

FROM THE FEDERAL GAZETTE.

AT a meeting of the General Council of the Commons of Paris, on the 22d April 1791, M. de la Fayette delivered the following address:

GENTLEMEN,

COME in the Commons' House where so many agreeable remembrances strike me, to acknowledge these last instances of your goodness, with all the sensibility of an heart, whose first wish is, after that of serving the people to be loved by them; and who is astonished at the importance ascribed to an individual in a free country, where nothing ought to be of importance but the law. If my conduct on this occasion, gentlemen, were to be directed only by those sentiments which I feel of tenderness and of gratitude, I should only make reply to the regrets with which you and the national guard have honored me, by obeying your requests; but as in this business I have listened to no personal motive, so amidst the tumults which agitate us, it is not by the suggestions of private feelings that I am to be determined.

I do not think that the national guard, the majority of whom were ever deaf to the voice of faction and of party, can have seen with indifference the cause of my discouragement. The constitutional authorities set at nought—their orders despised—the public forces opposed to the execution of the law, whose defence was entrusted to it. We are citizens, gentlemen, we are free; but without obedience to the law, there remains only confusion, anarchy, despotism; and if this capital, which has been the cradle of the revolution, instead of surrounding with its light and its respect the depositories of the national power, shall besiege them with tumults, or fatigue them by violence, it will cease to be an example for Frenchmen; it will be in danger of becoming their terror.—Besides, gentlemen, in the striking tokens I have received of affection, too much has been done for me—too little for the law; I have felt with the tenderest emotion that my fellow soldiers love me; but I have not yet learned how far they cherish the principles upon which liberty is founded.

I deposit in your hands, gentlemen, this sincere avowal of my sentiments; be pleased to make known to the national guard, whose tokens of friendship I have received with so much sensibility, and to whom I shall be ever a brother as affectionate as grateful.

I acknowledge, that they command me I wanted to be assured that they firmly believed the fate of the constitution as depending on the execution of the law, the only sovereign of a free people; that the liberty of individuals, the safety of houses, religious liberty, respect for legitimate authority; that these, without exception, would be held by them as sacred as by me. We not only want courage and vigilance, but also unanimity in the principles I have just laid down; and I have thought and still think the constitution will be better served by the deliberate resignation I have given in, than by my acquiescence with the invitations with which you have deigned to honor me.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

Quousque tandem abutere patientia nostra?

HOW long, Sir, are we to be bored with the idle speculations of endless writers about the British constitution? Of what concern, I should be glad to know, is it to us, whether Great Britain has or has not a written constitution, or whether it has certain principles in the nature of a constitution, or whether it has only a form of government instead of a constitution? The celebrated Mr. Burke lamented, that France in her revolution had not more closely attended to the British constitution; Mr. Paine thereupon gets in a rage, and writes a dozen pages to prove a negative, that is, that Great Britain has no constitution.—Publicola is displeased at this, and insists that it has, and Brutus and Agricola again contend that it has not. The three first of these writers having managed the subject with ability, a patriot reader might peruse their publications with tolerable attention, but I cannot help wishing that Agricola would attend to his fields and his plough; and when I saw the first number of Brutus, I involuntarily exclaimed, *Et tu, Brute!* Indeed, Mr. Printer, I don't see the necessity of stuffing the newspapers day after day, morning and evening, with all these pros and cons, and I recommend to these great politicians, who are so fond of writing, to turn their thoughts and their hands to some other subjects. The people of England have sense enough to take care of themselves, and if they have not, it is no business of our's. Every body acknowledges our constitution to be a good one, and that under it the people of the United States are happy and growing rich. What then is the tendency of these numerous dissertations about revolutions, new constitutions, abolitions, reformations and so forth? A question whether it

be a salutary one. These authors had better write some useful treatise on agriculture, or suggest some improvement on our domestic manufactures: Indeed they would, in my opinion, render more service to society, if they were to invent some mode of getting rid of the flies at this troublesome season, or discover how we might keep ourselves cool in this city. A. B.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

S O N G.

AWAY, each soft and tender bliss—  
The laugh of joy—the glance of love—  
The gay discourse—the heart of peace—  
The hours, which winged with rapture, move.  
A friend, once wont to give and share  
Each transport of the fleeting year,  
A semblant angel, good and fair,  
To every thought and feeling dear;  
Explored my unsuspecting heart  
In smiling Friendship's faithless guise,  
Exulting found a tender part  
Where lives soft peace and where it dies.  
And there—ah there! her causeless hate  
Impressed an undeserved blow,  
That sealed with endless grief my fate,  
And plunged me deep in hopeless woe.  
Then trust not, Youth, the melting air,  
The thrilling touch, the soft embrace;  
Since Treachery has a form so fair,  
And Malice wears so sweet a face.

H F N R Y.

[BY REQUEST.]

On seeing Governor PATERSON on board his Barge the *Cornelia*, at the late celebration of INDEPENDENCE.

ON *Raritan's* smooth gliding stream we view,  
Enraptur'd view the man whom we admire,  
On this auspicious day, with laurel crown'd,  
How gracefully the honor'd barge moves on!  
See NEPTUNE'S hardy sons all clad in white,  
Timing their oars to the melodious flutes;  
Not CLEOPATRA'S celebrated barge,  
When she full arm'd with each bewitching charm,  
A tyrant bound in the soft chains of love,  
More elegant, or pleasing could appear;  
Nor did contain a jewel of such worth,  
Not freighted with a proud intriguing Queen;  
She nobly bears *New-Jersey's* favorite son,  
Our guardian chief, our friend, a PATERSON.

New-Brunswick, July 4, 1791.

WARSAW, May 3.

THE new constitution has just passed in the Diet, by which the Elector of Saxony is declared immediate successor to the Throne of Poland; after whose demise, his daughter is to inherit; and the choice of her husband, if she marries, is to be decided by the States. After this Constitution had passed, the King, attended by the Marshals of the Diet, and a great number of the Members, went to the Cathedral, and took an oath to maintain it.

The Union of the Noblesse with the class of citizens meets with daily encouragement. Prince Czartoryski and Count Potocki, Marshal of Lithuania, are become burghers; Count Malachowsky, Marshal of the Diet, has also added himself to the class of citizens, saying at the same time—“that he should think it an honor to be a magistrate of Warsaw.”

One of the magnates has declared his intention of opening a warehouse in his palace, to show that it is by no means degrading for a nobleman to be concerned in trade.

The King himself has declared that the re-establishment of the rights of the citizens, rewards him for all the difficulties of his reign, and even gives him cause to rejoice at being a King.

L O N D O N, May 20.

Wednesday Rear-Admiral Cosby hoisted his flag at Spithead, on board the *Impregnable*, of 98 guns, Sir Thomas Bayard, Commander.

There are now at Spithead five Admirals, and one in the harbour.

Fourteen Pilots, acquainted with the navigation of the North Sea, particularly the Belt, are arrived at Portsmouth from London, and several others are daily expected. Orders are received in the dock-yard for all the gun-boats to be got ready for immediate service.

Lord Hawkebury, on Tuesday, entered his Protest in the House of Peers against the vote of the preceding evening, relative to the further prosecution of the trial of Mr. Hastings.

Sir Joshua Reynolds and the Gentlemen who are a Committee to superintend the erection of monuments to the memory of eminent persons in St. Paul's Cathedral, had a meeting there yesterday, to fix on a proper spot for the proposed monuments of Mr. Howard, and Dr. Johnson.

It is remarkable that with the late Dr. Price originated the plan now in adoption for reducing the National Debt—perhaps the only one in which the sentiments of the Administration and himself were united;—it is fervently wished that there may always be that clear understanding and genuine integrity, in the ruling powers together with that anxiety for preserving the blessings of peace, which shall enable them to carry this great design into full effect!—France, in all her confusion, pays off her debt faster than when

she was said to be in tranquility and prosperity; what disinterested counsellors she must have had at that time!

To what causes do medical Gentlemen ascribe the increasing number of paralytick cases, and of lunatics and suicides? The fact, it is to be feared, is indisputable, and the source of these alarming evils requires a very serious investigation.

Are we to attribute them to the general use of tea, wine, or spirits, or to those sedentary pleasures, which are now substituted in the room of active ones?

The Pope's Bull, which has been publicly burnt at Paris, contains these words:—“The King would not have sanctioned the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, had he not been constrained, and even forced to it by the National Assembly—as the letters which the King has written to us plainly testify! Pius the 6th.”

This declaration has set new spirits at work, who publicly, though not very politely declare—that either the French King, or the Italian Pope must have told a—! and they will see which it is. These letters, therefore, are to be moved for in the National Assembly, that M. Montmorin may justify himself on the subject.

On Thursday M. de Clermont-Tonnerre was attacked by the mob, for having supported the interests of the Pope against the nation. He fortunately took shelter in a coffee-house, until the National Guards came to his rescue. They afterwards attacked his house, which they would have demolished, but for the guards.

The claims already collected in, on account of a young gentleman [duke of York] lately embarked for the Continent, amount to 240,000*l.*—127,000*l.* of which are *unfunded debts* of the *respectable* company of *Black legs*.

Two thousand dram shops or whiskey houses have been shut up in Dublin since the passing of the late act of the Irish parliament, to prevent the alarming use of spirituous liquors in Ireland.

The late popular commotions in France, have been highly advantageous to the cause of liberty, for the dissipated aristocrats, and prelatical nonconformists, have been banished from about the throne; the sovereign has consented to a public recognition of the French Constitution at foreign courts; and the national guards taught the danger of disobedience by the resignation of their beloved commander, will hereafter evince a scrupulous attachment to their superior officers, and with M. de la Fayette, once more at their head, will become the defenders of their country, and the guardians of those laws which they have sworn to enforce.

The 18th of April, 1791, will be therefore another proud day in the annals of France, equally honourable for the Parisians, equally useful for the nation, and equally creditable to the Monarch as the 14th of July, 1789!

The impeachment of Mr. Hastings may now be said to have died a natural death. The disunion of its conductors has palsied that accusing arm, that no effectual pursuit of the accusations can any longer be expected.

Mr. Burke has become the object of pity to his friends. The oppositionists say he is now mad—*Common Sense* asserts that he has been so—and the noble orator himself confesses “that his faculties are impaired through a long and severe attention to public business.”

The resumption of Avignon, and the Comtat Venaissin, will add nearly one million of inhabitants to the population of France.

Those Chevaliers of the order of St. Louis, who have merited that honor by their services, ashamed of the spies, pimps and parasites who had been decorated with the Croix, have determined to relinquish it until the respective merits of the possessors, should be canvassed by the National Assembly.

This is certainly the epoch for unaccountable revolutions in Church, as well as State—for what astrologer could have divined that in the year 1791, the mild legislature of Britain would have been occupied in granting toleration and indulgences to the Romish Church, at the precise moment that his Holiness the Pope was burnt in effigy at Paris, by the hand of the common hangman!—*Sic transit gloria Ecclesie.*

The answer of his Danish Majesty, to the late communication from our Court, is said to have been, that he was in hopes his Britannic Majesty would not have asked any thing that might commit him with Russia.

A vessel called the experiment arrived at Liverpool on Saturday se'nnight, laden with linen, from Dundee, being the first that has come to that port through the canal.—She was only four days in her passage from the east coast of Scotland; a voyage which, when attempted round the land, has been known to take up as many months.

On Tuesday se'nnight, after a litigation of eight years, the claimants on the goods seized by Lord Rodney and General Vaughan, at St. Eustatius, in the year 1782, were paid the full amount of their several claims, pursuant to a final decision of the Lords of the Privy Council.