

# Wilmington Centinel,

## AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

T H U R S D A Y, JANUARY 29, 1789.

### MISCELLANY.

From the MASSACHUSETTS CENTINEL.

#### THE CONVERSION.

A FRAGMENT.

"From trivial causes great events arise."

—AVONIUS was a confident, decided mal content.— With him, a thing to be hated, need not but meet with general admiration.

When the new Constitution was first promulged, Avonius was silent on the subject: But when its merits were generally known, and its excellence universally acknowledged, Avonius zealously condemned it.—It *score, he said, the marks of despotism—and the features of tyranny shewed themselves in every line*: In short, with Avonius, it *was the worst system ever formed by man*.

After it had been ratified by Nine States—and the people no longer found a necessity in warmly espousing it, Avonius became its opposer; and at length, softened down to a warm Amendmentite: Then Amendments and alterations of some parts were the burden of his song—his morning and evening meditation.

At this time, Avonius had occasion to travel into a neighbouring state.—On the road lived an old classinate—and Avonius having promised never to "pass without calling," made his house his noonday stage. It was somewhat late, but his friend had a fine Turkey roasting at the fire—which, with other country cheer, seemed to promise to Avonius a good dinner.

Being seated, the favourite topic was breached.—But, alas, the friend of Avonius was a staunch Federalist: the discussion therefore was *warthy*, and, on the part of Avonius, warm.—The summons to dinner, however, put an end to it.

Instructions had previously been given.—"Take away that Turkey, and *bring me a good one*," said the host.—"Bring me a deer," answered his lady, "had you not better *try it before you condemn it*—you may be deceived.—Besides, I have taken much pains in the *king—and to say the least, it looks like a good one*."—"No, no, my dear, it will not do, my friend Avonius has convinced me, that a *king ought not to be tried to be proved—it is not good—so John take it away*."—Avonius felt the force of his friend's wit, but was surprised to see the servant, with all imaginable *fang froid*, carrying off the Turkey. He said nothing; but partaking of the other things of the table, he made out to dampen his appetite a little. His friend pledged him in a glass of good wine, but not a word about the Turkey or the Constitution.—Dinner being over, Avonius bid his friend farewell, and the tavern being then several miles distant—the hour for meals being passed—and he interable hungry, the scales fell from his eyes—he saw and cursed the absurdity of his political tenets, and has since returned, a warm advocate for the Constitution's having a fair trial before it is ALTERED.

### EUROPE.

DUBLIN, October 15.

YESTERDAY the venerable Earl Nugent, father of our Vice-Queen, paid the great debt of nature, at an age no less honoured than advanced, at the house of Gen. O'Donnell, in this city. His Lordship was a branch of the Westmeath family, and originally seated at Carlanstown, near Castle Pollard, in the same county.—Though born to a handsome estate, his vivacity and aspiring genius led him early to England, where conspicuous merit soon procured him the esteem of all good judges. In or about the year 1748, we find Mr. Nugent representative for the city of Bristol in the British House of Commons, and a favourite of the late Prince of Wales,

who gave him an honorable employment in his household. His reputation for excellent understanding, great knowledge of the world, and above all, an unbiassed integrity, which illuminated his character at every period of life, encreasing with his years, his late Majesty was pleased to advance so worthy a subject to the Peerage, by the style and title of Baron Nugent, of Carlanstown, and Viscount Clare; which being Irish honours, did not deprive the House of Commons, to whom his Lordship had long been a political compass, of the light and assistance dependent on his great experience and knowledge of our excellent constitution, on which no smiles of Court or honours of Royalty, could induce him to make or suffer the least infringement. He was the steady friend of liberty, his Sovereign, and the laws. He advised and aided Ministers, when the public measures were conducive to the people's welfare and happiness, but as strenuously opposed them when his nice conscience and superior sense informed him, that something rotten was to be imposed on the state of Great-Britain. The honours his Lordship had already received, bloomed so fair on his venerable brows, that his present Majesty raised him to the dignity of an Earl. His country, to which he was always a powerful and steady friend, has to lament that his residence in this kingdom was so late resolved on, as to afford just a glimpse of that happiness which a longer life would have perfected. It has, however, the consolation of receiving his last sigh, and of being the repository of as much worth as the soil could produce.

By the decease of the Right Hon. Earl Nugent, the fortune of his Excellency the Marquis of Buckingham will be augmented in no less a sum than 14,000l. per annum.

The noble Earl has bequeathed his personal fortune, amounting to upwards of 200,000l. between two relations, the Hon. Col. Nugent, one of the Aids de Camp to his Excellency the Marquis of Buckingham, and Capt. Nugent, of the navy, who is also a member of the British House of Commons.

LONDON, October 20.

Arret of the French King's Council of State of the 5th of October, 1788. for convoking an Assembly of Notables on the 3d of next November.

His Majesty observes, that having caused to be laid before him an account of the various forms adopted at different periods in convoking this Assembly; and that a multitude of disputes relative to elections consumed a great part of the holding of the last States General, who frequently complained of the disproportion established for the division of suffrages.

His Majesty, struck with these different considerations, and many others less important, but which united together, merit a serious attention, has thought it his duty not to reserve to the examination of his Council one of the greatest resolutions which government have ever been called upon to take. The King wishes that the States General may be composed in a constitutional manner; and that the ancient customs may be respected in all the regulations, applicable to the present time, and in all the dispositions conformable to reason and the legitimate rights of the greatest part of the nation. The king expects, with confidence from the States General of his kingdom, the regeneration of public prosperity, and the strengthening of the French Empire. They have then a right to be persuaded that his sole desire is to prepare beforehand the ways which may lead to this harmony, without which all the lights and all the good intentions will become useless.

His Majesty thinks, then, that after one hundred and seventy-five years since the States General assembled; and after the great changes which have arisen in many essential parts of the public order, he cannot take too many precautions, not only to clearly explain his determination, but also to give to the plan which he adopts the most solid sanction. Animated by an equal spirit, and yielding solely to that love of good which directs all the sentiments of his heart, his Majesty has considered it as the wisest part to call to him for the aid of their councils, the same Notables who assembled, by