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Cumberland County Meeting: Proceedings and Resolutions 3 July 1788

In a meeting of Delegates from the Several Townships of the Before said County Benjn Blyth— in the Chair, Called for the purpose of Advising the most Eligible mode of Obtaining Such Amendments in the Constitution proposed by the general Convention for the government of these United States, as May remove the Causes of Jealousy and fears of a Tyranical Aristocracy. The foundation of which Appears to be in many parts of the Said Constitution and Secure and hand Down to Posterity the Blessings of Dear bought Freedom; and thereby most Cordially Engage Each State and Every Citizen, not Only for wrath but Conscience Sake to Aid and Support the Officers of the Government in the due Execution thereof; After Seriously Considering the Importance of the Subject and the Duty of Citizens; Have come to the following Resolutions Viz— Resolved that it is the Opinion of this meeting that the Constitution proposed by the General Convention of the United States is in Several parts Distructive of that Liberty for which so much blood and Treasure has been Spent—and Subversive of the Several State Governments by which the Rights & Liberties of the People have been Guarded and Secured That it is the Indespensible Duty of Every Citizen to Use all lawfull means to Obtain Such Amendments in the Said Constitution or Take Such measures as shall be Necessary for the Security of religion and Liberty— Resolved that it is the Opinion of the members of this meeting that it will be Expedient to Collect as Soon and as Accurately as Possible the Sentiments of the Citizens of this State Touching Such Amendments and Such mode of Obtain[ing] them as Shall be to said Citizens most Agreeable— Resolved that in order to Effectuate the foregoing resolutions that a Circular Letter be written Signed by the Chairman a[nd] Addressed to such Societys in Each County as have Already be[en] formed for Political purposes and to such as Shall be form[ed] in Any County where none is Yet formed or to Such perso[ns] as shall be Judged fit requesting that measures be Tak[en] to Call a metting of Delegates from Each Township withi[n] the respective Counties to meet as soon as Conveniently may be and take into Consideration the necessity & prop[ri]ety of Amending the Constitution of the United States & for that purpose to Appoint Delegates to meet in a General Conference of the State at Harisburgh on the Third Day of September 1788—then and there to Consider and Devise a plan the most Likely to Succeed in Obtaining the Desired Amendments— Resolved by the meeting tha[t] five members [Benjamin Blyth, John Jourdan, James Powers, William Sterret, and Robert Whitehill] be Chosen by the County Cumberland or thr[ee] Out of the five to represent Said County in the Conference to be held at Harisburgh the 3d Day of Sept. 1788—the place and time Aforesaid—

B. Blyth, C. M

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