The BEGGAR.

PITY the sorrows of a poor old man,
Whose trembling limbs have brought him to your door;
Whose days are dwindled to the shortest span,
O! give relief, and Heav'n will bless your store.

These tatter'd rags my poverty bespeak,
These hoary locks proclaim my length of years,
And many a furrow in my grief-worn cheek
Has been the channel to a stream of tears.

Yon house erected on a rising ground,
With tempting aspect drew me from the road,
For plenty there a residence has found,
And grandeur there a magnificent abode.

Hard is the fate of the infirm and poor!
There, begging for a morsel of their bread,
A pampe'd menial thrust me from the door,
To seek a shelter in a humble shed.

Oh! take me to your hospitable dome;
Keen blows the wind, and piercing is the cold;
Short is my passage to the friendly tomb,
For I am poor and miserable old.

Heav'n sends misfortunes—why should we repine?
Here happiness we ne'er were born to see,
Too soon, alas! your lot may be like mine,
The child of sorrow and of misery.

Was I to tell the source of every grief,
If soft compassion ever touch'd your breast,
Your hand could not withhold the kind relief,
And tears of pity could not be repress'd.

A little farm was my paternal lot,
Then, like the lark I sprightly hail'd the morn!
But ah! oppression drove me from my cot,
My cattle dy'd, and blighted was my corn.

My daughter, once the comfort of my age,
Lur'd by a villain left her native home,
Is now abandon'd on the world's wide stage,
And doom'd in scanty poverty to roam.

My tender wife, sweet soother of my care,
Struck with sad anguish at the stern decree,
Fell, ling'ring, fell a victim to despair,
And left the world and wretchedness to me.

Pity the sorrows of a poor old man,
Whose trembling limbs have led him to your door,
Whose days are dwindled to the shortest span,
Oh! give relief, and Heav'n will bless your store.

TRUE RESIGNATION.

Aequam memento rebus in arduis
Servare mentem. HORAT.

WHEN Colin's good dame, who long held him a true,
And defeated his hopes by the help of the jug,
Had taken too *freely* the chearsuping cup,
And *repeated* the dose till it laid her quite up;
Colin sent for the Doctor: With sorrowful face
He gave him his fee, and he told him her case.
Quoth Galen, I'll do what I can for your wife;
But indeed she's so bad, that I fear for her life.
In counsel there is safety—e'en send for another,
For if she should die folks will make a strange pother,
And say that I lost her for want of good skill,
Or of better advice—or, in short, what they will.
Says Colin, your judgment there's none can dispute:
And, if physic *can* cure her, I'm sure *your's* will do't:
But if, after all, she *shou'd* happen to die,
And they say that *you kill'd* her—I'll swear 'tis a lie:
'Tis the *husband's* chief business, whatever ensue;
And *whoever* finds fault—I'll be shot, if I do.

ANECDOTE.

ONE of the late doctor Gay's petitioners, though living at a distance from the meeting-house, was remarkable for his constant attendance on public worship. It was his general practice to go to the doctor's to get his dinner. On his coming in a very severe storm, the doctor expressed a little surprize that he should come out in such uncomfortable weather. "O, good sir," says the christian, "no weather shall keep me from the house of God."—To which the doctor answered, "no weather will keep you from my cyder barrel."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
In the Year of our LORD One Thousand seven Hundred and eighty-seven.

An Act for the further Regulating the Assize of Barrel Beef and Pork.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That from and after the passing this act, every barrel of beef salted for exportation, shall contain at the least two hundred pounds weight of beef, and every half barrel one hundred pounds weight of beef, consisting of a due proportion of the best as well as the poorest part of each quarter, respectively, without having any part culled out; to be packed in good sound full bound casks; and from and after the first day of August next, every barrel and half barrel of beef so packed, shall be in white oak casks, clear of sap and full bound: and from after the passing this act, every barrel of pork salted for sale or exportation, shall contain at least two hundred pounds weight of pork, and every half barrel one hundred weight of pork;—consisting of a due proportion of the best as well as the poorest part of each hog, without having any part culled out; and each barrel containing not more than three half heads and six legs, to be packed in good sound white oak full bound casks; and from and after the first day of August next, every barrel of pork so packed, shall be in white oak casks, clear of sap and full bound: And the several packers of salted beef and pork within this commonwealth, are hereby directed to govern themselves accordingly, under the same penalties as are already in such cases by law provided. And for the more effectually carrying into execution the provisions of this act:

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person shall, from and after the passing this act, offer for sale, or sell any cask of salted beef or pork, not containing the quantity, and packed in the manner provided in this act, he shall forfeit for every cask of salted beef or pork he shall so offer for sale, the sum of *three pounds* lawful money; to be recovered by action, information or indictment, in any court proper to try the same, one moiety thereof to the use of the person prosecuting the same, and the other moiety to the use of the poor of the town wherein the offence shall have been committed.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That an act, entitled "An act for altering a certain clause in an act, entitled, *An act regulating the exportation of flax seed, pot ash, pearl ash, beef, pork, barrelled fish and dried fish.*" made and passed in the year of our Lord, 1786, from and after passing this act, be, and hereby is repealed.

In the House of Representatives, November 9, 1787.

This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

JAMES WARREN, Speaker.

In Senate, November 14, 1787.

This bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted.

SAMUEL ADAMS, President.

Approved, JOHN HANCOCK.

True Copy. Attest.

JOHN AVERY, jun. Secretary.

RUN away from the subscriber the 29th instant, an apprentice Boy, named HENRY THOMAS, about 17 years of age, about 5 feet 10 inches high, well set, short black hair, dark coloured eyes, wore away a butternut coloured coat, black kaffing breeches, checked linen shirt, took with him a butternut coloured great coat, and a small bundle of other clothes. Whoever will take up said Boy and return him to the subscriber, shall have Four Pence reward, and no charges paid, by me

AMOS STRONG.

Middlefield, Nov. 28, 1787.

Just Published, and a few Copies for Sale, by the Printer hereof,

Mr. ATWATER's SERMON, at the Ordination of the Rev. JOHN TAYLOR, to the Pastoral Care of the Church in Deerfield.

Drugs & Medicines.

Levi Shephard,

Near the Brick School-house, in Northampton, has just imported from London, and now opening for sale, a fresh and genuine assortment of *Drugs* and *Medicines*; which he will dispose of upon the most reasonable terms for cash or most kinds of country produce; where physicians and private families may be supplied upon the shortest notice:—

Amongst which are the following useful and necessary articles, viz.

CINNAMON.
Cloves.
Ginger.
Writing-Paper.
Wafers.
Ink Powder.
Webster's Institute, 1st, 2d and 3d part.
Watts's Psalms and Hymns.
Press Paper.
Spirits of Turpentine, by the gallon.
Varnish, by ditto.
Rosin.
Putty.
Oil of Vitriol.
Indigo, of a superior quality.
Copperas.
Chalk.
Crown Lancets.
Bell metal Mortars.
Syringes.
Scales and Weights.
White Lead.
Red do.
Spruce Yellow.
Spanish White.
Ditto, Brown.
Prussian Blue.
Verditure Blue.
Verdigrease.
Vermillion.
Rose Pink.
Logwood.
Fustick.
Allum.
Otter.
Madder.
Brimstone.
Flower of ditto.
Anderson's Pills.
Lockyers do.
Hooper's do.
Godfrey's Cordial.
Bateman's Drops.
Balsam of Honey.
Fraunci's Female Elixir.
Turlington's Balsam of Life.
British Oil.
James's Fever Powder.
Snuff by the large or small quantity, much approved of by good judges.
Stone Jugs, chamber Pots, Jarrs for Pickles, and Bake Pots, that will endure the fire.
An assortment of cream coloured Ware.

CASH, and a generous price given for all kinds of Shipping FURRS, and BEES-WAX.

Nov. 7, 1787.

TAPPAN & FOWLE,

Have lately received, at their Store opposite the Court-House in Northampton,

A fresh Assortment of English

GOODS,

Containing almost every article enquired for, which they will dispose of on as reasonable terms as they can be purchased at any store in the county, for Cash or most kinds of country Produce.

November 28, 1787.

NOTICE is hereby given to the non-resident proprietors of land in the town of Shutesbury, in the county of Hampshire, that their lands are taxed in the list of 1786, as follows, viz.

	Acres.	Div.	Rights.	S. tax.	T. & C. tax. f.	d.	f.	d.	q.
Phin. Beeman,	96	2	81	4	2		2	1	1
Joseph Tidd,	75	0	0	4	2		2	2	2
Eustice,	115	0	0	7	5		3	3	1
Saughgate,	60	1	0	6	6		3	0	3
Col. Job Almy,	66	1	0	1	7		0	11	2
Jude Stephen,	40	3	0	3	6		1	7	2
Land formerly Jj. Hubbard's,	100	3	0	5	10		2	11	3
Silas Hamilton,	30	0	0	2	7		2	9	3
Jonathan Wilder,	120	1	2	0	5	6	3	2	1

For the year 1786.

Lots.	Acres	Div.	Rights.	f.	d.	f.	d.	q.
52	40	4	58	2	3	1	3	1
90	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
89	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
88	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
87	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
100	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
85	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
83	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
83	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
61	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
59	60	5	0	3	7	2	3	1
63	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
64	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
66	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
67	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
68	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
69	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
72	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
72	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
73	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1
75	40	4	0	2	3	1	3	1

Unless said taxes are paid on or before Tuesday, the 25th day of December next, so much of their land will be sold by public vendue, at the house of Joseph Pierce, inholder in Shutesbury, at one o'clock, P. M. on said day, as will be sufficient to discharge the same with intervening charges.

THEOPHILUS CROCKER, Constable.

Shutesbury, October 24, 1787.

‡‡ All Persons indebted to the Printer hereof, for Papers the last year—and those also who are indebted for Advertisements, are requested to make payment.

DECEMBER 1787. THE NUMB. 68.

HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1787.

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

(Inserted by desire.)

From the NEW-YORK JOURNAL.

WHEN the public is called to investigate and decide upon a question in which not only the present members of the community are deeply interested, but upon which the happiness and misery of generations yet unborn is in great measure suspended, the benevolent mind cannot help feeling itself peculiarly interested in the result.

In this situation, I trust the feeble efforts of an individual, to lead the minds of the people to a wise and prudent determination, cannot fail of being acceptable to the candid and dispassionate part of the community. Encouraged by this consideration, I have been induced to offer my thoughts upon the present important crisis of our public affairs.

Perhaps this country never saw so critical a period in their political concerns. We have felt the feeblenesS of the ties by which these United States are held together, and the want of sufficient energy in our present confederation, to manage, in some instances, our general concerns. Various expedients have been proposed to remedy these evils, but none have succeeded. At length a Convention of the states has been assembled, they have formed a constitution which will now, probably, be submitted to the people to ratify or reject, who are the fountain of all power, to whom alone it of right belongs to make or unmake constitutions, or forms of government, at their pleasure. The most important question that was ever proposed to the decision of any people under heaven, is before you; and you are to decide upon it by men of your own election, chosen specially for this purpose. If the constitution, offered for your acceptance, be a wise one, calculated to preserve the invaluable blessings of liberty, to secure the inestimable rights of mankind, and promote human happiness, then, if you accept it, you will lay a lasting foundation of happiness for millions yet unborn; generations to come will rise up and call you blessed. You may rejoice in the prospects of this vast extended continent becoming filled with freemen, who will assert the dignity of human nature. You may solace yourselves with the idea, that society, in this favoured land, will fast advance to the highest point of perfection; the human mind will expand in knowledge and virtue, and the golden age be, in some measure, realised. But if, on the other hand, this form of government contains principles that will lead to the subversion of liberty—if it tends to establish a despotism, or, what is worse, a tyrannic aristocracy; then, if you adopt it, this only remaining asylum for liberty will be shut up, and posterity will execrate your memory.

Momentuous then is the question you have to determine, and you are called upon by every motive which should influence a noble and virtuous mind, to examine it well, and to make up a wise judgment. It is insisted, indeed, that this constitution must be received, be it ever so imperfect. If it has its defects, it is said, they can be best amended when they are experienced. But remember, when the people once part with power, they can seldom or never resume it again but by force. Many instances can be produced in which the people have voluntarily increased the powers of their rulers; but few, if any, in which rulers have willingly abridged their authority. This is a sufficient reason to induce us to be careful, in the first instance, how you confer the powers of government.

With these few introductory remarks I shall proceed to a consideration of this constitution.

The first question that presents itself on the subject is, whether a confederated government is the best for the United States or not? Or in other words, whether the thirteen United States should be reduced to one great republic, governed by one legislature, and under the direction of one executive and judicial; or whether they should continue thirteen confederated republics, under the direction and controul of a supreme federal head for certain defined national purposes only?

This enquiry is important, because, although a government reported by the convention does not go to a perfect and entire consolidation, yet it approaches so near to it, that it must, if executed, certainly and infallibly terminate in it.

This government is to possess absolute and uncontroulable powers, legislative, executive and judicial, with respect to every object to which it extends, for by the last clause of section 8th, article 1st, it is declared "that the Congress shall have powers to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this constitution, in the government of the United States; or in any department or office thereof." And by the 6th article, it is declared "that this constitution, and the laws of the United States, which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and the treaties made, of which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby; any thing in the constitution, or law of any state to the contrary notwithstanding." It appears from these articles that there is no need of any intervention of the state governments, between the Congress and the people, to execute any one power vested in the general government, and that the constitution and laws of every state are nullified and declared void, so far as they are or shall be inconsistent with this constitution, or the laws made in pursuance of it, or with treaties made under the authority of the United States.—The government then, so far as it extends, is a complete one, and not a confederation. It is as much one complete government as that of New-York or Massachusetts; has as absolute and perfect powers to make and execute all laws, to appoint officers, institute courts, declare offences, and annex penalties, with respect to every object to which it extends, as any other in the world. So far therefore as its powers reach, all ideas of confederation are given up and lost. It is true this government is limited to certain objects, or to speak more properly, some small degree of power is still left to the states, but a little attention to the powers vested in the general government, will convince every candid man, that if it is capable of being executed, all that is reserved for the individual states must very soon be annihilated, except so far as they are barely necessary for the organization of the general government. The powers of the general legislature extend to every case that is of the least importance—there is nothing valuable to human nature, nothing dear to freemen, but what is within its power. It has authority to make laws which will affect the lives, the liberty and property of every man in the United States; nor can the constitution or laws of any state, in any way prevent or impede the full and complete execution of every power given. The legislative power is competent to lay taxes, duties, imposts and excises;—there is no limitation to this power, unless it be said that the clause which directs the use to which those taxes and duties shall be applied, may be said to be a limitation: but this is no restriction of the power at all, for this clause they are to be applied to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but the legislature have authority to contract debts at their discretion; they are the sole judges of what is necessary to provide for the common defence, and they only are to determine what is for the general welfare: this power therefore is neither more nor less, than a power to lay and collect taxes, imposts and excises, at their pleasure; not only the power to lay taxes unlimited, as to the amount they may require, but it is perfect and absolute to raise them in any mode they please. No state legislature, or any power in the state governments, have any more to do in carrying this into effect, than the authority one state has to do with that of another. In the business therefore of laying and collecting taxes, the idea of confederation is totally lost, and that of one entire republic is embraced. It is proper here to remark, that the authority to lay and collect taxes is the most important of any power that can be granted; it connects with it almost all other powers, or at least will in process of time draw all others after it; it is the great mean of protection, security and defence, in a good government, and the great engine of oppression and tyranny in a bad one. This cannot fail of being the case, if we consider the contracted limits which are set by this constitution, to the state governments, on this article of raising money. No state can emit paper money—lay any duties or imposts, on imports, or exports but by consent of the Congress; and then the net produce shall be for the benefit of the United States: the only mean therefore left, for any state to support its government and discharge its debts, is by direct taxation; and the United States have also power to lay and collect taxes, in any way they please. Every one who has thought on the subject, must be convinced that but small sums of money can be collected in any country, by direct tax; when the federal government begins to exercise the right of taxation in all its parts, the legislatures of the several states will find it impossible to raise monies to support their governments. Without money they cannot be supported, and they must dwindle away, and, as before observed, their powers absorbed in that of the general government.

It might be here shewn, that the power in the federal legislature, to raise and support armies at pleasure, as well in peace as in war, and their controul over the militia, tend not only to a consolidation of the government, but the destruction of liberty.—I shall not, however, dwell upon these, as a few observations upon the judicial powers of this government, in addition to the preceding, will fully evince the truth of the position.

The judicial power of the United States is to be vested in a supreme court, and in such inferior courts as Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The powers of these courts are very extensive; their jurisdiction comprehends all civil causes; except such as arise between citizens of the same state; and it extends to all cases in law and equity arising under the constitution. One inferior court must be established, I presume, in each state, at least, with the necessary executive officers appendant thereto. It is easy to see, that in the common course of things, these courts will eclipse the dignity, and take away from the respectability, of the state courts. These courts will be, in themselves, totally independent of the states, deriving their authority from the United States, and receiving from them fixed salaries; and in the course of human events it is to be expected, that they will swallow up all the powers of the courts in the respective states.

How far the clause in the 8th section of the 1st article may operate to draw away all idea of confederated states, and to effect an entire consolidation of the whole into one general government, it is impossible to say. The powers given by this article are very general and comprehensive, and it may receive a construction to justify the passing almost any law. A power to make all laws, which shall be *necessary and proper*, for carrying into execution, all powers vested by the constitution in the government of the United States or any department or officer thereof, is a power very comprehensive and definite, and may, for ought I know, be exercised in such manner as entirely to abolish the state legislatures. Suppose the legislature of a state should pass a law to raise money to support their government and pay the state debt; may the Congress repeal this law, because it may prevent the collection of a tax which they may think proper and necessary to lay, to provide for the general welfare of the United States? For all laws made, in pursuance of this constitution, are the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, any thing in the constitution or laws of the different states to the contrary notwithstanding.—By such a law the government of a particular state might be overturned at one stroke, and thereby be deprived of every means of its support.

It is not meant, by stating this case, to insinuate that the constitution would warrant a law of this kind! or unnecessarily to alarm the fears of the people, by suggesting, that the federal legislature would be more likely to pass the limits assigned them by the constitution, than that of an individual state, further than they are less responsible to the people. But what is meant is, that the legislature of the United States are vested with the great and uncontroulable