

NORTHAMPTON: PRINTED BY WILLIAM BUTLER, A FEW RODS EAST OF THE COURT-HOUSE.

(Continued from page second.) And here it is scarce possible to pass without some animadversions, that fill *born of iniquity*, the act which empowers the creditor, at his discretion, to confine the debtor in goal, after he hath been admitted to the oath of insolvency, commonly called the poor man's oath. The only reason assigned for which is, that the friends of the debtor being moved with sympathy and compassion for the sufferings of their friend, may be thereby compelled to procure his liberation by paying the debt. But what monstrous enormity doth this carry in the very front of it? In point of principle, what is better than the more expeditious and laconic mode of presenting a pistol to my breast, to oblige me to pay a sum of money which I am under not the least obligation to pay? If I am bound in justice to pay my friends debts, why are they not demanded in a legal process? If I am not, why is such a barbarous method taken, to extort from me what justice does not require? This act appears to be big with a complication of iniquity, as it subjects the debtor to very unjust confinement and deprivation of liberty; deprives himself and family, if he hath any, of the means of livelihood and subsistence, and the commonwealth of a member, and perhaps a very useful member of society; and as the object of the act is to extort money from persons from whom it is not due, and to satisfy the whole demand for justification upon a principle which would equally justify the infliction of any other pains or penalties, which the creditor should judge necessary to answer his purpose were torture not excepted, if simple imprisonment should prove insufficient to effect it.

If any should, from the preceding observations infer that the writer is disaffected to our excellent constitution and the administration of government, he would draw a very false and injurious conclusion; for he avers upon the word of an honest man, that he is and always has been, a firm and strenuous advocate for civil order, and the regular and equal administration of law and justice: and no man detests mobs and insurrections more than he. But he freely acknowledges that he is an enemy to oppression, in whatever shape or form it appears; and that he is not ashamed to plead the cause of the poor and needy, or the weaker and more defenceless part of the community, who are so wretched as to be involved in debt, in this time of unparalleled scarcity of money. In which description, he doubts not many of the most worthy characters in the country, and the most respectable and honest citizens, are included. As these are the men, who in such a state of war, confusion and anarchy, from which this country hath lately emerged, in which the most flagrant injustice might be practised under the patronage of authority, and iniquity facilitated by law, who would be most exposed to suffer from the machinations of designing men. Their honesty and integrity would naturally render them incredulous and unsuspecting of fraud and dishonesty in others.

state, in opposition to the combined testimony of all their senses! How ridiculous a part would he act, who should undertake to persuade a man, racked with a fit of the gout, or tormented with an execrating corroding cancer, that he was in a very easy and happy condition? and to entertain him with harangues upon the expediency of his present situation? Equally absurd and ridiculous is to attempt to persuade those who have been plundered, or defrauded of their property under the sanction or remittance of law, and who hold the funds remaineth, and consequently their liberty, at the will of an insatiable dominating creditor, who has accumulated a fortune by the same means by which they have been deprived of theirs; that they are in a free and happy condition, and that the evils of which they complain were merely chimerical, and the effects of a deluded imagination!

The only justifiable end of civil punishment, is the health, and security of the state. Wherever therefore the punishments inflicted, exceed in severity, the degree requisite for the accomplishment, or attainment of this end they become oppressive; and consequently tend to increase the evil, which they were designed to remove; and prevent. The main body of the malecontents appear at present to be returning to their senses; and to be convinced of their error, and the folly and impolicy of their late violent, and unjustifiable measures, whereby it is manifest that the punishments already inflicted are sufficient. If therefore moderate, lenient, and conciliatory measures, should now be uniformly adopted, and pursued, we may reasonably hope, that the consequences would be happy, and prove the lengthening out of our tranquility. The probable effects of the opposite alternative are much to be deprecated, by every well-wisher to the constitution.

Flax-Seed,
TAKEN by SETH & DANIEL WRIGHT, at their store in Northampton, for which the highest price will be given in ready pay, one half in Cash, the other in English or West-India Goods.—They also continue to pay the above mentioned Goods for BUTLER, August 29, 1787.

WHEREAS John Chester Williams, Esq. of Hadley, some time since, assigned and made over to Messrs. Eleazer Miller, Jun. John Brown, and Daniel Phoenix, of New York, Merchants, all his bonds, notes of hand, and book debts, and the same, and the same, and the subscribers for settlements.—All persons indebted to the said Williams, by bonds, notes of hand or book, are desired forthwith to renew their obligations, and settle their accounts, or they will be immediately lodged with an Attorney to be sued.

BENJ. PRESCOTT, Attorney to the said SAM'L DEXTER, Miller, Brown and Phoenix, Northampton, August 1, 1787.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Samuel Goodman, late of South-Hadley, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the subscriber.—And all persons having claims on said estate, are desired to exhibit them for adjustment: we hereby give notice, that we shall attend said business at the house of widow Hulda Goodman, in said South-Hadley, on the first Mondays of October, November, and December next.

J. H. LEE WOODBRIDGE, Administrator. **HULDAH GOODMAN**, Administratrix. South-Hadley, Sept. 7, 1787.

Breck, Shepard and Clarke,
INFORM their customers and others, that they have now on hand, at their Store, east of the Court-house in Northampton, a general assortment of **G O O D S**, which they are determined to sell on the most reasonable terms, for Cash or most kinds of Country Produce. They want a quantity of **FLAX-SEED** and **BUTTER**—for the first of which articles, they will pay part in Cash and part in Goods at each price.

N. B. They have a number of **RUM-CASKS** to sell exceeding cheap. Sept. 9th, 1787.

Eleazer & Wm. Porter,
HAVE removed to the opposite side of the Street—where they have for sale their usual assortment of English and West-India **G O O D S**. A general Assortment of **Drugs and Medicines.** **ALSO** Bar-Iron—Iron in bolts—Hollow Ware—Nails—Glass, and Cotton Wool. They would likewise inform their customers & the public, that they have just received a large assortment of Glass and Crockery **WARE**, which, they are persuaded, they can afford as cheap as can be purchased in the country. Wheat, rye, Indian corn, Peas, Beans, Oats, flax-seed, and butter, will be received in payment for any of the above articles. Hadley, September 12, 1787.

Call, Writing-Paper, &c. given for clean Lines and Cotton RAGS, at the Printing Office in Northampton.

NEW-YORK, Sept. 21
IN CONVENTION, Sept. 17, 1787.

WE have now the honour to submit to the consideration of the United States in Congress assembled, that Constitution which has appeared to us the most advisable. The friends of our country have long seen and desired, that the power of making war, peace, treaties, that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correspondent Executive and Judicial authorities, should be fully and effectually vested in the general Government of the Union: but the impropriety of delegating such extensive trust to one body of men is evident.—Hence results the necessity of a different organization.

It is obviously impracticable, in the Federal Government of these States, to secure all rights of Independent Sovereignty to each, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all individuals entering into society, much give up a share of liberty to preserve the rest. The magnitude of the sacrifice must depend as well on situation & circumstance, as on the object to be obtained. It is as all times difficult to draw with precision the line between those rights, which must be surrendered, and those which may be retained; and on the present occasion, this difficulty was increased by a difference among the several States, as to their situation, extent, habits, and particular interests.

In all our deliberations on this subject, we kept steadily in our view, that which appears to us the greatest interest of every true American—the consolidation of our union, in which is involved our posterity, felicity, safety, perhaps our national existence. This important consideration, seriously and deeply impressed on our minds, led each State in the Convention to be less than a Federalist, more than a Partisan, might have been otherwise expected; and thus the Constitution, which we now present, is the result of a spirit of amity, and of that mutual deference and concession, which the peculiarity of our political situation rendered indispensable.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every State, is not perhaps to be expected; but each will doubtless consider, that his interests have been alone consulted, the consequences might have been particularly disagreeable or injurious to others; that it is liable to a few exceptions as could reasonably have been expected, we hope and believe; that it might promote the lasting welfare of that country to dear to us all, and secure her freedom and happiness, our most ardent wish.

With great respect,
We have the honour to be,
SIR, your Excellency's most obedient and humble Servants,
GEORGE WASHINGTON, President.
By unanimous order of the Convention,
His Excellency the President of Congress.

WE the PEOPLE of the UNITED STATES, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.
SECTION 1. ALL legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

SECTION 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States, and the electors, in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors, and of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

No person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which he is chosen. Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included in the Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to serve for a term of years,

& excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct.—The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every 30,000, but each State shall have at least one Representative.—And until such Enumeration shall be made, the State of New-Hampshire shall be entitled to three, Massachusetts 8, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations 2, Connecticut 5, New York 6, New Jersey 4, Pennsylvania 8, Delaware 3, Maryland 6, Virginia 10, North-Carolina 5, South-Carolina 5, and Georgia 3.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any State, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies. The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other officers; and they shall have the sole power of impeachment.

SECTION 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of 2 Senators from each State, chosen by the legislature thereof, for 6 years; and each Senator shall have one vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into 3 classes; the seats of the Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, and the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one third shall be chosen every second year: and if vacancies shall happen by resignation, or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any State, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the age of 30 years, and been 9 years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice-President of the United States, shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided. The Senate shall chuse their own officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice-President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose they shall be on oath or affirmation.—When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and to disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honour, trust or profit under the United States: but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subjected to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law.

SECTION 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday of December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

SECTION 5. Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each House may provide. Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings; punish its members for disorderly behaviour; and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member. Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal. Neither House, during the session of Congress,

shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

SECTION 6. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony and breach of peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office.

SECTION 7. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, before it become a law, shall be presented to the President of the United States. If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections, to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it: If after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, in which it shall be likewise reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that House, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each House respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

SECTION 8. The Congress shall have power to lay and to collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and to provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises, shall be uniform throughout the United States.

To borrow money on the credit of the United States.

To regulate commerce, with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes.

To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States.

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures.

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States.

To establish post offices and post roads.

To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.

To constitute tribunals inferior to the supreme court.

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offences against the law of nations.