distresses, executions or sales, for debt or for the payment of taxes.

And be it further enacted, that the Vice President of the United States; the officers, judicial and executive, of the government of the United States; the members of both houses of Congress, and their respective officers; all custom house officers, with their clerks; all post officers, and stage drivers who are employed in the care and conveyance of the mail of the post-office of the United States; all ferrymen employed at any ferry on the post road; all inspectors of exports; all pilots; all mariners actually employed in the sea service of any citizen or merchant within the United States; and all persons who now are or may hereafter be exempted by the laws of the respective States, shall be and are hereby exempted from militia duty, notwithstanding their being above the age of eighteen, and under the age of forty five years.

And be it further enacted, That within one year after the passing of this act, the militia of the respective States shall be arranged into divisions, brigades, regiments, battallions and companies, as the legislature of each state shall direct; and each division, brigade, and regiment, shall be numbered at the formation thereof; and a record made of such numbers in the adjutant general's office in the State; and when in the field, or in service in the State, each division, brigade, and regiment shall, respectively, take rank according to their numbers, reckoning the first or lowest number highest in rank. That if the same be convenient, each brigade shall consist of four regiments; each regiment of two battallions; each battallion of five companies; each company of sixty-four privates. That the said militia shall be officered by the respective States, as follows: To each division, one Major-general and two aids de-camp, with the rank of Major; to each brigade, one brigadier general with one brigadier inspector, to serve also as brigade major, with the rank of Major; to each regiment, one lieutenant colonel commandant; and to each battallion, on major; to each company, one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, four serjeants, four corporals, one drummer, and one fifer or bugler. That there shall be a regimental staff, to consist of one adjutant, and one quarter master, to rank as lieutenant; one paymaster; one surgeon and one surgeon's mate; one serjeant major; one drum major; and one fife major.

And be it further enacted, That out of the militia enrolled, as is herein directed, there shall be formed for each battallion, at least one company of grenadiers, light infantry or rifle men; and that to each division there shall be, at least, one company of artillery, and one troop of horse: There shall be to each company of artillery, one captain, two lieutenants, four serjeants, four corporals, six gunners, six bombardiers, one drummer, and one fifer. The officers to be armed with a sword, or hanger, a fufee, bayonet and belt, with a cartridge box to contain twelve cartridges; and each private or matross shall furnish himself with all the equipments of a private in the infantry, until proper ordinance and field artillery is provided. There shall be to each troop of horse, one captain, two lieutenants, one cornet, four serjeants, four corporals, one tailer, one farrier, and one trumpeter. The commissioned officers to furnish themselves with good horses of, at least fourteen hands and a half high, and to be armed with a sword and pair of pistols, the holsters of which to be covered with bearskin caps. Each dragoon to furnish himself with a serviceable horse, at least fourteen hands and a half high, a good saddle, bridle, mailpillion and valise, holsters, and a breast plate and cropper, a pair of boots and spurs, a pair of pistols, a sabre, and a cartouch box to contain twelve cartridges for pistols. That each company of artillery and troops of horse shall be formed of volunteers from the brigade, at the desertion of the commander in chief of the State, not exceeding one company of each to a regiment, nor more in number than one eleventh part of the infantry, and shall be uniformly clothed in regimentals to be furnished at their own expense; the color and fashion to be determined by the brigadier commanding the brigade to which they belong.

And be it further enacted, That each battallion and regiment shall be provided with the state & regimental colors by the field officers, and each company, with a drum and fife or bugle horn, by the commissioned officer of the company, in such manner as the legislature of the respective States shall direct.

And be it further enacted, That there shall be an adjutant general appointed in each State, whose duty it shall be to distribute all orders from the commander in chief of the State to the several corps; to attend all publick reviews, when the commander in chief of the State shall review the militia, or any part thereof; to obey all orders from him relative to carrying into execution and perfecting the system of military discipline established by this act; to furnish blank forms of different returns that may be required, and to explain the principles on which they should be made; to receive from the several officers of the different corps throughout the State, returns of the militia under their command, reporting the actual situation of their arms, accoutrements and ammunition, their deliquencies, and every other thing which relates to the general advancement of good order and discipline: All which, the several officers of the divisions, brigades, regiments and battallions are hereby required to make in the usual manner, so that the said adjutant general may be duly furnished therewith: From all which returns he shall make proper abstracts, and lay the same annually before the commander in chief of the State.

And be it further enacted, That the rules of discipline approved and established by Congress, in their resolution of the twenty ninth of March, 1779, shall be the rules of discipline to be observed by the militia throughout the United States, except such deviations from the said rules, as may be rendered necessary by the requisitions of this act, or by some other unavoidable circumstances. It shall be the duty of the commanding officer at every muster, whether by battallion, regiment, or single company, to cause the militia to be exercised and trained agreeable to the said rules of discipline.

And be it further enacted, That all commissioned officers shall take rank according to the date of their commission; and when two of the same grade bear an equal date, then there rank to be determined by lots, to be drawn by them before the commanding officer of the brigade, regiment, battallion, company or detachment.

And be it further enacted That if any person, whether officer or soldier, belonging to the militia of any State, and called out into service of the United States, be wounded or disabled while in actual service, he shall be taken care of and provided for at the public expence.

And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the brigade inspector, to attend the regimental and battallion meetings of the militia composing their several brigades, during the time of their being under arms, to inspect their arms, ammunition and accoutrements; superintend their exercise and manœuvres and introduced the system of military discipline before described throughout the brigade; agreeable to law, and such orders as they shall, from time to time receive from the commander in chief, of the State; to make returns to the adjutant general of the State, at least once in every year, of the militia of the brigade to which he belongs, reporting therein the actual situation of the arms, accoutrements and ammunition of the several corps, and every other thing which, in his judgement, may relate to their government and the general advancement of good order and military discipline; and the adjutant general shall make a return of all the militia of the state to the commander in chief of the said State, and a duplicate of the same to the president of the United States.

And whereas sundry corps of artillery, cavalry and infantry, now exist in several of the said states, which by the laws, customs or useage thereof, have not been incorporated with or subject to the general regulations of the rest of the militia.

And be it enacted, That such corps retain their accustomed privileges, subject, nevertheless, to all other duties required by this act, in like manner with the other militia.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

RICHARD HENRY LEE, *President Protempore of the Senate.*

Approved, May the 8th, 1792.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.
President of the United States.

An ACT for the relief of Persons imprisoned for DEBT.

SECTION. 1. BE *it enacted by the Senate and house of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That persons imprisoned upon execution issuing from any court of the United States, for satisfaction of judgements in any civil actions, shall be entitled to like privileges of the yards or limits of the respective gaols, as persons confined in such goals for debt or judgements rendered in the courts of the several States, are entitled to, and under the like regulations and restrictions.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That any person imprisoned as aforesaid, may have the oath or affirmation, herein after expressed, administered to him by any judge of the United States, or of the general or supreme court of law of the state, in which the debtor is imprisoned, the creditor, his agent or attorney, if either live within one hundred miles of the place of imprisonment, or within the district in which the judgement was rendered, having had at least thirty days previous notice, by a citation served on him, issued by any such judge, to appear at the time therein mentioned, at the said goal, if he see fit, to shew cause why the said oath or affirmation should not be so administered; at which time and place, if no sufficient cause in the opinion of the judge, be shewn, or doth from examination appear to the contrary, he may at the request of the debtor, proceed to administer to him the following oath or affirmation, as the case may be: viz. *"You solemnly swear (or affirm) that you have not estate, real or personal, nor is any to your knowledge, holden in trust for you to the amount or value of twenty dollars, nor sufficient to pay the debt for which you are imprisoned."* Which oath or affirmation being administered, the judge shall certify the same under his hand, to the prison keeper, and shall fix a reasonable allowance for the debtor's support, not exceeding one dollar per week; and if the creditor shall thereafter, any week fail to furnish the debtor with such weekly support, by paying or advancing the money to him, or to the prison keeper, for his use, the debtor shall be discharged from his imprisonment, on such judgement, and shall not be liable to be imprisoned again for the said debt; but the judgement shall remain good and sufficient in law, and may be satisfied out of any estate which may then or at any time afterwards belong to the debtor.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person shall falsely take the oath or affirmation, aforesaid, such person shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and suffer the pains and penalties in that case provided.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*. That this act shall continue and be in force, for the space of one year from the passing thereof, and from thence to the end of the next session of Congress, and no longer.

APPROVED, May 5, 1792.

G. WASHINGTON,
President of the United States.

BOSTON, MAY 31.

By the returns from the several towns in the State, as made yesterday, the following GENTLEMEN were chosen to represent them the ensuing year.

County of SUFFOLK.

Bofter, Hon. Thomas Dawes, senior, Esq. William Tudor, Samuel Breck, Charles Jarvis, Jonathan Mason, and John C. Jones, Esquires, Hon. Benjamin Austin, jun. Esq. and William Eustis, Esq. *Roxbury*, Hon. Reed, Esq. *Dorchester*, Benjamin Hichborn, Esq. and Mr. John How. *Milton*, Edward H. Robbins, Esq. *Braintree*, Ebenezer Thayer, jun. Esq. *Quincy*, Capt. Peter B. Adams. *Weymouth*, Nathaniel Baily, Esq. *Hingham*, Col. Charles Cushing. *Cohasset*, Thomas Lathrop, Esq. *Dedham*, N. Ames, Nathaniel Kingsbury, Esq. *Brookline*, Mr. John Goddard. *Medfield*, Mr. Oliver Bullard. *Stoughton*, Frederick Pope, Esq. *Medway*, Mr. Moses Richardson. *Walpole*, Seth Bullard, Esq. *Wrentham*, Mr. Nathan Comstock. *Franklin*, Hezekiah Fisher, Esq. *Bellingham*, Mr. Aaron Holbrook. *Foxborough*, Mr. John Everett. *Chelsea*, Capt. John Sale, jun.

County of ESSEX.

Salem, Samuel Ward, Ebenezer Bickford, John Saunders, jun. John Fisk, and John Hathorne, Esquires. *Newburyport*, Major E. Titcomb, Stephen Cross, Esq. Mr. John Mycall. *Newbury*, Mr. Nathaniel Evans, and Mr. Silas Little. *Ipswich*, John Manning, Esq. Nathan Cogswell, Elisha Whitney, Esquires, and Mr. John Heard. *Andover*, Joshua Holt, Esq. *Bradford*, Peter Russel, Esq. *Beverly*, Larkin Thorndike, Esq. Mr. Joseph Woods, and Mr. John Cabbot. *Danvers*, Hon. Israel Hutchinson, Esq. *Marblehead*, Stanley Sewall, William B. Lee, and Marston Watson, Esqrs. *Gloucester*, Hon. Peter Coffin, Esq. Capt. William Pearson. *Haverhill*, Capt. Francis Carr. *Lynn and Lynnfield*, Mr. Ezra Collins. *Rowley*, Capt. Thomas Mighill. *Salisbury*, Maj. Joseph Page. *Amesbury*, Mr. Joseph Wingate. *Boxford*, Thomas Peabody, Esq. *Methuen*, Capt. John Davis. *Wenham*, Maj. Billy Porter. *Topsfield*, Mr. Sylvanus Wilder.

County of MIDDLESEX.

Charlestown, Richard Devens, Esq. *Cambridge*, Col. S. Dana. *Watertown*, Col. Bond. *Weston*, Mr. Abner Saunderson. *Westford*, Col. Zachariah Wright. *Wilmington*, Col. Blanchard. *Woburn*, Mr. Amos Bigelow. *Westsudbury*, William Rice, Esq. *Malborough*, Col. Edward Barns. *Newton*, Dr. Isaac King. *Framingham*, Jonathan Maynard, Esq. *Medford*, Capt. Isaac Smith. *Medford*, Mr. Ebenezer Hall. *Woburn*, Samuel, Thompson, Esq. *Lexington*, Mr. Joseph Simonds. *Lincoln*, Hon. E. Brook, Esq. *Concord*, Jonathan Fay, Esq. *Reading*, Mr. Benjamin Upton. *Billerica*, Edward Farmer, Esq. *Chelmsford*, Major John Minot. *Sherburne*, Daniel Whitney, Esq. *Stow*, Mr. Charles Whitman. *Townsbury*, Mr. Mitchell Davis. *Groton*, Maj. A. Brown. *Littleton*, Samuel Tuttle, Esq. *Acton and Carlisle*, Mr. Jonas Brooks. *Pepperell*, John Heard, Esq. *Townsend*, Mr. Jonathan Wallis. *Dracut*, Parker Varnum, Esq.

County of HAMPSHIRE.

Springfield, Hon. Samuel Lyman, Esq. *West Springfield*, Justin Ely, Esq. *Hadley*, Capt. Charles Phelps. *Pelham*, Mr. Adam Clark. *Warwick and Orange*, John Goldsborough, Esq. *Northampton*, Samuel Hinshaw, Esq. *Westfield*, William Shephard, Esq. *Hatfield*, Capt. B. Nash. *Amherst*, Capt. Moses Cowles. *Hatfield*, Mr. E. Smith. *Deerfield*, Mr. Jonathan Hoyt. *New-Salem*, Capt. E. Kellog, jun. *Palmer*, David Shaw, Esq. *Northfield*, Mr. Obadiah Dickinson. *Colrain*, Hugh Mc Clallan, Esq. *Greenfield*, David Smead, Esq. *Barnardston*, and *Leyden*, Mr. Hezekiah Newcomb. *Worthington*, Nahum Eager, Esq. *Brimfield*, Joseph Browning, Esq. *Williamsburg*, William Bodman, Esq. *Blanford*, Mr. Reuben Boies.

County of PLYMOUTH.

Plymouth, John Davis, Esq. *Marshfield*, Capt. Joseph Bryant. *Scituate*, Capt. E. Turner, and Capt. Howard Pierce. *Pembroke*, Capt. John Turner. *Bridgewater*, Bez a Howard, Esq. *Middleboro'*, James Sproat, Esq. *Hanover*, Mr. Melzar Curtis. *Plympton*, Mr. Gideon Bradford, jun. *Carver*, Francis Shurtleff, Esq. *Rochester*, Eben. White, Esq. *Abington*, Capt. Luther Bicknell. *Wareham*, David Nye, Esq. *Halifax*, Mr. Thompson. Esq. *Duxborough*, Gamaliel Bradford, Esq. *Kingston*, Ebenezer Wallsburn, Esq.

County of BRISTOL.

Norton, Seth Smith, jun. Esq. *Taunton*, Hon. David Cobb, Esq. *Rehoboth*, Hon. Phanuel Bishop, Esq. *Attleborough*, Maj. E. Tyler. *Swanzey*, C. Mason, Esq. *Somerset*, Jerathmeel Bowers, Esq. *Freetown*, Mr. Ephraim Winslow. *Dighton*, Mr. Thomas S. Briggs. *Easton*, Col. Abiel Mitchell. *Raynham*, Josiah Dean, Esq. *Berkley*, Samuel Tobey, Esq. *Dartmouth*, Hon. Holder Slocum. *Newbedford*, Hon. Walter Spooner.

County of BARNSTABLE.

Barnstable, Capt. Samuel Smith. *Harwich*, Mr. Kimball Clark, Joseph Shaw, Esq. *Chatham*, Mr. Nathan Sears. *Wellfleet*, Samuel Waterman, Esq.

County of NANTUCKET.

Sherburne, Mr. Micajah Coffin.

County of DUKES COUNTY.

Edgarton, William Jernigan, Esq. *Chilmark*, Mr. Basset, Esq.

County of WORCESTER.

Worcester, Col. Samuel Flagg. *Leicester*, Col. Thomas Denny. *Lancaster*, Capt. E. Carter, jun. *Lemister*, Col. Timothy Boutell. *Westminster*, Mr. Josiah Puney. *Brookfield*. Dwight Foster, Esq. *Dudley*, Mr. Daniel Keys. Esq. *Sutton*, Solomon Leland, Esq. *Grafton*, Col. Luke Drury. *Charlton*, Salem Towne, Esq. *Princeton*, Hon. Moses Gill. Esq. *Upton*, Col. Ezra Wood. *Boylston*, Mr. John Temple. *Templeton*, Capt. Joel Fletcher. *Bolton and Berlin*, Mr. Samuel Baker. *Mendon*, Benjamin Read, Esq. *Southbridge*, Mr. Josiah Walker. *Southborough*, Elijah Brigham, Esq. *Northborough*, Mr. Isaac Davis. *Milford*, Maj. Samuel Jones. *Oakham*, Joseph Chaddock, Esq. *Ashburnham*, Mr. Joseph Willard. *Petersham*, David Bigelow, Esq. *Barre*, Capt. John Black. *Hubbardston*, Martin Kingsley, Esq. *Sterling*, Col. Edward Rice. *Richmond* & *Rutland*, William Caldwell, Esq. *Spencer*, Mr. James Hathaway. *Royalston*, Mr. Oliver Wood. *Holden*, Mr. John Dodds. *Lunenburgh*, Josiah Stearns, Esq. *Fitchburgh*, Mr. Daniel Putnam. *Shirley*, Major Jonah Howe. *Dudley*, Capt. John Chamberlain.

Ashby, Mr. Josiah Goddard. *Oxford*, Capt. Jeremiah Learned. *Hubbardston*, Major Wm. Marean. *Newtown*, Benjamin Joslyn, Esq. *Douglass*, Mr. Aaron Smith.

County of BERKSHIRE.

Adams, Israel Jones, Esq. *Sandisfield*, John Picket, jun. Esq. *Windsor*, Mr. Joshua Beals. *Partridgefield*, Eben. Penree, Esq. *Newmarlborough*, Obadiah Ward. *Stockbridge*, Hon. Timothy Edwards. *Hancock*, Esq. *Sheffield*, Capt. Daniel Hubbard, Timothy Childs, Esq.

County of YORK.

York, Capt. Joseph Tucker. *Arundel*, Capt. Jacob Wilde. *Berwick*, Ichabod Goodwin, Esq. *Fryeburgh*, Simeon Frye, Esq. *Wells*, John Storer, Esq. *Pepperellborough*, Dr. Josiah Fairfield.

County of CUMBERLAND.

Falmouth, Capt. David Nye. *Harpswell*, Isaac Snow, Esq. *New Gloucester*, Wm. Wedgery, Esq. *Northyarmouth*, Mr. Wm. Martin.

County of LINCOLN.

Pownalborough, John Gardiner, and David Sylvester, Esqrs. *Hallowell*, Hon. Daniel Coney, Esq. *Fayette*, Mr. Charles Webber. *Winthrop and Readfield*, Robert Page, Esq. *Winslow*, George Warren, Esq. *Cushing*, John M'Killes, Esq.

County of HANCOCK.

No return.

County of WASHINGTON.

Machias, Phineas Bruce, Esq.

PROCEEDINGS of the GENERAL COURT.

HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, *JUNE* 2.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the two houses met in convention, for the purpose of qualifying the Councellors elect, whereupon the Hon. Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, Azor Orne, Thomas Dawse, Oliver Wendell, and William Shephard, Esq'rs. in their presence, took and subscribed the oath and declarations of this Commonwealth, and the oath to support the constitution of the United States, to qualify them for the duties of the office aforesaid. The Senators and Representatives then separated.

The Hon. Joseph Hosmer, Esquire, brought down a letter from the Hon. Thomas Russell, Esq. resigning his appointment as a Councellor

MONDAY, *JUNE* 4.

Messieurs Henshaw, Flagg and Jones, (of Boston) with such as the Senate may join, were appointed a Committee to report a proper mode of choosing electors of The President and Vice-President of the United States.

A petition of Stephen Higginson, Esq. & others, praying to be incorporated for the purpose of establishing a State Bank, was read, and committed to Messrs. Jarvis, Kingsley and Bowers.

TUESDAY, *JUNE* 5.

The two houses met in Convention for the purpose of choosing a Councellor, in the room of the Hon. Thomas Russel, Esq. who has declined accepting his appointment, when

The Hon. JAMES WARREN, Esquire, was chosen.

The Bill for naturalizing Conspirators, &c. within this Commonwealth, passed to be engrossed.

The following gentleman, are chosen, the committees accounts, viz. Hon. Stephen Metcalf and Joseph Hosmer, Esq'rs. Benjamin Read, Josiah Stearns, and Enoch Titcomb, jun. Esquires.

WEDNESDAY, *JUNE* 6.

The Secretary came in and said he was directed by His Excellency the Governor, to inform the House that he should, this day at 11 o'clock pay his respects to the two Houses in the Representatives Chamber.

At 11 o'clock, both Branches met in the Representatives Chamber, and shortly after His Excellency came in, and made the following

SPEECH.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives.

THE candor which my fellow citizens have shewn towards me, by repeatedly giving me their suffrages for Governor of the Commonwealth, and my duty resulting from that office, induce me to request your attendance in this place, that I may pay to you the respect, which is due to the assembled Representatives of a great and free people.

In times of public danger, and of common calamity, men in office have an opportunity to make a display of ability, firmness, and patriotism; but we, Gentlemen, in the present state of our country, have little more to do, than to improve, and enjoy, that general tranquility, and those scenes of public prosperity, which seldom fall to the lot of a nation. From the characters which compose the Legislature, our fellow-citizens must possess the highest assurance, that all the measures of the present year, will be calculated to preserve to the people of United America in general, and to those of this Commonwealth in particular, those invaluable blessings.

That a free government founded in the natural equal rights of all the people, is within the reach of human ability, and to be prized as a principal support of national happiness, is an idea which has been long established in the minds of the greatest and wisest men in the world: The manner in which this State was originally settled by our ancestors, has given us an opportunity to carry this principle into practice: And our great, and unexampled success, has given us cause of gratitude to Him who prescribed the bounds of different nations, and has fully compensated us for all our toil, expence and trouble.

That government may be considered as truly free, where all the people are, by the constitution and laws, upon the same rank of privilege, and have an equal security for their lives, liberties, and property. Where the laws do not create, but are calculated to prevent all exclusive rights to fame or wealth, and have each citizen upon his own merit for the honors of his country, and upon his own honest exertions for the acquirement of property. That such a situation as I have hinted at, may be in the possession of every nation on the earth, is the devout wish of every good man: And in this idea, our prayers cannot cease for a people, with whom we are nearly allied, and whose generous assistance did much towards promoting the object of our wishes in the time of our distress.

The means most likely to continue our public felicity, are the establishing, and executing such laws, as will tend to support the habits of truth, integrity, and every moral virtue: and by certain, and adequate, punishments, to prohibit all frauds, every immorality and vice: The providing for a regular support of teachers of piety, religion and morality; and the maintainance of free public Schools in the towns of the State, by which the children of the poorer will have equal advantages with those of the richer part of the community. I am exceedingly gratified in being assured, that these important institutions are so generally attended to by the people of this State: And as I consider our University at Cambridge, as being the principal source of the learning, and intelligence possessed by this community, I cannot but earnestly solicit you to give it your encouragement and support.—By these, and other measures, which your wisdom and prudence will dictate, under the smiles of that Divine Being, whose hitherto afforded us his support, we may hope for a continuance of our prosperity, and for permanent public happiness.

We live in a country that naturally excites the mind to enterprize; giving encouragement to industry, and to that spirit of commerce, which tends to command a friendly intercourse amongst all the nations of the earth, to improve in the arts, and to render more valuable and important the vast variety of blessings which we possess.

I have directed the Secretary to lay before you, such acts and proceeding of the Congress of the United States, as have been forwarded to me. Among them, is an act for regulating the Militia of the States. That act appears to me to be quite conformant to the constitution of the General Government, and I shall, as Commander in Chief of the Militia of this State, take every measure within my power to render the Militia respectable under it.

There is also another act providing for the proportion of Representatives to be sent from the States to Congress—Your attention will be immediately called to the forming districts from whence they are to be elected in this State.—You will in this business be pleased to consider that having the districts so formed as to give a center of communication to the inhabitants of each, will have a tendency to promote harmony and unanimity in their proceedings.

In the last session of the late General Court, I was obliged, by a sense of duty, to object to a resolve passed by the two Branches, for a particular divorce. I am led to believe that a majority of the Senate and House, were of opinion, that the provisions made by the standing laws of the State, are inadequate to subjects of this nature. If I had been clearly of opinion, that the Legislature had a right to dissolve the bands of matrimony by a special act, I should have objected to a resolve for that purpose, as not being of proper solemnity in the transaction. I wish you, Gentlemen, to revise the laws now existing on this subject; and if the causes as recognized by law, do not comprehend all those for which a divorce ought to be allowed, you will make such provision, as may tend to give relief where it ought to be had—I am obliged however, to observe, that this is a subject which ought to be treated with great caution; because indulgencies of this kind, when established by law, are very liable to be abused, to the great injury of society.

Whether the people have the advantage of a ready & cheap administration of justice, you, who come from the various parts of the Commonwealth, can determine better than I can. If they have not this benefit, you will pay a proper attention to a subject so very important & interesting in its nature. Whether a new arrangement of the counties will conduce to the saving of expence to the people, may be worthy your consideration: An increase of their number, may render the government very unwieldly, and may have a tendency finally to injure the Commonwealth.

There is yet a debt due from this Commonwealth. It has not been assumed by the Congress, nor provided for by us. Our demand against the United States has not yet been liquidated or allowed by that government. Justice demands a perseverence in measures that may extinguish the debt, and satisfy the just claims of our creditors.

By the standing laws of the Commonwealth, Justices of the Peace, are empowered to appoint appraisers of the estates of deceased persons, and such appraisement is frequently the foundation of an inventory of the personal estate, which is to be accounted for by Executors and Administrators. The Executors and Administrators have their election to apply to such Justice as they please, for such appointment; and am very apprehensive that widows, Orphans and creditors may be injured by this method of procedure, while the expence saved by not applying to the Judge of Probate, for such appointment is very trifling.

Gentlemen,

I shall not detain you further on particular parts of our business, but shall make such communications to you by special message as I shall conceive to be necessary; and while I hope that such public business as shall employ your attention, will have an early day in the session, and be laid before me so timely that I shall not be obliged to delay an adjournment after I shall be requested, I shall do every thing within my power to give dispatch to the public business, and to render the Session agreeable to you.

JOHN HANCOCK.

Council-Chamber, June 6, 1792.

DANBURY, *June* 4.

A singular case occured lately in this town.—A child of Mr. Phillip Burnet, playing with a metal Coat Button, got it into its throat, where it remained 22 days, during which time he appeared to be in great pain, and every effort to extract it proved fruitless.—We have the pleasure however to add, that on the 23d day the child swallowed the button, and the 26th voided it, and is now recovering its former strength and activity.

☞ The button measures one inch in diameter, and may be seen at this Office.

NORTHAMPTON, June 13.

Monday the 1st inst. the Field Officers of the several Regiments in the first Brigade, fourth Division, Massachusetts Militia, being legally convened at Springfield, for that purpose, made choice of EBENEZER MATTON, Jun. Esq. Brigadier General, vice Elisha Porter, Esq. resigned.

JOHN AVERY, jun. Esq. is re chosen Secretary—and

The Hon. THOMAS DAVIS, Esq. is chosen Treasurer and receiver General of this Commonwealth.

In the British house of Commons, April 2d, the celebrated Mr. Wilberforce renewed his motion for the immediate abolition of the SLAVE TRADE; and was supported therein by the influence and talents of Messrs. Pitt and Fox—but Mr. Dundas moved an amendment; that the abolition should be *gradual*—which was carried, as follows:

For the amended motion,	-	233
against it,	- -	85

This decision has not given any satisfaction to the advocates for the abolition—and Mr. Fox, after a pathetic appeal to the feelings and dignity of the House, moved, that on the 18th April, the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole, on the immediate abolition of this trade.

THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY, of Free and accepted MASONS, are hereby notified that the Brethren of Hampshire Lodge intend celebrating the Festival of St. JOHN, the Baptist, on Monday the 25th inst. at the Lodge Room, in Northampton. A punctual attendance of the Members, is enjoined at 9 o'clock A. M.;—It is expected a Sermon will be delivered on the occasion, to begin at 11 o'clock.

A GENERAL
ASSORTMENT OF SPRING
GOODS,
TO BE SOLD BY
MATHER, HUTCHINS and MATHER,
at their store opposite the Meeting house,
viz:—

CALICOES, Chintzes,
Broadcloths, Cassimers,
Coatings, Forescloths,
Flannels, Baizes,
Twill'd cotton and hemp Hose,
Shalloons, Moreens,
Durants, Lastings, Russel,
Wildboars, Calimancoes,
Plain and Sprig'd Muslin,
Muslin and Lawn Handkerchiefs,
Muslinets,
Modes and Persians,
Cambricks and Lawns,
Muslin Aprons,
White, Green & Pink Sarcenet,
Irish Linen,
Brown Linen, and Russia Sheeting,
Vest Patterns,
Bandana, Barcelona and other Handkerchiefs,
Black and White Taffety,
Black Tiffany,
Umbrellas,
Silk and Twist,
Silk Mitts,
China Ribbons of all kinds
Plumes, Feathers & Roses,

Fans, Laces and Edgings,
Long and short Gloves,
Velvet Ribbon,
Gold & Silver Cord and Tossels,
Women's Shoes,
Chip Hatts,
Japan'd Tea Cannisters,
Quills,
Nails and Glass,
Looking Glasses,
Plated and common Sugar Tongs,
Black Shoe Buckles,
Tobacco and Snuff boxes,
Knives and Forks,
Fenkuives, Scissors,
Razors, Pins, Needles,
Loaf and Brown Sugar,
Green & Bohea Teas,
Rice, Coffee, Chocolate,
Indigo, Allspice, Pepper,
Ginger, Raisins, Hard Soap
Snuff by the Bladder.

ALSO Rum, Wines,
Oranges, Limes, Lemons,
&c. And a General assortment of GLASS and CROCKERY WARE,
and many other articles.

Northampton, June 13, 1792.

NEW GOODS, JUST IMPORTED.
ROBERT BRECK *and* SON,
INFORM their Customers and others, they are now opening at their Store, a Large and Elegant assortment of ENGLISH and HARD WARE GOODS, which they either Imported or purchased with the Cash in hand. And therefore flatter themselves they shall be able to sell them on the most reasonable terms.

N. B. They likewise have a quantity of GLASS & NAILS, of all kinds; and a good assortment of
Crockery & Glass Ware,
Which they will put at the lowest advance. Most kinds of Produce received in pay as usual.

Northampton, June 6, 1792.

Just received from NEW-YORK, and now ready for sale at the Store formerly occupied by Doctor Shephard, a general assortment of
SPRING GOODS,
By SHERMAN & PECK, which they will sell cheap as the cheapest, for READY PAY.

NORTHAMPTON, MAY 30, 1792.

☞ *CASH* given for clean Cotton & Linen RAGS, at this Office.

holder or person licenced to keep a public Court of Justice, the same shall be invalidated and