

the Senate to wait upon your excellency with the information of your being elected to the office of President of the United States of America. This commission was intrusted to me on account of my having been long in the confidence of the late Congress, and charged with the duties of one of the principal civil departments of Government.

"I have now, sir, to inform you, that the proofs you have given of your patriotism, and of your readiness to sacrifice domestic ease and private enjoyment to preserve the liberty and promote the happiness of your country, did not permit the two Houses to harbor a doubt of your undertaking this great, this important office, to which you are called not only by the unanimous votes of the electors but by the voice of America; I have it therefore in command to accompany you to New York, where the Senate and the House of Representatives are convened for the despatch of public business. In executing this part of my commission, where personal gratification coincides with duty, I shall wait your time, and be wholly governed by your convenience."

To this his excellency was pleased to make the following reply:

"Sir, I have been long accustomed to entertain so great a respect for the opinion of my fellow-citizens, that the knowledge of their unanimous suffrages having been given in my favor, scarcely leaves me the alternative for an option. Whatever may have been my private feelings and sentiments, I believe I cannot give a greater evidence of my sensibility for the honor they have done me, than by accepting the appointment.

"I am so much affected by this fresh proof of my country's esteem and confidence, that silence can best explain my gratitude—while I realize the arduous nature of the task which is conferred on me, and feel my inability to perform it, I wish there may not be reason for regretting the choice. All I can promise is, only that which can be accomplished by an honest zeal.

"Upon considering how long time some of the gentlemen of both Houses of Congress have been at New York, how anxiously desirous they must be to proceed to business, and how deeply the public mind appears to be impressed with the necessity of doing it immediately, I cannot find myself at liberty to delay my journey. I shall therefore be in readiness to set out the day after to-morrow, and shall be happy in the pleasure of your company; for you will permit me to say that it was a peculiar gratification to have received the communication from you."

His excellency set out accordingly on Thursday, the 16th. His progress was retarded by the tender and affectionate leave which his neighbors and friends took of him; by the congratulatory addresses which he was obliged to receive by the way; and by the testimonies of public esteem and joy, to which it was necessary for him to pay attention, in the several States through which he passed; but that this might occasion as little delay as possible, he commenced his journey every morning at sun-rise, continued it incessantly throughout the day, and supported the fatigues of it, eight days successively, till he reached this place.

His happy and safe arrival here yesterday having terminated my commission, I submit my conduct in the execution of it to the judgment of the Senate, and have the honor to be, with great esteem and respect,

Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

CHARLES THOMSON.

The PRESIDENT of the Senate.

1st CONGRESS.]

No. 3.

[1st SESSION.]

TITLES OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MAY 5, 1789.

Mr. BENSON, from the committee appointed to consider and report what style and titles it will be proper to annex to the office of President and Vice President of the United States, if any other than those given in the constitution, and to confer with a committee of the Senate appointed for the same purpose, made the following report:

That it is not proper to annex any style or title to the respective styles and titles of the office expressed in the constitution.

[NOTE.—See report of committee of the Senate, No. 7.]

1st CONGRESS.]

No. 4.

[1st SESSION.]

APPLICATION OF VIRGINIA FOR A CONVENTION OF THE SEVERAL STATES TO REPORT AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MAY 5, 1789.

VIRGINIA, to wit:

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, November 14, 1788.

Resolved, That an application be made, in the name and on behalf of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, to the Congress of the United States, in the words following, to wit:

The good people of this Commonwealth, in convention assembled, having ratified the constitution submitted