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CONNECTICUT LEGISLATURE.

On Tuesday the 13th instant, the legislature of the state of Connecticut commenced its fall session at the city of Hartford. The House of Representatives having assembled in their chamber, proceeded to make choice of a Speaker and Clerks—When *Timothy Pitkin*, Esq. was elected Speaker, and *Jonathan Olden Mesely* and *Nathaniel Rossetter*, Esquires, Clerks, there being few dissenting votes. At 11 o'clock, A. M. the two Houses being convened in the Council Chamber, his Excellency the Governor delivered the following.

ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the Council,
Mr. Speaker, and
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives.

SOON after the rising of the General Assembly in May last, I transmitted to the Governor of Massachusetts, a copy of the resolution of our legislature for settling, running and demarking the boundary line between this state and that commonwealth. A similar resolution was passed on the part of Massachusetts; and commissioners on both parts have been appointed and commissioned, with powers to carry into effect the business assigned them by the resolutions. Thus we have a pleasing prospect that the boundary line between these two states will at length be established to mutual satisfaction.

Scarcely have we had opportunity to rejoice and congratulate each other on the cessation of hostilities among the nations of Europe, when a new war has been commenced between Great-Britain and France. To a benevolent and humane mind, it is a melancholy consideration, that nations are so often disposed to engage in war, ungrateful however as this idea is, it is perhaps at times a necessary measure to check the unreasonable pursuits of unbounded ambition, and controul the unruly passions of restless and aspiring minds.—The ways of Providence in these events are deep and unsearchable. What may be the consequences to our country from this renewed conflict between two rival and powerful nations, with whom we are intimately connected in commerce, is at present uncertain. While intemperate passions are indulged, and political prejudices prevail among us, the issue of events connected therewith cannot be calculated. One thing however seems obvious.—The happy effects which our country derived from a state of neutrality, during the last European war, are not forgotten, nor are they misunderstood by our citizens. Experience in that case points to our true policy on the present occasion. Viewing the relative situation and political state of the two continents, sound wisdom dictates to us, to avoid as much as possible every circumstance which may tend to entangle this country in the whirlpool of foreign contentions.—And contemplating the same ideas, may we not suppose it to be the design of Providence in part, that, although our benevolence may weep over the calamities of distant nations, the increase, wealth and power of this continent should be promoted by their misfortunes. We may at least, I think, trust in that kind and superintending Providence which has hitherto watched over the welfare of the United States, and often interposed for our relief in times of anxiety and distress, that it will still support and direct us under present perplexities. At the same time however, while we acknowlege our dependance on the kind interposition of Providence, we ought to be active, in our own exertions for the public good—diligently seeking the general welfare, by a wise and prudent use of our legislative powers, a discreet execution of our laws, with a moral and upright conduct in all our relations; to which we should add, a steady and firm adherence to the political, moral and social institutions of our wise and venerable forefathers; under the influence of which, these New-England states have flourished almost beyond example; and which, if preserved and supported, in the purity of their principle and practice, so far as circumstances will admit, may still, I trust, prove the happy means of continuing and securing the political salvation of at least this portion of the union.

Such has been the quiet and tranquility of our situation in this state, that nothing has occurred during our late recess, to call up your special exertions at this session. The common rotine of business will principally occupy the attention of the legislature at their present meeting, in which you may be assured of my hearty co-operation.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

SPEECH OF GOVERNOR TICHENOR.

Gentlemen of the Council, and
House of Representatives,

WE are again assembled to devise and adopt such measures as will promote the great interest of our fellow-citizens.

In the exercise of the duties assigned to us, it may not be unprofitable to look back to the infant state of our republic; from thence trace the measures pursued by our venerable fathers; to whose wisdom and firmness we are indebted for the rank and privileges of an independent state. It is a tribute justly due to their virtues, thus publicly to acknowledge, that the evils arising from division and party spirit, were not known in their legislative councils. Their appointments to offices were fixed on men whose disinterested zeal for the public good was manifested more by their acts than by their professions. A patriotic spirit of union in council and measures animated their administration. They subdued a wilderness; they sowed the seeds of science and the arts, and the elder states saw with surprize a few virtuous citizens, demanding as their right, an honorable rank among our sister states. It should be remembered that it was union alone sustained them in their infant struggles for right, in their noble exertions for sovereignty. It is wisdom in us to adhere to those rules and maxims, by which they regulated their conduct, and like them to make the general good the great object of all our public measures.

One important part of the business assigned to us by the constitution, is the appointment of civil officers: our duty in this respect is plain and easy to be understood; the wisest and best men, those who by precept and example will cherish an obedience to the laws are evidently the most proper candidates: and while we aim to [illegible] only such to office, there will be no room for party views and interests to influence our proceedings.

The enacting of laws should ever be a business of mature deliberation. The happiness and safety of society does not depend on its multiplicity of laws. Laws should be few in number, explicit, and duly enforced; what the operation of a law will be upon the community, the most discerning cannot often foretell. A partial evil is sometimes noticed upon the promulgation of a law which is often greatly overbalanced by its more general and beneficial effects: the only sure mode of deciding upon the merits of a statute, is to submit to the process of patient experiment—Hence it follows, that legislatures should be as careful in repealing as in enacting laws. Among the public acts passed by the last general assembly, it is believed that the act relating to insolvent debtors is not sufficiently explicit and guarded to secure the rights of the creditors, and afford the remedy intended for debtors. An investigation by an assembly possessing accurate knowledge of the operation of this statute, and some others recently enacted will determine if necessary.

By the xxxiv section of our constitution in order to make sanguinary punishments less necessary, it is strongly recommended, "that means should be provided for punishing by hard labor, those who should be convicted of crimes not capital, whereby the criminal shall be employed for the benefit of the public, or for reparation of injuries done to private persons." Whether the period has arrived in which this humane and salutary recommendation can be carried into effect, you can best judge; but the weakness of our county gaols throughout the state, the frequent escape of persons confined for crimes, the great expence sustained by the state and county treasuries for the apprehension of prisoners, and the yet great expence of supporting criminals in our common gaols, impress it upon me as a duty to draw the attention of the legislature to the erecting a state prison: I may here add, we have not to venture the expence upon the uncertainty of experiment, but the benefits and even profits of a public penitentiary house or state prison, has been abundantly proved in a number of the adjacent states.

In a just arangement of our fiscal concerns, much advantage will result to the people. While we are careful to supply the treasury with such sums of money as the public exigencies require, it will at all times be useful to pay a strict attention to public expenditures; and to ascertain from time to time, the amount of monies drawn for the support of different branches of our government: for this purpose the public accounts will be laid before you.

The state of our militia has strong claims to your attention: by an official communication from the President of the United State, it has again become my duty to invite you to a consideration of this subject: this communication, together with a return of the effective force of our militia will be laid before you. They are respectable for numbers; they are brave; they inherit the spirit of their fathers; to preserve this spirit they must be well armed and equipped. this cannot be effected without legislative aid. Our safety and freedom essentially depend on this class of our fellow citizens. It is our highest interest as a nation to engraft the character of the soldier on the citizen and to cherish that spirit which gave us independence—It will be a sure and cheap defence.

While the horrors of war are again taking place in some of the nations of Europe, I cannot but congratulate you on the happy state of peace and tranquility that pervades the United States. A country that steadily pursues the business of agriculture, manufactures and avoids war, *except in defence of her just rights*, is in the surest way to national prosperity and improvement. The glory derived from the increasing population and happiness of a country, is far more eligible and useful than any thing that can be obtained by making war upon any nation, or being distinguished by the destruction of the human race.

I shall be happy gentlemen, to-operate with you in any measures that may serve to promote the interests and honor of the state; and I trust we shall all bear in mind, that the public business will always be transacted to the greatest advantage, when it is done in the exercise of wisdom, of candor, and of moderation.

ISAAC TICHENOR.

LONDON, Sept. 7.

By the Dublin mail of the 3d, which arrived this morning, we have the proceedings of that day under the special commission. On that day John Begg, another of the traitors concerned in the insurrection of the 23d July, was convicted, but recommended to mercy by the Jury, on account of his good character.

A conspiracy among twenty-seven convicts to break out of Kilmainham gaol, was happily discovered and frustrated on Friday.

Public tranquility remains undisturbed.

Downing street, September 6.

The King has been pleased to cause it to be signified by the right honorable lord Hawkesbury, his majesty's principal secretary of state of foreign affairs, to the ministers of neutral powers residing at this court, that his majesty has thought proper, for the defence of his dominions, and the protection of his subjects, to take the most effectual measures for the blockade of the entrance of the port of Havre de Grace, and the other ports of the Seine; and that from this time all the measures authorised by the law of nations, and the respective treaties between his majesty and the different neutral powers will be adopted and executed with respect to all vessels which may attempt to violate the said blockade.

Price of stocks, this day 12 o'clock, consols 54 1-4, omnium 6 1-3 dis.

It has been so often determined and undetermined to appoint lord Pelham to the office of Chancellor of the dutchy of Lancaster, that we cannot pretend to say how that point stands at the present moment.—Lord Pelham always stated in the cabinet his fair and unbiassed opinion, but it seldom accorded with that of Mr. Addington, and some other of the ministers.—If it had been followed however with respect to the affairs of Ireland, we believe things would be in a more tranquil state in that country than they are at present. The administration feel however the total impossibility of going on in the house of lords without further aid in that quarter, and it is determined that either Mr. Yorke is to be created lord Dover, or that lord Hawkesbury is to be called up to the House of peers previous to the next session of parliament. It is also positively decided to assemble the parliament in the course of the month of November, and probably in the beginning of that month.

We understand that government have it in contemplation to build a military & naval hospital in the neighborhood of Edinburgh. The magistrates of that city have agreed to give the ground (on the upper end of Burfield Links) for erecting the building. A more eligible or healthful situation for such a purpose cannot be found near Edinburgh.

Administration have passed the rubicon respecting Mr. Pitt, and their under-strappers are upon all occasions endeavoring to lessen the credit of that illustrious statesman and true patriot. The public are now told, that it is a gross mistake to suppose that the latter modifications in the property bill were adopted in deference to Mr. Pitt. Here we join issue with the Times-serving scribblers. The ministry, indeed, shew no deference to Mr. Pitt, whose high reputation their newspapers and anonymous pamphlets are vainly attempting to sully. The improvements in that bill were adopted because Mr. Pitt offered irrefragable arguments, and supported them by irresistible eloquence, and from the subsequent conduct of ministers, it is probable, that though they were obliged to adopt them, they did so with reluctance, because they were suggested by Mr. Pitt, whose wisdom rendered their imbelicity more conspicuous.

September, 9.

In a few days we hope to have the satisfaction of announcing that "the secret expedition, under the orders of admiral lord Keith has successfully executed the important object for which it is destined.

Another secret expedition will sail on or about the 20th of the present month.

Flotilla off Boulogne.

We are happy to inform the public that our flotilla off Boulogne continues to harrass the enemy almost incessantly. The attention of the board of ordnance to the quality of the gun powder with which our army and navy are supplied, is highly praise worthy, and promises incalculable advantages to our operations. Now, in spite of the boasted progress made by our enemy in different arts connected with chemistry, we surpass them so far in the article of gun powder, that at Boulogne we can send in our shells to their great annoyance, when at such a distance they cannot make a single one to reach our vessels. This is a circumstance of great moment, for the object of the enemy is to erect works out in the sea, to keep our vessels at a distance. Without this they never can bring their gun boats to that position necessary for arrangements and sailing; and although it may be impossible, absolutely impossible, to prevent their getting on with their works, where the men that are destroyed, have their places supplied by others, they must proceed very slowly; and even when finished prove inadequate to the end proposed. The superiority of our powder, and the intrepidity of our tars, will, even then, enable us to destroy the boasted fleet of gun boats, almost as soon as they shall shew themselves any ways near these works.

The Spanish messenger who lately arrived with dispatches from the court of Madrid, left town last Sunday on his return, with the ultimatum of our cabinet.

The discontent among the volunteer corps still continues, and government has taken no suitable steps to calm the ill humour. The attorney general, we understand, has given it as his opinion, on consultation, that the last act passed for the general defence of the country exempts from the army of reserve and the militia, all volunteer corps accepted by his majesty, and which, in case of invasion, are ready to march to any part of Great Britain

A circular letter has been addressed to the lord lieut. of the county of Essex dated 31st August, stating, that orders have been given to the board of ordnance to issue such a number of arms as may be sufficient for one half of the quota of Volunteers for that county of three times the number of their old militia, after making allowance for the quantity of arms which the respective corps have provided, or may be disposed to provide, for themselves; sabres and pistols are to be appropriated for the cavalry and pikes for the artillery. His lordship concludes with observing, "It is considered, however, to be highly desirable that the several bodies of volunteers should in the present moment be encouraged, under proper precautions, to supply themselves."

We understand it is lord Cathcart, & not marquis Cornwallis, who goes out commander in chief to Ireland. This has been lately stated in the Irish papers. Lord Cathcart is a very good officer. He possesses those qualities which are above all others essential to a good officer; great quickness and activity equally prompt to decide and to execute.

The Bloomsbury volunteers have signed a requisition to their committee, to call a general meeting of their corps, to take into consideration the printed paper transmitted to them, which suggests regulations for their proposed reduction to 720 men.

A merchant at Rotterdam, in a letter dated the 28th ultimo, thus expresses himself to his correspondent in London:

"It is perfectly needless to send you the newspapers you desire, as our press is so completely fettered, that you might as well expect intelligence from an Algerine Gazette. We are worse off than Frenchmen, as we endure their oppression and our own too. The northern powers will not help us. They secretly rejoice in our downfall. I doubt even if they will exert themselves, at least with any degree of strenuousness, in favor of Hamburg. Prussia has an obvious interest in winking at the blockade. I have now by me several letters from Embden, representing the flourishing state of that port, and inviting our house to settle a correspondence there, on the presumption that its peculiar advantages will be permanent. The linen trade of Prussia has received a check, but I am confidently told, that it will find its way to Embden. Dantzic is also much benefited by the blockade of the Elbe, as the Baltic trade is increased. In this point of view, Russia herself is interested in continuing its blockade. Denmark and Sweden must follow the will of their gigantic neighbor, but I am doubtful whether their inclination be not in reality in favor of the restrictions on the commerce of the Elbe. *This is not the time for the interest of the minor states*, A new system of policy is adopted, and those who argue on old principles (I presume not to say right or wrong) will always find themselves mistaken. Our trade is almost literally destroyed, and it is nearly the same at Amsterdam. Nothing seems to thrive but taxes and contributions. These are now imposed almost beyond the physical possibility of endurance, and if not immediately paid, a file or two of musketeers are sent to the house to live at free cost. Admiral de Winter's fleet is certainly gone to the Cape of Good Hope. I do not find that the admiral has any credit with our government. Taxes are paid, and preparations go on, but all in a dull, heavy way. I should deceive you if I attempted to ascertain the number of French troops now in Holland. Among the general officers who alone can know any thing on this subject, the greatest reserve is shewn. There has lately been a stir in North Holland, and along the coast, as if they rather expected a visit from you. The English cruisers are so active and indefatigable, that I think you must have timely notice when our preparations are very formidable. I may be singular, but I think Ireland has more to apprehend than either England or Scotland."

The determination of the prince of Brazil, to seek refuge in his American dominions from the domination of Bonaparte, does the highest honor to his spirit and magnimimity. "Any country with liberty" is the maxim by which those who have to do with the present government of France, when they are too weak to hope for success in battle. All patriotism must in such cases give way to the prudence of a timely flight. But if there be any reasonable hope for the issue of the contest, or any fair proportion of comparative strength, honor will prompt those who are invaded to try the event of the contest, though they should be buried in the ruins of their cities.

Commercially Interesting.

For the information of such American citizens who have claims upon the British government, we publish the following copy of a circular, addressed by George W. Irving, Esq. American consul at London, to those claimants in whose favor compensation has been awarded. N. Y. paper.

(CIRCULAR.)

To——, owner of the——.

American Consulate,
London 1803.

SIR,

I have now the the satisfaction to inform you, that the commissioners under the seventh article of our treaty with this country has awarded you compensation in the above-mentioned case, to the amount of sterling, to be paid by the British government in three equal annual installments, the first whereof will be on the 15th of July next, as directed by the late convention; the award, which is assignable under the direction of the parties, but not other-