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LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

SACRAMENTO, April 17, 1854.

SENATE—Met at 10 A. M.—President *pro tem.* (Mr. Keene,) in the Chair.

No quorum being present, Mr. Sprague moved a call of the Senate. The Sergeant at Arms was dispatched after absentees.

Under a temporary suspension of the call, Mr. Sprague obtained leave to introduce a bill for an act concerning Public Ferries and Toll Bridges. Read by section for information, and ordered printed.

Mr. McGarry presented a petition from citizens of Yolo, against the passage of Assembly bill, authorizing Board of Supervisors to levy a special tax for the payment of County debt.

Mr. May, from State Library Committees, reported in favor of passage of bill, appropriating \$5,000 to State Library.

At ten minutes to 12 o'clock, no quorum being present, the Senate adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—

PETITIONS.

Mr. Hollister presented a petition from citizens of El Dorado for the passage of an act to authorize W. Bardet to collect toll on a bridge over the South Fork of the American River on the route called Johnson's Cut-off. Read, and referred to Committee on Roads and Highways.

INTRODUCED.

Mr. Letcher introduced a bill for the formation of a State Agricultural Society. Read, ordered printed, and referred to Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Van Cleft introduced a bill to amend section 7th of the act concerning the office of Surveyor General. Read, and referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. McKenney introduced a bill to prevent gambling. Read, and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Conness offered a resolution that the Committee on Judiciary be instructed to report back within three days the several bills for the prevention of gambling referred to them. After an explanation from the Chairman the resolution was withdrawn.

NORTHERN BOUNDARY.

Mr. Whipple, from Committee on Ways and Means, reported back a bill for the survey of a portion of the northern boundary of the State and recommended its passage.

The bill provides for the survey by the Surveyor General of the northern boundary of Klamath and Siskiyou counties from Pilot Knob to the ocean.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. Bradford in the Chair, for its consideration. An amendment was adopted limiting the expense to \$2500, and the bill was reported back and passed.

INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

Mr. Dannels, from Committee on Indian affairs, reported back Senate joint resolutions for remuneration to our citizens for injuries sustained by the action of the Indian Commissioners, and recommended its passage.

Mr. Bradford offered a substitute.

The Senate resolutions request our Representatives in Congress to call the attention of the proper department to the losses sustained by pre-emptors in being removed by the Indian Commissioners. The substitute in addition requests the delegation to call the attention of the proper department to the subject of the claims of our citizens incurred by the order of the Indian Commissioners appointed for the State in furnishing provisions to the Indians.

The substitute was opposed by Messrs. Conness and McBrayer as endorsing the action of the Commissioners in the wrongs it was acknowledged they had committed.

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Mr. C. said that persons having just claims could now present them to the proper department, but if the substitute was adopted it would be construed into an endorsement of all these claims. He then showed that the action of the Commissioners had been repudiated by previous Legislatures and by the United States Senate.

Mr. Bradford said that the substitute could not be construed into such an endorsement; such was not his intention. But there were just and equitable claims which should be paid. He knew of one in his own county for \$30,000, for which the person had paid this amount in cash, supposing that he would be repaid by the General Government.

Mr. McBrayer was opposed to the resolutions in toto. Every person knew at the time of the appointment of these Commissioners that they were not authorized to expend more than \$30,000, and he could not see how, without intention of fraud, an American citizen would enter into these contracts without first inquiring into the power and authority of the Commissioners. After some further discussion by Messrs. Warmcastle and Bradford in favor of the substitute, as endorsing equitable claims and not endorsing the action of the Commissioners, the substitute was withdrawn.

Mr. Danna stated, that the subject of these claims had been before the Committee on Indian Affairs for some time past, and that they would probably be prepared to report after another meeting.

On motion, the resolutions were referred back to the committee without instructions.

BENICIA WATER FRONT.

Mr. Dawley, from Committee on Commerce, reported back bill granting the city of Benicia certain water lot property in front of said city, and recommended that it should not pass. Pending the discussion of this bill, the hour arrived for the consideration of the special order, being bill defining the boundaries of El Dorado, Calaveras and Sacramento.

Mr. McDaniel moved to strike out the South Fork of Dry Creek, as the boundary between El Dorado and Calaveras, and insert the North Fork of Dry Creek. This motion was discussed at length by Messrs. Gordon and Pratt in favor and by Messrs. McDonald, Conness, Tallmadge, Ballou, Stephenson and Springer, in opposition. The motion was carried. Ayes 26, Noes 17.

Mr. McDonald moved a reconsideration, pending which motion, Mr. Conness moved a call of the house. Lost, ayes 23, noes 24.

The house refused to reconsider. Ayes 21 Noes, 30.

Mr. Conness said that the house had refused to grant a call of the house, so that there might be a full house upon the settlement of a question that was about passing in opposition to the united wishes of the entire delegation from El Dorado Co. The bill altered the boundary of the county, and was of vital interest to the people residing in that portion of El Dorado, proposed to be added to Calaveras, and he asked as a favor, that the bill should be laid on the table. Carried, ayes 30, noes, 15.

Bill granting to Benicia the water lots in front of said city, was on motion of Mr. Whitman, made the special order for Wednesday.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. Davidson, from Committee on Accounts and Expenditures, reported back bill making an appropriation for contingent expenses of the Legislature, and recommended its passage. House in committee of the whole. Mr. Bradford in the chair, considered the bill and reported it back.

After a lengthened discussion Mr. Hoyt moved that the bill be recommitted with instructions to enquire and report as to the amount of contingent fund on hand, the amount expended, the purposes for which it was expended, and the probable appropriation needed adopted.

INDIGENT SICK OF YUBA.

Mr. Jones from judiciary committee reported in favor of the passage of Senate bill, authorizing the Court of Sessions of Yuba Co. to levy a special tax for the support of the indigent sick, read and passed.

SWAMP AND TULE LANDS.

A special message was received from the Governor, urging upon the Legislature the passage of an act to secure to the State the swamp and overflowed lands granted under the Act of Congress.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, the message was referred to a special committee of three, with instructions to report a bill. Messrs. Griffith, James and Haslings appointed as the Committee.

Mr. McBrayer offered the following joint resolutions.

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Whereas, an abolition document purporting to come from the Society of Friends, in London, has been addressed to each member of this body, and

Whereas, such documents, under the cover of religious teachings, advise treason, immorality, and a general disobedience of the laws of the Union, therefore be it

Resolved, By the Senate and Assembly concurring, That the pages and porters of the two Houses be directed to gather up said documents, and in imitation of the Indian burial service, make a funeral pyre of the same, and be it further

Resolved, That the Society of Friends in London, be requested, in the sole name of Humanity, to attend to the interest of the white slaves of England and Ireland, and be kind enough to allow the people of the United States exclusively to look after the affairs and condition of the poor African within their own borders.

Mr. Myers offered the following as an amendment:

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the Society of Friends in London; to George Stacey, Secretary in 1849 of the yearly meeting of the religious Society of Friends, held in London; and to Messrs. Josiah Foster, John Candler and William Holmes, Philadelphia.

The amendment was adopted, and after a lengthened discussion the resolutions passed. Ayes 26, Noes 22.

After the reference of several bills, the House adjourned.