

RULE 3. All information or remarks concerning the character or qualifications, or the vote upon the confirmation of any person nominated by the Governor to office, shall be kept a secret; but the fact that a nomination has been made shall not be regarded as a secret after the time has expired when a motion to reconsider may be made, and it shall be considered a breach of privilege for any Senator to break this rule.

RULE 4. When acting on Executive business, the Chamber shall be cleared of all persons except the Secretary of the Senate, who shall be sworn to keep the secrets of the Senate.

RULE 5. The Legislative proceedings and the Executive proceedings of the Senate shall be kept in separate books.

RULE 6. Nominations approved or definitely acted upon by the Senate, shall not be returned by the Secretary of the Senate to the Governor until the expiration of the time limited for making a motion to reconsider the same, or while a motion to reconsider is pending, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate.

RULE 7. No transcript of the Executive record shall be furnished unless by special order of the Senate.

RULE 8. All confidential communications made by the Governor shall be by the members and officers of the Senate kept secret.

#### JOINT RULES.

While bills are on their passage between the two houses, they shall be on paper and under signature of the Secretary or Clerk of each house respectively.

After a bill shall have passed both houses, it shall be duly enrolled on parchment by the Clerk of the Assembly or Secretary of the Senate, as the bill may have originated in the one or the other house, before it shall be presented to the Governor of the State.

When bills are enrolled they shall be examined by a joint committee of two from the Senate and two from the Assembly, appointed as a standing committee for that purpose, who shall carefully compare the enrollment with the engrossed bills as passed in the two houses, and, correcting any errors that may be discovered in the enrolled bills, make their report forthwith to their respective houses.

After examination and report, each bill shall be signed in the respective houses, first by the Speaker of the Assembly, then by the President of the Senate.

After a bill shall have been thus signed in each house, it shall be presented by the said committee to the Governor of the State for his approbation, it being first endorsed on the back of

the roll; certifying in which house the same originated, which indorsement shall be signed by the Secretary or Clerk, as the case may be, of the house in which it did originate, and shall be entered on the journal of each house. The said committee shall report the day of presentation to the Governor, which time shall also be carefully entered on the journal of each house.

All orders, resolutions and votes which are to be presented to the Governor of the State for his approbation, shall also in the same manner be previously enrolled, examined and signed, and shall be presented in the same manner and by the same committee as provided in cases of bills.

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THURSDAY, January 8, 1885.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.  
The President in the Chair.

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

Messrs. Baker, Bryson, Burnam, Chandler, Cole, Cooper, Cottrell, Crill, Delano, Gaskins, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Martin, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Phillips, Proctor, Roberts, Sammis, Sheppard, Speer, Stripling, Whidden, Williams—32.

A quorum present.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

#### READING OF THE JOURNAL.

On motion of Mr. Bryan the reading of the Journal was dispensed with.

The Journal was then corrected and approved.  
Mr. Stripling offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, At the election held on the 4th day of November last it was decided by a majority of all the votes cast to call a Convention to revise the Constitution; and whereas, it is highly probable that an extra session of the Legislature will be necessary to legislate upon matters growing out of the revision of the Constitution; therefore, be it

Resolved, the Assembly concurring, That the Legislature adjourn *sine die* on Saturday, the 24th instant, at 12 o'clock M.

Ordered to lie over under the rules.

Mr. Mann offered the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, The people of Florida, at the last general election, did decide upon a revision of the Constitution by Convention, which renders uncertain the effect and value of the acts of this Legislature, and creates a heavy expense to be met by increased taxation, and leads to the belief that it will be necessary to call an extra session should the new Constitution be adopted; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the limit to this session shall be fixed at thirty days.

*Resolved*, That the introduction of bills shall not be permitted after the first fifteen days of this session, except upon a vote of two-thirds of this body.

*Resolved*, That night sessions shall begin after the first fifteen days fixed for the introduction of new matter, and continue during the session, except discontinued by a two-thirds vote.

The President of the Senate announced the following Standing Committees:

*On Judiciary:*

Mr. MALLORY, Chairman.

Messrs. MCKINNE, BRYSON,  
COOPER, STRIPLING.

*On Education:*

Mr. CRILL, Chairman.

Messrs. ORMAN, MCKINNE,  
ROBERTS, BAKER.

*On Finance and Taxation:*

Mr. CRILL, Chairman.

Messrs. GASKINS, HANKINS,  
MCKINNE, STRIPLING.

*On Claims:*

Mr. SPEER, Chairman.

Messrs. LESLEY, BURNAM,  
GASKINS, CHANDLER.

*On State Boundaries:*

Mr. NEAL, Chairman.

Messrs. ROBERTS, MOUNTIEN,  
COOPER, SAMMIS.

*On Commerce and Navigation:*

Mr. MALLORY, Chairman.

Messrs. LESLEY, HANKINS,  
ORMAN, BAKER.

*On Immigration:*

Mr. MANN, Chairman.

Messrs. JONES, STRIPLING,  
CRILL, CHANDLER.

*On Agriculture:*

Mr. LEE, Chairman.

Messrs. MANN, NEAL,  
WILLIAMS, COLE.

*On Public Printing:*

Mr. GASKINS, Chairman.

Messrs. MALLORY, LANDRUM,  
MCKINNE, PROCTOR.

*On Enrolled Bills:*

Mr. HENDRICKS, Chairman.

Messrs. COOPER, HANKINS,  
LEE, MARTIN.

*On Public Lands:*

Mr. JONES, Chairman.

Messrs. WILLIAMS, MOUNTIEN,  
CRILL, BURNAM.

*On Corporations:*

Mr. DELANO, Chairman.

Messrs. MCKINNE, LANDRUM,  
HANKINS, SAMMIS.

*On City and County Organization:*

Mr. MCKINNE, Chairman.

Messrs. CRILL, MOUNTIEN,  
MALLORY, MARTIN.

*On Militia:*

Mr. Orman, Chairman.

Messrs. NEAL, COTTRELL,  
WILLIAMS, PROCTOR.

*On Legislative Expenses:*

Mr. ROBERTS, Chairman.

Messrs. LESLEY, DELANO,  
GASKINS, SAMMIS.

*On Indian Affairs:*

Mr. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Messrs. WHIDDEN, MOUNTIEN,  
LESLEY, BURNAM.

*On Privileges and Elections:*

Messrs. ORMAN, SHEPPARD,  
COOPER, COLE.

*On Appropriations:*

Messrs. DELANO, HANKINS,  
GASKINS, CHANDLER.

*On Fisheries:*

Messrs. ORMAN, SHEPPARD,  
COOPER, BAKER.

*On State Affairs:*

Messrs. LESLEY, HANKINS,  
JONES, STRIPLING.

*On Railroads and Telegraphs:*

Messrs. SPEER, WHIDDEN,  
ORMAN, BAKER.

The following message was received from the Governor:

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
TALLAHASSEE, January 5, 1885.

*Gentlemen of the Senate and Assembly:*

After consultation with the Governor-elect, and in conformity with the usage established four years ago, for the outgoing Governor to prepare the message, I leave on file in this office for your consideration, the following statement of such matters of interest to the State as the occasion requires.

STATE FINANCES.

Our finances are in the most gratifying condition. Indeed, the State has never in her entire history, occupied the high position, she does to-day in the financial world. Her Comptroller's warrants pass current in the banking institutions and moneyed marts of the country, the small amount of bonds she has outstanding in the hands of individuals are at a high premium, she has no floating debt, and cash in the Treasury to meet all legitimate expenses.

It will be seen from the reports of the Comptroller and Treasurer, that the total amount of warrants issued for 1883 were \$251,075.85, and for 1884 \$195,923.85, including \$13,174 for Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum. The bonded debt of the State is as follows:

7 per cent. bonds of 1871.....	\$350,000.00
6 per cent. bonds of 1873.....	925,000.00
Convention bonds ..	1,500.00—1,276,500 00
Deduct bonds of 1871 in Sinking Fund.....	66,000.00
Deduct bonds of 1873 in Sinking Fund.....	100,000.00— 166,000.00
Bonds of 1871 and 1873.....	\$1,110,500.00
Of which the School Fund holds.....	\$325,300.00
Sinking Fund holds.....	90,400.00
Agricultural College Fund holds.....	155,800.00— 571,500.00
Leaving in hands of individuals.....	\$539,000.00

Showing a decrease of amount in hands of individuals during the past two years of \$50,800.00. In addition to bonds of 1873 in Sinking Fund, the Sinking Fund for these bonds held in U. S. 4 per cent. bonds market value..... 34,800.00

Leaving practically an outstanding bonded debt of. .... \$524,200.00

I feel it my duty to again call the attention of the Legislature to the inequality of our bonds, so far as the sinking fund is concerned.

The Laws of Florida, Chapter 1833, under which was issued the seven per cent. bonds, and Chapter 1937, under which was issued the six per cent. bonds, provide that the Treasurer cannot pay over their par value, in the purchase of any said bonds for the sinking fund. The bonds of the State have advanced so much in value since that time, that the Treasurer cannot purchase the same at their par value. The Legislature of 1881 amended in this particular Chapter 1833, relating to the seven per cent. bonds, but by an oversight omitted to amend Chapter 1937, relating to the six per cent. securities, which precludes the Treasurer from purchasing them for the sinking fund.

I therefore renew the recommendation made in my message of January 1883, that Section 8, of Chapter 1937, be so amended as to allow the Treasurer to purchase said bonds at their market value.

#### TAXATION.

In accordance with the suggestions made in my message of January, 1883, the Legislature reduced the State tax to four mills for that year, and authorized me, if the aggregate assessment of the property of the State would permit, to reduce the same to three mills for the year 1884. The "aggregate assessment of the property of the State" showing a large increase, the State tax was reduced to three mills for 1884, in accordance with said legislative authority.

Florida's growth in the last four years must be a source of profound gratification to every lover of the State. The release of our Internal Improvement Fund from threatened bankruptcy and ruin, not only largely augmented our taxable resources, by placing a large amount of lands upon the tax-

books, but added an immense impetus to railroad building, thus inviting immigration and capital—all tending to the development of the State—has about doubled our taxable resources in that period. The taxable values for 1880 and several years prior, averaged about thirty-one millions of dollars. Since 1880 these values have annually swollen, until 1884 they show an assessment of over sixty millions of dollars. No State in the Union, that I am aware of, has doubled her resources in the last four years. Florida stands alone in such an unprecedented growth.

Owing to this increase, under ordinary circumstances, I would recommend a further reduction of State taxation. But in view of the fact that we are to have a Constitutional Convention, soon to follow the present session of the Legislature, and the reasonable probability of another Legislative session to put in operation what changes are made in the organic law, it is impossible to estimate what expenses will have to be met. It will be in the power of the Legislature and Convention, by a commendable economy of time and expenditure, to enable a reduction to be made. Feeling that the State, under no circumstances, should pass back into the ruinous system of "scrip issue," I deem it the part of a proper prudence to let the State tax remain at three mills, and empower the Governor to reduce the same if the expenditures above alluded to will allow it.

It is not the State tax that burthens the people. Unfortunately, some of the counties have outstanding obligations, some running back prior to the war, which have to be met by a heavy county tax. These, however, are gradually meeting their obligations, and in a few years, it is hoped, will be relieved.

#### EDUCATION.

It is scarcely necessary to call your attention to the vital importance of popular education as the best safeguard of constitutional liberty. In whatever light it is viewed, whether as a safeguard to our republican institutions, or as a necessity to the progress and prosperity of our State, or as a most potent agency in the promotion of immigration, the education of the growing youth of the State commends itself to every thought-

ful mind. It has been well said that "maximum education makes minimum government possible and secures maximum liberty;" and it may well be added that ignorance is the fruitful mother of public burthens, and contributes but little to the public weal or wealth.

The large increase in our school facilities and in the attendance of pupils, are therefore subjects of congratulation. We now have 1,504 schools in operation, with an attendance of pupils of 58,311, an increase in each of one hundred per cent. in the last eight years.

The principal of our school fund, derived chiefly from the sale of lands known as the "sixteenth section," has increased in an unprecedented manner during the last four years. In my last message I placed the school fund on hand January 1, 1881, at \$246,900. There were \$9,000 of railroad bonds in the fund at that time, but as their validity or value had been questioned they were not included in the estimate. Since that period their value has been settled, and being added to the fund makes \$255,900 as the principal of our school fund, which had slowly accumulated from 1845 up to January 1, 1881.

The increase in the last four years has been \$220,284.20; being without a parallel within the history of the State. This makes the total Common School Fund \$476,184.25, yielding an income of \$27,314 annually, which is apportioned to the various counties yearly by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

#### AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Under the act of Congress of July 2, 1862, there was granted to each State thirty thousand acres of land for each Senator and Representative of said State under the census of 1860. The conditions of the grant were that "the interest shall be inviolably appropriated to the endowment, support and maintenance of at least one college where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the Legislatures of the States may respectively prescribe." The act also provided that "no portion of said fund,

nor the interest thereon, shall be applied directly or indirectly, under any pretence whatever, to the purchase, erection, preservation or repair of any building or buildings."

Under this grant Florida received ninety thousand acres, which were sold for \$81,000. The proceeds of the sale were invested in \$100,000 of Florida bonds. The interest has since been invested, and the principal now amounts to \$155,800 which produces an annual income of \$9,227.

Lake City having made the best offer, the Trustees of the fund located the college at that point. The building has been completed, and the college is now in operation, and offers educational advantages of the highest character.

#### INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND.

The last Legislature passed an act to "Provide an Institute for the Blind and Deaf and Dumb in this State," and designated the members of the State Board of Education and the Governor as a Board of Managers for said Institute. The Board of Managers was directed to secure by donation, purchase or otherwise suitable grounds and buildings for said purpose. The city of St. Augustine gave the Board five acres of land adjoining the north addition of said city and one thousand dollars in money, to have the Institute located at that point. The location is admirably suited for such an asylum, and is "healthy, convenient and accessible." The buildings, which are commodious and of handsome architectural design, are now completed and ready for the reception of that unfortunate class of our population. A principal and one assistant have been selected by the Board of Managers, and the Institution will soon be in successful operation.

Our two Seminaries, one located at Gainesville and the other at Tallahassee, are in a most prosperous condition, and are annually increasing the number of their pupils and widening their influence as Seminaries worthy of the support and confidence of the people. They have now a fund of \$91,400, producing an income of \$5,568, which is equally divided semi-annually by the Comptroller between the two Seminaries.

A University has also been established at Tallahassee by the energy and liberality of Chancellor J. Kost. While it is yet

in its infancy, it gives promise of budding manhood and corresponding usefulness in the near future.

In this connection I can but repeat what I said in a former message, that while popular education is a duty belonging to the respective States, and a matter of local policy which should be under the management of local government, yet owing to the peculiar condition of the South our resources are insufficient to furnish all the assistance required for the education of our large illiterate population. The right of Congress to contribute to general education in the several States has not been questioned, and it is to be hoped that the General Government, appreciating the great necessity for such a course, will still further add to the educational resources of the country, to be applied through the agency of the various State organizations.

#### RAILROADS.

No better evidence can be given to illustrate Florida's progress and growth, than the increased facilities she offers in railroad transportation. Owing to the great incumbrance upon her Internal Improvement Fund, her increase in railroads since the war and up to the year 1881, was extremely limited. The Legislature had granted charters with large land grants, but as the Trustees could give no valid title to said lands as long as the debt existed, capital was not forthcoming to build the roads. The practical disencumberment of the Internal Improvement Fund by a sale of a portion of the lands to relieve the debt, at once changed the situation, and the result has been an unprecedented increase in our railroad mileage that has no parallel in the history of the State. Indeed, when our population and resources are considered, no State in the Union can compare with her in this unparalleled increase. In the last four years there have been finished, built and now in operation, 776 miles of new road. In addition to this there are about 224 miles graded and ready for the cross-ties and iron, which will be furnished during the present year. In a word, there have been practically built one thousand miles of road in Florida in the last four years. When we consider that from the State's admission into the Union up to

January, 1881, there had been built but 537 miles of road, and that to-day there are equipped and running 1,313 miles, with 224 more miles graded, soon to be ironed, the progress in the last four years is apparent to all. These roads have been of incalculable value to the State. Their values have enabled a large reduction in taxation, they have advertised the country and attracted immigration, and have already created and connected towns and villages that had no existence a few years ago. And the work is not yet finished. It will still go on. There are some of the best and most inviting sections of the State now without transportation, that must necessarily secure it at an early day.

#### RECLAMATION OF LANDS.

The Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Company, under their contract with the State for the reclamation of lands in the southern portion of the Peninsula, since the year 1881, have steadily prosecuted the work of constructing drainage canals, the improvement of the natural river system within their territory, and have added efficient mechanical appliances by which the completion of the great work contemplated under their franchise with the State will be materially hastened.

A brief summary of the operations of this company shows a completed canal for drainage and navigation, connecting the head waters of the Caloosahatchee and Okeechobee, intercepting in its course Lakes Flirt and Heppachee, the latter being a fresh water lake about five miles in diameter, hitherto practically unknown. This canal penetrates a portion of the State hitherto inaccessible and develops a large territory.

The outcropping ledge of limestone through which the Caloosahatchee river at Fort Thompson forces its way, has been sufficiently removed to provide a channel in width and depth commensurate with present demands of navigation.

The company is engaged in shortening the Kissimmee river, much effective work having already been accomplished. In some instances cuts of less than one-fourth of a mile reduced the distance by old river channel almost three miles.

Tiger Creek, connecting Lake Kissimmee with lakes Tiger,

Rosalie and Walk-in-the-Water, on the west, has been shortened, deepened and improved by removal of snags, bars, etc.

The water shed of the upper system of drainage has been permanently relieved by the recent completion of a canal connecting Lake Tohopekaliga with the drainage system south.

This canal is supplementary to the large cut, long since completed in Lake Cypress, by which the surface level of Lake Tohopekaliga, covering an area of twenty-six square miles, was reduced many feet.

The surface of the waters in the valley of this great interior tidal and lake system varies from twenty-two feet at Lake Okeechobee to seventy-one feet at Lake Tohopekaliga above river level, indicating that the most depressed portion of the territory is sufficiently elevated to provide for an efficient drainage of the whole.

Besides the great benefits to be derived by the State from the reclamation of this vast territory the work already accomplished has opened up water transportation for boats of about one hundred feet in length, connecting Punta Rosa, at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee river, on the Gulf, with Kissimmee City, a point about centrally located in the peninsula portion of the State. The company is operating four steam dredges capable of cutting canals from twenty-three to sixty-five feet wide and from six to twelve feet deep.

They have two steamboats as tenders to their dredges and use other appliances necessary to the accomplishment of the work in hand.

Over forty miles of canal and river improvements have been made, besides the removal of numerous obstructions to navigation and drainage. The expenditure in legitimate work has aggregated over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The magnitude of this enterprise, and its destined influence upon the future of the State can scarcely be realized. The reclamation of many millions of acres, containing some of the most valuable sugar lands in the United States, with suitable climatic conditions for the successful growth of all tropical fruits, is the harbinger of an era of population, wealth and prosperity unthought of in our past history.

#### FLORIDA COAST LINE CANAL.

"The Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company," organized to secure inland water communication from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay, by connecting the Matanzas, Halifax and Indian rivers, on our eastern coast, is prosecuting the work with commendable zeal and success. They now have three powerful steam dredges on the work, two steamers and three tenders.

Since the commencement of the work, the entire force of the company has been concentrated on the work required to connect the Matanzas and Halifax rivers, as this is the most expensive and difficult portion of the proposed improvement. There has been constructed of canal six feet deep thirty feet wide, and improvements of rivers, lagoons and creeks to the same depth, about forty miles, leaving still a gap of fourteen miles, including Smith's Creek, the ridge between Matanzas and Halifax rivers, about three quarters of a mile, and a small portion of prairie. It is estimated that this work will be completed by next fall, and steamers will then pass through, transporting passengers and freight to and from St. Augustine, and the towns and settlements on the Halifax and Hillsborough rivers.

By spring or early summer, work will commence on the "Haulover," thus connecting Indian river, and insuring a transportation line fully established between St. Augustine and Lake Worth, or Jupiter inlet, a distance of 220 miles. It is expected then to carry the work still further south, even beyond Biscayne Bay to the waters of Key West.

It is gratifying to note the progress of this enterprise. The promise of direct and certain communication with St. Augustine, securing an outlet for the valuable commercial productions of the coast, the fertility of the soil, and the salubrity of the climate, must necessarily induce many settlers to seek that favored region.

#### INDIAN WAR CLAIM.

The settlement of this claim with the United States Government, I regret to state, still awaits Congressional action. The following extract from my message of January, 1883, presents a condensed history of the claim :

"What is known as the Indian Trust Fund of the United States holds \$132,000 of our bonds, with interest due thereon. It has been properly excluded from the interest-bearing debt of the State, for the satisfactory reason that the State holds valid and legitimate claims against the General Government for necessary expenses incurred in suppressing Indian hostilities. The claim of the State is much larger than the amount due the Indian Trust Fund, if the United States Government allows the State the same interest claimed against her. With the exception of an effort made in 1860, no step was taken to settle this important matter until Governor Drew appointed Colonel S. I. Wailes, of Washington City, who associated with him the late Col. W. K. Beard, of Tallahassee, as agents of the State, to settle the claims, with the understanding that their fee was to be a contingent one of fifteen per cent. of the amount collected.

"When the matter was presented to the Treasury Department, the objection was made that no State claim could be adjusted without the authority of Congress. A resolution was introduced by our Senators and Representatives to carry out this decision, and after a considerable delay, passed both houses, referring the matter to the Secretary of War. A report from that official has been made, allowing the State \$224,648.09. If the State is allowed interest, as the General Government charges against her, she will be entitled to a considerable sum above her indebtedness. It is hoped that Congress at an early day will take action upon this long deferred, but just and equitable claim."

Owing to the long-deferred action on this claim, the State has suffered grave and serious detriment. By an act of Congress, approved March 3d, 1845, entitled "An act supplemental to the act for the admission of Florida into the Union," it is expressly stipulated and provided "that in consideration of the concessions made by the State of Florida in respect to the public lands, there be granted to said State five per centum of the net proceeds of the sale of lands within said State which shall hereafter be sold by Congress, after deducting all ex-

penses incident to the same; and which net proceeds shall be applied by said State for the purposes of education."

The Department at Washington holds that as the State has not paid the amount borrowed from the Indian Trust Fund, (although she holds a much larger acknowledged claim against the General Government,) the money arising from the five per cent. on sales of land cannot be paid. This is an educational fund, agreed to be paid to the State "in consideration of the concessions made by the State of Florida in respect to the public lands," and should not be withheld. I have not the exact data as to the amount, but from information received, there are about sixty thousand dollars due the State from this source—being the accumulation since the State's admission into the Union.

Again, whenever the State can prove that any of the land disposed of by the United States Government for *money*, belonged to the State, under the conditions of the act of September 28, 1850, commonly known as the swamp act, the State claims, and the Government allows, the money to go to the State as indemnity. There are about forty thousand dollars due the State from this source, now held on account of this claim. It will thus readily be seen that the settlement of this Indian war claim is a matter of importance to the State. I leave on file in the Executive office the last report of S. I. Wailes, Esq., State Agent, in connection with this subject.

#### STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

By the Act of March 11, 1879, Chapter 3162, the mayor, alderman and city physician were constituted a Board of Health of every incorporated town of less than three hundred registered voters; or where there is no incorporated town in a county the County Commissioners of said county shall constitute a Board of Health. By the Act of March 7, 1881, Chapter 3312, the Governor is authorized to appoint a Board of Health for every incorporated city or town in the State containing three hundred or more registered voters. The jurisdiction of these Boards of Health cannot extend beyond the limits of the counties in which they are located.

That there should be some common channel of communication between said Boards in order to secure concert of action, in periods of epidemics, seems to be reasonable. Take the line of railroad from Pensacola to Jacksonville, passing through fourteen counties, as an illustration. There are fourteen Boards of Health, each with the power to reject or receive passengers or freight, from any point they may deem infected. Fourteen different methods, to the great annoyance of the public and restriction of communication, might be adopted. There was approximated, such a state of affairs on said road, during a portion of the summer or early fall of 1883. Under such circumstances it is deemed advisable to have a State Board of Health, composed of men fully qualified to regulate such restrictions so as to give uniformity in action and the least possible hindrance to inland commerce and passenger travel, while at the same time giving a thorough protection to the communities through which such traffic and travel passes.

Those progressive States that have established such Boards have felt their beneficial effect, and none seem disposed to dispense with them. Such a Board could act when requested by the City Boards at our various sea-ports, in harmony with said Boards, in aiding and assisting them in times of need. It could gather and publish the vital statistics of the State, which would largely tend to render Florida the winter sanitarium of the Union, by rendering the admirable health record of the State widely known through official and responsible sources.

But beyond this, there is a growing feeling in the public mind that has already culminated in congressional appropriations, that cities infected with severe epidemics should not be compelled to overtax the generosity of its citizens, or public spirited communities, by a constant appeal for necessary assistance. The General Government, supported by all, could, without its being felt, furnish to the local Boards of Health such necessary pecuniary assistance as the occasion requires. It is also prepared for a maritime quarantine, such as the States do not possess. The application of a State Board of Health would necessarily carry with it, for such assistance, greater

weight than any other. And if a National Board of Health should be established, with representatives from the various State Boards, such representation from Florida, in time of sore need, would be of incalculable benefit in securing pecuniary assistance. In view of these considerations, and the fact that it is thought that the United States stands in danger next summer of the cholera scourge of Europe, and of our numerous ports in near proximity to those of Mexico, Central America and Cuba, I invite your earnest consideration of the subject.

#### THE NEW ORLEANS EXPOSITION.

In the fall and winter of 1881, the Cotton Exposition of Atlanta was opened for visitors. Florida was represented by the liberal responses of some of her generous citizens, and secured the first premiums for sugar, cane, rice, sea-island cotton, sisal hemp, oranges and lemons. In the laudable competition with the vast number of States there represented for the best collection of agricultural productions, but one State surpassed her, and she was awarded the second premium.

In the fall of 1883, Florida was also represented at the Louisville Exposition by the generosity of some of her citizens. There her display attracted great attention, and she was awarded two medals and five diplomas, which are now in the Executive office. The citizens of the State are under obligations to Hon. T. E. C. Brinley, our Commissioner, whose report is submitted, for his liberality and unceasing labors in Florida's behalf.

The great World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial opened at New Orleans on the 16th of last month. In magnitude, it surpasses anything in the world's history. The London, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia Expositions were all grand in their time, but none of those magnificent buildings equaled in magnitude this greatest of all Expositions. Florida is taking a place in the picture in this grand panorama of the world's capabilities and productions. She necessarily comes, not only in generous rivalry with her sister States of our common union, but with Europe, Mexico, the West Indies and all of Central and South America. She has the cereals, forestry, cotton,

cane, tropical and semi-tropical fruits, flowers, ornamental plants and numerous other resources to make a most attractive display. But it is asking too much for individual citizens, who are generously disposed to furnish all the exhibits necessary to our success. An appropriation made *at once* and placed at the disposal of the Governor, might be the means of saving our State from a failure that would be particularly mortifying, when we consider that we have all that is necessary within our limits to deserve success, but no means to secure it, or place it on exhibition. Ten thousand dollars could not be better expended than showing at this world's gathering, the capabilities of Florida.

PAY FOR ARMS DUE THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

Under an act of Congress, approved April 23d, 1808, the annual sum of two hundred thousand dollars is appropriated for the purpose of arming and equipping the militia. (See *Revised Statutes, Sec. 1661.*)

This sum is apportioned among the several States according to population. During the late war the distribution to the Southern States ceased as a matter of course. The respective quotas of these States, however, were placed to their credit in the War Department each year. The fund thus accumulated remained undisturbed until after the passage of the act of March 3, 1873. (See *Acts of Congress, 1873, Chap. 282, page 608.*)

This act authorized and directed the Secretary of War to distribute to such States as did not, from the year 1862 to the year 1869, receive the same, their proper quota of arms and military equipments for each year, from 1862 to 1869, under the act of April 23, 1808, and acts amendatory thereof.

Under this act the accumulated quotas indicated were placed to the credit of the several States interested, and subjected to requisition from the Governors of the respective States.

An act making appropriations for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, approved March 3, 1875, contained this proviso:

"And provided further, that so much of the appropriations between the first of January, 1861, and the ninth of April

1865, under the act of April 23, 1808, herein referred to, as would have been used for the purchase of arms to be distributed to the several States that were in rebellion, shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States." (See *Act 1875, Chap. 133, Sec. 3, p. 455.*)

Before the passage of this repealing proviso, the following States drew all their credits:

Arkansas.....	\$15,595.63
Georgia.....	31,252.67
Louisiana.....	22,299.38
Mississippi.....	31,116.58
Tennessee.....	11,094.89
Texas.....	24,408.82
Virginia.....	48,404.79

The following States failed to draw their credits under the act of 1873, and those credits were covered into the Treasury under the proviso of the act of 1875:

Alabama.....	\$21,196.91
Florida.....	7,314.99
North Carolina.....	23,622.25
South Carolina.....	18,049.53

A full statement of these facts will be found in the Annual Report of the Chief of Ordnance for the year 1877. (*Executive Document, 2d Session, 45th Congress, 1877-78. Vol. 5, pp. 10 and 11.*)

In this report the Chief of Ordnance makes this comment and recommendation:

"The annulling of the provisions of the act of 1873, by the proviso in the act of 1875, *does injustice* to some of the States interested, by an *unequal distribution* of its benefits, and *it is recommended* that further legislation thereon be asked of Congress."

Under the act of 1873 the sum of \$7,314.99 was placed to the credit of Florida; but the Governor, probably through want of information of the provisions of that act, failed to draw the amount, and it was covered into the Treasury under the act of 1875. North Carolina and the other States that failed to draw their quota employed Hon. Johnston Jones, of North Carolina, as their agent to secure the same. On the recommendation of Senator Vance, of North Carolina, and Senator Call, of this State, I also authorized Mr. Jones to represent Florida's inter-

est in the matter. The State is to be at no expense for the effort, and is to pay the percentage of the "most favored State he represents" only upon his securing the claim.

#### MILITARY ENCAMPMENTS.

The first encampment of our volunteer companies, held since the war, took place at Magnolia Bluff, near Pensacola, in June, 1884. There being no appropriation for such an encampment, it was only rendered possible by the material aid and co-operation of Col. W. D. Chipley, the efficient Vice President and Superintendent of the Pensacola and Atlantic Railroad. He arranged the charges for transportation with the other railroad companies upon a scale so low as to enable many of the companies to attend. In addition, he furnished tents for the entire command, and did everything possible to render the encampment a success.

An efficient volunteer military organization is an ornament and protection to the State, and should be encouraged. Nothing tends to keep up the *esprit de corps* of these volunteer companies more than annual encampments and a laudable rivalry for superiority in drill, &c. I would recommend that a small appropriation be placed at the disposal of the commander-in-chief for the purpose of having an annual encampment of our volunteer companies.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

The question of calling a Constitutional Convention to revise the entire constitution, having been submitted to the people at the last general election, held in this State on the 4th day of November, A. D. 1884, and it appearing by the returns on file in the Secretary of State's office that a majority of the electors voting at said election have voted in favor of calling a Convention, it becomes the duty of the present Legislature to "provide by law for a Convention, to be holden within six months after the passage of such law; and such Convention shall consist of a number of members not less than both branches of the Legislature."

#### ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE.

During the last two years large and necessary alterations

and additions have been made to some of the buildings of this institution. The building occupied by the Superintendent and Physicians has undergone extensive repairs—decayed timbers removed, the roof renewed and general improvements made. The Female Department has also been placed in excellent condition, and is rendered comfortable, and suited to the purpose to which it has been devoted. An addition has been made containing 20 additional rooms, galleries or piazzas constructed across the entire front, affording much relief and pleasure to the inmates. Repairs have also been made to the smaller buildings, which were necessary for their preservation, and the comfort of the inmates and employees.

These buildings, having been there for a generation, when unroofed developed a much larger amount of decay than was anticipated, and the expense of repairs has been correspondingly increased. The increased number of inmates necessarily caused an increased expenditure for their support. In January, 1881, there were 95; in January, 1883, there were 130; and at present there are 157 inmates of the institution. In addition, there are 50 supported by the State at their homes, thus making a total of 207 that have to be provided for. In consequence of these increased expenditures, the appropriation made by the last Legislature was not sufficient to make the necessary repairs and support the 207 unfortunate insane now supported by the State.

The roof of the large Male Department is in need of repairs at once, and is only awaiting an appropriation for that purpose. The institution at present is dependent entirely on cisterns for its supply of water, and with extremely dry seasons, they fail, rendering it necessary to haul the water. There are never-failing springs, sufficiently convenient, with proper appliances, to force an abundant supply of water at all times into the cisterns, which could be utilized at a small expense.

Additional room is still required for the continued increase of the number of patients, and the Female Department outside of the main enclosure, should be walled in to render it more secure and private.

The Superintendent reports that the commissary supplies

have been sufficient and of good grade, and that the supplies of clothing, bedding, medicine, &c., have been ample.

The institution requires an appropriation commensurate with its importance and increased demands.

#### STATE CONVICTS.

Mr. H. M. Wood has had charge, under his contract with the State, of the convicts for the last two years. They have been well fed and cared for, and have had proper medical attention and the services of a chaplain.

The Adjutant General, under the direction of the Commissioners of State Institutions, advertised for bids for the hire of the convicts for the next two years. No bids, however, were received, and we were threatened with having them to support and guard, in addition to the expense of conveying those hereafter convicted, from the county jails to some point where we would be compelled to locate a camp. We have no penitentiary, and would necessarily have had to go to the expense of erecting suitable buildings, grounds, &c., for their safety. The expense of buildings, their support and guard and transportation from the various county jails would have been an enormous expense to the State.

Under these circumstances, it was deemed to the best interest of the State to accept Mr Wood's offer of taking said convicts now on hand, and all others to be convicted, at the several jails, and allow him \$8,500 for the year, he to bear all expenses. This contract is for one year only, and gives time to the State officials to ascertain what better disposition can be made of them in the future.

The following tables may be of interest, as showing the number on hand and the disposition of many of them for the last two years:

1883.	
Number of convicts on hand January 1st, 1883, and delivered to H. M. Wood, Agent for C. K. Dutton, under contract of 30th December, 1882.....	135
Number of convicts delivered to contractor during year 1883....	105
Of this number there were discharged during the year 1883	69
Pardoned.....	2
Escapes.....	4
Died.....	3

On hand 1st January, 1884.....	162	—
	240	240
1884.		
Number of convicts on hand January 1st, 1884.....	162	
Number delivered to contractor during year 1884.....	120	
Of this number there were in 1884—		
Discharged.....	85	
Died.....	5	
Pardoned.....	3	
Escapes.....	5	
Number on hand January 1st, 1885.....	193	
	291	291

#### CENSUS.

The constitution requires that the Legislature shall, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and every tenth year thereafter, cause an enumeration to be made of all the inhabitants of the State. A full and complete enumeration of all the inhabitants of the State would show a large increase over the census taken by the General Government in 1880. Indeed, the census of 1880 is a mere skeleton of what Florida is in 1885. Whether we consider it in the light of population, wealth, taxable resources, railroads and other sources of transportation, influx of capital, products of the soil, or general progress of the State, the census of 1880 is so far below the actual realities of to-day as to be worthless as a source of information.

#### PAMPHLET LAWS.

By the Act of February 27th 1882, Chapter 1904, it is made the duty of the State Printer, to print, and have stitched, in pamphlet form one thousand copies of the acts and resolutions passed by the Legislature, and deliver the same to the Secretary of State for distribution. The Secretary of State is required to distribute nearly one thousand copies to various officials mentioned in said act. (See McClellan's Digest, page 713, Section 2.) This necessarily leaves that officer without laws to fill the various demands coming from individuals. The number printed is entirely too small for the demand growing out of our increased population. It will require at least fifteen hundred copies, and the Secretary of State should be authorized to have that number printed.

## CAPITOL BUILDING.

This building has undergone extensive repairs. The roof has been made secure—new steps placed at the eastern and western entrances—new floors furnished for the basement hall and rooms, and the entire building, and fence surrounding the grounds, thoroughly painted. Fire-proof vaults have been placed in the Comptroller and Treasurer's offices, and the Treasurer's office furnished with a burglar proof, chilled safe with the most improved time lock. A suitable and convenient brick wood house has been erected upon the grounds, thus preventing the necessity of storing the fuel in the basement of the Capitol, and relieving the building of that risk from fire. An appropriation should be made for the continued insurance of the Capitol as well as the buildings at the Asylum.

## REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS.

The officers occupying the various departments of the State Government have made full reports, treating in detail upon all matters coming under their supervision. I invite your careful attention to the same, as they give information upon questions of public interest that it is impossible to embrace in the limits of a message.

## CONCLUSION.

When I took the official oath four years ago, I stated in my inaugural address, as absolutely necessary to secure and foster our future growth and progress, that we attract and invite a healthy immigration, and develop our internal resources by securing proper transportation, in the building and equipping great highways of travel, and to see to it, that ample and abundant provision be made for the true education of our rising generation.

These were the great links in the grand chain of progress which should secure to us a success unparalleled, and upon which we, as a people and a State, could confidently rely in all the future for a continuance of growth and prosperity.

These great objects I have constantly and unremittingly held in view in the administration of the affairs and government of our beloved State. The results, most gratifying in their character, are before the people. They are illustrated by

our largely increased population, and in the fact that our extreme West is now in intimate intercourse with the dwellers upon the Atlantic, connecting our State directly with the great West and Northwest, while our gulf coast at Tampa is closely joined with the St. Johns on the East, and the Peninsular is being ramified by parallels of glittering steel, kept bright by the constant friction of traffic and of travel, and every day increasing our wealth; while our schools are increased not only in numbers, but advanced in efficiency and standard of excellence, so that the children may now receive the advantages of a good common school education, and thus become qualified for the great duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

In retiring from the grave and responsible duties of the Executive chair, I desire to return my profound gratitude to the people of my beloved State for their confidence so magnanimously expressed in my election to the high office of Governor, and their continuous support during my term, and to each of the gentlemen who have been members of my Cabinet, who have always given me their steadfast co-operation, mature advice, and hearty support.

Leaving official position with the clear consciousness of having, to the best of my ability, honestly and faithfully performed my duties, I most earnestly trust that the future of our State, under the benediction and guidance of the God of Nations, through the instrumentality of our chosen Executive, my distinguished and honored successor, may be made yet more prosperous, and continue in an uninterrupted happiness and freedom.

With the expression of this earnest wish, I close my official duties and privileges.

Respectfully,

W. D. BLOXHAM.

*To the Legislature of the State of Florida:*

GENTLEMEN— I congratulate you upon your assembling and prompt organization as the legislative power of the State.

My distinguished predecessor in office, conforming to a

usage which seems in every respect appropriate, has prepared an able and comprehensive message to you, which, with the accompanying reports from the several administrative departments, I with pleasure transmit and commend to your careful consideration. The unparalleled improvement and progress in our State, as shown by these communications, are exceedingly gratifying, and should not only be a cause of congratulation throughout the State but should serve to stimulate us to increased efforts to advance the interests of our Commonwealth by all due encouragement to every legitimate enterprise. Labor as well as capital is necessary to the development of the varied resources of our State, and to properly stimulate and encourage labor it should most certainly be secured in the payment of its value. The language found in the statute for that purpose, chapter 3042, section 2, acts of 1877, has given rise to an uncertainty which ought not to exist as to the force and effect of that statute. I further suggest that mechanics or laborers, whose dues are often less than the expense of pursuing the remedy provided, should have a lien not only for the value of the labor or material, but for the expenses necessary to the enforcement of such lien.

Assuming that in obedience to the voice of the people, it will be your pleasure to "provide by law for a convention to be holden" within a short, but in your judgment a convenient, time and that the organic law under which we are now acting may be so changed as to render nugatory much legislation which under ordinary circumstances it might be wise to enact, I refrain from asking your time and attention to any such matters as may safely await the contemplated action by the people in their sovereign capacity.

I hope harmony and good feeling may prevail in your session and that your labors may be as pleasant to you as I doubt not they will prove beneficial to the State which we have the honor to serve. Respectfully,

E. A. PERRY.

Mr. Mann's resolution was again read.

Mr. Chandler moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and called for the yeas and nays.

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Burnam, Chandler, Cole, Cottrell, Delano, Gaskins, Hendricks, Martin, Proctor, Sammis and Stripling—12.

Nays—Messrs. Bryson, Cooper, Crill, Hankins, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sheppard, Speer, Whidden and Williams—19.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Baker moved that the further consideration of the subject be postponed until to-morrow 12 o'clock M.

Upon the yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Chandler, Cottrell, Martin, Proctor and Sammis—6.

Nays—Messrs. Bryson, Burnam, Cole, Cooper, Crill, Delano, Gaskins, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sheppard, Speer, Stripling, Whidden and Williams—25.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Stripling offered the following :

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the present session of the Legislature be limited to thirty days.

Mr. McKinne offered the following amendment: Strike out thirty and insert twenty-five days.

Mr. Bryson offered the following amendment to the amendment: Amend the amendment by striking out twenty and leaving it five.

The hour having arrived for the consideration of Mr. Gas-kin's resolution :

*Resolved*, That a committee of two from the Senate be appointed to act with a similar committee to be appointed by the Assembly to examine the Comptroller's and Treasurer's books and employ such clerical aid as may be necessary ;

Upon motion, the same was adopted.

Mr. Speer offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That two hundred copies of the Standing Committees be printed for the use of members.

Mr. Baker offered the following :

Strike out "two" and insert "three;"

Which was lost.

Upon a motion for adoption of the resolution the motion prevailed.

Mr. Neel offered the following :

I move to postpone until next Monday, at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Bryson offered the following :

Amend by postponing to the first Monday in March.

Mr. Cooper raised a point of order upon the amendment.

The President ruled the point of order well taken.

Mr. Baker moved that the consideration of the resolution be postponed until 8 o'clock to-night.

Upon the yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Burnam, Chandler, Cottrell, Gaskins, Landrum and Martin—7.

Nays—Messrs. Bryson, Cole, Cooper, Crill, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Sammis, Sheppard, Speer, Stripling and Whidden—20.

So the motion was lost.

Upon the motion to adopt the amendment to the amendment the yeas and nays being called, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Bryson, Burnam, Chandler, Cottrell, Martin, Proctor—7.

Nays—Messrs. Cole, Cooper, Crill, Gaskins, Hankins, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sammis, Speer, Stripling, Whidden—20.

So the motion was lost.

The committee from the Assembly appeared at the bar of the Senate and presented the following communication :

That a special committee of seven be appointed on a Constitutional Convention, and that the Senate be waited on by a committee from the Assembly and asked to appoint a committee for a similar purpose; and in the event of the Senate concurring, such committee shall be considered as a joint committee on a Constitutional Convention.

Mr. McKinne moved that the further consideration of the subject be postponed until 3 o'clock P. M. this day, in order that the Governor's message be taken up and read.

Upon the yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Burnam, Chandler, Cottrell, Gaskins, Martin, McKinne, Proctor, Roberts and Stripling—10.

Nays—Messrs. Bryson, Cooper, Crill, Hendricks, Jones, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, Neel, Orman, Sammis, Sheppard, Speer and Whidden—16.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Chandler moved that the resolution lay upon the table, subject to call ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Chandler, Martin, Proctor and Sammis—5.

Nays—Messrs. Bryson, Burnam, Cooper, Cottrell, Crill, Gaskins, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sheppard, Speer, Stripling and Whidden—22.

So the motion was lost.

Upon the motion for the adoption of Mr. McKinne's amendment, the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Burnam, Crill, Gaskins, McKinne and Whidden—5.

Nays—Messrs. Baker, Bryson, Chandler, Cole, Cooper, Cottrell, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Martin, Mountien, Neel, Orman, Proctor, Roberts, Sammis, Sheppard, Speer, Stripling and Williams—23.

So the motion did not prevail.

Mr. Stripling's resolution was again read.

Mr. Chandler offered the following amendment :

Add the words "the Assembly concurring."

The yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Burnam, Chandler, Martin and Proctor—5.

Nays—Messrs. Bryson, Cole, Cooper, Cottrell, Crill, Gaskins, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sammis, Sheppard, Speer, Stripling, Whidden and Williams—25.

So the motion did not prevail.

Mr. Baker offered following amendment :

Provided the business of the session can be finished within that time.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Baker, Burnam, Cooper and Sammis—4.

Nays—Messrs. Bryson, Chandler, Cole, Cottrell, Crill, Gaskins, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Martin, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Proctor, Roberts, Sheppard, Speer, Stripling, Whidden and Williams—26.

So the motion did not prevail.

Here Mr. Mallory called for the previous question.

Mr. Baker raised a point of order upon the call.

The President decided the point of order not well taken, and that the previous question could be invoked in the Senate.

Upon the main question the yeas and nays were called for ;  
The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Bryson, Burnam, Cooper, Cottrell, Crill, Gaskins, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Lesley, Mallory, Mann, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sheppard, Speer, Whidden and Williams—23.

Nays—Messrs. Baker, Chandler, Cole, Martin, Proctor, Sammis and Stripling—7.

So the motion prevailed.

Upon the adoption of the resolution, the yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Bryson, Burnam, Chandler, Cole, Cooper, Cottrell, Crill, Gaskins, Hankins, Jones, Landrum, Lee Lesley, Mallory, Martin, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sammis, Shephard, Speer, Stripling, Whidden and Williams—26.

Nays—Messrs. Baker and Proctor—2.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Chandler moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and that the same take its usual course.

Mr. Mallory moved to lay the motion on the table.

Mr. Baker raised a point of order upon the motion to lay on the table.

The President decided it well taken, and that the motion was not in order.

Mr. Mallory introduced the following bills :

Senate Bill No. 1:

A bill to be entitled an act to facilitate the giving of bonds required by law ;

Which was read by its title and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 2 :

A bill to be entitled an act to regulate the admission of Foreign Surety Companies to do business in this State ;

Which was read by its title and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Crill :

Senate bill No. 3 :

A bill to be entitled an act to repeal Chapter 350, Laws of Florida, entitled an act in relation to the duties of the Comptroller and Treasurer of this State, approved January 24, 1865 ;

Which was read and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Landrum :

Senate bill No. 4 :

A bill to be entitled an act relating to the crime of vagrancy.

Also,

Senate bill No. 5 :

A bill to be entitled an act relating to proceedings before Justices of the Peace and judgments in justices' courts, Chapter 2040, approved February 27, 1875, Laws of Florida.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 6 :

A bill to be entitled an act to amend section 1 of an act entitled an act to provide a means for the collection of claims for cattle and other stock destroyed by railroads, Chapter 2060, 1875, Laws of Florida ;

Which were read by title and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 7 :

A bill to be entitled an act to amend section 8, sub-Chapter 8 of Chapter 1637, 1868, Laws of Florida ;

Which was read by its title and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 8 :

A bill to be entitled an act fixing the fees of sheriffs and constables in certain cases ;

Which was read by its title and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 9 :

A bill to be entitled an act to amend Section 51, sub-Chapter 4 of Chapter 1637, being an act approved August 6th, 1868, Laws of Florida ;

Which was read by its title and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 10 :

A bill to be entitled an act to amend sections 1 and 2 of subchapter 6 of Chapter 1637, of an act approved August 6, 1868 ;

Which was read by its title and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 11 :

A bill to be entitled an act to amend section 14, sub-chapter 7, of Chapter 1637, being an act approved August 6th, 1868, Laws of Florida ;

Which was read by its title and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Also,  
Senate Bill No. 12:

A bill to be entitled an act to amend an act entitled an act to amend an act approved February 3d, 1874, Chapter 1986, Laws of Florida;

Which was read by its title and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Also,  
Senate Bill No. 13:

A bill to be entitled an act to provide for the taking of the census of the State of Florida for the year 1885;

Which was read by its title and referred to Committee on State Affairs.

Also,  
Senate bill No. 14:

A bill to be entitled an act to regulate costs matters in cases before Justices of the Peace in certain cases;

Which was read by its title and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Upon motion, the Governor's Message was taken up.

Mr. Stripling moved to suspend the reading of the Message, and that 500 copies be printed for the use of the Senate.

Mr. Landrum moved to insert 1,000 copies.

Mr. Stripling withdrew the motion.

The Secretary then proceeded with the reading of the message.

Mr. Mann introduced the following bill:

Senate bill No. 15:

A bill to be entitled an act to provide for calling a Convention of the people of Florida;

Which was ordered to lay upon the table to await the appointment of a special committee on this subject.

Mr. Landrum moved that 1,000 copies of Governor Bloxham's message be printed;

Which was agreed to.

The President announced the following committee:

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF CONSTITUTION.

Mr. Mann, Chairman; Messrs. Lesley, Mallory, Bryson and Chandler.

The Senate went into executive session.

The door of the Senate being opened,

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

FRIDAY, January 9, 1885.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The President in the Chair.

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

Messrs. Baker, Bryson, Burnam, Chandler, Cole, Cooper, Cottrell, Crill, Delano, Gaskins, Hankins, Hendricks, Jones, Landrum, Lee, Mallory, Mann, Martin, Mountien, McKinne, Neel, Orman, Roberts, Sheppard, Spear, Stripling, Whidden and Williams—27.

A quorum present.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

On motion of Mr. Delano, the reading of the Journal was dispensed with.

Mr. Mallory offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following shall hereafter be a rule of the Senate, viz.: Every bill on its first reading shall be read by its title only, unless the reading of the whole bill be called for by a Senator.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. McKinne:

Senate Bill No. 16:

To be entitled an act to require Justices of the Peace to give bond;

Which was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also,

Senate Bill No. 17:

To be entitled an act to amend section 51, sub-chapter 4, Chapter 1637, act August 6th, 1868, Laws of Florida;

Which was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also,

Senate bill No. 18:

To be entitled an act to amend Chapter 1986 of the Laws of Florida, being an act entitled an act to amend Section 3 of Chapter 8 of an act entitled an act to provide for the punishment of crime and proceedings in criminal cases, approved February 3, 1874;

Which was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also,