



The constitution
of the state of Maine

1825

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Date: 1825

Description: The Constitution of the State of Maine and that of the United States

THE
CONSTITUTION
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE,
AND THAT OF THE
UNITED STATES.

—
PUBLISHED FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS, BY ORDER OF THE
LEGISLATURE.
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Portland :
PRINTED BY TODD AND SMITH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
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STATE OF MAINE.

An Act providing for the distribution of copies of the Constitution of this State, and of the United States, to be used in Schools.

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Legislature assembled,* That the Secretary of State is hereby authorized to cause to be printed ten thousand copies of the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, bound together in spelling book form and execution, for the use of schools, and to be by him distributed to the selectmen of the several towns, and the assessors of the several plantations, in the State, in a ratio proportioned to their population, with due regard to the probable number and increase of scholars in the several towns and plantations.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the selectmen of towns, and the assessors of plantations, receiving such books, shall entrust them to the instructors of the schools in the several districts, in proportion to the number of scholars; and it is hereby made the duty of said instructors, to cause the said books to be used and read in their several schools, and also, when and where it may be practicable, from the age and advancement in study of their pupils, to cause the same to be committed to memory.

SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That the Instructors of schools in the several school districts, who may have received from the selectmen or assessors, copies of the book, as aforesaid, shall, on their leaving the charge of such schools, return them to the Selectmen or assessors, of whom they were received, and by whom they shall be safely kept until new teachers are employed, or delivered to their successors in office.

SECT. 4. *Be it further enacted,* That a sum not exceeding seven hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to carry the purposes aforesaid into effect.

[This Act passed February 26, 1825.]

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CONSTITUTION OF MAINE.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF MAINE, in order to establish justice, insure tranquillity, provide for our mutual defence, promote our common welfare, and secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of Liberty, acknowledging with grateful hearts the goodness of the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe in affording us an opportunity so favorable to the design ; and, imploring his aid and direction in its accomplishment, do agree to form ourselves into a FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATE, by the style and title of the STATE OF MAINE, and do ordain and establish the following Constitution for the government of the same.

ARTICLE I.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

SECT. 1. All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent and unalienable Rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

SECT. 2. All power is inherent in the people ; all free governments are founded in their authority and instituted for their benefit ; they have therefore an unalienable and indefeasible right to institute government, and to alter, reform, or totally change the same, when their safety and happiness require it.

SECT. 3. All men have a natural and unalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences, and no one shall be hurt, molested or restrained in his person, liberty or estate, for worshipping God in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience, nor for his religious professions or sentiments, provided he does not disturb the public peace, nor obstruct others in their religious worship ;—and all persons demeaning themselves peaceably, as good members of the State, shall be equally under the protection of the laws,

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and no subordination nor preference of any one sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by law, nor shall any religious test be required as a qualification for any office or trust, under this State ; and all religious societies in this State, whether incorporate or unincorporate, shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their public teachers, and contracting with them for their support and maintenance.

SECT. 4. Every citizen may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of this liberty ; no laws shall be passed regulating or restraining the freedom of the press ; and in prosecutions for any publication respecting the official conduct of men in public capacity, or the qualifications of those who are candidates for the suffrages of the people, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence ; and in all indictments for libels, the Jury, after having received the direction of the Court, shall have a right to determine, at their discretion, the law and the fact.

SECT. 5. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers & possessions from all unreasonable searches and seizures ; and no warrant to search any place, or seize any person or thing, shall issue without a special designation of the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized, nor without probable cause—supported by oath or affirmation.

SECT. 6. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, or either, at his election ;

To demand the nature and cause of the accusation, and have a copy thereof ;

To be confronted by the witnesses against him ;

To have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor ;

To have a speedy, public and impartial trial, and, except in trials by martial law or impeachment, by a Jury of the vicinity. He shall not be compelled to furnish or give evidence against himself, nor be deprived of his life, liberty, property or privileges, but by judgment of his peers or the law of the land.

SECT. 7. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases of impeachment, or in such cases of offences, as are usually cognizable by a justice of the peace, or in cases arising in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public dan-

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SECT. 8. No person, for the same offence, shall be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

SECT. 9. Sanguinary laws shall not be passed: all penalties and punishments shall be proportioned to the offence: excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel nor unusual punishments inflicted.

SECT. 10. All persons, before conviction, shall be bailable, except for capital offences, where the proof is evident or the presumption great. And the privilege of the writ of *Habeas Corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

SECT. 11. The Legislature shall pass no bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, nor law impairing the obligation of contracts, and no attainder shall work corruption of blood nor forfeiture of estate.

SECT. 12. Treason against this State shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

SECT. 13. The laws shall not be suspended but by the Legislature or its authority.

SECT. 14. No person shall be subject to corporal punishment under military law, except such as are employed in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger.

SECT. 15. The people have a right at all times in an orderly and peaceable manner to assemble to consult upon the common good, to give instructions to their representatives, and to request, of either department of the government by petition or remonstrance, redress of their wrongs and grievances.

SECT. 16. Every citizen has a right to keep and bear arms for the common defence; and this right shall never be questioned.

SECT. 17. No standing army shall be kept up in time of peace without the consent of the Legislature, and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

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SECT. 18. No soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner or occupant, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

SECT. 19. Every person, for an injury done him in his person, reputation, property or immunities, shall have remedy by due course of law ; and right and justice shall be administered freely and without sale, completely and without denial, promptly and without delay.

SECT. 20. In all civil suits, and in all controversies concerning property, the parties shall have a right to a trial by jury, except in cases where it has heretofore been otherwise practised : the party claiming the right may be heard by himself and his counsel, or either, at his election.

SECT. 21. Private property shall not be taken for public uses without just compensation ; nor unless the public exigencies require it.

SECT. 22. No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the people or of their Representatives in the Legislature.

SECT. 23. No title of nobility or hereditary distinction, privilege, honor or emolument, shall ever be granted or confirmed, nor shall any office be created, the appointment to which shall be for a longer time than during good behavior.

SECT. 24. The enumeration of certain rights shall not impair nor deny others retained by the people.

ARTICLE II.

ELECTORS.

SECT. 1. Every male citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, persons under guardianship, and indians not taxed, having his residence established in this State for the term of three months next preceding any election, shall be an elector for Governor, Senators and Representatives, in the town or plantation where his residence is so established ; and the elections shall be by written ballot. But persons in the military, naval or marine service of the United States, or this State, shall not be considered as having obtained such established residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack or military place, in any town or plantation ; nor shall the residence of a student at any seminary of learning entitle him to the right of suffrage in the town or plantation where such seminary is established.

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SECT. 2. Electors shall, in all cases, except treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest on the days of election, during their attendance at, going to, and returning therefrom.

SECT. 3. No elector shall be obliged to do duty in the militia on any day of election, except in time of war or public danger.

SECT. 4. The election of Governor, Senators and Representatives, shall be on the second Monday of September annually forever.

ARTICLE III.

DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS.

SECT. 1. The powers of this Government shall be divided into three distinct Departments, the *Legislative*, *Executive* and *Judicial*.

SECT. 2. No person or persons, belonging to one of these Departments, shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to either of the others, except in the cases herein expressly directed or permitted.

ARTICLE IV.—Part First.

LEGISLATIVE POWER.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SECT. 1. The Legislative power shall be vested in two distinct branches, a House of Representatives, and a Senate, each to have a negative on the other, and both to be stiled the *Legislature of Maine*, and the style of their Acts and Laws, shall be, "*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled.*"

SECT. 2. The House of Representatives shall consist of not less than one hundred nor more than two hundred members, to be elected by the qualified electors for one year from the day next preceding the annual meeting of the Legislature. The Legislature, which shall first be convened under this Constitution, shall, on or before the fifteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and the Legislature, within every subsequent period of at most ten years and at least five, cause the number of the inhabitants of the State to be ascertained, exclusive of foreigners not naturalized, and Indians not taxed. The number of Representatives shall, at the several periods of making such enumeration, be fixed

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and apportioned among the several counties, as near as may be, according to the number of inhabitants, having regard to the relative increase of population. The number of Representatives shall, on said first apportionment, be not less than one hundred nor more than one hundred and fifty ; and, whenever the number of Representatives shall be two hundred, at the next annual meetings of elections, which shall thereafter be had, and at every subsequent period of ten years, the people shall give in their votes, whether the number of Representatives shall be increased or diminished, and if a majority of votes are in favor thereof, it shall be the duty of the next Legislature thereafter to increase or diminish the number by the rule hereinafter prescribed.

SECT. 3. Each town having fifteen hundred inhabitants may elect one representative ; each town having three thousand seven hundred and fifty may elect two ; each town having six thousand seven hundred and fifty may elect three ; each town having ten thousand five hundred may elect four ; each town having fifteen thousand may elect five ; each town having twenty thousand two hundred and fifty may elect six ; each town having twenty six thousand two hundred and fifty inhabitants may elect seven ; but no town shall ever be entitled to more than seven representatives ; and towns and plantations duly organized, not having fifteen hundred inhabitants, shall be classed, as conveniently as may be, into districts containing that number, and so as not to divide towns ; and each such district may elect one representative ; and, when on this apportionment the number of representatives shall be two hundred, a different apportionment shall take place upon the above principle ; and, in case the fifteen hundred shall be too large or too small to apportion all the representatives to any county, it shall be so increased or diminished as to give the number of representatives according to the above rule and proportion ; and whenever any town or towns, plantation or plantations not entitled to elect a representative shall determine against a classification with any other town or plantation, the Legislature may, at each apportionment of representatives, on the application of such town or plantation, authorize it to elect a representative for such portion of time and such periods, as shall be equal to its portion of representation ; and the right of representation, so established, shall not be altered until the next general apportionment.

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SECT. 4. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives, unless he shall, at the commencement of

the period for which he is elected, have been five years a citizen of the United States, have arrived at the age of twenty one years, have been a resident in this State one year, or from the adoption of this Constitution ; and for the three months next preceding the time of his election shall have been, and, during the period for which he is elected, shall continue to be a resident in the town or district which he represents.

SECT. 5. The meetings for the choice of Representatives shall be warned in due course of law by the selectmen of the several towns seven days at least before the election, and the selectmen thereof shall preside impartially at such meetings, receive the votes of all the qualified electors present, sort, count and declare them in open town meeting, and in the presence of the town clerk, who shall form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name, shall make a fair record thereof in the presence of the selectmen, and in open town meeting ; and a fair copy of this list shall be attested by the selectmen and town clerk, and delivered by said selectmen to each representative within ten days next after such election. And the towns and plantations organized by law, belonging to any class herein provided, shall hold their meetings at the same time in the respective towns and plantations ; and the town and plantation meetings in such towns and plantations shall be notified, held and regulated, the votes received, sorted, counted and declared in the same manner. And the assessors and clerks of plantations shall have all the powers, and be subject to all the duties, which selectmen and town clerks have, and are subject to by this Constitution. And the selectmen of such towns, and the assessors of such plantations, so classed, shall, within four days next after such meeting, meet at some place, to be prescribed and notified by the selectmen or assessors of the eldest town, or plantation, in such class, and the copies of said lists shall be then examined and compared ; and in case any person shall be elected by a majority of all the votes, the selectmen or assessors shall deliver the certified copies of such lists to the person so elected, within ten days next after such election ; and the clerks of towns and plantations respectively shall seal up copies of all such lists and cause them to be delivered into the Secretary's office twenty days at least before the first Wednesday in January annually ; but in case no person shall have a majority of votes, the selectmen and assessors shall, as soon as may be, notify another meeting, and the same proceedings shall be had at every future meeting until an election shall have been effected : *Provided*, That the Legislature may by law prescribe a different mode of

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returning, examining and ascertaining the election of the representatives in such classes.

SECT. 6. Whenever the seat of a member shall be vacated by death, resignation, or otherwise the vacancy may be filled by a new election.

SECT. 7. The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker, Clerk, and other officers.

SECT. 8. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

ARTICLE IV.—*Part Second.*

SENATE.

SECT. 1. The Senate shall consist of not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-one members, elected at the same time, and for the same term, as the representatives, by the qualified electors of the districts, into which the State shall from time to time be divided.

SECT. 2. The Legislature, which shall be first convened under this Constitution, shall, on or before the fifteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and the Legislature at every subsequent period of ten years, cause the State to be divided into districts for the choice of Senators. The districts shall conform, as near as may be, to county lines, and be apportioned according to the number of inhabitants. The number of Senators shall not exceed twenty at the first apportionment, and shall at each apportionment be increased, until they shall amount to thirty-one, according to the increase in the House of Representatives.

SECT. 3. The meetings for the election of Senators shall be notified, held and regulated, and the votes received, sorted, counted, declared and recorded, in the same manner as those for Representatives. And fair copies of the lists of votes shall be attested by the selectmen and town clerks of towns, and the assessors and clerks of plantations, and sealed up in open town and plantation meetings; and the town and plantation clerks respectively shall cause the same to be delivered into the Secretary's office thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of January. All other qualified electors, living in places unincorporated, who shall be assessed to the support of government by the assessors of an adjacent town, shall have the privilege of voting for Senators, Representatives and Governor in such town; and

returning, examining and ascertaining the election of the representatives in such classes.

SECT. 6. Whenever the seat of a member shall be vacated by death, resignation, or otherwise the vacancy may be filled by a new election.

SECT. 7. The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker, Clerk and other officers.

SECT. 8. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

ARTICLE IV.—*Part Second.*

SENATE.

SECT. 1. The Senate shall consist of not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-one members, elected at the same time, and for the same term, as the representatives, by the qualified electors of the districts, into which the State shall from time to time be divided.

SECT. 2. The Legislature, which shall be first convened under this Constitution, shall, on or before the fifteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and the Legislature at every subsequent period of ten years, cause the State to be divided into districts for the choice of Senators. The districts shall conform, as near as may be, to county lines, and be apportioned according to the number of inhabitants. The number of Senators shall not exceed twenty at the first apportionment, and shall at each apportionment be increased, until they shall amount to thirty-one, according to the increase in the House of Representatives.

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shall be notified by the selectmen thereof for that purpose accordingly.

SECT. 4. The Governor and Council shall, as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of such lists, and, twenty days before the said first Wednesday of January, issue a summons to such persons, as shall appear to be elected by a majority of the votes in each district, to attend that day and take their seats.

SECT. 5. The Senate shall, on the said first Wednesday of January, annually, determine who are elected by a majority of votes to be Senators in each district; and in case the full number of Senators to be elected from each district shall not have been so elected, the members of the House of Representatives and such Senators, as shall have been elected, shall, from the highest numbers of the persons voted for, on said lists, equal to twice the number of Senators deficient, in every district, if there be so many voted for, elect by joint ballot the number of Senators required; and in this manner all vacancies in the Senate shall be supplied, as soon as may be, after such vacancies happen.

SECT. 6. The Senators shall be twenty-five years of age at the commencement of the term, for which they are elected, and in all other respects their qualifications shall be the same, as those of the Representatives.

SECT. 7. The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments, and when sitting for that purpose shall be on oath or affirmation, and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present. Their judgment, however, shall not extend farther than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold or enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under this State. But the party, whether convicted or acquitted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment according to law.

SECT. 8. The Senate shall choose their President, Secretary, and other officers.

ARTICLE IV.—*Part Third.*

LEGISLATIVE POWER.

SECT. 1. The Legislature shall convene on the first Wednesday of January annually, and shall have full power to make and establish all reasonable laws and regulations for the defence and benefit of the people of this State, not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to that of the United States.

shall be notified by the selectmen thereof for that purpose accordingly.

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LEGISLATIVE POWER.

SECT. 1. The Legislature shall convene on the first Wednesday of January annually, and shall have full power to make and establish all reasonable laws and regulations for the defence and benefit of the people of this State, not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to that of the United States.

SECT. 2. Every bill or resolution, having the force of law, to which the concurrence of both Houses may be necessary, except on a question of adjournment, which shall have passed both Houses, shall be presented to the Governor, and if he approve, he shall sign it; if not, he shall return it with his objections to the House, in which it shall have originated, which shall enter the objections at large on its journals, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two thirds of that House shall agree to pass it, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall be reconsidered, and, if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall have the same effect, as if it had been signed by the Governor; but in all such cases, the votes of both Houses shall be taken by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons, voting for and against the bill or resolution, shall be entered on the journals of both Houses respectively. If the bill or resolution shall not be returned by the Governor within five days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, it shall have the same force and effect, as if he had signed it, unless the Legislature by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall have such force and effect, unless returned within three days after their next meeting.

SECT. 3. Each House shall be the judge of the elections and qualifications of its own members, and a majority shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each House shall provide.

SECT. 4. Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause.

SECT. 5. Each House shall keep a journal, and from time to time publish its proceedings, except such parts as in their judgment may require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House on any question, shall, at the desire of one fifth of those present, be entered on the journals.

SECT. 6. Each House, during its session, may punish by imprisonment any person, not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behavior in its presence, for obstructing any of its proceedings, threatening, assaulting or abusing any of its members for any thing said, done, or doing in either House; *Provided*, That no imprisonment shall extend beyond the period of the same session.

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SECT. 7. The Senators and Representatives shall receive such compensation, as shall be established by law ; but no law increasing their compensation shall take effect during the existence of the Legislature, which enacted it. The expenses of the members of the House of Representatives in travelling to the Legislature, and returning therefrom, once in each session and no more, shall be paid by the State out of the public Treasury to every member, who shall seasonably attend, in the judgment of the House, and does not depart therefrom without leave.

SECT. 8. The Senators and Representatives shall, in all cases except treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at, going to, and returning from each session of the Legislature, and no member shall be liable to answer for any thing spoken in debate in either House, in any court or place elsewhere.

SECT. 9. Bills, orders, or resolutions, may originate in either House, and may be altered, amended or rejected in the other ; but all bills for raising a revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose amendments as in other cases : *Provided*, that they shall not, under color of amendment, introduce any new matter, which does not relate to raising a revenue.

SECT. 10. No Senator or Representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which increased during such term, except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people : *Provided*, that this prohibition shall not extend to the members of the first Legislature.

SECT. 11. No member of Congress, nor person holding any office under the United States, (post officers excepted) nor office of profit under this State, Justices of the Peace, Notaries Public, Coroners and officers of the militia excepted, shall have a seat in either House during his being such member of Congress, or his continuing in such office.

SECT. 12. Neither House shall during the session, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days, nor to any other place than that in which the Houses shall be sitting.

ARTICLE V.—Part First.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

SECT. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a Governor.

SECT. 7. The Senators and Representatives shall receive such compensation, as shall be established by law ; but no law increasing their compensation shall take effect during the existence of the Legislature, which enacted it. The expenses of the members of the House of Representatives in traveling to the Legislature, and returning therefrom, once in session and no more, shall be paid by the State out of the public Treasury to every member, who shall seasonably attend, in the judgment of the House, and does not depart therefrom without leave.

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ARTICLE V.—Part First.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

SECT. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a Governor.

SECT. 2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, and shall hold his office one year from the first Wednesday of January in each year.

SECT. 3. The meetings for election of Governor shall be notified, held and regulated, and votes shall be received, sorted, counted, declared and recorded, in the same manner as those for Senators and Representatives. They shall be sealed and returned into the Secretary's office in the same manner, and at the same time, as those for Senators. And the Secretary of State for the time being shall, on the first Wednesday of January, then next, lay the lists before the Senate and House of Representatives, to be by them examined, and, in case of a choice by a majority of all the votes returned, they shall declare and publish the same. But, if no person shall have a majority of votes, the House of Representatives shall, by ballot, from the persons having the four highest numbers of votes on the lists, if so many there be, elect two persons, and make return of their names to the Senate, of whom the Senate shall, by ballot, elect one, who shall be declared the Governor.

SECT. 4. The Governor shall, at the commencement of his term, be not less than thirty years of age; a natural born citizen of the United States, have been five years, or from the adoption of this Constitution, a resident of the State; and at the time of his election, and during the term for which he is elected, be a resident of said State.

SECT. 5. No person holding any office or place under the United States, this State, or any other power, shall exercise the office of Governor.

SECT. 6. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall not be increased or diminished during his continuance in office.

SECT. 7. He shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the State, and of the militia, except when called into the actual service of the United States; but he shall not march nor convey any of the citizens out of the State without their consent, or that of the Legislature, unless it shall become necessary, in order to march or transport them from one part of the State to another, for the defence thereof.

SECT. 8. He shall nominate, and, with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint all judicial officers, the Attorney General, the Sheriffs, Coroners, Registers of Pro-

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SECT. 8. He shall nominate, and, with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint all judicial officers, the Attorney General the Sheriffs, Coroners, Register of Pro-

bate, and Notaries Public ; and he shall also nominate, and with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint all other civil and military officers, whose appointment is not by this Constitution, or shall not by law be otherwise provided for ; and every such nomination shall be made seven days, at least, prior to such appointment.

SECT. 9. He shall from time to time give the Legislature information of the condition of the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures, as he may judge expedient.

SECT. 10. He may require information from any military officer, or any officer in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

SECT. 11. He shall have power, with the advice and consent of the Council, to remit, after conviction, all forfeitures and penalties, and to grant reprieves and pardons, except in cases of impeachment.

SECT. 12. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

SECT. 13. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature ; and in case of disagreement between the two Houses with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time, as he shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next annual meeting ; and if, since the last adjournment, the place where the Legislature were next to convene shall have become dangerous from an enemy or contagious sickness, may direct the session to be held at some other convenient place within the State.

SECT. 14. Whenever the office of Governor shall become vacant by death, resignation, removal from office or otherwise, the President of the Senate shall exercise the office of Governor until another Governor shall be duly qualified ; and in case of the death, resignation, removal from office or other disqualification of the President of the Senate, so exercising the office of Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall exercise the office, until a President of the Senate shall have been chosen ; and when the office of Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House shall become vacant, in the recess of the Senate, the person, acting as Secretary of State for the time being, shall by proclamation convene the Senate, that a President may be chosen to exercise the office of Governor. And whenever either the President of the Senate, or Speaker of the House shall so exercise said office, he shall receive only the compensation of Governor, but his

bate, and Notaries Public ; and he shall also nominate, and with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint all other civil and military officers, whose appointment is not by this Constitution, or shall not by law be otherwise provided for ; and every such nomination shall be made seven days, at least, prior to such appointment.

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SECT. 14. Whenever the office of Governor shall become vacant because of the death, resignation, removal from office or otherwise, the President of the Senate shall exercise the office of Governor until another Governor shall be duly qualified ; and in case of the death, resignation, removal from office or other disqualification of the President of the Senate, so exercising the office of Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall exercise the office, until a President of the Senate shall have been chosen ; and when the office of Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House shall become vacant, in the recess of the Senate, the person, acting as Secretary of State for the time being, shall by proclamation convene the Senate, that a President may be chosen to exercise the office of Governor. And whenever either the President of the Senate, or Speaker of the House shall so exercise said office, he shall receive only the compensation of Governor, but his

duties as President or Speaker shall be suspended ; and the Senate or House, shall fill the vacancy, until his duties as Governor shall cease.

ARTICLE V.—*Part Second.*

COUNCIL.

SECT. 1. There shall be a Council, to consist of seven persons, citizens of the United States, and residents of this State, to advise the Governor in the executive part of government, whom the Governor shall have full power, at his discretion, to assemble ; and he, with the Counsellors, or a majority of them, may from time to time, hold and keep a Council, for ordering and directing the affairs of State according to law.

SECT. 2. The Counsellors shall be chosen annually, on the first Wednesday of January, by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives in Convention ; and vacancies, which shall afterwards happen, shall be filled in the same manner ; but not more than one Counsellor shall be elected from any district, prescribed for the election of Senators ; and they shall be privileged from arrest in the same manner, as Senators and Representatives.

SECT. 3. The resolutions and advice of Council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members agreeing thereto, which may be called for by either House of the Legislature ; and any Counsellor may enter his dissent to the resolution of the majority.

SECT. 4. No Member of Congress, or of the Legislature of this State, nor any person holding any office under the United States, (post officers excepted) nor any civil officers under this State, (Justices of the Peace and Notaries Public excepted) shall be Counsellors. And no Counsellor shall be appointed to any office during the time, for which he shall have been elected.

ARTICLE V.—*Part Third.*

SECRETARY.

SECT. 1. The Secretary of State shall be chosen annually, at the first session of the Legislature, by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives in Convention.

SECT. 2. The records of the State shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be accountable.

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SECT. 1. The Secretary of State shall be chosen annually at the first session of the Legislature, by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives in Convention.

SECT. 2. The records of the State shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be accountable.

SECT. 3. He shall attend the Governor and Council, Senate and House of Representatives, in person or by his deputies, as they shall respectively require.

SECT. 4. He shall carefully keep and preserve the records of all the official acts and proceedings of the Governor and Council, Senate and House of Representatives, and, when required, lay the same before either branch of the Legislature, and perform such other duties as are enjoined by this Constitution, or shall be required by law.

ARTICLE V.—*Part Fourth.*

TREASURER.

SECT. 1. The Treasurer shall be chosen annually, at the first session of the Legislature, by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives in Convention, but shall not be eligible more than five years successively.

SECT. 2. The Treasurer shall, before entering on the duties of his office, give bond to the State with sureties, to the satisfaction of the Legislature, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

SECT. 3. The Treasurer shall not, during his continuance in office, engage in any business of trade or commerce, or as a broker, nor as an agent or factor for any merchant or trader.

SECT. 4. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but by warrant from the Governor and Council, and in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money, shall be published at the commencement of the annual session of the Legislature.

ARTICLE VI.

JUDICIAL POWER.

SECT. 1. The Judicial power of this State shall be vested in a Supreme Judicial Court, and such other courts as the Legislature shall from time to time establish.

SECT. 2. The Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court shall, at stated times, receive a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, but they shall receive no other fee or reward.

SECT. 3. They shall be obliged to give their opinion upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions,

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ARTICLE V.—*Part Fourth.*

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SECT. 3. They shall be obliged to give their opinion upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions,

when required by the Governor, Council, Senate or House of Representatives.

SECT. 4. All Judicial officers, except Justices of the Peace, shall hold their offices during good behavior, but not beyond the age of seventy years.

SECT. 5. Justices of the Peace and Notaries Public, shall hold their offices during seven years, if they so long behave themselves well, at the expiration of which term, they may be reappointed or others appointed, as the public interest may require.

SECT. 6. The Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court shall hold no office under the United States, nor any State, nor any other office under this State, except that of Justice of the Peace.

ARTICLE VII.

MILITARY.

SECT. 1. The captains and subalterns of the militia shall be elected by the written votes of the members of their respective companies. The field officers of regiments by the written votes of the captains and subalterns of their respective regiments. The Brigadier Generals in like manner, by the field officers of their respective brigades.

SECT. 2. The Legislature shall, by law, direct the manner of notifying the electors, conducting the elections, and making the returns to the Governor of the officers elected; and, if the electors shall neglect or refuse to make such elections, after being duly notified according to law, the Governor shall appoint suitable persons to fill such offices.

SECT. 3. The Major Generals shall be elected by the Senate and House of Representatives, each having a negative on the other. The Adjutant General and Quarter-Master General shall be appointed by the Governor and Council; but the Adjutant General shall perform the duties of Quarter-Master General, until otherwise directed by law. The Major Generals and Brigadier Generals, and the commanding officers of regiments and battalions shall appoint their respective staff officers; and all military officers shall be commissioned by the Governor.

SECT. 4. The militia, as divided into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions and companies pursuant to the laws now in force, shall remain so organized, until the same shall be altered by the Legislature.

when required by the Governor, Council, Senate or House of Representatives.

SECT. 4. All Judicial officers, except Justices of the Peace, shall hold their offices during good behavior, but not beyond the age of seventy years.

SECT. 5. Justices of the Peace and Notaries Public, shall hold their offices during seven years, if they so long behave themselves well, at the expiration of which term, they may be reappointed or others appointed, as the public interest may require.

SECT. 6. The Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court shall hold no office under the United States, nor any State, nor any other office under this State, except that of Justice of the Peace.

Article VII.

MILITARY.

SECT. 1. The captains and subalterns of the militia shall be elected by the written votes of the members of their respective companies. The field officers of regiments by the written votes of the captains and subalterns of their respective regiments. The Brigadier Generals in like manner, by the field officers of their respective brigades.

SECT. 2. The Legislature shall, by law, direct the manner of notifying the electors, conducting the elections, and making the returns to the Governor of the officers elected; and, if the electors shall neglect or refuse to make such elections, after being duly notified according to law, the Governor shall appoint suitable persons to fill such offices.

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SECT. 4. The militia, as divided into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions and companies pursuant to the laws now in force, shall remain so organized, until the same shall be altered by the Legislature.

SECT. 5. Persons of the denominations of Quakers and Shakers, Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court and Ministers of the Gospel may be exempted from military duty, but no other person of the age of eighteen and under the age of forty-five years, excepting officers of the militia, who have been honorably discharged, shall be so exempted, unless he shall pay an equivalent to be fixed by law.

ARTICLE VIII.

LITERATURE.

A general diffusion of the advantages of education being essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people ; to promote this important object, the Legislature are authorized, and it shall be their duty to require, the several towns to make suitable provision, at their own expense, for the support and maintenance of public schools ; and it shall further be their duty to encourage and suitably endow, from time to time, as the circumstances of the people may authorize, all academies, colleges, and seminaries of learning within the State : *Provided*, That no donation, grant or endowment shall at any time be made by the Legislature, to any Literary Institution now established, or which may hereafter be established, unless, at the time of making such endowment, the Legislature of the State shall have the right to grant any further powers to, alter, limit or restrain any of the powers vested in, any such literary institution, as shall be judged necessary to promote the best interests thereof.

ARTICLE IX.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECT. 1. Every person elected or appointed to either of the places or offices provided in this Constitution, and every person elected, appointed, or commissioned to any Judicial, Executive, Military, or other office under this State, shall, before he enter on the discharge of the duties of his place or office, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation : " I, _____ do swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, so long as I shall continue a citizen thereof. So help me God."

" I, _____ do swear, that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as _____ according to the Constitution and the laws of the State. So help me God :"

SECT. 5. Persons of the denominations of Quakers and Shakers, Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court and Ministers of the Gospel may be exempted from military duty, but no other person of the age of eighteen and under the age of forty-five years, excepting officers of the militia, who have been honorably discharged, shall be so exempted, unless he shall be an equivalent to be fixed by law.

ARTICLE VIII.

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SECT. 1. Every person elected or appointed to either of the places or offices provided in this Constitution, and every person elected, appointed, or commissioned to any Judicial, Executive, Military or other office under this State, shall, before entering on the discharge of the duties of his place or office, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation : " I, _____ do swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, so long as I shall continue a citizen thereof. So help me God."

" I, _____ do swear, that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as _____ according to the Constitution and laws of the State. So help me God :"

Provided, That an affirmation in the above forms may be substituted, when the person shall be conscientiously scrupulous of taking and subscribing an oath.

The oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor and Counsellors before the presiding officer of the Senate, in the presence of both Houses of the Legislature, and by the Senators and Representatives before the Governor and Council, and by the residue of said officers before such persons as shall be prescribed by the Legislature; and whenever the Governor or any Counsellor shall not be able to attend during the session of the Legislature to take and subscribe said oaths or affirmations, such oaths or affirmations may be taken and subscribed in the recess of the Legislature before any Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court: *Provided*, That the Senators and Representatives, first elected under this Constitution, shall take and subscribe such oaths or affirmations before the President of the Convention.

SECT. 2. No person holding the office of Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, or of any inferior Court, Attorney General, County Attorney, Treasurer of the State, Adjutant General, Judge of Probate, Register of Probate, Register of Deeds, Sheriffs or their Deputies, Clerks of the Judicial Courts, shall be a member of the Legislature; and any person holding either of the foregoing offices, elected to, and accepting a seat in the Congress of the United States, shall thereby vacate said office; and no person shall be capable of holding or exercising, at the same time, within this State more than one of the offices before mentioned.

SECT. 3. All Commissions shall be in the name of the State, signed by the Governor, attested by the Secretary or his deputy, and have the seal of the State thereto affixed.

SECT. 4. And in case the elections, required by this Constitution on the first Wednesday of January annually, by the two Houses of the Legislature, shall not be completed on that day, the same may be adjourned from day to day, until completed, in the following order: the vacancies in the Senate shall first be filled; the Governor shall then be elected, if there be no choice by the people, and afterwards the two Houses shall elect the Council.

SECT. 5. Every person holding any civil office under this State, may be removed by impeachment, for misdemeanor in office; and every person holding any office, may be removed by the Governor, with the advice of the Council, on the address of both branches of the Legislature.

Provided, That an affirmation in the above forms may be substituted, when the person shall be conscientiously scrupulous of taking and subscribing an oath.

The oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor and Counsellors before the presiding officer of the Senate, in the presence of both Houses of the Legislature, and by the Senators and Representatives before the Governor and Council, and by the residue of said officers before such persons as shall be prescribed by the Legislature; and whenever the Governor or any Counsellor shall not be able to attend during the session of the Legislature to take and subscribe said oaths or affirmations, such oaths or affirmations may be taken and subscribed in the recess of the Legislature before any Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court: *Provided*, That the Senators and Representatives, first elected under this Constitution, shall take and subscribe such oaths or affirmations before the President of the Convention.

SECT. 2. No person holding the office of Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, or of any inferior court, Attorney General, County Attorney, Treasurer of the State, Adjutant General, Judge of Probate, Register of Probate, Register of Deeds, Sheriffs or their Deputies, Clerks of the Judicial Courts, shall be a member of the Legislature; and any person holding either of the foregoing offices, elected to, and accepting a seat in the Congress of the United States, shall thereby vacate said office; and no person shall be capable of holding or exercising, at the same time, within this State more than one of the offices before mentioned.

SECT. 3. All commissions shall be in the name of the State, signed by the Governor, attested by the Secretary or his deputy and have the seal of the State thereto affixed.

SECT. 4. And in case the elections, required by this Constitution on the first Wednesday of January annually, by the two Houses of the Legislature, shall not be completed on that day, the same may be adjourned from day to day, until completed, in the following order: the vacancies in the Senate shall first be filled; the Governor shall then be elected, if there be no choice by the people, and afterwards the two Houses shall elect the Council.

SECT. 5. Every person holding any civil office under this State, may be removed by impeachment, for misdemeanor in office; and every person holding any office, may be removed by the Governor, with the advice of the Council, on the address of both branches of the Legislature.

But before such address shall pass either House, the causes of removal shall be stated and entered on the journal of the House in which it originated, and a copy thereof served on the person in office, that he may be admitted to a hearing in his defence.

SECT. 6. The tenure of all offices, which are not or shall not be otherwise provided for, shall be during the pleasure of the Governor and Council.

SECT. 7. While the public expenses shall be assessed on polls and estates, a general valuation shall be taken at least once in ten years.

SECT. 8. All taxes upon real estate, assessed by authority of this State, shall be apportioned and assessed equally, according to the just value thereof.

ARTICLE X.

SCHEDULE.

SECT. 1. The first Legislature shall meet on the last Wednesday in May next. The elections on the second Monday in September annually shall not commence until the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty one, and in the mean time the election for Governor, Senators and Representatives shall be on the first Monday in April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and at this election, the same proceedings shall be had as are required at the elections, provided for in this Constitution on the second Monday in September annually, and the lists of the votes for the Governor and Senators shall be transmitted, by the town and plantation clerks respectively, to the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, seventeen days at least before the last Wednesday in May next, and the President of the Convention shall, in presence of the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, open and examine the attested copies of said lists so returned for Senators, and shall have all the powers, and be subject to all the duties, in ascertaining, notifying, and summoning the Senators, who appear to be elected, as the Governor and Council have, and are subject to, by this Constitution : *Provided*, He shall notify said Senators fourteen days at least before the last Wednesday in May, and vacancies shall be ascertained and filled in the manner herein provided ; and the Senators to be elected on the said first Monday of April, shall be apportioned as follows :

But before such address shall pass either House, the causes of removal shall be stated and entered on the journal of the House in which it originated, and a copy thereof served on the person in office, that he may be admitted to a hearing in his own defense.

SECT. 6. The tenure of all offices, which are not or shall not be otherwise provided for, shall be during the pleasure of the Governor and Council.

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ARTICLE X.

SCHEDULE.

SECT. 1. The first Legislature shall meet on the last Wednesday in May next. The elections on the second Monday in September annually shall not commence until the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty one, and in the mean time the election for Governor, Senators and Representatives shall be on the first Monday in April, in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and at this election, the same proceedings shall be had as are required at the elections, provided for in this Constitution on the second Monday in September annually, and the lists of the votes for the Governor and Senators shall be transmitted, by the town and plantation clerks respectively, to the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, seventeen days at least before the last Wednesday in May next, and the President of the Convention shall, in presence of the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, open and examine the attested copies of said lists so returned for Senators, and shall have all the powers, and be subject to all the duties, in ascertaining, notifying, and summoning the Senators, who appear to be elected, as the Governor and Council have, and are subject to, by this Constitution : *Provided*, He shall notify said Senators fourteen days at least before the last Wednesday in May, and vacancies shall be ascertained and filled in the manner herein provided ; and the Senators to be elected on the said first Monday of April, shall be apportioned as follows :

The County of York shall elect three.
 The County of Cumberland shall elect three.
 The County of Lincoln shall elect three.
 The County of Hancock shall elect two.
 The County of Washington shall elect one.
 The County of Kennebec shall elect three.
 The County of Oxford shall elect two.
 The County of Somerset shall elect two.
 The County of Penobscot shall elect one.

And the members of the House of Representatives shall be elected, ascertained, and returned in the same manner as herein provided at elections on the second Monday of September, and the first House of Representatives shall consist of the following number, to be elected as follows :

COUNTY OF YORK.

The towns of York and Wells may each elect two representatives ; and each of the remaining towns may elect one.

COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

The town of Portland may elect three representatives ; North-Yarmouth, two ; Brunswick, two ; Gorham, two ; Freeport and Pownal, two ; Raymond and Otisfield, one ; Bridgton, Baldwin and Harrison, one ; Poland and Danville, one ; and each remaining town one.

COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

The towns of Georgetown and Phippsburg, may elect one representative ; Lewiston and Wales, one ; St. George, Cushing and Friendship, one ; Hope and Appleton Ridge, one ; Jefferson, Putnam and Patricktown plantation, one ; Alna and Whitfield, one ; Montville, Palermo, and Montville plantation, one ; Woolwich and Dresden, one ; and each remaining town one.

COUNTY OF HANCOCK.

The town of Bucksport may elect one representative ; Deer Island, one ; Castine and Brooksville, one ; Orland and Penobscot, one ; Mount Desert and Eden, one ; Vinalhaven and Isleborough, one ; Sedgewick and Bluehill, one ; Gouldsborough, Sullivan and plantations No. 8 and 9 north of Sullivan, one ; Surry, Ellsworth, Trenton and plantation of Mariaville, one ; Lincolnville, Searesmont and Belmont, one ; Belfast and Northport, one ; Prospect and Swanville, one ; Frankfort and Monroe, one ; Knox, Brooks, Jackson and Thorndike, one.

The County of York shall elect three.
 The County of Cumberland shall elect three.
 The County of Lincoln shall elect three.
 The County of Hancock shall elect two.
 The County of Washington shall elect one.
 The County of Kennebec shall elect three.
 The County of Oxford shall elect two.
 The County of Somerset shall elect two.
 The County of Penobscot shall elect one.

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The towns of Georgetown and Phippsburg, may elect one representative ; Lewiston and Wales, one ; St. George, one ; Jefferson, Putnam and Patricktown plantation, one ; Alna and Whitfield, one ; Montville, Palermo, and Montville plantation, one ; Woolwich and Dresden, one ; and each remaining town, one.

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COUNTY OF WASHINGTON.

The towns of Steuben, Cherryfield and Harrington, may elect one representative ; Addison, Columbia and Jonesborough, one ; Machias, one ; Lubec, Dennysville, plantations No. 9, No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, one ; Eastport one ; Perry, Robbinston, Calais, plantations No. 3, No. 6, No. 7, No. 15, and No. 16, one.

COUNTY OF KENNEBEC.

The towns of Belgrade and Dearborn may elect one representative ; Chesterville, Vienna and Rome, one ; Wayne and Fayette, one ; Temple and Wilton, one ; Winslow and China, one ; Fairfax and Freedom, one ; Unity, Joy and 25 mile pond plantation, one ; Harlem and Malta, one ; and each remaining town one.

COUNTY OF OXFORD.

The towns of Dixfield, Mexico, Weld and plantations Nos. 1 and 4, may elect one representative ; Jay and Hartford, one ; Livermore, one ; Rumford, East Andover and plantations Nos. 7 and 8, one ; Turner, one ; Woodstock, Paris and Greenwood, one ; Hebron and Norway, one ; Gilead, Bethel, Newry, Albany and Howard's gore, one ; Porter, Hiram and Brownfield, one ; Waterford, Sweden and Lovell, one ; Denmark, Fryeburg and Fryeburg addition, one ; Buckfield and Sumner, one.

COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

The town of Fairfield may elect one representative ; Norridgewock and Bloomfield, one ; Starks and Mercer, one ; Industry, Strong and New Vineyard, one ; Avon, Phillips, Freeman and Kingfield, one ; Anson, New-Portland, Embden, and plantation No. 1, one ; Canaan, Warsaw, Palmyra, St. Albans and Corinna, one ; Madison, Solon, Bingham, Moscow and Northhill, one ; Cornville, Athens, Harmony, Ripley and Warrenstown, one.

COUNTY OF PENOBSCOT.

The towns of Hampden and Newburg may elect one representative ; Orrington, Brewer and Eddington, and plantations adjacent on the east side of Penobscot river, one ; Bangor, Orono and Sunkhaze plantation, one ; Dixmont, Newport, Carmel, Hermon, Stetson, and plantation No. 4, in the 6th range, one ; Levant, Corinth, Exeter, New Charlestown, Blakesburgh, plantation No. 1, in 3d range, and plantation No. 1, in 4th range, one ; Dexter, Garland, Guilford, Sangerville, and plantation No. 3, in 6th range,

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The towns of Steuben, Cherryfield and Harrington may elect one representative ; Addison, Columbia and Jonesborough, one ; Machias, one ; Lubec, Dennysville, plantations No. 9, No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, one ; Eastport one ; Perry, Robbinston, Calais, plantations No. 3, No. 6, No. 7, No. 15, and No. 16, one.

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one; Atkinson, Sebec, Foxcroft, Brownville, Williamsburg, plantation No. 1, in 7th range, and plantation No. 3, in 7th range, one.

And the Secretary of State *pro tempore* shall have the same powers, and be subject to the same duties, in relation to the votes for Governor, as the Secretary of State has, and is subject to, by this Constitution: and the election of Governor shall, on the said last Wednesday in May, be determined and declared, in the same manner, as other elections of Governor are by this Constitution; and in case of vacancy in said office, the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall exercise the office as herein otherwise provided, and the Counsellors, Secretary and Treasurer, shall also be elected on said day, and have the same powers, and be subject to the same duties, as is provided in this Constitution; and in case of the death or other disqualification of the President of this Convention, or of the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, before the election and qualification of the Governor or Secretary of State under this Constitution, the persons to be designated by this Convention at their session in January next, shall have all the powers and perform all the duties, which the President of this Convention, or the Secretary *pro tempore*, to be by them appointed, shall have and perform.

SECT. 2. The period for which the Governor, Senators, and Representatives, Counsellors, Secretary and Treasurer, first elected or appointed, are to serve in their respective offices and places, shall commence on the last Wednesday in May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and continue until the first Wednesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two.

SECT. 3. All laws now in force in this State, and not repugnant to this Constitution, shall remain, and be in force, until altered or repealed by the Legislature, or shall expire by their own limitation.

SECT. 4. The Legislature, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, may propose amendments to this Constitution; and when any amendment shall be so agreed upon, a resolution shall be passed and sent to the selectmen of the several towns, and the assessors of the several plantations, empowering and directing them to notify the inhabitants of their respective towns and plantations, in the manner prescribed by law, at their next annual meetings in the month of September, to give in their votes on the question, whether such amendment shall be made; and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants vote

one; Atkinson, Sebec, Foxcroft, Brownville, Williamsburg, plantation No. 1, in 7th range, and plantation No. 3, in 7th range, one.

And the Secretary of State *pro tempore* shall have the same powers, and be subject to the same duties, in relation to the votes for Governor, as the Secretary of State has, and subject to, by this Constitution: and the election of Governor shall, on the last Wednesday in May, be determined and declared, in the same manner, as other elections of Governor are by this Constitution; and in case of vacancy in said office, the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall exercise the office as herein otherwise provided, and the Counsellors, Secretary and Treasurer, shall also be elected on said day, and have the same powers, and be subject to the same duties, as is provided in this Constitution; and in case of the death or other disqualification of the President of this Convention, or of the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, before the election and qualification of the Governor or Secretary of State under this Constitution, the persons to be designated have all the powers and perform all the duties, which the President of this Convention, or the Secretary *pro tempore*, to be by them appointed, shall have and perform.

SECT. 2. The period for which the Governor, Senators, and Representatives, Counsellors, Secretary and Treasurer, first elected or appointed, are to serve in their respective offices and places, shall commence on the last Wednesday in May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and continue until the first Wednesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two.

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ing on the question are in favor of such amendment, it shall become a part of this Constitution.

SECT. 5. All officers provided for in the sixth section of an act of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed on the nineteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, entitled "An act relating to the Separation of the District of Maine from Massachusetts Proper, and forming the same into a separate and Independent State," shall continue in office as therein provided; and the following provisions of said act shall be a part of this Constitution, subject however to be modified or annulled as therein is prescribed, and not otherwise, to wit:

"SECT. 1. Whereas it has been represented to this Legislature, that a majority of the people of the District of Maine are desirous of establishing a separate and independent Government within said District: Therefore,

"*BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That the consent of this Commonwealth be, and the same is hereby given, that the District of Maine may be formed and erected into a separate and Independent State, if the people of the said District shall in the manner, and by the majority hereinafter mentioned, express their consent and agreement thereto, upon the following terms and conditions: And, provided the Congress of the United States shall give its consent therein, before the fourth day of March next: which terms and conditions are as follows, viz.

"*First*. All the lands and buildings belonging to the Commonwealth, within Massachusetts Proper, shall continue to belong to said Commonwealth, and all the lands belonging to the Commonwealth, within the District of Maine, shall belong, the one half thereof to the said Commonwealth, and the other half thereof, to the State to be formed within the said District, to be divided as is hereinafter mentioned; and the lands within the said District, which shall belong to the said Commonwealth, shall be free from taxation, while the title to the said lands remains in the Commonwealth; and the rights of the Commonwealth to their lands, within said District, and the remedies for the recovery thereof, shall continue the same, within the proposed State, and in the Courts thereof, as they now are within the said Commonwealth, and in the Courts thereof; for which purposes, and for the maintenance of its rights, and recovery of its lands, the said Commonwealth shall be entitled to all other proper and legal remedies, and may appear in the Courts of the proposed State and in the Courts of the United States, holden therein; and all rights of action for, or entry into lands, and of actions upon bonds for the breach of the performance of the condition of settling duties, so called, which have accrued, or may accrue, shall remain in this Commonwealth, to be enforced, commuted, released, or otherwise disposed of, in such manner as this Commonwealth may hereafter determine: *Provided however*, That whatever this Commonwealth may hereafter receive or obtain on account thereof, if any thing, shall, after deducting all reasonable charges relating thereto, be divided, one third part thereof to the new State, and two third parts thereof to this Commonwealth.

ing on the question are in favor of such amendment, it shall become a part of this Constitution.

SECT. 5. of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed on the nineteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, entitled "An act relating to the Separation of the District of Maine from Massachusetts Proper, and forming the same into a separate and Independent State," shall continue in office as therein provided; and the following provisions of said act shall be a part of this Constitution, subject however to be modified or annulled as therein is prescribed, and not otherwise, to wit:

"SECT. 1. Whereas it has been represented to this Legislature, that a majority of the people of the District of Maine are desirous of establishing a separate and independent Government within said District: Therefore,

"*BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That the consent of this Commonwealth be, and the same is hereby given, that the District of Maine may be formed and erected into a separate and Independent State, if the people of the said District shall in the manner, and by the majority hereinafter mentioned, express their consent and agreement thereto, upon the following terms and conditions: And, provided the fourth day of March next: which terms and conditions are as follows, viz.

"*First*. All the lands and buildings belonging to the Commonwealth, within Massachusetts Proper, shall continue to belong to said Commonwealth, and all the lands belonging to the Commonwealth, within the District of Maine, shall belong, the one half thereof to the said Commonwealth, and the other half thereof, to the State to be formed within the said District, to be divided as is hereinafter mentioned; and the lands within the said District, which shall belong to the said Commonwealth, shall be free from taxation, while the title to the said lands remains in the Commonwealth; and the rights of the Commonwealth to their lands, within said District, and the remedies for the recovery thereof, shall continue the same, within the proposed State, and in the Courts thereof, as they now are within the said Commonwealth, and in the Courts thereof; for which purposes, and for the maintenance of its rights, and recovery of its lands, the said Commonwealth shall be entitled to all other proper and legal remedies, and may appear in the Courts of the proposed State and in the Courts of the United States, holden therein; and all rights of action for, or entry into lands, and of actions upon bonds for the breach of the performance of the condition of settling duties, so called, which have accrued, or may accrue, shall remain in this Commonwealth, to be enforced, commuted, released, or otherwise disposed of, in such manner as this Commonwealth may hereafter determine: *Provided however*, That whatever this Commonwealth may hereafter receive or obtain on account thereof, if any thing, shall, after deducting all reasonable charges relating thereto, be divided, one third part thereof to the new State, and two third parts thereof to this Commonwealth.

"*Second.* All the arms which have been received by this Commonwealth from the United States, under the law of Congress, entitled, "An act making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of militia of the United States, passed April the twenty third, one thousand eight hundred and eight, shall, as soon as the said District shall become a separate State, be divided between the two States, in proportion to the returns of the militia, according to which, the said arms have been received from the United States, as aforesaid.

"*Third.* All money, stock, or other proceeds, hereafter derived from the United States, on account of the claims of this Commonwealth, for disbursements made, and expenses incurred, for the defence of the State, during the late war with Great Britain, shall be received by this Commonwealth, and when received, shall be divided between the two States, in the proportion of two thirds to this Commonwealth, and one third to the new State.

"*Fourth.* All other property, of every description, belonging to the Commonwealth shall be holden and receivable by the same, as a fund and security, for all debts, annuities, and Indian subsidies, or claims due by said Commonwealth; and within two years after the said District shall have become a separate State, the Commissioners to be appointed, as hereinafter provided, if the said States cannot otherwise agree, shall assign a just portion of the productive property, so held by said Commonwealth, as an equivalent and indemnification to said Commonwealth, for all such debts, annuities, or Indian subsidies or claims, which may then remain due, or unsatisfied; and all the surplus of the said property, so holden, as aforesaid, shall be divided between the said Commonwealth and the said District of Maine, in the proportion of two thirds to the said Commonwealth, and one third to the said District—and if, in the judgement of the said Commissioners, the whole of said property, so held, as a fund and security, shall not be sufficient indemnification for the purpose, the said District shall be liable for and shall pay to said Commonwealth, one third of the deficiency.

"*Fifth.* The new State shall, as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made for that purpose, assume and perform all the duties and obligations of this Commonwealth, towards the Indians within said District of Maine, whether the same arise from treaties, or otherwise; and for this purpose shall obtain the assent of said Indians, and their release to this Commonwealth of claims and stipulations arising under the treaty at present existing between the said Commonwealth and said Indians; and as an indemnification to such new State, therefor, this Commonwealth, when such arrangements shall be completed, and the said duties and obligations assumed, shall pay to said new State, the value of thirty thousand dollars, in manner following, viz.: The said Commissioners shall set off by metes and bounds, so much of any part of the land, within the said District, falling to this Commonwealth, in the division of the public lands, hereinafter provided for, as in their estimation shall be of the value of thirty thousand dollars; and this Commonwealth shall, thereupon, assign the same to the said new State, or in lieu thereof, may pay the sum of thirty thousand dollars at its election; which election of the said Commonwealth, shall be made within one year from the time that notice of the doings of the Commissioners, on this subject, shall be made known to the Governor and Council; and if not made within that time, the election shall be with the new State.

"*Sixth.* Commissioners, with the powers and for the purposes mentioned in this act, shall be appointed in manner following: The Execu-

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Executive authority of each State shall appoint two; and the four so appointed, or the major part of them, shall appoint two more; but if they cannot agree in the appointment, the Executive of each State shall appoint one in addition; not, however, in that case, to be a citizen of its own State. And any vacancy happening with respect to the Commissioners, shall be supplied in the manner provided for their original appointment; and, in addition to the powers herein before given to said Commissioners, they shall have full power and authority to divide all the public lands within the District, between the respective States, in equal shares, or moieties, in severalty, having regard to quantity, situation and quality; they shall determine what lands shall be surveyed and divided, from time to time, the expense of which surveys, and of the Commissioners, shall be borne equally by the two States. They shall keep fair records of their doings, and of the surveys made by their direction, copies of which records, authenticated by them, shall be deposited from time to time, in the archives of the respective States; transcripts of which, properly certified, may be admitted in evidence, in all questions touching the subject to which they relate. The Executive authority of each State may revoke the power of either or both its Commissioners; having, however, first appointed a substitute, or substitutes, and may fill any vacancy happening with respect to its own Commissioners; four of said Commissioners shall constitute a quorum, for the transaction of business; their decision shall be final, upon all subjects within their cognizance. In case said commission shall expire, the same not having been completed, and either State shall request the renewal or filling up of the same, it shall be renewed or filled up in the same manner, as is herein provided for filling the same, in the first instance, and with the like powers; and if either State shall, after six months' notice, neglect or refuse to appoint its Commissioners, the other may fill up the whole commission.

"Seventh. All grants of land, franchises, immunities, corporate or other rights, and all contracts for, or grants of land not yet located, which have been or may be made by the said Commonwealth, before the separation of said District shall take place, and having or to have effect within the said District, shall continue in full force, after the said District shall become a separate State. But the grant which has been made to the President and Trustees of Bowdoin College, out of the tax laid upon the Banks, within this Commonwealth, shall be charged upon the tax upon the Banks within the said District of Maine, and paid according to the terms of said grant; and the President and Trustees, and the Overseers of said College, shall have, hold and enjoy their powers and privileges in all respects; so that the same shall not be subject to be altered, limited, annulled or restrained, except by judicial process, according to the principles of law; and in all grants hereafter to be made, by either State, of unlocated land within the said District, the same reservations shall be made for the benefit of Schools, and of the Ministry, as have heretofore been usual, in grants made by this Commonwealth. And all lands heretofore granted by this Commonwealth, to any religious, literary, or eleemosynary corporation, or society, shall be free from taxation, while the same continues to be owned by such corporation, or society.

"Eighth. No laws shall be passed in the proposed State, with regard to taxes, actions, or remedies at law, or bars, or limitations thereof, or otherwise making any distinction between the lands and rights of property of proprietors, not resident in, or not citizens of said proposed State, and the lands and rights of property of the citizens of the propos-

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of State, resident therein ; and the rights and liabilities of all persons, shall, after the said separation, continue the same as if the said District was still a part of this Commonwealth, in all suits pending, or judgments remaining unsatisfied on the fifteenth day of March next, where the suits have been commenced in Massachusetts Proper, and process has been served within the District of Maine ; or commenced in the District of Maine, and process has been served in Massachusetts Proper, either by taking bail, making attachments, arresting and detaining persons, or otherwise, where execution remains to be done ; and in such suits, the Courts within Massachusetts Proper, and within the proposed State, shall continue to have the same jurisdiction as if the said District had still remained a part of the Commonwealth. And this Commonwealth shall have the same remedies within the proposed State, as it now has, for the collection of all taxes, bonds, or debts, which may be assessed, due, made or contracted, by, in, or with the Commonwealth, on or before the said fifteenth day of March, within the said District of Maine ; and all officers within Massachusetts Proper and the District of Maine, shall conduct themselves accordingly.

"Ninth. These terms and conditions, as here set forth, when the said District shall become a separate and independent State, shall, *ipso facto*, be incorporated into, and become and be a part of any Constitution, provisional or other, under which the Government of the said proposed State, shall, at any time hereafter, be administered ; subject however, to be modified, or annulled by the agreement of the Legislature of both the said States ; but by no other power or body whatsoever."

SECT. 6. This Constitution shall be enrolled on parchment, deposited in the Secretary's office, and be the supreme law of the State, and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this State.

Done in Convention, October 29, 1819.

WILLIAM KING, *President*

of the Convention and member from Bath

ATTEST,

ROBERT C. VOSE, *Secretary*

STATE OF MAINE.

*Secretary of State's Office, }
Portland, July 15, 1825. }*

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That the foregoing has been carefully compared with the original deposited in this Office, and appears to be correctly printed.

AMOS NICHOLS, *Secretary of State*

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CONSTITUTION
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UNITED STATES.

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

ARTICLE I.

SECT. 1. All legislative powers herein granted, shall be vested in a Congress of the United States which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

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

No person shall be a representative, who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States ; and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct taxes, shall be apportioned among the several States, which may be included within this union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten

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years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand : but each State shall have at least one representative : and, until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New-Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three ; Massachusetts eight ; Rhode-Island and Providence plantations one ; Connecticut five ; New-York six ; New-Jersey four ; Pennsylvania eight ; Delaware one ; Maryland six ; Virginia ten ; North Carolina five ; South Carolina five ; and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any State, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

SECT. 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six years ; and each Senator shall have one vote.

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

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

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

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

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

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

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

SECT. 5. Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties, as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House, on any question, shall, at the desire of one fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Neither House, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

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

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created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time ; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office.

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

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

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

SECT. 8. The Congress shall have power—To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises ; to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States ; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States :—To borrow money on the credit of the United States :—To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes :—To establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States :—To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures :—To pro-

created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time ; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office.

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

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

SECT. 8. The Congress shall have power—To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises ; to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States ; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States :—To borrow money on the credit of the United States :—To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes :—To establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States :—To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures :—To pro-

vide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States :—To establish post-offices and post-roads :—To promote the progress of science, and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries :—To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court :—To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offences against the law of nations :—To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water :—To raise and support armies ; but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years : To provide and maintain a navy :—To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces :—To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions :—To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia, according to the discipline prescribed by Congress :—To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such district, (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the Legislature of the State in which the same shall be for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings : and 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 officer thereof.

SECT. 9. The migration or importation of such persons, as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress, prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

No bill of attainder, or *ex post facto* law shall be passed.

No capitation, or other direct tax, shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

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No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any State.

No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another ; nor shall vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law, and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States : And no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

SECT. 10. No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation ; grant letters of marque and reprisal ; coin money ; emit bills of credit ; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts ; pass any bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility. No State shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws ; and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any State on imports, or exports, shall be for the use of the Treasury of the United States ; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress. No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, or ships of war, in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

ARTICLE II.

SECT. 1. The Executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and together with the Vice-President chosen for the same term, be elected as follows :

Each State shall appoint, in such manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a number of Electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress : But no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

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The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each ; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed : And if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose by ballot one of them for President ; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list, the said House shall in like manner choose the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote ; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the State, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the President, the person having the greatest number of votes of the Electors, shall be the Vice-President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them, by ballot, the Vice-President.

The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes : which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No person, except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President ; neither shall any person be eligible to that office, who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice-President, and the Congress may, by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation or inability, both of the President and Vice-President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services, a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor

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diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation :

" I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

SECT. 2. The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the United States. He may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur : and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next session.

SECT. 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration, such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient ; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper ; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers ; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

SECT. 4. The President, Vice-President, and all civil officers of the United States shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

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ARTICLE III.

SECT. 1. The Judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the Supreme and Inferior Courts, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services, a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

SECT. 2. The Judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority ; to all cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls ; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction ; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party ; to controversies between two or more States, between a State and citizens of another State, between citizens of different States, between citizens of the same State claiming lands under grants of different States, and between a State, or the citizens thereof, and foreign States, citizens or subjects.

In all cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be a party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury ; and such trial shall be held in the State where the said crimes shall have been committed ; but when not committed within any State, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

SECT. 3. Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason, but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attainted.

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SECT. 2. The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

A person charged in any State with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall, on demand of the executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime.

No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor; but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

SECT. 3. New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the junction of two or more States or parts of States, without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned, as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed, as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

SECT. 4. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union, a republican form of Government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic violence,

ARTICLE V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided, that no amendment, which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no State,

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without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

ARTICLE VI.

All debts contracted, and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States, under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or 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 Laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several State Legislatures, and all Executive and Judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound, by oath or affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

ARTICLE VII.

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the same.

Done in Convention, by the unanimous consent of the States present, the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *President,*
and Deputy from Virginia.

<i>New-Hampshire,</i>	{ John Langdon, Nicholas Gilman.
<i>Massachusetts,</i>	{ Nathaniel Gorham, Rufus King.
<i>Connecticut,</i>	{ William Samuel Johnson, Roger Sherman.
<i>New-York,</i>	Alexander Hamilton.
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Pennsylvania, { Benjamin Franklin,
Thomas Mifflin,
Robert Morris,
George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzsimons,
Jared Ingersol,
James Wilson,
Gouverneur Morris.

Delaware, { George Read,
Gunning Bedford, junr.
John Dickenson,
Richard Bassett,
Jacob Broom.

Maryland, { James M'Henry,
Daniel of St. Th: Jenifer,
Daniel Carroll.

Virginia, { John Blair,
James Madison, junior.

North-Carolina, { William Blount,
Richard Dobbs Spaight,
Hugh Williamson.

South-Carolina, { John Rutledge,
Charles C. Pinckney,
Charles Pinckney,
Pierce Butler.

Georgia, { William Few,
Abraham Baldwin.

ATTEST, WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

IN CONVENTION,

MONDAY, Sept. 17, 1787.

PRESENT.

*The States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut,
Mr. Hamilton, from New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania,
Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South
Carolina, and Georgia :*

RESOLVED,

That the preceding Constitution be laid before the United States in Congress assembled, and that it is the opinion of this Convention, that it should afterwards be submitted to a Convention of Delegates, chosen in each State by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its Legisla-

Pennsylvania, { Benjamin Franklin,
Thomas Mifflin,
Robert Morris,
George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzsimons,
Jared Ingersol,
James Wilson,
Gouverneur Morris.

Delaware, { George Read,
Gunning Bedford, junr.
John Dickenson,
Richard Bassett,
Jacob Broom.

Maryland, { James M'Henry,
Daniel of St. Th: Jenifer,
Daniel Carroll.

Virginia, { John Blair,
James Madison, junior.

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ture, for their assent and ratification ; and that each Convention assenting to, and ratifying the same, should give notice thereof to the United States in Congress assembled.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that as soon as the Conventions of nine States shall have ratified this Constitution, the United States in Congress assembled should fix a day on which Electors should be appointed by the States which shall have ratified the same, and a day on which the Electors should assemble to vote for the President, and the time and place for commencing proceedings under this Constitution. That after such publication, the Electors should be appointed, and the Senators and Representatives elected. That the Electors should meet on the day fixed for the election of the President, and should transmit their votes, certified, signed, sealed and directed, as the Constitution requires, to the Secretary of the United States in Congress assembled. That the Senators and Representatives should convene at the time and place assigned. That the Senators should appoint a President of the Senate, for the sole purpose of receiving, opening and counting the votes for President ; and, that after he shall be chosen, the Congress, together with the President, should, without delay, proceed to execute this Constitution.

By the unanimous Order of the Convention :

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *President*.

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary*.

IN CONVENTION,

SEPTEMBER 17, 1787.

SIR—We have now the honor to submit to the consideration of the United States in Congress assembled, that Constitution which has appeared to us the most advisable.

The friends of our country have long seen and desired, that the power of making war, peace and treaties; that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correspondent executive and judicial authorities, should be fully and effectually vested in the general government of the Union : But the impropriety of delegating such extensive trust to one body of men is evident—Hence results the necessity of a different organization.

It is obviously impracticable in the federal government of these States, to secure all rights of independent sovereignty to each, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all : Individuals entering into society, must give up a share of liberty to preserve the rest. The magnitude of the sacrifice must depend as well on situation and circumstance,

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as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with precision the line between those rights which must be surrendered, and those which may be reserved; and on the present occasion, this difficulty was increased by a difference among the several States, as to their situation, extent, habits and particular interests.

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

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

With great respect, we have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Excellency's most ob't and h'ble servants,

By the unanimous order of the Convention,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *President.*

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Amendments to the Constitution.

ARTICLE I.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free-exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

ARTICLE II.

A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

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ARTICLE III.

No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE IV.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

ARTICLE V.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

ARTICLE VI.

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and District wherein the crime shall have been committed, which District shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defence.

ARTICLE VII.

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved; and no fact, tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

ARTICLE VIII.

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

ARTICLE IX.

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

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The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

ARTICLE XI.

The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another State, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign State.

ARTICLE XII.

1. The electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President; and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each; which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate;—the President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted: the person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers, not exceeding three, on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March, next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President as in case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.

2. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds

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3. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President, shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

ARTICLE XIII.

If any citizen of the United States shall accept, claim, receive or retain any title of nobility or honor, or shall, without the consent of Congress, accept and retain any present, pension, office, or emolument of any kind whatever, from any emperor, king, prince, or foreign power, such person shall cease to be a citizen of the United States, and shall be incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under them, or either of them.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America.

WHEN in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind, requires, that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL: that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights: that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed: that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate, that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the ne-

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cessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain, is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation, till his assent should be obtained, and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature—a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies, at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large, for their exercise: the state remaining, in the mean time, exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others, to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws, for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices and sent hither swarms of officers, to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has effected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

He has combined with others, to subject us to a jurisdiction, foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment, for any murders, which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas, to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring

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For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring

province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument, for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering, fundamentally, the forms of our governments:

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress, in the most humble terms; our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts by their legislature, to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind—**ENEMIES IN WAR: IN PEACE, FRIENDS.**

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in general Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world, for the rectitude of our intentions, Do, in the name and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, **FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES**; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is, and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do. And for the sup-

province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument, for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

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We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in general Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world, for the rectitude of our intentions, Do, in the name and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, **FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES**; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is, and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do. And for the sup-

part of this declaration, WITH A FIRM RELIANCE ON THE PROTECTION OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.
Signed by order, and in behalf of the Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

Attested,—CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

<i>New-Hampshire.</i> Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton.	<i>Massachusetts Bay.</i> Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry.
<i>Rhode Island, &c.</i> Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery,	<i>Connecticut.</i> Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott.
<i>New-York.</i> William Floyd, Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris.	<i>New-Jersey.</i> Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abraham Clark.
<i>Pennsylvania.</i> Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer,	<i>Delaware.</i> Caesar Rodney, George Read, Thomas McKean.
<i>Maryland.</i> Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Chs. Carroll, of Carrollton.	<i>Virginia.</i> George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jun. Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.
<i>North-Carolina.</i> William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn.	<i>South-Carolina.</i> Edward Rutledge, Thomas Hayward, Jun. Thomas Lynch, Jun. Arthur Middleton.
<i>Georgia.</i> Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton.	

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