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**Headline:** Salem, July 29; **Article Type:** News/Opinion

**Paper:** Salem Mercury, published as Salem Mercury.; **Date:** 07-29-1788; **Volume:** II; **Issue:** 94; **Page:** [3]; **Location:** Salem, Massachusetts

S A L E M, J U L Y 29.

Yesterday, Capt. Neil arrived here from Newyork, in 60 hours. He informs, that it was the general opinion there, that the Convention of that State would yet ratify the Constitution, without an adjournment. This opinion was inferred from the anti-federal party so carefully keeping off the final question, and proposing amendments more and more conceding. In short, the Opposition is composed of men of too much consideration, to vote that State out of the union; especially, as a secession of the most important part of it would be the immediate consequence.

A Newyork paper of Friday last contains the two following paragraphs :

“ On Tuesday last, the Convention were upon the consideration of the amendments : Most of them were carried, and very little debate on any of them. The amendment for giving the President a Council in the appointment to offices, was rejected by a great majority ; only 10 voted for it. Several of the Opposition, and among the rest Mr. M. Smith, voted against the amendment for requiring two thirds of Congress to concur in declaring war : However, it was carried.”

“ By the last night's mail we received letters from Poughkeepsie, dated on Tuesday afternoon— one of which says, “ I think by to-morrow the House must come to something decisive—it is impossible to tell what that final decision will be—I cannot even conjecture with plausibility.”

Last Friday, a female stranger died at the Bell Tavern, in Danvers ; and on Sunday her remains were decently interred. The circumstances relative to this woman are such as excite curiosity, and interest our feelings. She was brought to the Bell in a chaise, from Watertown, as she said, by a young man whom she had engaged for that purpose. After she had alighted, and taken a trunk with her into the house, the chaise immediately drove off. She remained at this inn till her death, in expectation of the arrival of her husband, whom she expected to come for

her, and appeared anxious at his delay. She was averse to being interrogated concerning herself or connexions; and kept much retired to her chamber, employed in needle-work, writing, &c. She said, however, that she came from Westfield, in Connecticut; that her parents lived in that State; that she had been married only a few months; and, that her husband's name was Thomas Walker;—but always carefully concealed her family name. Her linen was all marked E. W. About a

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fortnight before her death, she was brought to bed of a lifeless child. When those who attended her apprehended her fate, they asked her, whether she did not wish to see her friends : She answered, that she was very desirous of seeing them. It was proposed that she should send for them ; to which she objected, hoping in a short time to be able to go to them. From what she said, and from other circumstances, it appeared probable to those who attended her, that she belonged to some country town in Connecticut : Her conversation, her writings and her manners, bespoke the advantage of a respectable family & good education. Her person was agreeable ; her deportment, amiable & engaging ; and, though in a state of anxiety and suspense, she preserved a cheerfulness, which seemed to be not the effect of insensibility, but of a firm and patient temper. She was supposed to be about 35 years old. Copies of letters, of her writing, dated at Hartford, Springfield, and other places, were left among her things.—This account is given by the family in which she resided ; and it is hoped the publication of it will be a means of ascertaining her friends of her fate.

Rev. Samuel Hopkins, Rev. Benjamin Foster, of Newport, and the Rev. Enos Hitchcock, of Providence, are unanimously elected members of the Pennsylvania Society for promoting the Abolition of Slavery.

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ceived as good usage as the situation of the country he is confined in will afford."

From Poughkeepsie we learn, that the anti-federalists called for the final question on Monday last, but were over-ruled by a motion of Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. G. Livingston, that the question be postponed till the next day, which was carried.

Next day Mr. Hamilton brought forward a plan for ratification nearly similar to that of Virginia, only containing more declarations. On this a considerable debate took place & much of the old ground gone over, and the decision postponed till the next day.

CONNECTICUT.

MIDDLETOWN, July 21. Mr. William M'Kenny of New-Hartford, formerly of this town, went out of his house in good health, into his pasture to get his horse, fell down, and expired immediately, without groan or struggle.

NEW-HAVEN, JULY 23.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in New-York, in his friend in this City, July 21. "A number of the Antifederalists in Convention, have agreed to join in an absolute ratification for five years; but that at the end of that term, if Congress shall not in the mean time recommend the meeting of a convention, in conformity to the provisions of the Constitution, the State of New-York shall be at liberty to make her election, either to continue in the Confederacy or not. The above intelligence was brought by a gentleman directly from Poughkeepsie."

MASSACHUSETTS.

SPRINGFIELD, July 23. On the night of the 6th instant, the dwelling-house of Stephen Whitney, in Shutebury, was stove to pieces by a whirlwind, the effects being very apparent, for about three hundred rods in circumference. It is supposed to have begun on the pond, a small distance from the house. Mr. Whitney, his wife and child lodged in the s. e. front room next the kitchen; a woman and daughter in a bedroom, the n. w. corner of the house; and two children in the n. e. front chamber. Mr. Whitney hearing a clap of thunder and high wind, awoke in surprize, and starting from his bed, his wife followed, leaving their child, and having just entered the kitchen, the house fell and buried seven persons in its ruins. The woman, her daughter and the two children, were hurled with the timbers and the furniture of the house, to the west side of it. To the wonder and surprize of the family, they found themselves alive, amidst the rubbish and ruins of the house, barn and fences; in the dark, without clothes, drenched in rain, and half a mile distant from a neighbour. Whitney and the woman, were some bruised, but in a likely way to do well.

NEWBURGH, July 23. Last Wednesday, a melancholy occurrence happened at East-Kingston. A man by the name of Morrill, who has for some time been subject to fits of insanity, in a paroxysm of his disorder, attempted to kill his wife, with an ax. His son, about 19 years of age, seeing his father in pursuit of his mother, ran to her assistance; but before he came up to them he had aimed a blow at her head, which flung her, and she fell to the ground; the edge of the ax entered the side of her head, and produced a wound several inches in length and nearly two inches deep. He then turned to his son, and struck him a blow upon the head with the ax, which penetrated quite through the skull. Then dropping the ax, he seized them by the hair, and was knocking their heads violently one against the other, when some neighbours happily came to their relief. They are both in a dangerous situation, but it is expected the woman will recover.

BOSTON, July 28. On the 24th ultimo, the honourable the Congress of the United States, resolved, That the office of inspector of the troops in the service of the United States, immediately cease and be discontinued, and that the Secretary at War report what mode may be most eligible for having the troops inspected for the future.

It was also, on the same day, resolved, That the contract made by John Adams, Esq. Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, on the 13th of March, 1788, for the loan of one million of guilders, be, and it is hereby ratified.

Resolved, That three fair copies of the contract, with the ratification in the form of that agreed to on the first of February, 1785, mutatis mutandis, endorsed on each copy, be made out and duly attested, and that the Secretary for the department of foreign affairs transmit the same by several conveyances to T. Jefferson, Esq. Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, at the Court of France.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty thousand dollars, in addition to the fourteen thousand dollars already appropriated, be appropriated for defraying the expenses

of the treaties which hath been or may be ordered to be held in the present year with several Indian tribes in the northern department, and for extinguishing the Indian claims; and the whole of the said twenty thousand dollars, together with the thousand dollars of the said fourteen thousand dollars, be applied solely to the purpose of extinguishing Indian claims to the lands they have already ceded to the United States, by obtaining regular conveyances for the same, and extending a purchase beyond the limit hitherto fixed by treaty; But that no part of the said sums be applied for any purpose other than those above mentioned. Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated July 12, 1788.

"We are in momentary expectation of receiving the recommendation of Congress, to our Legislature, respecting the appointment of ten electors to meet for the purpose of making choice of President, &c. No other persons are talked of among the knowing ones to execute the new government, than the great American Fabius, and his Excellency Governor Hancock. The former will undoubtedly be President-General; and as the latter will have the highest number of votes, he will unquestionably be Vice-President. Mr. Adams, no doubt, will be Chief Justice of the Federal Judiciary. At the southward, the same sentiments prevail."

Extract of a letter from New-York, July 20.

"The Poughkeepsie Convention is still sitting, and will not probably rise until the last of this week. The anti-federalists are trying their hand at a kind of adoption that shall save their reputations with their constituents; I mean some of them, as to others, they would probably reject, if they had it in their power."

By the last advices from France, it appears, that the civil commotion, which have for some time agitated that Kingdom, have not in the least subsided—the determined resolution of its various Parliaments, supported as they are by the people, keeping pace with the magnanimity and perseverance of its illustrious monarch, though commanding a body of 300,000 troops.

A subscription is circulating in this town, for purchasing, for the University of Cambridge, that elegant and valuable piece of mechanism, the ORRERY, constructed by Mr. Joseph Pope, our townman. This piece of work is an honour to America.

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MARRIED.—At Bolton, Deacon DAVID STOWEN, aged 84, to Miss SILPHIA DAVIS, aged 36.—At Bolton, JOHN BONON GRAVES, Esq. Consul for South-Carolina, from the United States of Holland, to Miss SALLY ATWOOD, of Bolton.

DIED.—At Princeton, Mrs. ELIZABETH BRIGDEN, aged 83, relict of Deacon Brigden, late of Charlestown, and mother to the Hon. Moses Gill, Esq.—At Chelmsford, Dr. JOHN CUMING, of Concord.—At Charlestown, Mrs. ABIGAIL CHAPMAN, wife of Capt. Jonathan Chapman.

—At Kennington, Mr. STEWART; he arose well in the morning, went into his field, and, in a few minutes, was found dead.—At Bolton, Miss POLLY BARR, aged 14. Mr. THORNTON BARRETT, aged 25, son of Deacon Samuel Barrett.—At Danvers, Miss HITT Y OSBORN.

S H I P N E W S.

Arrived at New-London, brig Interpid, North Folgate, from New-Cayes, in 22 days; left there on the 17th ult. Schooner, Nathaniel Kinsman, Ipswich. Ditto — Samuel Foster, Beverly. Ditto — John Pitman, of this port.

The ship Nonpareil, lying at Tilden's wharf, Boston, will sail for London in all next week.

The new ship, Hamilton, intended for the grand passage, mounting 26 Iron cannons, was lately launched at New-York.

On Thursday last arrived at Bolton, from Havre-de-grace, in 50 days, the ship Cato, Capt. Stevens.

A French fleet is daily expected to arrive at Bolton from the West-Indies.

Extract from the WILL of a late Earl of

ESSEX. FOR my soul—I confess I Imprint. I have heard very much of souls; but what they are, or whom they are for, God knows; I know not. They tell me now of another world, where I never was; nor do I know one foot of the way thither. While the King stood, I was of his religion, made my son wear a cassock, and thought to make him a Bishop; then came the Scots, and made me a Presbyterian; and since Cromwell entered, I have been an independent; these, I believe, are the kingdom's three estates; and if any of these can have a soul, I may claim one. Therefore, if my Executors do find I have a soul, I give it him who gave it me.

Item, I give my body, for I cannot keep it, to be buried. Do not lay me in the church porch, for I was a Lord, and would not be buried where Col. Pride was born.

Item, My will is, that I have no monuments, for I mult have epitaphs and verses, and all my life long I have had too many of them.

Item, I give all my deer to the Earl of Salisbury, who I know will preserve them, because he denied the King a buck out of one of his own parks.

Item, I give nothing to Lord Say, which legacy I give him, because I know he will bestow it on the poor.

Item, To Tom May, I give five shillings; I intended him more, but whoever has seen his history of the Parliament, think five shillings too much.

Item, I give Lieut. Gen. Cromwell, one word of mine, because, hitherto, he never kept his own.

Item, I give up the ghost.

Next Friday, A T William Lang's Office, Will be for Sale, Ry Publick Vendue, IRISH LINENS, INDIA CALICOES, STRIPED GINGHAMS, BANDANO HANDKERCHIEFS, SILK & COTTON DITTO, COTTON DITTO, WHITE SHIRTS, HEMP HOSE, BLACK & WHITE GAUZE HANDKERCHIEFS, PLATED BUCKLES, CYPHERED BUTTONS, FEATHERS, SACKING-BOTTOM BEDSTEADS, GREEN CHAIRS, JOINERS DITTO, KITCHEN DITTO, ONE MAPLE DESK, STEEL SCISSARS, SHEARS, PADLOCKS, INK POTS, CROCKERY, &c. &c. &c. Sale to begin at X in the morning.

Take Notice. THE Court of General Sessions of the Peace, held at Salem on the second Tuesday of July, instant, ORDERED, That no INNHOLDER, or RETAILER, should be allowed to recognize, unless within thirty days from the time of his obtaining licence of said Court. By order of Court, ISAAC OSGOOD, Clerk. July 19, 1788.

From a London publication. ACCOUNT of a STONE-EATER. IN the beginning of May, 1760, was brought to Avignon, a true Lithophagus, or Stone-eater. He not only swallowed flints of an inch and a half long, a full inch broad, and half an inch thick—but such stones as he could, he reduced to powder; such as marbles, pebbles, &c. he made up into paste, which was to him a most agreeable and wholesome food. I examined this man with attention. I found his gullet very large, his teeth exceeding strong, his saliva very corrosive, and his stomach lower than ordinary: This I imputed to the vast number of flints he had swallowed, being about 25 a day. His keeper told me he was found in a northern uninhabited island, by the crew of a Dutch ship—Since I have had him, says he, I have made him eat raw flesh with his stones, but cannot get him to swallow bread.—Brandy gives him infinite pleasure. He sleeps full 12 hours a day, sitting on the ground, with one knee over the other, & his chin resting on his knee. The flints he voids somewhat corroded, and diminished in their weight; the rest of the excrement resembles mortar. The keeper also told me, that some physician at Paris got him blooded—that the blood had little or no serum, and in two hours became as fragile as coral. From this it is manifest, that the most diluted part of the stony juice mult be converted into chyle. Hitherto he is unable to pronounce more than a few words. He has been taught to make the sign of the cross, and has been baptized. The respect he shews to ecclesiasticks, and his ready disposition to please, afford me the opportunity of satisfying myself as to these particulars; and I am convinced he is no cheat. A. N.

MATRIMONIAL EPIGRAM. Sir, you are prudent, good, and wise, I own I thank you from my heart; And much approve what you advise; But let me think before I start. For folks, well able to discern, Who know what 'tis to take a wife, Say, 'tis a case of such concern, A man should think out—all his life.

QUESTION. WHAT word is that in the English language from which you take the five last letters, it is a male—the four last, a female—the three last, a great man—and altogether, a great woman.

DR. PITCAIRN, who practised in England about sixty years ago, being called to a bricklayer, on whom a chimney, which he had just erected, had fallen, finding the man dead, gravely turned round, and repeated the following apophthegm: Bliffed are the dead, only die in the Lord; for they rest from their labours, and their works follow them.