

ment now being ended, we will only say in respect thereof, that if the exercise alone of a government constituted on the principles it was, could render a people happy under it, we could have been so.

We rejoice that while the Territorial government has closed with honour to you, it has left us in a state of prosperity and peace. You are now first, called by the unanimous voice of a free people, to represent them in the Senate of the United States of America, the highest proof in their power to offer of their confidence in your integrity and abilities to serve them.

The reply of the Hon. Mr. Blount, to the General Assembly of this state.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Senate, and Mr. Speaker, and gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

The entire approbation of the people of my conduct in office, by you testified, is the highest reward I could receive.

Accept, Gentlemen, my thanks for the prompt and warm manner in which you have been pleased to convey it to me. With you I hope that the peace which exists between the citizens of the United States and the Indian tribes, will long continue as in peace consists the happiness and prosperity of both parties; and thus impressed, it shall be my duty, in whatever situation I may be placed, to use my efforts to its preservation.

I feel as I ought the unanimous call of my fellow citizens, to represent them in the Senate of the United States, and shall devote myself to the promotion of their interest, as far as is consistent with that of the whole body politic of which they are a part.

Accept gentlemen, my best wishes for your individual happiness.

WILLIAM BLOUNT.

Knoxville, April 8, 1796.

NORFOLK, April 26.

At a meeting of the Citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth, held at the Town-Hall, in the Borough of Norfolk, April 26, 1796, convened agreeable to notifications to consider of the propriety or impropriety of addressing Congress on the subject of the British Treaty.

SETH FOSTER, Esq. Mayor of Norfolk Borough, was elected President, and JOHN COWPER, Secretary.

Resolved unanimously, That an address be presented.

Resolved, That a committee be composed of the following gentlemen, viz. John Nivison, Willis Wilson, William Newsum, Thomas Emmeron, Richard E. Lee, John Kearnes, George Kelly, Daniel Bedinger, William Wilson, Robert Taylor, jun. Josiah Cowper, Thomas Parker, and Edward Archer, do prepare an Address for the consideration of the meeting.

The committee returned, and the Chairman reported the following address.

(See address at bottom.)

The Address being read, a motion was made to adjourn until to-morrow morning.

A motion was made to adjourn until this afternoon at four o'clock, which was negatived.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Address reported by the Committee be received as the sense of this meeting, and that the same, together with a copy of these proceedings, signed by the President and Secretary, be transmitted to the Representatives of this District in Congress.

On the question, Ayes 90.

Noes 33.

The meeting was then dismissed.

SETH FOSTER, President.

JOHN COWPER, Secretary.

To the Honorable the House of Representatives of the United States.

The Address of the Subscribers, Citizens of the towns of Norfolk and Portsmouth.

Respectfully represent,

THAT they have attended to the deliberations of your honorable body upon the British treaty, with a solicitude proportioned to the importance of the subject, and that they were content to have awaited the decision of your honorable house, from a reliance that

such decision would have comported with the honor and interests of our country.—But as attempts are making to induce your house to adopt measures touching the said treaty, which, under existing circumstances, are not, in our judgments, calculated to promote the interests of our country, we cannot forbear also to express our sentiments.

We declare that we have ever considered that a treaty, in the nature of that now under your consideration, could not be fully and completely carried into effect without the concurrence of your house; founded on a conviction of the expediency of such concurrence, and we contemplate with extreme sensibility every attempt that has or may be made to deprive your house of such an important constitutional right.

We forbear to enlarge on this subject, though so interesting to our feelings, and we shall only add that we do not believe any partial or local considerations of policy, will influence your decisions on this important question,—but are firmly persuaded that the faith, honor, interest, and happiness of the people of the United States, will not be endangered by withholding the appropriations required to carry the treaty into effect.

Signed in behalf of a meeting of the citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth, held this 26th day of April, 1796, at the Town-Hall, in the Borough of Norfolk, agreeable to a resolution of the said meeting, directing the same to be signed by us, President and Secretary to the said meeting, on their behalf.

SETH FOSTER, President.

JOHN COWPER, Secretary.

NEWBERN, MAY 14.

Congress of the United States.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, April 25.

Mr. Tracy, of the committee of claims, made a report upon the petition of William Sargeant, secretary of the North Western territory, for his additional services as governor. The report, which was read a second time, and committed to a committee of the whole on Wednesday, recommended that \$75 dollars should be allowed him.

The Speaker informed the house he had received a letter from the governor of the North Western Territory, inclosing two petitions which he requested, as that territory had at present no representative in the House, the Speaker would present. They were accordingly read. One related to lots of land which the petitioners had been promised and which they had not received; the other prayed for permission to import slaves, into that country from other states, so as to increase the number. They were referred to different committees.

The following petitions were presented in favour of the British treaty. By Wm. Livingston, from the state of New York, 17 different petitions, signed in the whole by 3286 persons; Mr. Mulenberg from Blockley in Philadelphia township, signed by 87 persons; by Mr. Isaac Smith a petition signed by 240 citizens, from New Jersey, and afterwards 2 others, one of which was signed by 70, the other not certain; one by Mr. Hartley from 29 merchants of Philadelphia, by Mr. Kirta from Pennsylvania, signed by 123 names; 2 by Mr. Sitgreaves, from the same state, signed by 242 persons; one by Mr. Richards and 3 by Mr. Thomas, all from the same state; Mr. Gallatin, from the state of Delaware signed by 40; and by Mr. Goodhue from the same state signed by 97; and 2 by Mr. Brent from Alexandria.

Mr. Gallatin presented a petition from the state of Delaware, against the treaty, signed by 91 persons; and Mr. S. Smith presented a petition signed by the chairman and clerk of a society of manufacturers and mechanics at Baltimore, consisting (as Mr. Smith informed the house) of about 400 respectable persons praying that House would use its own discretion with respect to the treaty before them, uninfluenced by any other consideration than the public good.

This petition caused considerable debate.

Messrs. Ames, Thatcher, and Sitgreaves, opposed its being received, as it was from an unincorporated society, as it is supposed to be the petition of a number of men, and was only signed by two, and that even these two, as they had signed the petition in official character, might not approve of its contents. It was supported by Messrs. S. Smith, Macon, Findley, Gallatin, Hillhouse, Madison, and Kitchell, as a practice not uncommon in that house (the societies for the abolition of slavery and the society of Quakers were mentioned as instances) that they had frequently received petitions of societies signed by their chairman and secretary, which, if they were incorporated, were not incorporated for that purpose; and that raising an opposition to the practice in this particular instance seemed as if gentlemen were determined to introduce uneasy sensations into their debates.

The inhabitants of St. Clair, complained by petition of the grievances, experienced by an holding of courts different from heretofore by Judge Turner. Their complaint was referred to a select committee.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union; when the resolution for carrying into effect the British treaty being under consideration, Mr. Fenderson and Mr. Harper spoke in support of it. At the conclusion of Mr. Harper's speech, there was a divided cry of "committee rise" and "the question"; when the sense of the committee being taken it was in favour of rising, there being 50 votes for it, which was a majority of the Members in the House.

Extract of a letter from Richmond.

"The accounts received by last post have given great alarm, and the consequences which may result from the House of Representatives refusing to pass the necessary laws to give effect to the treaty are thought of a most serious nature. It is understood that Mr. Bond has given notice that the British Court are ready to execute the treaty on their part fully, if not prevented by this country. It is understood that all along between this and Potomack a degree of anxiety prevails, and that the general opinion is generally in favor of the President and execution of the treaty."

Five Dollars Reward.

STRAYED or stolen from the plantation of the subscriber on the 16th April, a dark bay horse about fourteen hands high, one white hind foot; and at the same time was stolen from the plantation of Amos Simmons, a small sorrel horse with a cut main, he has some small white spots on the side of his jaw below the ear; any person securing the said horses so that I get them again shall receive the above reward.

NEEDHAM SIMMONS.

James County, May 14.

FOR SALE
AT THE
PRINTING-OFFICE,
A FEW COPIES OF THE
LAST ACTS OF ASSEMBLY.
April 9.

JUST PUBLISHED
AND FOR SALE AT THE
PRINTING-OFFICE,
A
DESCRIPTION
OF
OCCACOCK INLET,
AND OF ITS
COASTS, ISLANDS, SHOALS, AND
ANCHORAGES,
WITH THE COURSES AND DISTANCES,
TO AND FROM THE MOST REMARKABLE
PLACES,
And DIRECTIONS to SAIL over the BAR and
through the CHANNELS.

A few copies of the above may be had at the Printing-Office, and of Mr. William Johnson, price 50 cents.

April 9.