

Gazette of the United States.

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

[No. 50, of Vol. III.]

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1791.

[Whole No. 258.]

PLAN OF THE Gazette of the United States.

I. EARLY and authentic accounts of the *Proceedings of Congress*, communicated to us to form an history of the transactions of the National Government.

II. *Laws, &c.* of the United States.
III. *Impartial Sketches of the Debates of Congress.*
IV. *Essays* on the great subjects of *Government*; also upon the local and national rights of the American citizens, as founded in nature, or on the national or state Constitutions; and on other subjects suitable for newspaper discussion.

V. *A series of Paragraphs*, calculated to catch the "living manners as they rise," and to point the public attention to objects that have an important reference to domestic, social and public happiness.

VI. *The Interests of the United States*, as connected with their literary Institutions; religious and moral objects; improvements in Science, Arts, Education and HUMANITY; their foreign treaties, alliances, connections, &c.

VII. *Intelligence* which may affect the commercial, agricultural, manufacturing, or political interests of the American nation.

VIII. *A chain of Domestic Occurrences.*

IX. *A series of foreign articles of Intelligence.*

X. *The state of the Funds; Courses of Exchange; Prices Current.*

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Will be received in all the capital towns upon the Continent; also at No. 69, High-Street, between Second and Third Streets, Philadelphia.

ORIGINAL ADDRESS.

TO THE PUBLIC.

AT this important crisis, the ideas that fill the mind, are pregnant with events of the greatest magnitude—to strengthen and complete the union of the States—to extend and protect their commerce—to explore and arrange the national funds—to restore and establish the public credit—will require the energies of the patriots and sages of our country—Hence the propriety of increasing the mediums of knowledge and information.

AMERICA, from this period begins her national existence—"THE WORLD IS ALL BEFORE HER"—the wisdom and folly—the misery and prosperity of the empires, states, and kingdoms, which have had their day upon the great theatre of time, and are now no more, suggest the most important mementos—thele, with the rapid series of events, in which our country has been involved, have taught the enlightened citizens of the United States, that freedom and government, liberty and laws, are inseparable.

This conviction led to the adoption of the new constitution; for however various the sentiments, respecting the merits of this system, all GOOD MEN are agreed in the necessity of an efficient federal government.

A paper, therefore, established upon national, independent, and impartial principles—which shall take up the premises articles, upon a COMPETENT PLAN, it is presumed, will be highly interesting, and meet with public approbation and patronage.

The Editor of this publication is determined to leave no avenue of information unexplored:—He solicits the assistance of persons of leisure and abilities—which, united with his own assiduity, he flatters himself will render the *Gazette of the United States* not unworthy general encouragement—and is, with due respect, the public's humble servant,
April 15, 1789.

THE EDITOR.

POSTSCRIPT.

THE plan and execution of the GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES, have received the approbation of a tribunal, from which there is no appeal.

The subscriptions, which are increasing, have long since exceeded the expectations of the publisher—a punctual compliance with the terms would compensate his labours, and animate his future exertions.

The Government that an enlightened and free people adopt, is a sacred consideration—it knows no party—and its prosperity is founded on the public good.

While the people are just to themselves, the administration of their affairs will be committed to men of integrity and competent abilities; and it will be the duty of patriotism to impress the public mind with favorable sentiments of the measures of government.

Our country continuing enlightened and free, the period cannot be anticipated when a publication on the plan of this Gazette shall involve a dereliction of those principles with which the liberties and happiness of the United States are connected.

With respect to the circulation of this paper, the Editor regrets the recent disappointments which have unavoidably taken place—he has always been fully impressed with the importance of punctuality, and cannot charge himself with a single instance of remissness.

It is very generally supposed that Congress, at the ensuing session, will take measures to ensure the circulation of NEWSPAPERS in the United States; and particularly their transmission from the Seat of Government to all parts of the Union. Justice, policy and patriotism, plead irresistibly in favor of some effectual provision being made. The following pertinent and judicious observations on this subject, lately appeared in an address to the public from the Editor of the GAZETTE OF MAINE. They are substituted in preference to any thing which the editor of this paper might further suggest, more particularly as coming from a remote quarter of the Union.

"Perhaps there is no country, in any part of the world, the inhabitants of which are, (or may be) supplied with public Newspapers at a cheaper rate than those of America. The Farmer and the Merchant, the Laborer and the Mechanic, may, by the means of a public Paper, when he retires from the business and fatigues of the day, take a view of the situation, the circumstances and the various revolutions of the several countries of the civilized world—And it must be a pleasing circumstance, that this is the privilege, emphatically the privilege of an American.

"Let it therefore be remembered, that by virtue of this privilege, the body of the people constantly obtain and preserve such a

degree of knowledge as shall be competent to the prevention of any attempt that may be made by cunning and designing men to sap the foundation of our most invaluable constitution. But, let the circulation of these Vehicles of Public Information be circumscribed, and the people will at once become uninformed of public transactions, and the more enlightened few will engross the privileges, immunities and prerogatives, which in the nature and fitness of things, are the indefeasible right of the whole body of the people.

"It is presumed no American will need a stimulus of this nature to furnish himself with public information. The cheap rate at which it is offered, the love and glory of our country, will at all times promote such a mode of conduct, as shall forever bar the attempts of tyranny, ignorance and superstition."

Several of the first volume of this Gazette are wanted—cash, and the original copy, will be paid for them by the Editor.

CONSTITUTION OF FRANCE.

(Continued from No. 48, of this Gazette.)

CHAPTER II.

Of the Royalty, the Regency, and the Ministers.

SECTION I.

Of the Royalty and the King.

I. THE Royalty is indivisible, and delegated hereditarily to the race on the throne from male to male, by order of primogeniture, to the perpetual exclusion of women and their descendants.

Nothing is prejudged on the effect of renunciations in the race on the throne.

II. The person of the king is sacred and inviolable: his only title is King of the French.

III. There is no authority in France superior to that of the law. The king reigns only by it, and it is only in the name of the law that he can require obedience.

IV. The King, on his accession to the throne, or at the period of his majority, shall take to the nation in the presence of the legislative body, the oath, "To employ all the power delegated to him, to maintain the constitution decreed by the Constituent National Assembly, in the years 1789, 1790, 1791, and to cause the laws to be executed."

If the legislative body shall not be assembled, the king shall cause a proclamation to be issued, in which shall be expressed this oath, and a promise to repeat it as soon as the legislative body shall be met.

V. If the king refuse this oath after an invitation by the legislative body, or if, after taking it, he shall retract, he shall be held to have abdicated the royalty.

VI. If the king put himself at the head of an army, and direct the forces of it against the nation, or if he do not oppose, by a formal act, any such enterprise undertaken in his name, he shall be held to have abdicated.

VII. If the king go out of the kingdom, and if, after being invited by a proclamation of the legislative body, he does not return, he shall be held to have abdicated.

VIII. After abdication, express or legal, the king shall be in the class of citizens, and may be accused and tried like them, for acts posterior to his abdication.

IX. The particular effects which the king possesses at his accession to the throne are irrevocably united to the domain of the nation. He has the disposition of those which he acquires on his own private account; if he has not disposed of them, they are in like manner united at the end of his reign.

X. The nation makes provision for the splendor of the throne, by a civil list, of which the legislative body shall fix the sum at the commencement of each reign, for the whole duration of that reign.

XI. The king shall appoint an administrator of the civil list, who shall institute civil suits in the name of the king, and against whom personally shall all prosecutions for debts, due by the civil list, be brought, and judgments given and executed.

SECTION II.

Of the Regency.

I. The King is a minor till the age of eighteen complete; and during his minority, there shall be a regent of the kingdom.

II. The regency belongs to the relation of the king, the next in degree according to the order of succession to the throne, who has attained the age of twenty-five; provided he be a Frenchman, resident in the kingdom, and not presumptive heir to any other crown, and has previously taken the civic oath.

Women are excluded from the regency.

III. The regent exercises till the king's majority, all the functions of royalty, and is not personally responsible for the acts of his administration.

IV. The regent cannot begin the exercise of his functions till after taking to the nation, in the presence of the legislative body, an oath, "To employ all the power delegated to the king, and of which the exercise is confided to him during the minority of the king, to maintain the constitution agreed to by the Constituent National Assembly, in the years 1789, 1790, and 1791, and to cause the laws to be executed."

If the legislative body is not assembled, the regent shall cause a proclamation to be issued, in which shall be expressed this oath, and a promise to repeat it as soon as the legislative body shall be met.

V. As long as the regent is not entered on the exercise of his functions, the function of laws remains suspended; the ministers continue to perform under their responsibility, all the acts of the executive power.

VI. As soon as the regent shall take the oath, the legislative body shall fix his allowance, which shall not be altered during his regency.

VII. The regency of the kingdom confers no rights over the person of the minor king.

VIII. The care of the minor king shall be confided to his mother; and if he has no mother, or if she be married again, at the time of her son's accession to the throne, or if she marry again during the minority, the care of him shall be delegated by the legislative body.

For the care of the minor king, neither the regent, nor his descendants, nor a woman can be chosen.

IX. In case of the king's mental incapacity notoriously admitted, legally proved, and declared by the legislative body, after three successive deliberations held monthly, there shall be a regency, as long as such incapacity continues.

SECTION III.

Of the Royal Family.

I. The presumptive heir shall bear the name of Prince Royal. He cannot go out of the kingdom, without a decree of the legislative body and the King's consent.

If he is gone out of it, and if, after being required by a proclamation of the legislative body, he does not return to France, he is held to have abdicated the right of succession to the throne.

II. If the presumptive heir is a minor, the relation, of full age, and next in order to the regency, is bound to reside within the kingdom.

In case of his going out of it, and not returning on the requisition of the legislative body, he shall be held to have abdicated his right to the regency.

III. The mother of the minor King, having the care of him, or the guardian elect, if they go out of the kingdom, forfeit their charge.

If the mother of the presumptive heir, a minor, goes out of the kingdom, she cannot, even after her return, have the care of her minor son, become King, but by a decree of the legislative body.

IV. The other members of the family of the King are subject only to the laws common to all citizens.

V. A law shall be made to regulate the education of the minor King, and that of the minor heir presumptive.

VI. No real apanage (in land) shall be granted to the members of the royal family.

The younger sons of the King shall receive, at the age of twenty-five, or on their marriage, an annuity, the amount of which shall be fixed by the legislative body, and shall terminate with the extinction of their male heirs.

SECTION IV.

Of Ministers.

I. To the King alone belongs the choice and dismissal of ministers.

II. No order of the King can be executed, if it be not signed by him, and countersigned by the minister or comptroller of the department.

III. The ministers are responsible for all the offences committed by them against the national safety and the constitution—for every attack on individual property and liberty—for every abuse of the money allotted for the expenses of their department.

IV. In no case can the written or verbal order of a King, shelter a minister from responsibility.

V. The ministers are bound to present every year to the legislative body, at the opening of the session, the amount of the expenses of their department, to give an account of the employment of the sums destined for that purpose, and to mention the abuses which have crept into the different parts of the government.

VI. No minister, in or out of place, can be criminally prosecuted for any transaction of his administration, without a decree of the legislative body.

CHAPTER III.

Of the Exercise of the Legislative Power.

SECTION I.

Powers and Functions of the Legislative National Assembly.

I. The Constitution delegates exclusively to the legislative body, the powers and functions following:

1. To propose and decree laws: the King can only invite the Legislative body to take an object into consideration.

2. To fix the Public Expenses.

3. To establish the Public Contributions, to determine the nature of them, the amount of each sort, and the mode of collection.

4. To make the distribution of them among the several Departments of the kingdom, to watch over the application, and to demand an account of it.

5. To decree the creation or suppression of public offices.

6. To determine the quality, the impression, and the denomination of money.

7. To permit or prohibit the introduction of foreign troops into the French territory, and of foreign naval forces into the ports of the kingdom.

8. To vote annually, on the King's proposition, the number of men and ships, of which the sea and land forces shall be composed; the pay and number of each rank; the rules of admission and promotion; the forms of enrollment and discharge; the formation of naval equipments; the admission of foreign troops, or naval forces into the French service, and the pensions to troops on being disbanded.

9. To regulate the administration and the alienation of the National Domains.

10. To prosecute before the High National Court, the Ministers and Principal Agents of the Executive Power, on their responsibility:

To accuse and prosecute, before the same Court, those who shall be charged with any offence or conspiracy against the general safety of the State or the Constitution.

11. To establish the rules according to which marks of honor or decorations merely personal shall be granted to those who have done service to the State.

12. The Legislative Body has the sole right of decreeing posthumous honors to the memory of great men.

II. War cannot be resolved on but by a decree of the National Assembly, passed on the formal and necessary proposition of the King, and sanctioned by him:

In case of hostilities, imminent or commenced, of an ally to be supported, or a right to be maintained by force of arms, the King shall give notification without delay to the legislative body, with an explanation of the reasons:

If the legislative body decide that war ought not to be made, the King shall instantly take measures to prevent or put a stop to hostilities, the Ministers being responsible for all delays:

If the legislative body find that the hostilities commenced are a culpable aggression on the part of Ministers, or any other agent of the executive power, the author of the aggression shall be prosecuted criminally:

During the whole course of war, the legislative body may require the King to negotiate peace, and the King is bound to yield to this requisition:

On the immediate conclusion of war, the legislative body shall fix the time within which the troops, levied above the peace establishment, shall be discharged, and the army reduced to its ordinary establishment.

III. It belongs to the legislative body to ratify treaties of peace, alliance, and commerce; and no treaty shall have effect, but by this ratification.

(To be continued.)