

Was read a second time, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to be entitled, An Act to change the time of holding Circuit Court in Calhoun County;

Was read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Eppes the bill was laid on the table.

A bill to be entitled, An Act to amend an act in relation to Pilotage at the port of Key West;

Was read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on Monday next.

An Engrossed Bill to be entitled An Act to amend an act relative to crimes and misdemeanors;

Was read a third time, when, on motion, the bill was again referred back to the Committee on the Judiciary.

House bill to be entitled An Act to authorize Neil Monroe to establish a ferry across the Withlacoochee River;

Was read a first time, and ordered for a second reading on Monday next.

House bill to be entitled An Act to authorize Allen Mondin to establish a toll-bridge across the Withlacoochee River;

Was read a first time.

On motion of Mr. Provence the rule was waived, and the bill read a second and third time by its title, and upon the question of its passage, the vote was:

Yeas.—Mr. President, Messrs Brinson, Filor, Gillis, Hopkins, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Provence, Smith, Tracy and Wynn—12.

Nays—Mr. Kilcrease—1.

So the bill passed, title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House.

House bill to be entitled An act to authorize Henry Benner to establish a Ferry across the Withlacoochee River;

Was read the first time.

On motion of Mr. Provence, the rule was waived, the bill read the second and third time by its title, and upon the question of its passage the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Brinson, Eppes, Filor, Gillis, Hopkins, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Provence, Smith, Tracy and Wynn—13.

Nays—Mr. Kilcrease—1.

So said bill passed, title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House.

On motion the rule was waived, and Mr. Provence moved that a committee be appointed on Census and Apportionment;

Which motion was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Myrick, the rule was waived, and he gave notice that he will on Monday next, or some future day, introduce a

bill to authorize E. B. M. Spivey to establish a Ferry across the Chattahoochee River at Brown's Ferry, in Jackson County.

On motion of Mr. Long, the Senate adjourned till Monday morning. 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, December 11, 1854.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The Rev. Mr. Turner officiated as Chaplain.

A quorum being present, the Journal of Saturday's proceedings was read and approved.

The following bills which had passed the Senate were transmitted to the House, viz:

House bill to be entitled An act to authorize Allen Mondin to establish a Toll Bridge across the Withlacoochee River;

House bill to be entitled An act to authorize Henry Benner to establish a Ferry on the Withlacoochee River.

The President announced the following Committee on Census and Apportionment:

MESSRS. PROVENCE,
LONG,
FILOR,
EPPES,
HOPKINS.

Mr. Nicholson moved that so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the Cession of West Florida, be withdrawn from the Standing Committee on the State of the Commonwealth, and be referred to a Select Committee of five, to be appointed by the President of the Senate;

Which motion was carried, and Messrs. Nicholson, Eppes, Myrick, Hawes and Brinson were appointed said Committee.

Mr. Nicholson gave notice, that on some future day he will introduce a bill to authorize William Webb to establish a Ferry across the Escambia Bay.

Pursuant to previous notice, Mr. Hawes introduced a bill to grant certain lands to the Palatka and Micanopy Plank Road Company;

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

Pursuant to previous notice, Mr. Myrick introduced the following bills, viz:

A bill to authorize the respective officers collecting the revenue of this State to pay over the Capitation or Poll Tax, and for other purposes;

A bill to abolish the tax now levied on certain subjects of taxation;

A bill to establish a ferry at Brown's ferry in Jackson county.

Said bills were read the first time, and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

On motion, the rule was waived, and Mr. Myrick permitted to introduce, without previous notice, the following bills, viz:

A bill to consolidate the office of Sheriff and Tax Assessor and Collector of Jackson County;

A bill for the relief of Judges of Probates and for other purposes.

Said bills were read the first time, and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

Mr. Wynn offered the following Resolution:

Resolved by the Senate, the House concurring, That the General Assembly proceed to the election of a Senator to the United States Senate, a Comptroller of Public Accounts, a Treasurer, and a Clerk of the Supreme Court, on Thursday next, the 14th inst.;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Hopkins offered the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, The Gentlemen composing the Board of Internal Improvement are now in this city engaged in the performance of the duty assigned them: Therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Florida in General Assembly convened, That the Treasurer be directed and the Comptroller authorized to pay and audit the accounts of said Board at the same rate of per diem and mileage as are allowed members of the General Assembly;

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

Mr. Brinson from the Committee on Internal Improvements made the following report:

The Committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred a bill to be entitled, An Act authorizing the drainage of the Alachua Savannah, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to

REPORT:

The lands proposed to be reclaimed are overflowed lands lying in one body in the County of Alachua, and known as the Alachua Savannah or Payne's Prairie, and comprise some fifteen or twenty thousand acres. They are exclusively the property of individuals, and no aid from the State is desired or expected. Your committee recommend the passage of the bill with the following amendment. That in the 4th Section, second line, strike out number and substitute quantity and quality.

Respectfully submitted,
WILLIAM A. BRINSON,
Chairman.

Which was received and read, and the amendment of the committee concurred in, and the bill as amended placed among the orders of the day.

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

The Committee on Engrossed Bills, beg leave to report the following bills as correctly engrossed:

A bill to be entitled, An Act to amend an act in relation to Pilotage at the Port of Key West;

A bill to be entitled, an act to incorporate the Tallahassee and Quincy Plank Road Company;

An Act to repeal an act entitled an act in relation to a road tax in the Counties of Santa Rosa and Escambia, as far as it relates to the County of Santa Rosa.

Respectfully submitted,
JAMES FILOR,
Chairman.

Which was received and read, and the accompanying Engrossed Bills 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 governing Judges of Probate in certain cases, have carefully considered the same, and they unanimously approve the general object of the bill, as apparent upon its face, and as explained by its author, namely: to prevent Judges of Probate from acting in any cases of elections in which they are interested.

The Committee, therefore, have instructed the undersigned to recommend the amendment of the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause, and inserting the three following sections:

SECTION 1. That from and after the passage of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any Judge of Probate, within this State, to act in any matters now made his duty by law, wherein said Judge is in any wise interested, but it shall be the duty of the several Clerks of the Circuit Court in this State, and they are hereby required to perform the said duties of said Judges in all matters whatsoever in which the said Judges are interested.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the several Judges of Probate in this State, when disqualified for reasons of interest, as in this act mentioned, to notify the Clerks of the Circuit Court of their respective Counties, to attend and discharge their said duties, and in no instance shall any Judge of Probate act in any matters in which he is interested, and if any one presumes so to do, his acts are hereby declared null and void.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That the several Clerks, when discharging the duties of any Judge of Probate under this act, shall re-

ceive the same compensation as is now provided for by law for the Judges of Probate for like services.

The foregoing amendment will not only prevent the particular abuse intended to be corrected by the original bill, but all others of a like character which can arise; it being the opinion of the Committee that it should not be lawful for Judges of Probate to audit and approve the accounts of estates of deceased persons in any cases in which they shall be acting as Executors, Administrators, Distributees, Legatees or Creditors. The proposed amendment appears to the Committee to be sufficient to the whole subject. The bill when so amended, ought to be passed, in the opinion of the Committee. Respectfully submitted.

M. A. LONG,
Chairman Judiciary Committee.

Which was received and read, and the accompanying 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 prevent fraudulent voting, having considered the same, instruct the undersigned to recommend the passage of said bill, without amendment, as highly necessary to the purity of the ballot box.

Respectfully submitted,
M. A. LONG,
Chairman Judiciary Committee.

Which was received and adopted, and the bill accompanying the same placed among the orders of the day.

The following message was received from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, December 9, 1854.

Hon. President of the Senate:

SIR:—The House has passed the following bills:

Bill to be entitled, An Act to legitimize Lucinda Read, and to make her the heir at law of William M. Read, of the County of Hamilton, Florida;

Bill to be entitled, An Act to authorize Jackson Lee, of Hamilton County, to assume the management of his own estate.

Very respectfully,

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Clk House Rep's.

Which was read; and the accompanying bills placed among the orders of the day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A bill to be entitled, An Act granting pre-emption rights to settlers on the 16th sections;

Was read, the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled, An Act in relation to Evidence;

Was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

A bill to be entitled, An Act in relative to slaves and free persons of color;

Was read the second time, and on motion referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A resolution in relation to adjournment of General Assembly sine die on the 20th inst.;

Was read the second time, the rule waived, read the third time, and upon the question of its passage the vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Brinson, Cone, Eppes, Filor, Gillis, Hopkins, Myrick, Tracey and Wynn—9.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Hawes, Kilcrease, Long, Nicholson and Provence.—7.

Said resolution passed.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

A bill to be entitled, An Act to allow the Supreme and Circuit Courts to hold extra terms;

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 create a fifth Judicial Circuit in this State;

Came up on its second reading.

On motion of Mr. Provence, the Senate resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on said bill—Mr. Tracy in the Chair.

After some time spent therein, the Committee rose, and through their Chairman reported the bill, with amendments, and recommended its passage, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same.

Which report was concurred in.

The bill as amended was read the second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

A bill for the relief of J. B. Anderson, of Jackson County;

Was read the second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

House 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;

Was read the second time and ordered to be read a third time on to-morrow.

House bill to be entitled, An act for the relief of Jose Vigil;

Was read the second time, and on motion of Mr. Kilcrease, referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

House bill to be entitled, An act for the relief of Henry Christy and Theophilus Higginbotham;

Was read a second time, and on motion was referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

House bill to be entitled, An act to authorize Neil Monroe to establish a ferry across the Withlacoochee River;

Was read the second time, rule waived, read the third time, and upon the question of its passage the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Brinson, Cone, Eppes, Filor, Gillis, Hawes, Hopkins, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Provence, Tracy and Wynn—15.

Nay—Mr. Kilcrease.—1.

So said bill passed, title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

House bill to be entitled, An act to authorize Andrew J. Smiley, a minor, to assume the management of his own estate,

Was read the second time, rule waived, read the third time, and upon the question of its passage the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Brinson, Cone, Eppes, Filor, Gillis, Hawes, Hopkins, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Provence, Tracy and Wynn—15.

Nays—None.

So said bill passed, title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

House bill to be entitled An act for the relief Watson W Leggett;

Was read the second time, the rule waived, read the third time, and upon the question of its passage, the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Brinson, Cone, Hawes, Hopkins, Kilcrease, Long, Myrick, Provence, Tracy and Wynn—12.

Nays—Messrs. Eppes, Filor, Gillis and Nicholson—4.

So said bill passed, title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

House Resolution to declare Manatee a Port of Delivery;

Was read the second time, the rule waived, the resolution read the third time, and upon the question of its passage the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Brinson, Cone, Eppes, Filor, Gillis, Hawes, Hopkins, Kilcrease, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Provence, Tracy and Wynn—16.

Nays—None.

So said resolution passed.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

House bill to be entitled, An act to authorize Jackson Lee, of Hamilton County, to assume the management of his own estate;

Was read the first time and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

House bill to be entitled, An act to legitimize Lucinda Read and to make her heir at law of William M. Read, of the County of Hamilton, Florida;

Was read the first time and ordered for a second reading on to-morrow.

An engrossed bill to be entitled An act to amend An act in relation to pilotage at the port of Key West;

Was read the third time, and upon the question of its passage, the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Brinson, Cone, Eppes, Filor, Gillis, Hawes, Hopkins, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Provence, Tracy and Wynn—15.

Nays—None.

So said bill passed, title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

An engrossed bill to be entitled An act to repeal the road tax of Santa Rosa County;

Was read the third time, and upon the question of its passage, the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Bird, Brinson, Cone, Eppes, Filor, Gillis, Hawes, Hopkins, Long, Myrick, Nicholson, Tracy and Wynn—15.

Nays—none.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

An Engrossed Bill to be entitled, An Act to Incorporate the Tallahassee and Quincy Plank Road Company, was read the third time:

On motion of Mr. Long, said bill was laid upon the table for the present.

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

TUESDAY, December 12, 1854.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

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

The following Bills and Resolutions, which had passed the Senate, were transmitted to the House of Representatives, viz:

House Bill to authorize Andrew J. Smiley, a minor, to assume the management of his own estate;