

THE STATE GAZETTE

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NORTH-CAROLINA.

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LONDON, June 27.

Petition and remonstrance of the Clergy, presented by the Archbishop of Narbonne to his Majesty:

"SIRE,

YOU ask 80 millions of money of us: and, not examining at present whether this sum is too heavy a burthen for us to bear, or not, we shall only represent to your Majesty that we have not 80 millions in our coffers.—The clergy are not accustomed to save money. To grant, therefore, such a sum to the crown, we must borrow it; and that we cannot hope to do but when public credit is good. The public trust cannot be acquired by a legal manner of registering the King's edicts. The nation is accustomed to look upon, as the legal manner of registering, that commonly done by Parliament; and we cannot help remarking, that in the present crisis there are no Parliament: The Clergy, therefore, cannot rely on having any legal registering in the present alarming circumstances.—And if a loan cannot take place, there is an impossibility of our paying the request 80 millions. In this alarming crisis your Clergy cannot help entreating your Majesty to suspend all operations relative to the magistrates, till the convention of the General Assembly of the states; which you may anticipate if you please, and during the sessions of the Grand Assembly, the affairs of the magistracy may be properly deliberated upon, and duly considered."

All political measures in France are for the present suspended. His Majesty will not allow a free discussion in any one court, till such time as the new edicts can be put in force, and this accounts for the torpid state of affairs in general.—The following is an extract of his Majesty's orders for that purpose:

"We shall proceed without delay to the allotment of those powers intended to be given the different tribunals we have thought proper to appoint in our new plan of Government, and we fully rely on the loyalty of our subjects to give it effect. But as, sometime will be necessary to give them operation we have judged it necessary to suspend the activity of all our courts throughout the kingdom, in order to avoid every confusion.

"It is therefore our royal will and pleasure, that our Parliament of Paris should adjourn and break up till the entire arrangement of our new ordinances is completed: We further forbid it, and each of its members, either to assemble or deliberate on private or public affairs, a pain of their deliberations being declared null and void, and suffering for their disobedience.

"We command our well-beloved and faithful members of the court of Parliament strictly conform to these presents, for such is our pleasure.

(Signed) LOUIS."

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 1. Friday the 22d ult. arrived at Boston, the squadron of the naval armies of his Most Christian Majesty, under the command of the great Hon. the Marquis de Senneville. The squadron sailed from Cape Francois the second August, and consists of 7 sail, viz. the Subbe, of 80 guns (the Admiral ship) l'Achille, of 74 guns, commanded by the Chevalier de Martegne, four frigates, from 32 to 36 guns, and one 20 gun ship.

Several of the legislatures will meet in a short time expecting to receive the act of Congress,

announcing the manner how, and the time when, the federal government is to be put into operation. But unfortunately this important arrangement is not yet decided on, though Congress was recommended to determine it, as soon as nine states had ratified the new constitution. The pernicious effects arising from this delay, must be felt most sensibly in all parts of the union; and all our advices from the southward deplore the unfortunate circumstance.

It is devoutly to be wished, that all the legislatures of the states who have ratified the federal constitution, will at their first meeting, call their Delegates in Congress to a strict account, with respect to their particular conduct in prolonging the determination of this important business, which has created such serious apprehensions; and if the tendency of any of their votes was to defer the decision by having a view to obtain a partial advantage for one part of the union, at the expense of the other, and in which the other states, in justice to their constituents, could not possibly concur, that they will meet with the severest censure of their respective states; as this conduct is diametrically opposed to that spirit of perfect equality in point of rights, advantages and convenience, which formed the new government, and which alone ought to continue to regulate its administration.

The suspension of the federal constitution by North Carolina, if it should be followed by a rejection, would be an alarming circumstance to the states of South-Carolina and Georgia, who would then be cut off from a connection with the other parts of the union, by the intervention of a disaffected state; more especially, as they are in the neighbourhood of the British and Spanish settlements, as well as the hostile tribes of Indians, whose enmity to one of these states seems to be implacable. In case of any disturbances, internal or external in that quarter of the union, it is somewhat doubtful in what manner military assistance could be afforded, as North Carolina might probably oppose the passage of troops, from an apprehension that she will naturally entertain, of an attempt to compel her to enter into the union. These and many other considerations, loudly call for a speedy meeting of the new government.

We hear that the legislature of Vermont intend sending Delegates to Congress, agreeably to a request of that Hon. Body. They also propose calling a Convention immediately, for the purpose of considering the new constitution.

The following is a copy of a Publication, which we are informed, has lately been dispersed in different parts of the state, and is now inserted in this paper by particular desire.

To the PEOPLE of the State of NORTH-CAROLINA.

Friends and Fellow Citizens,

THE situation in which you are left by the proceedings of your late Convention, is such as requires your most serious attention. Perhaps at no period since your ancestors first settled in this country has your condition been more awful and affecting. You are for the first time separated from your sister states, the early and late companions of all your difficulties and dangers, with whom you have hitherto on all occasions run the race of freedom and

glory, with whom but very lately you resolved to conquer or to die. Little was it to be apprehended, that in less than six years after the peace, a peace acquired by your and their joint efforts, and which to the astonishment of all mankind gave glory as well as security to the weaker party, those states who had been the willing and the generous sharers of a common danger, should have become separate! weakened the common cause, still in full force, though not in equal apparent danger subsisting! and thus afforded a triumph to our common enemies, who are watching, if not planning for our destruction! Heaven forbid that this disunion should last long! Happy would it have been, if it had not for a moment existed!

But Regret, with whatever poignancy it may be felt, is now useless. The danger is incurred. Eleven other states have a common united government: We have no share in it. If we can derive pride from the consideration, our independence is increased. We are now not only independent of all other nations in the world, but entirely independent of the other states, except for our share of the debt hitherto incurred, which we are now utterly unable to pay. We may form alliances at our pleasure with Great-Britain, France, Spain, Turkey, the Dey of Algiers, or Rhode-Island. We may make what acts of Assembly we please concerning war, peace, negotiation, commerce or finance. While the eleven United States are fettered by the necessity of pursuing a common interest, there is no check upon our separate wisdom, or the free course of our own noble exertions.

There are some men possibly, inflated with ridiculous ideas of our own importance, to whom this prospect may be pleasing. There are many weak men perhaps who think danger never exists but when evils are actually and immediately felt. There may be a few (I trust in God they are a very few) to whom confusion and disorder may be the most acceptable objects. But among the great majority, including both parties, those who are averse to the new constitution, as well as those who are friends to it, believe the idea of an entire disunion is reprobated with horror. I have had the pleasure to hear that was the case with by far the greatest part of the majority in our late Convention, who unfortunately did not scruple to rush into a temporary one.

Taking it for granted therefore, that all rational friends of their country consider a union with the other states as indispensable to their liberty and safety, I shall beg leave to make a few observations on the policy which has brought us into our present extraordinary situation. It is a situation so new, as well as important, that no pains necessary to its investigation can be deemed ill bestowed. I shall hope therefore for the honour of your attention, while we examine it together.

The old articles of confederation were framed and executed in the very midst of the war. The necessity of a general opposition to the arbitrary designs of Great-Britain had been felt by every generous mind from one end of the continent to another. A common danger pointed out the propriety of common exertions; common exertions required common councils. The different states were therefore represented in Congress, who were entrusted with the common protection of the whole. The necessity of a general co-operation in measures of defence in which we are all interested, in the midst of a danger which none could doubt, occasioned a ready obedience to every recommendation made by that representative body, and their recommendations accordingly had all the