

J. Thomas

Gazette of the United States.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS BY JOHN FENNO, No. 69, HIGH-STREET, BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD STREETS, PHILADELPHIA.

[No. 81, of Vol. II.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1791.

[Whole No. 185.]

From the NORTH-CAROLINA STATE GAZETTE.

Messrs HODGE and WILLS,

HAVING observed in your paper of the 17th inst. the proceedings of a committee of the whole House of Assembly of the 24th of November last, I confess I was not a little surpris'd, that a subject of so delicate a nature, should have made its way to the world through the channel of a news paper remarkable for its purity. While on the other hand, it is certain, that the proceedings therein stated, were shap'd down from a monster of still greater magnitude (a letter teeming with the severest reproach and invective, addressed to the individual Senators themselves.) On the other hand, it is equally certain, that they have since been in a great measure newly moulded and polished with a different brush.

Regard for truth, and public character, induces me to lay before you a protest against proceedings tinged with so much intemperance, which was prepared by the more moderate part of the house, and signed by some in its rough dress, in case they should have been finally adopted. A MEMBER.

WE whose names are under written, from a sense of that justice due to ourselves as men, and as the Representatives of a free people, do protest against the resolutions entered into by this House, respecting the Senators of this State in Congress.

1st. We conceive that however much the state of North-Carolina may, in the eyes of some, be a sufferer from the late proceedings of Congress, such injury should be presented to the world by spirited remonstrances and firm resolves.

2d. However much individuals may be agitated by party spirit, or local resentment, we conceive dispassionate proceedings best suited to a political body.

3d. As the Senators of this state in Congress have hitherto conducted themselves with great integrity and propriety in office, it argues the greatest intemperance, to throw the load of aspersions upon two individuals for the supposed faults of a whole body.

4th. The preamble to the resolutions, which have gone forward to the world, is clothed in language, which we not only conceive improper, but inconsistent with the dignity of a great people.

5th. The resolutions themselves, are no ways consistent with the preamble.—The preamble states neglect and want of execution in the Senators of this state in Congress, as individuals, when all the resolutions, except one, are relative to the senatorial proceedings collectively.

6th. The silence of the Senators in not corresponding with the executive of this state, we do by no means condemn as a crime.

1st. It might, in many instances, defeat the good of the political whole.

2. The instructions from the executive might not be the sentiments of the people, or of the legislature—they might be tainted with prejudice and locality. And

3. We do not conceive the necessity of such correspondence expressed or implied in the nature of the office of Senator.

7th. Motives of respect might have induced, we will admit, the Senators to have written to the legislature, from whom they received their appointment, but we do not condemn such silence as a crime.

8th. Having confidence in the appointments when made, we rely upon the zeal and virtue of the Senators in supporting the public good. We should regret, that in any instance they felt locality or were agitated by the warmth of a political fever.

PENNSYLVANIA, HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES.

THE legislature of this commonwealth, ever attentive to the rights and liberties of their constituents, and conceiving it a duty incumbent on them to express their sentiments on such matters of a public nature, as in their opinion have a tendency to destroy those rights, agree to the following resolutions.

Resolved, that any proceeding on the part of the United States tending to the collection of a revenue by means of excise, established upon principles subversive of the peace, liberty and rights of the citizen, ought to attract the attention of this house.

Resolved, that no public exigency, within the knowledge or contemplation of this house, can in their opinion warrant the adoption of any species of taxation, which shall violate those rights, which are the basis of our government, and thereby exhibit the singular spectacle of a nation resolutely opposing the oppression of others in order to enslave itself.

Resolved, that these sentiments be communicated to the Senators representing the state of Pennsylvania, in the Senate of the United States, with a hope that they will oppose every part of the excise bill now before Congress, which shall militate against the just rights and liberties of the people.

In the house of Representatives, on the question for adopting the above—there were 40 Yeas, 16 Nays. On the vote, taken in the Senate, for non-concurrence there were 9 Yeas, and 8 Nays.

From DUNLAP'S DAILY ADVERTISER.

ARE not the state-governments competitors for power with the legislature of the union? and if they are so, can they be deemed fit arbiters of its proceedings?

Has not uniform experience shewn, that all bodies of men are zealous to augment their authority, and extend their jurisdiction? and does it not follow, that if a privilege of censuring the federal government at pleasure is exercised by the

legislatures of the States they will use it to limit, and if possible, to depress that government?

Is it not evident, that such a state of things will lead to struggles, that must, in the end, prove fatal to either one or the other of these establishments; that either the federal government will become odious, and lose its vigour, or that the legislatures of the states will be crushed, as incompatible with its prosperity?

Will not this, in the one case, deprive us of the means of supporting our public credit, our commerce, our navigation, our manufactures, and consequently, our agriculture, and throw us into confusion and civil discord? Or, on the other hand, consolidate all the powers of government into one establishment, that may prove too extensive for a permanent republic?

Is there any other mode of obviating these dangers, but that each species of government should cautiously keep within the sphere allotted to it, without interfering with the other, until it shall exceed the powers granted to it, but leaving it to the people to judge of its merits and proceedings, who are the only tribunal which has a declared right to decide upon them?

Can it be expected that the federal government will long continue to sit in the same place with our legislature, if the latter avails itself of its proximity to the former, to hold up its measures to public odium while yet unfinished, and thus to predispose the people to dislike and disobey them?

Or, will the other states be content, that the general government should remain here, if the legislature of Pennsylvania assumes the privilege of biasing the laws during their passage, to its views or interests, while more distant members of the union cannot be acquainted with them, till they are established, and therefore cannot be altered without difficulty? CIVIS.

PORTLAND, January 13.

INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC.

LAST Monday evening the Light house on Portland-head, at the entrance of this harbour, was lighted. This building is built with stone and lime, is seventy-two feet high, exclusive of the lantern. The following

Directions are given for coming into this harbour.

Bring the light to bear N. N. W. then run for it, allowing a small distance on the larboard hand—and when abreast of the same, then run N. by W. This course will give good anchorage from half a mile to one and a half.

A particular survey will soon be taken, the public will then have notice of the bearings of the light from the different rocks and shoals, together with directions how far vessels may stand, either east or west when beating in.

N. B. No variation for the compass is allowed.

NEW YORK, January 31.

The following letters passed on the 27th and 28th ult. between the PRESIDENT of the New-York MARINE SOCIETY, and Captain DUROTOIS, on his being admitted an Honorary Member of that body.

Captain JULIAN JEAN DUROTOIS, Commanding his Most Christian Majesty's Packet, Le Franklin.

SIR,

YOUR great humanity and benevolence, the more distinguished and heightened by distresses under which yourself labored, in rescuing from almost inevitable destruction, the remaining crew of the late unfortunate Captain George Bryant, justly entitle you to the highest esteem and applause, while every feeling heart must be impressed with a high sense of this meritorious action. The Marine Society of this city, cannot withhold from you their testimonial of praise and respect: They have therefore elected you one of their honorary Members, and it is with the greatest pleasure that I enclose your certificate of admittance, and a copy of their charter and bye-laws. I have the honor to be,

With great regard Sir,

Your very humble servant,

JAMES FARQUHAR, President.

New-York, 28th Jan. 1791.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, accompanying a certificate of my admittance as an honorary Mem-

ber into the Marine Society, of this city, with their charter and bye-laws.

I cannot enough express my gratitude towards the generous Americans in general, and the Marine Society in particular, for their remembrance of an action which was dictated only by common humanity, and which, by them is far over-rated by the honor conferred on me; for which I beg you, and the Society, to accept my sincerest thanks. I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your very humble servant

DURUTOIS.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, Jan. 18.

Amendments to the new Revenue Bill under consideration.

THE first amendment was to add a clause after the words "city, town or village," in these words, containing not less than ——— families.

Mr. White offered some general observations on the bill, and on this part in particular, which he said would in its operation be very disagreeable to a considerable proportion of the people; he wished to have it so modified as to leave it as little exceptionable as possible, and if in doing this a diminution of the sum proposed to be raised by the bill should take place, still he thought there would according to the estimates which had been laid before the house, be a sufficient amount brought into the public Treasury—but if there should not, he should, he said be willing in some other way to make up the deficiency; and for this purpose, Congress may have a session as early as September.

He gave notice that in some future stage of the bill he should move to have this section recommended.

Mr. Fitzsimons observed, that notwithstanding all that had been offered to shew that the revenue proposed to be raised by this bill would not be wanted, he was still of opinion, that no excess of any consequence would be produced; he objected to the commutation proposed in lieu of the specific duty, and shewed how disadvantageously to the revenue this would operate; with respect to a perfect definition of what is to be understood by a city, town or village, he conceived that no possible evil would result from vesting a discretionary power with some officer of the United States, to determine what shall be understood by either of the terms.

Mr. Boudinot objected to any alteration in the section, he thought it sufficiently precise, and from recurring to certain authorities, he shewed that these terms were sufficiently understood to preclude the necessity of burthening any officer with the task of describing and determining what number of inhabitants shall respectively constitute a city, town or village.

Mr. Livermore said, in his opinion, the terms, "city, town or village," comprehended the whole and every part of the United States.

Mr. Jackson observed, that as two days had been nearly spent in considering this question, and it appeared to be impossible to agree in what constituted a village, he thought it would be to no purpose to introduce any amendment to the section, but leave it to be determined by a due course of law; he supposed that questions would arise to be determined by the judicial authority of the United States; if this should not appear to be agreeable to the house, he would propose that it should be referred to the college of physicians—those gentlemen of the quirt, who as they had attempted to squirt morality and instruction into the minds of the members, perhaps may also be able to squirt understanding into the house, on this subject.

Mr. Parker controverted certain calculations offered by Mr. Fitzsimons, as to the quantity of liquor which a still might make. He then entered into a general consideration of the bill and adverting to the discontents in some of the States, and the utter aversion of many inhabitants to