OFFICIAL.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

Journal of the Senate.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment. On the roll being called, twenty members answered to their names.

Leaves of absence were granted to Messrs. Elam, Gill, Humble and Sartelon.

The following gentlemen were announced the following bills, viz: Bills, being read, were, on motion, referred to their appropriate Committees:

Mr. Hynes—Petition of John Burke, praying for relief.

Mr. Lewis—Petition from G. A. W. Steadman, praying for relief.

Mr. McCrosie—Petition of John Williamson, for relief.

Mr. Pechin offered the following Resolution, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements:

Be it Resolved, &c., That the State Engineer be directed to remove the obstructions in the navigation of the Calcasieu River in said River from the town of Marion to the place where the Darbone and Calcasieu forks.

Mr. Caldwell obtained leave and introduced the following Resolution and documents accompanying the same:

Whereas, these annual overflows of the waters of the Mississippi on the coast of Louisiana exhibit dangers and create consternation amongst our people, calculated not only to injure the growing greatness and commercial importance of the State, but to prevent its increase in population. Nature seems to be making some new developments in this mighty River within the last few years, which may have been centuries in forming, but which are highly injurious, and without the intervention of science and the hand of art, at an early period, she may execute her will, beyond the power of science or of art to remedy.

Annual patchings and piecings have been made in the shape of levees, and in times gone by they have been successful, but lately they increase in magnitude and number, and thus far defy all remedies which were formerly applied

The bar at the mouth of the River remains choked with sedimentary matter, and is 100 feet higher than the bottom of the bed before New Orleans; consequently the resistance which it offers to the approaching water, checks its velocity and delays its passage out.

The water near the mouth being thus retarded, checks the velocity of the water higher up, which, being prevented from flowing off freely, must necessarily experience a rise in its surface, and in order to relieve itself, overflows its banks.

Were all the mouths of the Mississippi closed but one or two, the resistance of a vast accumulation of sedimentary matter would be removed, and would necessarily increase the velocity of the water above, which in time would act in a similar way on the water still further up; let this superfluity of mouths be closed so that the water may be able to bring its whole and undivided weight and velocity to bear on the accumulation of soft mud at one or two of the mouths, the immediate result must be the deepening of the bar, with a channel sufficient to float the largest vessels, and to relieve from danger the overflow of the banks on all the lower coast of Louisiana.

Some years ago, Congress made an appropriation for an experiment by dredging to deepen the channel at the mouth of the Mississippi; had the purpose been pursued it is beyond reasonable to suppose that much benefit would have been derived to the State, if only in a commercial point of view; what other benefits in contributing to the prevention of the late overflow by deepening the channel, will be discussed in the accompanying remarks, appended to the resolutions.

In order, therefore, that the good inhabitants of the State, as well as those along the banks of this mighty River, as those of the interior, may be free from future inundations—

Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the sum of dollars be and they are hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be paid by the Treasurer, on the warrant of the Governor or the Auditor of Public Accounts, to a competent corps of engineers to be appointed by the Governor, or so much of the said dollars as be may deem necessary for the duties to be performed by said Corps.

Be it further Resolved, That said corps of engineers shall proceed to select such point of the Mississippi river as they may think necessary, and make a thorough examination of the channel, and accompany their report with correct special levels, plans and profiles.

To make an approximate estimate of the cost of preventing the water at the upper end of the South-East or North-East Pass from dividing until it reaches the Gulf.

To make an accurate survey of the outlets of the Atchafalaya, Fourche and Lafourche, from their commencement to their mouths; the effect upon them of a rise in the main river, the quantity of water they receive from the main branch and the velocity of their currents compared with that of the main river.

To recommend a uniform plan with the best method of constructing levees,—what number of feet ought to be left on each side in order to preserve them as much as possible from washing, and render them less liable to be swept away in time of flood and to give such general information in the premises as the most careful execution of their instructions will enable them to give.

On motion, the same was referred to the Joint Committee on Levees, with instructions to print such of the resolutions and documents as they might think proper.

Mr. King on behalf of the Committee on Judiciary, to whom had been referred the following entitled bills and petitions, reported on the same unfavorably.

An act to incorporate the Shreveport and Texas Road Company in the parish of Caddo.

An act to incorporate the congregation of Roman Catholics of Patterssonville and its vicinity, in the parish of St. Mary.

An act for the relief of John Perkins.

An act to regulate practice in the Supreme Court, from the parishes of Claiborne, Bienville, Bossier and Caddo.

Petition of Alfred Boisblanc.

An act to prevent Forgery.

An act for the relief of Mary Grabeillan Andrews.

An act to emancipate Adolphus G. Brickham.

An act authorizing Notaries to perform the marriage ceremony in this State.

An act to regulate the prescription of foreign judgments.

An act making the limitations of all open accounts expire at the same time without distinction.

An act to explain an act entitled,

An act to dispense with the publication in the French language of all advertisements and judicial proceedings in certain parishes in this State, approved 26th April, 1847.

An act to emancipate the slave Magdaline, the property of Florian Mouton.

Petition of Marcel Richard and Julian Moche asking to legitimate two bastard children.

An act for the suppression of Gambling.

Petition of Nicomede & Theard, asking for relief.

Resolution to Mr. Rivers, in relation to instructions to the different Committees.

An act empowering the Governor to select two Notaries Public in the city of New Orleans to be depositors of blank certificates of legalization, andsales of blank passports bearing the seal of the State, &c.

An act providing for the safety of persons and property on board of steamboats navigating in the State of Louisiana.

The same gentleman on behalf of the same committee to whom was referred the bill entitled,

An act to reduce the salaries of State officers, reported the same back to the House and asked that the same be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion, said report was adopted.

The same gentleman, on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the bill entitled,

An act for the relief of the Firemen's Charitable Association, reported the same back to the House and asked that the same be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion, said report was adopted.

The same gentleman on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the bills entitled,

An act to amend the Road laws and—

An act to provide for the appointment of certain persons from road duty, reported the same back to the House, with the following resolution:

Resolved, That in order to suspend the necessity of so much special legislation, in reference to the road police of the State, it is made the duty of the Committee on Parochial Affairs to examine the various laws on this subject, and report to the House as soon as practicable, a general system of road laws, applicable to the wants of every portion of the State.

On motion, the above resolution was adopted.

The same gentleman, on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the bill entitled "An act to perpetuate testimony," reported by a substitute under the following title: "An act to repeal section 19th of an act entitled 'An act to organize and define the authority, duties and functions of the Police Jury of the parish of Jefferson, and for other purposes,' approved January 30, 1834."

The same gentleman, on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the following entitled acts—viz:

An act to amend an act entitled An act to incorporate the city of New Orleans, approved March, 9, 1836; and also An act to abolish interest on bills for paying due to the several Municipalities of New Orleans—reported them back to the House, and asked that they be referred to the Joint Committee of the two Houses on the reconsolidation of the city of New Orleans.

On motion, the above report was adopted.

The same gentleman, on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the following entitled bills—viz:

An act to authorize constables in the parish of Jefferson to appoint deputies.

An act to change the time of holding courts in the 12th Judicial District.

An act relative to proceedings in criminal cases.

An act to amend an act regulating the fees to be paid for the arrest of runaway slaves.

Reported the same back to the House, without amendments.

The same gentleman, on behalf of the same committee, to whom was referred the following bills, entitled

An act for the relief A. Mimed, and

An act for the relief of Alexander J. Blackburn, for services rendered the State during the invasion by the British in 1814 and '15.

Reported the same back to the House without amendments.

Mr. Watts, on behalf of the Committee on Public Education, to whom was referred the Report of the Secretary of State on the State Library, together with the documents and correspondence thereto annexed, report that in consequence of their great length and difficulty of reading them in their present manuscript form, they respectfully suggest the propriety of having the same printed.

On motion, the above report was adopted and the usual number ordered to be printed.

The same member, from the same committee, to whom was referred the memorial of Municipality No. 2, of the city of New Orleans, reported progress on the same.

On motion, said report was adopted.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from J. F. H. Claiborne, in relation to selecting a site for a State Seminary.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Public Education.

The Speaker also laid before the House the report of the Register of Public Lands.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

The Speaker also laid before the House a report of the contingent expenses of the Executive office for the years '48 and '49, and also a statement of the expenses of the removal of the State offices to Baton Rouge.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Finance.

NOTICES OF BILLS.

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

Mr Sever—An act to provide the mode of giving notices to parties and intervenors in cases in which steamboats or other vessels are attached, provisionally seized or sequestered.

Mr. Preston—An act to provide for the election or appointment of certain officers by the municipal and parochial authorities of the State, who are now ap, ointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate of the State and to relieve the Governor from said appointment.

Mr. Jackson—An act to improve the navigation of Bayou Boeuf, in the Parishes of Rapides, Avoyelles and St. Landry.

Mr. Babin—An act for the establishment of a depot at Bateo Rouge for the purpose of mooring and safe keeping machinery, &c., belonging to the State Engineer's Department while an infirmary attached thereon.

Mr. Barker—An act to enable and authorize the owners of shrimp, marsh and other lands, to drain the same.

Mr. Harper—An act for the relief of the heirs of Thos. C. Lawrence, deceased, of the Parish of Tensas.

Mr. Lewis—An act to confirm the proceedings of Epibell Haynes, liquidator of the Clinton and Port Hudson Railroad Company.

Mr. Morrow—An act for the relief of E. T. Jones and James J. Thompson