[illegible] during the whole year, whereas by the articles of confederation it appears, that it was expected part of the business of the United States, would be transacted by a commitee of the states.

The committee therefore are of opinion, that it should be earnestly recommended to the respective states, to take the most effectual measures to maintain at all times while Congress are sitting, a full representation, that the delay of business, which has proved so injurious to the public, and grievous to individuals, may no longer be a subject of complaint.

RESOLVED, That Congress agree to the laid report.

APRIL 19, 1784.

No 3

ON the report of a committee consisting of Mr. Gerry, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Lee, to whom was referred a motion of Mr. Gerry.

RESOLVED, That the legislatures of the several states be informed that whilst they are respectively represented in Congress by two delegates only, such an unanimity for conducting the most important public concerns is necessary as can be rarely expected. That if each of the thirteen states should be represented by two members, five out of twenty-six, being only a fifth of the whole, may negative any measures requiring the voice of nine states. That of eleven states now on the floor of Congress, nine being represented by only two members from each, it is in the power of three out of twenty-five, making only one eighth of the whole to negative such a measure, notwithstanding that by the articles of confederation, the dissent of five out of thirteen being more than one-third of the number, is necessary for such a negative. That in a representation of three members from each state, not less than ten of thirty-nine could so negative a matter requiring the voice of nine states. That from facts under the observation of Congress, they are clearly convinced that a representation of two members from the several states, is extremely injurious by producing delays, and for this reason is likewise much more expensive than a general representation of three members from each state. That therefore Congress conceive it to be indispensibly necessary and earnestly recommend that each state, at all times when Congress are sitting, be hereafter represented by three members at least; as the most injurious consequences may be expected from the want of such representation.

Chas Thomson Secy

6 of 6