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CONNECTICUT GAZETTE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1788.

NEW-LONDON: Printed by TIMOTHY GREEN, at the Northwest Corner of the PARADE.

BOSTON, Jan. 31.
PROCEEDINGS OF CONVENTION.

(Continued from our last.)

FRIDAY, Jan. 18. A.M.

THE 3d par. of the 2d art. of art. I. still under consideration.

Hon. Mr. DALTON opens the conversation with some remark on Mr. Randal's positive assertions the day before, "that the land in general in the Southern States was preferable to any he ever saw." From his own observation, and from accounts he had seen which were better, he could say that the gentleman's remark was not perfectly accurate—the hon. gentleman shewed why it was not so—by stating the inconsiderable product of the land—which, though it might in part be owing to the faithfulness and ignorance of the slaves who cultivate it, he said, was in a greater measure owing to the want of heart in the soil.

Mr. RANDAL. Mr. President, I rise to make an observation on the suggestion of the Hon. Gentleman from Newbury—I have, sir, travelled into the Southern States, and should be glad to compare our knowledge on the subject together. In Carolina Mr. President, if they don't get more than 20 or 30 bushels of corn from an acre, they think it a small crop—on the low lands they sometimes get 40. I hope, Sir, these great men of eloquence and learning will not try to make arguments to make this Constitution go down, right or wrong. An old saying, Sir, is, that a good thing don't need praising; but, Sir, it takes the best men in the State to gloss this Constitution, which they say is the best that human wisdom can invent. In praise of it, we hear the Rev. Clergy—the Judges of the Supreme Court, and the ablest Lawyers, exerting their utmost abilities. Now, Sir, suppose all this artillery turned the other way, and these great men would speak half as much against it, we might complete our business, and go home in 48 hours. Let us, Sir, consider we are acting for the people, and for ages unborn—let us deal fairly and above board—Every one comes here to discharge his duty to his constituents, and I hope none will be biased by the best orators; because we are not acting for ourselves: I think Congress ought to have power, such as is for the good of the nation, but what it is, let a more able man than I tell us.

Mr. DAVES said, he was sorry to hear so many objections raised against the paragraph under consideration.—He thought them wholly unfounded; that the black inhabitants of the Southern States must be considered either as slaves, and as so much property, or in the character of so many freemen; if the former, why should they not be wholly represented? Our own State laws and constitution would lead us to consider those blacks as freemen, and so indeed would our own ideas of natural justice: If then they are freemen, they might form an equal basis for representation as though they were all white inhabitants. In either view, therefore, he could not see that the Northern States would suffer, but directly the contrary. He thought, however, that gentlemen would do well to connect the passage in dispute with another article in the Constitution, that permits Congress, in the year 1808, wholly to prohibit the importation of slaves, and in the mean time to impose a duty of ten dollars a head on such blacks as should be imported before that period. Besides, by the new Constitution, every particular state is left to its own option totally to prohibit the introduction of slaves into its own territories. What could the Convention do more? The members of the Southern States, like ourselves, have their prejudices. It would not do to abolish slavery, by an act of Congress, in a moment, and so destroy what our Southern brethren consider as property. But we may say, that although slavery is not smitten by an apoplexy, yet it has received a mortal wound, and will die of a consumption.

Mr. D. said that the par. in debate related only to the rule of apportioning internal taxes; but gentlemen had gone into a consideration of the question, whether Congress should have the power of laying and collecting such taxes; which he thought would be more properly discussed under the section relative to the Powers of Congress: But as objections had been suggested—the answers might be hinted as we went along. By the old articles, said he, Congress have a right to ascertain what sums are necessary for the union, and to appropriate the same—but have no authority to draw such monies from the State. The States are under an honourary obligation to raise the monies—but Congress cannot compel a compliance with the obligation; so long as we withhold that authority from Congress, so

long we may be said to give it to other nations—Let us contemplate the loan we have negotiated with the Dutch, our ambassador has bound us all jointly and severally to pay the money borrowed. When pay day shall come, how is the money to be raised? Congress cannot collect it—If any one shall disobey a requisition, the Dutch are left in such a case to put their own demand in force for their selves. They must raise by arms what we are afraid Congress shall collect by the law of peace. There is a prejudice, said Mr. Daves, against direct taxation, which rises from the manner in which it has been abused by the errors of the old Confederation.

Congress had it not in their power to draw a revenue, from commerce, and therefore multiplied their requisitions on the States. Massachusetts, willing to pay her part, made her own trade law, on which the trade departed to such of our neighbours; as made no such impositions on commerce. Thus we lost what little revenue we had, and our only recourse was to a direct taxation. In addition to this, foreign nations knowing this inability of Congress, have on that account been backward in their negotiations, and have lent us money at a premium: which bore some proportion to the risk they had of getting payment; and this extraordinary expence has all fallen on the land.—Some gentlemen have said, that Congress may draw their revenue wholly by direct taxes; but they cannot be induced to do so; it is easier for them to have resort to the impost and excise: But as it will not do to overburthen the impost, (because that would promote smuggling and be dangerous to the revenue) therefore Congress should have the power of applying, in extraordinary cases; to direct taxation.—War may take place, in which case it would not be proper to alter those appropriations of impost which may be made for peace establishments—it is expedient to divert the public funds—the power of direct taxation would in such circumstances be a very useful power. As to the rule of apportioning such taxes, it must be by the quantity of lands, or else in the manner laid down in the paragraph under debate.—But the quantity of lands is an uncertain rule of wealth—compare the lands of different nations of Europe—some of them have great comparative wealth and less land, while others have more lands and less wealth: Compare Holland with Germany. The rule laid down in the paragraph is the best that can be obtained for apportionment of the little direct taxes which Congress will want.

P. M.
The 3d paragraph still under debate.

Mess. King, Gore, Parsons, and Jones (of Boston) spoke of the justice in general, and superior advantage to the Southern States; in particular, of the rule of apportionment in this paragraph, to that in the confederation; and also the hon. Judge Dana, a sketch of his speech follows.

The learned Judge began with answering some objections to this paragraph—and urging the necessity of Congress being vested with power to levy direct taxes on the States; and it was not to be supposed that they would levy such, unless the impost and excise should be found insufficient, in case of a war. If, says he, a part of the union is attacked by a foreign enemy, and we are disunited, how is it to defend itself? Can it by its own internal force? In the late war, this State singly was attacked; and obliged to make the first defence—What has happened may happen again. The State, oppressed, must exert its whole power, and bear the whole charge of the defence: but common danger points out for common exertion—and this constitution is excellently designed to make the danger equal.—Why should one State expend its blood and treasure for the whole? Ought not a controlling authority to exist, to call forth, if necessary, the whole force and wealth of all the States? If disunited, the time may come when we may be attacked by our natural enemies:—Nova-Scotia and New Brunswick, filled with Tories and refugees, stand ready to attack and devour these States one by one. This will be the case, if we have no power to draw forth the wealth and strength of the whole, for the defence of a part. Then shall we see, but too late the necessity of a power being vested somewhere, that could command that wealth and strength when wanted. If, speak with earnestness, said he, but it is for the good of my native country. By God and nature made equal, it is with remorse I have heard it suggested by some, that those gentlemen who have had the superior advantages of education, were enemies to the rights of their country: Are there any among this hon. body, who are possessed of minds capable of such

narrow prejudices? If there are, it is in vain to reason with them—we had better come to a decision and go home. After dilating upon this matter a short time, the learned Judge begged gentlemen to look around them, and see who were the men who composed the assembly—Are they not, he asked, men who have been foremost in the cause of their country, both in the cabinet and the field, and who with halts about their necks boldly and intrepidly advocated the rights of America, and of humanity, at home and in foreign countries? and are THEY not to be trusted?—Direct taxation is a tremendous idea—but may not necessity dictate it, to be unavoidable. We all wish to invest Congress with more power—we disagree only in the quantum; and manner in which Congress shall levy taxes on the States.—A capitation tax, is abhorrent to the feelings of human nature—and I venture to trust will never be adopted by Congress. The learned Judge pointed out, on various grounds the utility of the power vested by the Congress, and concluded, by observing, that the proposed constitution was the best that could be framed;—that if adopted we shall be a great and happy nation—if rejected a weak and despised one:—we shall fall as the nations of ancient times have fallen—that this was his firm belief; and says he, I would rather be annihilated than give my voice for or sign my name to a constitution, which, in the least, should betray the liberties or interests of my country.

Mr. WEDGERR. I hope, sir, the hon. gentleman will not think hard of it, if we ignorant men cannot see as he can. The strong must bear with the infirmities of the weak; and it must be a weak mind indeed that could throw such illiberal reflections against gentlemen of education, as the hon. gentleman complains of.—To return to the par.—if Congress, continues Mr. W., have this power of taxing directly; it will be in their power to enact a poll tax.—Can gentlemen tell why they will not attempt it, and by this method make the State pay as much as the rich.

Mr. DENNETT, was at a loss to know how Congress could levy the tax, in which he thought the difficulty of many consisted—yet had no doubt but that Congress would direct that these States should pay it in their own way.

Hon. Mr. FULLER begged to ask Mr. Gerry—“Why in the last requisition of Congress, the portion required of this State was thirteen times as much as of Georgia, and yet we have but eight representatives in the general government; and Georgia has three?”—Until this question was answered, he was at a loss to know how taxation and representation went hand in hand.

[It was then voted, that this question be asked Mr. Gerry. A long and desultory debate ensued on the manner in which the answer should be given—it was at last voted that Mr. G. reduce his answer to writing.]

SATURDAY, Jan. 19, A. M.

The hon. Mr. SINGLETARY thought we were giving up all our privileges, as there was no provision that men in power should have any religion, and tho' he hoped to see christians, yet by the constitution a Papist or an Infidel, were as eligible as they: It has been said that men had not degenerated—He did not think men were better now than when men after Gods own heart did wickedly. He thought in this instance we were giving great power to we know not whom.

General Brooks [of Bedford] If good men are appointed, government will be administered well. But what will prevent bad men from mischief is the question?—If there should be such in the senate—we ought to be cautious of giving power, but when that power is given with proper checks, the danger is at an end.—When men are answerable and within the reach of responsibility, they cannot forget that their political existence depends upon their good behaviour. The senate can frame no law but by the consent of the representatives—and is answerable to that house for its conduct:—If their conduct excites suspicion, they are to be impeached—punished (or prevented from holding any office, which is a great punishment.) If these checks are not sufficient, it is impossible to devise such as will be so.

[Mr. Gerry's answer to Mr. Fuller's question, was read, the purport is, that Georgia had increased in its numbers by migration—and if it had not then, would soon be entitled to the proportion assigned her.]

Hon. Mr. KING. It so happened that I was both of the convention and Congress at the same time, and if I recollect right the answer of Mr. G. does not materially vary. In 1778, Congress required the States

BALTIMORE, January 8.
 Regulations adopted by the Spaniards at the Havana, and some other places, for the gradual enfranchisement of slaves.

"As soon as the slave is landed, his name, price, &c. are registered in a public register; and the master is obliged, by law, to allow him one working day in every week to himself; besides Sunday, so that if the slave chooses to work for his master on that day, he receives the wages of a free man for it, and whatever he gains by his labour on that day, is so secured to him by law, that the master cannot deprive him of it. This is certainly a considerable step towards abolishing absolute slavery. As soon as the slave is able to purchase another working day, the master is obliged to sell it him at a proportionable price, viz. One fifth part of his original cost and likewise the remaining four days at the same rate, when the slave is able to redeem them, after which he is absolutely free. This is such an encouragement to industry, that even the most indigent are tempted to exert themselves."

NEW-YORK, January 18.

An experiment on tar extracted from Scotch coal has been made in this city by Mr. Seaman, a shipwright, who has lately gone to seek at Carthage. Three pieces of pine timber were prepared for this purpose; one of which was brushed over with a composition of pitch, turpentine and oil; another with common tar mixed with sulphur, and the other simply with Scotch tar. The three pieces were then chained together and sunk in the East river, in the month of June last. A few days ago they were taken out of the water, and it was found that the one prepared with the Scotch tar had received no injury, being as sound and free from the worm or barnacles as when first put into the water, while the other had suffered very much from both. This may prove to be a valuable discovery to the nautical world, if properly attended to. The three pieces of pine timber are left at the coffee house for the inspection of the curious.

THE Subscriber would hereby acquaint all those that have any unsettled concerns with the estate of Mr. JOHN M'CURDY, late of Lyme, deceased, that he will attend on them, relative to said business, at the late dwelling-house of said deceased, in Lyme, on the 18th and 19th instant; after which, on the first Monday and Tuesday in the month of March next. Those respectively concerned, will avoid future trouble and inconvenience to themselves, by their punctual attendance. **LYNDE M'CURDY, Adm'r.**
 Norwich, 4th Feb. 1788.

William Winthrop
 Has for SALE,

Molasses per Hhd.
 French Indico of the best Quality,
 London Porter in Bottles, &c.
 Which he will sell low for Cash.
 New-London, 7th Feb. 1788.

CASH given for Hatters' and Shipping FURRS, by JOSEPH EMERSON, New-London.

NOTICE is hereby given to all whom it may concern. That six months from the date hereof are allowed by the Court of Probate, for the district of New-London, for the creditors to the estate of HEZEKIAH CHAPMAN, late of Montville, deceased, to exhibit their claims against said estate; and those which are not produced within that time, will not be allowed.

ATWELL CHAPEL, Executor.
 Montville, 4th Feb. 1788.

CASH given for SHIPPING-FURRS, By Ebenezer & Simeon Thomas, At their Store in Norwich.

ALL persons indebted to said Thomas, whose accounts or notes are become due, are requested to make immediate payment, or they may expect their accounts or notes will be put in suit.
 Norwich, 30th Jan. 1788.

To be sold on the premises, SO much of the real estates of the following persons, as will pay their rate and town taxes in my hands to collect, with costs of sale, for call. Lawrence's certificates, soldier notes out before 1785, and civil list orders, viz. Capt. Joseph Packwood, lying in Montville, on the 11th day of April next, Jonathan Chapel, deceased, on the 12th Thomas Hempsted, non resident, on the 14th, Ebenezer Williams, deceased, on the 15th, William Wignan, on the 16th, Samuel Fofsdick, non resident, Constant Crocker, and Thomas Manwaring, on the 17th, Daniel Chapman, non resident, on the 20th, Richard Chapman deceased, and Jonathan Chapel, 2d, deceased, on the 21st, and Samuel Swaddle on the 22d day of the foregoing month by **JOSHUA ARAYMOND, jun. Collector.**

The subscriber will give his attendance at Mr. Pember Calkins, on Mondays as usual, and all those that still owe him rates, and nextest to call and settle the same, may depend on being put to suit, without respect to persons.

J. RAYMOND, jun. Collector.
 New-London, Feb. 5 1787.

Also will be sold on the premises, for Lawrence's certificates, soldier notes out before 1785, on the 20th day of April next, SO much of the real estate of Capt William Prince, non-resident, as will pay the rates still due in my hands, from said Prince, with charges of sale, by **AMASA LEARNED, Administrator** (to Nathaniel Coir, jun. collector, deceased).
 New-London, Feb 5, 1788

To be SOLD, or LET for a number of years, A new Dwelling-House,



41 feet by 32, together with a garden, and may be entered by the middle of June next. Said house is situated on the west side of the main street, a few rods north of the parade in this city. For further particulars, enquire of the subscriber living in said house.

ISAIAH BOLLES, 2d.
 New-London, 29th Jan. 1788.

Cash given for all kinds of Shipping FURRS, By EBENEZER BACKUS, of Windham.

73) Dec. 25, 1787.

ALL persons having any demands against the estate of PETER KEITH, late of Thompson, in the county of Windham, deceased, are hereby notified, that the term of six months from the date hereof, is limited by the hon. court of probate, for the district of Pomfret, for all claims to be brought in, or forever after be debarred. Those indebted to said estate, are requested to make payment. **MARSHAL KEITH, Adm'r.**
 Thompson, 18th Jan. 1788.

Lyme, Jan. 23d, 1788.
 occupations, by said Estate.
 15 or 16 years of age, as an apprentice to the above N. B. Wanted a ready, well-learned boy, about Call given for old gold, silver, brass and copper. favour him with their custom.
 the shall be able to give satisfaction to those who notice. Said Boston having served a regular apprenticeship at the above branches, flatters himself as reported in the best manner, and at the shortest thirty-hour day, and eight day time pieces. Watch-month and moon's age; eight-day-repeating dials; hours, minutes and seconds; day, of the WHERE he makes China-Clocks that carry London to East-India, In Lyme, East Society, on the road from New-

DUDLEY EMERSON, CLOCK & WATCH-MAKING & JEWELRY,

Sheet Almanacks,
 Very convenient to paste up in public offices, stores, taverns, &c.
 To be sold at the Printing Office, New-London.

To be Sold at this Office, (Price 6d.)

CONFERENCES ON BAPTISM, BETWEEN A QUERIST and an APOLOGIST.

Search the Scriptures: John 5: 39.

WHAT IS TRUTH?—This is an inquiry which, especially in religion, claims the attention of all. To those who are serious enquirers after Truth, these conferences address themselves for consideration. As the author is not known, they appear on the side of no particular denomination of Christians; but being built on the Scriptures as the foundation of truth, are recommended to the serious and unprejudiced consideration of all. **A READER.**

The above piece may also be had of Capt. Peleg Brown, Stonington; Mr. Samuel Mather, Lyme; Ebenezer Leary, Esq. and Deac. Simeon Smith, Groton; Mr. Peter Lanman, and Mr. William Leffingwell, Norwich; and by the Post Riders.

The General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, in May, 1785, having granted a Lottery to raise a Sum not exceeding Three Hundred and Seventy Pounds, for the purpose of finishing the Meeting-house at Long-Point, in Stonington, together with a sum sufficient to defray the incident Charges of said Lottery—the Managers appointed, present the following

S C H E M E :

Stonington-Point Meeting-house LOTTERY, 3332 Tickets, at Two Dollars each, 6664 Dollars; 949 of which are Prizes, viz.

1	of	500 Dollars,	500 Dollars.
1	-	200	200
1	-	100	100
8	-	50	400
18	-	20	360
918	-	4	3672
2	-	50 each, the first & (last number drawn)	100

949 For finishing the Meeting-house & Charges, 5332 1332 666; Dol.

THE Smallness of the Number of Tickets, and there being but about two Blanks to a Prize together with the Importance of the Design, induces the Managers to flatter themselves with a rapid Sale of the Tickets; and they assure the Public the Drawing shall commence as soon as possible.

Notice will be immediately given after the Drawing; and a List of the fortunate Numbers published in the Connecticut Gazette and the Prizes (if applied for) paid off in fifty Days after drawing. Prizes not called for in twelve Months after drawing, will not be paid, but considered as generously given for the laudable Purposes of the Lottery.

NATHANIEL MINOR, CHARLES PHELPS, ELIJAH PALMER, ELIHA DENTON, 2d. JELIG BROWN, WILLIAM CHE-EBROUGH, 2d.
 Stonington, Jan. 1, 1788.

SAMUEL WATERHOUSE, of New-London, informs the public, that he never will pay any debt contracted by a person known and called by the name of ANNA BUTLAR, although she claims to be his wife.
SAMUEL WATERHOUSE.
 New-London, Jan. 28, 1788.

Just published, and to be sold by the Printer thereof,
Freebeter's NEW-ENGLAND ALMANACK
 For the year of our LORD CHRIST, 1788.

Containing, besides the usual calculations, a variety of useful and entertaining matter.
LINSEED-OIL,
 To be sold by THOMAS C. GREEN.