OFFICIAL.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

Journal of the House of Representatives.

[illegible]

The House was [illegible] the roll [illegible] members answered to their names, [illegible] a quorum present.

The Speaker [illegible] before the House the report of the Secretary of State, [illegible] which was

On motion, referred to the Committee on Public Expenditure, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Bussey, on behalf of the Committee on Enrollment reported the bill authorizing the Auditor and Treasurer to borrow money from the Internal Improvement Fund, in their temporary [illegible].

The Speaker having signed the same, the Clerk was ordered to transmit the same to the Senate for the concurrence of that House.

The following gentlemen introduced the following measures, which

On motion, same referred to the appropriate committees.

Mr. Winfree—Memorial for appropriation for a road in the Parish of Ascension.

Memorial from the Artillery of Donaldsonville for relief.

Mr. Caldwell—Petition of John P. Walden, praying for relief.

Memorial from P. N. Wood and others, of the Parish of Jefferson, asking for the passage of a law to permit them to issue bonds, etc. On motion, the same was referred to the delegation from the Parish of Jefferson.

Mr. Arceneaux—Petition of Urbin Hebert.

The following gentlemen introduced the following resolutions:

Mr. George—Whereas the Great Raft, and obstructions now existing in Red River is a national calamity, both as respects her garrisons and public domains. And whereas, both the great political parties of this State, did in the late canvass by public declarations to the people, declare and proclaim, that the Internal Improvements of Red River, did properly come under the provision of the Constitution of the United States for improvements by the general government, therefore,

Sec. 1. *Be it Resolved, &c.*, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress assembled, be requested to use their exertions to obtain an appropriation adequate to the purpose as set forth in the preamble, and by law make other provisions to the accomplishment of said work.

Sec. 2. *Be it further Resolved, &c.*, That the Governor of this State, be requested to transmit to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, a copy of the forgoing preamble and resolutions.

The above resolutions underwent their first reading, and were, on motion, referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

Mr. Wilder offered the following Resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms be, and he is hereby directed to cause suitable desks to be provided for the use of the Reporters of the Public Press.

Mr. Griffin offered the following Joint Resolution:

Resolved, &c., That the State Engineer be, and is hereby authorize and required to cause an embankment to be made across the Bayou Lamourie, in the parish of Rapides, at its junction with Bayou Boeuf, so as to cause the waters that now pass through the Lemoyrie to pass down the Bayou Boeuf.

The same underwent its first reading, and the rules being suspended, was read a second time by its title, and referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. King offered the following Resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Auditor of Public Accounts, be requested to report to the House, the amount already appropriated for the erection of the State House at Baton Rouge, and the probable amount required for the completion of the same.

Mr. King offered the following Resolution, which, under the rule, lies over one day:

Resolved, That a Reporter be elected by the House of Representatives, whose duty it shall be to report the speeches of the members, and the proceedings of the House, and that the election of said Reporter be fixed for Friday next, at 12 o'clock.

Mr. Harrang, on behalf of the Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the memorial of D. O. Bryant, praying for relief, reported that a petition of the same nature was presented the last session and referred to said committee on Claims, and that for want of time the House did not act on the same. The committee therefore ask that said memorial be referred to the Committee on unfinished business, with instructions to report by bill—which report was adopted.

Mr. Connelly, on behalf of Committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred the "Resolution ordering the State Engineer to make an examination of Mud Pass, in the parish of Calcasieu," reported the same back to the House without amendments.

The same member, on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the

Resolution requesting the State Engineer to make a review and survey of the shoals on Ouachita river and report the expense of making the survey required.

Reported the same back to the House without amendments.

The same member, on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the

Resolution "instructing the State Engineer to repair to the parish of St. Bernard to examine the Bayou Terre Aux Boeuf,

Reported on the same favorably.

On motion, said report was adopted.

Mr. Scarborough, on behalf of the Select Committee, to whom was referred the bill entitled

"An act to incorporate the town of Vernon, in the parish of Jackson,"

Reported the same back to the House without amendments.

On motion, said report was adopted.

Mr. Winfree on behalf of the select committee to whom was referred the bill entitled "An act to amend an act, entitled an act to incorporate the town of Donaldsonville," reported the same back to the House without amendments.

The above report was adopted.

Mr. George, from the select committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of the parish of Caddo praying for the appointment of an additional Justice of the Peace, reported by the following bill, viz:

An act for the election of an additional Justice of the Peace in Police Jury Ward No. 3 in the parish of Caddo, also for the election of one Justice of the Peace and one Constable in Police Jury Ward No. 7 in said parish; and also that the Municipal Constable and Collector of the Corporation of the town of Shreveport be commissioned and have such powers as are given to other constables of said parish, by his being duly qualified.

The same underwent its first reading.

The following gentlemen gave notice that they would on a future day introduce the following bills:

Mr. Auch—An act to amend the charter of the city of Lafayette.

Mr. Lewis—An act to fix the return day for appeals to the Supreme Court for the Florida parishes.

Mr. Lebeau—An act to amend an act establishing Recorders in the several parishes, and to limit the powers of the same.

Mr. Walker—An act to alter and amend An act to establish Free Schools in the State of Louisiana, passed 3d May, 1847.

An act so to alter and amend article 904 of the Louisiana Civil Code, as to make the English correspond with the French text thereof.

An act prescribing the manner and form of making judicial advertisements in and for the Parish of Vermilion.

An act to amend "An act for carrying into effect the Judiciary System, approved May 29, 1816."

Mr. Sever—An act entitled an act to amend An act relative to the Harbor Masters and Master and Wardens and Pilots of the Port of New Orleans, approved March 31, 1809.

Mr. Anderson—Joint Resolution instructing the Senators and Representatives in Congress to cause their best efforts to obtain a tri weekly mail by stages from Natchitoches to Mansfield, in the parish of De Soto and also in the parish of Sabine.

He also introduced an act to create an additional office of Notary Public in the parish of Caddo. Passed.

Mr. Butler, on behalf of the Committee on Claims, to whom was referred a petition from G. D. Silliman, reported favorably and recommended the passage of an act for his relief.

He also, on behalf of the same Committee, reported the following bills:

An act for the relief of A. O. Lebeau, Assessor of the parish of Pointe Coupee, for the years 1847 and 1848 —unfavorably.

An act for the relief of Francois Vienne, Assessor of the parish of Natchitoches—favorably.

And for the relief of Joseph M. Cecille—favorably.

Mr. VanWickle moved that the bill for the relief of A. O. Lebeau, reported unfavorably by the Committee, be laid on the tab e subject to call.

He also introduced a petition from inhabitants of the parish of Rapides in relation to certain levee improvements, which, on motion of Mr. Moore, was referred to the Committee on Roads and Levees.

Mr. Byrne introduced a bill to amend and repeal the several acts relative to the Board of Engineers. Referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Bryce also introduced a bill to take the sense of the people of Louisiana, as to the necessity and expediency of calling a Convention to amend the Constitution, which, on his motion, was ordered to be printed and laid on the table subject to call.

Mr. Gardere introduced an act to amend the act regulating elections in the parishes of Jefferson and Orleans, approved February 15, 1847.

And an act granting a pension to Vincent Lemeseler, a veteran of 1814-15. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Hall introduced the following acts: An act making the printed volumes of the Statute Laws of this State, *prima facie* proof of what the laws in them contain.

Act authorizing Clerks of District Courts to appoint a hotel keeper for the accounts rendered by executors, tutors, administrators and syndics.

Act relative to appeals in criminal cases.

They were referred, on his motion, to the Judiciary.

Mr. Phillips moved that the Committee on Printing be instructed to cause 150 copies of the Report on the Statistics of the State Prison, and the Report of the Governor, to be printed. Adopted.

Mr. Croft introduced a Resolution instructing the Committee on Contingent Expenses, to inquire into the necessity of providing a Fire Engine, Hose, Hitchen, &c., for the protection of the State House from fire. He observed, that the buildings had cost the State a large sum of money, and that the town of Baton Rouge had not the means to facilitate passengers by large fires for putting out fires. He thought some precautionary measure ought to be taken.

The proposition was adopted.

Mr. Phillips introduced a Resolution instructing the Committee on the Judiciary, to report a bill prescribing the form of certificates of Notaries Public.

Mr. Phillips remarked, that under the old Constitution, those officers held their offices during good behaviour, but the Constitution, framed since the adoption of the new Constitution, declaring the terms for which they should hold their offices. The terms appeared to be somewhat difficult in different parts of the Constitution, and therefore he thought it proper that the Governor who at a loss to determine the length of the term of his predecessor or to a full term. The Governor has just published that the duration of all of those officers is four years, and should suppose from the Judicial Committee should suggest some general rule of action.

The Resolution was adopted.

Mr. Cade called up the bill reported by the Committee on Internal Improvements, to improve the navigation of the bayou Vermilion.

Mr. Bussey said he felt constrained to resist the passage of the bill on those grounds. First, he was opposed to vesting any discretionary power in the State Engineer without reference to the purpose which may be accomplished by the Bank. He had no doubt that the State Engineer was a scientific man, but he had not a scientific man. As yet our experience in the construction of banks has established the fact, that not one single bank which has been constructed for the State, is worth one farthing. It is very difficult to construct good banks from the nature of our soil—in fact, in some places it is impossible to make them. The effect of the bill would be to [illegible] the banks of the Mississippi for the benefit of the planters, and let the [illegible] of the State