

being no wafer or sealing wax at said Precinct, that they instructed the said John H. Baker to seal them just as they were enveloped.

Sworn to and subscribed before me } JAMES FARNELL,
this 16th day of November, A. } DAVID R. CREECH,
D. 1854. } C. C. WILLIAMS.

JOHN FRINK, Clerk.

DEFENCE OF HENRY J. STEWART.

Henry J. Stewart says that the law requires a contestant to furnish his opponent with a written notice, setting forth the grounds upon which he intends to rely. That said Stewart was not furnished with a legal notice, and consequently the matter was allowed to go by default. The said Stewart contends that he has the majority of legal votes given in Hamilton County, on the 2nd day of October, A. D. 1854, for the office of State Senator.

He, therefore, prays this honorable Senate to take said matter into consideration.

HENRY J. STEWART.

WEDNESDAY, December 6, 1854.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Rev. Mr. Turner officiated as Chaplain.

A quorum being present, the Journal of yesterday was read, amended and approved.

Pursuant to previous notice, Mr. Hopkins introduced a bill to be entitled, An Act governing Judges of Probate in certain cases;

Which was read the first time, rule waived, and read the second time, when, on motion, it was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Hawes presented the memorial of I. H. Bronson, W. A. Forward, W. D. Moseley and others, in relation to the contemplated Plank Road from Pilatka to Micanopy, which was read, and on motion, referred to the Committee on Corporations.

Mr. Provence, from the Committee on Corporations, made the following report:

The Committee on Corporations have had under consideration a bill entitled "An Act to incorporate the Tallahassee and Quincy Plank Road Company," and through me, their Chairman, respectfully

REPORT:

That they recommend the passage of the said bill with the following additional section, viz:

Sec. 15. *Be it further enacted*, That the construction and building of said Road shall be undertaken and commenced within twen-

ty-four months from the date of the approval of this bill; otherwise, all the powers, privileges and immunities herein before granted, shall be forfeited and annulled.

DAVID PROVENCE,
Chairman.

Which report was received, and the amendment as proposed was adopted, and the bill placed among the Orders of the Day for a second reading on to-morrow.

Mr. Provence, from the Special Committee on Printing, made the following report:

The Special Committee, to whom was assigned the duty of fixing the rates of compensation to be allowed to the Printer elect, for printing, through me, their Chairman, beg leave to

REPORT:

That they have agreed upon the following, viz: \$1,50 per page for five hundred copies of the Journal, counting one copy, and $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per hundred words for all miscellaneous printing, such as Reports, Bills, Slips, &c., counting 75 copies.

D. PROVENCE,
Chairman.

Which was read and adopted.

On motion, the rule was waived, and Mr. Provence was permitted to introduce, without previous notice, a bill to be entitled An Act relating to documentary evidence, which bill was read the first time and ordered for a second reading to-morrow.

On motion, the rule was waived, and Mr. Wynn was allowed, without previous notice, to introduce a Bill to be entitled, An Act for the relief of Dr. C. A. Hentz;

Which was read the first time, and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

On motion, the rule was waived, and Mr. Crigler, was allowed, without previous notice, to introduce a Bill to be entitled, An Act concerning Interest;

Which was read the first time and ordered for second reading on to-morrow.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A Bill to be Entitled, An Act to Incorporate the Palatka and Micanopy Plank Road Company;

Came up on a second reading; the rule was waived, the Bill read by its title, and on motion, was referred to the Committee on Corporations.

A Bill to be entitled, An Act to amend An Act entitled An Act relative to crimes and misdemeanors;

Was read the second time, when, on motion, the Senate went into Committee of the Whole upon said Bill, Mr. Hawes in the Chair.

After some time spent therein, the Committee rose, and through their Chairman reported the Bill back to the Senate, with amendments, and asked to be discharged.

Which was concurred in, and the Bill as amended was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

A Bill to be entitled, An Act to authorize the Drainage of Alachua Savannah;

Was read the second time, when, on motion, it was referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

On motion of Mr. Tracy, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, December 7, 1854.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The Rev. Mr. Turner officiated as Chaplain.

A quorum being present, the Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion, the rule was waived so as to allow Mr. Wynn to introduce, without previous notice,

A bill to be entitled An act to change the times of holding the Circuit Court in Calhoun County;

Which was read the first time, and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

Mr. Cone gave notice that he would on some future day ask leave to introduce a bill allowing pre-emptions on sixteenth sections.

Pursuant to previous notice, Mr. Myrick introduced a bill to be entitled An act in relation to the service necessary to be given by Sheriffs and other officers;

Which was read the first time, and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

On motion, the rule was waived and Mr. Crigler permitted to introduce, without previous notice,

A bill to be entitled An act to repeal the Road tax of Santa Rosa County;

Which was read the first time, and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

Mr. Hawes gave notice that he would on some future day ask leave to introduce a bill to be entitled An act to appoint the place of holding the Circuit Courts in Orange County.

Pursuant to previous notice, Mr. Filor introduced a bill to be entitled An act to amend An act in relation to pilotage at the port of Key West;

Which was read the first time, and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

Mr. Myrick gave notice that he would on some future day introduce a bill to be entitled An act to abolish the present Supreme Court of this State, and for other purposes;

Also, a bill to be entitled An act authorizing the respective officers who collect the Revenue of this State, to pay over to the respective Judges of Probate of each County, so much of the Revenue as may be received from the Capitation or Poll Tax for the support of the poor of such County, or for schools, as they may, with the approbation of the County Commissioners, direct;

Also, a bill to abolish the Tax now laid upon the cattle of resident citizens of this State, and upon silver watches and pleasure carriages.

Mr. Filor, from the Committee on Engrossed Bills, made the following report:

The Committee on Engrossed Bills have instructed the undersigned to report the following bill as correctly engrossed:

A bill to be entitled, An Act to amend an Act relative to Crimes and Misdemeanors.

JAMES FILOR,
Chairman.

Which was received, and the bill placed among the Orders of the Day.

Mr. Long, from the Judiciary Committee, made the following report.

The Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred "a bill to be entitled An Act to repeal the 19th Section of the 7th Chapter of the laws relating to Crimes and Misdemeanors," have had the same under consideration, and instruct the undersigned to report as follows:

The Committee perceive that the object of the bill is to make it lawful for spirituous liquors to be drank and used where purchased, in quantities of one quart or more. By the first section of the Act of 1846, Chap. 91, (page 47, pamphlet,) it is provided that "Any person who shall hereafter sell any quantity of spirituous liquors, and the same shall be drank in the house or houses where the same shall be sold without first having obtained a retail license to retail spirituous liquors, he or they are hereby declared retailers of spirituous liquors, and shall be subject to the same tax and penalties as other retailers are by law;" (Thompson's Dig., 501.) A majority of the Committee are of opinion that the effect of this provision has not materially diminished the quantity of spirits consumed, but that the spirits consumed, when not purchased from retailers of spirits, are now given, instead of being sold by the quart; and consequently, if it be regarded as a nuisance and immorality for crowds of persons to assemble in the back rooms of stores, and other similar places, to drink quarts or other larger quantities of liquors, that the above recited act has in practice had no visible effect in abating the same. A majority of the