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# The Massachusetts



# CENTINEL.

PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

Uninfluenced by Party, we aim to be JUST.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1788.

[12s. per ann.]

NUMBER 44. of VOL. VIII. Price Three Cents.

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, November 18.

YESTERDAY some dispatches were received overland from Lord Cornwallis, in consequence of which a council was immediately held, at the breaking up of which orders were sent to Lord Hood, at Portsmouth, not to pay off any of the ships under his Lordship's command. Similar orders were likewise dispatched from the Lords of the Admiralty to the Commanders at Plymouth and Chatham.

Accounts both from Paris and the Hague mention a bloody engagement, in which 4000 Russians, having been artfully surrounded in the Cuban by 30,000 Tartars, were without distinction massacred. No date, however, is affixed to the event, though it is confidently said that the devoted Russians were under the command, at the time, of General Potemkin, a relation of the celebrated Prince of that name.

## Late AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

AUGUSTA, (Georgia) January 5.

WE have the pleasure to announce to the public, that on Wednesday last, the Convention of this State, unanimously ratified the Federal Constitution, in the words following, viz.

STATE OF GEORGIA.  
IN CONVENTION,

Wednesday, January 2, 1788.

WE the Delegates of the people of the State of Georgia, in Convention met, having taken into our serious consideration, the Federal Constitution, agreed upon and proposed by the Deputies of the United States, in General Convention, held in the city of Philadelphia, on the 17th day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, Have assented to, ratified and adopted, and by these presents do, in virtue of the powers and authority to us given by the people of the said State for that purpose, for, and in behalf of ourselves and our constituents, fully and entirely assent to, ratify and adopt the said Constitution, which is hereunto annexed, under the great seal of the said State.

DONE, in Convention, at Augusta, in the said State, on the second day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States the twelfth.

CHARLESTON, (S. C.) January 15.

On Sunday last went passenger in the Olive-Branch, Capt. Hercules Argus, bound to London, Mr. John Frazer, a gentleman who has been in this State for eighteen months collecting the vegetable tribes of the country; by his indefatigable perseverance, and unequalled industry (even in the sickly months) his botanick collection, though confined to his researches in this State, exceeds by some hundreds of native plants, the number formerly described to belong to the continent of North-America. The collection he has carried with him, consists of several new genera, and a great variety of new species, which may be considered as a proof, that the vegetable world is but faintly explored; and the specimens in his possession, which are so masterly preserved, will be an evidence in support of his superior merit in this line, and no doubt will recommend him particularly to the attention of men of science, as certain as it will raise him above the prejudice of illiberal criticism.

WILMINGTON, (Delaware) January 17.

A gentleman from the back country informs, that accounts have been received there, that a flat belonging to Kentucky, going down the river, had been sunk, and several of the people killed or drowned, the rest saving themselves by swimming. Soon after a Spanish batteau arrived at Kentucky to purchase flour, when a number of inhabitants, in revenge attacked the Spaniards, killed several, and forced the others to fly. It is apprehended that these quarrels may be attended with serious consequences.

PHILADELPHIA, January 30.

It is agreeable to observe how many of the same circumstances concur in favour of the new Federal Government, which occurred in favour of the opposition to Great-Britain, and the declaration of independence.

The American Revolution began in the town of

Boston—whose inhabitants are now, almost to enthusiasm, in favour of the Federal Government.

The same characters, who took the lead in each of the States in the struggle for liberty, in the glorious years of 1775 and 1776, now take the lead in their exertions to establish the Federal Government.

The men who manifested the most unequivocal attachment to liberty, by enduring cold, hunger and nakedness in the army, during a long and bloody war, are (with two or three exceptions) to a man in favour of the new government, from the great and good General Washington, down to the lowest private that beats a drum or blows a fife under him.

The ministers of the gospel of every denomination (one or two excepted) are now united, from one part of the continent to the other, in praying, with the same zeal that they did for the preservation of our liberties in the years 1775 and 1776, for the establishment of the new federal government.

The adoption of the proposed federal government by the state of Georgia, whose constitution, like that of Pennsylvania, vests the legislative power in a single House, is a proof that another body of men, besides the majority of the Pennsylvania Convention, think, under the same kind of government, that the federal constitution should be adopted. Georgia is a very rising state, possessing an extensive territory, and is a great acquisition to the new Confederacy. Live oak, red cedar, tobacco of an excellent quality, rice, indigo, furs, peltry, hides, hemp, cotton, and silk, are her most valuable productions:—An inestimable treasure, whether we consider them with regard to commerce, navigation, manufactures, or domestic consumption.

NEW-YORK, February 5.

The numbers in the different States, according to the most accurate accounts which could be obtained by the late Federal Convention, were as follow:

In New-Hampshire,	102,000
In Massachusetts,	360,000
In Rhode-Island,	58,000
In Connecticut,	202,000
In New-York,	238,000
In New-Jersey,	138,000
In Pennsylvania,	360,000
In Delaware,	37,000
In Maryland,	218,000
(including three fifths of 80,000 Negroes)	
In Virginia,	420,000
(including three-fifths of 280,000 Negroes)	
In North-Carolina,	200,000
(including three-fifths of 60,000 Negroes)	
In South-Carolina,	150,000
(including three-fifths of 80,000 Negroes)	
In Georgia,	90,000
(including three-fifths of 20,000 Negroes)	

SALLEM, February 12.

On Friday evening last, a generous entertainment was made, at Capt. Smees' tavern in Gloucester, by the principal inhabitants of that town, for the gentlemen who represented them in the late State Convention—as a testimony of their approbation of the part they took in the important business on which they acted—and to give a social opportunity to reciprocate their congratulations on the decision which has taken place.

A correspondent observes, that the years 88, for some centuries past, have been remarkably conspicuous for great events.—In 1588, the Spanish armada was destroyed; in 1688, the revolution in England commenced; and in the beginning of the year 1788, when the Connecticut Convention adopted the new Constitution, the majority consisted of 88; and in the same year, the Convention of Massachusetts consented to the adoption of the same Constitution.

## STATE CONVENTION.

FRIDAY, January 25, 1788. P. M.

8th sect. still under debate.

HON. MR. DALTON. Mr. President,—It has been demanded by some gentlemen in opposition to this Constitution, why those who were opposed to the augmentation of the powers of Congress a few years since, should now be the warmest advocates for the powers to be granted by the sect. under debate. Sir, I was opposed to the 5 per cent. impost being granted to Congress; and I conceived that such a grant under the confeder-

tion, would produce great difficulties and embarrassments. But, Sir, as Congress is by the proposed constitution to be differently constructed,—as a *proportionate* voice of the States in that body, is to be substituted for the present *equal* (or rather unequal one) my objections will be removed. In my opinion, the delegating of power to a government, in which the people have so many checks, will be perfectly safe, and consistent with the preservation of their liberties.

Mr. AMES said, that in the course of the debates, gentlemen had justified the confederation; but he wished to ask, whether there was any danger in this constitution, which is not in the confederation? If gentlemen are willing to confederate, why, he asked, ought not Congress to have the powers granted by this section? In the confederation, said Mr. A. the checks are wanting, which are to be found in this constitution. And the fears of gentlemen, that this constitution will provide for a permanent aristocracy, are therefore ill founded—for the rulers will always be dependent on the people; like the insects of a sunshine day, may by the breath of their displeasure, be annihilated.

MR. WIDGERY. Mr. President, Enough has, I think, been said on the 8th sect. It has been repeated over and over again, that the adoption of the Constitution will please all ranks of people, that the present inefficiency of the Confederation is obvious; and that blessed things will surely be the result of this Constitution. Many say, ask the Merchants? Ask the yeomanry? But they do not tell us what the answer of these will be.—All we hear is, that the merchant and farmer will flourish—and that the mechanic and tradesmen are to make their fortunes directly, if the Constitution goes down.—Is it, sir, because the feat of government is to be carried to Philadelphia? Who, sir, is to pay the debts of the yeomanry, and others? Sir, when oil will quench fire, I will believe all this—and not till then: On the contrary, I think the adopting this Constitution, makes against them; tho' it may be something in favour of the merchants. Have not Congress power to tax polls,—for there is no other way of levying a dry tax; and by this means, the poor will pay as much as the rich. Gentlemen say we are undone—and that there is no resource, unless this Constitution is adopted. I cannot see why we need swallow a great bone for the sake of a little meat, which if it should happen to stick in our throats, can never be got out. Some gentlemen have given out, that we are surrounded by enemies—that we owe debts, and that the nations will make war against us, and take our shipping, &c.—Sir, I ask, if this is a fact? Or whether gentlemen think as they say?—I believe they do not.—For I believe they are convinced, that the nations we owe, do not wish us at present to pay more than the interest.

Mr. W. after considering some other observations which had dropped from gentlemen in the course of the debates on the 8th section, concluded by saying, that he could not see the great danger that would arise from rejecting the Constitution.

The Hon. Mr. GORHAM adverted to the suggestion of some gentlemen, that by granting the impost to Congress this State would pay more than its proportion; and said, that it could be made an objection as much against one government as another: But he believed, gentlemen would accede, that the impost was a very proper tax. As to the tax on polls, which the gentleman from New-Gloucester had said would take place, he said, he said, no article in the Constitution which warranted the assertion—it was, he said, a distressful tax, and would never be adopted. By impost and excise, the man of luxury will pay, and the middling and the poor parts of the community, who live by their industry, will go clear; and as this would be the easiest method of raising a revenue, it was the most natural to suppose it would be resorted to.—20 per cent. he said, may as well be paid for some luxuries, as 5—nay, 100 per cent. impost on some articles, might be laid on, as is done in England and France. How often, observed the hon. gentleman, has Mr. Adams tried to accomplish a commercial treaty with England—but they think Congress but a feeble power.—They prohibit our oil, fish, lumber, pot

GWJ







**CASTALIAN FOUNT.  
ORIGINAL POETRY.**

An ELEGY, on General GREENE,  
*Written about twelve months after his death,  
By a SOLDIER.*

T WAS night; and darkness overcast our sky,  
Save the faint glim'ring of the distant stars;  
And deathlike silence crown'd the midnight gloom:  
The hour that contemplation wakes to muse  
On solemn scenes that fly the busy day;  
And quick imagination starts to run  
The bright immeasurable paths of Heav'n;  
Or, on the vivid wings of fancy, fly,  
With pleasing retrospect, o'er life's scant scene,  
Deducing pleasures from what pleas'd before.  
Then, O GREENE, that thy heroic shade,  
Before my fancy's eye, in solemn pomp,  
And warlike greatness, pass'd: A scene like that,  
(O wondrous scene!) when to the gloomy shades,  
The great Ulysses, living, did descend  
In silent majesty—before him pass'd,  
With conscious greatness, Ajax, high in fame,  
Regardless of the mortal's supplicating voice:  
And thus my humble muse address'd the shade:  
Whilst thou, O GREENE, dost tread Arcadian blooms,  
Or with thy brother heroes, sit'st within  
The laurel'd bow'r, with wreaths immortal hung,  
And feel'st thy country's tears scarce wip'd away,  
E'en from the weeping vulgar's tearful eye;  
And dearest friends still languishing with grief,  
That death should from their bleeding bosoms tear  
A friend so dear: Thy country mourning thee,  
Their bulwark strong against their common foe;—  
Does not a view of these with pleasing pity,  
And joys celestial, swell thy noble soul?  
O, does it not a pleasing joy impart,  
To look back on the toils, the abstinence,  
By thee endur'd, to buy thy country's freedom?  
Through untrod roads, the long and tiresome march?  
Or, doest with higher sense of joy, review  
The glorious days, when thou did'st lead the war  
With dauntless courage on; and next thy heart,  
Thy country's liberty and glory lay;  
To meet, with more resistless force, and brave  
The boasted valour of proud Britain's sons;  
Thou quash'd their martial pow'r, thy veterans sham'd,  
And took contested fields victorious;  
To see, thy valour help'd, thy country's fame,  
Among the world's great nations, proud to raise,  
And give it place, the youngest, not the least,  
Among the empires that the earth divide:—  
And thy own name, transfer'd to fame eternal?  
Enjoy, O GREENE, the worthy name thou'st earn'd!  
And while thou wait'st thy worthy master there,  
With virtuous Cato and Brutus, a feat  
Prepare for our illustrious Washington;  
Who more successful 'gainst a tyrant George,  
Than they, a proud ambitious Caesar, fought,  
Let thy own hand, blest shade, a garland weave,  
Of heavenly laurels and eternal greens,  
(And, TULLOHMAN, thou, wreath in thy humble sprig!)  
To adorn your worthy master's sacred brow,  
When fate, for him, shall call the mournful tear,  
And marble hearts the melting tribute pay.  
*Massachusetts, 1786.*

**MISCELLANY.**

For the CENTINEL.

Mr. RUSSELL,

BEING a spectator at the military parade in the town of Bolton on Tuesday last, the soldierly appearance, and performances of the several corps, gave me great satisfaction; but when the troops approached towards their firings in State-street, it gave me pain to see several respectable citizens in much concern for the preservation their property, which was about to be exposed to the concussion of the air, on the discharge of the field-pieces. This led me to reflect, that it is really a pity, on days of publick rejoicing, to take such positions, as while the joy of some is promoted, the loss of others, in the breaking of their windows, destruction of crockery, &c. must allay the joy in a great degree—indeed it proves a heavy tax on them—I therefore beg leave to submit to the consideration of those who may hereafter have the direction on joyous, or military occasions, where cannon are to be used, (and I pray they will not take it amiss) whether they may not be discharged either on the Common, at the head of Long-Wharf, or in some other place, as will prevent damage being done to individuals, and at the same time without the least diminution of the laudable wish of exhibiting the troops to the best advantage.

BENEVOLENCE.

**A FRAGMENT.**

A Parable against persecution, or toleration and philantrophy inculcated.

By Dr. FRANKLIN.

AND it came to pass, after these things, that Abraham sat at the door of his tent, about the going down of the sun. And behold a man, bent with age, was coming from the way of the wilderness, leaning on his staff. And Abraham arose, and met him, and said unto him, turn in, I pray thee, and wash thy feet, and tarry all night, and thou shalt arise early in the morning, and go on thy way. And the man said, nay, for I will abide under this tree.—But Abraham pressed him

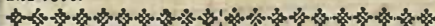
greatly: So he turned, and they went into the tent—and Abraham baked unleavened bread, and they did eat. And when Abraham saw that the man blest not God, he said unto him, wherefore dost thou not worship the most high God, creator of heaven and earth? And the man answered and said, I do not worship thy God, neither do I call upon his name: For I have made to myself a god, which abideth always in my house, and provideth me with all things.—And Abraham's zeal was kindled against the man, and he arose and fell upon him, and drove him forth with blows into the wilderness. And God called to Abraham saying, Abraham, where is the stranger? And Abraham answered and said, Lord, he would not worship thee, neither would he call upon thy name: Therefore have I driven him out from before my face into the wilderness. And God said, have I borne with him these hundred and ninety and eight years, and nourish'd him, and clothed him, notwithstanding his rebellion against me—and couldst not thou, who art thyself a sinner, bear with him one night?

N. B. The circumstance which gave rise to the above elegant and instructive *morceau*, was, it is said, as follows—Dr. Franklin being once in company where the discourse turned on the folly of intolerance and persecution, took up a bible, which was at hand, and opening at Genesis, he delivered this parable extempore, in confirmation of what he had advanced. The hearers, acknowledging it was extremely apposite, expressed great surprise, that such a remarkable passage of scripture had so long escaped their notice.

**The WEEKLY MONITOR, No. 200.**

**BENEVOLENCE and CHARITY.**

AMONG all the virtues which adorn the human mind, or the duties incumbent on us, either as individuals or as members of society, there are none more forcibly inculcated by reason, or which have a greater tendency to promote our own happiness and that of our fellow men, than benevolence and charity. The man who is actuated by these "fairest of all the lovely virtues," has laid a permanent foundation for his own happiness; and so far as it is in his power, he will promote that of all around him—Far from confining his ideas of happiness within the narrow sphere of his own enjoyments, it is his highest felicity to contribute to that of others—As he is fully sensible that all that he receives is the unremitted gift of an indulgent Providence, he considers it as his duty to bestow it in such a manner as shall best promote the happiness of all: If it is in his power, he feeds the hungry from his own table, and clothes the naked with his wardrobe—In him the widow and the orphan find a sure protector and an invariable friend—He administers the balm of consolation to the dejected mind—He wipes the falling tear of affliction from the eye of the disconsolate, and commiserates the distress he cannot relieve—He closes his ears to the tales of calumny and reproach, and gives as little credit as possible to every thing that ought not to be true; Slander and detraction have no place with him; but as much as possible, he endeavours to conceal the faults of his neighbour from the view of an insulting word. As much as possible in him lies, he endeavours to live peaceably with all men. He is an enemy to no man, and his own enemies of consequence must be few. Formed for happiness himself, he diffuses it to all around him. To his superiors he is respectful, but not possessed of slavish fear. With his equals he is familiar and cheerful, and his inferiours he treats with all possible civility, and obliges them all in his power; and thus renders himself esteemed and beloved by all. But the advantages of his benevolence, as to himself, are not circumscribed by time, or worldly interest—No: He has laid a foundation for happiness which shall be commensurate with eternity. As by the practice of these virtues he has assimilated himself to the Divine Character, and prepared himself for the society of heaven, so he shall participate of that felicity which awaits the righteous in those regions where all is benevolence and love.



**S B A C O A L,**

OF an excellent quality, to be sold, by  
**WILLIAM LITTLE,**  
No. 46, STATE-STREET.  
*Boston, Feb. 13, 1788.*

**SIX** hundred Bushels INDIAN CORN, and about 200 Barrels TAR, to be sold at  
No. 23, on the Long-Wharf.  
*Boston, Feb. 6th, 1788.*

To be SOLD, by  
**JONATHAN HARRIS,**  
At No. 24, CORNHILL,  
**A LARGE** and genteel assortment of  
Coloured SATINS, for Ladies' Cloaks,  
plain and figured, red, blue, and white India Taffety, Gentlemen's Muslin Neckcloths.  
Large assortment of Knives and Forks, by gross or dozen, brass Ink-Pots, Pound Pins, &c.  
*Boston, February 13, 1788.*

Imported in the last Vessels from London,  
and to be sold, by  
**WILLIAM LITTLE,**  
No. 46, STATE-STREET,  
**A Variety** of Merchandize,  
low for cash. Also,  
Madeira and Teneriffe Wines, Superfine  
and Common Flour, Philadelphia and Spanish Bar Iron, Loaf and brown Sugars, Raisins, Brimstone, Gun-Powder, Connecticut Pork and Beef, Franklin Stoves, Tar, &c.  
*Jan. 26.*

For PHILADELPHIA,  
**THE Sloop BETSY,**  
LEVI YOUNG, Master, now lying at the Long-Wharf—will sail in five days. For freight or passage, apply to the Master on board; or at Store No. 16, on said Wharf.  
*Where may be had,*

Philadelph'a Common FLOUR, in half barrels.  
*Feb. 13th, 1788.*

**A BARGAIN!**  
To be SOLD, cheap,  
**A New HOUSE,** and BAKEHOUSE, situated at the North-End. Inquire of the Printer.  
*Feb. 13, 1788.*

**THE** Partnership of  
**EATON & PIERCE,**  
DISTILLERS, is this day by mutual consent dissolved.  
*Boston, Feb. 12, 1788.*

**F U R S.**  
**CASH,** and a good price, given for all kind of SHIPPING FURS,  
By **ISAACK POLLACK,**  
at the head of Hancock's Wharf—who informs the Hatters that he has imported all sorts of fine Wool, of Fyr, Lamb and Camel. Also, Bed-Feathers of all sorts. If the Gentlemen Merchants will buy on the invoice by the bale, good Winter Goods, please to apply to him for the following, just arrived per Capt. PIERCE, at Portsmouth, and now in town, Duffels, Coatings, Kerseys, Flannels, Thicks, Drapery Baize, Linsey, Broad Baize, Scarlet Cloth, &c.  
*Dec. 14, 1787.*

**ANY** good Vessel, bound to Dublin, may have 100 or 200 Barrels of POT and PEARL-ASHES, on freight, by applying at DAVID ESARS's Store, State-Street.  
*Boston, 30th Jan. 1788.*

To be SOLD,  
By **William McNeill and Son,**  
**THE** best of eighteen thread COD-LINES, 35 fathoms each, American manufactured, warranted good: If any proves not so, the money will be returned. Those gentlemen who are concerned in the fishery, may be supplied with any quantity they want; and CABLES and CORDAGE of all sizes suitable, on good terms for cash.  
*Feb. 5, 1788.*

For sale at No. 40, STATE-STREET,  
**A Quantity** of WOOLENS,  
lately opened, for which Country Produce will be received in payment.  
N. B. A few barrels of Superfine and Common FLOUR, to be sold very low for cash. *Feb. 5.*

To be LET,  
**A Convenient DWELLING-HOUSE,**  
in the centre of the town. Inquire of the Printer.  
*Feb. 2, 1788.*

**ALMANACK.**

February	(Hi. Wa.)	(o. r. & f.)	Remarks.
16 Sat.	6 53	6 46 6	Day's len. 10h. 28m.
17 Sun..	7 47	6 44 6	2d Sun. in Len.
18 Mon.	8 41	6 43 6	Perigee.
19 Tuef.	9 45	6 41 6	S. J. C. Boston.

Published by **BENJAMIN RUSSELL,** near the State-House, Boston