

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

Senate Bill No. 26 :

To be entitled An act for the Relief of Wm. B. Blount,
Was taken up on its second reading, and read by sections.

On motion, the bill was laid on the table.

Senate Bill No. 34 :

To be entitled an act to amend An act Relating to Jurors, approved August 1, 1867,

Was taken up on its third reading, and the bill returned to its second reading without objection.

Mr. Purman offered the following :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the president to proceed to the office of the Secretary of State, and investigate the number of and class of commissions issued by that officer since the inauguration of the State Government under the present Constitution, and to proceed to the office of the Treasurer of the State, and investigate therein how far the act entitled An act to Raise Additional Revenue of the State, approved August 5, 1868, has been complied with or violated by the officers therein designated, and to make a full report of the result of such investigation to this body, together with such remedy as may be applicable to the case ;

Which was, on motion, laid on the table.

On motion, the Senate went into Executive session.

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

MONDAY, January 22.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Senator McCaskill in the chair.

Prayer by the chaplain.

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

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Ginn, Jenkins, Kendrick, Locke, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Weeks and Wentworth—14.

A quorum present.

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

Mr. Weeks introduced a memorial to the Postmaster General United States for the establishment of a mail route ;

Which was read, and the yeas and nays called on its adoption, with the following result :

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Ginn, Jenkins, Kendrick, Locke, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Weeks and Wentworth—14.

So the memorial was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

Mr. Wentworth, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 51, to be entitled an act to repeal an act entitled An act to Provide for Shipping Masters in this State, approved February 19, 1870;

Which was read first time by title, under suspension of rules, and, on motion, referred to special committee, of which Mr. Henderson is chairman.

Mr. Moragne, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 52, to be entitled an act to amend An act to Organize the Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company;

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

Mr. Locke introduced a memorial for the establishment of a mail route from Key West to Tampa;

Which was read, and the yeas and nays called for on its adoption, with the following result:

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Ginn, Hill, Jenkins, Locke, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Purman, Weeks, and Wentworth—15.

So the memorial was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

Mr. Jenkins, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 53, to be entitled An act to Provide for Calling into the Supreme Court One or More Circuit Judges to Hear and Determine Causes in Certain Cases;

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

Mr. Wentworth, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 54, to be entitled An act to Improve and Make Navigable the Yellow and Shoal Rivers and their Tributaries in Santa Rosa and Walton Counties,

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

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

SENATE CHAMBER,
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 22, 1872.

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

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bill No. 15, to be entitled An act to Organize the County of Webster; and Senate Joint Resolution No. —, Proposed Amendments to

the Constitution, having examined the same, find them correctly engrossed.

Very respectfully,

GEO. E. WENTWORTH, Chairman,
R. W. ADAMS,
N. H. MORAGNE.

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

Mr. Jenkins, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 55, to be entitled An act to Correctly Establish the Boundary Line Between St. Johns and Duval Counties;

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

Senate Bill No 34 :

Entitled an act to amend An act Relating to Jurors,

Was taken up on its second reading, and read by sections.

On motion of Mr. Moragne, the bill was amended by inserting the words, "and druggists" after the word, "physician."

Mr. Adams moved to amend by inserting, "one merchant or employee in each place of business."

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

Which was agreed to by a division.

The bill passed its second reading, and was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Kendrick introduced a memorial, praying for the establishment of certain mail routes.

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

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Dennis, Ginn, Hill, Kendrick, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Purman, Weeks and Wentworth—15.

So the memorial was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

On motion, the Senate took a recess till three o'clock p. m.

THREE O'CLOCK P. M.

The Senate resumed its session.

Senator Kendrick in the chair.

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

Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Egan, Ginn, Hill, Jenkins, Kendrick, Locke, Moragne, Pearce, Purman, Weeks and Wentworth—13.

A quorum present.

On motion of Mr. Dennis, the Senate went into executive session.

The following executive appointments were confirmed:
 Harry S. Harmon, to be clerk of Circuit Court, Alachua county.

B. C. Drake, to be assessor of taxes for Alachua county.
 The doors were opened.

A message was received from the Governor.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
 Tallahassee, Fla., January 22, 1872.

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

SIR: I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of the Legislature, a communication just received from the commandant of the Pensacola Navy Yard relating to the practice of discharging ballast from vessels visiting that port into navigable waters of that important harbor. It is intimated that the Harbor Master and Board of Pilot Commissioners are parties to this great public wrong. If this should be found true I shall take great pleasure in co-operating with the Senate in securing a more honest and faithful board. If any legislation is necessary I doubt not it will be induced by directing the attention of the two Houses to the subject.

Very respectfully, &c.,

HARRISON REED, Governor.

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE,
 Navy Yard, Pensacola, Jan. 16, 1872.

HON. HARRISON REED, Governor of Florida, Tallahassee, Fla.:

SIR: I deem it my duty to forward you a copy of a letter (enclosed) received from the Board of Aldermen of Pensacola, relative to ballast which is being continually discharged into the navigable waters of the bay by vessels frequenting this port.

I am credibly informed that the Board of Pilot Commissioners and Acting Harbor Master at Pensacola have given permits for this purpose, and believing the matter calls for immediate action or legislation it is referred for your consideration.

A report on the subject has been made to the Hon. Secretary of the Navy.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD MIDDLETON, Commodore, Commandant.

PENSACOLA, FLA., Jan. 12, 1872.

Commodore Edward Middleton, U. S. N., Commanding U. S. Navy Yard, Pensacola, Fla:

SIR: Your communication of the 5th inst., addressed to the collector of this port, and by him referred to the board of aldermen of this city, on the subject of discharging ballast into

the Bay of Pensacola by merchant vessels frequenting this port, has been earnestly considered by this board, and in reply they beg leave to state to you that the charter of this city vests them with no control or jurisdiction over this subject. This evil has for years past attracted the serious attention and elicited the earnest solicitude of the most intelligent of our citizens, and efforts have repeatedly been made by legislative enactments, and otherwise, to check an evil, which, if not speedily arrested, will prove an irreparable injury to the best harbor which the Government possesses upon the Gulf of Mexico, and equal to any within the jurisdiction of the United States. Your communication speaks of the "occasional" dumping of ballast from vessels and lighters. This dumping of ballast is of daily occurrence, not one ton in one hundred being discharged, either by ships or lighters, elsewhere than in the navigable waters of the Bay, and this board entertains the impression that unless some strong preventive measures are speedily taken, that there will be deposited in this bay, during this season, no less than 50,000 tons of ballast.

As the preservation of this magnificent harbor for commercial and naval purposes must be a matter of deep interest to the Government, and all the efforts of the citizens and city authorities to this end have been hitherto unavailing, this board respectfully suggest that, as the commanding officer of this station, you will call the attention of the Navy Department, or other proper bureau, to this subject, that such immediate action may be taken as shall prevent the rapidly approaching ruin of this important harbor and naval station.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. BLOUNT,

President of Board of Aldermen of the City of Pensacola.

Which was read, and, on motion, referred to Special Committee, of which Mr. Henderson is chairman.

Mr. Purman, chairman of Committee on Judiciary, made the following report:

SENATE CHAMBER,

Tallahassee, Fla., January 22, 1872.

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

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Assembly Bill No. 18, entitled An act to Simplify the Mode and Manner of Acknowledging and Proving the Execution of Deeds of Conveyance, Releases, Mortgages, Powers of Attorney, Relinquishments, and other Instruments of Writing Relating to Real Es-

tate, and to Provide for the Recording thereof, beg leave to report that it do not pass.

Very respectfully,
W. J. PURMAN,
Chairman Judiciary Committee.

Which was read.
Also:

SENATE CHAMBER,
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 22, 1872.

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

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bills No. 18, entitled An act Relating to Acknowledgment of Deeds, and Senate Bill No. 50, entitled An act to Provide Against the Sale of Cotton and Corn After the Hour of Sunset and Before the Hour of Sunrise; and Assembly Bill No. 9, entitled an act to amend Section 6 of An act to Organize the County Courts of the Several Counties of the State, and to Prescribe the mode of Practice of Said Courts, approved August 4, 1868, and providing jurors for said courts, beg leave to report that they have examined the same, and would respectfully recommend their passage.

Very respectfully,
W. J. PURMAN,
Chairman Judiciary Committee.

Also:

SENATE CHAMBER,
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 22, 1872.

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

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Assembly Bill No. 17, entitled An act for the Adoption of Children, having examined the same, beg leave to report in favor of its adoption.

Very respectfully,
W. J. PURMAN,
Chairman Judiciary Committee.

Also:

SENATE CHAMBER,
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 22, 1872.

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

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bill No. 39, entitled an act to amend An act to Provide for the Protection of the Citizens of this State against Defaulting Corporations, having considered the same, beg leave to report that the same do not pass.

Very respectfully,
W. J. PURMAN,
Chairman Committee on Corporations.

Also:

SENATE CHAMBER,
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 22, 1872.

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

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bill No. 54, entitled An act to Improve and Make Navigable the Yellow and Shoal Rivers and their Tributaries in Santa Rosa and Walton Counties; and Assembly Bill No. 34, entitled An act to Incorporate the St. Benedict Benevolent Society of St. Augustine; and Assembly Bill No. 53, entitled An act to Incorporate the Fire Department of St. Augustine, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to report in favor of their passage.

Very respectfully,
W. J. PURMAN,
Chairman Judiciary Committee.

Which were read, and the accompanying bills placed among the orders of the day.

Mr. Wentworth moved that the special committee, of which Mr. Henderson is chairman, be made a Standing Committee on Commerce and Navigation;

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Purman, chairman Judiciary Committee, made the following report:

SENATE CHAMBER,
Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 22, 1872.

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

SIR: Your committee, to whom was referred Senate Bill No. 25, entitled An act Defining the Duties and Fixing the Pay of County Commissioners, having considered the same, beg leave to report a substitute therefor, and recommend its passage.

Very respectfully,
W. J. PURMAN,
Chairman Judiciary Committee.

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

Mr. Purman, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 56, to be entitled an act to repeal An act the Better to Procure and Secure Protection of Life, Liberty, and Property in the State of Florida, approved August 6, 1868;

Which was read first time by title, under suspension of rules.

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

Senate Bill No. 25, substitute reported from Committee on Judiciary, to be entitled An act Defining the Duties of County Commissioners,

Was taken up on second reading, and read by sections.

Mr. McCaskill, offered the following amendment to section 8 :

Provided, No board of county commissioners shall approve any bond, unless in double the amount likely at any one time to come into the hands of the officers giving bonds ;

Which was adopted, the bill passed its second reading, and was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Billings, by permission, introduced a memorial for the Establishment of a Mail Route from King's Ferry to Callahan Place.

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

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Eagan, Ginn, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Locke, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Purman, Weeks and Wentworth—17.

So the memorial was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to certify the same to the Assembly.

Also :

Senate Bill No. 57, to be entitled An act for the Protection of Singing or other Birds ;

Which was read first time by title, under suspension of rules.

The rules were further suspended, and the bill read second time by sections, and, on motion, referred to Committee on Fisheries.

Mr. Purman moved that the rules be suspended, and Senate Bill No. 56, for the repeal of An act the Better to Procure and Secure Protection to Life and Property, be put upon its third reading.

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

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Crawford, Ginn, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, Locke, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Purman, Weeks, and Wentworth—13.

Those voting in the negative were—

Messrs. Atkins, Billings, Eagan, and Pearce—4.

So the motion was agreed to by a two-thirds vote.

And the bill was read third time and put upon its passage.

Upon the question, Shall the bill pass ?

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

Those voting in the affirmative were—

Messrs. Adams, Atkins, Billings, Crawford, Dennis, Ginn, Hill, Hillyer, Jenkins, McKinnon, Moragne, McCaskill, Purman, Weeks, and Wentworth—15.

Those voting in the negative were—

Messrs. Eagan, Kendrick, and Pearce—3.

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

Mr. Jenkins, by permission, introduced Senate Bill No. 58, to be entitled An act to Define the Duties of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration;

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

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

TUESDAY, January 23, 1872.

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, Billings, Crawford, Dennis, Ginn, Hill, Hillyer, Johnson, Kendrick, Locke, McKinnon, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Sutton, and Weeks—18.

A quorum present.

The reading of the journal was, on motion, dispensed with, and the journal approved.

Assembly Bill No. 9, to be entitled An act to amend section 6, of An act to Organize the County Courts of the Several Counties of the State and to Prescribe the Mode of Practice of said Courts, approved Aug. 4, 1868, and Providing Jurors for said Courts,

Was taken up on its second reading, read by sections, and ordered engrossed.

Assembly Bill No. 17, to be entitled An act for the Adoption of Children,

Was taken up on its second reading, but on motion of Mr. McCaskill, was laid over till to-morrow.

The following messages were received from the Assembly:

ASSEMBLY HALL,

Tallahassee, Fla., January 23, 1872.

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

SIR: I am directed to return to your honorable body Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 4, adopting report of Committee on Equalization, together with a copy of said report.

Very respectfully,

M. H. CLAY,
Clerk of the Assembly.