

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

By His Excellency William H. Ruffin, Esquire, Governor, Captain-General and Commander in Chief and of the State aforesaid.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS I have this day been informed that the fourth Monday in May next has been fixed on for the meeting of the next Congress of the United States...

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority in me vested by and conferred at the last Session of the General Assembly, entitled, "An Act dividing the State into Districts for electing Representatives to Congress..."

In Testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be lawfully affixed, and signed the same at the City of Raleigh, this eleventh day of March in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States the Thirty-seventh.

WILLIAM H. RUFFIN, Governor.

JUNUS SNEED, Secretary.

An Act for dividing the State into Districts for Electing Representatives to Congress.

BE it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That this State shall be divided into Thirteen Districts as follows, to wit:—The Counties of Perquimans, Chowan, Currituck, Camden, Gates, Pasquotank and Hertford shall compose one District; The Counties of Northampton, Bertie, Halifax and Martin shall compose the second District; The Counties of Beaufort, Edgecombe, Hyde, Pitt, Tyrrel and Washington shall compose the third District; The Counties of Lenoir, Craven, Jones, Carteret, Wayne, Greene and Johnston shall compose the fourth District; The Counties of New-Hanover, Brunswick, Onslow, Duplin, Sampson, Bladen and Columbus shall compose the fifth District; The Counties of Franklin, Granville, Warren and Nash shall compose the sixth District; The Counties of Richmond, Amos, Moore, Cumberland, Robeson and Montgomery, shall compose the seventh District; The Counties of Orange, Wake and Person shall compose the eighth District; The Counties of Rockingham, Stokes, Guilford and Caswell shall compose the ninth District; The Counties of Randolph, Rowan and Chatham shall compose the tenth District; The Counties of Mecklenburg, Cabarrus and Lincoln shall compose the eleventh District; The Counties of Burke, Rutherford, Haywood and Buncombe shall compose the twelfth District; and the Counties of Wilkes, Surry, Iredell and Ashe shall compose the thirteenth District—Each of which Districts shall be entitled to elect and send one Representative to the Congress of the United States.

II. And be it further enacted, That the election shall be held on the same days and at the same places as are now prescribed by Law for holding elections for members to represent the several counties in the General Assembly of this State, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, and at the same time and places every two years thereafter; all of which elections are to be conducted by the Sheriffs or by other persons legally appointed therefor, in like manner as the annual elections of the members of the State Legislature, except that the Inspectors of the Election and Clerks of the Polls shall be sworn or affirmed to act with justice and impartiality, which oath may be administered by any Justice of the Peace or any other person thereunto authorized; and that each qualified voter shall be admitted to give his suffrage only in the county wherein he resides.

III. Be it further enacted, &c. That if any event shall happen to render the Meeting of Congress necessary after the third of March next, and before the time herein fixed for the ensuing election of Representatives, or if after the expiration of any future Congress and before the time fixed for the election then next to ensue, a new Congress shall be called, his Excellency the Governor, on receiving information to that effect, is hereby authorized to declare the same by Proclamation, and to require the Freemen of this State to meet in their respective counties, at the time or times therein to be appointed, and at the places established by Law, then and there to give their votes for Representatives, which elections so held in pursuance of the proclamation of the Governor, shall be conducted in like manner, and to all intents and purposes shall be as legal and valid as if the same had been held at the time or times prescribed in the preceding section of this act.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person whatsoever shall vote more than once in any election for a Representative in Congress for his District, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty pounds, to be recovered before a single Justice of the Peace one half to the use of the person suing for the same, and the other half to the use of the County in which the offence is committed. And in counties where separate places of election have been or shall be appointed, and at the places directed by this act shall be conducted in the same manner as elections for members of the General Assembly heretofore had, each officer presiding at an election making return of the Poll, which has been had before him, unto the Sheriff or other returning officer of his county, at the Court-house thereof, on or before the Monday immediately following the election.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That immediately upon the close of the election in each county where there is but one place of election, the Sheriff or other returning officer shall in the presence of the Inspectors of the election, cast up the scrolls and make out two correct statements of the number of suffrages given in his county to each Candidate, one of which statements shall be by the Inspectors filed in the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County, after the same is duly certified by the said returning officer, and a majority of the Inspectors and the Sheriff or other returning officer by himself or Deputy, shall attend with the other on the day and at the places herein after mentioned; And in each county where separate elections are holden, the presiding officer at each place of election, shall immediately upon the close of the Poll, in the presence of the Inspectors, cast up the scrolls and make out two correct statements of the number of suffrages given thereat for each Candidate; one of which statements shall be by the Inspectors of said poll, filed in the office of the Clerk of the court of pleas and quarter-sessions of the county, after the same has been duly certified by the said returning officer and a majority of the Inspectors, and the other shall be delivered to the Sheriff or other returning officer of the county as prescribed in the preceding section; and the Sheriff or other returning officer as aforesaid, shall publicly, at the Court-house aforesaid, ascertain by fair addition of the suffrages returned, the whole number received for each candidate in the county, and thereof shall make two statements under his hand, one of which he shall file in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of his county, and the other by himself or Deputy shall attend on the day and at the place herein after mentioned.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Sheriff or other returning Officers of the counties of each district shall meet on the Thursday next after each election, at the Court-house of each county first mentioned in their respective Districts: Provided always, That if any accident shall happen to either of the returning officers which may prevent any or either of them from meeting on the day aforesaid, the returns of each and every of

them shall be returned on the day following; and the Sheriff or other returning officer failing to attend at the time and place above mentioned, shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty pounds, to be recovered for the same of the said return, upon due proof thereof in any Court of Law within this State, by an action of debt in the name of the Treasurer of the State, for the time being; And when the Sheriff or other returning officers shall be convened as aforesaid, the poll for the different counties shall by the said Sheriff or other returning officers, (as the case may be) in presence of three Justices of the Peace, who are to be summoned by the Sheriff or other returning officer of the county where they shall meet for that purpose, be examined and compared, and a certificate under the hands and seals of said returning officers shall be given to the candidate in each district for whom the greatest number of votes shall have been given in said district; But if two or more candidates shall have an equal number of votes, the said returning officers shall determine which of them shall be the Representative; And if no decision is by them made then they shall decide the same by drawing in the presence of the Grand Jury as drawn in the Superior courts.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That each and every person who shall be duly elected a representative under this act, shall, upon obtaining a certificate of his election according to the direction above mentioned, obtain from his Excellency the Governor, a Commission certifying his appointment as a representative of this State, which certificate the Governor is hereby empowered and required, on such certificate being produced to him, to issue.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That every Sheriff or other returning officer holding elections in pursuance of this act, shall be allowed the sum of twenty-five shillings for every thirty miles travelling to, and returning from the place of comparing the polls in the district, and the same sum for every day he shall necessarily attend for the purpose of comparing said polls; and also the amount of his expenses, which shall be paid by the Sheriff or other returning officer of the county where he shall be so employed.

IX. And be it further enacted, That in the event of the death or resignation of any representative or representatives of this State, in the present Congress of the United States, the vacancy or vacancies so occasioned, shall be supplied by the suffrages of the electors from the same district by which the deceased or resigned representative was originally elected.

Read three times and Ratified in General Assembly, the 22d day of December A. D. 1812.

W. MILLER, S. H. C.

Wm. H. L., Secretary.

COMMITTED

TO the Jail of Rockingham county, on the third day of February last, a Negro Man who says his name is Jambrose—that he belongs to Peter Hucherson of Mecklenburg, Virginia. He is about five feet five inches high, of a brown complexion. The owner would do well to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take him away.

NEWMAN JONES, Jailor. Rockingham county, 1st March 1813. 11 3t pd

NOTICE.

AT the last County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions held for the county of Robeson, letters of administration was granted to the subscribers on the estate of Joseph Smith, deceased. All persons indebted to the said estate, are requested to come forward and make payment. And those to whom the estate is indebted will bring their claims properly authenticated within the time prescribed by an act of the General Assembly passed in the year 1785, concerning wills, and granting letters of administration on intestate estates, otherwise they will be debarred of recovery.

ALEXANDER ROWLAND, } Ad'mrs. ANGUS TAYLOR.

WILL BE SOLD

ON the 22nd of March next, at the Store of Joseph Smith, deceased, in the town of Lumberton, all the personal property of said deceased, consisting of an assortment of Dry Goods and Groceries, with a considerable quantity of Leather. Six months credit, purchasers giving notes with approved security.

ALEXANDER ROWLAND, } Ad'mrs. ANGUS TAYLOR. Lumberton, Robeson county, Feb. 26th, 1813. 11 6t

NOTICE.

AT the last Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the county of Montgomery, Administration to the estate of Nathan Forest, deceased, was granted the subscribers all persons having claims are requested to present them within the time limited by law.—Those indebted are required to make payment.

ELIZABETH FOREST, JOHN KIRK. February 25, 1813. 11 3t pd



Foreign.

The ship Canton, Allen, arrived at N. York on the 26th of February, in 40 days from London, brings the latest accounts from England. From the London Gazette.

DECLARATION.

The Emperor Napoleon, in order to preserve the relations of peace and amity with the United States of America having unfortunately failed, his Royal Highness, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, deems it proper publicly to declare the causes and origin of the war in which the government of the United States has compelled him to engage.

No desire of conquest or other ordinary motives of aggression has been or can be, with any color of reason, in this case, imputed to Great Britain: that her commercial interests were on the side of peace, if it could have been avoided without the sacrifice of her maritime rights, or without any injurious submission to France, is a truth which the American government will not deny.

His Royal Highness does not however mean to rest on the favorable presumption which he is entitled. He is prepared by an exposition of the circumstances which have led to the present war, to show that Great Britain has throughout, acted towards the United States of America, with a spirit of forbearance and conciliation; and to demonstrate the inadmissible nature of those pretensions, which have at length unhappily involved the two countries in war.

[Here the declaration enters into an historical account of the Berlin and Milan decrees, and other hostile measures of France towards neutrals; the retaliatory orders in council of Great Britain; the consequent embargo, non-intercourse and non-importation acts of the American Congress, and the different diplomatic representations and explanations which have taken place on those subjects between Great Britain and America, the particulars of all which have been long before the public.—The declaration then continues.]

The American government, before they received intimation of the course adopted by the British government, had in fact proceeded to the extreme measure of declaring war, and in doing so, they were not without having previously in possession of the Report of the French minister for foreign affairs, of the 12th of March, 1812, promulgating such the Berlin and Milan decrees, as fundamental laws of the French empire, under

the same and extravagant pretence, that the numerous principles and maxims which were to be found in the Treaties of Commerce, and which were binding upon all nations. From the probability of such a course, it was to be expected, which did not require it, that the American government would have been obliged to have taken the same course, and to have done so, the observance of which it was also required to enforce upon Great Britain.

In a manifesto accompanying their declaration of hostilities, in a volume to the former commissioners against the orders in council, a long list of grievances was brought forward, some trivial in themselves, others which had been mutually justified, but none of them such as would ever be alleged by the American government to be grounds for war. As if it were not the American government to be the aggressor, the American Congress at the same time passed a law prohibiting all intercourse with Great Britain of such a nature, as to prevent the Executive government, according to the President's own construction of that act, of all power of restoring the relations of friendly intercourse between the two states, so far at least as concerned their commercial intercourse, until Congress should re-assemble. The President of the United States says, it is true, since proposed to Great Britain an armistice, but, however, on the admission that the cause of a rupture had been removed; but on condition that Great Britain, as a preliminary step, should do away a cause of war, now brought forward for the first time; namely, that she should abandon the exercise of her undoubted right of search to take from American merchant vessels, British seamen, the natural born subjects of her majesty; and this concession was required upon the mere assurance that law would be enacted by the Legislature of the United States, to prevent such seamen from entering into their service; but independent of the objection to an exclusive reliance on a foreign state, for the conservation of a vital interest, its expiration was, or could be afforded by the agent who was charged with this overture, either as to the municipalities upon which such laws were to be applied, or as to the provision, which was proposed they should contain. This proposition having been objected to, a second proposition was made, again in a similar manner, provided the British government would secretly stipulate to renounce the exercise of this right, as a treaty of peace. An immediate and formal abandonment of this right, as preliminary to a cessation of hostilities, was not granted; but the Royal Highness, in the Prince Regent, was required, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, secretly to abandon what the former overture had proposed to him publicly to concede.

The most offensive proposition was also rejected, being accompanied as the former had been by other demands, of the most excessive nature, and especially of indemnity for all American vessels detained and condemned under the orders in council, under what were termed illegal blockades—a compliance with which demands, exclusive of all other objections, would have amounted to an absolute surrender of the rights in which those vessels and blockades were founded. Had the American government been sincere in representing the orders in council as the only subject of difference between Great Britain and the United States, calculated to lead to hostilities, it might have been expected, so soon as the revelation of those orders had been officially known to them, that they would have spontaneously recalled their "letters of marque" and manifested a disposition immediately to restore the relations of peace and amity between the two powers. But the conduct of the government of the U. States by no means corresponded with such reasonable expectations. The order in council of the 23d of June being officially communicated to America, the government of the United States saw nothing in the repeal of the orders in council, which should of itself restore peace, unless Great Britain were prepared to do so at once; and to relinquish the right of impressing her own seamen when found on board American merchant-ships. The proposal of an armistice, and of a simultaneous repeal of the restrictive measures on both sides, subsequently made by the commanding officer of his majesty's naval forces on the American coast, were received in the same hostile spirit by the government of the United States. The suspension of the practice of impressment was insisted upon in the correspondence which passed on that occasion, as a necessary preliminary to a cessation of hostilities; Negotiation, it was stated, must take place without any suspension of the exercise of that right; and also without any armistice being concluded; but Great Britain was required previously to agree without any knowledge of the adequacy of the system which could be substituted, to negotiate upon the basis of accepting the legislative regulations of a foreign state, as the sole equivalent for the exercise of a right, which she has felt to be essential to the support of her maritime power.

If America, by demanding this preliminary concession, intend to deny the validity of that right, in that demand Great Britain cannot acquiesce; nor will she give countenance to such a pretension, by acceding to its suspension, much less to its abandonment, as a basis on which to treat. If the American government has devised, or conceives it can devise, regulations, which may safely be accepted by Great Britain, as a substitute for the exercise of the right in question, it is for them to bring forward such a plan for consideration. The British government has never attempted to exclude this question from among those in which the two states might have negotiated. It has, on the contrary, uniformly professed its readiness to receive and discuss any proposition on this subject, coming from the American government; it has never asserted any exclusive right as to the impressment of British seamen from American vessels, which it was not prepared to acknowledge, as applying equally to the government of the United States, with respect to American seamen when found on board British merchant-ships: But it cannot, by acceding to such a basis in the first instance, either assume, or admit that to be a sacrifice, which, when attempted on former occasions, has always been found to be attended with great difficulties, such difficulties as the British commissioners in 1806, expressly declared, after an attentive consideration of the suggestions brought forward by the commissioners on the part of America, they were unable to surmount.

What this proposition, transmitted to the British admiralty, was, being in America, another communication on the subject of an armistice, was unofficially made to the British government in this country. The agent in whom this proposition was received, acknowledged that he did not consider, that he had any authority himself, to sign an agreement on the part of his government. It was obvious that any stipulations entered into, in consequence of this overture, would have been binding on the British government, whilst the government of the United States would have been free to refuse or accept them according to the circumstances of the moment. This proposition was therefore, never arily declined.

After this exposition of the circumstances which preceded, & which have followed the declarations of war by the United States, his royal highness the prince regent, acting in the name and on behalf of his majesty, feels himself called upon to declare the leading principles, by which the conduct of Great Britain has been regulated in the transactions connected with these discussions.

His royal highness can never acknowledge any blockade whatsoever to be illegal which has been duly notified and is supported by an adequate force, merely upon the ground of its extent, or because the ports or coasts blockaded are not at the same time invested by land. His royal highness can never admit, that neutral vessels of Great Britain can be constituted a public enemy, the commission of which can expose the ships of any power, whatever, to be denominated.—His royal highness can never admit that Great Britain can be debarred of its rights of just and necessary retaliation, though the fear of eventually affecting the interests of a neutral. His royal highness can never admit that in the exercise of her undoubted and heretofore undisputed right of searching neutral merchant vessels in time of war, the impressment of British seamen, when found therein, can be deemed any violation of a neutral flag. Neither can he admit the taking such seamen from on board such vessels can be considered by any neutral states as a lawful measure or a justifiable cause of war.

There is no right more clearly established, than a right which a sovereign has to the allegiance of his subjects, more especially in time of war. Their allegiance is no optional duty, which they can decline and resume at pleasure. It is a call, which they are bound to obey; it began with their birth, and can only terminate with their existence. If a similarity of language and manners may make the exercise of this right more liable to partial mistakes and occasional abuses, when practised towards vessels of the United States—the same circumstance make it also a right, with the exercise of which, in regard to such vessels, it is more difficult to dispense. But, if to the practice of the U. States to harbour British seamen, be added their assumed right to transfer the allegiance of British subjects, and thus to cancel the jurisdiction of their legitimate sovereign, by acts of naturalization and certificates of citizenship which they pretend to be as valid out of their own territory as within it, it is obvious that to abandon this inherent right of Great Britain, and to admit these novel pretensions of the U. States would be to expose to danger the very foundation of our maritime strength.

Without entering minutely into the other topics, which have been brought forward by the government of the United States, it may be proper to remark, that whatever the declaration of the United States may have asserted, Great Britain never did demand that they should force British manufactures into France; and she formally declared her willingness, entirely to forego, or modify in concert with the United States the system, by which a commer-

cial intercourse with the enemy had been allowed under the protection of licenses; nor did she demand that she should act towards Great Britain with any impartiality. The government of America, in its conduct towards Great Britain, has not only not acknowledged any offence against her, but has also, in the most explicit manner, acknowledged the right of a British officer, to acknowledge and his conduct was approved, and a representation was regularly tendered by Mr. Foster to the part of his majesty, and accepted by the government of the United States. It is not necessary to enter into a detail of the measures of Mr. Henry's mission, undertaken without the authority, or even knowledge, of his majesty's government, and which Mr. Foster was authorized to disavow officially to disavow. The charge of treating the Indians in a hostile manner against the United States is a charge equally void of justice. Before the war began, a policy the most opposite had been wholly and entirely pursued, and was followed by Mr. Foster to the American government. The measures of the United States, which have been put forward by the government of the United States, are the real origin of the present contest will be found in that spirit, which has long unhappily regulated the conduct of the United States, their marked partiality, in granting and assisting the aggressive tyranny of France, in their systematic endeavor to increase their power against the peaceful measures of Great Britain; their unprovoked conduct towards Spain, the intestine animosity of Great Britain, and the consequent diversion of the cause of other neutral nations. It is through the prevalence of such councils that America has been associated in policy with France, and committed in war against Great Britain.

And under what conduct on the part of France has the government of the United States thus been involved? The contemptuous violation of the commercial treaty of the year 1793, between France and the United States; the treacherous seizure of all American vessels and cargoes in all harbors subject to the control of the French arms; the tyrannical principles of the Berlin and Milan decrees, and the confiscation under them, of the subsequent indemnities under the Rombault decree, and the subsequent edicts to render it more effectual; the French commercial relations which render the traffics of the United States with France almost totally impossible; the burning of their merchant ships at sea, long after the alleged repeal of the French edicts; and the partial seizure of the part of French produce from the ports of the United States; the unjust appropriation of their acquisitions and commissions, as a compensation for their own injuries; and by causing them to be made a legal form of hereditary property, by causing them to be made a legal form of hereditary property; the partition of the government of the United States; the complete subversion of the ruler of France; this hostile temper towards Great Britain—a evident in almost every part of the official correspondence. The American with the French government—against this course of conduct, the measure of the present war, the Prince Regent's solemn protest is. Whilst protesting against France, it is not only the liberality of Great Britain, but the world, his royal highness was entitled to look for a different course, in which the principles of justice and common interests—from their political principles of hereditary independence, the United States were the last power, in which Great Britain could have procured to find a willing instrument, and arbiter of French tyranny. Disappointed in this just expectation, the Prince Regent will still pursue the policy which the British government has so long and invariably maintained, in repelling injustice, and in supporting the general rights of nations; and, under the favor of Providence, relying on the justice of his cause, and the tried loyalty and firmness of his British nation, his Royal Highness confidently looks forward to a successful issue of the contest, in which he has been compelled to act reluctantly to engage.

February 9, 1813.

The Schooner Thetis, captain Bolton, left Bourdeaux on the 23d of January, arrived in the Delaware on the 25th of February, bringing the latest intelligence from France, and the Bourdeaux L'Indicateur.

From the New-York Evening Post of February 25.

We are told that captain Allen had a London paper of the 28th of December, which he gave to the boarding officer of a frigate by which he was spoken soon after he left Lisbon. This paper, it is said, contained an account of the surrender to the Russians, of Bonaparte's army of the north, under Oudinot and Ney. The former 24,000, and the latter with 16,000. It was also mentioned that Bonaparte was five days in a forest, surrounded by the Cossacks, and finally made his escape with a small guard of well mounted officers.

At a sitting of the Conservative Senate on the 10th of January, His serene highness the Prince Arch Chancellor, delivered an address of which the following is an extract.

"The emperor, who relies upon the love of his people, and who appreciates their resources, has judged it unnecessary to deviate from the usual dispositions. His majesty would ever have deferred making use of them, if an unexpected event had not caused him to think, that whilst profiting of the useful co-operation of allies, it is above all, the display of our forces which must accelerate the moment of an honorable peace; such a one as the French can in their hearts desire, and such as his majesty has never ceased to offer to his enemies.

"It is in that spirit, gentlemen that the project now submitted to your deliberation, was digested."

The Prince Arch Chancellor, then submitted the report of the Duke of Bassano, minister of Foreign Relations, of which the following is an extract.

"With the garrisons of the places of France and Italy, your majesty has in the interior of your states a force of upwards of 300,000 men, which is sufficient to maintain the war against Russia, during the ensuing campaign. And your intention was, sir, to ask no extraordinary aid, provided all your allies especially Austria, Denmark and Prussia, remained faithful to the common cause.

Austria, Denmark and Prussia, have given your majesty the strongest assurances of their sentiments. Prussia has even offered to increase one third, and to raise to 30,000 men the quota she was engaged to furnish by treaty.

But whilst that power was manifesting dispositions so conformable to her engagements and to her political interests, the intrigues of England were preparing one of those events which characterises the spirit of disorder and anarchy, which that power has never ceased to foment in Europe. General d'York, commanding the Prussian troops under the orders of marshal duke de Tarente, has at once betrayed his honor, his general and his king; he has made a perfidious stipulation with the enemy.

There are no intrigues, no low underhand dealings, which England has not put in motion to change the dispositions of the sovereigns. But whilst she finds them firm to their interests, and unshaken in their alliance with your majesty, she has undertaken to bring to

General d'Y. It is said went over to the Russians with 30,000 men.