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[Whole No. 259.]

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

A SAMPLE ORATION,

Very suitable to be worn in the pocket, and delivered at Quarter Races, County Meetings, or volunteer State Conventions, as occasion may require.

MEN, BRETHREN, & COUNTRYMEN!

IT is the pure unbiassed flame of liberty, which, while it consumes, still inspires me this day to address you. As to property, I have none; thank heaven, I divested myself of all yellow dirt, all filthy lucre, in those blest days when I was a Committee-man, and watched night and day, in public houses, for the public good.—Property, gentlemen, is like “the accursed thing,” touch it but lightly, and let it pass. It is the mother of aristocracy—that lusty young strumpet on whom the wicked well-born are determined to beget not even a moderate sized, a limited brat, but a thumping great absolute Monarchy.

The virtuous Romans had agrarian laws; but our selfish peasant-sould farmers will not divide their farms; nay, nor will they even divide the annual produce of them, with those patriotic preachers and apostles, who take no heed for tomorrow. A Numarian law would be a rich blessing—Oh how it would gladden the hearts, and gild with pleasure the faces, of the true disciples, to serve once more on Committees, whose business it should be, at least once in three years, to inspect the chests and coffers of the overgrown purse-proud man, or the paltry muckworm, who toiled with the dirty view of “laying up pelf against a rainy day,” and divide their ungodly spoil amongst the pure lovers of liberty.

A Numarian law is not an object to be despaired of. In order to gain the landholders, it is only necessary to convince them, that it is their interest to pare commerce to the quick—to keep, as it were, “its nose close to the grindstone”—That the landed interest is one thing, and the monied is another, is very plain—You cannot, gentlemen, carry land enough in the largest portmanteau, to pay your travelling expenses;—a monied man will do precisely the reverse—he will carry cash enough in a small pair of saddlebags to buy a large farm, and thus lord it over us. Was there ever a patriotic land-holder that speculated and grew rich, by land-jobbing, by loans of money, or loans of cattle, at an high interest?—You all say no, with a truth most incontrovertible.

I have heard it reported that there is one State in the Union of no mean size, that would not suffer land to be touched by that harpy the law. If this is true, it is a glorious example, a noble policy. A new-made landed man laughs his monied dupe creditor in the face, with virtuous scorn. There is one evil that has been little attended to. There is a kind of natural aristocracy arising from the powers of the mind—Nature has given to some men enormous wealth in this way, and when she adds to it that specious kind of integrity which will not sacrifice petty private claims or property for the public good, this aristocracy then comes to be of a very dangerous nature. It is a government of influence that does not even require money—View the American Court, and tremble. The head of the system, and all the coadjutors, ought speedily to be ostracized and banished. I would not spare even their appendage, the specious Court Printer, whose aristocratical Gazette is pervading and poisoning the streams and sources of information throughout this country, it is said. I believe we need not go far for an independent, plain-mouthed, Printer to succeed him.

I would not go too far at once, nor shock with an instant total change—I would however weed this rank garden, with a liberal hand. For a beginning, I would remove the Secretary of the Treasury, and appoint some young Broker in his place—the Secretary of State should be succeeded by a Watch-maker turned Silver-smith—I would make some clean handed Quarter-Master, or Continental Loan-Officer, Treasurer—the Associate Judges should be selected from a very patriotic little Eastern State—the Chief Justice should be the great Law Reformer, in the District of Maine, who is the glory of Massachusetts Bay—For Secretary of War, I would chuse their worthy re-inflated fellow-citizen—Daniel Shays, Esq.

V E N T O S O.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

SONNET.

THO' blooms no more the rose upon my cheek,
Tho' lost the hazel lustre of mine eye,
Yet does that eye my soft affection speak,
And gaze on thee, as on a cloudless sky;
For pure thou art, and full of harmony;
Bright as in heaven shines the morning star,
So beams thy beauteous soul upon thy face,
And shews no malice, or no mental war
Moves in thy mind, to break thy blissful peace.
But oh my ANNA, with thy wonted grace,
Continue still my pensive soul to cheer,
Watch o'er my spirit with thy tender care,
So shall thy power bid the rose appear,
And light mine eye, and charm away despair.

C H A M O N T.

CONSTITUTION OF FRANCE.

(Continued from our last.)

IV. THE legislative body has the right of determining the place of its sittings, of continuing them as long as it shall think necessary, and of adjourning: at the commencement of each reign, if it is not sitting, it shall be bound to meet without delay:

It has the right of police in the place of its sitting, and to such extent around it as shall be determined:

It has the right of discipline over its members; but it can pronounce no heavier punishment than censure, arrest for eight days, or imprisonment for three:

It has the right of disposing, for its safety and the respect that is due to it, of the forces, which shall be establishment by its consent, in the city where it shall hold its sittings.

V. The executive power cannot march, or quarter, or station, any troops of the line, within thirty thousand toises of the legislative body, except on the requisition, or by the authority of that body.

SECTION II.

Holding of the Sittings, and form of Deliberating.

I. The deliberations of the Legislative Body shall be public, and the minutes of the sittings shall be printed.

II. The Legislative body may, however, on any occasion, form itself into a General Committee.

Fifty members shall have a right to demand it:

During the continuance of the General Committee, the assistants shall retire, the Chair of the President shall be vacant, order shall be maintained by the Vice-President:

The Decrees cannot be passed, except in a Public Sitting.

III. No Legislative Act can be debated and decreed, except in the following form:

IV. The plan of a Decree shall be read thrice at three intervals, the shortest of which cannot be less than eight days.

V. The discussion shall be open after every reading; nevertheless after the first or second reading, the Legislative Body may declare that there is reason for adjournment, or that there is no room for deliberation—in this last case, the plan of the Decree may be introduced again in the same session:

VI. After the third reading, the President shall be bound to propose to their deliberation, and the Legislative Body shall decide, whether they are qualified to pass a definitive Decree, or would rather chuse to postpone their decision, in order to gather more ample information on the subject:

VII. The Legislative body cannot deliberate, if the sitting do not consist of at least 200 Members; and no Decree shall be made, except by the absolute majority of votes:

VIII. No plan of a law which, after having been submitted to discussion, shall have been rejected after the third reading, can again be introduced the same session:

IX. The preamble of every Definitive Decree, shall announce, 1st The dates of those three sittings, at which the plan of the decree was read; 2^d, The Decree by which it shall have been appointed after the third reading to decide definitively;

X. The King shall refuse his sanction to the Decrees, whose preamble shall not attest the observance of the above forms; if any of those Decrees be sanctioned, the Ministers shall neither put to it the seal, nor promulgate it, and their responsibility in this respect shall continue six years:

XI. Excepting from these regulations, Decrees recognized, and declared urgent by a previous deliberation of the Legislative Body; but they may be modified or revoked, in the course of the same session.

SECTION III.

OF THE ROYAL SANCTION.

I. The Decrees of the Legislative Body are presented to the King, who may refuse them his assent.

II. In the case of a refusal of the Royal Assent, that refusal is only suspensive. When the two following Legislatures shall successively present the same Decree in the same terms in which it was originally conceived, the King shall be deemed to have given his sanction.

III. The assent of the King is expressed to each Decree, by the following formula, signed by the King: “The King consents, and will cause it to be executed:”

The suspensive refusal is thus expressed; The King will examine,

IV. The King is bound to express his assent or refusal to each Decree within two months; after that period, his silence is deemed a refusal.

V. No decree to which the King has refused his assent, can be presented to him by the same Legislature.

VI. The Legislative Body cannot insert in Decrees relative to the establishment or continuance of imposts, any regulation foreign to that subject, nor present, at the same time, for sanction, other Decrees as inseparable.

VII. The decrees sanctioned by the King, and those which have been presented to him by three successive legislatures alone, have the force, and bear the name and title of laws.

VIII. Excepting however from sanction, those acts of the legislative body, which relate to its constitution, as a deliberating assembly;

Its interior police;

The verification of the powers of the members present;

The injunctions to the absent members;

The convocation of the primary assemblies in case of delay;

The exercise of constitutional independence over the administrators;
Questions of eligibility on the validity of elections;
Excepting likewise from sanction, acts relative to the responsibility of ministers; and all decrees importing that there is ground of accusation.

SECTION IV.

Connection of the Legislative Body with the King.

I. When the Legislative Body is definitively constituted, it shall send a deputation to inform the King. The King may every year open the Session, and propose the objects, which, during its continuance, he thinks ought to be taken into consideration; this form, however, is not to be considered as necessary to the activity of the Legislative Body.

II. When the Legislative Body wishes to adjourn longer than fifteen days, it is bound to inform the King, by a Deputation, at least eight days previous to the adjournment.

III. Eight days, at least, before the end of each Session, the Legislative Body shall send a Deputation to the King, to announce to him the day on which it proposes to terminate its sittings; the King may come in order to close the Session.

IV. If the King find it of importance to the welfare of the State, that the Session be continued, or that the adjournment be put off, or take place only for a shorter time, he may send a message to this effect, on which the Legislative Body is bound to deliberate.

V. The King shall convoke the Legislative Body during the interval of its Session, as often as in the interest of the State shall appear to him to require it, as well as in those cases which the Legislative Body shall have foreseen and determined previous to their adjournment.

VI. Whenever the King shall visit the place of meeting of the Legislative Body, he shall be received, and conducted back by a deputation; he cannot be accompanied into the inner part of the Hall by any except Ministers.

VII. The President can in no case form part of a Deputation.

VIII. The Legislative Body shall cease to be a Deliberating Body whilst the King shall be present.

IX. The acts of correspondence of the King with the Legislative Body, shall be always countersigned by a Minister.

X. The Ministers of the King shall have admission into the Legislative National Assembly, they shall have a particular place; they shall be heard on all the subjects on which they demand a hearing, and as often as they shall be called upon to give explanations.

CHAPTER IV.

Of the Exercises of the Executive power.

I. The Supreme Executive power resides exclusively in the hands of the King:

The King is the Supreme Head of the general administration of the kingdom; the care of watching over the maintenance of public order and tranquility is entrusted to him:

The King is the Supreme Head of all the land and sea forces:

To the King is delegated all the care of watching over the exterior security of the kingdom, and of maintaining its rights and possessions.

II. The King names Ambassadors and the other agents of political negotiations; He bestows the command of armies and fleets, and the ranks of Marshal of France and Admirals;

He names two-thirds of the Rear-Admirals, one half of the Lieutenant-Generals, Camp-Marshals, Captains of ships, and Colonels of the National Gendarmerie;

He names a third of the Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels, and a sixth of the Lieutenants of ships;

The whole in conformity to the laws with respect to promotion.

He appoints in the Civil Administration of the Marine, the Directors, the Comptrollers, the Treasurers of the Arsenals, the Masters of the Works, the Under-Masters of Civil Buildings, half of the Masters of Administration, and of the Under-Masters of Construction;

He appoints the Commissioners of the tribunals;

He appoints the Commissioners of the National treasury, and the Superintendants in Chief of the management of Contributions indirect;

He superintends the coinage of money, and appoints the Officers entrusted with this superintendance in the General Commission and the Mints;

The effigy of the King is struck on all the coinage of the kingdom.

III. The King orders Letters Patent, Brevets, and commissions to be delivered to all the public Officers that ought to receive them.

IV. The King orders a list of pensions and gratifications to be made out for the purpose of being presented to the Legislative Body each Session.

SECTION I.

Of the Promulgation of Laws.

I. The executive power is entrusted with ordering the seal of State to be put to laws, and causing them to be promulgated.

II. Two copies of each law shall be made, both signed by the King, countersigned by the Minister of Justice, and sealed with the seal of the State;

The one shall be deposited in the archives of the seal, and the other shall be sent to the archives of the legislative body.

III. The promulgation of laws shall be in these terms:

“N. (the King's name) by the Grace of God, and the constitutional law of the State, King of the French, to all present and to come, greeting. The National Assembly has decreed, and we will and ordain as follows:

[Here a literal copy of the decree shall be inserted without any variation.]

“We command and ordain to all administrative bodies and courts of justice, to cause these presents to be transcribed on their registers, read, published, and posted up in their departments, and respective places of resort, and executed as a law of the realm; in witness of which, we have signed these presents, to which we have caused the seal of the State to be put.”

IV. If the King is a minor, laws, proclamations, and other acts proceeding from the royal authority during the regency, shall be conceived in these terms:

“N. (the name of the regent) regent of the kingdom, in the name of N. (the King's name) by the grace of God, and the constitutional law of the State, King of the French,” &c.

V. The executive power is bound to send the laws to the administrative bodies and courts of justice, to see that they are sent, and to answer for it to the legislative body.

VI. The executive power cannot make any law, not even provisional, but merely proclamations, conformable to the laws, to ordain or enforce the execution.

(To be continued.)