

RICHMOND, December 16. *Extract from the Journal of the House of Delegates, Saturday, Dec. 12.*

The House according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Shield reported, that the committee of the whole House had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the commonwealth, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerks, where the same were again twice read and are as follows:

Resolved, That the Senators representing this state in the Senate of the United States, be, and they are hereby intrusted, and the representatives requested to unite their utmost exertions, to obtain in their respective Houses, the following amendments to the constitution, viz:

1. "That no treaty containing any stipulation upon the subject of the powers vested in Congress by the eighth section of the first article, shall become the supreme law of the land, until it shall have been approved in whole particulars, by a majority in the House of Representatives; and that the President before he shall ratify any treaty, shall submit the same to the House of Representatives."

2. "That a tribunal, other than the Senate, be instituted for the trial of impeachments."

3. "That the Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof for three years, and each senator have one vote: Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first section, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year; the second class at the expiration of the second year; and of the third class at the expiration of the third year, so that one third may be chosen at the expiration of every year."

4. "That no person holding the office of a judge under the United States, shall be capable of holding at the same time any other office or appointment whatever."

A motion was then made to amend the said resolutions, by striking out the whole of the said resolutions, and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

"Whereas in all radical changes that may be contemplated in the constitution of a country, it is fit and wise that the same should be published for the consideration of the community, before they receive legislative sanction, more especially so, when such radical changes are proposed to be applied to our present system of Federal Government, which was the result of long and mature investigation, and may be deemed a happy compromise of the conflicting interests of separate and independent sovereignties, for the purpose of establishing among them perpetual union."

"Be it Resolved, That the further consideration of the proposed amendment to the constitution of the United States, be postponed until the next meeting of the General Assembly and that copies thereof be printed and distributed among the good people of this commonwealth, for their consideration."

It passed in the Negatives. Ayes 29. —Noes 70.

The first resolution being then read a third time, was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the house—Ayes 88—Noes 32.

The second, third, and fourth resolutions being then read a third time, were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the house.

Ordered, That Mr. Taylor, (of Prince George) do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

N O R F O L K, Dec. 17. Messrs. Willett & O'Conner, GENTLEMEN,

I send you an extract of a letter highly interesting to the navigation of the United States, if the contents are true; also the proceedings of the house of Representatives

of the United States to this day—Be pleased to publish both the extract and the proceedings, for the information of my constituents. With due respects, &c.

J. PARKER.

Philadelphia, Dec. 7, 1795. *Extract of a letter from a mercantile House of the first reputation in Malaga, dated 26th Sept.*

"The chief motive of the present is to communicate to you that all the differences between your states and the Emperor of Morocco, and the Dey of Algiers are now finally adjusted, in a manner that gives us reason to believe their friendship will not again be interrupted—as also that your Flag may now navigate these seas for the space of one year without Mediterranean Passes—after which period they must be provided with the said protections."

INTERESTING INFORMATION OF THE STATE OF IRELAND.

[From a quarter, on which the Editors place the utmost reliance.]

By a letter from Dublin it evidently appears, the Government entertains such apprehensions, as to have lately employed the leading members of opposition to procure an interview at the Castle with the Catholic Committee, and some other respectable friends to liberty.

At this interview, somewhat like terms of capitulation, were offered to those they have formerly oppressed, and whose justice they dread:—An aggregate meeting of the citizens of Dublin was proposed, at which Messrs. Grattan, Ponsonby, and Corren, declared their intention of attending and enforcing the necessity of Parliamentary Reform, the abolition of tithes, and in short of every other grievance of which it has been any wise late to complain.

The repeal of those penal laws which still exist, was offered to the Catholics, who, in the enlightened spirit of men deserving to be free, declared, they had now given their emancipation up—that they were unalterably determined never more to move as a separate body, but united and acting in concert with their countrymen—to rise with them or sink in their ruin.

The result of the deliberations was, that nothing could be done, since the people would no longer support such measures, jutting up to those of a more solid nature.

From a late London Paper. PROPHECY of Dr. SMOLETT, (Written a few months before his Death.)

"Of all the kingdoms of Europe, I think our own island in the greatest danger respecting her colonies, and in the least with regard to her affairs at home. At home you have a few radically discontented men, with a vast and undoubted majority, who are inviolably attached to the present establishment. In our American colonies, we may almost say they are all Republicans to a man; that nothing but the tie of interest, and the want of power to stand alone, has hitherto preserved them in their allegiance to the crown of Great-Britain, which, you may rely upon, they will embrace the first fair opportunity to shake off: nor would such an event, in any view, be at all disadvantageous to the present state, or to the colonies themselves, provided it were possible it could happen without loss and bloodshed; of which I fear, the present stock of wisdom and moderation, on either side, can afford us no certain assurance."

To turn our eyes towards our West-India islands, I think the prospect looks still more gloomy and alarming. It has ever excited my astonishment, that nobody, either in England or those islands, should entertain the least dread or forecall of the danger us consequent of introducing such an immense multitude of African slaves into them, or the smallest compunction for the enormous wickedness of the act, exaggerated as it is a thousand degrees, by being perpetrated by men whose nation sets so high a value upon their own liberty, and who pretend to such an aversion from deeds of cruelty. If we have no apprehensions of the vengeance of divine justice, for the countless and horrid barbarities which are constantly exercised on the miserable slaves of those colonies, still com-

mon sense ought to learn us, there is a point beyond which human affairs cannot go; that it is not possible that such numbers, who possess every day they live the power of their own freedom, will suffer such extremities for ever: that the blow must come at some period or other, which may be this year as well as the next; and that when it does come it brings with it a desolation impossible to be withstood. That a revolt of the slaves must happen before many years, I will venture to predict? and if it should happen on the island, to whatever European nation it belongs, the West-India Isles will never afterwards be in a state of safety.

* Since this letter was written we have lost our American colonies.

† It is impossible here to avoid turning our eyes to the late horrors in St. Domingo.

NEW BERN, JANUARY 2:

From a London paper. ATTACK ON THE KING.

His majesty's private coach, was attacked, between the palace and Buckingham house by sixteen or seventeen ruffians, who issued forth from the grand mob. A gentleman of the navy office, who stood by at the time put his hand into his pocket, and by an involuntary motion, cocked a brace of pistols which he had with him; but seeing the horse guards at a distance, it immediately occurred to him that their assistance would be more essential than his own, and he therefore ran, with the utmost speed towards them, and brought them to the rescue of his sovereign: but fortunately his majesty's coachman had already extricated the carriage from the mob, and the ruffians had joined the crowd, so as to render it impossible to mark any one of them.

Nothing can more clearly prove the malevolent designs of the hired mercenary in the park, than the exclamation which issued from the mouths of many—"No peace! Down with George!"

His majesty's body-coachmen declared, in his examination at the bar of the house of lords, that he had never been so frightened in his life; as he was while the mob was pressing round the carriage. He was fearful of putting his horses into a gallop, as they were so full of spirit as to render him apprehensive that he should not be able to stop them; and he was equally afraid of preserving his usual pace, lest he might expose his sovereign to still more serious dangers.—The manner in which he stated his embarrassment, displayed the most grateful zeal, and the most feeling heart.

The bullet which passed through the state coach, is supposed to have proceeded either from an empty house, in which, it was very extraordinary, at such a time, that not a single soul should appear at any of the windows; or else from a dray, on which stood a number of ill looking fellows, apparently intent on mischief.

One of the horse guards was going to cut down a man, whom he conceived to have made an attack on his sovereign; but the humane interposition of his majesty, who declared he was not the person, saved his life.

The troops, during the whole of the business on Thursday, conducted themselves with the utmost propriety. The zeal they displayed in protecting the person of the king and the consequent welfare of the nation, reflects equal honour on them as men and as soldiers. The conduct of these brave fellows must appal those mercenaries, whose impotent efforts have been vainly exerted to seduce them from their duty; and must render equally abortive the attacks of a foreign foe, or the more daring and dangerous attempts of domestic traitors.

The glass of the king's coach, which was perforated by the bullet, was taken out at the house of Peers, and is now at the secretary's of state's office—a striking proof of the assassin's infernal design!

On his majesty's return to Buckingham-house, he exclaimed, with the consciousness of insulted virtue—"I have been treated most cruelly, and most undeservedly!"

When his majesty entered the house of peers, the first words he uttered were these to the lord Chancellor;

"MY LORD, I HAVE BEEN SHOT AT."