

Trinitarian Times

Pennsylvania Legislature.

Harrisburg, Jan. 20, 1854.

A few petitions were presented and several local bills reported from Standing Committees, all in place to incorporate the Brandywine Railroad Company.

Mr. Davis one supplementary to the several acts relating to Collateral Injuries.

Mr. Price a supplement to the several acts relative to the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace.

Mr. McClintock one supplementary to the act establishing a system of education by Common Schools.

Mr. Jamison a preamble and resolution instructing our Senators and Members of Congress to oppose any reduction of his duty on salt.

The bill to amend the charter of the Franklin Canal Company then came up on its final passage.

Mr. Buckley appeared in his seat and defended the position on the bill. He referred to his absence during the discussion of the subject yesterday and said what had been said in reference to his desire to speak upon it. He had desired to examine some of the legal points involved in it; but was unable to do so for want of time, and for this reason was not prepared to vote on it, and asked to be excused from voting. He moreover desired to be heard on the Gauge question, and when that came up he would give his views as to the wisdom and propriety of the act of the last session, repealing the general Gauge Law.

The subject was further discussed by Messrs. Price, Crabb and Quiggle.

Mr. Price made an able speech, principally reviewing the subject in a judicial and legal point of view, and making a very able argument to show that the Company had violated its charter, and forfeited every shadow of right to the privileges originally granted it.

He said the honor of Pennsylvania absolutely demanded this act at the hands of her Legislature. He treated the subject gravely, but sincerely and earnestly, disclaiming any intention or desire to do injustice to any body, but in a spirit showing that Pennsylvania will stand by her rights, and that her honor shall be her guiding star. He was listened to throughout with marked attention.

On motion of Mr. Quiggle, an amendment was adopted, providing that no other company, heretofore chartered, shall construct a canal parallel to the Franklin road, or parallel therewith, to the Ohio line, without a special subsequent grant.

The preamble also was slightly amended.

The bill then passed finally by a unanimous vote, as follows:

Year—Messrs. Barnes, Crabb, Crosswell, Darsie, Evans, Ferguson, Foulkrod, Frock, Fry, Goodwin, Haldeman, Hamilton, Heister, Jamison, Kinzer, McClintock, McFarland, Piant, Price, Quiggle, Skinner, Sifer, Wherry, McCaslin—24.

The bill goes to the House for concurrence.

The Senate then adjourned.

House of Representatives.

The House met at 11 o'clock.

After prayer the journal of the preceding day was read.

The speaker announced that Messrs. Hart, Dougherty and Blodred were appointed additional members of the Committee on Railroads.

Mr. Hart on account of press of business and already being a member of several Committees, asked to be excused from serving on the Committee on Inland Navigation Co.

The House accordingly excused him.

The Committee on Estates and Estates reported that they had adopted certain rules for the transaction of business before that Committee.

The Committee will not act on any bill authorizing the purchase, mortgage, &c., of real estate, where the courts have authority to act in the case. And that satisfactory evidence must be laid before the Committee that the courts have no power in such case. And they must also be satisfied that such bill is presented with the concurrence of all parties interested, and particularly of those who may be hostile to it with their objections.

Mr. Bigham presented a joint resolution making several amendments; adopting single legislative districts, prohibiting local, special, and omnibus legislation prohibiting the traffic in intoxicating liquors, and abolishing the death punishment.

Land on the table.

Several gentlemen exclaimed that the resolution itself was an omnibus.

Mr. Roberts, offered a resolution that the Speaker be authorized to appoint a Committee of five members, to be called the Committee on Reforms, to whom shall be referred all bills, joint resolutions, &c., suggesting alterations or amendments to the Constitution. Agreed to.

Mr. Morse, read in place, a bill amending to an act incorporating the Pittsburg and Steubenville Railroad Company.

Mr. Patterson, one to repeal all taxes upon wages.

Mr. Carisle, one to incorporate the Farmers High School of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Strong, a bill supplementary to the act incorporating the German Catholic Society of the Holy Trinity of Philadelphia, with an accompanying memorial. [This is in a case of disputed possession of church property.]

Title of a third reading then coming up, the bill "Further Supplement to an act entitled an act to encourage manufacturing operations in this Commonwealth, approved the seventh day of April, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and forty seven," came up for final passage.

This bill is as follows:

Substituted. That the stockholders of all companies heretofore incorporated, or to be incorporated, in accordance with the provisions of the act to which this is a supplement, and the several supplements thereto shall be jointly and severally liable in their individual capacities, only to debts due to miners, carpenters, and other laborers employed by such companies, and for materials and other materials furnished for such work being individually liable.

Companies respectively, to be enforced and reduced to the manner provided for in the act to which this is a supplement.

Section 2. So much of the nineteenth section of the act entitled, an act to incorporate the Virginian Hose Company, of the District of Southwark, &c., approved April fourteenth, A.D. 1811, one thousand eight hundred and fifty one, as relates to dividends declared by companies incorporated, the purport of the provisions of the act to which this is a supplement, to be and the several supplements thereto, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Mr. Chamberlain offered an amendment that the provisions of this act be extended to the manufacturers of porcelain, ironstone, china, plate-glass, and earthenware in general.

A debate here sprang up on the first section of the bill, which controls the individual liability of stockholders for certain debts.

The bill was finally laid over for another day.

On motion of Mr. Fletcher, the House adjourned over to Monday, at half past one.

Montrose, PENNA.

Thursday Morning, Jan. 26, 1854.

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