

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

Committee, therefore, instruct the undersigned to recommend the passage of the bill, with the following amendments, viz:

Amend by striking out all after the enacting clause, and insert:

That hereafter it shall be lawful in this State to allow spirits to be drank at the place or in the house where sold, and all laws contrary to this act are hereby repealed.

This amendment is only necessary to express the object in view in the plainest possible manner, and to avoid ambiguity or uncertainty.

Also, amend the title of the bill by striking out the words "repeal the 19th Section of the 7th Chapter of the laws relating to Crimes and Misdemeanors," and insert the words "allow spirits to be drank where sold."

All which is respectfully submitted.

M. A. LONG, Chairman.

Which was received, and the amendments as proposed were adopted, in lieu of the original bill, and placed among the orders of the day.

The following message was received from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Dec. 7, 1854.

Hon. President of the Senate:

Sir:—The House has passed the following Bills and Resolution, viz:

Bill to be entitled, An Act to restore the force and operation of the general laws of this State, in relation to the migration of free persons of color into this State.

Bill to be entitled, An Act for the relief of Watson W. Leggett.

Bill to be entitled, An Act for the relief of Jose Vigil.

Bill to be entitled, An Act to authorize Andrew J. Smiley, a minor, to assume the management of his own estate.

Resolution to declare Manatee a Port of Delivery.

Senate Bill to be entitled, An Act to empower John Richard Bradford, a minor, to assume the management of his own estate.

Very respectfully,

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Clerk House Representatives.

Which was read, and the accompanying House Bills and Resolution placed among the orders of the day, and the Senate Bill ordered to be enrolled.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The subject of the contested Election of Senator from the 12th District having been made the special order of the day for to-day, was taken up;

When on motion, the Senate went into Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the same, Mr. Hawes in the chair.

After some time spent therein, the Committee rose, and through

their Chairman reported the matter back to the Senate, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject,

When Mr. Provence moved that the Senate adjourn till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. Hopkins and Myrick, and were:

Yeas—Messrs. Brinson, Cone, Crigler, Filor, Hawes, Provence and Wynn—7.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Eppes, Gillis, Hopkins, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Smith and Tracy—10.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Cone moved that the Senate take a recess till 3 o'clock this afternoon;

Which motion was lost.

Mr. Myrick moved that W. J. J. Duncan be declared duly elected Senator from the 12th Senatorial District.

Mr. Hopkins moved that the returns from precinct No. 1, of Hamilton County, be received;

Which motion was declared out of order by the Chair.

Mr. Long offered the following as a substitute:

Whereas, It appears to the Senate that the election laws of this State were materially disregarded in the election of Senator from the 12th Senatorial district, and that it does not appear that either the sitting member, Henry J. Stewart, or Wm. J. J. Duncan, the contestant, are legally elected to the Senate, therefore it is

Ordered, That said seat be vacated, and the said contested election be referred to the legal voters of said district.

Upon the adoption of said substitute, in lieu of the original motion, the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. Myrick and Tracy, and were:

Yeas—Messrs. Byrd, Brinson, Cone, Crigler, Filor, Hawes, Long, Provence and Wynn—9.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Eppes, Gillis, Hopkins, Myrick, Nicholson, Smith and Tracy—8.

So said substitute was adopted.

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

FRIDAY, December 8th, 1854.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The Rev. Mr. Turner officiated as Chaplain.

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

On motion of Mr. Provence, Mr. Hawes was excused from attendance on the Senate, on to-morrow.