

Senate Bill No. 10, to Authorize Attorneys to Administer Oaths,

Was taken up on its second reading and, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

Senate Bill No. 25 :

To be entitled An act Defining the Duties of County Commissioners,

Was taken up on its second reading.

Mr. Wentworth moved that the bill be printed and made the special order for half-past ten o'clock to-morrow ;

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Henderson, introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution, Memorializing Congress for an Increase of Mail Service on the Route from Tampa to Cedar Keys via Manatee County ;

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins Billings, Crawford, Eagan, Ginn, Henderson, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Johnson, Locke, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Purman, and Wentworth—19.

Mr. Wentworth, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 35, to be entitled an act to amend An act to Incorporate the Pensacola and Louisville Railroad, approved July 16, 1868 ;

Which was read first time by title, under suspension of rule, and referred to Committee on Railroads and Telegraphs.

Assembly Joint Resolution, Proposing Amendments to the Constitution,

Was taken up.

Mr. Wentworth moved that the proposed amendments be printed ;

Which was agreed to.

Mr. McCaskill moved that the resolution be made the special order for to-morrow afternoon at half-past three o'clock.

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

### WEDNESDAY, January 17.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The President in the chair.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

The roll was called, and the following Senators answered to their names :

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Crawford, Eagan, Ginn, Hillyer, Jenkins, Johnson, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Purman, Sutton, Weeks and Wentworth—16.

A quorum present.

On motion, the reading of the journal was dispensed with, and the journal corrected and approved.

Mr. McCaskill, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 36, to be entitled an act to repeal An act to Equalize Taxation;

Which was read first time, and referred to Committee on Finance and Taxation.

Mr. Wentworth, chairman Committee on Engrossed Bills, made the following report:

SENATE CHAMBER,  
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 17, 1872.

To the President of the Senate:

SIR: Your committee, to whom has been referred the following bills, viz.:

Senate Bill No. 6:

Entitled An act to Incorporate the Fernandina and Sea Beach Railway Company;

Senate Bill No. 3:

Entitled an act to amend section 130 of An act of Practice and Pleadings;

Senate Bill No. 24:

Entitled An act in Relation to Drugs and Medicine, Druggists and Apothecaries in Incorporated Cities and Towns in this State, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the same, and find them correctly engrossed.

GEO. E. WENTWORTH,  
Chairman on Engrossed Bills.

Which was read, and the accompanying engrossed bills placed among the orders of the day for their third reading.

Senate Bill No. 8:

To be entitled An act Authorizing Julius C. Rockner to Build a Toll Bridge Across Pease Creek,

Was taken up on its third reading, read at large, and put upon its passage.

On the question, Shall the bill pass?

The yeas and nays were called, with the following result:

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Dennis, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Johnson, Kendrick, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Purman, Weeks and Wentworth—17.

Those voting in the negative were—

Messrs. Crawford, Eagan, Ginn and Locke—4.

So the bill passed, title as stated, and the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

The following message was received from the Assembly:

## ASSEMBLY HALL,

Tallahassee, Fla., January 17, 1872.

HON. SAMUEL T. DAY, President of the Senate :

SIR: I am directed by the Assembly to inform your honorable body that the Assembly has passed,  
 Assembly Bill No. 27.

A bill to be entitled An act to Require County Treasurers to Keep Accurate Accounts of Public Moneys and to Exhibit their Books and Copies thereof Annually to the Boards of County Commissioners and to Grand Juries ;

Assembly Bill No. 22 :

To be entitled An act to Amend Chapter 1766, of the Session Laws of A. D., 1870, and to Repeal Chapter 1767 of the Session Laws of A. D. 1870 ;

Assembly Bill No. 33 :

To be entitled An act to Name the Corporation now Owning the Road called the Florida Railroad, and to call it the Atlantic, and Gulf, and West India Transit Company ;

Also :

Memorial to the Postmaster-General, to Establish Mail Service from Hawkinsville to Sumterville ;

Also :

Memorial to the Postmaster-General requesting the Re-establishment of Mail Service from St. Augustine to St. Lucie.

Very respectfully,

M. H. CLAY,  
 Clerk of the Assembly.

Mr. Purman moved that the Hon. D. L. Yulee be invited to a seat within the bar at all times ;

Which was agreed to.

Assembly Bill No. 33, to be entitled An act to Name the Corporation now Owning the Road called the Florida Railroad, and to call it the Atlantic, Gulf, and West India Transit Company,

Was read first time by title, under suspension of rules.

The rules were further suspended, and the bill read second time by sections.

The rules were further suspended, and the bill read third time, and put upon its passage.

On the question, Shall the bill pass ?

The yeas and nays were called, with the following result :

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Dennis, Egan, Ginn, Henderson, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Johnson, Kendrick, Locke, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Purman, Weeks, and Wentworth—22.

So the bill passed, title as stated, and the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 25, Defining the Duties of County Commissioners, the special order for half-past ten o'clock,

Was taken up on its second reading.

Mr. Henderson offered the following amendment:

In line 7, section 2, strike out all after "county," and insert "whenever the same shall be deemed necessary or expedient;"

Which was adopted.

Mr. Dennis moved to amend section 1 by writing in first line, after the word "shall" the words "hold at least one meeting each month for the transaction of business, and shall have power."

On motion, the amendment was laid on the table.

Mr. Henderson moved to strike out in lines 25, 26, and 27, all after the word "purposes;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Hillyer moved to amend by striking out the words "and school" in line 24.

Mr. Dennis moved to lay the amendment on the table.

The yeas and nays were called for, with the following result:

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Dennis, Ginn, Henderson, Hill, Jenkins, Kendrick, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Weeks, Wentworth, and Sutton—14.

Those voting in the negative were—

Messrs. Eagan, Hillyer, Johnson, Locke, Meacham, Pearce, and Purman—7.

So the amendment was laid on the table.

Mr. Wentworth offered the following amendment:

That the pay of County Commissioners shall in no case be more than \$2 per day, and that at least one meeting shall be held each month; *Provided*, That the pay and mileage shall not exceed \$25 in any one year for each member of the Board of County Commissioners;

Which was, on motion, adopted.

Mr. Henderson offered the following amendment:

To establish precincts in the counties at such places as shall be most conducive to a full and fair vote of their counties. Which shall be at least one precinct to every such area in their respective counties as shall be included in a circle with a radius of twenty miles.

Mr. Locke moved to strike out the last clause of the amendment.

A message was received from the Governor.

Mr. Locke withdrew his amendment, and moved to lay Mr. Henderson's amendment on the table.

The yeas and nays were called, with the following result:

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Billings, Dennis, Eagan, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Johnson, Locke, Meacham, Pearce, Purman and Wentworth—12.

Those voting in the negative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Sutton and Weeks—11.

So the amendment was laid on the table.

Mr. Henderson offered the following amendment:

Insert in line 25, after the words "general purposes," the words which shall include licenses or taxes on trades or occupations not exceeding at any time the amount of the State licenses or taxes on such trades or occupations;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Hillyer offered the following amendment:

Strike out the proviso in line 22 and insert—

*Provided*, That a majority of voters at an election held for that purpose shall so determine.

The yeas and nays were called on its adoption, with the following result:

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Billings, Hillyer, Meacham, Pearce, Purman and Wentworth—6.

Those voting in the negative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Crawford, Dennis, Eagan, Ginn, Henderson, Hill, Jenkins, Johnson, Kendrick, Locke, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Sutton and Weeks—17.

So the amendment was not adopted.

Mr. Wentworth moved to amend the title of the bill by inserting the words "and fixing the pay" after the word "duties;"

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Meacham offered the following amendment:

Sec. 2. All laws and parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed;

Which was adopted.

On motion, the bill was recommitted to the Committee on Judiciary.

The chairman announced a communication from the Governor, which was, on motion, read:

The following message from the Governor was sent in to the Legislature on Wednesday:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

Tallahassee, Fla., January 16, 1872.

Hon. SAMUEL T. DAY, President of the Senate:

Sir: I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of the

Legislature, the accompanying proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State :

It is of the first consequence to the credit and prosperity of the State that a well-defined limit be placed upon the authority of the Legislature to extend the bonded debt.

The bonds already authorized for State purposes are sufficient for all exigencies, save, possibly, a future issue for public institutions and temporary emergencies, which should be limited to \$100,000. These are \$500,000 six per cents. and \$350,000 seven per cents. About \$600,000 of these remain to be finally disposed of in discharge of the old indebtedness of the State, which I deem sufficient if the Legislature at its present session shall provide, as I am confident it will, a proper system of revenue.

The prohibition of a further extension of the bonded debt may involve the necessity for a year or two of retaining the non-interest-bearing certificates, known as "greenback scrip," and I would recommend that at least two hundred thousand of that be retained. Our bonded debt for State purposes could then never exceed \$950,000.

The bonds for railroad purposes would be restricted to the trunk lines provided for in the original system constituting the "public works" of the State, as contemplated in Article XII. of the Constitution, and the issue could not exceed ten millions. The security held by the State would then always be convertible to the full amount of the bonds, in the event of failure of the companies to pay the annual interest, which would not be the case if they were extended to other lines indefinitely.

With such an amendment the bonds of Florida would be at par, and its adoption by the present Legislature would show an earnest of purpose which would command immediate financial confidence and respect. I earnestly recommend its adoption.

Very respectfully,

HARRISON REED, Governor.

#### PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

The Legislature shall have no power to provide for issuing any bonds of the State other than those authorized by law, prior to 1st of Jan., 1872, for securing the existing indebtedness of the State, and for aiding in the completion of the trunk lines of railroad from Jacksonville to Pensacola and St. Andrew's Bay, and from Fernandina to Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay, except for the erection of State buildings, support of State institutions, suppression of insurrection, or to meet casual deficits or failures in revenue; for which excepted purposes the total amount of liability upon outstanding bonds shall never exceed one hundred thousand dollars.

The whole amount of bonds issued in aid of either of the two lines of railway, shall not exceed sixteen thousand dollars for each mile of actually constructed road, and the first mortgage bonds of the companies, in equal amounts, required by the existing laws to be delivered to the State in exchange for the bonds of the State, shall be held and used by the State, exclusively for the benefit of the holders of the State bonds for which they were exchanged, and for no other use or purpose than the discharge of such State bonds.

On motion of Mr. Wentworth, the communication and accompanying paper was referred to Committee on Judiciary.

On motion, the Senate went into Executive Session.

The doors were opened, and, on motion, the Senate took a recess till 3 o'clock p. m.

### THREE O'CLOCK P. M.

The Senate resumed its session.

The President in the chair.

The roll was called, and the following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Eagan, Ginn, Henderson, Johnson, Locke, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Sutton and Wentworth—15.

A quorum present.

Mr. Billings, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 37, to be entitled An act to Incorporate the Little St. Mary's Canal and Land Company of Nassau County, Florida;

Which was read first time by title, under suspension of rules, and referred to Committee on Corporations.

Assembly Bill No. 22, to be entitled An act to Amend Chapter 1766 of the Session Laws of A. D. 1870, and Repeal Chapter 1767 of the Session Laws of A. D. 1870,

Was read first time by title, under suspension of rules, and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 4, adopting report of Committee on Equalization,

Was read, and, on motion, postponed till to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Assembly Memorial for the Re-establishment of Mail Service from St. Augustine to St. Lucie,

Was read and adopted by the following vote:

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Dennis, Eagan, Henderson, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Johnson, Locke, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Purman, Sutton and Wentworth—19.

And the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

Assembly Bill No. 27:

To be entitled An act to Require County Treasurers to Keep Accurate Accounts of Public Moneys, and to Exhibit their Books and Copies thereof annually to the Board of County Commissioners and to Grand Juries,

Was read first time by title, under suspension of rules, and referred to Committee on Finance and Taxation.

Assembly Memorial for Establishment of a Mail Route from Hawkinsville to Sumterville,

Was read and adopted by the following vote:

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Dennis, Ginn, Henderson, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Johnson, Locke, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Purman, Sutton and Wentworth—19.

And the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

Mr. Wentworth, chairman Committee on Engrossed Bill made the following report:

SENATE CHAMBER,

Tallahassee, Fla., January 16, 1872.

To the President of the Senate:

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred the following bill, viz.:

A bill to be entitled An act to Protect Cattle Owners, and more Fully Secure a Record of Marks and Brands, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the same, and find them correctly engrossed.

Very respectfully,

GEO. E. WENTWORTH,

Chairman Committee on Engrossed Bills.

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

Mr. Wentworth, chairman Committee on Railroads and Telegraphs, made the following report:

SENATE CHAMBER,

Tallahassee, Fla., January 16 1872.

Hon. SAMUEL T. DAY, President of the Senate:

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bill No.

38, entitled an act to amend an act entitled An act to Incorporate the Pensacola and Louisville Railroad, approved July 16, 1868, having examined the same, recommend that it do pass.

Very respectfully,

GEO. E. WENTWORTH, Chairman,  
D. EAGAN,  
HORATIO JENKINS,  
W. J. PURMAN.

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

Mr. Meacham, chairman Committee on Public Lands, made the following report :

SENATE CHAMBER,  
Tallahassee, Fla., January 17, 1872.

HON. SAMUEL T. DAY, President of the Senate :

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bill No. 28, entitled An act to Secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Swamp and Overflowed Lands of Florida, ask leave to report that they, having examined the same, recommend that it do pass.

Very respectfully,

ROBERT MEACHAM, Chairman,  
W. J. PURMAN.

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

Mr. Hillyer, chairman of Committee on City and County Organizations, read the following report :

SENATE CHAMBER,  
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 17, 1872.

HON. SAMUEL T. DAY, President of the Senate :

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bill No. 27, An act to Define the Boundary Line Between the Counties of Bradford and Clay, having examined the same, recommend that it do pass.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES V. HILLYER, Chairman,  
W. H. KENDRICK,  
J. H. SUTTON,  
E. G. JOHNSON.

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

A message was received from the Governor.

Senate Bill No. 35 :

To be entitled an act to amend An act Incorporating the Pen-

sacola & Louisville Railroad Company, approved July 16, 1868,

Was taken up on its second reading.

Mr. Henderson moved to strike out section 17 ;

Which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Wentworth, the further consideration of the bill was laid over till to-morrow.

Senate Bill No. 28 :

To be entitled An act to Secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Swamp and Overflowed Lands of the State of Florida, Was taken up on its second reading.

Mr. McCaskill moved that the bill be printed, and postponed till to-morrow ;

Which was agreed to.

The special order for the afternoon, viz : Senate Joint Resolution No. 3, Proposing Amendments to the Constitution, was taken up on its second reading.

Mr. Furman moved to strike out the first, second, and third lines of Article 4.

Mr. Henderson moved to lay the motion on the table,

The yeas and nays were called, with the following result :

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Hill, Jenkins, Johnson, Locke, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Sutton, and Wentworth—16.

So the motion was laid on the table.

Mr. Furman moved to strike out Article 4.

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

Which was agreed to.

The Joint Resolution was ordered engrossed for its third reading to-morrow.

Senate Bill No. 27, to be entitled An act to Alter and Define the Boundary Line between the Counties of Bradford and Clay,

Was read second time by sections and ordered engrossed.

On motion, the Senate went into Executive Session.

The Senate confirmed the following Executive appointment : Charles Beecher to be Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The doors were opened, and, on motion, the Senate adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

#### THURSDAY, January 18.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Locke in the chair.

Prayer by the chaplain.

The roll was called, and the following Senators answered to their names :