

A bill to be entitled an Act to prohibit trespasses upon Railroad Land Grants;

Was read the third time and put upon its passage;

Upon which the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baker, Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Eubanks, Jones, Keitt, McQueen, Nicholson and Welch—11.

Nay—Mr. Dell—1.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

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

A bill to be entitled an Act to authorize Edward N. Everett of Washington County, to assume the management of his own estate;

Was read a third time and put upon its passage;

Upon which the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baker, Baldwin, Call, Dell, Jones, Keitt, McQueen, Nicholson and Welch—10.

Nay—Mr. Eubanks—1.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

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

A bill to be entitled an Act authorizing a Bridge Tax in Walton County;

Was read the third time and put upon its passage;

Upon which the vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baker, Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Dell, Eubanks, Jones, Keitt, McQueen, Nicholson and Welch—12.

Nays—None.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

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

Resolution relative to the several Rail-roads in this State;

Was read a third time and put upon its passage;

Upon which the vote was;

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Call, Dawkins, Dell, Keitt and McQueen—6;

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Eubanks, Nicholson and Welch—5.

So said resolution passed—title as stated;

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

Resolution asking aid to improve the navigation of Holmes Creek;

Was read a third time and put upon its passage;

Upon which the vote was;

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baker, Dawkins, Eubanks, Jones, Keitt, McElvy, McQueen, Nicholson and Welch—10.

Nays—Messrs. Baldwin and Dell—2.

So said resolution passed—title as stated.

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

A bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Spencer T. Thomas;

Was read the second time.

On motion of Mr. Call, the further reading of the bill was dispensed with.

Mr. Call moved a call of the House;

The roll being called, the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Baker, Call, Dawkins, Dell, Eubanks, Jones, Keitt, McQueen, Nicholson and Welch—10.

There being no quorum present,

Mr. Call moved that the Sergeant-at-Arms be sent for the absentees, pending which a quorum appeared, and on motion of Mr. Call, the further proceedings on the call were dispensed with; and

The bill ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

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

—o—

SATURDAY, December, 10th, 1859.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

A quorum present.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the further reading of yesterday's journal was dispensed with, and the journal corrected and approved.

Mr. Baldwin moved that a bill to be entitled an Act to provide for the disposal of lands granted by Congress to the State of Florida, to aid in the construction of certain Railroads, which was laid on the table on the 14th of January, 1859, be taken up and placed among the orders of the day.

Mr. Lamar moved to lay the motion on the table;

Which motion was lost.

The question was then taken upon the motion of Mr. Baldwin;

Which was lost.

On motion of Mr. Keitt, the vote taken upon the motion of Mr. Baldwin was reconsidered:

Mr. Call moved to amend by adding "and that the first resolution for adjourning on the 17th inst., be and the same is hereby rescinded."

Mr. Baker moved to amend as follows :

That it is the opinion of this House that the subject matters contained within the Act, are within the province of the Judicial and not the Legislative branch of the Government.

Mr. Call moved the adoption of the amendment of Mr. Baker, as a substitute for the motion of Mr. Baldwin.

Mr. McCall moved that the original motion of the Senator from Duval, together with the amendments and substitute be made the special order of the day for Monday next.

Mr. Dell moved that the original motion and the substitute and amendments be laid upon the table ;

On which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. Dell and Lamar ;

Upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Call, Dell, Keitt, Lamar, McQueen and Nicholson—7.

Nays—Messrs. Baker, Baldwin, Dawkins, Eubanks, Hawes, McCall and Welch—7.

So said motion was lost.

The question was then taken upon the motion of Mr. McCall ;

On which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Call ;

Upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Dawkins, Hawes, Jones, McCall, Nicholson and Welch—8.

Nays—Messrs. Baker, Call, Dell, Eubanks, Keitt, Lamar and McQueen—7.

So said motion was adopted.

Pursuant to previous notice, Mr. Baldwin introduced a resolution for the relief of certain parties holding State witness and Jury scrip ;

Which was placed among the orders of the day.

Mr. Lamar moved that the Senator from Alachua, be excused from attendance for the balance of Session ;

On which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. Call and McCall ;

Upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baker, Baldwin, Dawkins, Hawes, Jones, Keitt, Lamar, McCall, McQueen and Nicholson—11.

Nays—Messrs. Call, Eubanks and Welch—3.

So said motion was adopted.

Mr. Baker moved that he be excused from attendance for the balance of the Session ;

On which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. Call and McCall ;

Upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Dell, Eubanks, Hawes, Keitt, Lamar, McQueen, Nicholson and Welch—8.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Jones and McCall—6.

So said motion was adopted.

Mr. McQueen moved to reconsider the vote taken on yesterday on the passage of the House Resolution relative to the office of Register of U. S. Lands at Tallahassee ;

On which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Baker ;

Upon which the vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dell, Eubanks, Hawes, Jones, Keitt, Lamar, McQueen, Nicholson and Welch—12.

Nays—Messrs. Baker, Dawkins and McCall—3.

So said motion was adopted.

Mr. Lamar moved that a Committee of three be appointed to wait on the House of Representatives and asked the return of a House resolution relative to the office of Register of U. S. Lands at Tallahassee, and which was certified to the House as rejected by the Senate ;

Which motion was adopted.

Whereupon the Chair appointed Messrs. Lamar, Dell and McQueen on said Committee.

Mr. Lamar moved that a Committee of three be appointed to wait on the Attorney General and obtain from him a bill which was referred to him for his opinion entitled an Act to amend an Act entitled an Act to allow free persons of African descent to choose their own masters and become slaves, approved Jan. 15, 1859 ;

Which motion was adopted ; and

The Chair appointed Messrs. Lamar, Dell and Call on said Committee.

The committee appointed to wait upon the House of Representatives to ask the return of a House resolution relative to the office of Register of U. S. Lands, at Tallahassee, and which was certified to the House as rejected by the Senate, appeared and reported that they had performed that duty and were discharged.

A committee from the House, consisting of Messrs. Ingram, Robinson and Wiggins appeared and returned the House resolution relative to the office of Register of U. S. Lands at Tallahassee.

The committee appointed to wait on the Attorney General, to obtain from him a bill which was referred to him for his opinion, entitled an Act to amend an Act entitled an Act to allow free persons of African descent, to choose their own Masters and become slaves, approved January 15th, 1859, appeared and reported that they had performed that duty and were discharged.

The following Message from his Excellency the Governor was re-

ceived and read, and on motion, 100 copies ordered to be printed :

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
Tallahassee, December 9th, 1859. }

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives :

I submit herewith the official Report of Col. John W. Pearson, who was appointed by me Disbursing Agent to discharge the debts and liabilities of the State, incurred in suppressing Indian hostilities in the year 1856. I negotiated a loan for the State, through the agency of Col. Pearson, in the cities of Charleston and Savannah, for two hundred and forty-one thousand three hundred dollars, (241,300 00,) payable in twelve months, which will be due in April, 1860. The State realized in cash from said loan, two hundred and twenty-two thousand and fifteen dollars, (222,015 00,) and has disbursed one hundred and ninety-three thousand three hundred and thirty-one dollars, (193,331 00,) leaving a cash balance of twenty-eight thousand six hundred and eighty-four dollars, (28,684 00,) as per report of the Disbursing Agent, to which your attention is respectfully invited. The abstracts and vouchers for the unpaid claims referred to in the report of the Agent, have been placed in his hands, with instruction to pay the same. In this connection I would call your attention to the fact, that no claims for services rendered prior to the mustering in of the several companies have been paid. In several instances companies were organized on the first outbreak of the Indians, without awaiting orders, and promptly marched to the defence of the unprotected citizens, who were being massacred by the savages, and actually performed active and arduous services, for which they have not been paid. This service was recognized and approved by the Executive, but the Agent has not felt authorized to pay from the day of enrolment, but from the date of mustering in, in accordance with the army regulations of the U. S. I would respectfully recommend that the several companies of State troops be paid from the date of enrollment, upon satisfactory proof being made that they did actually perform active service in suppressing Indian hostilities. The act "to provide for the payment of the debts of the State," approved Dec. 27, 1856, authorized the issuance of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000 00) of bonds, in the name and behalf of the State, for the payment of the debts of the State, or so many thereof as may be necessary, conditioned, however, that the said bonds should be sold at their par value, or hypothecated for the payment of a loan to the State, to be negotiated on the most practicable terms. It was questioned by capitalists whether the power to hypothecate carried with it the right to sell the bonds upon the failure of the State to pay the loan at maturity, and I was unable either to sell the bonds at their par value, or to negotiate a loan upon them by hypothecation. This fact was com-

municated by me to the Legislature, and the difficulty removed by "an act in addition to an act to provide for the payment of the debts of the State," approved January 15, 1859, empowering the Governor to stipulate for the sale of the bonds hypothecated, or so many thereof as may be found necessary, at their fair market value, to meet the debt at maturity, in the event the same shall not be otherwise provided for.

It has always been claimed, and I believe never denied, that the duty of suppressing Indian hostilities devolved upon the General Government, and that Government had long ago endeavored to effect their removal, and assumed the right to permit them to remain in the State, and withdrew the protection which the people had a right to expect. On the breaking out of hostilities the people on the frontier, for want of the protection which it was the duty of the Federal Government to give, found it necessary to embody themselves, and perform the service which the exigencies of the times imposed upon them, and in doing so they had to abandon their usual occupations, and suffer all the privations incident to an exposed frontier life. Under these circumstances, the State felt it due to her own citizens to provide for their payment, relying on the justice of the General Government to refund to her the amount which she felt it her duty to pay.

The justice of such a demand cannot rightfully be disputed, and it is hoped will at once be recognized. I therefore recommend that the General Assembly will, either by memorial or resolutions, or such other mode as they deem best, request of Congress the passing of a law refunding to the State the amount she has expended.

The loan made by the State to enable her to pay the just claims of her citizens falls due in April next, for the payment of which three hundred and forty-six thousand dollars of the bonds of the State (\$346,000 00,) have been hypothecated, by virtue of authority in me vested by the above recited acts, and as the Federal Government may fail to refund in time the amount thus advanced by the State, I would recommend that the Governor be authorized to sell, at their fair market value, so many of the bonds as may be found necessary to pay the loan at maturity, rather than permit them to be thrown upon the market at the option of the parties holding them, in the event of the payment not being otherwise provided for.

Very respectfully,

M. S. PERRY.

[COPY.]

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., Nov. 30th, 1859.

To his Excellency, Gov. PERRY:

DEAR SIR: I herewith transmit to you a statement, together with my account current with the State of Florida as Disbursing Agent in the settlement of militia claims for services rendered in the year 1856:

I received from the State in cash,.....\$222,015 00
I have paid claims to the amount of....\$193,331 00
Cash balance on hand ready to pay over, 28,684 00
————— \$222,015 00

I refer to account current, with vouchers, for proof. The Pay Rolls show the amount of nearly \$1,800 which is yet *unpaid*, owing to the fact that the parties performing the service for which it is due have deceased and no representatives have qualified as executors or administrators to receipt for the same. The abstracts and vouchers of Captains Hooker, E. T. Kendrick, Addison and Parker's Companies, for transportation, &c., have not been placed in my hands for disbursement, consequently they are *not paid*. I have no means of knowing the amount, as I have not been able to see abstracts and vouchers.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
J. W. PEARSON,
Disbursing Agent.

[COPY.]

J. W. PEARSON, in account with STATE OF FLORIDA.

Dr.	
To cash rec'd from Bank of Charleston,	\$92,000 00
To cash rec'd from Peoples' Bank,	46,000 00
To cash received from the Peoples' Bank,	12,880 00
To cash rec'd from S. W. R. R. Bank,	46,000 00
To cash rec'd from Merchant's & Planter's Bank,	25,135 00
	<u>222,015 00</u>
To balance,	\$29,029 84
Less additional allowance account omitted,	345 00
	<u>\$28,684 84</u>

Cr.	
By cash paid A. J. T. Wright's Company,	\$9,667 71
" " Asa Stewart's "	11,610 89
" " A Bell's "	3,526 62
" " W. B. Hardee's "	180 14
" " Robert Youngblood's "	5,804 18
" " E. Daniel's "	1,999 35
" " A. D. Johnson's "	16,739 85
" " A. D. Johnston's "	8,893 93
" " W. H. Kendrick's "	16,277 99
" " W. H. Kendrick's "	8,966 50
" " E'd Kendrick's "	3,243 36
" " L. G. Lesley's "	14,108 34
" " W. B. Hooker's "	4,809 57
" " John Addison's "	10,232 43
" " F. M. Durrance's "	15,794 91
" " F. M. Durrance's "	9,692 00
" " John McNeill's "	2,059 03
" " John McNeill's "	3,303 06
" " Simeon Sparkman's "	2,967 31
" " Thos. Hughey's "	803 93
" " R. B. Sullivant's "	809 15
" " A. J. T. Wright's "	574 68
" " John Parker's "	4,556 69
" " Staff Officers, Assistant Surgeons, &c.,	12,341 49
" " Quartermaster men,	710 33
" " transportation, &c.,	17,546 95
" " commissions for negotiating and disbursing,	5,550 37
By cash on hand due State of Florida,	29,029 84
	<u>\$222,015 00</u>

TALLAHASSEE, Dec. 2d, 1859.

I have compared with this account the abstract of disbursements on account of transportation, &c., and find that the Pay-Master is entitled to \$345 more than is embraced in this account.

I also find the account to correspond with abstracts of disbursements to Staff Officers, &c., and persons employed in the Quartermaster's Department. The proper amounts are as follows:

Transportation, &c.,	\$17,891 95
Staff Officers, &c.,	12,341 49
Quartermaster men,	710 33

HUGH ARCHER,
Quartermaster General.

I have compared the Pay Rolls with the above (except \$12,341.49, \$710 33 and \$17,546 95) and find them to correspond.

C. H. AUSTIN,
Paymaster.

Dec. 2, 1859.

Mr. Baldwin presented the petition of sundry citizens, opposing the passage of a bill to be entitled an Act to amend an Act to allow free persons of African descent, to choose their own Masters and become slaves, approved January 15th 1859; and,

Mr. Call presented a copy of the Jacksonville Standard, which copy and petition were placed with the bill, among the orders of the day.

Mr. Call from the Committee on Judiciary made the following report:

The Judiciary Committee to whom was referred the bill entitled an Act to organize the Court of Vice Chancellor, beg leave to

REPORT,

That they have examined the said bill, and it does not meet with the approbation of a majority of the committee; they have prepared a substitute entitled an Act providing for the appointment of Vice-Chancellor, which they recommend to the Senate, if any legislation is had on the subject.

GEO. W. CALL,
from Judiciary Committee.

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

Mr. Baker from the Committee on Corporations made the following report:

The Committee on Corporations to whom was referred the bill entitled an Act to amend an Act amending the charter of the city of Pensacola, for the purpose of extending the powers of the city to aid in the construction of the Alabama and Florida Railroad in Florida, approved Dec. 21, 1858,

REPORT:

That an application for an amendment to the city charter was regularly advertised three months before the 4th Monday in November, 1858, and the amendment regularly passed this bill is to correct an error in the bill passed last winter, and is constitutionally covered by the first advertisement; it has also been advertised three months previous to this time. Your Committee recommend its passage.

J. McROBERT BAKER, Chairman.

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

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

The Committee on Corporations to whom was referred resolutions recommending to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, certain proceedings in regard to the several Rail-road Companies,

REPORT:

That there are no objections to the passage of said resolutions, but on the contrary they believe, that their adoption would tend to make the several Rail-road officers more vigilant and careful of the rights of the State.

Respectfully submitted,

J. McROBERT BAKER,
Ch'm Com. on Corporations.

Which report was received and the accompanying resolution placed among the orders of the day.

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

MR. PRESIDENT:

Sir:—The Committee to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an Act to repeal the 24th section of an Act entitled an Act to provide for and encourage a liberal system of Internal Improvements in this State, beg leave to

REPORT,

That they have had the same under consideration, and recommend that the bill do not pass,

Respectfully submitted,

T. B. LAMAR,
Chm'n Com. on Internal Improvements.

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

Mr. Baldwin from the Committee on Schools and Colleges, made the following report:

MR. PRESIDENT:

Sir:—The committee to whom was referred the bill to be entitled an Act to authorize the Board of Education of the State Seminary West of the Suwannee to confer Collegiate degrees, &c., beg leave to

REPORT,

That they have examined the same and see no objection to its passage.

Respectfully submitted,

A. S. BALDWIN,
Chm'n Com. on Schools and Colleges.

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

The Committee on Enrolled Bills made the following report :

MR. PRESIDENT :

Sir :—The Committee on Enrolled Bills beg leave to report the following bills as correctly enrolled :

A bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Noah P. Suggs, of Lafayette county ;

A bill to be entitled an Act to correct an error in the printed Act entitled an Act to incorporate Lake City ;

A bill to be entitled an Act allowing two Judges of the Supreme Court to hold a Court in the absence of the third Judge.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC WELCH,
Acting Ch'n Com. on Enrolled Bills.

Which report was received.

The committee on Engrossed bills made the following report :

MR. PRESIDENT :

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

A bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Spencer T. Thomas ;

A bill to be entitled an Act relative to the offices of Sheriff and Circuit Court Clerk in the county of Washington ;

A bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of Benjamin Hopkins ;

A bill to be entitled an Act to incorporate the city of Ocala ;

A bill to be entitled an Act concerning replevin ;

Respectfully submitted,

T. B. LAMAR,
Chm'n Com. on Engrossed Bills.

Which report was received, and the accompanying bills placed among the orders of the day.

The Committee on Engrossed Bills made the following report :

MR. PRESIDENT :

Sir :—The Committee on Engrossed Bills beg leave to report the following bill as correctly engrossed :

A bill to be entitled an Act to incorporate the Lake City & Suwannee Railroad Company.

Respectfully submitted,

T. B. LAMAR,
Ch'n Com. on Engrossed Bills.

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

Mr. Call from the Committee on Revisions of the Constitution made the following report :

The Committee on Revisions of the Constitution to whom was referred the bill entitled an Act to amend the second Section of the third Article of the Constitution of this State,

REPORT :

That the object of said bill is two fold : first, to shorten the Governor's term of office from four to two years, and to change the time of his inauguration so as to require him to be inaugurated in the presence of the General Assembly, as soon after his election as can conveniently be done. Your Committee are induced to favor both of these measures. Most of the States of the Union have found it to be wisest and best to select their Chief Magistrate every two years, and in changing our Constitution in this point, we are but following the example which the experience of our elder sisters has indicated as safest on the other point. Your Committee cannot too strongly recommend the change. Under our law as it now stands, our Governor is elected a full year before his term of office commences, and anomaly which is only productive of inconvenience to the Governor elect without any corresponding benefit to the people. Your Committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill.

GEO. W. CALL,
Ch'n Com. Revision of Constitution.

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

Mr. McQueen from the committee on Claims and Accounts made the following report ;

The committee on Claims and Accounts to whom has been referred a bill to be entitled an Act for the relief of J. C. Crosby, late Sheriff of Escambia county, ask leave to,

REPORT :

That they have had the same under consideration, and find no evidence presented, changing the conclusions arrived at the last Session.

We herewith annex a copy of the report made by the committee to the Senate, relating to the same party on the 13th of January, 1859.

The committee on Claims and Accounts, to whom has been referred a resolution for the relief of J. C. Crosby, ask leave to,

REPORT:

That they have had the same under consideration and find from the evidence presented to them, that the claim is a meritorious one, and although they believe as a general principle, the payment of such claims would be a bad one for the General Assembly to adopt, yet in this case, where a band of Robbers have been broken up at a sacrifice of time and money as has been shown to the satisfaction of the committee, your Committee therefore, recommend the passage of the following resolution.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Florida in General Assembly convened, That the Comptroller of Public accounts, be and he is hereby authorized and required to audit the claims of J. C. Crosby, late Sheriff of Escambia county, for services rendered, and expenses paid by him in apprehending and committing to Jail, certain Negro thieves, in Escambia county; *Provided:* The said J. C. Crosby, present to said Comptroller, full and satisfactory vouchers and receipts, and full evidence of the facts of such expenses in said claim.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. McQUEEN,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Baker from the Joint Select Committee, made the following report:

The Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, to whom it was referred by Joint Resolution of the 2nd ultimo, "to enquire and report as to the present situation and condition of the State Library, and how far the Act as to public property, approved January 15th, 1859, has been complied with," ask leave respectfully to

REPORT:

1. That they find the State Library in a miserable condition. A part of the same is scattered about and lying loosely piled up in the basement of the Capitol.

2. The two rooms in the South end of the Capitol have not been fitted up, and "the entire State Library" has not been placed therein as required by said Act of January 15th, 1859. One of said rooms has been partly fitted up, and a portion only of the Library appears therein.

3. Your Committee are of opinion that said rooms should be fitted up, and that the same should be open for the use of the mem-

bers of the Legislature during the sessions, under such regulations as the Librarian may adopt; but that no books should be taken out of the Library or removed from the rooms except by resolution of the respective Houses, and that members of each receiving books should be required to give their receipts for the same, and return them at the end of each session to the door-keeper of their respective houses, to be returned to the Librarian; otherwise our Library will gradually become depleted, and many of its most valuable works, which should be and are intended for the reference and consultation of the members of the Legislature, will be irrecoverably lost or mislaid.

4. Your Committee find two Committee rooms nicely and neatly fitted up in the basement of the Capitol for the Committees of the two Houses respectively, and we commend the action of the Treasurer as to the same. There are two other rooms referred to in the 4th section of said act which we are informed are rented out, as will appear by communication from the Treasurer, herewith submitted.

5. Your Committee are informed that the Capitol roof leaks badly, and think the Treasurer under the advice and supervision of the Governor, as in Section 6th of said Act, should be required to have a new roof put on, or the old one thoroughly repaired, as the temporary repairs rendered necessary by leakage, will soon amount to more than enough to pay for a good and thoroughly tight roof.—Your Committee are also of opinion that under the Act in question, the Treasurer under the supervision of the Governor, is authorized to make such necessary and essential fixtures in connection with the public grounds, as may be deemed expedient and essential to the accommodation and convenience of the Legislature and State officers who are required to have offices in the Capitol.

6. Your Committee are also of opinion that the Librarian should be required to make out and have printed in alphabetical order a list of all books, charts, &c., of every kind in the State Library, and be required from year to year to amend the same and report each additional catalogue to each and every Session of the Legislature, having such additional catalogue likewise printed.

7. Your Committee are also of opinion that the room occupied by the Supreme Court should be kept expressly for the use of said Court and for the Supreme Court Library, and that the Clerk of said Court should also occupy the room heretofore occupied by him contiguous thereto, inasmuch as said Court is for the entire State, and it behooves the State at large to supply rooms for the said Court, and Library, and Clerk, but your Committee are of opinion that other Judicial officers of the individual Circuits of the State are not entitled to rooms in the Capitol, but that the several Court-houses of the different counties should supply such deficiency.

Your Committee submit the following communications from the Treasurer and Librarian, and report the following bill, and recommend its passage.

All of which is respectfully submitted, &c.,

J. McROBERT BAKER,
Chm'n Senate Committee.
F. C. BARRETT,
Chm'n House Committee.

A bill to be entitled an Act to amend an Act as to preservation of Public property, approved January 15th, 1859.

SECTION 1st. *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Florida in General Assembly convened,* That the Librarian of this State, be and he is hereby required to have both the rooms in the South end of the Capitol, adjoining the Senate Chamber, fitted up as Library-rooms and the entire State Library, except the Library of the Supreme Court, kept therein.

SEC. 2. The Supreme Court Library shall be kept in the Supreme Court room, under such order and direction as said Court may make as to the same.

SEC. 3. The Librarian is hereby required to make out and have printed 100 copies of Catalogues, arranged in alphabetical order of all books, reports, maps, charts, &c., of every kind in the State Library, and shall have additional yearly catalogues arranged in the same manner, of the additions to said Library printed yearly, and he shall make report of the same, and of the condition and increase of said Library to each and every Session of the General Assembly.

SEC. 4. The said Librarian is hereby authorized to adopt such rules and regulations for the keeping, and retention, and preservation of the State Library as may be necessary and expedient, and that the Books, Reports, &c., aforesaid, shall be kept in said Library Rooms, and shall not be taken therefrom except by resolution of the Houses of the Legislature respectively, during their Session.

SEC. 5. That the Treasurer of this State is hereby authorized under the supervision of the Governor, to have the roof of the Capitol thoroughly repaired, or if necessary a new and tight roof put on the same, and generally to repair or add such additional fixtures or appurtenances to the Capitol as may be actually necessary and essential to the preservation of the same, and the convenience of the members of the Legislature and those officers of the State who are required to keep their offices in the Capitol.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted,* That all laws and part of laws inconsistent herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

TREASURY OFFICE,
TALLAHASSEE, Dec. 6th, 1859. }

HONS. J. McR. BAKER and F. C. BARRETT,

Chairmen, &c. :

Gentlemen :—Agreeable to your request I respectfully submit some matters to your consideration relative to the public property :
The roof to the Capitol building is not in good condition ; the best master workmen here have worked on it in making repairs from time to time, but have failed to make it waterproof ; they state that the difficulty is from the manner in which the slate is put on ; that not sufficient lap was allowed to them, nor to the zinc at the upper part of the valleys ; the consequence is the water penetrates under the slates and overflows the valleys, keeping the walls and upper timbers in a wet and injurious condition. Either a new roof will be required or extensive repairs on the present one.

The only two vacant rooms in the basement were rented out soon after the passage of the law, at \$100 per annum each, and two others on the same floor were prepared for Committee Rooms.

The provision of a sufficient supply of water for the emergency of fire, is not as it might be ; there are two large cisterns, which are regularly cleansed twice a year ; the water being superior to that of the wells of the city, is so extensively used as to prevent keeping a sufficient supply for the purpose referred to. Either two additional cisterns will be necessary, or the citizens circumscribed in the use of the water by closing one cistern from public use. I have made the necessary inquiries, and find a small portable Engine with necessary hose and fire buckets can be had at moderate expense, and think they should be obtained for the use of the building without delay.

I am respectfully yours,

C. H. AUSTIN, Treasurer.

To the Chairmen of the Joint Committee, of the Senate and House of Representatives, "To inquire and report as to the present situation and condition of the State Library, and how far the Act as to public property, approved January 15th, 1859, has been complied with" :

Sirs :—The undersigned, State Librarian, would respectfully state how far he has been able to comply with the act of the General Assembly, approved January 15th, 1859; and the reasons preventing his fully fitting up the rooms set aside for the State Library. The room on the right hand as you enter the Senate Chamber has been

shelved and carpeted in the best manner that could be, in which most of the books belonging to the State and under the control of the Librarian are placed and being catalogued in the manner prescribed by said Act. The room opposite to the one at present shelved and fitted up, is now used to keep the pamphlet Journals, Acts and other documents published by authority of the General Assembly. This necessity has arisen from the Treasurer's selecting for the use of the committees the room heretofore used for keeping and putting up for distribution, the documents used in exchanges with other States, and the officers throughout the State. So soon as the General Assembly may set aside a room in the basement of the Capitol in which the pamphlet Journals, &c., may be retained and used as a work-room, the law in every respect can and will be complied with by

Yours respectfully,
 F. L. VILLEPIGUE,
 Secretary of State and
 Ex-Officio Librarian.

Which was received and read.

Mr. Dell moved that the whole matter be referred back to the committee with instructions that they report to this body the number of the different volumes that the Secretary has received since he has been in office, and give to this body a catalogue of all the volumes he has received and what is now on hand.

Mr. Call moved to amend the motion.

The Chair decided that the amendment was out of order, unless reduced to writing.

Mr. Call appealed from the decision of the Chair;

On the question, "shall the decision of the Chair be sustained;"

The yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Baker;

Upon which the vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Baldwin, Dawkins, Dell, Eubanks, Hawes, Jones, Lamar, McCall, McQueen and Nicholson—12.

Nays—Messrs. Call and Keitt—2.

So the decision of the Chair was sustained.

On motion, the Senate took a recess until half-past three o'clock, P. M.

HALF-PAST THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Senate resumed its session:

No quorum present.

On motion of Mr. Baldwin, the Senate adjourned until Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, December 12th, 1859.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

A quorum not present.

On motion of Mr. Baker, the Sergeant-at-Arms was sent for the absentees;

Pending which a quorum appeared.

Rev. Dr. DuBose officiated as Chaplain.

On motion of Mr. Keitt, the reading of Saturday's Journal was dispensed with, and the Journal approved.

Notice was given of intention to introduce, at some future day, the following bills:

By Mr. Epes;

A bill to be entitled an Act to incorporate the Apalachicola and New Orleans Steam Navigation Company; and

A bill to be entitled an Act to incorporate the Apalachicola and Columbus Steamboat Company.

The rules being waived, Mr. Lamar moved, that the bill to be entitled an Act to amend an Act to permit free persons of African descent to choose their own masters and become slaves, approved January 15, 1859, be placed first among the orders;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Keitt offered the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Florida in General Assembly convened, That in view of the threatening conflict now going on between the North and the South, Florida is ready to protect and defend her own institutions; ready with all the resources at her own command to aid such of the slave-holding States as may need her services; ready to act in concert with the Southern States, or with such of them as may desire present action in defence of their common institutions, and ready to send delegates to a Southern Convention for the purpose of establishing a Southern Confederacy upon the election of a Black Republican President of the United States;

Which motion was adopted, and on motion of Mr. Lamar, was referred to the Joint select Committee on Federal Relations.

The rules being waived, Mr. Call introduced without previous notice,

A bill to be entitled an Act to prevent fraudulent settlements on married women; and

A bill to be entitled an Act to add an additional section to the Constitution of this State, to be numbered Section — of Article 16;

Which were placed among the orders of the day.

The rules being waived,

Mr. Nicholson moved to amend the report of the Committee on