from the House of Representatives, to wit:

A bill to be entitled an act to change the name of Levy county, also,

A bill to be entitled an act directing the late sheriff of St. Lucie county to collect arrears of taxes assessed for the years 1845 and 1846, also

A bill to be entitled an act for the relief of John B. Decorce, also,

A bill to be entitled an act to allow tax assessors to administer oaths in certain cases.

Which bills were severally read the first time and ordered for to-morrow.

The House returned a bill to be entitled an act to authorize Jesse Coe to establish a ferry across the Apalachicola river as having passed the House without amendment.

The following message was received from the House, to wit:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Dec. 17, 1846.

Hon. President of the Senate:

Sir:—The House have concurred in the amendments of the Senate to House Preamble and Resolution relating to the removal of the Indians now remaining in Florida; also in the amendments to the House bill to be entitled an act relating to the duties of the clerk of the circuit court of Orange and St. Lucie counties.

Respectfully, &c.

M. D. PAPY, Clerk Ho. Rep.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A bill to be entitled an act to provide for the payment of Solicitors fees, was read a second time. On motion the Senate resolved itself into committee of the whole on said bill, Mr. Carter in the Chair. After some time the committee rose, reported the bill back to the Senate as amended and asked to be discharged from the further consideration thereof. Which report was received, and the bill as amended ordered for to-morrow.

Resolution relating to the arms &c.; received by the governor from the general government; was read the second time and ordered for to-morrow.

Resolution from the House, in relation to the lot purchased by Fredrick Hoc, of the commissioner of the Tallahassee fund, was read the second time, and ordered for to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled an act to admit George W. Stewart to practice law in the several courts of this State, was read a second time and ordered for to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled an act to admit Wilkinson Call, to practice law in the several courts in this State, was read a second time and ordered for to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled an act to regulate pilotage at the port of Cedar Keys, was read a second time and ordered for to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled an act to provide for holding extra terms of the circuit courts, was read the second time, and referred to the judiciary committee.

A bill to be entitled an act to fix permanently the county seat of Calhoun county, was read the second time and ordered for to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled an act to alter and define the boundary line of Marion county, was read the second time, and ordered for to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled an act to declare the river Miami a navigable stream was read a second time, and ordered for to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled an act to extend the time of making election returns in Monroe and Dade counties;

Preamble and resolutions from the House for clearing out the Ocklawaha river, were read the second time, and ordered for to-morrow.

Resolution from the House to go into the election of Treasurer and Comptroller on Tuesday next, was read the second time, and ordered for to-morrow.

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 bill had been returned by the House amended, came up, and the amendments of the House concurred in. Ordered, that the same be certified to the House.

A bill to be entitled an act so to amend the constitution of this

State, as to make the sessions of the legislature biennial, instead of annual, engrossed for to-day, was taken up, and by unanimous vote, recommitted to the Committee on Amendments and Revisions of the Constitution.

A bill to be entitled an act to provide for filling vacancies in boards of county commissioners, engrossed for to-day, was by unanimous vote recommitted to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Having gone through with the orders, the Senate adjourned until Monday, 11 o'clock.

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MONDAY, 21st December, 1846.

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

Mr. Bird gave notice that he would, on to-morrow ask leave to introduce a bill to be entitled an act concerning divorces.

Mr. Fairbanks gave notice that he would, on a future day, ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the laws now in force relative to chancery proceedings; also,

A general law relating to corporations.

Pursuant to previous notice, Mr. Johnson introduced a bill to be entitled an act to regulate patrols within this State, and for other purposes; which was read the first time, and ordered for to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Broward, a bill to be entitled an act to provide for the payment of the expenses of criminal prosecutions, and the contingent expenses of circuit courts, was taken from the table, and placed among the orders of the day.

Mr. Broward obtained leave to spread the following protest on the journal:

We the undersigned, Senators, do solemnly protest against the bill passed in this body on the 17th inst., providing for the payment of juries out of the treasury of this State; and claim that this protest be entered on the Journals of the Senate, with our objections to the said bill:

1st. Because the number of jury-men in each county for the grand inquest, and for petit jurors will not be less than forty-seven, and if on an average the courts remain in session one week each—the number of jury-men entitled to pay for two courts annually will be ninety-four, and if each man is paid one dollar per day for twelve days—each county will have a claim for one thousand, one hundred and twenty-eight dollars, annually on the public treasury—which will not only exhaust the revenue of the state, but involve us in debt far beyond our present means to pay.

2d. If the certificates mentioned in said bill be issued to the ju-