

their authority by words a ruin to the cause of the property and immunities of the citizens? Have not the legislature by acts of indemnity, and the executive by acts of pardon, nearly annihilated one essential branch of our government? They may sentence a man for breaking a hoase and flogging a deck of Bacon, and have the sentence executed. But if a number of daring offenders present the bayonet at the breasts of judges, and in martial array fly at the forces of justice and thereby break honours, plunder, burn and kill loyal subjects; if they are arrested, tried, and condemned, they are free of a pardon, and all the hopes of protection which quiet citizens entertain, are dashed at once. Tell it not among the advocates for royal tyranny, that a government which promises such happiness, is the sport of faction, and through weakness and infirmity is the scoff and ridicule of its world and most restless subjects. Are our courts of criminal jurisdiction any thing more than the shadow of power, since their sentences are annulled by the other departments of government. Before these indemnities and pardons every thing was settling into quietude and order: a spirit of subordination began to take place, the laws began to assume their dignity in the tribunals of justice. But in proportion as the government relaxed the spirit of dilatory gained ground. Every new instance of lenity was construed, whether truly or not I do not affirm, as a mark of timidity and collusion. And the lives and properties of subjects were more endangered. And now the laws and the courts of justice are held in contempt by multitudes, who have been enabled to ride over their with impunity. Good citizens feel themselves void of legal protection from the government, and are necessitated to rely under heaven upon their own wisdom and fortitude. How soon the distraction of courts of civil law will follow the humiliation of our courts of criminal jurisdiction, is not hard to conjecture. Confiscations of their past errors, may the civil authority afford such effectual protection to peaceable citizens, that they may not be necessitated to look around them with perplexity for public friends and protectors. I am not ashamed to appear as an advocate for the execution of justice upon those who destroy the lives of their brethren, and lay waste the fences of public security. Nor do I think myself sanguinary and void of the most fervid feelings of humanity, when I plead for the execution of one guilty transgressor, or to save the lives of thousands of my innocent countrymen. I am not convinced that treason and rebellion are small and venial sins, and that the convenience of rulers will justify the delays and denials of justice. I am persuaded that God has testified his displeasure against these crimes from age to age, and especially in young and free States. Perhaps by some, whose religion is made conveniently to fit their political interests, I may be thought superstitious, when I express my apprehensions, that by the pardon of the criminals the guilt of treason and blood lies upon the whole community: And that we have reason to expect that the wrath of God will be revealed against this race for that ungodliness of men, which, though fully proved, has been left unpunished among us. I humbly request the supreme executive to consider, whether they have not left their people under the guilt of rebellion and blood, and that their pardon, made the wickedness of individuals the sin of the public? Whether they have not, weighing future events by the past, laid the foundation for new and more alarming tumults and insurrections, by granting impunity to those who were convicted of levying war against their country. And let us all consider, that for our iniquities all our public evils have befallen us, and that the sure and only method to avert the tokens of God's indignation, is by throwing down the weapons of our rebellion against his laws, and by walking honestly and uprightly in his ways and as become christians, leading quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Then may we hope that he will punish us less than our iniquities deserve.

#### N U M A.

UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS assembled, Friday September 23, 1787. Present, *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia*; and from Maryland, Mr. Rufus.

CONGRESS having received the report of the Convention, lately assembled in Philadelphia;

Resolved, unanimously—That the said report, with the resolutions, and letter accompanying the same, be transmitted to the several legislatures, in order to be submitted to a convention of delegates, chosen in each state by the people thereof, in conformity to the resolves of the Convention, made and provided in that case.

In CONGRESS S<sup>d</sup>, July 23. On motion of Mr. Dane, seconded by Mr. Holten,

Resolved, That all persons having unliquidated claims against the United States, pertaining to the late commissary's, quarter-master's, hospital, cloathier's or marine department, shall exhibit particular abstracts of such claims to the proper commissioner appointed to settle the accounts of those departments, within eight months from the date hereof; and all persons having other unliquidated claims against the United States, shall exhibit a particular abstract thereof to the comptroller of the treasury of the United States within one year from the date hereof; and all accounts not exhibited as aforesaid, shall be precluded from settlement or allowance.

On a report of the secretary for foreign affairs. Resolved, That Congress are well pleased with the conduct of Thomas Barclay, esquire, in the negotiations on the part of the United States with his imperial majesty of Morocco, as detailed and represented in his and other letters and papers transmitted to them.

In CONGRESS S<sup>d</sup>, Sept. 24. On a letter of the 23d from the board of treasury, stating, that in the sales which they have made of lands in the western territory, a declaration had been made by them, previous to the sale, that the interest on the securities to be received in payment was not to be computed, and requesting to be favoured with a sense of Congress, whether, in payment of purchases made under the ordinance of the 20th of May, 1785, interest should be computed on the principal of the securities, or received in payment on the same terms as the principal.

Resolved, That Congress approve of the declaration made by the board of treasury as at the time of selling the public lands, that the interest on the securities to be received in payment should not be computed; and direct them to proceed in the same manner in future sales, issuing certificates, or indentures of interest, for the interest due on the certificates paid, conformably to the authority given them for the sale of the lands between the seventh range of townships and the Scioto, on the 23d day of July last.

In CONGRESS S<sup>d</sup>, Sept. 25. Whereas it has been represented to Congress, by the delegates of Georgia, that their country is in danger of an invasion:

Resolved, That the secretary at war deliver, to the order of the delegates of Georgia, one hundred and fifty pairs of hostenens's pistols, one hundred and fifty dragon's swords, one pair of brass field pieces, three pounders, one thousand pound of gun powder, and six hundred rounds of grape and round shot for the field pieces; the State of Georgia to be accountable.

#### P A R I S, July 30.

AN order has been sent to Brest for equipping three more ships of the line; the squadron is to be ready on the tenth of August.

#### L O N D O N, August 11.

From accounts received yesterday from Holland, it is now confirmed that a civil war is actually begun in the province of Utrecht. All terms of accommodation, an friendly attempts of mediation, whether sincere or not, on the part of France, and in their all hopes of terminating the disputes without more bloodshed, are now vanquished. Whether patriotism, which they profess, or delusion which is imputed to them, has prevailed on the people to this desperate step, it is plain that there is now no room for drawing. The sword is drawn, and as it would seem, in a slow but determined manner. Nothing remains to all appearance now but for both parties to assemble their forces and their allies, and contend inch by inch for the superiority.

I cannot admit a moment's doubt, that the action near Utrecht, will not only quicken the march of the Prussian troops, but tend to impel the courts of London, Berlin, and Versailles, to adopt decisive measures. Our sovereign seems not only to have been aware of this necessity, by ordering his electoral forces to be in readiness, which he has done; but by sending General Fawcitt to Helle Gassel, where he is now training for a corps of Hessian troops, to be employed in the interest and support of the Stadtholder.

The States of Holland, in full assembly, at the Hague, published an edict the 20th ult. strictly forbidding, as surveyor of Holland, all persons whatever, from quitting the Province, or going into any other state with their effects, under pretence of flying for safety, the States being themselves of sufficient ability to protect their subjects: adding thereto, that in time of public disaster, it was the duty of every good citizen to continue at home and add his endeavours for the defence of his country.

At the bottom of the Dutch politics, it is evident French intrigue prevails. Among the Dutch insurgents we find many French officers, and in particular two who distinguished themselves in the late engagement. Independent, however, of those foreign allies on which the Prince of Orange can depend, he appears to have many friends in the provinces. The trading interest are decidedly on his side, perhaps

indeed from interest, because peace is absolutely necessary to their existence.

ALEXANDRIA, September 20. By a gentleman who has arrived from Kentucky in 20 days, we are informed, that the report of many families having been lately cut off by the Indians in Cumberland settlement, is without foundation; that in consequence of such a report being circulated in Kentucky the militia was raised, but it being authentically contradicted, they were soon dismissed.

RICHMOND, September 20. We learn from Greenbrier, that a desperate Black Matthews, who having lately been taken in execution for debt, broke the bonds, and stamp to sign a paper, binding themselves to stand by each other, in preventing the sheriff from taking their property for debts or taxes, was taken into custody in Bowerston, and sent to Greenbrier under guard; after remaining some days in custody, he was brought to court, acknowledged his offence, and offered to take the oath of allegiance. The court therefore discharged him, and he was committed to go on an escape warrant. We learn further, that he had five copies of the association paper to the other back counties, but they were taken no notice of, and that all were quiet in that county.

Capt Orr from Jamaica informs, that flour was selling at a guinea per barrel, and that there had not been any rain for five months.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 28. Extract of a letter from a gentleman of New-York as it stands in this issue.

"I have the happiness to assure you from good authority, that the new system of Federal Government will be unquestionably adopted by New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New-York and Jersey. The people of Pennsylvania, I presume you well know, are almost universally for it. And I can easily conceive, that your state will have no hesitation upon the subject, as it is particularly favourable to it. It will have no opposition here, unless from a few Demagogues of desperate fortunes, who will not see a regular permanent government established.

"There is one person in the State of Massachusetts, of respectable popular talents, who was originally opposed to the Convention at Philadelphia, and who, it is well known, though he does not avow it, will oppose the proposed Federal government. This person's politics, however, will be good a great prevent his being in the legislature. His opposition to the new government is attributed to a wish to throw our political affairs into the utmost possible confusion. And indeed, should this government not obtain a sense of security will ensue, that will seriously threaten our political existence. It is, therefore, devoutly to be wished, that the several states will send to their respective legislatures men, who are truly attached to their country, and who, of course, will support and maintain this new system of Federal government, which has been framed and recommended to us by our most distinguished patriots and statesmen."

"P. S. As this new system of Federal Government, will have a tendency to promote manufactures of every kind, our tradesmen here discover the utmost anxiety to have it established."

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 29. In General Assembly, September 28.

WHEREAS the Convention of Deputies from the several States comprising the virtuous established in this city, have published a constitution for the future government of the United States, to be submitted to a Convention of deputies chosen in each state by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its legislature, for their assent and ratification: And whereas it is the sense of great numbers of the good people of this state, already signified by petitions and declarations in this House, that the earliest step should be taken to assemble a Convention within the state, for the purpose of deliberating and determining on the said constitution:

Resolved, That it be recommended to such of the inhabitants of the state as are entitled to vote for representatives to the General Assembly, that they choose suitable persons to serve as deputies in a State Convention, for the purposes herein before mentioned, that is, for the city of Philadelphia and for the counties respectively, the same number of deputies that each is entitled to of Representatives in the General Assembly.

The above was warmly opposed by Mr. Whitehill and Mr. Findley, on the impropriety of adopting it till the Federal Constitution should be forwarded to the house by Congress—where it was combated by Mr. Clymer, Fitzsimons, Robinson, Brackenridge, &c. and the sense of the house was taken, and it was carried in the affirmative; yeas, 43—nays 19; where the house adjourned to the afternoon, leaving a part of the business unfinished.

In the afternoon the house met, but the above

Members, excepted Robert Brown, being absent, the foremost at arms was sent for the absent members; who reported on his return, that he had found most of them at the house of Maj. Boyd, and that they refused attending the house, on which the speaker adjourned the house until this morning, half past 9 o'clock.

#### OCTOBER 2.

To the printer of the Independent Gazetteer. WHEN on Friday last eighteen or nineteen hundred allies, who are a disgrace to Pennsylvania, badly deserted the trust reposed in them by an unwarrantable revolt from the Assembly, we cannot candidly, that heretofore, could have given us more pleasing than to have been employed in chastising their disciples of Straw, Washburn, &c. who were not influenced in their desertion by the motives which actuated the citizens of Rome, when they revolted, and were effected by the instigation of those popular migrants styled Tribunes—nor by that patriotic spirit, which prompted the illustrious Barons to exert Magna Charta from their tyrannical King John. No sir, these tools of sedition whose ingratitude is still greater than their obliquity, evidently copied after those despicable incendiaries, Jack Straw, and Wat Tyler, in endeavoring to introduce anarchy into this State, that they might be an easy prey to their lord and master, Daniel Shayes. Against such traitors to their delegated trust we would willingly be engaged.

WAR AND FEATHERS. October 2. On Wednesday last his Excellency General Washington passed through Wilmington, on his return from this city to his seat in Mount Vernon—and on the same day, in crossing the bridge at the head of Elk, the bridge gave way and his horse fell into the river. His Excellency had alighted in order to walk over the bridge, which fortunate circumstance probably saved a life so dear to his country.

In consequence of the arrival of the unanimous resolution of Congress, and the adoption of it by our Assembly, the bells of Christ Church rang during the greater part of Saturday. Many hundred citizens of the first character attended in the lobby, and at the door of the State-house during the deliberations of the House on the calling of a Convention, and testified their joy upon the resolving passed for that purpose by three hearty cheers. In short, unusual joy appeared in every countenance (three or four officers of government excepted) and the day exhibited every where the most agreeable marks of the speedy reversion of the prosperity and happiness of Pennsylvania.

On Saturday last, at three o'clock A. M. an express forwarded by the hon. Mr. Bingham, one of the delegates from Pennsylvania, arrived in this city, from Congress, with the resolution, recommending to each state to call a Convention, to take into consideration the federal government. It was read in assembly, and unanimously forenoon where it was adopted with only two objecting voices.

From the time the resolutions of Congress was passed till its adoption by the state of Pennsylvania was only twenty hours.—Such is the zeal of Pennsylvania, to show her attachment to a vigorous, free and wise frame of national government.

NORTHAMPTON, October 17. On Wednesday last the Supreme Judicial Court finished their session at Leoxox, in the county of Berkshire, previous to which the following persons received sentence of death, viz.

William Manning, for treason.  
John Bly, for robbing Mr. Jonathan Brooks, of Laneborough on the 14th of June last.  
Charles Rose and Potter Allen, for robbing Mr. Abner Kellogg, of Alfred, on the 15th of May last.

We are informed that Manning was designed to be excepted in the pardon lately granted by the General Court, but there being a mistake in his christian name, he returned into this state and neglecting to comply with the conditions of the statute, by taking an oath of allegiance to the commonwealth, he lost the benefit of the pardon. Rose was indicted in six, and Bly in four other indictments for robbery, but each of them was convicted on trial of the first indictment.

"Should the citizens of America ratify the proceedings of the Convention, the happy event will from an epocha more peculiar in its nature, more felicitating in its consequence, and more interesting to the philosophic mind, than ever the political history of man has displayed. Where is the country in which the principles of civil liberty and jurisprudence are so well understood as in this? and where has ever such an Assembly of men been deputed for such a purpose?—To see an assemblage of characters, most of them illustrious for their integrity, patri-

otism and abilities, representing many sovereign states; framing a system of government for the whole, in the midst of a profound peace; unembarrassed by any unfavourable circumstance abroad, unimpeded by any selfish motives at home; but making the most generous concessions to each other for the common welfare, and directing their deliberations with the most perfect unanimity.—I see a constitution of government thus formed, and fraught with wisdom, economy and foresight, adapted to the political habits of their constituents, to the state of society and civilization, to the peculiar circumstances of their country, and to their enlightened sentiments of freedom and toleration, so dear to all good men.—And, finally, to see this constitution ratified and adopted by several millions of people, inhabiting an extensive country, not from any coercion, but from more principles of propriety, wisdom and policy.—These are objects too great and too glorious to be viewed with common admiration and delight. The idea alone is animating to every patriot and susceptible of the emotions of patriotism and philanthropy: the attempt alone reflects a dignity upon human nature, and the execution secures freedom and public happiness to remote posterity.

"This great event will disclose the meaning of those many astonishing providences which gave timely aid to American arms in the just struggle for independence. From this it will appear, that they were not intended to elude in, upon this recent theatre of cultivated humanity, the horrors of domestic jarring; but to establish, upon the firmest basis, union, freedom, and tranquility. The prerogative of the Great Guardian of Nations, to educe good from evil, will become illustrious. Our reproach abroad, and mismanagement at home, will shew us, in contrast, the magnitude of our change. The light of prosperity will but shine the brighter, as just bursting from the dissipating clouds of injustice, avarice and ambition.

"Let us then be of one heart, and of one mind. Let us seize the golden opportunity to secure a stable government, and to become a respectable nation. Let us be open, decided and resolute in a good cause. Let us render our situation worthy the ashes of our slaughtered brethren, and our own sufferings. Let us remember our emblem, the united serpent, and its emphatical motto, *Wives, or Die!*—This was once written in blood; but it is as emphatical now as then.—A house divided against itself cannot stand. Our national existence depends as much as ever upon our union; and its consolidation most assuredly involves our prosperity, felicity and safety."

The inhabitants of Philadelphia, who petitioned the Legislature in favour of the Federal Constitution, amounted to upwards of 4000.

"Observe" says a late sensible and judicious writer "the caption of the American CONSTITUTION, every sentence is full of meaning, and of such import, that none but the violent and dishonest can oppose. It carries the marks of piety as well as policy. No good man will wish to oppose it, and I hope no wicked man will dare to do it.—It is calculated to answer the exigencies of the times, and to unite in one federal body the interests of all: A mighty empire may be formed upon this basis, which shall make its enemies to tremble. While it gently detracts from the liberties of each; it provides for the security of all. If any imagine that it detracts from an individual state more than from another,

let it be remembered, it is but to bestow the benefit upon a sister, or a brother, who have an equal claim to the benefit with themselves. Why should members of one and the same family clash, while the interests of the family are the same?"

Accounts from Old Spain, via of England, say that advice has been received of the destruction of that ancient American city Mexico, the pride and glory of the new world, by an earthquake which lasted near 8 minutes. It is said that but very in all remains of it are left.—benevolence, as well as interest, will excite us to hope this intelligence is not well founded for we cannot but anticipate the day when there will be a friendly intercourse between the inhabitants of these States, and Spanish America.

A New York paper of the 6th inst. has the following:—On Friday last James Keaf, alias Shields, Patrick Kennan, and John Cambell, were executed at Burlington, pursuant to their sentence, for burglary and the murder of Savannah Jenkins, of Evesham, in the county of Burlington. At the place of execution they confessed the murder and a number of robberies in which they were concerned.

THE subscribers for this Paper in South-Hanley, are hereby notified, that the Pay, which has now become due to the Printer, will be received at Major Goodman's, if brought immediately; otherwise they must expect to deliver it at Northampton.

ORDERS for the Fourth Division of MILITIA of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, October 10, 1787.

By Major-General SHEPARD.

THE military spirit, the decent and soldierly conduct, the promptness and exactitude in manoeuvring and in the firing, and the propriety of conduct discovered by the First Regiment of the Second Brigade this day in the review, gives the General the highest satisfaction. He returns both officers and soldiers his warmest thanks, and assures them, that while our troops discover this martial disposition, are well affected to our happy constitution, and feel ready to defend it, we may rest secure from fear of its destruction, either from foreign invasion or internal unprincipled animosity.

The General is apprized that the long expected returns of their respective brigades are not yet made to the Adjutant-General of this division, from the Brigadier-Generals. He again pointedly calls on them to forward those returns without loss of time.

In future all returns of elections of Field Officers will be made to the Brigadier-General of the brigade in which the regiment is placed, particularly specifying the rank the regiment holds in that brigade, the town where the election officer lives, and the date of election.

Returns of the election of platoon officers will in like manner be directed to the Brigadier-General. The number and brigade, the place of residence and time of election will be carefully noticed. All applications for resignation of command must be approved by the officer commanding the regiment, and by the Brigadier-General, before the Major-General will receive them, or any acceptance can be obtained of his Excellency.

The Brigadier-General will see that all vacancies, which may occur in their respective brigades, be filled as soon as may be, and that all returns be forwarded to the Major-General as soon as possible.

ROBERT OLIVER, D. A. G.

#### William Moore,

RESPECTFULLY informs his customers, and others, that he has lately received and selling at his Store in Greenfield, a general Assortment of European and West-India GOODS.

Also,—N A I L S, of all kinds—so say, at the lowest terms, would be a repetition of many gentleman's advertisement—he therefore submits that to his impartial customers, who will call and judge for themselves—where constant attendance will be given, and the smallest favour gratefully acknowledged.

For-Ath, Sals of Lye, Beef Cattle, Pork, Butter, Cheese, Beet-Wax, Flax, Flax-Seed, Wheat, Rye, Oats, Indian Corn, Ginseng &c. received in payment as Cash for the above Goods. Greenfield, October 10, 1787.