

and express, together with his demurer as the cause thereof. And the said courts respectively shall and may, by virtue of this act, from time to time, amend all and every such imperfections, defects, and want of form, other than those only which the party demurring shall set down as aforesaid, and may at any time permit either of the parties to amend any thing in the process or pleadings, upon such conditions as the said courts respectively shall in their discretion and by their rules prescribe.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that so much of the two acts, mentioned in the title of this act, and so much of every other act as comes within the perview of this act, shall be, and is hereby repealed and made void.

W LENOIR, S. S.

S. CABARRUS, S. H. C.

Read three times and ratified in general assembly, the 13th day of December, A. D. 1790.



About one thousand emigrants from Scotland have arrived in this state within a few weeks past.

The latest accounts from Europe are, that the two fleets have returned into their respective ports without coming in sight of each other, and that the preparations for war were going on with as much vigour as ever; but whether there will or will not be a war is still doubtful—People in England are as divided in their opinions, and at as great a loss what to believe as we are. The report of yesterday is contradicted by that of to day.

Saturday next, the first of January, being the day appointed for the election of town commissioners, it is requested that the inhabitants of this town will attend at the usual place of election for that purpose.

DIED—On Monday morning last, after a short illness, Mr. JOSEPH PATTERSON, of this town, merchant; and on Tuesday his remains were interred by the Phoenix lodge of Free-Masons, with the usual solemnities.

— Last week, JAMES COUNCIL, esquire, of Bladen county.

— In Wilmington, ARCHIBALD MACLAINE, esq. lic.

Fayetteville, December 10, 1790.

WHEREAS some illiberal attempts have been made, since the adjournment of Congress, to misrepresent my conduct with regard to the assumption of the state debts, and to impress on the minds of the people a be-

lief that I have been regardless of their interests in not conveying timely information of that event to the press, I have thought proper for the satisfaction of my friends, to publish the annexed papers.

Copy of a letter from John Steele, esquire, to William B. Grove, esquire, in Fayetteville, dated at New-York, July 27, 1790.

“S I R,

“THE assumption of the state debts passed yesterday—The yeas and nays on the question are inclosed—This event proves what can be effected by perseverance. In a good cause it is usually styled a virtue, but in this instance it deserves the appellation of obstinacy. The passage of the bill was effected by a change in the sentiments of General Sumpter, Mr. White, Mr. Carrol, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Gale. I have sent Dr. Sibley by this conveyance the same information, and all the papers from the time you left this place until the present day, to which I refer you for the news.

“I am sir,

“Your humble servant,

“JOHN STEELE.”

Fayetteville, December 10, 1790.

THIS may certify, that the above letter from Mr. Steele was delivered to me in Fayetteville, on or about the 16th day of August, 1790, and the newspapers inclosed therein (which I have lost or misplaced) containing the yeas and nays, classed Mr. Steele among the number who had voted against the assumption of the state debts.

WILLIAM B. GROVE.

Fayetteville, December 10, 1790.

HAVING resided in New-York during the last session of Congress, and having been intimately acquainted with the conduct and sentiments of the representatives of North-Carolina on the passage of the funding bill, I am enabled to certify, that John Steele, esquire, and his colleagues not only voted against the assumption of the state debts, but opposed the measure spiritedly in all its stages.

ABISHOU THOMAS,

Agent for settling the accounts of North-Carolina with the United States.

IT is well known that the funding bill never received the signature of the President until the 4th of August; and it can be made appear by Spruce Macoy, esquire, that a copy of the law, and a letter from me on the subject, were read publicly at Morgan superior court the first or second day of September. Add to this, I declare upon my honour, that I wrote a letter to Dr. Sibley, the same hour that I wrote the above to Mr. Grove, containing the same information, and accompanied with 20 or 30 new-

papers, requesting him to publish the account through the medium of his paper, to save the people from imposition.—

That I have not directly or indirectly been concerned in the purchase of certificates, and I defy the tongue of malice itself to make it appear that I have on any occasion deserted or neglected the interests of my constituents.

JOHN STEELE.

Fayetteville, December 10, 1790.

THIS may certify, that the letter and newspapers which Mr. Steele forwarded for me from New-York, alluded to in his letter to Mr. Grove, I never received, they having, as I suppose, fallen into the hands of some person interested in keeping from the press the information contained therein. And I do further declare, that I never bought or sold, or have been interested in buying or selling a public security of any kind whatever, since I have been in North Carolina; and that the bill for the assumption of the state debts by Congress was published in the Fayetteville Gazette the next publication after I received it, which was inclosed to me in a letter from Col. Benjamin Smith, who was at that time in Charleston, accompanied with a request for its speedy publication; and that instead of keeping back from the public any useful information, it has been my constant endeavour to disseminate it as soon as possible. The public mail being carried along the sea coast, with which we have no connection, except at a private expence, which the procuring Congressional information has generally been attended, it would therefore seem that the readers of the Fayetteville Gazette, in the northern and western parts of the state, where the greatest number are circulated, would rather be induced to wonder that so much, than to find fault that so little of the proceedings of Congress were transmitted to them through that channel. Indeed the editor conceives himself more justly entitled to a punctual payment of subscription money as a reward for his expence and trouble, than illiberal reproaches. The great number of letters that passed through my hands from Mr. Steele, while at Congress, to persons in the districts of Salisbury and Morgan would have induced any one to believe, that his negligence in corresponding with his constituents would be the last charge brought against him. It was to me a matter of surprise that he could find time to write so much; and I understood during the late session of the general assembly, that the executive of the state received more communications from Mr. Steele, than from all our other members of Congress.

JOHN SIBLEY.