

House bill to be entitled an Act to amend the laws now in force relative to Common Schools ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read the second time, and referred to the Committee on Schools and Colleges.

House bill to be entitled an Act to provide for the location of the county site of Orange county ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read the second and third times by its title, and put upon its passage, upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brooks, Bird, Brinson, Duncan, Eppes, Eubanks, Fisher, Keitt, McBride, Tracy and Welch—11.

Nay—Mr. Hawes—1.

So the bill passed—title as stated.

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

House bill to be entitled an Act relative to associations organized to construct lines of telegraph ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read a second time, and referred to the Committee on Corporations.

House bill to be entitled an Act to protect actual settlers and cultivators on State lands, in this State ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read the second time, and ordered for to-morrow.

House bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Haley T. Blocker, Sheriff of Leon county ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read the second time by its title, and referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts.

Mr. Brooks moved that the Senate do adjourn until to-morrow, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Upon the question of adjournment the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. Dell and Eppes, and were :

Yeas—Messrs. Brooks, Bird, Eubanks, Filer, Fisher, Hawes, Keitt, Lamar, McBride, Tracy and Welch—11.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Brinson, Duncan and Eppes—4.

So the motion prevailed, and the Senate adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, December 24, 1856.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

A quorum present.

The Rev. Mr. Turner officiated as Chaplain.

On motion, the reading of the journal of yesterday's proceedings was dispensed with.

The following bills and resolution which had passed the Senate, have been transmitted to the House of Representatives, viz :

House bill to be entitled an Act to provide for the location of the county site of Orange county ;

A bill to be entitled an Act to amend an Act to organize the Supreme Court of the State of Florida ;

A bill to be entitled an Act to regulate the rates of pilotage at the port of St. Marks ;

A bill to be entitled an Act for the benefit of Nassau county ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to amend an Act to authorize County Commissioners to extend charters to bridges and ferries ;

House resolution asking Congress to establish a mail route from Mellonville to Bayport ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to require the Register of State Lands to have all the School Lands in Columbia, Marion, Levy, Hamilton, Hillsborough, Santa Rosa, Escambia, St. Johns, Alachua, Madison and Orange counties, that have not been offered for sale, appraised and offered ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to repeal the fifth section of an Act entitled an Act to organize the county of Sumter, approved January 8th, 1853 ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to secure the better working of roads ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to authorize Samuel A. Pearce to establish a ferry on Yellow river ; with the following amendment :

House bill to be entitled an Act to provide for the maintenance, care and custody of lunatics or insane persons in this State ;

A bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of James N. Hendry, Sheriff of Hamilton county ;

A bill to be entitled an Act concerning limitations of actions ;

House bill to be entitled an Act granting to the city of Pensacola certain lands therein mentioned ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to amend the several Acts in relation to suits by attachment in the Circuit Courts and before Justices of the Peace in this State.

The following message was received from his Excellency the Governor :

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, }
Tallahassee, December 22, 1856. }

Hon. PHILIP DELL,

President of the Senate :

Sir—I have been engaged during the past year in a correspondence with his Excellency, the Governor of Georgia, on the subject of the boundary line between the respective States, and have until within a few days, entertained the hope that I should be able during your present session, to communicate to the General Assembly, the

gratifying intelligence that an agreement had been made, subject to the approval and ratification of our respective State Legislatures. In this hope I have been disappointed. The approach, however, to a settlement is such as to furnish a reasonable expectation that it may yet be effected. And I respectfully ask the authority of the General Assembly to prosecute the negotiation, and do whatever may be necessary to consummate a fair and proper settlement, subject, however, to the approval and ratification of the General Assembly.

Very Respectfully,
JAMES E. BROOME.

The Committee on Enrolled bills made the following report:

The Committee on Enrolled Bills report as correctly enrolled,

An Act to amend an Act to incorporate the town of Milton in Santa Rosa county, approved February 23d, 1844;

An Act to allow W. S. Perry to enter the North-west quarter of section 16, Township 10, Range 22, of the Common School lands.

Respectfully submitted,

ED. HOPKINS,
Chairman.

On motion, the rule was waived, and Mr. Brinson allowed to introduce without previous notice, a bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of the Sheriff of Madison county;

Which was placed among the orders of the day.

Mr. Fisher offered a resolution to obtain the sense of the people of West Florida in regard to annexation to Alabama;

Which was read and placed among the orders of the day.

A Committee consisting of Messrs. Gettis, Penn and Gonzalez from the House of Representatives presented the following resolution:

Be it resolved, That the House, with the consent of the Senate, will go into an election of a U. S. Senator on to-day at 11 o'clock.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

An Act to regulate pilotage of the St. Johns bar and river;

Was read the third time, and put upon its passage, upon which the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Brooks, Bird, Brinson, Eppes, Fior, Keitt and Lamar—9.

Nays—Messrs. Duncan, Fisher, Hopkins, McBride and Tracy—5.
So the bill passed—title as stated.

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

Mr. J. McR. Baker, Senator elect from the 19th Senatorial District appeared, and having presented his credentials, on motion, the oath of office was administered to him by Hon. T. J. Eppes, Notary Public.

On motion, a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Hawes, Keitt and Eppes, were appointed to wait upon the House of Representatives and inform that body that the Senate had concurred in the House Resolution to go into the election of United States Senator;

Which Committee having returned, reported that they had performed the duty assigned them, and asked to be discharged.

The following message was received from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
December 24, 1856. }

Hon. President of the Senate:

Sir:—The House has passed the following bills, viz:

A bill to be entitled an Act to fix the times of holding Courts in the Middle Circuit of Florida;

A bill to amend the road laws of Nassau county, in this State;

A bill to be entitled an Act to authorize Adin Eleazor Waterman, a minor, to contract and be contracted with;

A bill to be entitled an Act to change the boundary line between the counties of Calhoun and Franklin;

A bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Joel Walker, late Sheriff of Jefferson county;

A bill to be entitled an Act to amend an Act entitled an Act to establish Common Schools, and repeal certain Acts in relation thereto;

A bill to be entitled an Act to authorize Fitzwilliam B. Taylor, of Jefferson county, to assume the management of his own estate;

Senate bill to be entitled an Act authorizing the appointment of weighers of hay and cotton, in the town of Jacksonville;

Senate bill to be entitled an Act granting to the Alabama and Florida Railroad Company, alternate sections of swamp and overflowed lands;

Senate bill to be entitled an Act to allow the several Judges of the Circuit Courts of this State to hold extra terms whenever, in their opinion, the public safety may require;

Senate bill to be entitled an Act to empower Watson Ashhurst to act as deputy clerk for the county of Duval; and,

Senate bill to be entitled an Act to protect the telegraphic wires and posts in the limits of the State, and for other purposes.

The House has passed Senate bill to be entitled an Act granting a charter to the American Telegraph Company, to enable them to construct lines of electric telegraph in the State, and to maintain the same, with the following amendments: In section four strike out the word "exclusive" in the second line, and the word "all," in the third line; in the sixth line strike out "six" and insert "two" in lieu thereof; and strike out all of said section after the word "ca-

ble," in the seventh line. In which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested.

The House has concurred in Senate amendments to the following bills, viz:

A bill to be entitled an Act to define the boundary line between Duval and Nassau counties; and,

A bill to be entitled an Act to provide for the payment of the debts of the State;

The House has ordered the printing of eighty copies of a bill to be entitled an Act to exempt from levy and sale in this State, by execution, attachment, or other process, one slave.

Very Respectfully,

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

House bill to be entitled an Act to change the boundary line between the counties of Calhoun and Franklin;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read the second time, and on motion, was indefinitely postponed.

The following Message was receive from his Excellency the Governor:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
Tallahassee, December 23, 1856. }

HON. PHILIP DELL,

President of the Senate:

Sir—I respectfully submit for the advice and consent of the General Assembly, the following nominations:

For Santa Rosa County: Auctioneers—Joseph Mitchel, L. W. Rowley.

For Gadsden County: Auctioneers—D. L. Kenan, Joseph A. McMillan, Samuel Gee.

For Sumpter County: Auctioneer—Cameron Kyle.

For Hamilton County: Auctioneer—W. S. Purviance.

For Wakulla County: Auctioneer—Geo. G. Holt.

For St. Johns County: Auctioneer—George I. Zehubauer.

For Escambia County: Auctioneers—Gregory Yniester, M. P. D.E. Reobo, Stephen C. Gonzalez.

Port Wardens—Chester P. Knapp, Henry F. Ingram, Stephen C. Gonzalez, Manuel Palmer, Henry Johnson.

Commissioners of Pilotage—Joseph Wilkins, John R. Brooks, S. A. Leonard, Thomas White, John G. Fell.

For Franklin County: George Redgate.

Very Respectfully,

JAMES E. BROOME.

Which was read, and the nominations therein advised, and consented to.

Also the following:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
Tallahassee, December 23, 1856. }

HON. PHILIP DELL,

President of the Senate:

Sir—I respectfully submit the following nominations, and respectfully ask the advice and consent of the General Assembly:

For Manatee County: Auctioneers—Josiah Gates, Wm. H. Wyatt, John Parker.

Very Respectfully,

JAMES E. BROOME.

Which was read, and the nominations concurred in.

On motion, the rule was waived, and the Committee on Corporations made the following report:

The Committee on Corporations to whom was referred "a bill to be entitled an Act relative to associations organized to construct lines of Telegraph," ask leave to

REPORT:

That they have examined said bill and recommend its passage.

E. D. TRACY,

Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Keitt, the rule was waived, and he allowed to make the following report:

The Committee on Schools and Colleges, to whom was referred the petition of sundry citizens of Alachua county praying that the Eastern State Seminary be located at Micanopy, having duly considered the same, respectfully recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be denied.

W. J. KEITT,

Chairman.

Which was received and read.

Also the following:

The Committee on Schools and Colleges to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an Act to amend the law now in force in relation to Common Schools, have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me, their chairman, to make the following

REPORT:

That after due deliberation upon the merits of the bill, they respectfully recommend that the same do not pass.

W. J. KEITT,

Chairman.

Which was received and the bill placed among the orders of the day.

On motion of Mr. Filor, the Senator from Jefferson was excused from further attendance on the Senate until Saturday next.

On motion, Mr. Fisher was excused from further attendance on the Senate for the ballance of the session.

A bill to be entitled an act to amend an Act to establish the ad valorem system of taxation, approved December 15, 1855;

Came up on its second reading.

Mr. Dell offered the following as a substitute for said bill:

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Florida in General Assembly convened, That from and after the passage of this Act, each and every person residing in this State, who shall be a tax payer, is hereby exempted from taxation on two hundred dollars' worth of property.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That all persons liable to taxation, shall assess the amount they are worth on the first day of April in each and every year, and make a return to the Tax Assessor and Collector of the amount he may have in his possession, either in his right or that of others.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That hereafter when any person shall refuse to make his or her return to the tax assessor and collector, the sheriff is hereby required to call in three disinterested persons and have all the property of the person so refusing to make his or her return, appraised, and he shall levy and collect from all such persons a double tax.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That from and after the passage of this act, the Tax Assessor's books shall be headed in the following manner, to-wit:

Negroes||Val.||Lands||Val.||Live-stock||Val.||Improvements||Val.||Other Prop||Val.

Upon the question of its adoption, the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baker, Fisher, Lamar, McBride, Tracy and Welch—7.

Nays—Messrs. Brooks, Brinson, Duncan, Eubanks, Filor, Hopkins, Hawes and Keitt—8.

So the substitute was not adopted.

On motion, the bill was referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion, the Senator from Leon was excused from further attendance on the Senate for the day.

On motion, the House Resolution to adjourn sine die on the 23rd instant, was taken from the table.

Mr. Eppes moved that the House Resolution in reference to adjournment, be laid over for further consideration, until the 27th inst.; Which was not agreed to.

Mr. Dell moved to amend the resolution by striking out the figures 23d and inserting 27th in lieu thereof;

Upon the question of the adoption of the amendment, the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Duncan, Eubanks, Fisher, Hopkins, McBride, Tracy and Welch—8.

Nays—Messrs. Brooks, Eppes, Filor, Hawes, Keitt and Lamar—6
So the amendment was adopted,

And the resolution as amended, put upon its passage, upon which, the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Brinson, Duncan, Eubanks, Fisher, Hopkins, McBride, Tracy and Welch—9.

Nays—Messrs. Brooks, Baker, Eppes, Filor, Hawes, Keitt and Lamar—7.

So the Resolution was adopted.

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

House bill to be entitled an Act to divide the County of Duval, and organize a new county to be called Baker County;

Was read and made the special order of the day for Friday next.

On motion the Senate proceeded to the House of Representatives.

The Senate having entered the Hall, by invitation of the Speaker, the President took the Chair.

The President stated the object of the joint meeting was to elect a Senator of the United States for the State of Florida, and announce that motions were in order.

Mr. Filor nominated S. R. Mallory.

The vote was as follows:

Senate.—For Mallory—Mr. President, Messrs. Brooks, Bird, Brinson, Baker, Eppes, Eubanks, Filor, Hawes, Keitt, Lamar and Welch—12.

Blank—Messrs. Duncan, Fisher, Hopkins, McBride and Tracy—5.

House.—For Mallory—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Arnau, Bellamy, Braddock, Brokaw, Campbell, Carter, Clyatt, Duval, Fontane, Frink, Gettis, Gonzalez, Heermans, Helvenston, Holmes, Ingram, Johnston, McLeary, McQueen, Nicks, Parkhill, Penn, Taylor, Vogt and Wilson—26.—Total, 38.

Blank—Messrs. Buffington, Cousins, Davidson, Hull and Mims—5.
—Total, 10.

The President declared Stephen R. Mallory duly elected United States Senator for the State of Florida for the next six years.

The object of the joint meeting being completed, the Senate adjourned to the Senate Chamber.

Mr. Tracy moved to re-consider the vote taken yesterday on the passage of the House bill to be entitled an Act to amend the several Acts in relation to suits by attachments in the Circuit Courts and before Justices of the Peace in this State;

Which motion was adopted, and,

On motion, Messrs. Tracy, Hopkins and Hawes, were appointed

a Committee to wait upon the House and request the return of said bill to the Senate.

The Committee returned, and reported that the Committee had discharged the duty assigned them, and asked to be discharged.

A Committee from the House returned said bill.

Which came up on its third reading, and was put upon its passage, upon the question of which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Brooks, Brinson, Duncan, Filor and Keitt—6.

Nays—Messrs. Baker, Eppes, Eubanks, Fisher, Hopkins, Hawes, McBride, Tracy and Welch—9.

So said bill was lost.

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

House bill to be entitled an Act to protect actual settlers and cultivators on State lands in this State ;

Was read a third time and put upon its passage upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brooks, Brinson, Baker, Duncan, Fisher, Hopkins, Hawes, McBride and Welch—9.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Eppes, Keitt and Tracy—4.

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 secure the better execution of the patrol laws ;

Was read the third time, and put upon its passage, upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Brooks, Baker, Brinson, Duncan, Eubanks, Filor, Fisher, Hawes, Keitt, Tracy and Welch—12.

Nays—Messrs. Eppes, Hopkins and McBride—3.

So the bill passed—title as stated.

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

House bill to be entitled an Act to amend the several laws now in force relative to Common Schools ;

On motion of Mr. Dell the report of the Committee on Schools and Colleges to whom said bill was referred, was concurred in, and the bill was, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

House bill to be entitled an Act to fix the times of holding the Courts in the Middle Circuit of Florida ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read the second and third times by its title, and put upon its passage, upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Brooks, Baker, Brinson, Fisher, Hopkins, Hawes, Keitt, Tracy and Welch—10.

Nay—Mr. Duncan—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 A. E. Waterman, a minor, to contract and be contracted with ;

Was read the first time and ordered for Friday next.

House bill to be entitled an Act to amend the Road laws of Nassau county, in this State ;

Was read the first time and ordered for Friday next.

House bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Joel Walker, late Sheriff of Jefferson county ;

Was read the first time and ordered for Friday next.

House bill to be entitled an Act to amend an Act to establish Common Schools, and repeal certain Acts in relation thereto ;

Was read the first time and ordered for Friday next.

A resolution to obtain the sense of the people of West Florida, in regard to annexation to Alabama ;

Was read, and on the question of its adoption, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brooks and Fisher—2.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Brinson, Duncan, Eubanks, Hopkins, Hawes, Keitt, McBride and Welch—9.

So the Resolution was not adopted.

The following message was received from his Excellency the Governor :

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, }
December 24, 1856. }

Hon. PHILIP DELL,

President of the Senate :

Sir—I have approved and signed the following Senate bills and resolution :

An Act to change the names of James Bell, Martha Ann Odham and Emory Odham ;

An Act to repeal an Act in relation to a Road tax in the Counties of Putnam and Marion ;

An Act to authorize Andrew Jackson Deens to establish a ferry across the Escambia river ;

An Act granting to Trustees for the benefit of the Alabama and Florida Railroad Company, lands granted to the State of Florida by the Congress of the United States, &c. ;

An Act in relation to pilotage at Key West ;

An Act to regulate pilotage at the ports of Fernandina and Cedar Key ;

An Act to enable Joseph M. Taylor to enter and pay for certain School lands ;

An Act providing for the payment to the several counties of the interest arising from the School Fund, &c. ;

An Act to authorize Mary Moreno to assume the management of her own estate ;

An Act to change the name of Joshua Jesse Stafford, &c. ;

An Act for the relief of Alexander Purviance, Absalom S. Smith, Ira S. Rouse and W. W. Burke ;

An Act to amend an Act entitled an Act to authorize Judges of Probate to appoint guardians for free negroes ;

An Act to authorize Harrison Fairbanks to establish a ferry across Ocklockonee river ;

An Act to prevent trading with free persons of color in this State ;

An Act authorizing the County Commissioners of Escambia county to subscribe for stock in the Alabama and Florida Railroad Company ;

Resolution relative to the establishment of a Land Office in the town of Milton.

Respectfully,

JAMES E. BROOME.

A bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of the Sheriff of Madison County ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read the second time, and referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts.

House bill to be entitled an Act to prevent unnecessary cost in suits at law in this State ;

Was read the third time and put upon its passage, upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brinson, Duncan, Eubanks, Fisher, Hawes, Keitt, Tracy and Welch—8.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Brooks and Hopkins—3.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

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

On motion of Mr. Keitt the Senate adjourned until Friday, 10 o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, December 26th, 1856.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

A quorum present.

Rev. Mr. Turner officiated as chaplain.

The reading of the journal of Wednesday's proceedings, on motion, was dispensed with.

The following bills which had passed both Houses of the General Assembly, and duly enrolled and signed by the presiding officers,

were transmitted to his Excellency the Governor for approval :

A bill to be entitled an Act to incorporate the town of Milton in Santa Rosa county ;

A bill to be entitled an Act to allow William S. Perry to enter the N. W. quarter of section 16, Township 10, Range 22, of the Common School Lands.

The following bills having passed the Senate have been transmitted to the House of Representatives, viz :

House bill to be entitled an Act requiring the Register of lands to have all the School lands in Holmes and Calhoun counties offered for sale ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to fix the times of holding Courts in the Middle Circuit of Florida ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to secure the better execution of the Patrol laws ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to protect actual settlers and cultivators on State lands in this State ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to regulate the pilotage of the St. Johns Bar and River ;

House bill to be entitled an Act to prevent unnecessary cost in suits at law in this State (as amended, viz : Section 1, 9th line after the word "consolidation" insert "in cases when consolidation is practicable, and in accordance with the principles of law and subject always to the discretion of the Court.")

On motion, the rule was waived, and Mr. Filor introduced a Resolution for the protection of public property ;

Which was read the first time, the rule waived, read a second and third times by its title, and put upon its passage, upon the question of which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baker, Brinson, Eppes, Eubanks, Filor, Fisher, Hopkins, Hawes, Keitt, Lamar, Tracy and Welch—13.

Nay—Mr. McBride—1.

So the resolution passed—title as stated.

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

A resolution in relation to increasing the per diem pay of the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives ;

Was read the first time, the rule waived, read a second and third time by its title, and put upon its passage, upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Brinson, Filor, Hawes, Keitt & Welch—6.

Nays—Messrs. Eubanks, Fisher, Hopkins, McBride & Tracy—5.

So the resolution was adopted.

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

On motion, the rule was waived, and Mr. Eppes allowed to introduce without previous notice, a bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Nourse and Brooks ;