

Merweather
SATURDAY, June 2, 1787.

T H E

[No. XXXVI.]

GEORGIA STATE GAZETTE

O R

INDEPENDENT REGISTER.

F R E E D O M. of the P R E S S, and T R I A L by J U R Y, to remain inviolate forever. *Constitution of Georgia.*

AUGUSTA: Printed by JOHN E. SMITH, Printer to the State; Essays, Articles of Intelligence, Advertisements, &c. will be gratefully received, and every kind of Printing performed.

CHIEF JUSTICE'S CHARGE to the Grand Jury in Richmond county, at March Term last.

Gentlemen of the Grand Jury,

YOU are now convened to exercise a power without the intervention of which, the penal laws of the state cannot have an efficient operation in this county. It is your duty to present, as far as comes to your knowledge, offenders against the laws of every denomination; a neglect in this particular makes void the law. Its terror, and therefore its best use, is no more: It is the sentiment of an ingenious writer, "That crimes are more effectually prevented by the certainty, than by the severity of punishment."

Virtue in the citizens is the foundation on which a republican government must rest; destroy that foundation, and the fair fabric of freedom must fall. It is therefore your indispensable duty, to discourage every species of vice. Gaming tends more to corrupt the morals of a people, than any other in the black catalogue; it renders men selfish, dishonest, and dishonorable; a gamester, a friend to no man, is a bitter enemy to himself.

Tipling houses, and unlicensed taverns, are not only a public nuisance, but actually deprive the state of a considerable revenue; to prevent such evil practices, and to encrease the public funds, is matter worthy your serious attention.

The necessity of a speedy and punctual payment of taxes into the public treasury encreases daily. Your vicinity to the seat of government, has rendered information so easy, that any further comment on this head would be useless. The tax law of this year will be laid before you, and I have no doubt, but it will meet every facility necessary on your part.

Our constitution from experience has been found defective, in consequence of which, an alteration has been unanimously recommended by the Legislature; your approbation of so salutary a measure will tend greatly to promote it.

The prosperous and improved state of your county academy must afford the most pleasing sensations to every friend of science, morality or government; but as that institution is only calculated to prepare and fit the academian for the university, we ought to exert every power to carry so illustrious a design into full effect.

H. OSBORNE.

Richmond, March 27, 1787.

The PRESENT M E M B E R S of the Grand Jurors for the County of Richmond.

WE the Grand Jury for the county of Richmond on our oaths present:

First. The Justices of the Peace for not support-

ing the laws in general better than they have been since the revolution, and especially in not using greater exertions to suppress tipling houses, gambling, profane swearing, and drunkenness, and are sorry to observe that many of them fall into those vices, which their duty compels them to punish in others.

Second. That no legal mode is at present adopted to effectually compel the citizens of this state to send assistance to repair the public roads, which is a great injury to the community.

Third. That the unhuman practice of duelling, so much in fashion at present, is not prevented, which we conceive is highly repugnant to the Laws of God, and every civilized country; may tend to deprive this state of many of her valuable citizens, cramps that sociability that ought to subsist in friendly society, and gives a sanction to individuals to dispose of their lives which God and our country only have a right to claim.

Fourth. That no equitable mode is at present adopted by the Legislature for the recovery of strays, the old Toll Act we conceive to be of little more advantage to the owner than absolute robbery, and the taker-up is not benefited thereby.

Fifth. That the great lenity of the present Law against horse and cattle thieves induced bad men to commit offences of that kind, to the great injury of the good citizens: We therefore recommend to the next Legislature, that all persons convicted of stealing horses or cattle, suffer death for the first offence, unless recommended to mercy.

Sixth. That John Ingersoll suffers gambling in his house, and retails spirituous liquors above the rates allowed by law.

Seventh. That William Thompson and Benjamin Townsend retails spirituous liquors above the rates allowed by law.

Eighth. That Abia Clay retails spirituous liquors above the rates allowed by law, and keeps a ball-battery.

Ninth. We recommend that the alterations in the constitution proposed by the Honorable the Legislature be carried into effect by the people.

Tenth. We recommend to the Honorable the Legislature, that all the paper money that may come into the public treasury over and above the sum necessary to pay the expences of the late expedition against the Creek Indians, and to answer the immediate exigencies of government, be destroyed.

Eleventh. We express our disapprobation of the rigid mode adopted by the late Legislature, in calling John Appling, Esq. to account for his conduct as Quarter-Master-General of this state, and are sorry to observe that the Presentments of the

last Grand Jury of this county against that honorable body, for sitting on the Sabbath on public business, had not the desired effect.

Twelfth. We recommend the following persons as Receivers of Taxable Property for the present year, viz.

For Capt. Harri's company,	Zephaniah Beal, Esq.
Capt. Pearce's,	John Cobb, Esq.
Capt. Pool's,	Wm. Freeman, Esq.
Capt. Savage's,	James Stallings, Esq.
Capt. Ellis's,	Charles Crawford, Esq.
Capt. Lampkin's,	John Shackelford, Esq.
Capt. Allison's,	Henry Allison, Esq.
Capt. Cartledge's,	Edm. Cartledge, Esq.
Capt. Ayres's,	James Hamilton, Esq.
Capt. Shields's,	Ignatius Few, Esq.
Capt. Beckam's,	Benjamin Few, Esq.
Capt. Allen's,	Gideon Allen, Esq.
Capt. Bonner's,	Rhefa Howard, Esq.
Capt. Lawson's,	John Lawson, Esq.

And lastly, We return our thanks to his Honor the Chief Justice for his excellent charge to us at the opening of the present term, and request that his charge together with our presentments and recommendations be published in the State Gazette.

(Signed)

Wm. FREEMAN, Foreman.
JAMES SIMS,
THOMAS FACE,
ARCHIBALD BEAL,
DAVID MAXWELL,
THOMAS GREER, jun.
NATHANIEL COCKE,
SOLOMON ELLIS,
CHESLEY BOSTWICK,
HENRY TURKNUT,
THOMAS HENSON,
DAVID WALKER,
WILLIAM WININGHAM,
WILLIAM JONES,
WILLIAM MADDOX,
SAMUEL WILLSON,
RANDAL RAMSEY, jun.
ANTHONY HAYNES,
STEPHEN DAY,
JAMES STALLINGS.

(Copy) DANIEL ELAM, A. C. C.
March 30, 1787.

Ordered, That the Grand Jury's Recommendations of persons to receive the returns of taxable property in the respective districts be, and the same is hereby confirmed.

That the Attorney General turn such of the pre-