



AND North-Carolina State Gazette.

Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace, Unwar'd by party rage, to live like brothers.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1804.

No. 265.

VOL. VI.

EXTRAORDINARY PROCEEDINGS of the Connecticut Legislature.

House of Representatives OF CONNECTICUT.

Wednesday, October 17.

WE have considered it a duty to lay before our readers the proceedings of the House of Representatives of Connecticut in a case of the most extraordinary aspect.

Deeming this an aggression, of the most dangerous nature, on the essential rights of the citizen, we invite the attention of every man to it.

But this odious transaction does not stop here. It is the nature of one excess to lead to another. A precipitate spirit marked the proceedings of the House of Representatives on the above occasion.

A bill from the Governor and Council was read, stating that William Judd of Firmingham, Jabez H. Tomlinson, and Agur Judson of Stadford, Hezekiah Goodrich of Chatham, and Nathaniel Manning of Windham, Esqrs. justices of the peace, had declared and published as their proceedings; that there is no constitution of civil government in the state of Connecticut; and that it was improper for persons holding an opinion that the government of Connecticut was an usurpation, should hold commissions of the peace under that government; and requiring them to appear before the General Assembly on the 25th of this inst. October, and shew cause, if any they have why their commissions should not be revoked.

Mr. Collins said he felt perfectly willing to subscribe to the idea, and he thought that the gentlemen named in the bill should be treated with terms of delicacy and tenderness; but he thought we ought to come to an explanation with them. It is no more than what the importance of the subject, and the public good requires. He believed it inconsistent that men who think we have no constitution, and that our government is an usurpation, should hold offices under that government.

Mr. E. Holmes moved a concurrence with the government and council. The conduct of the gentlemen mentioned in the bill, had been satisfactory to him and many other gentlemen. He wished them to be treated with all tenderness and delicacy, but their conduct had been such as required that something should be done. He moved concurrence.

Mr. Daggett wished the bill to be read again. It was read accordingly. He then said it was so consonant to all his ideas of justice, that every government should protect itself, that he could see no reasonable objection to the bill. If the gentlemen named have disavowed the government, made declarations against its existence, or have declared that it is an usurpation, it is certainly highly improper that they should hold office under it.

Mr. Stevens observed, that the resolution was something novel, that if no inconvenience would arise, he wished it would be postponed till tomorrow morning. Persons may entertain different sentiments; and we are all liable to change our opinions. He moved a postponement of the consideration of it till to-morrow.

Mr. Rossiter said, if the persons named in the bill were now called upon to give the reasons for their conduct, there would be some propriety in the motion for a postponement. But this resolution is passed only for the purpose of giving them notice, and causing them to appear. He presumed all the members of the House had made up their minds upon the subject, and were as well prepared to act upon it now as ever. He therefore was opposed to the postponement.

Mr. Stevens said he understood the persons named in the resolution were charged with certain offences, and that they were therein cited to appear and answer to the charge. He did not know but the gentlemen would be content with the object of the resolution, nor but they would appear and make their defence. Some of them lived at a distance, and they ought not to be troubled to come on Thursday of next week, unless the House be fully convinced of the reality of the charges which are made against them. The business will be new and important to them. He wished the House not to be precipitate. He saw no inconvenience from a delay till the next morning. The members of the House may then entertain a different opinion from what they do now. Perhaps some may wish to discuss

the subject who are not now prepared to do it.

The motion for postponement was negatived.

Mr. Samuel Hart, jun. Two things are necessary to obtain an object—the ability and the disposition, both of these the House possess—I therefore deem it unnecessary—unavailing, to say any thing on the subject.

Mr. Stevens moved that the yeas and nays be taken on the resolution.

Mr. Daggett said if he did not understand the gentleman from Berlin, he had imputed improper motives to this House. I would ask by what authority he made these remarks. I understand him to say in substance that this House have the ability and the disposition to pass this bill, and therefore arguments are unavailing. They have prejudged the question and are determined therefore to act improperly. I think the gentleman has mistaken this house—there may have been such a collection of people here at some time, but I hope—I trust in God that this house is not thus degraded, but will act with that consistency and integrity which the Legislature of Connecticut has ever manifested. I am the more surprised at these remarks coming from a new member.—I think his modesty should have prevented him. He should have learned the dignified course which this house maintains.

Mr. Hart said he was much mistaken if he had said any thing, which the gentleman from New-Haven had imputed to him. He did not say the house were disposed to do wrong; if he thought so, he did not see how Mr. Daggett should know it, he had not told his thoughts. He always supposed that we might speak freely on the floor of this House; but if it had got to that, that we may not speak our sentiments he hoped we might be indulged with thinking as we pleased.

Mr. Miller did not wish that any man should be hindered from speaking his sentiments with freedom; but he hoped in God that no man would be indulged with the privilege of speaking sentiments disgraceful to the House. If the gentleman meant by his observations, that this House had a predisposition to judge the question, they were highly improper.

Mr. Hart observed, that after what had fallen from the gentleman, he thought it his duty to give an explanation of the remarks he had made. He had no intention of charging the House with an intention to do wrong; he only alluded to the two political parties which existed in the house, and which he considered as distinctly marked as the lines and boundaries of a county. If the two parties indulged different sentiments he hoped it would not be considered as a crime to express them. Shall the minority because they happen to differ from the majority on many political questions, be taxed with insult and indecency? He hoped that the minority had some rights left them.

Mr. E. Holmes, understood the gentleman from Berlin, to say that this House were disposed to do wrong, to be actuated by improper motives. He knew not the gentleman, he could only look at him and see what he was. He has been guilty of great indecency, he has trespassed on modesty, and he does not feel disposed to take back the expressions he has used.

Mr. N. Tetry, thought it important that the freedom of speech should be preserved. Put the gentleman from Berlin has made use of language injurious to the honor and dignity of this House; and he trusted that the freedom of speech would never justify such remarks. He hoped there was no example in this House, where the sacredness of private opinion had been trespassed upon. But when a gentleman comes here, and makes use of language that is improper and indecent, he is answerable for it.

The gentleman from Berlin rose, expressed his opinion, and sat down; his remarks contained insinuations, very impertinent, when called upon to explain, his reasons were insulting; were even worse than his first remarks. He said that the parties in this house were as distinctly marked as the division lines of a town of

county. What did he mean? That this House was actuated by party motives, and that no reasons offered to it would be availing.

I am but an individual in this House, a young member, and not much acquainted with the rules, but I have some little sense of what is proper, I have some feelings for its honor and dignity.

Mr. L. Hull wished the gentleman who made the motion for the yeas and nays to be taken, would withdraw it, with some other remarks which could not be heard.

Mr. E. Holmes, was willing that the yeas and nays should be taken. Though the bill was a new one, the subject was not new. He believed there was no man who had heard of the proceedings of the convention or meeting in this town, in August last but was prepared to give his vote.

Mr. Stevens said, that he wished the yeas and nays to be taken, and he did not feel disposed to make a motion for reconsideration. Any other member who was in the House could do it.

The yeas and nays were then taken and are, Yeas 124—Nays 43.

E. Holmes. Mr. Speaker. I rise to make a motion for the honor and dignity of this house, and for the good of the gentleman (looking at Mr. Hart of Berlin,) that the Speaker be requested to reprimand the gentleman from Berlin, unless he come forward, and take back the expressions he made use of towards this House.

Speaker. Please to reduce your motion to writing.

Mr. Daggett drew the following resolve which was read.

Resolved, That the Speaker of the House be requested to publicly reprimand Mr. Samuel Hart, jun. for the indignity offered to this House in his remarks this afternoon.

Mr. Rossiter, moved an amendment by adding the words, at the opening of the House to-morrow morning.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Huntington moved that the House postpone acting on this resolve till to-morrow morning.

Mr. Daggett said he would have no objection to the postponement till to-morrow morning or even five days if he desired it, but the request ought to come from him. Mr. Hart had rose to explain, but instead of justifying himself he persisted. He expressed an opinion that which none is more dangerous, viz. that the House was divided into parties distinctly marked as the lines or boundaries of towns and counties. I trust this House will be actuated by other than party views. I wish to pursue no man improperly, but I think it becomes this House to punish this insult offered to it immediately.

Mr. Huntington said he felt as much for the honor and dignity of the House as any member. He did not know what expressions had fallen from the gentleman from Berlin, which were so oppressive—he was not in the House when he made them. But he thought the House would shew some dignity in not proceeding with precipitancy. If the gentleman from Berlin has transgressed the rules, he trusted, that on reflection, he would make a satisfactory apology.

Mr. Stevens thought the House would deem it more proper to reclaim than to punish. The gentleman from Berlin is a young member—he may have spoken hastily: if so, he did not doubt but he would give a proper explanation, if he had a little time to consider on it. He hoped the House would give no member reason to complain, on account of the precipitancy of its measures.

Mr. McClellan said he thought it was time for this House to shew that they have some dignity: to discountenance such abusive and contemptuous language as the gentleman from Berlin has used. Three times has he risen and insulted this House with the most indecent expressions. For himself he could hardly subscribe to the passing so tame a resolve.

Mr. Terry thought the dignity of the House had been grossly insulted. He agreed with the gentleman from Stamford, that it was better to reclaim than to punish—and he should be satisfied if the gentleman would come forward and give a proper ex-

planation of his remarks, or if he should himself request a postponement, he for himself should not object. But he does not make this request; nor shew any signs of repentance. He should therefore be opposed to the postponement.

Mr. Collins, said that if the gentleman from Berlin had not transgressed the rules of the House in his remarks, he certainly had in another instance, and these very rules which he had heard read at the opening of the Session—that when any bill is before the house in which he could not act, he should leave the House.—He should have thought that modesty would have taught him to have left his seat, during this debate.

Mr. Daggett thought it becoming the dignity of the House to put this business at rest.

The motion for postponement was negatived.

The question was then taken on the resolution and passed.

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State of North-Carolina.

Cabarrus County, October Sessions, 1804.

John Hamilton vs. David D. Farr. Original Attachment.

Ordered, That publication be made three Weeks successively in the Raleigh Register, that unless the Defendant come into Court at our Court-house in Concord, on the third Monday in January next, and replevy or enter his plea in writing to the aforesaid Suit, that final Judgment will be entered against him.

JOHN SIMIANER, C. C.

THE Subscriber forewarns all Persons from trading for a Note of Hand given by himself and John Garret, sen. unto Henry P. Poole, of Montgomery county, dated the 18th of September for 35 Dollars and some Cents. Being on my travel, was forced to travel without a single paper, and then to give the above Note of Hand for Dollars and some Cents, although I have a Receipt in full for the same in Lunenburg County, in Virginia.

THROWER FREEMAN, Sept. 20, 1804.

JOHNSON & FLEMING

A large and good assortment of GOODS

Suitable for the Season, WHICH, together with the articles recently arrived, renders their store completely fitted to supply their friends, and which they are determined to do on the most reasonable terms.

JOHNSON & FLEMING beg leave to return their grateful acknowledgements to their friends, for the encouragement they have received since their commencement in business, and hope by a studied attention to support an assortment calculated to suit the market, and by disposing of them on the most moderate terms, to merit a continuation of the public favour.

A deduction of ten per cent. will be allowed for Cash on sums not less than 25 dollars, groceries excepted.

Warrenton, Oct. 20th.

Mutual Insurance Society

AGAINST FIRE On Buildings, Goods and Furniture in the State of North-Carolina.

A General Meeting of the Mutual Insurance Society will be held, agreeably to adjournment, at the State-House in Raleigh, on Monday the 3d of December next, at 3 o'clock in the evening; at which time and place all the Subscribers are requested to attend, in person or by proxy, as it is probable a constitution will then be adopted, and the Plan be carried into effect.

Those who, in the mean time, wish to become subscribers to the plan, will be pleased to make known their intentions to the Agents of the Society in Morganton, Salisbury, Hillsborough, Fayetteville, Wilmington, Newbern, Edenton, Halifax or Raleigh. Nov. 3, 1804.

NEW BOOKS.

J. GALES respectfully informs the Public, that he has at present a very complete Assortment of Books in all the various Branches of Learning, viz. Religion and Morality, Law, Medicine, History, Arts and Sciences, Philosophy, Natural History, Biography, Politics, Voyages, Travels, Agriculture and Gardening, Dramatic and Poetic and Miscellaneous Works, Novels and Romances, School Books, books for the instruction and entertainment of Youth, &c.

Catalogues to be had gratis at his Store. Subscribers to the Lib. or Washington, Curran's speeches, and the Domestic Encyclopedia, may have their Books on application. November 3.

BLANKS OF ALL KINDS,

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