

ANSWER

To the Senate of Pennsylvania,
To the Address of the Governor.

To THOMAS M'KEAN,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Senate, friends of the importance of your communication to both houses of the Legislature, have given it the most early attention.

The circumstances of an mode of electing electors of President and Vice-President of the United States being yet unfinished, is a subject of general regret.

We feel the influence of those circumstances which admit of a really consistent confederation of our country, and permit us to add, the confederation of our particular State; we shall carefully advert to their respective provisions in all our deliberations on the important subject of electors of President, and we confidently hope that the result will conflict with the former, without infringing the political balance of the latter.

The day of election being near at hand as to preclude our constituents from an immediate participation in the choice of electors, we shall endeavor to devise such a mode as, that while it conforms to the constitution, shall promote all the satisfaction to our fellow citizens that the emergency of present circumstances will possibly admit. Thus that we become exonerated from responsibility, as far as depends on the Secretary of this important task, to preserve its merited place in the great scale of the Union.

To which the Governor returned the following reply.

To the Senate of Pennsylvania.

PERMITS ME TO say, with great satisfaction to find that you concur in my opinion on the importance of the occasion, on which the Legislature has been convened; and be assured that I regret with you, the limited period that remains for deliberation and decision.

A variety of considerations occur, however, to justify the time that has been devoted for an interruption of the executive authority. It will be observed that the Legislature has a power over its own adjournments; and if you, gentlemen, had thought during the last Session, that more meeting of the Senate would probably be necessary, you would have probably furnished the means to reconcile the jarring opinions of the two bodies, a proposition for that purpose would, I am persuaded, have been introduced. But the power which the constitution vests in the Executive Magistrate to convene the Legislature, points particularly to those emergencies which may occur during a recess, upon which the Legislature has had no opportunity to deliberate, and with respect to which, without his intervention, the reason for deliberation would be lost.

From the silence of both houses on this point, therefore, I naturally inferred, that to assemble the same members again would be an abortive, as well as an expensive experiment; and I am sorry to add, that the transaction of the present Session have only served to confirm the idea which I had formed. Though the nature of the question is changed, the inflexibility of opinion remains. The difference between a general and district election, while both sides of appointing electors could be contemplated, generated a content with the same motives which now agitate the Legislature, on the difference between appointing by a joint vote, or by the power of delegating a portion of the number of electors to the separate choice of each branch. If then an adherence to your new plans, threatens to disengage the State, when you must act, on funding the power of acting, what hope could have been indulged of a more auspicious disposition upon an earlier call of the Legislature? The existing majority of the Senate (consisting of all the remaining members who compose the majority of the last Session) has not declared that, in that case, they would have yielded, any more than in the present case, to the opinion of the House of Representatives; and taking the issue of the recent elections as a criterion, I can perceive no just reason to presume, that after consulting our constituents, the House of Representatives could have yielded to the opinion of the Senate.

Hence, I think it obvious, Gentlemen, that the Executive authority was interposed, to convene the Legislature, at the only time, which presented a prospect of success—and all the preparatory steps were taken, previously to the general election, without any possible influence from the event of that constitution appeal to the

franchises of the people. Yet, with you, after all, it remains to fix, in the course of a few days, the character of Pennsylvania, as a confederate State. In the name of our constituents, for the sake of ourselves, and our posterity, I implore you to consider well the consequences of your decision. Judging not a precedent for future, a spirit of innovation to the hazard of the peace, the happiness, and the stability of the union; but conforming to the precedents that have been cautiously established, to the public sentiment that has been universally expressed, desire and receive the plaudits of your country.

THO. M'KEAN,
Lancaster, 18th Nov. 1800.

ALBANY.

At a numerous meeting of citizens from various parts of the State, held in the City of Albany, on the 8th day of November, 1800.

RICHARD HATFIELD, Chairman.
The following Address was agreed to, and a committee appointed to present the same:
Albany, 8th Nov. 1800.

SIR,
At a large and respectable meeting of citizens from various parts of the State now assembled, I am instructed to address your excellency on their behalf and to state that they are desirous to see a President that shall be a fair and impartial promoter of the public good and interest of your country, which we do earnestly distinguished you in your various public functions before the administration of the government of this State was conferred to you, have unreservedly been exerted during your administration, to defend themselves, followed by a wish for the difficulty of the people, with a sense of gratitude to you, to entreat you to come to us to suffer yourself to be held up as a candidate for the chair of government, at the important affairs of the country, and will be extended to procure the accomplishment of their wishes; which they are persuaded, are in coincidence with those of their fellow citizens, who daily appreciate the important services of your patriotic and virtuous chief magistrate of the State. With this, and every other sentiment of esteem and respect.

I am, Sir,
Your excellency's obedient servant,
RICHARD HATFIELD, Chairman.
His Excellency JOHN JAY, Esq.

The committee reported that they had read on his excellency the governor, who expressed his grateful sentiments for the attentions of the meeting; and stated his determination to retire to private life, and that future engagements he was unable immediately to return a written answer to the application and address.

The following answer to the foregoing address was afterwards received:

Albany, 8th November, 1800.

SIR,
Being engaged with company this evening, when the committee appointed to the respectable meeting of citizens from various parts of the State, of which you was chairman, presented me their address, I can only return them a verbal answer. But it appears to me proper to answer it in writing, as well to evince my respect as that my sentiments on the subject may be the better ascertained.

The sincerity of the assurance with which they honor me, I have perfect confidence; they have heretofore been verified by uniform manifestations of esteem and attachments which I now nearly always remember with delight and fondly.

The period is now nearly arrived, when I have for many years intended to retire from the cares of public life, and for which I have been for more than two years preparing. Not possessing, after mature consideration, the means to resign my office to postpone it, I shall retire accordingly, but I shall retain and cherish the warmest affection for my country, as well as the good will which I bear to all my fellow citizens. On this occasion, various reflections occur into my mind, but I omit the utility, that existing feelings, of expressing them. Time and experience will correct many errors which ought not to have been introduced into public opinion. What the price of that experience may be, cannot be foretold, but I am persuaded, that our confidants ought to be maintained inviolate, and that the rights of persons and of property cannot be preserved without

our government conducted with power, and administered with determination to favor those, who will decidedly oppose whatever may have a tendency to weaken it. It ought not to be expected, that parties will never be intemperate, but over-bearing intemperance, or violence, in individual leaders ought neither to spurn nor inflame the citizens. On the contrary, such violations of propriety should be met with temper and moderation, as well as without sedition and ferment.

I declare to you explicitly, that in my opinion we ought to resist innovations, and adhere to our constitutions and governments, to give them a fair trial, and to amend them from time to time, according to the dictates of wisdom, and not according to the views of demagogues, or to the whims of theorists.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

JOHN JAY.
The hon. Richard Hatfield, Esq.
Chairman.

ANSWER OF THE SENATE OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

May it please your excellency,

It having been generally understood, that the object of the Legislature, in assembling at the close of the year, is the appointment of Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, the Senate do not intermeddle being engaged in any other business which can conveniently be deferred to another future session, and sincerely we accord with you in the opinion, that our suffrages may be believed on the friends of order and good Government, and that the result may promote the best interests of our country.

It matters of regret, that any of our fellow citizens should be so left to a sense of their day and interest, as to let the power of government at defiance, and oppose their individual strength to that of the Community. So far as may depend on your Excellency may be assured that every means will be adopted to suppress such pretensions.

We are gratified with the intimation which your Excellency has communicated with respect to the improved state of our Militia. We feel confident, that so much exertion and industry, directed in their discipline, courage and patriotism, that their Country has more to fear from the arms than from the arms of her enemies.

Answer of the House of Representatives to the Governor's Speech.

May it please your excellency,

The House of Representatives concur in your Excellency's sentiment, that your object of their present Session is highly interesting, not only to our immediate constituents, but to the whole people of the United States; for the welfare, and prosperity of a nation essentially depend on the character of their magistrates and the wisdom with which their government is administered. Seriously impressed with this sentiment, it shall be our constant endeavor to elect the wisest and to give their suffrages in this State, in the ensuing important election from the best informed citizens, and who have afforded proofs of their attachment to order and good government. And say that wife and gracious Providence, which has hitherto directed the councils, and prospered the exertions of the American people, ever rule and direct our deliberations, may be equally successful for the whole Commonwealth, we receive with respect and attention information, that in one country men misqu岸 and divided citizens have been guilty of violent infractions of the peace of the Commonwealth, and have manifested a spirit of resistance to the law.

Your excellency, and the good citizens of the State, may be assured, that this House will co-operate in all proper measures to detect and punish all factious communities already committed; and to prevent, as far as possible, the commission of them in future. For upon this subject, we have with you already, that interference on the part of the government, will serve to embolden the offenders, and to invite, by a hope of impunity, the repetition of similar enormities. The annual improvement of the Militia, which your excellency has noticed, must be highly gratifying to every friend to the rights and dignity of our country; for a militia thus trained, and animated with patriotic and military ardor, America will be enabled to be able to be able to defend her national rights, against any intemperate and violent innovations.

The important object of a national election having been the false occasion of the present extraordinary Session, and the having taken the consideration of the citizens, meeting of the legislature at a later Session will endeavor to make the present Session as short, and as little burdensome to the people as possible.

BOSTON, Nov. 13.

CHOICE OF ELECTORS.

At half-past eleven o'clock, according to previous arrangement, the two Branches of the Legislature met in convention for the choice of Electors of President and Vice-President. The Hon. Messrs. Bridge and Bigelow, of the Senate, and Messrs. Moulton, Tillinghast and Prescott, of the House, were appointed the Committee to count the votes. When the following gentlemen were chosen by distinct ballot, except the first:

- At large—Whole No. of Votes 233.
Samuel Phillips, Esq. had 166 votes.
Edward H. Robbins, Esq. 510.
First Western District—Whole No. 241.
David Roster, Esq. 190.
Second Western—Whole No. 240.
Ebenezer Hunt, Esq. 191.
Third Western—Whole No. 229.
John Mosher, Esq. 164.
Fourth Western—Whole No. 229.
Joseph Allen, Esq. 211.
First Southern—Whole No. 240.
Walter Spooner, Esq. 197.
Second Southern—Whole No. 229.
William Seaver, Esq. 200.
Third Southern—Whole No. 227.
William Bylles, Esq. 172.
First Middle—Whole No. 225.
Thomas Daves, Esq. 188.
Second Middle—Whole No. 226.
Francis Dana, Esq. 143.
Third Middle—Whole No. 229.
Samuel Sewall, Esq. 187.
Fourth Middle—Whole No. 221.
Theophilus Drablow, Esq. 162.
First Eastern—Whole No. 232.
Samuel Sumner Wilde, Esq. 153.
Second Eastern—Whole No. 227.
Genual Weeks, Esq. 186.
Third Eastern—Whole No. 222.
Andrew P. Ternald, Esq. 221.

NOVEMBER, 14.

Federal Representatives.

- First Western District, [36 towns].
William Williams. 1600. 35.
From 33 towns, 1388 1460. 15.
Third Eastern District, [24 towns].
Theodore Collins. 504.
From 16 towns, 504 595 16.
First Southern District, [21 towns].
Williams Greene. 504.
From 13 towns 403 181 103.
Second Southern District, [21 towns].
Mitchell Smith. 504.
From 11 towns, 475 272 379.

CITY OF WASHINGTON.

FOR SALE.
Lot No. 9, in Square 122.

THIS above is inferior to few lots in this city, being but two figures west of the President's Square, commanding an extensive view of the Potomac, it is a corner lot, and fronts 55 feet 10 inches on B Street, and 67 feet and a half inch on 2nd Street. An indispensible well will be given on receiving the amount of the purchase money. For terms apply to the Subscribers a few doors east of the United States.

JOHN KEARNEY.

N. E. I will also sell Lot No. 4, in Square No. 49, fronting 35 feet 1 inch on the Pennsylvania Avenue, and extending back 150 feet on an alley of 20 feet wide, with the abutment on a 15 feet alley along side of 1st and Lee Sts. 24 on Square No. 378, fronting 54 feet 8 inches on Birch Street, and running back 125 feet on an alley of 20 feet wide. Well lands ready well be taken in payment for a considerable part of the above property.

L. E.

November 17, 1800.