

MR. SPEAKER:—I have the honor to communicate to you a message from the Governor in writing.

No. 26, C. F. A bill to regulate public printing, was taken up, and the amendments of the Council to the second and third amendments of the House were not concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Marshall,

The vote by which the House refused to concur in the amendment of the Council to the third amendment of the House to said bill, was re-considered.

And the amendment of the Council to said third amendment, was then concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Jackson,

The vote by which the House refused to concur in the amendment of the Council to the second amendment of the House to said bill, was re-considered.

And the question being, will the House concur in said amendment, it was decided in the negative.

And the yeas and nays being desired,

Those who voted in the affirmative, are Messrs. Brunson, Dugas, Holmes, Jackson, Johnson, Pond, Trask and Wells—8.

Those in the negative, are Messrs. Babcock, Bailly, Black, Dewey, Marshall, Morrison, Russell, Wilkinson and Furber, (Speaker)—9.

On motion of Mr. Jackson,

The message from the Governor was read.

TERRITORY OF MINNESOTA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT. }
St. Paul, Oct. 31, 1849. }

To the Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives:

SIR:—I return herewith to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, "An act for the election of Commissioners to prepare a code of laws for the Territory of Minnesota," presented to me on Saturday, the 27th inst., without my signature; which a sense of public duty constrains me to withhold for the following reasons:

By the clear terms of the act, the three Commissioners, with their clerk, may meet immediately upon the adjournment of your present session, and continue their sittings from day to day, until the meeting of the next Legislative Assembly, on the first Wednesday of January 1851—a period of fourteen months.

I do not think the present condition and interests of the Territory require this amount of labor—equal to that of one man for four years; nor do I think circumstances warrant the expenditure it would involve.

The latter objection is entitled to more force, as the appropriation by Congress for the expenditures of the Territory, might be held not to contemplate services of this kind, in which event, the people of the Territory, who are yet without treasury or public treasure, would be compelled to tax themselves for means to compensate services authorized by their representatives.

In this, the infancy of the Territory, would it not have been as well to have conferred this commission upon but one person, or at most, two, to whom a liberal compensation might have been allowed, without at the same time, swelling the aggregate of expenses to an unreasonable amount?

I take this step the less reluctantly, as since the passage of the bill, members of both houses have called upon me with the assurance that its features were not fully understood, nor its consequences contemplated during its progress.

In a message of the Hon. Henry Dodge, late Governor of the Territory of Wisconsin, upon an occasion somewhat similar, he uses the following language, which, as the Organic Law of our Territory, in this respect, is like that of the former Territory of Wisconsin, I adopt and reiterate:

“In entering thus minutely into the details and merits of this present bill, I feel myself justified by the powers vested in me by the Organic Law of the Territory, which constitutes the Governor a distinct branch of Legislative authority, in addition to the duties imposed on him as the Executive branch of the government; and I take the occasion to say, that at all times, in considering a bill submitted to me by the Legislative Assembly, I will not feel myself confined to an examination of the constitutionality of its provisions, but shall reserve to myself the right of giving my judgment upon its general expediency, and of giving or withholding my assent as circumstances may justify.”

Should the Assembly see fit so to modify the present bill, that the amount of expenditure it will occasion may be limited to a known and reasonable sum, it shall receive my signature.

ALEX. RAMSEY.

No. 19, H. of R. An act for the election of Commissioners to prepare a code of laws for the Territory of Minnesota, returned by the Governor without his signature, was taken up.

And the question being, shall the bill pass?

And the yeas and nays being desired,

Mr. Dugas voted in the affirmative.

Those who voted in the negative, are Messrs. Babcock, Bailly, Black, Brunson, Dewey, Holmes, Jackson, Johnson, Marshall, Morrison, Pond, Russell, Trask, Wells, Wilkinson and Furber, (Speaker)—16.

So the House refused to pass the bill.

No. 43, H. of R. An act to amend an act entitled an act to provide the means to pay the public debt of the Territory, and for other purposes, was taken up, and the amendments of the Council to said bill were not concurred in.

No. 51, H. of R. A bill granting to Anson Northrop and Wm. J. Lewis the right to establish and maintain a ferry across the Mississippi river, was taken up, and the amendments of the Council to said bill, concurred in.

No. 38, H. of R. A bill concerning Courts of Record, was taken up, and the amendment of the Council concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Trask,

The message from the Council was read.

No. 28, C. F. A bill to provide for the location of the permanent seat of government by a vote of the people, and for other purposes, was taken up.

And the question being, will the House recede from its amendments to said bill, it was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jackson moved that a committee of two be appointed to confer with a similar committee on the part of the Council, on the disagreeing vote of the two Houses on said bill.

The Speaker appointed Messrs. Jackson and Wilkinson said committee.

No. 4, H. of R. A bill to incorporate the St. Paul and St. Anthony Plank Road Company, returned from the Council with amendments, was taken up, and the amendments of the Council concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Jackson,

The House adjourned until 7 o'clock.

7 O'CLOCK. P. M.

A message was received from the Council by J. R. Brown, their Secretary, and then he withdrew.

On motion of Mr. Marshall,

The message from the Council was read, and is as follows:

MR. SPEAKER:—The Council have postponed, until the next session of the Legislative Assembly,