

**A W I S H .**  
**O**NE—female companion to inflame my cares,  
**T**wo—thousand a year to support my affairs;  
**T**hree—dogs and a gun when I sport I incline,  
**F**our—horses and chaife to indulge me and mine,  
**F**ive—jolly companions with whom to make  
merry,  
**S**ix—dishes each day; with six glasses of sherry;  
**S**even—bed in my house for my friends at their  
leisure.  
**E**ight—some things or other, to add to their plea-  
sure.  
**N**ine—pounds in my pocket when cash I require,  
**T**en—favours are all that on earth I desire,  
And a passport to Heav'n, when from earth I  
retire.

*From a Philadelphia Paper.*  
**CENTINEL, No. XV.**  
**F**riends, Countrymen, and Fellow-Citizens!  
**Y**OU have fought, you have bled, and  
you have conquered. You have es-  
tablished your independence, and you  
ought to be free; But behold! a set of  
Aristocrats, Demagogues, Conspirators,  
and Tyrants, have arisen up, and say you  
shall be governed—Is this to be endur-  
ed by freemen, men, who have lain in the  
open air, exposed to cold and hunger;  
men, who have worn out their health and  
constitutions in marches & counter-marches  
from one end of the continent to the o-  
ther, & after they have obtained the noble  
prize, for which they contended, are they  
to sit down tamely and be governed?  
Of what service is a man's liberty to him,  
unless he can do as he pleases? And what  
man can do as he pleases, who lives under  
a government?  
The very end of government is to bind  
men down to certain rules and duties;  
therefore, 'tis only fit for slaves and vassals.  
Every freeman ought to govern  
himself, and then he will be governed most  
to his own mind.

Thus, my friends, you see all Govern-  
ment is tyrannical and oppressive. In  
the next place it is insulting; it is as  
much as to tell us: we know not how to  
take care of ourselves, and therefore should  
submit to be directed by others, who are  
appointed as guardians, over so many  
winds. Now, of what use can our reason  
be to us, if after we have come (or  
ought to have come) to years of discre-  
tion, we are still to be led, guided and  
banded about by those who pretend to  
know better than we? And, who, pray  
are those who are to be thus led, guided,  
and banded about? Why, the people I  
strange! that three millions of people  
should be led, guided, and banded about  
by ninety or an hundred Aristocratical,  
Demagogical, Tyrannical Conspirators!  
Would it not be more according to order,  
propriety, and the nature of things, that  
the ninety or an hundred Conspirators  
should be led, guided, and banded about  
by the three millions of people.

In the third place, all government is  
expensive; for these ninety or an hun-  
dred conspirators will not govern us for  
nothing, they must be paid for it. Think  
on that, my countrymen, we must not only  
be governed, be insulted by being gov-  
erned, but we must pay these dema-  
gogues for coming from all parts of the  
continent, to lay their heads together how  
to govern us most effectually. For this,  
we must pay them mileage, pay them  
wages, fill their purses, supply their tables  
to keep them in idleness to riot on the fat  
of the land, to plot, contrive, and juggle  
us into good order and government. Now  
all this money might be saved to the pub-  
lic, by each man governing himself, and  
doing as he pleases, which by nature he  
has a right to do.

Oh, my countrymen! my bowels yearn  
with affliction, when I think to what pass  
we are likely to come—When I think,  
after all we have done and suffered for  
dear liberty, we must still be kept in order,  
and be governed. I had hoped, after  
our glorious struggle, this country would

be an asylum for all those noble, untamed  
spirits, who were desirous of flying from  
all law, gospel and government. But, alas!  
after all I have said and written, after  
all the inventions I have racked my  
brains for, and horrible descriptions I  
have laid before you, you are still unrou-  
ned, and I have made no impression on any,  
except a few of those choice spirits at Car-  
lisle. And how have these been treated  
by the Conspirators and Federalists; they  
have been called Insurgents, Rioters, and  
Brinlin Deferters: True, many of them  
were deferters; and, to their credit be it  
spoken, they deserted from King and  
Country, friends and relations, wives and  
children, to come here and be free. They  
expected we were to be a free people, and  
they have come among us to live at large  
and do as they please. Think then how  
disappointed they must be, and how pecu-  
liarly hard their case is, either to stay  
here and be governed, or to return and be  
hanged.

Route then, my friends, my country-  
men, my fellow-citizens!—Route, ye  
Shayites, Dayites, and Shattuckites!—  
Ye Insurgents, Rioters and Deferters!—  
Ye Tories, Refugees, and Antifederalists!  
—Route, and kick up a dust before it is  
too late!—Be not such a parcel of stupid,  
dunder-headed, pundet-headed block-  
heads—Such a tribe of snivelling, driv-  
ling, sneaking, flinking, moping, poking,  
mumping, pitiful, piping, pettifogging,  
poitroons,—such a set of nincumpoop,  
ninnahammers, mushrooms, jackasses, jack-  
anapes, jackadandies, goosecapes, tom-  
noodles, yahooks, fluitpokes, and p-flab-ds!  
—Route!—awaken!—rub your eyes!  
Do not you see the Aristocrats, Mono-  
crats, Demagogues, Pedagogues, Gogma-  
gogs, Brobdingnags, Conspirators and  
Federal Hobgoblins, are preparing to gov-  
ern you, to enslave you, enbrail you, and  
bemaol you. If you submit to them they  
will rob you of your liberties; they will  
tie you hand and foot; they will play hob  
with you, play the dickens with you, and  
play the devil with you; they will put  
haliers round your necks, and hold your  
noses to the grindstone; they will purge  
you and bleed you, glitter you and blifter  
you drench you and vomit you; they will  
tread on your toes, break your shins, dock  
your tails, draw your teeth, tear your hair  
and scratch out your eyes; they will pull  
your noses, log your ears, punch you in  
the guts, and kick you in the breech—  
**Route!** will nothing rouse you!

**CENTINEL.**  
*From the New-Hampshire Spy.*  
**BAD TIMES—A Proverb.**  
**I** Think, Mr. Printer, (*Salvo Militare*)  
that complaining of *Bad Times*, in shops,  
streets, taverns, and company, (and even  
at the *tea table*) between man and wife,  
by rich and poor, high and low, in town  
and country, even upon the water and up-  
on the land, is become a proverb.  
When I visit the fish market, and see  
fresh cod, haddock, &c. flapping on the  
bench, and lying in heaps in the boats,  
caught out of the sea, that inexhaustible  
fountain of riches, which provides for a  
vast number of people, encouraged and  
protected by a free and peaceable government,  
without being obliged to pay the tribute  
thereof to a Caesar, I *ask, are these bad times?*

When the number of fleas filling our  
streets with a variety of wholesome pro-  
visions, collected by the industrious hus-  
bandman, who, by the advantage of a  
good soil and serene climate, receives such  
abundance, that an instance lately occur-  
red of a quarter of lamb being sold for a  
gill of rum and an empty bottle... *I again  
ask, are these bad times?*  
When the news-papers inform us, that

a hog, lately killed, weighed 600 lbs. and  
a heifer 810— that one pumpkin seed pro-  
duced 26 pumpkins, of which one of them  
was as big as a half bushel measure, *Are  
these bad times?*  
When a gentleman declared to me,  
that he had eat, from the beginning of  
the last fall until the last week, of 72 tur-  
keys. *Are these bad times?*

When all sorts of arts and sciences  
flourish and daily improve; when the ex-  
hibitions of tragick and comick representa-  
tions by the young genius of this town, draw  
the attention of its inhabitants and  
surprize even those who have seen theatri-  
cal performances in Europe, and who con-  
fess themselves to be more instructed than  
by those whose profession it is to be actors.  
*Are these bad times?*

When a variety of religion by free tol-  
erance, is open to all men, and such a va-  
riety of forts, that if a man should have  
lost his way of worship, he may find it in  
this country. *Are these bad times?*

What a pleasure it is to see humanity  
in a mild government, which prevails in  
general! Open hands distributing to  
the needy the bounties of Pro-  
vidence; to see our servants, our cattle,  
and every creature amongst us, fatten on  
the abundance that flows from our barns,  
cellars and granaries, surrounded with  
peace and plenty. *Who can say with truth,  
these are bad times?*

When seven-eights of our inhabitants  
enjoy health (which is the blessing of  
life) and live in peace, and in an union of  
system, so that doctors and lawyers are  
out of employ. *Are these bad times?*

When a young country, which in some  
measure is in a state of nature, every indi-  
vidual feels that he is a free citizen, gov-  
erned by those he in common with the  
rest of his brethren, choose annually for  
their rulers—where no despotic prince  
makes his subjects obey by his *Force, et  
Fardons*—but every man has a right to  
speak and to act as a free born citizen, in  
conformity with the law. *Are these bad  
times?*

Blessed is such a country, and blessed  
are they who live in it—and all the peo-  
ple shall say—**AMEN.**

**A CONTENTED MAN.**  
*I will and order.*  
**L O N D O N ,** Nov. 6.  
*Extract of a letter from Northampton, No-  
vember 2, 1787.*

"On Monday last a person named  
Goward led his wife (who is far advanced  
in pregnancy) to the market place at  
Nuneaton, and there sold and delivered  
her up, with a halter about her, to one  
White, for the sum of three guineas; on  
their way Goward asked his wife if she  
was not ashamed of being brought to open  
market to be sold; she said she was  
not, and was happy to think that she was  
going to have another husband, for the  
well knew who would be her purchaser.  
When he came to the place, Goward em-  
braced his wife and wished her well, up-  
on which she returned the compliment.  
White declared himself extremely well  
satisfied, and paid down the money, as-  
suring the quondam husband, it was good  
and full weight. The purchase being  
completed, White gave the ringers a  
handsome treat to ring a peal, and they  
spent the remainder of the day with the  
greatest joy imaginable."

**W**HEN the subscribers being appointed Commissioners  
of the Hon. Judge of Probate for the county of Hamp-  
shire, to receive and examine the claims of the creditors to  
the estate of MOSES CLARK, late of Sandertand, deceased,  
represented infirm, and the month being allowed to the  
creditors to file off their claims, on the first day of January  
last, to bring in and support their claims; We hereby give  
notice, that we shall attend said business at the house of  
Capt. Thomas French, in Conway, on the first Tuesday of  
April and July next, from nine to four o'clock on each day.  
No accounts will be allowed after said term.  
GILES FRARY,  
PETER GATES.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1788.  
NORTHAMPTON: PRINTED BY WILLIAM BUTLER, A FEW RODS EAST OF THE COURT-HOUSE.

**PROCEEDINGS OF CONVENTION,**  
*(Continued from our last.)*

**FRIDAY, February 1, 1788.**

The general Question in debate.  
**M**R. Nason. Mr. President—I feel myself  
happy, that your Excellency has been  
elected by the free Suffrages of your fellow-citizens,  
at the head of this government.—I also  
feel myself happy, that your Excellency has been  
elected in the chair of this Honourable Convention:  
And I feel a confidence that the propo-  
sition submitted to our consideration yesterday by  
your Excellency, had for its object the good  
of our country.—But, sir, as I have not had op-  
portunity leisurely to consider it, I shall pass it  
over, and take a short view of the Constitution  
large, which is under consideration, though  
my abilities, sir, will not permit me to do justice  
to my feelings, or to my constituents. Great  
Britain, sir, full attempted to enslave us, by declar-  
ing her laws supreme; and that she had a right  
to bind us in all cases, whatever. What, sir,  
could the Americans to shake off the yoke pre-  
paring for them?—It was this measure, the  
power to do which we are now about giving to  
Congress.—And here, sir, I beg the indulgence  
of this honorable body, to permit me to make a short  
apostrophe to Liberty.—Oh Liberty—thy  
sweetest good—thou farest priority I wish  
to live with thee, I wish to die!—Parton  
me if I drop a tear on the perch to which  
she is exposed; I cannot, sir, see this brightest  
jewel tarnished I jewel worth ten thousand  
worlds! And shall we part with it so soon?  
Oh, No. Gentlemen ask, can it be supposed,  
that a Constitution so pregnant with danger,  
could come from the hands of those who frame  
it? Indeed, sir, I am suspicious of my own  
opinion, when I contemplate this idea—when  
see the list of illustrious names annexed to it,  
sir, my duty to my constituents, obliges me  
to oppose the measure they recommend, as ob-  
jections to their liberty and safety? When, sir,  
we dissolved the political bands which connect  
us with Great-Britain, we were in a state of  
nature, we then formed and adopted the  
consideration, which must be considered as a  
sacred instrument; this confederated us under  
the head, as sovereign and independent States.  
For, sir, if we give Congress power to dissolve  
the Confederation, to what can we trust? If a  
majority consent those to treat their most solemn  
compact, who will ever trust them? Let us,  
sir, begin with this Constitution, and see what  
it—sir, first. "We the people of the United  
States, do," &c. If this, Sir, does not go to  
the annihilation of the state governments, and  
a perfect consolidation of the whole union, I  
do not know what does. What I shall we con-  
tinue to this? Can 10, 20, or 1000 persons in  
this State, who have taken the oath of allegiance  
to it, dispense with this oath. Gentlemen may  
say, as they please of dispensing in certain cases  
with oaths; but, Sir, with me they are sacred  
things: We are under oath; we have sworn  
that Massachusetts is a sovereign and independ-  
ent State. How then, can we vote for this  
Confederation, that destroys that sovereignty?  
The Hon. Col. Varnum begged leave to set  
the worthy gentleman right.—The very oath, he  
said, which the gentleman has mentioned, pro-  
vides an exception for the power to be granted to  
Congress.

Well, continued Mr. Nason, to go on—Mr.  
President—Let us consider the Constitution  
about a Bill of Rights. When I give up any  
of my natural rights, it is for the security of the  
rest: But here is not one right secured, altho'  
many are neglected.  
With respect to biennial elections, the para-  
graph is rather loosely expressed; I am a little  
in favour of our ancient custom. Gentlemen  
by they are convinced that the alteration is ne-  
cessary; it may be so.—When I see better, I will  
say with them.

To open Representation and taxation to be  
apportioned according to numbers. This, Sir,  
I am opposed to; it is unequal. I will show an  
instance to point.—We know for certainty, that  
the town of Brooklyn, persons are better able  
to pay their taxes, than in the parts I represent:  
suppose the tax is laid on polls: Why the peo-  
ple of the former place will pay their tax a ten  
times more, as the latter—thus helping that  
part of the community, which stands in the least  
need of help: On this footing the poor pay as

much as the rich: And in this way is laid, that  
five slaves that will raise no more than three chil-  
dren. Let Gentlemen consider this—a farmer  
takes three small orphans, on charity, to bring  
up—they are bound to him—when they arrive  
at 21 years of age, he gives each of them a couple  
pairs of clothes, a cow, and two or three  
young cattle—these are rated as much for them,  
as a farmer in Virginia is for five slaves whom  
he holds for life—and they pollery—the  
male and the ones too.—The Senate, Mr.  
President, are to be chosen two from each State.  
—This, sir, puts the smaller States on the foot-  
ing according to their numbers.—New-Hamp-  
shire does not pay a fourth part as much as Mas-  
sachusetts.—We must, therefore, to support the  
dignity of the union, pay four times as much as  
New-Hampshire, and almost fourteen times as  
much as Georgia—who, we see are equally re-  
presented with us.

The term, Sir, for which the senate is cho-  
sen, is a grievance—it is too long to trust any  
body of men with power.—It is impossible, but  
that such men will be tenacious of their places,  
they are to be raised to a lofty eminence, and  
they will be loath to come down; and in the  
course of six years, may by management, have  
it in their power to create officers, and obtain in-  
fluence enough, to get in again, and so for life.  
When we felt the hand of British oppression up-  
on us, we were so jealous of rulers, as to declare  
them eligible but for three years in six. In this  
Constitution we forgot this principle. I, Sir,  
think that rulers ought at short periods, to re-  
turn to private life, that they may know how to  
feel for, and regard their fellow creatures. In  
six years, Sir, and at a great distance, they will  
quite forget the people they are to govern.

*"For time and absence cure the purest love."*  
We are apt to forget our friends, except when  
we are conversing with them.  
We now come, Sir, to the 4th sect. Let us  
see—the times, places and manner of holding  
elections shall be prescribed in each State by the  
Legislature thereof. No objections to this: but  
Sir, after the *flash of lightning comes the peal of  
thunder*;—but Congress may at any time, alter  
them, &c. Here it is, Mr. President: This is  
the article which is to make Congress omnipotent.  
Gentlemen say, this is the greatest benefi-  
tary of the Constitution—this is the great security  
for the people—this is the all in all. Such lan-  
guage have I heard in this house. But, Sir, I  
say by this power Congress may, if they please,  
order the election of federal representatives for  
Massachusetts, to be at Great-Barrington or Mas-  
chussetts: and at such a time too, as shall put it  
in the power of a few artful and designing men to  
get themselves elected at their pleasure.

The 8th sect. Mr. President, provides that  
Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes,  
duties, imposts, excises, &c. We may, Sir,  
be poor; we may not be able to pay these  
taxes, we must have a little meal, and a  
little meat, wherewith to live; and five little for  
a rainy day: But what follows? Let us see.  
To raise and support armies. Here, Sir, comes  
the key to unlock this cabinet: Here is the means  
by which you will be made to pay your taxes?  
But will ye, my countrymen, submit to this.  
Suffer me, Sir, to say a few words on the fatal  
effects of standing armies, that bane of republican  
governments! A standing army! Was it not  
with this that Caesar passed the Rubicon, and laid  
prostrate the liberties of his country? By this  
has seven eights of the once free nations of the  
globe, been brought into bondage! Time would  
fail me, were I to attempt to recapitulate the  
havock made in the world, by standing armies.  
Britain attempted to enforce her arbitrary  
measures by a standing army. But, sir, we had pa-  
trious men who alarmed us of our danger, and  
shewed us the serpent and bid us beware of him.  
I shall I name them? I fear I shall offend your  
Excellency? No, I cannot avoid it. I must  
name them.

We had an HANCOCK, an ADAMS, and a  
WARREN—our fellow Statesmen, produced a  
RANDOLPH, a WASHINGTON, a GREEN,  
and a MONTGOMERY, who lead us in our  
way.—Some of these have given up their lives in  
defence of the liberties of their country; and my  
prayer to God is, that when this race of illi-  
gionous patriots, shall bid adieu to the world,  
that from their dust, as from the sacred ashes of the  
Plebeian, another race may arise, who shall  
take our pollery by the hand, and lead them  
to trample on the necks of those who shall dare

to infringe on their liberties.—Sir, had I a voice  
like Jove, I would proclaim it throughout the  
world—and had I an arm like Jove, I would  
hurl from the globe those villains that would dare  
attempt to establish in our country a standing  
army. I wish, sir, that the gentlemen of Boston,  
would bring to their minds the fatal evening of  
the 3d of March, 1770—when by standing  
troops they lost five of their fellow-townsmen—  
I will ask them what price can atone for their  
lives? What money can make satisfaction for the  
loss? The same causes produce the same effects.  
An army may be raised on pretence of helping  
to fight, or many pretences might be used; that  
night Sir, ought to be a sufficient warning ag-  
ainst standing armies, except in cases of great  
emergency—they are too frequently used for no  
other purpose than dragging the people into  
slavery, but I beseech you, my countrymen, for  
the sake of your pollery, to act like those worthy  
men who have stood forth in defence of the  
rights of mankind; and shew to the world, that  
you will not submit to tyranny. What occasion  
have we for standing armies? We fear no  
foe.—If one should come upon us, we have a  
militia, which is our bulwark. Let Lexington  
witness that we have the means of defence a-  
gainst ourselves. If during the late winter there  
was not much activity shewn by the militia, in  
turning out, we must consider that they were  
going to fight their countrymen. Do you sir,  
suppose, that had a British army invaded us at  
that time, that such supineness would have been  
discovered. No, sir, to our enemies dismay,  
and dismay and discomfort, they would have  
felt the contrary: But again I delude, in fantas-  
tic men, they did not wish to exert their valour  
or their strength. Therefore, Sir, I am utterly  
opposed to a standing army in time of peace.

The paragraph that gives Congress power to  
suspend the writ of habeas corpus, claims a little  
attention.—This is a great bulwark—a great privi-  
ledge indeed—we ought not, therefore, to give it  
up, on any slight pretence. Let us see—how  
long is it to be suspended? As long as rebellion  
and invasion shall continue. This is exceeding  
loose. Why is not the time limited as in the  
Constitution? But, sir, its design would then  
be defeated—it was the intent, and by it we  
shall give up one of our greatest privileges. Mr.  
N. concluded by saying, he had much more to  
say, but as the House were impatient he should  
set down for the present, to give other gentlemen  
an opportunity to speak.

Judge Sumner, addressing to the pathetic pro-  
fession of the gentleman last speaking, said he  
could wish as much liberty as a prophetic.  
Oh! Government! thou greatest good I thou best of  
blessings!—with thee I wish to live—with thee  
I wish to die.—Thou art as necessary to the  
support of the political body, as meat and bread  
are to the natural body. The learned judge  
then turned his attention to the proposition sub-  
mitted by the President, and said, he sincerely  
hoped, that it would meet the approbation of the  
Convention; as it appeared to him a remedy for  
all the difficulties, which gentlemen in the  
course of the debates had mentioned. He par-  
ticularized the objections that had been stated  
and shewed that their removal was provided for  
in the proposition: And concluded by observ-  
ing, that the probability was very great, that if  
the amendments proposed were recommended  
by this Convention; that they would, on the  
meeting of the first Congress, be adopted by the  
general government.

Mr. Widgery said, he did not see the probabili-  
ty, that these amendments would be made, if  
we had authority to propose them: He consider-  
ed the fact, that the Convention did not meet  
for the purpose of recommending amendments,  
but to adopt or reject the Constitution. He  
concluded by asking, whether it was probable,  
that those States, who had already adopted the  
Constitution would be likely to submit to amend-  
ments?

**P. M.**  
When the Convention met, a short conver-  
sation ensued on the time when the grand question  
should be taken—it was agreed, that it should  
not be until Tuesday. After this conversation  
subsided, another took place on the division of  
the motion—in order that the question of ratify-  
ing might be considered separately from the  
amendments: but nothing final was determined.  
Judge Dana advocated the proposition sub-  
mitted by his Excellency the President—it could