



UNITED STATES CHRONICLE:



Political, Commercial, and Historical.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1786.

Mr. WHEELER,
In your last Paper was published an Address 'To the Inhabitants of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,' signed by NATHANIEL LEONARD, as Chairman of the Committees of several Towns in the County of Bristol, in this Commonwealth, proposing to call a COMMONWEALTH CONVENTION, for revising and altering the Constitution, 'And to abolish the Order of the Senate, as a useless unnecessary Branch of Government.'

This very model Proposition published to the World, for oversetting the established Constitution of a State, and bringing every thing into Anarchy and Confusion; and which in any other Country would be deemed High-Treason against the State, and be punished as such, does not seem at first View to exhibit a pleasing Picture of republican Government. One might be apt to suppose, from the Meekness and Modesty of the Proceedings of the Taunton Convention, that, possibly, there might be some Room for Complaint; and that it was therefore probable, that our boasted Form of Government, which has cost us so much Time and Trouble to agree upon and establish, and which hath been admired and esteemed by the World, as the best possible Mode of Government known to exist, is a mere Bubble—a political Trap, for catching and oppressing the People;—and that we have our Work all to go-over again.—It is however to be remembered, that 'This Convention is adjourned to the last Tuesday in September, in order to receive INFORMATION.' And as it is pretty certain, that the Convention Gentlemen in general, in this State, 'want Information,' and that when they receive it, they will behave like good Citizens, and acquiesce in, and support good Order and Government; and that after a little Bustle and Enquiry, all things will be found to be about as Right as they can be, considering the Folly and Extravagance we have generally been Guilty of, in the use of foreign Gewgaws and Superfluities, and that nothing but Frugality, Industry, and the Encouragement of our own Manufactures can relieve us. We may therefore conclude, that the proposed State Convention will terminate in *Fumo*, much as the Middletown Convention did a Year or Two since in Connecticut, and that all things will again become quiet and easy; and that Truth and Justice will finally prevail, though for a Time they may be obstructed, and even banished from their proper Seats.

I do not however mean to Answer the Publication of the Convention:—It is already done by my Hand, in a sensible, nervous and judicious Answer of the Town of Cambridge, to a Proposition made to that Town, to join in a State Convention.—You will find their Proceedings thereon, published in the Massachusetts Gazette of the 31st Ult. which you are requested to insert in your valuable Chronicle, and you will oblige your constant Reader.

C A T O.
State of Massachusetts, August 7th, 1786.

The following are the Proceedings referred to:—

At a meeting of the Town of Cambridge, on the 24th instant, the following letter was read, viz.

To the Selectmen of Cambridge.

GENTLEMEN, &c.

WE the committees chosen by the several towns hereafter mentioned, viz. Groton, Pepperell, Shirley, Townsend and Ashby, met at Groton the 29th day of June, 1786, to consult upon matters of public grievances; and after appointing a Chairman for that day, it was thought best to notify all the towns in this county to meet by their committees, at the house of Capt. Brown, innholder, in Concord, on the 23d day of August next, to consult upon matters of public grievances and embarrassments, that the people of this Commonwealth labour under, and to find out means of redress, &c.

By order of the Committee,

JOHN NUTTING, Chairman.

July 19, 1786.

To this letter, the Selectmen, by desire of the town, sent the following Answer, viz.

To Capt. JOHN NUTTING, Pepperell, &c. &c.
SIR, Cambridge, 24th July, 1786.

YOUR letter, dated July 19th, 1786, desiring the concurrence of this town in a proposed Convention, for the redress of grievances, we have received and laid before the inhabitants, at a meeting.—Agreeable to their request, we shall give you their sentiments on the subject.

The government under which we live, the government which we have expended much blood and treasure to establish, we conceive to be founded on the most free principles which are consistent with the being of any government at all. The constitution has provided for the annual choice of every branch of the Legislature, and that the people in the several towns may assemble to deliberate on public grievances, and to instruct their Representatives. By annual elections there are frequent opportunities to change the Representatives, if their conduct is disapproved. Of what use then a Convention can be, without authority to call for information, and without power to enforce their regulations, is to us inconceivable. If any man in a town is more deserving of confidence than the rest, he should be chosen a Representative; but to forbear sending constitutional Representatives, and to send unconstitutional ones, is wrong as well as trifling. It is trifling, because they can do us no good; and it is wrong, not only because it is putting the people to needless expence, but because the constitution, by providing a mode in which the business shall be done, by a very strong implication, forbids its being done in any other way. The only case then, in which we think Conventions justifiable, is where the Legislative or Executive powers of the State have been evidently and notoriously applied to unconstitutional purposes, and no constitutional means of redress remains. We have yet heard of no such abuse of power; and no grievances to be redressed being specified in your letter, a proposition of this kind seems wholly unjustifiable. We accordingly, in the name of the town, assure you, not only of our aversion to joining in this measure, but of our perfect attachment and firm adherence to the present excellent constitution and administration of government. It is in our estimation the peculiar happiness of this people to live under a mild and equitable administration, in which the penal laws are few and well executed.

We therefore shall use our utmost endeavours to prevent the operations of government from being obstructed to gratify the restless disposition, or to promote the sinister views of any designing party.

By order, and in behalf of the Selectmen,
WILLIAM WINTHROPE, Chairman.

Mr. WHEELER,
The following humorous Petition, which was published in a Boston Paper of February last, you are requested to re-publish in your free and useful Chronicle.—That many honest Men may be seduced into an Opinion favourable to Paper Money cannot be doubted—but it is not uncharitable to suppose, that many more of its Advocates are surely prompted by the same Spirit which breathes throughout this Petition.

our's &c. Z. X.

Messrs. PRINTERS,

A NUMBER of petitions, praying for the emission of paper money having been presented to our legislature, and a committee of the House of Representatives, having been appointed to consider the expediency of granting the prayer thereof—an observation or two on them therefore may be of service. Could petitions change the immutable nature of things, they ought to have greater weight with all American legislators than many of them have frequently deserved. Nothing is more easy than to procure petitions for any measure in which the petitioners themselves are self-interested, be the operation of that measure ever so injurious to the general weal of their country; and I will venture to say, that every petition laid before our legislature, for the emission of a paper

currency, when stripped of the plausible guise in which it is dressed, and reduced to the real and native ideas secretly intended to be conveyed, only amount to, and ought, in all honesty, to run in the form following:

To the Hon. the Senate, and the Hon. the House of Representatives, in General Court convened.

The petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of —, in the county of —,

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

THAT your petitioners, induced by the laudable example of your honours predecessors, then legislators of this happy State (forever revered by their precious memories) to enable unfortunately-profligate debtors to discharge their contracts with a fortieth part of their real amount, did not conceive ourselves obliged to appropriate the punishment inflicted upon Adam, to eat bread in the sweat of his face, which seemeth to us rather inconsistent with the dignity of members of a free, sovereign and independent State. That from this honourable principle, a principle naturally interwoven with the idea of a republican government (in which there ought to be a community of goods, and the poorer sort to live upon the industry of the richer, until all is reduced to a perfect equality) your petitioners, instead of the drudgery congenial to the slaves of arbitrary monarchies, have hitherto preferred the borrowing of money, and otherwise running in debt, to the ignominious humiliation of working with their own hands. That being by those means involved in debt, they are cruelly threatened with law-suits, which will prove doubly afflictive, as not only tending to compel the payment of the debt, but as superadding to it certain costs for the detention. For as the law now stands, we are liable to pay our debts without remedy. This, in these hard times, and during such a want of a circulating medium, your honours must be sensible, is an insupportable grievance—a grievance, which, in our opinion, can no otherwise be remedied than by the honorable legislature emitting a paper currency, for the relief of all the citizens of this State, in the like deplorable situation with your petitioners. But whereas it has, by some been proposed, to issue such bills without making them a legal tender, your humble petitioners beg leave to shew that such a currency would not extricate them from their present difficulties: And whereas it has been proposed by others to make it a tender only for debts hereafter to accrue, and that only according to its depreciation at the time of the tender, your petitioners must beg leave to insist that neither would this prove a remedy adequate to their lamentable situation. It is not politerly that your petitioners have in contemplation—it is themselves. And unless the act petitioned for, operates *ex post facto*, we may as well pay our honest debts without any more ado; and to make good the depreciation, it would ruin us.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your honours will pass a law to shut up the courts of justice for three years from the publication thereof (at the expiration of which we intend to do ourselves the honour of again petitioning for the further silencing of those dreadful engines of compulsion) and also to issue the said paper currency upon such security as you know beforehand that it will infallibly depreciate; and to make it a lawful tender for all debts contracted at any stage of its depreciation.

Amos Spensbriff,
Josiah Warkles,
Jeremy Grog,
John Tippler,
Simon Dreadwork,
James Saunter,
Paul Ploughblefs,
Jeronymus Noxax,
David Newerpay,
Jack Billiard,
Jack Alljourns,
Tom. Seldonsiber,
William Rake,

Jecamiab Putoff,
John Starper,
John Sharper, jun.
J. Doolittle Lovessip,
Lemis Sans-Souci,
Jerolomon Fearvail,
Jo. Lawless,
Jean Jaques Perruquier,
James Signaway,
John Sharper, sen.
Peter Old Conti,
Benj. Saldiersnote,
Ned. Chasall.

OK

POET'S CORNER.

An EPITAPH on a young Lady, lately departed.

If e'er sharp sorrow from thine eyes did flow,
If e'er thy bosom felt another's woe,
If e'er fair beauty's charms thy heart did prove,
If e'er the offspring of thy virtuous love,
Bloom'd to thy wish, or to thy soul was dear,
This plaintive marble asks thee for a tear!
For here, alas! too early snatch'd away,
All that was lovely, Death has made his prey.
No more her cheeks with crimson roses vie,
No more the diamond sparkles in her eye;
Her breath no more its balmy sweets can boast,
Alas! that breath with all its sweets are lost.
Pale now those lips where blushing rubies hung,
And mute the charming music of her tongue;
Ye Virgins fair, your fading charms survey,
She was what'er your tender hearts can say.
To her sweet Memory, for ever dear,
Let the green turf receive your trickling tear:
To this sad place your earliest garlands bring,
And deck her grave with fringlings of the spring.
Let opening roses, drooping lillies tell,
Like those the bloom'd, and ah! like these the fell.
In circling wreaths let the pale ivy grow,
And distant yews a sable shade bestow;
Round her, ye Graces! constant vigils keep,
And guard, fair Innocence! her sacred sleep:
'Till that bright morn shall wake the beautiful
To bloom and sparkle in eternal day. [clay,

LINES written by a Lady on a Window.

THE tyrant love, shall never pierce my heart,
Though he pursue me with his fiercest dart.

THE Lady all her resolution spoke,
And wrote on glass, in hopes it might be broke.

A House broke open.

WHEREAS the Dwelling-House of the Subscriber, in Dorchester, near Bolton, was broke open last Night, and sundry Articles stolen therefrom, amongst which were two Pair of Silver open-worked Men's Shoe Buckles, a Silver Table Spoon, with a Swan engraved on it; four Silver-plated Bottle-Coolers, and two Silver-plated Wine-Glass Ditto, on each of which were engraved a Coat of Arms, of three Swans, a Coronet, with an Arm armed for a Crest—This offers a Reward of FIFTY DOLLARS to any Person who shall inform of, or detect the Thieves, so that they may be brought to condign Punishment; and a handsome Reward shall be given to any one who shall return the Articles to

JAMES SWAN,

in Dorchester,
Or to Mr. WILLIAM CORLIS, Merchant, at Providence.

N. B. Goldsmiths and others to whom the above may be offered for Sale are requested to stop them.

TO BE LET,

A CONVENIENT Dwelling-House, with a Wharf, Warehouse, &c. in the Town of Providence, on the Main-Street, between the Court-House Lot, and the Episcopal Church, adjoining Southerly on Capt. Zachariah Allen.—For further Information, apply to WILLIAM A. SESSIONS, in said Providence, or to the Subscriber, living in Attleborough.

DARIUS SESSIONS.

Attleborough, July 26th, 1786.

THE Subscribers being appointed Commissioners, by the Honorable Town-Council of the Town of Bristol, to receive and examine the Claims of the several Creditors to the Estate of Capt. SION MARTINDALE, late of said Bristol, Mariner, deceased, represented Insolvent, requests all Persons who have any Claims as aforesaid to bring them in to either of us at our respective Dwelling-Houses in said Bristol, within Three Months from the Date hereof.

STEPHEN SMITH, } Commis-
SAMUEL R. PAIN, } sioners.

Bristol, July 27, 1786.

JUST PUBLISHED,

And now selling by the AUTHOR,

**A Treatise on AGRICULTURE,
AND**

PRACTICAL HUSBANDRY;

With a brief Account of the Advantages arising from the new Method of Culture, as now practised in Europe.

By METCALF BOWLER, Esq;

A few COPIES of
A SYNOPSIS

Of a Course of LECTURES, on the Theory and Practice of MEDICINE.
By BENJAMIN WATERHOUSE, M. D. Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic in the University of Cambridge, and of Natural History in the College of Rhode Island.
To be sold by B. WHEELER.

THE Subscribers being appointed Commissioners, by the Honorable George Leonard, Esq; Judge of Probate for the County of Bristol, to receive and examine the Claims of the several Creditors to the Estate of NATHANIEL BRIGGS, late of Dighton, in said County, Mariner, deceased, represented Insolvent, and Six Months being allowed said Creditors to bring in their Claims—These are to give Notice, that we shall attend that Business at the House of Samuel Whitmarsh, Innholder, in said Dighton, on the Second Tuesday of July inst. and the Second Tuesday of the Five following Months, from Two to Five o'Clock in the Afternoon of each of said Days.

SYLVESTER RICHMOND, } Commis-
WILLIAM BROWN, } sioners.
Dighton, July 27, 1786. 35-47

THE Subscriber begs Leave to inform the Public, that he has opened a SCHOOL for both Sexes, in a convenient Room a few Rods West of Mr. Snow's Meeting House; where he teaches Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Rhetoric, the Mathematics, &c. particularly Navigation; as he is fully versed in the Theory, has practised at Sea, knows the most new and approved Method of teaching it, and has taught many in this and other States, he doubts not of giving Satisfaction. His Price for Reading and Writing is 12¢ per Quarter; for Arithmetic 13¢ 6d. for Grammar 18¢, and for the Mathematics according to the Branch.—The strictest Decorum will be observed, and particular Care taken to inculcate the best Principles of Morality and Politeness. Youth will be taught to write, read, and speak with Propriety, Elegance and Ease.—Those Gentlemen and Ladies who are pleased to honor him with their Commands, may depend on the utmost Attention, Assiduity and Exertion, to render his School useful, pleasing and instructive, and their Favours will be gratefully acknowledged, by the Public's most humble Servant,

CHICKEN TUPHER HILL.

Providence, June 29, 1786.

ELIZABETH RICE,

MILLENER, from BOSTON,

begs Leave to inform the Ladies of this Town, That she has received a fresh supply of MILLENER, in the newest and most approved Fashions, such as Ladies crap'd Cushions, Balloon Hats, the latest Fashion; Balloon Horse-shoe Bonnets,--dresses and undress Caps, black Velvet Collaring, best scented Hair Powder; young Misses Balloon Hats; Hat and Bonnet Frames of all Fashions, may be had by the Dozen, or single; Ladies Linnen Gloves, and Hoops made in the best Manner, and on the most reasonable Terms. Apply at the House of Mr. Terrence Reilly, on the West Side of the Great Bridge.—The smallest Favor will be gratefully acknowledged.

Providence, June 22, 1786.

I. GREENWOOD,

Ivory Turner, Mathematical and Musical Instrument Maker,

No. 11, the Shop formerly occupied by ARCHIBALD STEWART, West Side the Bridge,

MAKES and sells Compasses, Quadrants, Scales, Dividers, &c. Flutes, Fifes, Hautboys, Clarionets, Violins, &c. Neat Walking Sticks, from Two to Eighteen Shillings each, Umbrella Sticks of all Sorts, Bobbins, Tofels, Chess-men, Back-Gammon Men, Boxes and Dice, Billiard Balls and Maces, Lemon Squeezers, Beggars, Tea and Coffee-Pot Handles, Catter Stands, great Cases of Ivory or Wood, Boxes of all Sorts, Mallets, Mutes, Buckle Brushes, Paper Folders, Ink-Horns, Sand-Boxes, Syringes of all-Kinds, Hydrometers, Electrical Machines, from Five to Twelve Pounds each; in a Word, all Sorts of turned Work in Silver, Brass, Iron, Ivory, Turtle-Shell, Bone, Horn and Wood.

Surveyor's and Mariner's Compasses, Davis's and Hadley's Quadrants, and all Kinds of Mathematical Instruments, repaired in the neatest Manner, and on the most reasonable Terms.

Providence, May 4, 1786.

23-

TO BE SOLD,
By SAMUEL ABORN, Price One Quarter of a Dollar,

An ATTEMPT

To collect the Scripture Passages in Favour of the Universal Restoration, As connected with the Doctrine of Rewards and Punishments.

All tending to prove the universal Empire of Christ, the total Destruction of Evil, and the final Re-establishment of lapsed Intelligences.

By ELHANAN WINCHESTER.

JUST PUBLISHED,
And now selling by James Arnold, Esq; and the Printer hereof,

The Testimony of the Two

Witnesses, explained and improved.

By ISAAC BACKUS,
Pastor of the Church in Middleborough,

For SALE, by the Printer hereof,
NEW SENTIMENTS;

Different from any yet published, upon The Doctrine of Universal Salvation, As connected with Doctrines generally approved. Remarks upon the Force of Divine Revelation. A general View of ancient Christianity compared with modern. A Sketch of Church History and Religion of Nations.

By ADELOS.
Thou bringest certain strange Things to our Ears.
MEN OF ATHENS.

Shout Folly as it flies. POPE.
The above Piece came from a distant Quarter, and contains the fundamental Principles of the Society called Sandemanians, and many striking and uncommon Truths, worthy the Attention of every candid Enquirer—the Controversy is turned into a new Channel, and many of the Arguments are new and curious.

The Books contain 64 Pages, and will be sold at the low Price of a Fittance each single, with a proper Allowance to those who purchase by the Dozen.

Providence, June 29, 1786.

TO ALL LOVERS OF MUSIC.

JUST PUBLISHED,

By AMOS DEOLITTLE and DANIEL READ, of the City of New-Haven, in Connecticut, A new Collection of Divine Music, together with a Variety of favorite Pieces for Amusement and Entertainment, both vocal and instrumental, under the title of The

American Musical Magazine.

I. This Work is published in monthly Numbers, each Number to contain four large quarto Pages, neatly printed with Copper-plate, on good Paper, in such a Manner that the Sheets may be folded and bound, when a sufficient Number are out, to make a sizeable Volume.

II. No Pains will be spared in procuring and selecting a Variety of the newest, and most approved Pieces of Music, both from British Authors and American Composers; and no Piece will be published without being previously examined and approved by the Musical Society of Yale College.

III. The Price to Subscribers will be Two-Thirds of a Dollar, per Year; one Half to be paid on receiving the first Number, and the other Half at the End of the Year.

IV. Those who subscribe for Six shall have a Seventh gratis.

Subscriptions are taken in at this Office, and by most of the Printers in the State of Connecticut. The Numbers as they come to Hand will be delivered free of Postage.

The First, Second, and Third Numbers are published, and to be sold by the Printer hereof.

Wanted to purchase,

A GOOD new-milch COW, for which a generous Price will be given.—Enquire of the Printer.

Blank Deeds, long and short Powers of Attorney, Bonds, Bills of Sale, Bills of Lading, Portage Bills, Policies of Insurance, Indentures, Court and Justice Writs and Executions, Licenses for Innholders, License Bonds, Administration Bonds, &c. all printed on good Paper, with a new Type, and sold on the most reasonable Terms, by B. WHEELER.