

THE STATE GAZETTE

O. F.

NORTH-CAROLINA.

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LONDON, July 12.

HOUSE OF LORDS,
FRIDAY, July 11.

THE Lords met at an early hour, and the Slave Trade bill was read the third time without opposition, and passed. It was sent to the Commons and returned, and his Majesty having taken his seat on the throne, was pleased to give his royal assent, and it passed into a law.

The King was then pleased to put a period to the session by the following speech from the throne:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"In the present advanced season of the year, and after the laborious attendance which the public business has required of you, I think it necessary to put an end to the present session of Parliament. I cannot do this without expressing the satisfaction with which I have observed the uniform and diligent attention to the welfare of my people, which has appeared in all your proceedings.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"The cheerfulness and liberality with which you have granted the necessary supplies, demand my particular acknowledgments. It must afford you the greatest satisfaction that you have been enabled, without any additions to the burthens of my people, to provide for the extraordinary exigencies of the last year, in addition to the current demands of the public service, and to the sum annually appropriated to the reduction of the national debt.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I see with concern the continuance of the war between Russia and the Porte, in which the Emperor has also taken a part. But the general state of Europe, and the assurances which I receive from foreign powers, afford me every reason to expect that my subjects will continue to enjoy the blessings of peace.

"The engagements which I have recently entered into with my good brother the King of Prussia, and those with the States-General of the United Provinces, which have already been communicated to you, are directed to this object, which I have uniformly in view, and they will, I trust, be productive of the happiest consequences in promoting the security and welfare of my dominions, and in contributing to the general tranquility of Europe."

The Lord Chancellor then, by his Majesty's command, prorogued the Parliament to Thursday the 25th of September next, to be then holden.

Lady Eucan was heard to say this very neat thing to Mrs. Sheridan: "You must certainly be a very happy woman, my dear Madam, who have the felicity of pleasing the man that pleases the whole world."

Our readers may depend on the veracity of the following fact: An infant, grand nephew of the present Pope, was lately taken alarmingly ill at Rome. The image called Bambino (superstitiously imagined to have the power of curing all maladies by its presence) was brought in great processional pomp to the sick chamber; but the child growing worse, upon the advice of some ignorant enthusiasts in quackery, the Pope ordered a piece of human fat, cut from a corpse before it was cold, to be given the child to suck, and while it was administering the child died. Would any man imagine that such monstrous credulity and folly could exist in the eighteenth century?

The Ambassadors from Spain and the Emperor of Morocco, arrived at Constantinople about the middle of June with presents; the latter, amongst other gifts, was charged with a subsidiary sum of 63 millions tournois.

PHILADELPHIA, September 20.
Harrisburg, Dauphin County, State of Pennsylvania, September 3, 1788.

GREABLY to a circular letter which originated in the county of Cumberland, inviting to a conference, such of the citizens of this state, who conceive that a revision of the Federal System, lately proposed for the general government of the United States is necessary, a number of gentlemen from the city of Philadelphia, and counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Lancaster, Cumberland, Berks, Northumberland, Bedford, Fayette, Washington, Franklin, Dauphin and Huntington, assembled at this place for the said purpose, viz.

Hon. George Bryan, Charles Pettit, Blair M'Clenachan, Richard Backhouse, James Hanna, Joseph Gardner, James Mercer, Benjamin Blyth, Robert Whitehill, John Jordan, William Sterret, William Rogers, William Peterken, Jonathan Hoge, John Bishop, Daniel Montgomery, John Lytle, John Dickey, Hon. John Smiley, Albert Gallatin, James Marshall, Benjamin Elliot, Richard Baird, James Crooks, Adam Orth, John Rodgers, Thomas Murray, Thomas M'Kee, John Kean, John A. Hanna, Daniel Bradly, Robert Smith, James Anderton.

Blair M'Clenachan, Esq. was unanimously elected Chairman, and John A. Hanna, Esq. Secretary.

After free discussion and mature deliberation had upon the subject before them, the following resolutions and propositions were adopted.

The ratification of the new constitution having formed a new era in the American world highly interesting to all the citizens of the United States, it is no less the duty than the privilege of every citizen to examine with attention the principles & probable effects of a system, on which the happiness or misery of the present as well as future generations so much depend. In the course of such examination many of the good citizens of the state of Pennsylvania have found their apprehensions excited, that the constitution in its present form, contains in it some principles which may be perverted to purposes injurious to the rights of free citizens, and some ambiguities which may probably lead to contentions incompatible with order and good government. In order to remedy these inconveniences, and to avert the apprehended dangers, it has been thought expedient that delegates chosen by those who wish for early amendments in the said constitution, should meet together for the purpose of deliberating on the subject, and uniting in some constitutional plan for obtaining the amendments which they may deem necessary.

We the conferees, assembled for the purpose aforesaid, agree in opinion:

That a federal government only, can preserve the liberties and secure the happiness of the inhabitants of a country so extensive as these United States; and experience having taught us that the ties of our union, under the articles of confederation, were so weak as to deprive us of some of the greatest advantages we had a right to expect from it, we are fully convinced that a more efficient government is indispensably necessary; but although the constitution proposed by the United States is likely to obviate most of the inconveniences we laboured under, yet several parts of it appear so exceptionable to us, that we are clearly of opinion considerable amendments are essentially necessary. In full confidence, however, of obtaining a revision of such exceptionable parts by a general

convention, and from a desire to harmonize with our fellow-citizens, we are induced to acquiesce in the organization of the said constitution.

We are sensible that a large number of the citizens, both in this and the other states, who gave their assent to its being carried into execution, previous to any amendments, were actuated more by the fear of the dangers that might arise from delays, than by a conviction of its being perfect: We therefore hope they will concur with us in pursuing every peaceable method of obtaining a speedy revision of the constitution, in the mode therein provided; and when we reflect on the present circumstances of the union, we can entertain no doubt that motives of conciliation and the dictates of policy and prudence, will conspire to induce every man of true federal principles to give his support to a measure, which is not only calculated to recommend the new constitution to the approbation and support of every class of citizens, but even necessary to prevent the total defection of some of the members of the union.

Strongly impressed with these sentiments, we have agreed to the following resolutions:

I. Resolved, That it be recommended to the people of this state to acquiesce in the organization of the said government; but although we thus accord in its organization, we by no means lose sight of the grand object of obtaining very considerable amendments and alterations, which we consider essential to preserve the peace and harmony of union, and those invaluable privileges for which so much blood and treasure have been recently expended.

II. Resolved, That it is necessary to obtain a speedy revision of said constitution by a general convention.

III. Resolved, That in order to effect this desirable end, a petition be presented to the legislature of this state, requesting that honourable body to take the earliest opportunity to make application for that purpose to the new Congress.

The petition proposed is as follows.

To the Honorable the Representatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met.

The Petition and Representation of the Subscribers, Humbly shew,

That your petitioners possess sentiments completely federal: being convinced that a confederacy of republican states, and no other, can secure political liberty, happiness, and safety throughout a territory so extended as the United States of America. They are well apprized of the necessity of devolving extensive powers to Congress, and of vesting the supreme legislature with every power and resource of a general nature; and consequently they acquiesce in the general system of government framed by the late Federal Convention; in full confidence, however, that the same will be revised without delay: for however worthy of approbation the general principles and outlines of the said system may be, your petitioners conceive that amendments in some parts of the plan are essential, not only to the preservation of such rights and privileges as ought to be reserved in the respective states, and in the citizens thereof, but to the fair and unembarrassed operation of the government in its various departments. And as provision is made in the Constitution itself for the making of such amendments as may be deemed necessary; and your petitioners are desirous of obtaining the amendments which occur to them as more immediately desirable and necessary, in the mode admitted by such provision.

They pray that your honorable house, as the representatives of the people in this commonwealth, will, in the course of your pre-