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Connecticut Gazette, 1788-3-14

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VOL. XXV.] THE [NUMB. 1270.

CONNECTICUT GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1788.

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

BOSTON, Feb. 21.

PROCEEDINGS of CONVENTION.

(Continued from our last.)

SATURDAY, Jan. 26. A. M.

THE conversation on the Constitution by paragraph being ended,

Mr. PARSONS moved, *that this Convention do assent to and ratify this Constitution.*

Mr. NEAL rose and said, that as the Constitution at large was now under consideration, he would just remark, that the article which respected the Africans was the one which lay on his mind—and unless his objections to that were removed, it mult, how much soever he liked the other parts of the Constitution, be a sufficient reason for him to give his negative to it.

Col. JONES said, that one of his principal objections, was the omission of a religious test.

Rev. Mr. PAYSON. Mr. President,—After what has been observed relating to a religious test by gentlemen of acknowledged abilities, I did not expect it would again be mentioned, as an objection to the proposed Constitution, that such a test was not required as a qualification for office. Such were the abilities and integrity of the gentlemen who constructed the Constitution, as not to admit of the presumption that they would have betrayed so much vanity as to attempt to erect bulwarks and barriers to the throne of God. Relying on the candour of this Convention, I shall take the liberty to express my sentiments on the nature of a religious test, and shall endeavour to do it in such propositions as will meet the approbation of every mind.

The great object of religion being God supreme, and the seat of religion in man being the heart or conscience, *i. e.* the reason God has given us, employed on our moral actions, in their most important consequences, as related to the tribunal of God, hence I infer, that God alone is the God of the conscience, and consequently, attempts to erect human tribunals for the consciences of men, are impious encroachments upon the prerogatives of God.—Upon these principles had there been a religious test, as a qualification for office, it would, in my opinion, have been a great blemish to the instrument.

Gen. HEATH. Mr. President. After a long and painful investigation of the federal Constitution, by paragraphs, this hon. Convention are drawing nigh to the ultimate question. A question as momentous, as ever invited the attention of man. We are soon to decide on a system of government, digested, not for the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts only—not for the present people of the United States only;—but in addition to these, for all those States which may hereafter rise into existence within the jurisdiction of the United States—and for millions of people yet unborn.—A system of government not for a nation of slaves, but for a people as free, and as virtuous as any on earth.—Not for a conquered nation subdued to our will, but for a people who have fought, who have bled, and who have conquered; who under the smiles of Heaven, have established their independence and sovereignty, and have taken equal rank among the nations of the earth. In short, sir, it is a system of government for ourselves and for our children, for all that is near and dear to us in life, and on the decision of the question is suspended our political prosperity or infelicity, perhaps our existence as a nation. What can be more solemn? What can be more interesting? Every thing depends on our union.—I know that some have supposed that although the union should be broken, particular states may retain their importance, but this cannot be; the strongest nerved state, even the right arm, if separated from the body, must wither: If the great onion be broken, our country, as a nation perishes, and if our country so perishes, it will be as impossible to save a particular state, as to preserve one of the fingers of a mortified hand.

By one of the paragraphs of the system it is declared, that the ratification of the conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the establishment of the constitution, between the states so ratifying the same: but, sir, how happy will it be, if not only nine, but even all the states should ratify it.—It will be a happy circumstance, if only a small majority of this convention should ratify the federal system; but how much more happy if we could be unanimous.—It will be a happy circumstance if a majority of the people of this Commonwealth, should be in favour of the federal system; but how much more so, if they should be unanimous, and if there are any means whereby they may be united, every exertion should be made to effect it. I presume, sir, that there is not a single gentleman within these walls, who does not wish for a federal government—for an efficient federal government; and that this government should be possessed of every power necessary to enable it to shed on the people the benign influences of a good government. But I have observed from the first, that many gentlemen appear opposed to the system, and this I apprehend arises from their objections to some particular parts of it. Is there not a way in which their minds may be relieved from embarrassment? I think there is—and if there is, no exertions should be spared, in endeavouring to do it.

If we should ratify the Constitution, and instruct our first members to Congress, to exert their utmost endeavours to have such checks, and guards provided as appears to be necessary in some of the paragraphs of the Constitution, and communicate what we may judge proper, to our sister states, and request their concurrence, is there not the highest probability that every thing which we with may be effectually secured.—I think there is—and I cannot but flatter myself that in this way, the gentlemen of the Convention will have the difficulties under which they now labour, removed from their minds;—we shall be united: The people of this Commonwealth and of our sister States may be united. Permit me therefore, most earnestly to recommend it to the serious consideration of every gentleman in the Honourable Convention.

After Gen. *Heath* sat down, his Excellency the President rose and observed, that he was conscious of the impropriety, situated as he was, of his entering into the deliberations of the Convention—that unfortunately, through painful indisposition of body, he had been prevented from giving his attendance in his place; but from the information he had received, and from the papers, there appeared to him to be a great dissimilarity of sentiments in the Convention—To remove the objections of some gentlemen, he felt himself induced, he said, to hazard a proposition for their consideration—which, with the permission of the Convention, he would offer in the afternoon.

P. M.

When the Convention met in the afternoon,

His Excellency the PRESIDENT observed, that a motion had been made and seconded, that this Convention do assent to and ratify the Constitution which had been under consideration—and that he had in the former part of the day intimated his intention of submitting a Proposition to the consideration of the Convention. My motive, says he, arises from my earnest desire to this Convention, my fellow-citizens, and the public at large, that this Convention may adopt such a form of government, as may extend its good influences to every part of the United States, and advance the prosperity of the whole world. His situation, his Excellency, said, had not permitted him to enter into the debates of this Convention—It however, appeared to him necessary, from what had been advanced in them, to adopt the form of government proposed; but, observing a diversity of sentiment in the gentlemen of the Convention, he had frequently had conversation with them on the subject; and from this conversation, he was induced to propose to them, whether the introduction of some general amendments would not be attended with the happiest consequences: For that purpose he should, with the leave of the hon. Convention, submit to their consideration a proposition, in order to remove the doubts, and quiet the apprehensions of gentlemen; and if in any degree the object should be acquired, he should feel himself perfectly satisfied. He should therefore, submit them—for he was, he said, unable to go more largely into the subject, if his abilities would permit him, relying on the candour of the Convention to bear him witness, that his wishes for a good government were sincere. [*Here his Excellency then read his proposition.*] This, gentlemen, concluded his Excellency, is the proposition which I had to make; and I submit it to your consideration, with the sincere wish, that it may have a tendency to promote a spirit of union.

FRIDAY, February 1, 1788.

Mr. BOWDOIN [*of Dorchester*] observed, that he could not but express his hearty approbation of the propositions made by his Excellency, as they would have a tendency to relieve the fears, and quiet the apprehensions of some very respectable and worthy gentlemen, who had expressed their doubts, whether some explanation of certain clauses in the Constitution, and some additional restrictions upon Congress, similar to those proposed by Excellency, were not necessary.—But, he said, as the proposition were incorporated with the great and important question, Whether this Convention will adopt and ratify the Constitution; he conceived himself in order, and would, with the permission of the Convention, make a few general observations upon the subject; which were as follow:

It was an answer of *Solon*'s, when he was asked what kind of a Constitution he had constructed for the Athenians; that he had prepared as good a Constitution of government as the people would bear: Clearly intimating that a Constitution of government, should be relative to the habits, manners, and genius of the people, intended to be governed by it. As the particular state governments, are relative to the manners and genius of the inhabitans of each state; so ought the general government to be an assemblage of the principles of all the governments—for without this assemblage of the principles, the general government will not sufficiently apply to the genius of the people confederated; and therefore by its meeting, in its operation, with a continual opposition, through this circumstance it must necessarily fail in its execution: Because agreeably to the idea of *Solon*, the people would not bear it.

It may not, therefore, be improper to examine whether the federal Constitution proposed, has a likeness to the different state Constitutions, and such a one, as to give the spirit and features of the particular governments: For Baron Montesquieu observes, That all governments ought to be relative to their principles; and that "a confederate government ought to be composed of states of the same nature, especially of the republican kind:" And instances, that as "the spirit of monarchy is war, and enlargement of dominion; peace and moderation, the spirit of a republic; these two kinds of governments, cannot naturally subsist in a confederate republic."

From hence it follows, that all the government of the states in the union, ought to be of the same nature, of the republican kind, and that the general government ought to be an assemblage of the spirit, and principles of them all. A short comparison, pointing out the likeness of the general, to the particular Constitutions, may sufficiently elucidate the subject.

All the Constitutions of the states, consist of three branches, except as to the legislative powers, which are chiefly vested in two; the powers of government are separated in all, and mutually check each other. These are laid down as fundamental principles, in the federal Constitution. All power is derived either mediately or immediately from the people in all the Constitutions; this is the case with the federal Constitution. The electors of representatives to the state governments, are electors of representatives to the federal government: The representatives are chosen for two years, so are the representatives to the assemblies of some of the states. The equality of representation is determined in nearly all the states, by numbers, so it is in the federal Constitution.

The second branch of legislature, in some of the states, is similar to the federal senate, having not only legislative, but executive powers: Being a legislating, and at the same time, an advising body, to the executive. Such are the assistants of Rhode-Island and Connecticut, and the councils of New-Jersey and Georgia. The senators of Virginia and New-York, are chosen for four years, and so elected, that a continual rotation is established, by which one quarter of their respective senates, is annually elected; and by which, (as one of the Constitutions observes) there are more men trained to public business, and there will be always found a number of persons, acquainted with the proceedings of the foregoing years, and thereby the public business be more consistently conducted. The federal senators are to be chosen for six years; and there is a rotation so established, for the reasons above mentioned, that one third of the senate is to be chosen every two years.

The President, and Vice-President, answer to offices of the same name in some of the states; and to the office of Governour, and Lieutenant-Governour in most of the states. As this office is of the utmost importance, the manner of choosing, for the better security of the interests of the union, is to be by delegates, to be expressly chosen for the purpose, in such manner, as the different legislatures may direct: This method of chusing, was probably taken from the manner of choosing senators under the Constitution of Maryland.

The legislative powers of the President, are precisely those of the Governors of this state and of New-York; rather negative than positive powers; given with a view to secure the independence of the executive, and to preserve a uniformity in the laws, which are committed to them to execute.

The executive powers of the President, are very similar to those of the several States, except in those points, which relate more particularly to the union; and respect ambassadors, public ministers and consuls.

If the genius of the people of the States, as expressed by their different Constitutions of government—if the similarity of each, and the general spirit of all the governments, concur to point out the policy of a confederate government; by comparing the federal Constitution with those of the several states, can we expect

Mr. Hanson Sent

ten more applicable to the people, to the different states, and to the purposes of the union, than the one proposed? Unless it be contended that union was unnecessary.

"If a republic is small, says Baron Montesquieu, it is destroyed by a foreign force; if it is large, it is ruined by internal imperfection:" "*Pare Platonifie fol ou mise.*" And if mankind had not contrived a confederate republic, says the same author, "a Constitution, that has all the internal advantages of a republican, and the external force of a monarchial government," they would probably have always lived under the tyranny of a single person. Upon this principle of Baron Montesquieu's, the several States are either too small to be defended against a foreign enemy, or too large for republican constitutions of government. If we apply the first position to the different States, which reason, and the experience of the last war, point out to be true, a confederate government is necessary. But if we admit the latter position, then the several governments, being in their own nature imperfect, will be necessarily destroyed, from their being too extensive for republican governments.

From whence it follows, if the foregoing principles are true, that we ought to adopt a confederate government, forming the different States well calculated for republican governments: For if they are not, their corruption will work their destruction, and the evils they are defined for destruction, from their natural imperfection, it will certainly be more advantageous to have them in a divided situation, than separate; for in that case, we should fall under one great, national government.

But if the advantages of a confederacy, admitting the principles of it to be good, are duly considered:—That it will give security and permanence to the several States, not only against foreign invasions, but against internal disputes, and wars with one another; if the wars in Europe, arising from jarring, and repugnant interests, are a principle calamity:—If it is for the benefit of ourselves, and future generations, to prevent its horrid devastations on this continent: To secure the States against such calamities, it will be necessary to establish a general government, to adjust the disputes, and to curb the disposition of the States to war and strife. For without a confederacy, the several States, being distinct sovereignties, would be in a state of nature, which represents each state, as a single person, which is the right of the strongest, would determine the disputes that might arise. To prevent the operation of such a state, it would be necessary for the weakest States, against the strongest, to secure the rights of all, against the encroachments of any of the States; to balance the powers of all the States, by each giving up a portion of its sovereignty, and thereby better to secure the remainder of it, are amongst the main objects of a confederacy.

But the advantages of a union of the States, are not confined to mere safety from within, or from without. They extend not only to the welfare of the whole, but even to the interest of each individual of the States.

The manner in which the States have suffered for the want of a general regulation of trade, is so notorious, that little need be said upon the subject, to prove that the continent has been exhausted of its wealth, for the want of it; and if the evil, which has not yet regulating it, is not speedily remedied, by placing the necessary powers in the hands of Congress, the liberties of the people, or the independence of the States, will be irretrievably lost. The people feeling the inconvenience of systems of government, that instead of relieving, increase their perplexities, instead of regulating trade upon proper principles, instead of improving the natural advantages of our own country, and opening new sources of wealth, our lands lying waste, and regular, our trade has languished, our credit has been daily reducing, and our resources are almost annihilated. Can we expect, in such a state, that the people will long continue their allegiance to systems of government, whether arising from the weakness of their administration, or the insufficiency of their principles, which entail on them so many calamities? I presume not.—The well-being of trade depends on a proper regulation of it; on the success of trade, the general wealth; on wealth, the value of lands; the strength, the welfare and happiness of a country, upon the numbers, the ease and independence of its inhabitants. For the want of this have our taxes most oppressively fallen upon the most useful of all our citizens, our husbandmen; while trade for the want of its being confined to proper objects, has served rather to ruin, than to enrich those that have carried it on.

Shall we then let causeless jealousies arise, and disturb our council;—shall we let partial views and local prejudices, influence our decisions; or shall we with a becoming wisdom, determine to adopt the Federal Constitution proposed, and thereby confirm the liberties of the Every, and the welfare of our country.

I might go on, Sir, and point out the fatal consequences of rejecting the Constitution, but as I have already intruded too much upon the time and patience of the convention, I shall for the present, forbear any farther observations, regarding the candour of the convention, for those I have already made.

On the general question, on the propositions of his Excellency the President, after Mr. Bowdoin, the following are the observations of the

Hon. Mr. ADAMS. As your Excellency was pleased yesterday to offer for the consideration of this Convention, certain propositions intended to accompany the ratification of the Constitution before us, I did myself the honour to bring them forward by a regular motion, when many others will avoid the trouble of such as may be needless, or tend to embarrass the minds of the people of this Commonwealth and our sister States, and thereby, not only frustrate your Excellency's wise intention, but endanger the loss of that degree of reputation which, I flatter myself, this Commonwealth has justly obtained.

(To be continued.)

LONDON, December 5.

At a meeting of the States of Holland and West-Friesland upon the 15th ult. Van Berkelman, Pensionary of Holland, moved, that a transcript of the English statutes of the 18 of W. and M. c. 28, and of the 2d of W. and M. sess. 2. c. 10, whereby certain excise duties in England are appropriated for payment of 600,000. to the States for their charges for King William's expedition into England," might be read; which being read, he said, as well as it was a great and after flating, in a very able manner, the glorious revolution which had recently taken place, from the invitation of the Illustrious the Stadtholder, with peace and happiness to the distracted States, by the powerful interposition of Prussia and Great-Britain; yet nevertheless, in forcible terms the similarity of their deliverance with that of Great-Britain, at the above period, "from popery and arbitrary sway," took occasion to set forth the expenses which have been incurred by Britain in the fitting out a fleet to co-operate with the King of Prussia; and moved, that from the same principle of gratitude to the Illustrious Great-Britain, and similar reciprocity, their High Mightinesses the United States may be requested to pay to Great-Britain the sum of 600,000. f. in lieu of the great charges incurred by them on this occasion, in protecting and affiling the United States. The motion was seconded by Van Hoey, and the State of Holland refolved that they would make good their quota of the said fum.

When the combined forces of the emperor of Germany and Empress of Russia, are contrafted with those of the Sultan, every one must see that if the two former fall upon the Turks, the Turks, unless they assist by some great powers must necessarily be driven out of Europe. The Austrian army consists of nearly 300,000 men, and the Russian army of nearly 200,000. in all. That of Russia forms 350,000; but as great numbers of these are Calmakes, and other irregular troops, the Russian army is not so formidable as a regular than 200,000 regulars. The Ottoman forces of all denominations amount to 447,454 men, of whom 207,490 are infantry, 80,000 in the cavalry, 20,000 in the Janizaries, 20,000 employed in the navy, and in Constantinople, and some neighbouring cities, where their prefence is absolutely necessary to keep the populous city within bounds: so that the Turks cannot bring into the field more than 227,454; men: A force infinitely too small to cope with 500,000 of the Russian and Austrian troops.

Able generals who have been the Austrian troops, do not hesitate to say, that at the head of the 600,000 men with 100,000 of the Russian and Austrian troops, they would not be afraid to meet the whole force, regular and irregular, that the Ottoman empire can oppose.

ALEXANDRIA, Feb. 5.

Yesterday morning, between eight and nine o'clock in the evening, two daring villains, on horseback, rode up to the house of Mr. Hunter, shipwright, on the lower side of Fairfax-Street, and, having dismounted and entered a room in which Mrs. Hunter was sitting with a young child, and asked if her husband was at home; on being answered in the negative, he said it made no difference as he wanted the money, and peremptorily demanded it, when Mrs. Hunter, being much alarmed, gave a little; the villain instantly drew a dagger, threatening if the uttered another word, he would plunge it in her breast—At the same time the fellow who was mounted, called out, if she hesitates, kill the child—Luckily the maid heard her miffrefs fcream, and came in a hurry into the room, which so alarmed the villain that he mounted his horse, and they both rode off.

FREDERICKSBURG, February 14.

A gentleman just from the Illinois Country, says, that the Shawanese nation of Indians, who were settled about the Miamee river, and were the most troublesome enemy the settlers of the greatest Ohio, are now the Whites grow so numerous, that their communication with the tribes of Indians lying on the back parts of Carolina and Georgia was entirely cut off, and have removed to the southern side of the Mississippi.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20.

Extract of a letter from Kilkenny, Nov. 13.

"Monday last the inhabitants of this city were alarmed by the greatest hubbub ever remembered by the oldest inhabitant here: it began at seven in the morning, and continued until seven in the evening: all the cabins on the side of the river were carried away besides a number of mills, cows, pigs and hay:——the chief part of the city was laid under water, particularly in John-street, so it was the most dreadful sight that ever was beheld; the people were driven to the upper part of their houses, and were spectators to all their fubstance being carried away, and could not attempt to save an article. The flood came so rapidly at the rear of the houses that it swept away every thing that came before it. In Irish-town the water was 6 feet; in Green-street, Gardiner's-row, Fitzwilliam-street, Blackmill, Fiser's-bridge and Lee's-lane, there were several cabins entirely covered: the brewers-fee and tan-yards are almost destroyd: from the rear of the houses nothing was to be seen but one entire fea. All the wood that was cut in Dunmore was carried away. The mafftown was scarce a house remains standing. The college is entirely surrounded, and the bridge near the college was carried off. A young woman was buried in the ruins of a house she was endeavouring to make her escape from, and has not since been found.—The people of Dunmore were obliged to climb up the trees where they remained 48 hours in a melancholy situation, the violence of the flood being so great as to render any attempt to relieve them impracticable. Thank God none of them were loft. The damages sustained by the inhabitants must be very considerable. Thousands are now reduced to a full scripture for the poor people who have loft their all."

NEW YORK, March 4.

It appears, by the proceeding of the South-Carolina Legislature, that seven of the South States were in favor of the new constitution. As their Legislature is much the most numerous in the Union, in proportion to their number of inhabitants, the South States were in ordinary unanimity affords an undoubtable proof that we shall soon reckon South-Carolina among the members of the new federal union. Their Legislature consist of above 200 persons, for Charleston his 30 members. It may be justly said, South-Carolina is an opulent state, and yet it has more slaves than Their Convention were to meet yesterday, it being the 3d of March.

"Norfolk (New-Providence) paper of the 29th ult. has the following paragraph: *On the third inst. Capt. Tomlinson, of the Sloop Lively, bearing up from Bonthard point of Hengua for Watering-Bay, in Exuma, was hailed on the fore: he immediately hoisted out his gaul and come to the place, where he found 23 women and 13 men and boys, in a miserable condition, who informed him that they had been passenger on board the Brig Clarke, commanded by Jon Stoffed, from Dunlary in Ireland, bound for Charleston in South-Carolina, America; that after being 3 months out, and labouring been 6 weeks in their allowance, they were landed on this island, in order to procure water, and the remainder of the crew, intent to this putting them on shore, informed them that they found were Trinidadoes, on which there were strye tiones, and many fitchmonts, and that they might easily get from thence to any part of America: That on their being landed, and finding neither fitchmonts nor inhabitants, they proceeded to the sea on shore, in order to launch the boat a mistake was fired at them which killed one of their numbers. They also mentioned that 52 persons had died on the passage. The Lively arrived at Nassau on Saturday with 56 of these unfortunate people; 2 of them were landed on Long-Island.*

Extract of a letter from London, dated Dec. 29.

"At length it has been mutually agreed between this country and France, to appoint commissioners on each side, with full powers to fee that carrying off the convention, which disputes for the reciprocal redition of the assiste, he carried completely into effect.

"Mons. Bourgoinville is appointed, on the part of France, to undertake the execution of this employment in England, and Mr. Rogers, late secretary to Lord Lyttelton, goes on the same duty on the part of Great-Britain, to France: this determination on each side is one a rigid accomplishment of the terms slid spirit of the late agreement, is a strong proof that the Whites grow so numerous, that their communication with the tribes of Indians lying on the back parts of Carolina and Georgia was entirely cut off, and have removed to the southern side of the Mississippi.

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PORTSMOUTH, March 12.

On Sunday the 24th ult. the following unhappy circumstance happened in Newfoundland, a boat belonging to Captain wind claims a tear of pity:—Mrs. Thomas, of that town, went with her youngest child to see her unhappy father in Dover gaol. Mr. Thomas, the husband, being Captain Peter Drown, of New-Durham, left her remaining two children in care of the house, night coming on, they retired to rest, and shut down, till the rifling of the flames awoke them. The fire took place by means of the chimney which, as is usual in the country, was built of flour and fitch; the fatal task fire at the top, and communicated itself to the beams, which was in flames before the children were all alarmed. The child, a son, immediately jumped through a window and escaped destruction; another boy ed out of bed, and attempted to follow his brother, but was intercepted by the flames, and perished with the third others. They were heard to scream for help, but the boys being at a considerable distance from any other, none could be afforded will inclose for relief.

Two persons, father and son, belonging to Old Town, were entirely recovering from fighting the boat accidentally struck upon a rock near the shore, and after, by subtle accident they were both infinitely drowned.

Capt. Hopeley Thomas, on the 19 left this port Dec. 9. in about 2 hours after, he saw a fleet on the coast of wind, which blew him off this coast, and entirely disabled his sails and rigging. On the 24th he run ashore upon a reef of rocks off Barnstable; where he, with his crew, remained until 10 o'clock next morning when they were then taken off and safely landed at Barnstable. The sloop and cargo, part of the rigging and part of her cargo was saved. This intelligence was brought by two of the hands. Capt. Yeaton and the remainder of the crew came to Barnstable, when our informants left that place.

WEDNESDAY, March 10.

The Rev. EZRA CONANT, on the 20th ultimo, was ordained a Gospel Bishop, and received the pallium charge of the Church of Christ, in Winchester, (N.H.) "Tho' we have a sufficient number of Christians and religious society render the situation of the young Bishop peculiarly eligible, and prefage his distinguish-ed usefulness in the ministerial office."

At a Meeting of a large and respectable number of Citizens, of different Circles the Week past, they UNANIMOUSLY resolved to receive their suffrages for his Excellency JOHN HANCOCK, Esq. as Governor in the room of SAMUEL ADAMS, Esq. as Lieutenant Governor, for the ensuing year.

A gentleman of undoubted veracity, assures a correspondent, that his Excellency JOHN COLLINS, Esq. Governor of Rhode-Island, decidedly the friend of the adoption of the federal Constitution—he was therefore sure, at being in one of the late papers an attack upon him, is the composition of impudence.

Friday a Resolve passed the hon. house of representatives (but not by a very "[illegible]" vote, the majority being but [illegible]) to receive their suffrages for his Excellency JOHN HANCOCK, Esq. as Governor in the room of SAMUEL ADAMS, Esq. as Lieutenant Governor.

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Died, Mrs. SARAH GOULD, widow, aged 83.

THOMAS ALLEN's *Marine LIST.*

Thursday, March 6th. Pleasant, serene, warm morning, wind S.W.

Friday, 7th. Hazy morning, wind N.N.W.—meridian W.S.W.

Saturday, 8th. Hazy morning; wind N.N.W. Sailed, Brig Brothers, George Hallam, for Cape-Francois.

Schooner Patty, Wm. Warner, for South-Carolina.

Sunday, 9th. Hazy morning, wind N.W.b.N.

Monday, 10th. Hazy morning, wind N.N.W.—meridian, wind S.W.

Tuesday, 11th. Pleasant, serene morning, wind N.N.W.—meridian, wind N.E.

Wednesday, 12th. Pleasant, serene morning, light wind N.—meridian, wind S.W.

Arrived, Packet, Lady Wallington, Cutler, from New-York.

Chappel, ditto.

For SALE, by

TRACY & COIT,

in Norwich,

BOHEA Tea, of the first quality by the 100lbs. or more.

Pepper and Indigo by the dozen.

Dry Goods, Groceries, and Liquors, by retail at [illegible].

A small quantity of excellent Pork Hams.

A few barrels and half barrels of choice Pork.

ALL persons having open accounts with fair PRACTOR COIT are desired to make an immediate settlement. Those especially who not expired be because due at christmas, and still in [illegible] they be disbled, that a speed settlement will prevent the farm being lodged at attornies hands for collection.

Norwich, March 22, 1788.

Wanted to purchase by the Subscriber,

About twenty low priced Horses

from eight good and Help Horses of [illegible] twelve or fourteen hands of good shipping Oxen; to be paid for in Cash.

JAMES WOODHAM.

New-London Coffee-house, March 13, 1788.

WANTED,

A Man who is faithful, and capable of overseeing and working on a farm. Good encouragement will be given by the Subscriber near the Rope Ferry.

SARAH DURFEY.

New-London, March 12, 1788.

NOTICE is hereby given that the hon. Court of Probate, for the district of New-London, have allowed seven months from the date hereof for the creditors to the estate of William Douglass, late of New-London, deceased, to bring in their claims against said estate; those who neglect bring them in by said time will be debarred a recovery.

SARAH DOUGLASS, } Exrs.
SARAH DOUGLASS, }

New-London, March 10th, 1788.

BY order of the hon. Court of Probate, for the district of New-London, to be sold at Public Vendue, on Saturday the 29th inst. 2 o'clock P.M. all the estate of Anna M'Intosh, late of New-London, deceased, at the house dwelling-house of said deceased, in New-London.

JOSHUA COIT, Adm'r.

New-London, March 12, 1788.

The following is a copy of a law, that was passed by the Legislature of Virginia, January 7, 1788.

WHEREAS several evil disposed persons have of late endeavoured to persuade the children of black and mulatto free persons, and have actually disposed of the persons so deluded, or bolen, as slaves, and punishment adequate to such crime, not being by law provided for such offenders: Be it enacted, that any person who shall be aiding or assisting in the fact, or shall be guilty of stealing or selling any free person of a black, having the last person sold to the person, or persons, that shall be guilty of the fact, shall be liable to convicted shall suffer death without the benefit of clergy.

The fecret of being always easy.—*As Indian Bishop struggled through great difficulties without repining, and his mind made no opposition to the discharge of his Episcopal function, so, upon the same principle, he bore the reproaches, the intimate friend of his, who highly admired those virtues which he thought is impossible to imitate, one day asked the Indian, in the presence of many others, how he came by that easy way Enjoy—Yes, replied the old man, I can teach you the secret easily in nothing more than in making a right use of my time. Upon this principle I have spent my Episcopal midnight, reserved the Episcopal in what ever time I am, I feel of all but up to heaven, and remember that my present life is a state of trial, and that I shall be rewarded upon the earth, and fall is which been small a space I shall stoop to be what I come to be interred—I time not abroad in the world, and objects which most delight me, which are in all respects more unhappy than myself—Thus I I learn cheerfully true happiness is placed—where all our cares are placed, and that was this knowledge I have to respire or to complain.*

Died, Mrs. SARAH GOULD, widow, aged 83.

BOSTON, Feb. 28.

Yesterday agreeably to Prolamation, the hon. general court of this commonwealth, convened at the state-house, in this town—and a quorum of both Branches being assembled, a joint committee was appointed to wait on his excellency the Governor, to inform him, that they were ready to receive communications, &c.—Accordingly, at 5 o'clock, his Excellency met both Branches, convened in the Representatives' Chamber, and delivered the following

SPEECH:

Gentlemen of the Senate, and
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

THE Letters which I have received in the recess, the Secretary will lay before you, they are not of such importance, as to claim any particular notice from me at this time.

The adjournment of the General Court, for the space of one week, became necessary, in order to give the members who were also members of the late convention, an opportunity of returning home before the meeting of the legislature. I could have wished that the Proclamation of adjournment had been of an earlier date, but the Session of the Convention, by the importance of the business before that body, was protracted beyond what was expected. I flatter myself that this will be satisfactory, as well to those of you gentlemen, who having not heard of the adjournment, have been some days waiting in town, as to those who may be apprehensive that the business of the present Session will demand a longer time than can be conveniently afforded at this season of the year.

I have nothing of more importance at this time, to recommend to your deliberation, than the lands of the Commonwealth. It is scarcely necessary to remark that this state, from its particular situation, as well as from the noble ardor of its citizens in defence of their liberties and independence, hath accumulated a very heavy debt; the interest of which arises to ninety thousand pounds annually; this consideration alone, gentlemen should induce us by every possible exertion consistent with the peace of the Commonwealth, to diminish the principal. In order to this, the great quantities of unappropriated territory both in the eastern part of the government, as well as the immense tract lately ceded to us by the State of New-York, afford ample resources, if wisely and expeditiously improved by that spirit of unanimity and discernment which I flatter myself will always distinguish your conduct when the interest of the people is so deeply and essentially engaged in the result of your deliberations.

I am sorry that my duty urges me to mention to you the necessity of a small tax, but the Treasury is so far exhausted, that the business of the government must cease its progress unless a tax is granted.

Since the last session, Luke Day, one of those persons for whose arrest a bounty was offered in consequence of an act of the legislature, has been taken by some of the citizens of New Hampshire, to whom one hundred pounds has been paid, upon their delivering him into the custody of the sheriff of the county of Suffolk. Could the late unhappy commotions be thrown into oblivion, consistently with the honor of government, and the safety of the people, I persuade myself, it would give satisfaction.

In the beginning of your last session, I laid before you the Constitution and Frame of Government for the United States of America, agreed upon by the late General Convention, and transmitted to me by Congress. As the system was to be submitted to the people, and to be decided upon by their Delegates in Convention, I forbore to make any remarks upon it.—The Convention which you appointed to deliberate upon that important subject, have concluded their session, after having adopted and ratified the proposed plan, according to their resolution, a copy whereof, I have directed the Secretary to-lay before you.

The obvious imbecility of the Confederation of the United States, has too long given pain to our friends, and pleasure to our enemies; but the forming a new system of Government, for so numerous a people, of very different views, and habits, spread upon such a vast extent of Territory, containing such a great variety of soils, and under such extremes of climate, was a task, which nothing less than the dreadful apprehension of losing our national existence, could have compelled the people to undertake.

We can be known to the world, only under the appellation of the United States; if we are robbed of the idea of our union, we immediately become separate nations, independent of each other, and no less liable to the depredations of foreign powers, than to wars and bloody contentions amongst ourselves. To pretend to exist as a nation without possessing those powers of coerce, which are necessarily incident to the national character, would prove a fatal solecism in politicks.—The objects of the proposed Constitution, are defence against external enemies, and the promotion of tranquility and happiness amongst the States. Whether it is well calculated for those important purposes, has been the subject of extensive and learned discussion in the Convention which you appointed. I believe there was never a body of men assembled, with greater purity of intention, or with higher zeal for the public interest. And although when the momentous Question was decided, there was a greater division than some expected, yet there appeared a candour, and a spirit of Conciliation in the minority, which did them great honour, and afforded an happy presage of unanimity amongst the people at large. Tho' so many of the members of the late Convention could not feel themselves convinced that they ought to vote for the ratification of this System, yet their opposition was conducted with a candid and manly firmness, and with such marks of integrity and real regard to the public interest, as did them the highest honor, and leaves no reason to suppose that the peace, and good order of the government is not their object.

The amendments proposed by the Convention, are intended to obtain a constitutional security of the principles to which they refer themselves, and must meet the wishes of all the states. I feel myself assured, that they will very early become a part of the Constitution, and when they shall be added to the proposed plan, I shall consider it the most perfect system of government, as to the objects it embraces, that has been known amongst mankind.

Gentlemen,

As that BEING, in whose hands is the government of all the nations of the earth, and who putteth down one, and raiseth up another according to His Sovereign Pleasure, has given to the People of these States, a rich and an extensive Country, has in a marvellous manner given them a standing among the nations of the World—has blessed them with external Peace, and internal Tranquility;—I hope and pray, that the gratitude of their Hearts may be expressed by a proper use of those inestimable blessings,—by the greatest exertions of Patriotism,—by forming and supporting Institutions for cultivating the human understanding, and for the greatest Progress of the Arts and Sciences—by establishing Laws for the support of Piety, Religion and Morality, as well as for punishing Vice and Wickedness,—and by exhibiting on the great Theatre of the World, those social, public and private Virtues, which give more dignity to a people, possessing their own Sovereignty than Crowns and Diadems afford to Sovereign Princes.

Every matter of a public Nature, which may occur worthy of your notice, shall be communicated by Message, and in every concern tending to promote the public welfare, I shall be happy to concur with you, and be ready at all times to give every possible dispatch to the business that may come before you.

JOHN HANCOCK.

Council Chamber, Feb. 27, 1788.

The following copy of an original letter from queen Elizabeth, to Heaton, Bishop of Ely, is taken from the Register of Ely.

Proud Pre'ate,

I Understand you are backward in complying with your agreement; but I would have you to know, that I who made you what you are, can unmake you; and if you do not forthwith fulfil your engagement, by ———, I will immediately unfrock you.

Your's as you demean yourself,

ELIZABETH.

Heaton, it seems, had promised the queen to exchange some part of the land belonging to the See for an equivalent, and did so, but it was in consequence of the above letter.

CASH

Given for good clean dressed

FLAX,

By JAMES TILLEY.

New-London, March 5th, 1788.

CASH given for

Old SILVER and GOLD,

By EZRA DODGE,

Clock and Watch-maker.

N. B. Wanted, a steady, well minded Boy, about 14 or 15 years of age, as an apprentice to the above occupation.

New-London, March 6, 1788.

TO BE LET,

And possession given the 25th of March instant,

A convenient new

Dwelling-House,

Two stories high, four rooms on a floor, with a good garret, and a cellar under the whole, compleatly finished; also a good garden, &c. pleasantly situated on the main-street, near the head of the mill-cove in this city. For terms, apply to

WILLIAM WINTHROP.

New-London, March 5, 1788.

THE hon. Court of Probate, for the district so East-Haddam, have allowed seven months from this date, for the creditors to the estate of BARNABAS PEAS, late of Hebron, in Tolland county, deceased, to bring in their claims against said estate; those who neglect to bring them in by said time, will be debarred a recovery.

ELIHU MARVIN, Adm'r.

Hebron, Feb. 20, 1788.

TO BE LET,

And possession given the first of April next,

A Farm lying at Goshen in the Great-Neck, New-London. The Land is of the first quality for grass, &c. and the situation very pleasant. For further particulars, enquire of

ELIZABETH HURLBUT.

New-London, March 5, 1788.

To be SOLD or LET,

The Rope-Ferry in New-London,

with House and Land adjoining, and possession immediately given. Enquire of

THOMAS DURFEY.

Wanted, as an apprentice to the

Blacksmiths' business, an active Lad, about 14 or 15 years old. Enquire of

JOHN GORDON.

New-London, March 5, 1788.

A fast-sailing SLOOP,

Burthen about twenty Tons, and well found, to be sold on very reasonable Terms.——Inquire of Joseph Skinner, in New-London.

For CHARLESTON,

The Schooner HARMONY,

HUMPHRY CRARY, master.

LYING at Stonington-Point; to sail by the tenth of March. For freight or passage, apply to the master on board, or to GARDINER CARPENTER, at Norwich.

DRUGS & MEDICINES,

Imported directly from LONDON,

To be sold by Wholesale and Retail,

At as low prices as can be purchased at any drug gist's store in this State, by

NATHANIEL MANN, and Co.

N. B. Cash, Pot and Pearl-Ash, Wheat, Rye and Indian Corn, will be taken in payment.

Hebron, Feb. 26, 1788.

Fifty quintals FISH,

to be sold at the lowest rate for Cash, Pork or Corn, at Tilley and Miller's wharf.

New-London, Feb. 26, 1788.

Cash given for all kinds of

Shipping FURRS,

By EBENEZER BACKUS,

of Windham.

73) Dec. 25, 1787.

CASH given for Hatters' and

Shipping FURRS, by JOSEPH EMERSON.

New-London.

NOTICE is hereby given, that all persons who have any demands on the estate of DORCUS SPAFFORD, deceased, late of Wilksbarre, of the state of Pennsylvania, are requested to exhibit their claims before me the subscriber, at or before the first day of June next. And all who are indebted to said estate will make immediate payment, and save themselves expenses. Constant attendance will be given at the subscriber's house in Wilksbarre.

ELISHA BLACKMAN, Adm'r.

Wilksbarre, Jan. 17, 1788.

For sale on the premises on the following days of May next,

SO much of the real estate of the following persons, for Lawrence's certificates or soldier notes out before 1785, orders on civil list, and hard money, as will pay their state and town taxes due to us the subscribers, with costs of sale, viz. Thomas Bowhea, deceased, Thomas Hancock, Peter Darrow, deceased, Peter B. Harris; Hervy Perou and John Hertell, non-residents, William Rogers, (Hogneck) non-resident, on the 2d day; Daniel Chapman and Capt. William Prince, non-residents, on the 3d; Stephen Allen, on the 5th; Charles Read and James Douglass, on the 6th, and James Nobles on the 7th, by us,

SAMUEL BRADFORD, } Collectors.
JOSHUA RAYMOND, jun. }

AMASA LEARNED, Administrator to the estate of Nathaniel Coit, jun. collector, deceased.

New-London, Feb. 26, 1788.

LINSEED-OIL,

To be sold by THOMAS C. GREEN.