

that those Africans should rise superior to all their local and other disadvantages, and attempt to arrange themselves for the struggle, and when? Of specific some point nation should interfere in their behalf, as France in the cause of America, must not rise and resist them? Would not the Congress immediately call fourth the whole force of the country, if needed, to oppose them, and to attempt more closely to rivet their manacles upon them, and in that way perpetuate the miseries of those unhappy people? This we think the natural consequence which will flow from the establishment of this constitution, and that it is not a forced, but a very liberal construction of it. It was said that "the adoption of this Constitution, would be ominous of much good, and broken the smiles of Heaven upon the country." But we view the matter in a very different light; we think this lurch for unjust gains, this lust for slavery, portentous of much evil in America, for the cry of innocent blood, which hath been shed in carrying on this execrable commerce, hath undoubtedly reached to the Heavens, to which that cry is always directed, and will draw down upon them vengeance adequate to the enormity of the crime. To what other cause, than a full conviction, of the moral evil in this practice, together with some fearful forebodings of punishment therefor arising in the minds of the Congress in the year 1774 can it be imputed, that they from that time, (at least an implicit) confession of guilt, and a solemn, explicit promise of reformation? This is a fact, but left it should be disputed, we think it most fair for ourselves to lay before our readers, an extract from a certain pamphlet, entitled "Extracts from the votes and proceedings of the American Continental Congress, held at Philadelphia, on the 31st of September, 1774, &c." In the 22d page of this same pamphlet, we find the following paragraph, viz. "Second. That we will neither import, nor purchase any slave imported, after the first day of December next; after which time we will wholly discontinue the slave-trade, and will neither be concerned in it ourselves, nor will we hire our vessels nor sell our commodities or manufactures to those who are concerned in it." The inconsistency of opposing slavery, which they thought designed for themselves, and by clandestine means, procuring others to enslave at the same time—it is very natural to suppose would flare them in the face, and at all times guard them against breaking their resolution. Hence it appears to us unaccountable strange, that any person who signed the above resolve, should sign the federal constitution, if they do not hold up to view principles diametrically opposed. Can we suppose that what was morally evil in the year 1774, has become in the year 1788, morally good? Or shall we change evil into good and good into evil, as often as we find it will serve a turn? We cannot but say the conduct of those who associated in the year 1774 in the manner above, and now appear advocates for this new constitution, is highly inconsistent, although we find such conduct has the celebrated names of a Washington and an Adams to grace it. And this may serve as a reason why we could not be wrought upon by another argument, which was made use of in the Convention in favour of the constitution, viz. the weight of names—a solid argument with some people who are inclined to comply with measures of almost any kind. It was urged that the gentlemen who composed the federal Convention, were men of the greatest abilities, integrity and erudition; and had been the greatest defenders of freedom. We suppose it to be true, and that they have exemplified it, by the manner in which they earnestly dogmatized for liberty—but notwithstanding we could not view this argument, as advancing any where towards infallibility—because long before we entered upon the benefits of the Convention, we were by some means or other possessed with a notion and we think from good authority that "great men are not always wise." And to believe the weight of a name added to give efficacy to a measure where liberty is in dispute, cannot be so likely, to have its intended effect, when the person designed by that name, at the same time he is branding his sword, in the behalf of freedom for himself—is likewise tyrannizing over two or three hundred miserable Africans, as free born as himself.

the commonwealth, especially when acting in the capacity of a representative.

CONSIDER ARMS, MALICHI MAYNARD, } Conway. SAMUEL FIELD, Decfield.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONVENTION.

(Continued from our last.)

Monday, February 4, P. M.

The general Question in debate. DR. JARVIS, Mr. President.—The objections which gentlemen have made to the form of ratification which has been submitted by your Excellency, have arisen, either from a doubt of our having a right to propose alterations; or from the supposed improbability that any amendments recommended by this state, will ever become a part of the federal system. If we have no right, Sir, to propose alterations, there remains nothing further to be attempted, but take the final question independent of the proposition for amendment. But, I hope the more affection of any one is not to operate as an argument in this assembly; and we are yet waiting for evidence to prove this very singular position which has been so often repeated—if we have a right, Sir, to receive, or reject the Constitution, surely we have an equal authority to determine in what way this right shall be exercised.—It is a maxim, I believe universally admitted, that in every instance, the manner in which every power is to be exercised, must be in its nature discretionary with that body to which this power is delegated.—If this principle be just, Sir, the ground which has been taken to oppose your Excellency's proposal by disputing the right of recommending alterations, must be necessarily relinquished: But gentlemen say, that they find nothing about amendments in the commission under which they are acting, and they conceive it neither agreeably to the resolution of the legislature, nor to the sense of their constituents, that such a scheme should be adopted.—Let us enquire then, Sir, under what authority we are acting; and to what tribunal we are answerable; Is it then, Sir, from the late federal Convention, that we derive our authority? Is it from Congress, or is it even from the legislature itself?—If it is from neither, Sir—we are convened in right of the people, as their immediate representatives, to execute the most important trust which it is possible to receive, and we are accountable in its execution, to God only, and our own consciences.—When gentlemen assert then, that we have no right to recommend alterations they must have ideas strangely derogatory to the influence and authority of our constituents, whom we have the honour of representing.—But should it be thought there was even a part of the people who conceived we were thus restricted as to the forms of our proceedings, we are still to recollect that their aggregate sense, on this point, can only be determined by the voice of the majority in this Convention. The arguments of those gentlemen, who oppose any propositions of amendments, amount finally to this, Sir, that the whole people of Massachusetts, attended by their delegates, are not at liberty to resolve in what form this act shall be executed.—When we reflect seriously and coolly on this point, I think, Sir, we shall doubt no longer. But with respect to the prospect of these amendments, which are the subjects of discussion, being adopted by the first Congress, which shall be appointed under the new Constitution, I really think, Sir, that it is not only from being improbable, but it is in the highest degree probable. I have thought long and often, on the subject of amendments, and I know no way in which they could be more likely to succeed.—If they were made conditional to our receiving the proposed Constitution, it has ever appeared to me, that a conditional amendment must operate as a total rejection. As to many other States have received the Constitution, as it is, how can it be made to appear, that they will not adhere to their own resolutions; and should they remain as warmly, and pertinaciously attached to their opinion, as we might be decided, in favour of our own sense, and some and painful interval might elapse before we should have the benefit of a federal Constitution.—I have never yet heard an argument to remove this difficulty. Permit me to enquire of gentlemen what reason we have to suppose that the States which have adopted the Constitution will suddenly consent to call a new Convention at the request of this State: Are we going to expel the Commonwealth to the disagreeable alternative of being forced into a compliance, or of remaining in opposition, provided nine others should agree to receive it. As highly as some persons talk of the force of this State, I believe we should be but a feeble power, unassisted by others, and detached from the general benefit of a national government. We are told

that under the blessing of Providence, we may do much.—It is very true, Sir, but it must be proved, that we shall be most likely to secure the approbation of Heaven by refusing the proposed system.

It has been insinuated, Sir, that these amendments have been artfully introduced to lead to a decision which would not otherwise be had.—Without stopping to remark on the total want of candour in which such an idea has arisen, let us enquire whether there is even the appearance of reason to support this insinuation. The propositions are annexed, it is true, to the ratification; but the assent is complete and absolute without them. It is not possible it can be otherwise understood by a single member in this body.—Gentlemen, therefore, when they make such an unjust observation, do no honour to the sagacity of others. Supporting it possible that a single member can be deceived by such a shallow artifice, permit me to do justice to the purity of intention in which they have arisen, by observing, that I am satisfied nothing can be farther from your Excellency's intentions. The propositions are general and not local; they are not calculated for the peculiar interest of this State, but with indiscriminate justice comprehend the circumstances of the individual on the banks of the Savannah, as well as of the hardy and industrious husbandman on the margin of the Kennebec: Why then they should not be adopted, I cannot conceive. There is one of them in a particular manner which is very agreeable to me. When we talk of our wanting a bill of rights to the new Constitution, the first article proposed must remove every doubt on this head—as by positively securing what is not expressly delegated, it leaves nothing to the uncertainty of conjecture, or to the reticement of implication; but it is an explicit reservation of every right and privilege which are nearest and most agreeable to the people. There has been scarcely an instance where the influence of Massachusetts has not been felt and acknowledged in the union.—In such a case, her voice will be heard, Sir; and I am fully in sentiment if these amendments are not engraven on the Constitution, it will be our own fault—the remaining seven articles will have our example before them, and there is a high probability that they, or at least some of them, will take our conduct as a precedent, and will perhaps assume the same mode of procedure. Should this be the fact, their influence will be united to ours. But your delegates will besides be subject to a perpetual instruction until its object is completed; and it will always be in the power of the people and legislature to renew those instructions. But if they should fail, we must then acquiesce in the decision of the majority, and this is the known condition on which all free governments depend.

Would gentlemen who are opposed to the Constitution wish to have no amendment? This does not agree with their reiterated objections to the proposed system: Or are they afraid, Sir, that these propositions will secure a larger majority? In such an occasion, we cannot be too generally united.—The Constitution is a great political experiment.—The amendments have a tendency to remove many objections which have been made to it—and I hope, Sir, when it is adopted, that they will be annexed to the ratification in the manner which your Excellency has proposed.

(To be continued.)

CHARLESTON, (S. C.) March 8. A correspondent informs us that it is whispered, that proposals have very lately been made by Spain to Congress for opening the navigation of the Mississippi, and to render the United States very service and friendship in her power, provided the United States will sell the whole of their produce to the Spanish and French nations for specie;—this the friends of those two countries say, will enlarge the number of their fleets, and enable them to defy the navies of other countries. It is also said, that these nations intend to give large orders for merchant ships to America, provided the United States will supply them and the United States; and provided that they will hinder American seamen and other wrights entering into the service of any other country. They say, if America sits with them, that she will get the subjects of both countries, both in Europe, America and the East and West-Indies, to a astonishing number, for customers; and that said countries will use their interest with the Emperor of Germany and the Empress of Russia, as well as the Turks, to encourage the consumption of American produce as much as possible. If this should take place, a certain nation lately remarked in Europe, &c. for her selfish navigation laws, may feel severely the truth of the old adage, *All cover all lights*. The partisans of France and Spain please themselves not a little on this occasion; they say that by this capital speculation they will have the supplying the whole world with American produce—we must own if they can accomplish all this it will prove not only a capital but a profitable speculation.

BALTIMORE, March 21. On Wednesday last, Peter Danton and Ten

ter Money, were executed, pursuant to their sentence, for assaulting and robbing Mr. David S. Miller, of this town, on the 31st of December last.—Jacob Dwyer, James Sands, and Thomas Reynolds, their associates, were convicted at the same term.—The two former were reprieved at the pleasure, till the second of next month.—The mitigating circumstances appearing in favour of the latter, he was pardoned the evening preceding the day of execution.

RICHMOND, (Virginia) March 19. We have received returns of the delegates chosen to meet in Convention, in June next, from Chesterfield, Frederick, James City, King George, New-Kent, Prince George, Stafford, Gloucester, Rockbridge, Richmond county, Albemarle, Campbell, Charlotte, Louisa, Northumberland, King and Queen, Franklin, Goochland, York, and Loudoun.—Of these there published in our list, which form nearly a representation of the State.

Out of all the members as yet returned to the Convention, there are only three or four against the Constitution; and it is the general opinion, that there will scarcely be found ten men in the whole State who, when they meet here in June, will set their opinions in competition with those of all the great and good patriots in America.

PHILADELPHIA, March 25. Extract of a letter from Genl. Mifflin, dated the 21st of the brig *Platonic*, Capt. Mifflin, arrived on Saturday last, 6 days from Sea; the 5th.

Gen. Clark lately fell in with a considerable body of Indians, who were defeated after a short conflict.

A body of 300 of them attacked a fort on the Onondago, and were repulsed with considerable loss.

They are well armed and have lately received a great supply of military essentials from Pennsylvania.

We learn that the good people of Delaware have obtained a model of a machine, that uses water cotton-wool by a water wheel, after the manner of the English, and that they are now procuring the carding and spinning machines lately introduced into this city. As the southern parts of their State will raise cotton, they will have the means of that valuable manufacture within themselves. On federal principles we rejoice at these advantages of our sister State. It is hoped every State, whose climate, soil and population admits of it, will cultivate that invaluable raw material.

NEWPORT, April 3. Result of the Proceedings in this State on the New Constitution.

Newport, Providence and Westerly, did not poll, but gave instructions to their Deputies in General Assembly, to have the Constitution referred to a Convention, where it could be legally and properly determined.

Warwick and Greenwich, no yeas were given, the Federalists having entered a protest against the alteration of the mode of decision as illegal and unconstitutional.

Bristol and Littlecompton, there was a majority of votes for the New Constitution.

The other towns generally negatived the Constitution—their majorities will appear large, as the Federalists generally declined giving their votes in Town Meeting upon a question that is resolvable only by a Convention of the people.

It is therefore presumed that the Legislature will consider this act altering the mode of decision as abortive and nugatory—and not offer to the United States and to the world a partial decision of the Constitution as being the voice of the people of this State—for it is an indispensible truth that the yeas returned do not form a majority of the freemen and freeholders of the State.

SPRINGFIELD, April 9. We are informed, that Col. Brewer, of Tyrington, on the 30th ult. early in the morning, upon going out of his house, found lying before his door, a young child, supposed to be about three days old.—There was left with it, two pounds, and six changes of necessary linen.

NORTHAMPTON, April 16. SHIP-NEWS I. A vessel just arrived from Oubachite, we have received the melancholy news of the capture of the ancient flou-boat ship *Wormsley*, by the crew of an Algerine corsair. This sad event happened in lat. 42. 24. north, and long. 72. 50. west, on Monday the 10th of March last, between the hours of 9 and 12. A. M. after a severe engagement of near three glasses; in which the Captain, Sir Lieutenants, and second Mate, purser, Rigger, and a number of the ablest hands, fell a sacrifice to their honest zeal for the public service; after which the vessel was boarded by the *Barbary*, who instantly hoisted their own colours, to the terror of the *Wormsley's* crew and other circumstances; that Lieut. *Trin*, second Lieutenant of the *Wormsley*, was well shot to the heart, and lost in sea, under the *Rose*, used his utmost industry to deliver the vessel into the enemy's hands; he was unanimously invited by the command of the *Wormsley*, and the other officers being arranged, the vessel

latter tattered sails, and made off for the coast of Barbary, under convoy of the *Barbary*. During the time spent in organizing the vessel, 'tis said an Al's' head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver!!!

It is strongly recommended to the Clergy and other good people of the county of Hampshire, that in their addresses at Throug of Grace, whether in public or private, they by no means omit the following much need petition, "Council our CONGREGATIONS and teach our SENATORS wisdom."

The Assembly of Rhode-Island, we hear, at their session the week before last, at East-Greenwich, refused to comply with the requests of a number of towns, to call a Convention for taking the federal constitution under consideration.

On the morning of the 30th ult. at Chester, a young woman, by the name of Converse-daughter of Mr. Benjamin Converse, formerly of that town, delivered herself of a male child, which, to hide her misfortune, she murdered and secreted.—The family in which she resided, had for some time previous to the taking place of this event, been suspicious of her being far advanced in pregnancy, but this she ever denied.—However, during that morning somewhat later than usual, and her countenance bearing an aspect she had not heretofore discovered, the suspicions of the family now began to be stronger than ever, whereupon they were led to conjecture what had happened—a search was accordingly made, and the child was found, rolled up in a bunch of tow and laid in a basket upon the house. On this discovery being made, she affirmed that the infant was still-born—upon which a Jury of Inquest was summoned, who sat upon the body, and whose verdict was, that this child was born alive, but the infamously smothered it—on which the confessed fact, and was, on Friday last, brought to this town and committed to goal for trial.

The following, we hear, were the numbers of votes given in for Governor, &c.—In Belchertown, For Governor—Mr. Hancock 51, Mr. Gerry 36—Senators—Mr. Strong, Mr. Flakings, Mr. Bliss, and Mr. Sexton, 41 each, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Bodman, Mr. Cooley and Mr. Stebbens, 36 each.

Amherst, Gov.—Mr. Hancock 30, Mr. Gerry 60.—Lt. Gov.—Gen. Lincoln 30. Senators—Mr. Strong, Mr. Hastings, Mr. Bliss and Mr. Sexton, 30 each, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Bodman, Mr. Cooley and Mr. Stebbens, 30 each.

West-Springfield, Gov.—Mr. Hancock 80, Mr. Gerry 10.

Weymouth, Gov.—Mr. Hancock 40, Mr. Gerry 80. Lt. Gov.—Gen. Lincoln 40, Gen. Warren 80. Senators—Mr. Strong, Mr. Hastings, Mr. Bliss, and Mr. Sexton, 40; Mr. Phelps, Mr. Fowler, Col. Lyman and Mr. Bodman, 80 each.

Ghaffers, Gov.—Mr. Hancock 32, Mr. Gerry 11.

Roxe, Gov.—Mr. Hancock 41, Mr. Gerry 8, Lt. Gov.—Mr. Adams 13, Gen. Lincoln 2.

Springfield, Gov.—Mr. Hancock 93. Lt. Gov. Gen. Lincoln 77. Senators—Mr. Strong 82, Mr. Hastings and Mr. Bliss 80 each, and Mr. Sexton 76.

To the FARMERS. Effectual Methods to prevent Canker Worms of feeding Apple-Trees. TAKE two boards and saw them following, until they will join together round the tree, secure them together by pieces nailed on the upper side. Calk with swinging tow, the crevices between the tree and board; and to make a certainty that none pass up, put a little tar on the under side of the board, which should extend near a foot each way. Or, the following method: Take coarse paper, and cut it into two strips of eight inches wide, and bind one round each tree, with twine or strong thread; then pay it over well with thin tar; as fast as the tar dries, renew it. The cost is trifling, and the remedy certain. These methods must be adopted immediately, before the worms begin to ascend.

THE Partnership of BRECK, SHEPARD and CLARKE, being mutually dissolved.—Said shephard has opened at his medical Store, 74, and new for sale, a very general assortment of European and India GOOD S—amongst which are included, almost all kinds of GROCERIES—such as Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Pepper, Ginger, Rice, Raisins, &c.—Alf, Writing-Paper, Press-Paper, Water, Ink-Powder, Watts's Palms and Hymns, best kind of West-India and New-England Rum, Lisbon, Malaga, and Port Wine, &c. &c.—and in short, almost every article that is best fitted to the comfort and convenience of every family.

Northampton, April 2, 1788.

WANTED, A Quantity of well dried Salts of Lye; FOR which the highest price will be given, one half in Cash, the other on delivery. Apply to DAVENTON & M'LEAN, at their Store in Northampton, near Door to Mr. Abrahm Pomeroy's Store. N. B. CASH given for Old WINE at the above Store. Northampton, April 16, 1788.

THE Collector of the duty of Excise in the county of Hampshire hereby gives Notice, that he will attend to settle such accounts and receive the said duty, at Mr. Elinu W. Hure's in Harfield, on Thursday the fifth day of May next, at 8 o'clock A. M.—The same day at Mr. Joel Wait's in Whately, at 11 o'clock A. M.—The same day at Mr. David Hoit's in Deerfield, at 3 o'clock P. M.—On Friday the 4d, at Mr. Caleb Alford's in Greenfield, at 8 o'clock A. M.—On Monday the 5th, at Mr. Johna Thayer's in Williamsburgh, at 9 o'clock A. M.—The same day at Mr. Ebenezer Parson's in Goffen, at 11 o'clock A. M.—The same day at Mr. John Stone's in Chesterfield, at 2 o'clock P. M.—On Tuesday the 6, at Mr. Meach's in Worthington, at 8 o'clock A. M.—The same day at Mr. Jonathan Hartwebbers in Chester, at 11 o'clock A. M. and Mr. Douglas's in Norwich, at 12 o'clock.—The same day at Mr. Wright's in Westampton, at 5 o'clock P. M.—On Wednesday the 7th, at Mrs. Clap's in Eastampton, at 8 o'clock A. M.—The same day at Mr. Perez Clap's in Southampton, at 10 o'clock A. M.—On Thursday the 8th, at Mr. Elisha Cook's in Hadley, at 9 o'clock A. M.—and at his own house in Nottsampton, on Friday, at any hour in the day.

And the licensed persons within the county are also reminded, that unless they settle their accounts up to the first day of May, within thirty days from that time, and produce the collector's certificate thereof, they cannot renew their licenses at the next term for granting the same. And in case the said accounts shall not be paid by the 10th day of June next, the Collector will be obliged by law to issue his warrants of distress for collecting the same. And the several Deputy-Collectors are desired to observe this order of law, and govern themselves accordingly.

ELIJAH HUNT, Collector of Excise (for the county of Hampshire). Northampton, April 8, 1788.

ALL Persons that have any demands on the Estate of Deacon EBENEZER HUNT, late of Northampton, deceased, are desired to exhibit their accounts to the subscriber for payment.—And those who are indebted to said Estate, are requested to make speedy payment, as otherwise renew their Obligations.

EBENEZER HUNT, Executor. Northampton, April 24, 1788.

Ten Dollars Reward. MADRID his escape from my custody, on the 10th inst. on the road to Northampton, one JOHN GRAY, of Chesterfield, about twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, light complexion, thick shaven hair, well built, rather raw, the middle finger, is very short in showing signs of hard travail, following knives, &c. and is very talkative and quarrelsome.—had on a light coloured furrow, blue cloth coat, just new and overall, and boots. Whoever will secure him to the subscriber his or their name, shall have the above reward and necessary charges paid, by Zerom Sackett, Constable.

Norwich, April 10, 1788.

The PILGRIM, A Famous bright Bay HORSE, will cover this year at the stable of the subscriber in Amherst, on reasonable terms. Said Horse was lately brought from the State of Connecticut, and is three quarters blooded, of a good size, lofty carriage, and is said by those who are good judges, to be as complete a horse, both for beauty and activity, as can be found in the State. These gentlemen who may incline to bring their Mares, may depend upon confidence, and will be their humble servant.

SAUEL BOLTWOOD. Amherst, April 15, 1788.

NOTICE is hereby given to the non-resident proprietors of the town of Barnardston, in the county of Hampshire, that their lands are set off in three rows, millfield and country tax, for the years 1784, 1785, 1786 and 1787, as follows, viz.

l. d. s.	
No. 131, 3d division,	7 5 2
75 10 do.	7 5 2
124 35 do.	3 3 3
129 33 do.	3 3 3

Unless said taxes are paid on or before the 1st of May next, so much of said land will be then sold at public vendue at the house of John Burke, an inhabitant in Barnardston, at one o'clock P. M. as will be sufficient to discharge the same, with interest and charges.

JOSEPH S. T. CALDER CHAPIN, Jun. Collector. Barnardston, March 27, 1788.

Leverett Company. NOTICE is hereby given to the proprietors of Leverett Mines, that their meeting stands adjourned to the 21st day of May next. Said proprietors are hereby required to pay their respective proportion both toward the mine and the furnace in South Hadley, as they would prevent a more disagreeable method of collecting the same. As by vote of said proprietors said mine is now expeditiously going on.

SILAS BALL, Proprietors Clerk. Leverett, April 2, 1788.