

sition, opposition and anarchy. That was wise counsel given by a politic prince, "Meddle not with them who are given to change."

The administration of government is a matter different from the form of it. We are of opinion, that however our civil rulers have in general discharged their trust with good judgment and integrity, yet as human affairs are imperfect, so several alterations for the better may take place in the public administration: For effecting such reasonable alterations, the constitution has made ample provision, in the annual election of the legislature, and the supreme executive. With these, we are lodged adequate power to remedy our political evils as far as the condition of humanity will admit. To them therefore you will apply for redress whenever you shall judge necessary. And with you it lies to lecture rectifs in a decent and peaceable manner. It is your peculiar privilege, that the universal parent, has placed you under a government in which you can obtain from your rulers every civil security which they are able to bestow. We therefore pray ye, in all times of apprehended danger, to pursue measures constitutional and peaceable as you would obtain your end and deserve the reputation of a virtuous and enlightened people. Every ineffectual application for redress is an insult upon your own dignity: every effort of violence to carry a point is a stroke at the foundation of your liberties: it is to fall upon your own sword and pierce your own vitals. Such violences will render you the sport of insolent wits under royal tyrannies and expose yourselves and children to the artful encroachments of arbitrary power. The period of suspicion, tumult and anarchy, is the season for forging chains for a free people. Reflect, we pray you, that you cannot be more free than you are and exist in a state of civil society: you may be enslaved. There are enemies enough who are labouring your thrall, and are laying snare for your feet, which prevent negligence and a low-born jealousy may make it hard for you to escape in future. From whence do the present complaints against government arise? Are there not men from the beginning have ridiculed your struggles against a foreign yoke; have told you that you would never support your claims nor enjoy your independence: that you would crumble to pieces by bickerings and contentions among yourselves? And would not some of them with rather to see you dislodged and miserable than lose their regulation in prophecy? Consider we beseech you, what whatever is wrong in government is in your power to redress; and whatever is right ought not to be altered although a heavy burden attend it. Great are the complaints of taxes lying upon the people, and heavy doubts they are: But when the late war began, did you expect to surmount it without heavy taxes? This was not your language. And now to elude those taxes is not very honest. Choose men to tax you, who will tax both themselves and you with humanity, and equity; pay those taxes with alacrity; and your load will grow lighter every year.

One tax lies heavy upon us, which it is not in the power of the legislature to alleviate without our hearty co-operation: the tax we pay to our tables, our cups and our diets. This tax has doubled within these twenty years. This in our opinion is the source of the present uneasiness and groaning among the people: they have spent away their money and have spent more than they have earned. If we would be free and prosperous, while we cheerfully pay public taxes, we must withhold this unnecessary and oppressive tax levied upon us by our appetites and tyrannical habits. Such amendments would ease our sufferings, and complaints effectually. He who is partial in paying debts and earns more than he spends, is in the road to wealth and promotion. These are the offspring of industry and frugality. Without these cardinal political virtues, we may impede the course of justice and refuse the payment of taxes, and still remain a poor, reliefs and contemptible people. We entreat you, brethren, to enter with vigour upon measures to cure these radical evils of luxury and prodigality, of living beyond our income. Let us all begin at home and make honesty, diligence and economy our political engines for the redress of grievances. Let those individuals and towns who have been remiss in paying their debts and taxes, and hence groan under a double load, take pattern by others as indigent as themselves who have strenuously surmounted their difficulties. It is supine cowardice, only which can make us shrink from our necessary burdens: Let us put our shoulders to the wheel and the wagon is out of the mire. When we manage the affairs of government, our duty and happiness demand that we choose good men to rule us, who fear God and hate covetousness: men who are not in debt and under temptation to fraudulent measures; men of liberal and enlarged minds; of benevolent hearts; who will be firm and unwavering in the storms which attack the

state; and who will be our examples in political and moral virtue. Request your rulers to tax with discretion and equity; neither exceeding nor falling below our abilities to make payment: secure them to tax the luxuries and superfluities of life and the manufactures of other countries, and encourage in this country our own manufactures and agriculture. Men who will thus go before us in the duties of self-denial, industry and parsimony alone, deserve your suffrages and have a just claim to your confidence and support —

Besides, if we fail fully pursue such measures and keep our station as subjects, we may confidently hope to prosper. Who he has succeeded in our very conflicts, and made us free from the hand of usurpation, will continue to smile upon us in the preservation of our dear bought liberties, and we shall be exalted very high, and we shall be the head-and-not-the-tail. But if we are broken among ourselves, and violate the duties of righteousness and obedience to magistrates, we will bring us very low and make our plagues wretched.

By decree of Convention,
AN OLD REPUBLICAN, Chairman.

For the HAMPSHIRE-GAZETTE.

Mr. PRINTER,
Please to give the following a place in your next,
and you will oblige a customer.

Friends and Fellow Citizens,

I am a man that gets my living by hard labour, not by a pension nor by monopolizing, and I think that husbandry is as honest a calling as any in the world, the last temptation for fraud and lying — and I believe this country would flourish much faster if there was less white shirts and more black frocks. I have lived in the world almost to the meridian of life, but found by experience that I have not lived as I ought to have done.

The greatest study amongst mankind is

for one to get the advantage of the other, sometimes by fraud, avarice and lying, and very often because they have law their side and not just; but to say anything against law I think will displease the Old Republican next to splitting his face; for by his writing, our constitutions almost faded and our law next to per-

fection. But I heard a man say the other day, he had paid eighteen or twenty dollars to the sheriff for the cost of executions from the State treasury as a collector, which there was no law that he could demand it of individuals in his race-bills; by his warrant the sum about is for

each man, and should he commence an action at the court of common pleas, likely there would

be an appeal; and that would be turning up jack, to give an attorney thirteen dollars for the chance of getting one thlind. And if A should bring

an action against B for four or five pounds, when he did not owe him's farthing, the cheapest and easiest way for the defendant to be freed from his unjust demands, would be to pay the debt and take a receipt for his money. This the Republi-

cans call a just and righteous law. But I think he says the practice of the attorneys at law he would

be glad to alter, but how shall it be done, for he says county conventions are unconstitutional, and if we intrust our representatives it

is uncertain they will act according to their in- structions; but if it pales the house it will be negatived by the senate, and I think their practice would have been altered before now if it had not been for that branch of the legislature. But

perhaps you will say the senators must be in- fluenced, by who, when there is in this County about fifteen towns to one senator. You seem to think that the senate is the great support of this common wealth; but I can't join with you; and to have any thing regulated by conventions, for they are nothing but scandalous men, persons of no principles and almost ranked with the infernal crew. But I flatter myself I had a high esteem for some of the same proceedings in 1774, and it appears to me we are running into the same channel we took up arms against them, witness the Governor, Lieut. Governor, and former other officers of government, their salaries in the year 1774 was highly condemned even in our neighbouring pulpit, which is now in print; and how the same, or I may say a greater exorbitancy which is justified now that was condemned then, I can not see into) and we freed ourselves from it with spending so much treasure and blood, which I think is heaven daring and God provoking conduct.

And I think myself that mobbing should be the last step that is taken, and we have heard

that in England mobbing has answered a good purpose, in particular the former stamp act, they arope and the act was repealed. And perhaps their rulers was out of the way as well as ours at the present day. And it appears to me that there must be something done, and I flatter myself there will be this session, and am sorry it has not been done before, when they saw the fire was kindling and storm arising that they have not flung water in season; but the Old Republi-

cans thinks perhaps you have been throwing

water ever since the convention at Harfield, re- try true, but you have flung it on live instead of throwing it on the fire, and I think your conduct has been below the character of a gentleman, and let every man stick close to his calling. And I flatter myself there is 19-20th of this month that think conventions are constitutional. And I do not think there would have been so much mobbing if you had not wrote as you have done, and while you have been writing I judge your time would have been spent better if you had been on your knees crying to your maker for the removal of those judgments we are visited with. If you are determined to write more, I would advise you as a peace-maker to write to the chairman of the convention, that he would call the delegates together as soon as may be, that they would appoint a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer to almighty God throughout the country — that he would keep off deluded judgments, and that he would bring order out of confusion; this would be something like civilian conduct. And I would advise the people at large individually to alter their mode of living, in dress, spirits liquor and tea; don't let us lay out our money for superstitions that is neither eat, drink nor cloathing: let us oblige the merchants to shut up their shops and get their living by following the plough — and let every one ask himself this question, What have I done? And I hope the salaries of the officers of government and the fee-table will be altered, and they not have (at least some of them) five or six double adequate to their service, for I am unwilling to retract to Great Britain as yet; let us exert ourselves one year more, and I trust myself we shall be a happy people, and so conclude with a wish to be

PEACE-MAKER.

The SPIRIT of the TIMES.
Addressing the People of Massachusetts.

Part II.

METHINKS I hear some say with the spirit of the times a cold tell us as faithfully what was the aims of the people at their late sitting, as he has told us in the mouths which brought them together:

As I was with them and founded their hearts, I know as well as they do themselves — and truly their aims were various. I will briefly mention the principal of them; that you may avail yourselves of whatever wisdom there was in them, or correct whatever is amiss. Some honest minded men among them only aimed to have some things rectified which they thought were amiss;

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Mr. PRINTER, 33 Inserting the following in your paper, will oblige A. M. S.

SINCE the sensations have risen in this town, I have been deeply moved with the folly and inconsistency of mankind, and more and more appear every day.

The most remarkable for the vicious inclination of mankind in daily scenes, must be convinced that example, without any original bad, could never produce such a crop: but it is also supposed that we are grown to it all, that we only differ what was before in nature now shows.

For a kingdom, commonwealth or House divided against itself can stand; but inevitably ruined and liable to dissolution and ruin.

If you are wise these few hints of advice will be sufficient: if ye are otherwise, the first consul will not be heard, though from your first friend.

The SPIRIT of the TIMES.

To the Inhabitants of the County of Hampshire.

I HAVE been informed that seven towns in the Eastern part of this county have lately by their Delegates, met in convention at Pelham, and that application from Caleb Wells their standing Chairman, has been made to Col. Pomroy, to again convene the county, and that Letters are now circulating calling upon the several towns in this county to elect delegates to meet in convention at Hadley upon the first Tuesday of November instant.

It is to be observed that we are not so much as to reflect that we have a right to nominate the laws we have made; which good laws in the same way only that we made them, but as the place of men, and, wondering that our servants should chuse positions which they are under the most fatal obligation to perform, for an instant, and consider angles because they differ; an honest disposed man is in danger to do what we should hope for, if they did not attend to much as to reflect that

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been stopped. She has neither eat, drank, nor slept, for these five months past. Yet she appears in good health and spirits, is of a fresh and clear complexion, and walks merrily every day. Surely this is a living phenomenon to puzzle the tribe of doctors!

N. E. W. H. A. VEN., October 12.

The peace or rather a truce concluded between the Spaniards and Algerines, is probably the motive of that state picking a quarrel with Russia, as they cannot submit without being at war with some power or other, and what prizes they take from the Italian states and the Americans, might far exceed their violence. Indeed, it is surprising that the great potentates of Europe will not at last open their eyes and not suffer themselves to be infatuated and preyed upon in their turns by such a rascally banditti.

NORTHAMPTON, October 23.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, of New-York, respecting a late request of Congress, in a letter to his Excellency the President, says, "I have not the power to convene the legislature before the time fixed by law for their stated meeting, except on extraordinary occasions; and as the present situation is not of that description, I propose to call an extraordinary session of the Continental Congress proposed for their consideration the various complaints subsisting in the colonies, and investigating the sources of the late tumults, and so far as it is within their power, and consistent with the general good, providing a remedy." Shall this country be at the expense of convening, whenever the rebels and ambitious factions of the Little Mass. in the East (in concurrence with a few others) shall prompt them to revolt?

It is evident that this application is an expression of war against the peace and constitutional rights of the good people of this County. If the ticklers for a county convention at the present time, were largest men, and wil