

Assembly concurrent resolution inviting his Excellency the Governor to address the members of the Senate and Assembly on the question of Finance and Taxation, in the Assembly Hall, at 8 o'clock this evening.

Very Respectfully,

WM. FORSYTH BYNUM,
Clerk of the Assembly.

Which was read.

Mr. Purman moved that the accompanying resolution be adopted.

Mr. McCaskill moved that the resolution be laid upon the table;

Which was not agreed to.

On motion, the resolution was then adopted.

The following communication was received:

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, }
June 10th, 1869. }

To the President of the Senate,
and Senators of the State of Florida:

GENTLEMEN—You are respectfully invited to attend the ceremonies of dedicating the new School House in the city of Tallahassee, to Free School purposes, on Saturday next. The procession will leave the Capitol precisely at 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Very Respectfully,

C. H. EDWARDS,
Ch'n Board of Pub. Inst'n, Leon County.

On motion of Mr. Hillyer, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, 10 o'clock, A. M.

SATURDAY, June 12th, 1869.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The Lieutenant-Governor in the chair.

A quorum present.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the reading of the journal of yesterday was dispensed with.

Mr. Meacham moved that Robert Braden be appointed Page to the Senate.

Mr. McCaskill moved that the motion be laid upon the table.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Hillyer,

Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, Vaughan, Weeks and Wentworth—14.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Smith, Underwood and Walls—7.

So the motion was laid upon the table.

The Committee on Constitutional Amendments to whom was referred Assembly joint resolution to ratify an amendment to the Constitution of the United States known as Article XV, made the following report:

The undersigned, members of your Committee to whom has been referred Assembly joint resolution to ratify an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, known as Article XV, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the same and recommend its passage:

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ROBERT MEACHAM, Ch'n.
J. N. KRIMMINGER,
J. T. WALLS.

Which was read.

Mr. Kendrick from the same committee made the following minority report:

The undersigned, members of the committee to whom was referred the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to be called article 15, not being able to concur in the views expressed in the report of the majority of the committee, respectfully submit the following minority

REPORT:

The history of the formation of this government clearly establishes certain facts, which may properly be considered in connection with the proposed amendment. The successful result of the revolution left the several colonies who had undertaken the war in defence of civil liberty, separate and independent States, possessed of all the attributes of sovereignty. These States, as independent nationalities, for their mutual protection, united as equals, and formed a government called the United States.

The Constitution furnishes the evidence of the terms upon which that government was formed.

All the powers granted which that government can rightfully exercise are to be found in that instrument; all others are reserved to the States themselves. The grant of power now sought to be obtained by the proposed amendment, it will be conceded, was one of those reserved powers.

The power regulating the right of suffrage as a part of the reserved sovereignty of the States, affecting, as it does, the organization of the State itself, prescribing its relation to its own

citizens, was wisely withheld from the general government. By this power alone can it safely control the choice of its own law-makers and officers. The proper regulation of the right of suffrage constitutes the very essence—the true foundation of a State and the Republic.

Our Constitution now excludes States, singly and collectively, from in any manner interfering with the rights and liberties of other States in regulating their internal police or prescribing the qualifications necessary to constitute citizenship under its laws. The Constitution was adopted by the voluntary act of the States. There was no coercion, no majority rule affected such States not voluntarily accepting and ratifying it, and no one, even at this day, it would seem, could doubt, that had the Constitution contained the principles declared in the proposed amendment, so jealous were the people of the reserved rights of the States, that it would not have been adopted by a solitary State.

Our ancestors were jealous of the centralization of extraordinary power in the general government. The proposed amendment is a direct step towards centralization, and a virtual overthrow of Representative Republican Government in the States. It was never contemplated that, through the forms prescribed for amendments to the Constitution, the government itself, and the principles upon which it was based, should be subverted and entirely changed. Believing, therefore, that the powers sought to be obtained by the general government by this amendment inconsistent with the true intent, meaning and spirit of the Constitution, and unjust to a minority of the States, to be required by a majority of the States to render to them the exercise of a right so essential to their very existence, and which is not now nor would they at any time have voluntarily conceded, because an unjust, unwarrantable and arbitrary interference with the reserved rights of States.

We respectfully recommend that said resolution be not adopted.

W. A. KENDRICK,
J. A. ATKINS.

Which was read.

Mr. Wentworth moved that the majority report of said committee be adopted.

Mr. Henderson moved that the motion be laid upon the table.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, Underwood and Weeks—10.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Hillyer, Katzenberg, Krim-

mingier, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Vaughan, Walls and Wentworth—12.

So the motion to lie on the table was lost.

Mr. Smith moved that pending the consideration of the resolution, no dilatory motion be entertained.

Mr. Henderson moved that the motion be laid upon the table.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, Underwood and Weeks—12.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Hillyer, Katzenberg, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Vaughan, Walls and Wentworth—11
So the motion was laid upon the table.

Upon the question shall the majority report of the Committee on Constitutional Amendment be adopted,

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Hillyer, Katzenberg, Krimminger, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Vaughan, Walls and Wentworth—12.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson and Weeks—9.

So the majority report of said Committee was adopted.

On motion the rule was waived and the resolution read the second time.

Mr. Wentworth moved that the rules be suspended and that the resolution be read the third time.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Hillyer, Katzenberg, Krimminger, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Smithson, Underwood, Vaughan, Walls and Wentworth—14.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, Moragne, McCaskill and Weeks—8.

So the Senate refused to suspend the rules.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Senate bill No. 3—entitled an act for the assessment and collection of revenue, came up on its second reading.

Mr. Smithson moved to amend section 3 of the bill by inserting in the 5th line after the word "mortgage," the words "where real or personal property is not given in for the same;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Purman moved to strike out all of section 10 down to line 8, so that the section will commence with the words "all property, &c.;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Wentworth moved to amend section 12 by striking out in 2d line, the words "one hundred" and inserting the word "fifty;" strike out in line 3d the word "fifty" and insert the words "twenty-five;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Krimminger moved to amend section 12 by striking out, in line 14, the word "three," and insert the word "ten;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Wentworth moved to amend section 12 by inserting in line 17, after the words "bowling alley," the words "keno table \$500;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Henderson moved to amend section 12 by inserting, after the word "liquors," in line 18, the words "in quantities less than one quart;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Wentworth moved to amend section 12 by striking out, in line 18, after the word "license," the word "one," and insert the word "two;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Hillyer moved to amend section 12 by adding in line 18, after the word "dollars," the words "in quantities of one quart or more \$100;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Smith moved to amend section 12 by adding, after the word "sold," in line 19, the words "except licensed druggists and apothecaries upon a recommendation of a regular physician;"

Which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Henderson, the Senate took a recess till 3 o'clock, P. M.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Senate resumed its session.

The President announced there was no quorum.

Mr. Wentworth moved a call of the Senate.

The following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Hillyer, Krimminger, McCaskill, Underwood and Wentworth—5.

On motion, the Sergeant-at-Arms was dispatched after the absent members.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the further call of the Senate was dispensed with.

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

MONDAY, June 14th, 1869.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The Lieutenant-Governor in the Chair.

A quorum present.

On motion of Mr. Katzenberg, the reading of the journal of Saturday was dispensed with.

Mr. Crawford offered the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate, the Assembly concurring, That the Legislature of the State of Florida do adjourn on Thursday, the 17th instant, at 12 o'clock, M., to meet on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January, 1870.

Which was received.

Mr. McCaskill moved that the rule be waived and the resolution read the second and third times by its title;

Which was not agreed to.

The resolution was then placed among the orders of the day.

The following message was received from the Assembly:

ASSEMBLY HALL,
Tallahassee, Fla., June 13, 1869. }

HON. WILLIAM H. GLEASON,

President of the Senate:

SIR—I am directed by the Assembly to inform the Senate that the Assembly has passed—

Senate Bill No. 1.—To be entitled an act to regulate Quarantine, with amendments, and respectfully ask the concurrence of the Senate thereto.

Very respectfully,

WM. FORSYTH BYNUM,

Clerk of the Assembly.

Which was read, and the accompanying bill as amended placed among the orders of the day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Assembly joint resolution to ratify an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, known as Article XV, was read the third time and put upon its passage:

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Hillyer, Katzenberg, Krimminger, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Underwood, Vaughan, Walls and Wentworth—13.