

Norfolk and Portsmouth Journal, 9 July 1788


Tenth Pillar.

Friday last being the Anniversary of American Independence, as also the day appointed by a respectable Committee of Gentlemen to manifest our joy on the happy occasion of Virginia having ratified the Fœderal Union, the morning was ushered in by a salute of ten guns (emblematical of the Ten States which have united in the New Government).

About ten o'clock, the different ranks of citizens began to assemble on the *Federal Commons*, and at eleven the procession commenced as follows:

- 1 Martial Music.
- 2 Ten Gentlemen Volunteers.
- 3 Paul Loyal, Esq. Senator for this
- 4 District, on horseback.
- 5 A Plough drawn by two horses, guided
- 6 by Mr. William Foster.
- 7 Farmers and Gardiners sowing Seed.
 - 8 Butchers.
 - 9 Fishermen.
 - 10 Bakers.
 - 11 Brewers and Distillers.
 - 12 Inspectors.
 - 13 Printer.
 - 14 Merchants and Factors.
 - 15 Grocers.
 - 16 Vendue-Masters.
 - 17 Ship Carpenters and Caulkers.
 - 18 Ship Joiners.
 - 19 Riggers.
 - 20 Boat Builders.
 - 21 Sail Makers.
 - 22 Pilots.
 - 23 Block Makers.
 - 24 Harbour and Ballast Masters.
 - 25 Rope Makers.
 - 26 Carvers.
 - 27 Blacksmiths.
 - 28 Ship
 - 29 *New Constitution*,
 - 30 drawn by ten horses, dressed and decorated,
 - 31 commanded by Captain Maxwell.
 - 32 Ship Masters.
 - 33 Mates and Seamen.

- 34 Commissioners of Marine Hospital.
 - 35 Architects
 - 36 House Carpenters.
- 37 Masons, Bricklayers and Plaisterers.
 - 38 Painters and Glaziers.
- 39 Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers.
 - 40 Wheel Wrights and Turners.
 - 41 Coopers.
 - 42 Hatters.
 - 43 Taylors and Habit Makers.
 - 44 Boot and Shoe Makers.
- 45 Tanners, Curriers and Leather Dressers.
 - 46 Saddlers and Harness Makers.
 - 47 Peruke Makers and Hair Dressers.
 - 48 Gold and Silver Smiths.
 - 49 Watch and Clock Makers.
- 50 Copper Smiths, Brass Founders and Tinmen.
 - 51 Gun Smiths and Lock Smiths.
- 52 Tallow Chandlers and Soap Boilers.
 - 53 Draymen and Carters.
 - 54 Naval-Officers.
 - 55 Searchers and Clerks.
 - 56 Physicians and Surgeons.
 - 57 Lawyers.
- 58 Schoolmasters and their Scholars with books.
 - 59 Serjeant with the Mace.
 - 60 Town Clerk.
- 61 Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen.
 - 62 Constables with their Staves.
 - 63 Ten Gentlemen Volunteers
 - 64

On their arrival at the Town Point, they were received by a well directed fire of ten field pieces, when the procession marched into a beautiful green square, enclosed around, wherein were tables and seats to accommodate 700 people. Here Mr. O'Connor mounted the rostrum, and displayed his oratorical powers in favour of the New Constitution; proving, by the clearest demonstration, that the Fœderal System was calculated to promote the happiness, interest and welfare of this extensive empire, and might be justly stiled the best government thro' the world existing. The company then sat down to a plentiful collation provided by Mr. Smith, of the Borough Tavern, who, to add [1735 ] to the general harmony of the day, appeared in the character of old *Will. Bonniface*, and paid every possible attention to his numerous and respectable assemblage.—Dinner ended, the following toasts were drank, each accompanied by a discharge of ten guns under the superintendance of Mr. Lemuel Carter, and Captain Ritter, whose active management throughout the day very well deserves the plaudits of the public.

TOASTS.

1. Success to the New Constitution of the United States, and may the wheels of government be soon put in motion.
2. The late Federal Constitution of the United States, may their wisdom be every day more and more conspicuous by the increase of agriculture, manufactures and commerce.
3. May the public good be the predominant principles in American councils.
4. May the arts and sciences ever be encouraged and protected under the New Constitution.
5. Our Sister States that have adopted the New Constitution; may the remaining three be soon added to the number.
6. The State of Virginia and the late Convention.
7. Our illustrious brother Citizen FARMER WASHINGTON.
8. Our good and great Ally, Lewis the XVIth. and the friendly Powers in every part of the world.
9. Marquis La Fayette, Count Rochambeau, and the French army and navy that served in America in the late war.
10. To the memory of the brave Officers and Soldiers that fell and bled in defence of American liberty.

Between every toast, "*The Song with festive glee went round.*"—At half past eight, a large bonfire was kindled, composed of ten barrels of pitch (pyramidically formed), but we have to regret that the violence of the wind prevented, in a great measure, a successful progress of the fire-works, and other aerial experiments, prepared by Mr. Balfour on this occasion, who had taken uncommon pains to amuse the spectators with a grand variety.

The chiefest ornament to the day must, with propriety be placed to the respectable assemblage of the Fair Sex, whose animating form, and most bewitching charms, caused the hearts of many batchelors to sigh and lament their weyward fate.

With respect to the procession it must be observed, that all strove with an emulation to excell, by their flags and mottos, but those who appeared more strikingly conspicuous to the impartial spectator, were the Taylors, Bakers, Hatters and Coopers. As to the first, two beautiful boys represented Adam and Eve, whose uncommon garb of fig leaves, and simple innocent aspects, truly delineated the characters they walked, and displayed, as well as their motto, a happy thought.

The Baker's flag made a superb appearance, as did also the regular assortment and rich selection composing their sashes and cockades.

The Ship *New Constitution*, notwithstanding its dangerous passage (tho' clear of shoals and quicksands), reached safe at her moorings by the vigilance and expert abilities of her commander and crew; these sons of Neptune presented every vein of humour which their respective situations could characteristically display.

The Hatters formed a truly grand appearance, as well from the emblems they introduced, as by their well chosen motto.

From the good decorum, order and regularly observed through the whole of the procession, the public are much indebted to the unwearied exertions of Colonel Newton, who conducted the same, assisted by Adjutant Henley. Not a single accident (the general concomitant of crowds and bustle) happened through the proceedings of the day.

We, hear also that HAMPTON observed nearly the same public manifestations of joy. Kempsville and the Great-Bridge illuminated, and gave a ball to the ladies. In short the whole country around, as far as we have learned, seemed to observe the general Jubilee.

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