

GEORGIA.

WE the underwritten Delegates from the People in Convention met, do declare that the following Articles shall form the Constitution for the Government of this State, and, by virtue of the powers in us vested for that purpose, do hereby ratify and confirm the same.

The CONSTITUTION of the STATE of GEORGIA.

ARTICLE I.

Section I. THE Legislative Power shall be vested in two separate and distinct Branches, to wit: a Senate and House of Representatives, to be styled, "The General Assembly."

Section II. The Senate shall be elected on the first Monday in October in every third year, until such day of election be altered by law, and shall be composed of one member from each county, chosen by the electors thereof, and shall continue for the term of three years.

Section III. No person shall be a member of the Senate who shall not have attained to the age of twenty eight years, and who shall not have been nine years an inhabitant of the United States, and three years a citizen of this State, and shall be an inhabitant of that county for which he shall be elected, and have resided therein six months immediately preceding his election, and shall be possessed in his own right of two hundred and fifty acres of land, or some property to the amount of two hundred and fifty pounds.

Section IV. The Senate shall elect, by ballot, a President out of their own body,

Section V. The Senate shall have solely the power to try all impeachments.

Section VI. The election of members for the House of Representatives shall be annual, on the first Monday in October, until such day of election be altered by law, and shall be composed of members from each county in the following proportions: Camden, two; Glynn, two; Liberty, four; Chatham, five; Effingham, two; Burke, four; Richmond, four; Wilkes, five; Washington, two; Green, two; and Franklin, two.

Section VII. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives who shall not have attained to the age of twenty one years, and have been seven years a citizen of the United States, and two years an inhabitant of this State; and shall be an inhabitant of that county for which he shall be elected, and have resided therein three months immediately preceding his election; and shall be possessed in his own right of two hundred acres of land, or other property to the amount of one hundred and fifty pounds.

Section VIII. The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers.

Section IX. They shall have solely the power to impeach all persons who have been or may be in office.

Section X. No person holding a military commission or office of profit under this or the United States, or either of them, (except justices of the peace and officers of the militia) shall be allowed to take his seat as a member of either branch of the General Assembly: Nor shall any Senator or Representative be elected to any office of profit which shall be created during his appointment.

Section XI. The meeting of the General Assembly shall be annual, on the first Monday in November until such day of meeting be altered by law.

Section XII. One third of the members of each branch shall have power to proceed to business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of their members in such manner as each House may prescribe.

Section XIII. Each House shall be judges of the elections, returns, and qualifications, of its own members; with powers to expel or punish for disorderly behaviour.

Section XIV. No Senator or Representative shall be liable to be arrested during his attendance on the General Assembly, or for a reasonable time in going thereto or returning home, except it be for treason, felony, or breach of the peace: Nor shall any member be liable to answer for anything spoken in debate in either House, in any Court or place elsewhere.

Section XV. The members of the Senate and House of Representatives shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I, A. B. do solemnly swear, (or affirm as the case may be) that I have not obtained my election by bribery or other unlawful means; and that I will give my vote, on all questions that may come before me, as a Senator, or Representative, in such manner as in my judgment will best promote the good of this State; and that I shall bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and to the utmost of my power, observe, support, and defend, the Constitution thereof."

Section XVI. The General Assembly shall have power to make all laws and ordinances which they shall deem necessary and proper for the good of the State, which shall not be repugnant to this Constitution.

Section XVII. They shall have power to alter the boundaries of the present counties and to lay off new ones, as well out the counties already laid off as out of the other territory belonging to the State. When a new county or counties shall be laid off, out of any of the present county or counties, such new county or counties shall have their representation apportioned out of the number of the Representatives of the county or counties out of which it or they shall be laid off; and when any new county shall be laid off in the vacant territory belonging to the State, such county shall have a number of Representatives, not exceeding three, to be regulated and determined by the General Assembly. And no money shall be drawn out of the Treasury, or from the public funds of this State, except by appropriations made by law.

Section XVIII. No Clergyman of any denomination shall be a member of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE II.

Section I. The Executive Power shall be vested in a Governor, who shall hold his office during the term of two years, and shall be elected in the following manner:

Section II. The House of Representatives shall, on the second day of their making a House, in the first, and in every second year thereafter, vote by ballot for three persons; and shall make a list containing the names of the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each person, which list the Speaker shall sign in the presence of the House; and deliver it in person to the Senate; and the Senate shall, on the same day, proceed by ballot to elect one of the three persons having the highest number of votes, and the person having a majority of the votes of the Senators present shall be the Governor.

Section III. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor who shall not have been a citizen of the United States twelve years, and an inhabitant of this State six years, and who hath not attained to the age of thirty years, and who does not possess five hundred acres of land in his own right within this State, and other species of property to the amount of one thousand pounds sterling.

Section IV. In case of death, resignation, or disability of the Governor, the President of the Senate shall exercise the Executive Powers of Government until such disability be removed, or until the next meeting of the General Assembly.

Section V. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his service, a compensation which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall be elected, neither shall he receive, within that period, any other emolument from the United States, or any of them, or from any foreign power. Before he enters on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will faithfully execute the office of Governor of the State of Georgia, and will, to the best of my abilities, preserve, protect, and defend the said State, and cause justice to be executed with mercy therein, according to the constitution and laws of the same."

Section VI. He shall be Commander in Chief in and over the State of Georgia, and of the militia thereof.

Section VII. He shall have powers to grant reprieves for offences against the State, except in cases of impeachment, and to grant pardons, in all cases after conviction, except for treason or murder, in which cases he may respite the execution, and make a report thereof to the next General Assembly, by whom a pardon may be granted.

Section VIII. He shall issue writs of election to fill up all vacancies that happen in the Senate or House of Representatives, and shall have power to convene the General Assembly on extraordinary occasions, and shall give them from time to time information of the state of the Republic, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem necessary and expedient.

Section IX. In case of disagreement between the Senate and House of Representatives, with respect to the time to which the General Assembly shall adjourn, he may adjourn them to such time as he may think proper.

Section X. He shall have the revision of all bills passed by both Houses before the same shall become laws; but two thirds of both Houses may pass a law notwithstanding his dissent, and, if any bill should not be returned by the Governor within five days after it hath been presented to him, the same shall be a law, unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, shall prevent its return.

Section XI. The Great Seal of the State shall be deposited in the office of the Secretary, and it shall not be affixed to any instrument of writing without it be by order of the Governor, or General Assembly, and the General Assembly may direct the Great Seal to be altered.

ARTICLE III.

Section I. A Superior Court shall be held in each County twice in every year, in which shall be tried, and brought to final decision, all causes civil and criminal, except such as may be subject to a Federal Court, and such as may by law be inferred to inferior jurisdiction.

Section II. The General Assembly shall point out the modes of correcting errors and appeals, which shall extend so far as to empower the Judges to direct a new trial by jury within the County where the action originated, and which shall be final.

Section III. Courts Merchant shall be held as heretofore, subject to such regulations as the General Assembly may by law direct.

Section IV. All causes shall be tried in the County where the defendant resides, except in cases of real estate, which shall be tried in the County where such estate lies, and in criminal cases, which shall be tried in the County where the crime shall be committed.

Section V. The Judges of the Supreme Court and Attorney-General, shall have a competent salary established by law, which shall not be increased nor diminished during their continuance in office, and shall hold their commission during the term of three years.

ARTICLE IV.

Section I. The electors of the members of both branches of the General Assembly shall be citizens and inhabitants of this State, and shall have attained to the age of twenty one years, and have paid tax for the year preceding the election, and shall have resided six months within the county.

Section II. All elections shall be by ballot, and the House of Representatives, in all appointments of state officers, shall vote for three persons, and a list of the three persons having the highest number of votes shall be signed by the Speaker, and sent to the Senate, which shall from such list determine, by a majority of their votes, the officer elected, except militia officers and the Secretaries of the Governor, who shall be appointed by the Governor alone, under such regulations and restrictions as the General Assembly may prescribe. The General Assembly may vest the appointment of inferior officers in the Governor, the courts of justice, or in such other manner as they may by law establish.

Section III. Freedom of the press, and trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

Section IV. All persons shall be entitled to the benefit of the writ Habeas Corpus.

Section V. All persons shall have the free exercise of religion, without being obliged to contribute to the support of any religious profession but their own.

Section VI. Estates shall not be entailed, and when a person dies intestate, leaving a wife and children, the wife shall have a child's share, or her dower, at her option; if there be no wife the estate shall be equally divided among the children and their legal Representatives of the first degree. The distribution of all other intestate estates may be regulated by law.

Section VII. At the general election for members of Assembly, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, the electors in each county shall elect three persons to represent them in a convention, for the purpose of taking into consideration the alterations necessary to be made in this constitution, who shall meet at such time and place as the General Assembly may appoint; and if two thirds of the whole number shall meet and concur, they shall proceed to agree on such alterations and amendments as they may think proper. Provided, that after two thirds shall have concurred to proceed to alterations and amendments, a majority shall determine on the particulars of such alterations and amendments.

Section VIII. This Constitution shall take effect, and be in full force, on the first Monday in October next, after the adoption of the same; and the executive shall be authorized to alter the time for the sitting of the Superior Courts, so that the same may not interfere with the annual elections in the respective counties, or the meeting of the first General Assembly.

Done at Augusta, in Convention, the sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine, and in the year of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States, the thirteenth.

WILLIAM GIBBONS, President and Delegate from Chatham.
Afa Emanuel, Justus H. Scheuber, Chatham.
Benjamin Lamer, John Green, N. Brownson, Effingham.
David Emanuel, Hugh Lawson, William Little, Burke.
Abraham Marshall, W. F. Booker, Leonard Marbury, Richmond.
John Talbot, Jeremiah Walker, Wilkes.
Lauchlan McIntosh, Liberty.
Alexander Bisset, Glynn.
Jared Irwin, John Watts, Joshua Williams, Washington.
Middleton Woods, Franklin.
Joseph Carmichael, Henry Karr, Greene.
Attest. D. LONGSTREET, Secretary.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

The Address of the Ministers and Elders of the German Reformed Congregations in the United States at their General Meeting, held at Philadelphia, on the 10th day of June 1789.

WHILST the infinite goodness of Almighty God in his gracious Providence over the people of the United States of America, calls for our sincerest and most cordial gratitude to him that ruleth supremely, and ordereth all things in Heaven and on earth in unerring wisdom and righteousness; the happy, the peaceable establishment of the new government, over which you so deservedly preside, cannot fail, but inspire our souls with new and the most lively emotions of adoration, praise and thanksgiving unto his holy name.

As it is our most firm purpose to support in our persons a government founded in justice and equity, so it shall be our constant duty to impress the minds of the people entrusted to our care, with a due sense of the necessity of uniting reverence to such a government and obedience to its laws, with the duties and exercise of religion. Thus we hope by the blessing of God, to be in some measure instrumental of alleviating the burthen of that weighty and important charge, to which you have been called by the unanimous voice of your fellow-citizens, and which your love to your country has constrained you to take upon you.

Deeply possessed of a sense of the goodness of God in the appointment of your person to the high station in the national government, we shall continue in our public worship and all our devotions

before the throne of grace, to pray that it may please God to bless you in your person, your family and your government, with all temporal and spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.

Signed by order of the meeting,
W. HENDEL, p. t. Praefes.
F. DELLIKER, p. t. Scriba.

THE PRESIDENT'S ANSWER.

To the Ministers and Elders of the German Reformed Congregations in the United States.

GENTLEMEN,

I AM happy in concurring with you in the sentiments of gratitude and piety towards Almighty God, which are expressed with such fervency of devotion in your address; and in believing that I shall always find in you and the German Reformed Congregations in the United States, a conduct correspondent to such worthy and pious expressions.

At the same time I return you my thanks for the manifestation of your firm purpose to support in your persons a government founded in justice and equity; and for the promise that it will be your constant study to impress the minds of the people entrusted to your care with a due sense of the necessity of uniting reverence to such a government, and obedience to its laws, with the duties and exercises of religion. Be assured gentlemen, it is by such conduct, very much in the power of the virtuous members of the community to alleviate the burden of the important office which I have accepted, and to give me occasion to rejoice in this world, for having followed therein the dictates of my conscience.

Be pleased also to accept my acknowledgments for the interest you so kindly take in the prosperity of my person, family, and administration. May your devotions before the throne of grace be prevalent in calling down the blessings of heaven upon yourselves and your country.
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Authentic instance of the horrible barbarity of Religious Persecution.

MARGARET Valois, Queen of Henry IV. of France, writes in her memoirs concerning the massacre of Paris:

"When in a sound sleep, says she, I was very suddenly awakened by a knocking at the door, and calling out, 'Navarre! Navarre!' My nurse, thinking it was the King my husband, hastened to the door; it was a gentleman named De Trajan, bleeding very much, being wounded in two places, and with four yeoman of the guard at his heels, who forced their way after him into my room; he ran to my bed, as a sanctuary, I leaped out, and he after me, clapping me round the body by the bed side. We both cried out, one being no less frightened than the other. At length the Captain of the guards came in, and finding me in such a condition, though there was more call for pity, fell a laughing, as at something droll. In the Louvre, in the King's father's chamber even on her very bed, gentlemen were butchered, contrary to oaths and treaties! and Ninias, who had the character of one of the worthiest men at court, laughs at the sight! He laughs in this horrible juncture! Oh! this so execrable day he could laugh!"

"Having shifted my linen, (adds the Princess) because I was all over bloody, and throwing a night gown over me, I went to the apartment of Madame de Lorraine, I was no sooner in her anti-chamber, than a gentleman flying from the yeoman of the guard, was struck dead with a halberd clove by me."

THE NATIONAL MONITOR.—No. XIII.

[The subject of the last No. continued.]

It may be conceded on all hands that the equality of circumstances which prevails in some of the United States, is more friendly to general liberty, than the disparity which is apparent in others. This idea suggests an obvious advantage, which will result to the Southern traveller, who may make the Northern and Eastern tour: Born with high ideas of birth, and educated in principles of superiority to the numerous herd of slaves which continually surround him, the opulent planter can scarcely conceive of government, obedience, and good order, among a race of freemen: But when he quits his extensive acres, cultivated by the hand of the oppressed, and toil-worn slave, and traverses the highly cultivated fields of the Eastern States—when he mingles with the hardy yeomanry of the North—the industrious, free spirited mechanics, the enterprising traders and merchants of the New-England States—When he observes their various social institutions for the promotion of harmony, mutual assistance, arts, manufactures, and literature—the equal opportunities enjoyed by all ranks for the acquisition of knowledge, and improvement of the human faculties, and a variety of other objects which might be mentioned, and which will always strike the ingenious and attentive observer: I say, an opportunity to reflect upon these things, will have a powerful tendency to enlarge the mind, liberalize the views, and rectify the affections of the Southern traveller: he will, in all probability, return a more generous friend to the rights of human nature than he sat out.

On the other hand, a variety of prejudices will be eradicated from the mind of the Eastern traveller, by exploring the regions of the South: He will there find many things worthy of notice, of imitation and admiration: He will see industry crowned with affluence, independence, hospitality, and liberality of manners; and notwithstanding the prevalence of domestic slavery, he will find the noblest sentiments of freedom and independence to predominate—auguring the final triumph of reason, humanity, and universal liberty! He will behold the highly cultivated plantations extensive as the horizontal landscape: He will extol the enterprise, the art, and ingenuity, which are co-operating with nature to unite extensive regions by the friendly connection of noble rivers, that meander through, and fructify the boundless intervals: He will see that nature here compensates for intense solar rays, by a soil that yields to easier cultivation, than subdues the globe which forms the surface of his native clime: He will compare—he will balance—he will reflect, that nature is wise, and that providence, in the distribution of its favors, is not capricious, or unjust.

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TWENTY-SIX

L E T T E R S,

UPON INTERESTING SUBJECTS,

RESPECTING THE REVOLUTION of AMERICA.

Written in Holland in the Year M,DCC,LXXX.

By HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN ADAMS,

WHILE HE WAS SOLE MINISTER Plenipotentiary FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FOR NEGOTIATING A PEACE, AND A TREATY OF COMMERCE, WITH GREAT-BRITAIN.

Never before published.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Prefixed to the Letters.

DR. CALKOE, an eminent Civilian at Amsterdam, to whom these letters were written, composed, by the means of them, a comparison between the revolt of the Low Countries from Spain, and the revolution of the United States of America; in which he concluded, upon the whole, that "as it was a kind of miracle that the former succeeded, it would be a greater miracle still if the latter should not."—This composition was read by him to a society of gentlemen of letters, about forty in number, who met sometimes at Amsterdam; and by its means just sentiments of American affairs began to spread in that country, and to prevail over the continual misrepresentations of certain gazettes, and emissaries.—The publications of General HOWE and BURGOYNE, in vindication of themselves, were procured to be translated into French, and propagated, together with many other pamphlets, which assisted in the same design, and contributed to excite the citizens to those applications, by petition to the regencies of the several cities, which finally procured the acknowledgement of American Independence, the Treaty of Commerce, and a Loan of Money.

JOHN ADAMS.

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