

## Indiana Legislature.

Mr. Kilgore, having obtained leave, moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That a select committee composed of two from each Congressional District be appointed to inquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the law now in force as requires members of Congress to be elected by Districts, and if they should deem the change proper to report a bill repealing said law and providing for the General Ticket system of electing them.

Mr. Willet moved to postpone the further consideration of said resolution indefinitely, when, on motion of Mr. Smith of R. said resolution and motion to postpone indefinitely were laid on the table.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to amend an act entitled, "an act sub-  
jecting real and personal estate to execution," approved Feb. 4, 1831; which was under consideration when the House adjourned. The question then recurred on the pending motion made by Mr. Smith of F. to postpone the further consideration thereof indefinitely, which was determined in the negative—yeas 29, nays 47.

Mr. Smith of R. moved to recommit said bill and proposed amendments to the same select committee by which it was reported, with instructions to amend it so that the entire exemption of property from execution shall not exceed fifty dollars, in such articles as the execution defendant may select and to provide for the repeal of all laws on that subject in force in this state.

Mr. Brackenridge moved to amend the instructions by providing in the bill that the wife of the debtor shall have a right to claim the property as exempt from execution and to secure her rights in the exclusive possession, use, and enjoyment of it against her husband or any other person claiming under him, in such cases and upon such conditions as shall be deemed advisable; which motion did not prevail.

Mr. Kelso then moved to amend the instructions by striking out the word "sixty," which was decided in the negative.

The question then recurred on the motion to commit with the instructions proposed by Mr. Smith of R. and carried.

## IN SENATE.

Friday, Jan. 2, 1835.

### ELECTION OF BANK, DIRECTOR.

The Senate then, agreeably to previous arrangement, proceeded to the election of a Director of the State Bank in place of Robert Morrison, when, on counting the ballots, it appeared that Robert Morrison had received 23 votes, being all that were given.

Mr. Battell, from the committee on claims, reported in favor of an allowance to John Crabb, collector of Jackson county, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Sigler, from the select committee appointed in pursuance of a resolution to draft a memorial to Congress, praying that all those persons who were engaged in the Indian war, between the commencement of our revolutionary struggle and the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four may be placed on the pension roll, made a report of considerable length, accompanied with a memorial of the General Assembly on that subject. The report was ordered to be printed, and the memorial passed to a second reading.

The House proceeded to the election of a Bank Director, and on counting the ballots it appeared that Robert Morrison received 55 votes, and that there were 20 scattering votes.

Mr. Shaw, from the select committee to which was re-committed the bill to amend an act entitled, "an act to subject real and personal estate to execution," approved Feb. 4, 1831, reported the same, amended pursuant to instructions. The amendment provided for exempting the amount of fifty dollars from execution. Mr. Shaw moved to amend the amendment by striking out "fifty dollars" and inserting "seventy five dollars" with the proviso, "that nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to affect in any manner contracts made on rights accrued previous to the publication of this act, and also that some disinterested person shall make the appraisement under oath of the property claimed as exempt from execution whenever the officer having the execution shall believe that property over and above the sum of seventy five dollars is claimed as exempt from execution defendant or defendants; which appraisement shall be returned by the sheriff or other officer serving the process with the execution to the proper officer or court."

Mr. Smith of R. called for a division of the question. After some debate the first branch thereof, to wit, on striking out the words "fifty dollars," was put, and was determined in the affirmative—yeas 42, nays 31.

Mr. Vandevere moved to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of the bill and pending amendment, which motion was decided in the negative—yeas 13, nays 60.

The question then recurred on the second branch of the amendment proposed by Mr. Shaw to the amendment of the committee, and was determined in the affirmative.

Mr. Stanford moved further to amend said amendment by adding the following as an additional section viz:

"Sec. And any subsequent sale or barter of the property so exempted shall be void, except it be to procure the necessities of life during the inability of the person to pay his debts."

And the question being put, on the motion of Mr. Stanford, it was determined in the negative.

The amendment reported by the committee is amended was then adopted.

Mr. Crume moved further to amend the bill by exempting also from execution two months provisions for the debtor and his family; which did not prevail.

On motion of Mr. Schooling, the bill was further amended by inserting the following clause: "said appraiser shall be entitled to receive for his services 25 cents for such appraisement, to be paid by the debtor claiming such property."

On motion of Mr. Bigger, the bill was further amended by exempting from the repealing clause so much of the act of 1831 as recognizes wearing apparel as no part of an execution defendant's estate.

On motion of Mr. Smith of F. the bill was further amended by giving to the officer levying the writ authority to administer the oath to the appraiser.

The question was then put, shall said bill be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow, and was determined in the affirmative—yeas 46, nays 28.

### PROBATE BUSINESS.

The House resumed the consideration of the resolution moved by Mr. Crume on the 20th ult, providing for the organization of Probate Circuit Courts, and arrested on that day by the expiration of the hour allotted for the consideration of resolutions.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Newman, to strike out the resolution from the repealing clause, for the purpose of inserting a substitute which would place the probate business in the Circuit Court, it was decided in the negative.

On the question, shall said resolution be adopted? it was decided in the negative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Bigger, Bradbury, Bell, Carter of C. Chapman, Crume, Culbertson, Curtis, Dunning, Evans, Hannaman, Hardesty, Johnston of F. Kelso, Kilgore, Liston, Lowe, Marshall, Moore, Newman, Ray, Rockhill, Smith of F. Stafford, Thompson, Vandevere, Wallace, Wilson of H. Wilson of V. and Gregory Speaker—30.

NAYS—Messrs. Angle, Armstrong, Bennett, Bower, Brackenridge, Bryan, Carr, Conwell, Cook, Curry, Davis, Gaddes, Green, Hargrove, Harris, Henkle, Hoagland, Howard, Howell, Johnson of M. Latshaw, Leslie Lockhart, McCalley, McDougle, McIntire, Mendenhall, Nave, Parks, Phelps, Puckett, Schooling, Shank, Shaw, Smith of R. Stanford, Storm, Strain, Torbet, Vandevere, Walker, Willett, Wilson of P. Woodruff, and Wright—45.

On motion of Mr. Conwell,

Resolved, That the committee on the judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law, allowances to Executors and Administrators for their services, a certain per cent, in proportion to the amount of the estates by them settled; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Woodruff,

Resolved, That the judiciary committee inquire into the expediency of making a special allowance to guardians upon some definite rule, and also to compel guardians to renew their bonds every two years.

On motion of Mr. Lockhart,

Resolved, That the committee on the judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the punishment of masters of steam boats for carrying any person or persons beyond the place to which they may have shipped, contrary to the will of such passenger or passengers; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Kelso; the resolution moved by Mr. Kilgore on yesterday and laid on the table, relative to electing Representatives to Congress by general ticket throughout the state, was taken up, Mr. Crume moved to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of said resolution, which motion prevailed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Armstrong, Bell, Bennett, Bigger, Bower, Brackenridge, Bradbury, Brett, Bryan, Carr, Carter of C. Cook, Crume, Culbertson, Garry, Curtis, Davis, Dunning, Evans, Gaddes, Green, Hardesty, Hargrove, Harris, Henkle, Hoagland, Howard, Howell, Johnson of M. Latshaw, Leslie, Biston, Lockhart, Lowe, Marshall, McCalley, McDougle, McIntire, Moore, Nave, Newman, Parks, Puckett, Ray, Schooling, Shank, Shaw, Smith of F. Smith of R. Stafford, Stanford, Storm, Strain, Torbet, Vandevere, Walker, Willett, Wilson, Wilson of P. Wilson of V. Woodruff, Wright, and Gregory, Speaker—63.

NAYS—Messrs. Angle Chapman, Conwell, Hannaman, Kelso, Kilgore, Mendenhall, Phelps, Rockhill, Thompson, Vandevere, Wallace, and Wilson of H.—13.

## IN SENATE.

Saturday, Jan. 3, 1835.

Mr. Whitcomb, from the committee on the judiciary to whom was referred.

The same gentleman, from a resolution on that subject, reported a bill to amend an act to organize Probate Courts and defining the powers and duties of executors, administrators, and guardians, which was read and passed to a second reading.

On motion of Mr. Embree, it was

Resolved, That the President of the State Bank be requested to report to the Senate an exhibit of the condition of the State Bank and Branches up to the first day of January inst. as soon as ascertained; and also a statement

of the expenses incurred in organizing and the probable expense annually to be incurred in conducting the State Bank, and also a copy of the by-laws for the government of the Branches, and the names of the officers of the different Branches &c.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

December 13th.

The Speaker laid before the House the following report of the Commissioners to superintend the erection of the State House; which was read and referred to the committee on public buildings.

Indianapolis, Dec. 6, 1834.

To the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

The undersigned Commissioners to super-

intend the erection of the State House, respectfully report during the past year the progress of the building has been such as to satisfy them that it may be completed at least one year sooner than is required by the contract; and this the contractor proposes to do, provided the payments can be made as the work progresses. This we think can be done, except the amount required by law to be reserved until the building is completed. The workmanship and materials are thus far in the opinion of the Commissioners equal to the contract. 19,433.83 has been paid to the contractor for work done and materials furnished between the 1st Dec. 1833 and the 1st Dec. 1834.

Several alterations in the plan of the building have been made, none of which will materially augment the cost, and several of them we believe should be made. It has been proposed to place the stairs at the outside, instead of the centre of the rotunda, to make sky lights for the two Halls; to have for the second story, first a rough floor, then a covering of lime and mortar, and then a floor of thin plank, which it is supposed will lessen the noise from below and be a great security against fire. The Senate chamber might also be altered according to a drawing exhibited by the contractor, but the commissioners do not think that the galleries for the Representative Hall should be dispensed with.

In conclusion they beg leave respectfully to suggest that provisions should be made for inclosing the State House square, perhaps for the present with a good fence; that the appointment of a person to be specially charged with the protection of the building, should be authorized by law, and that the defacing, or endangering the building should be prohibited by sufficient penalties.

Respectfully submitted,

N. NOBLE,

M. MORRIS.

S. MERRILL.

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N. NOBLE,

M. MORRIS.

S. MERRILL.

*Robbery of Newspapers in the Post Office*—A very curious report, for which we cannot find room to day, appears in the Courier and Enquirer of this morning. The result of it is, that daily and other papers of this city, put in the Post Office here for distant subscribers, had had their wrappers torn off, and then been sold by one of the persons employed in the office as waste paper. The extent to which this has been carried, may be inferred from the fact, that one witness stated he had bought four thousand four hundred papers within two months from Mills in the Post Office.—A. Y. Amer.

*THE PUBLIC LANDS*—The annexed extracts from the Annual Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, exhibit a summary of the operations of that office for the year 1834. In his preliminary remarks, the Commissioner states that

"The sales of the national domain are annually increasing with the tide of emigration to the West and Southwest, and the accumulating population of those fertile and extensive regions. The vast territory of the valley of the Mississippi, extending east and west, from the Alleghany to the Rocky Mountains, and north and south from Upper Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, presents a scene for the contemplation of the philanthropist and political philosopher, and a field for the operations of the legislator, of the most sublime character and moral influence, as connected with human society, hitherto unperceived in the annals of the world. With a free white population greatly exceeding that of the United States at any period of the revolution, with every means of subsistence for tens of millions of population, and with resources beyond necessity of human wants and human convenience, with a climate more temperate and mild, and a soil more prolific and fruitful, than any which has hitherto been discovered, there requires no stretch of the imagination—no genius of exaggeration—no confidence in prophecy—to anticipate the future revenue and means of strength, prosperity and happiness, which the Divinity has designed and allotted to the transmontane valley of North America."

"The annexed statement exhibits for the year 1833, and the first three quarters of 1834, the quantity of public lands sold in each State and Territory; the amount of purchase money; the several amounts received in cash, in forfeited land stock, and in military bounty land scrip; and the amount of money paid into the Treasury. By this statement, and by a reference to my last annual report, it will appear that the sales of 1833 exceeding those of 1832, 1,393,883 acres, 1,856,908 dollars of purchase money, and the amount paid into the Treasury, 1,344,306 dollars; and that the sales of the first three quarters of 1834 exceed those of the corresponding quarters of 1833, 330,291 acre,

437,040 dollars of purchase money, and of the amount paid into the Treasury, the sum of 836,518 dollars. It is probable the aggregate amount of sales for this year will exceed those of the last, as also the amount of cash paid into the Treasury. The returns of the last quarter of the year generally present the largest amount of sales and purchase money.

"The accompanying tabular statement shows the amount of forfeited land stock issued and received at each land office, and of military bounty land scrip received, with the aggregate in each State and Territory, to the 30th of September last. On an examination of which, it will appear there has been issued of forfeited land stock, \$646,154.66, of which there has been received in payment for lands sold, the sum of \$632,743.85, leaving a balance not presented at the Land Offices of less than \$13,500.

"By the several acts of May, 30, 1830, July

13, 1831, and March 2, 1832, lands were ap-

propriated to satisfy unlocated Military Bounty

Land Warrants for services rendered in the ar-

my of the revolution, in the Virginia State Line

and Navy, in the Virginia Continental Line,

and in payment for United States warrants for

the same service. The appropriation made by

these acts is unlimited, as to the United States

warrants, and for those of Virginia, amount to

310,000 acres, for which scrip was directed to

be issued. Of this quantity of the Virginia war-

rant, scrip has been issued for 706,820 acres,

leaving a balance of 13,180 acres yet to be sati-

sfied, for which scrip will be issued so soon as

the applicants shall complete their title papers

to their warrants. A statement hereto annexed,

shows the number of each description of

which have been satisfied under these laws, the

quantity of land for which scrip has been issued,

the amount thereof in money, at one dollar and

twenty five cents per acre, with the number of

certificates issued, and their several totals;—in

which statement it will be seen, that, to the 15th

inst. 1544 warrants have been satisfied contain-

ing 892,570 acres, equal to \$1,118,212.50 in

12,049 certificates of scrip; and by the statement

it appears, of this amount, the sum of \$1,002,

360.12 have been received in payment of public

lands, up to the 30 Sep. last. Virginia warrants

have already been filed for about 60,000 acres,

exceeding the amount which can be satisfied with

scrip out of previous appropriations. I have no

data by which to calculate the amount not yet

filed, but from verbal information, I am of opin-

ion it would not be safe to estimate it at less