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# The Constitutions OF Connecticut

NOTES *and* STATISTICS regarding  
TOWN REPRESENTATION *in the*  
General Assembly *and* DOCUMENTS  
*relating to the* CONSTITUTIONAL  
CONVENTION *of* 1902



Printed by Order of the Comptroller, 1901



T H E T H R E E  
Constitutions of  
Connecticut

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1638-9      1662      1818

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MESSAGES of the Governor; Rejected  
Amendments to the Constitution; Act  
Calling Constitutional Convention; Proc-  
lamation of Governor; Roll of Delegates

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With NOTES ON TOWN REPRESENTATION  
By CHARLES J. HOADLY, 1892  
*AND STATISTICS REGARDING THE SAME*

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*Compiled in*  
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

1901

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HARTFORD, CONN.:  
Printed by Order of the Comptroller, 1901



Hartford Press

The Case, Lockwood & Brainard Company

1901





STATE OF CONNECTICUT,  
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,  
HARTFORD, December, 1901.

In view of the interest manifested in the approaching Constitutional Convention, and particularly regarding the question of Town Representation in the General Assembly, I have compiled this pamphlet.

It contains the three Constitutions of Connecticut, that of 1638-9, of 1662, and of 1818; the messages of His Excellency Governor George P. McLean regarding Constitutional Reform to the General Assembly of 1901; the Constitutional Amendments proposed to and rejected by that body, and the Act providing for the Calling of the Constitutional Convention, with the Roll of Delegates to the same.

I have added the Notes upon Town Representation in the General Assembly, by the late Dr. C. J. Hoadly, State Librarian, reprinted from the State Register of 1892, and a table of Statistics of Town Representation, Population, etc., compiled in this office, which I trust will be found of interest and value.

A. CHAMBERLAIN,  
*Comptroller.*

PUBLICATION No. 3  
CONNECTICUT CONSTITUTIONS  
SERIES

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# The First Constitution of Connecticut

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T H E  
“Fundamental Orders”

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*



The First  
Edition of  
Columbian

Note  
1791

Subsequent Editions  
1808 & 1811

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Printed by the Government of the Comptroller



## Note



“The constitutional history of Connecticut properly begins with the adoption, on the fourteenth of January, 1638-39, of the ‘Fundamental Orders,’ by which ‘the inhabitants and residents of Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield’ became ‘associated and conjoined to be as one Public State or Commonwealth,’ for the establishment of ‘an orderly and decent government, according to God, to order and dispose of the affairs of the people at all seasons as occasion shall require.’”  
(Dr. Trumbull’s Historical Notes on the Constitutions.)



# The *First Constitution* of Connecticut

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The "Fundamental Orders" 1638=9

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**F**ORASMUCH as it hath pleased the Almighty God by the wise disposition of his divine providence so to order and dispose of things that we the Inhabitants and Residents of Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield are now cohabiting and dwelling in and upon the River of Connectecotte and the lands thereunto adjoining; and well knowing where a people are gathered together the word of God requires that to maintain the peace and union of such a people there should be an orderly and decent Government established according to God, to order and dispose of the affairs of the people at all seasons as occasion shall require; do therefore associate and conjoin ourselves to be as one Public State or Commonwealth; and do for ourselves and our Successors and such as shall be adjoined to us at any time hereafter, enter into Combination and Confederation together, to maintain and preserve the liberty and purity of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus which we now profess, as also the discipline of the Churches, which according to the truth of the said Gospel is now practiced amongst us; as also in our Civil Affairs to be guided and governed according to such Laws, Rules, Orders, and Decrees as shall be made, ordered, and decreed, as followeth:—

1. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that there shall be yearly two General Assemblies or Courts, the one the second Thursday in April, the other the second Thursday in September following; the first shall be called the Court of Election, wherein shall be yearly chosen from time to time



so many Magistrates and other public Officers as shall be found requisite: Whereof one to be chosen Governor for the year ensuing and until another be chosen, and no other Magistrate to be chosen for more than one year; provided always, there be six chosen besides the Governor, which being chosen and sworn according to an Oath recorded for that purpose, shall have power to administer justice according to the Laws here established, and for want thereof, according to the rule of the Word of God; which choice shall be made by all that are admitted freemen and have taken the Oath of Fidelity, and do cohabit within this Jurisdiction (having been admitted Inhabitants by the major part of the Town wherein they live)\* or the major part of such as shall be then present.

2. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that the Election of the aforesaid Magistrates shall be on this manner: every person present and qualified for choice shall bring in (to the persons deputed to receive them) one single paper with the name of him written in it whom he desires to have Governor, and he that hath the greatest number of papers shall be Governor for that year. And the rest of the Magistrates or public Officers to be chosen in this manner: the Secretary for the time being shall first read the names of all that are to be put to choice and then shall severally nominate them distinctly, and every one that would have the person nominated to be chosen shall bring in one single paper written upon, and he that would not have him chosen shall bring in a blank: and every one that hath more written papers than blanks shall be a Magistrate for that year; which papers shall be received and told by one or more that shall be then chosen by the court and sworn to be faithful therein; but in case there should not be six chosen as aforesaid, besides the Governor, out of those which are nominated, then he or they which have the most written papers shall be a Magistrate or Magistrates for the ensuing year, to make up the aforesaid number.

3. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that the Secre-

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\* This clause was interlined in a different handwriting, and is of a later date. It was adopted by the General Court of November, 1643.

tary shall not nominate any person, nor shall any person be chosen newly into the Magistracy, which was not propounded in some General Court before, to be nominated the next Election; and to that end it shall be lawful for each of the Towns aforesaid by their deputies to nominate any two whom they conceive fit to be put to election; and the Court may add so many more as they judge requisite.

4. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that no person be chosen Governor above once in two years, and that the Governor be always a member of some approved congregation, and formerly of the Magistracy within this Jurisdiction; and all the Magistrates, Freemen of this Commonwealth: and that no Magistrate or other public officer shall execute any part of his or their office before they are severally sworn, which shall be done in the face of the court if they be present, and in case of absence by some deputed for that purpose.

5. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that to the aforesaid Court of Election the several Towns shall send their deputies, and when the Elections are ended they may proceed in any public service as at other Courts. Also the other General Court in September shall be for making of laws, and any other public occasion, which concerns the good of the Commonwealth.

6. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that the Governor shall, either by himself or by the secretary, send out summons to the constables of every Town for the calling of these two standing Courts, one month at least before their several times: And also if the Governor and the greatest part of the Magistrates see cause upon any special occasion to call a General Court, they may give order to the Secretary so to do within fourteen days' warning: and if urgent necessity so require, upon a shorter notice, giving sufficient grounds for it to the deputies when they meet, or else be questioned for the same; And if the Governor and major part of Magistrates shall either neglect or refuse to call the two General standing Courts or either of them, as also at other times when the occasions of the Commonwealth require, the

Freemen thereof, or the major part of them, shall petition to them so to do; if then it be either denied or neglected, the said Freemen, or the major part of them, shall have power to give order to the Constables of the several Towns to do the same, and so may meet together, and choose to themselves a Moderator, and may proceed to do any act of power which any other General Court may.

7. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that after there are warrants given out for any of the said General Courts, the Constable or Constables of each Town shall forthwith give notice distinctly to the inhabitants of the same, in some public assembly or by going or sending from house to house, that at a place and time by him or them limited and set, they meet and assemble themselves together to elect and choose certain deputies to be at the General Court then following to agitate the affairs of the Commonwealth; which said deputies shall be chosen by all that are admitted Inhabitants in the several Towns and have taken the oath of fidelity; provided that none be chosen a Deputy for any General Court which is not a Freeman of this Commonwealth.

The aforesaid deputies shall be chosen in manner following: every person that is present and qualified as before expressed, shall bring the names of such, written in several papers, as they desire to have chosen for that employment, and these three or four, more or less, being the number agreed on to be chosen for that time, that have greatest number of papers written for them shall be deputies for that Court; whose names shall be endorsed on the back side of the warrant and returned into the Court, with the constable or constables' hand unto the same.

8. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield shall have power, each Town, to send four of their Freemen as their deputies to every General Court; and whatsoever other Towns shall be hereafter added to this Jurisdiction, they shall send so many deputies as the Court shall judge meet, a reasonable proportion to the number of Freemen that are in the said Towns being to be at-



tended therein; which deputies shall have the power of the whole Town to give their votes and allowance to all such laws and orders as may be for the public good, and unto which the said towns are to be bound.

9. It is Ordered and decreed, that the deputies thus chosen shall have power and liberty to appoint a time and a place of meeting together before any General Court, to advise and consult of all such things as may concern the good of the public, as also to examine their own Elections, whether according to the order, and if they or the greatest part of them find any election to be illegal they may seclude such for present from their meeting, and return the same and their reasons to the Court; and if it prove true, the Court may fine the party or parties so intruding, and the Town, if they see cause, and give out a warrant to go to a new election in a legal way, either in part or in whole. Also the said deputies shall have power to fine any that shall be disorderly at their meetings, or for not coming in due time or place according to appointment; and they may return the said fines into the Court if it be refused to be paid, and the Treasurer to take notice of it, and to escheat or levy the same as he does other fines.

10. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that every General Court, except such as through neglect of the Governor and the greatest part of Magistrates the Freemen themselves do call, shall consist of the Governor, or some one chosen to moderate the Court, and four other Magistrates at least, with the major part of the deputies of the several Towns legally chosen; and in case the Freemen, or major part of them, through neglect or refusal of the Governor and major part of the magistrates, shall call a Court, it shall consist of the major part of Freemen that are present or their deputies, with a Moderator chosen by them: In which said General Courts shall consist the supreme power of the Commonwealth, and they only shall have power to make laws or repeal them, to grant levies, to admit of Freemen, dispose of lands undisposed of, to several Towns or persons, and also shall have power to call either court or Magistrate or any other

person whatsoever into question for any misdemeanor, and may for just causes displace or deal otherwise according to the nature of the offence; and also may deal in any other matter that concerns the good of this Commonwealth, except election of Magistrates, which shall be done by the whole body of Freemen.

In which Court the Governor or Moderator shall have power to order the Court, to give liberty of speech, and silence unseasonable and disorderly speakings, to put all things to vote, and in case the vote be equal to have the casting vote. But none of these Courts shall be adjourned or dissolved without the consent of the major part of the Court.

11. It is Ordered, sentenced, and decreed, that when any General Court upon the occasions of the Commonwealth have agreed upon any sum or sums of money to be levied upon the several Towns within this Jurisdiction, that a committee be chosen to set out and appoint what shall be the proportion of every Town to pay of the said levy, provided the committee be made up of an equal number out of each Town.

14th January, 1638 [N. S., 24th January, 1639], the 11 Orders abovesaid are voted.

# CHARTER

of the

*Colony of Connecticut*

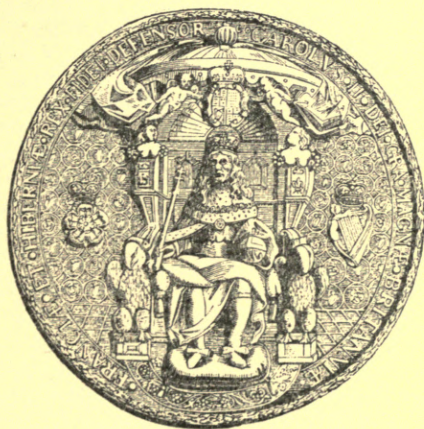
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1662

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## Note



[On the 14th of March, 1661, the General Court of Connecticut voted to petition the king for the continuance and confirmation of such privileges and liberties as were necessary for the comfortable and peaceable settlement of the Colony.

Governor Winthrop was requested to act as the agent for the Colony. He sailed from New York in July, 1661. The letter of credit for £500 sterling, which he took with him, may be seen in the State Library. The amount was paid in wheat and pease. He succeeded in procuring a very liberal charter, which bears date April 23d, 1662.

The charter was made in duplicate and sent in different ships. The duplicate probably arrived first, and was received in Connecticut in September, 1662. There are some trifling verbal differences between them, not, however, affecting the sense.

In 1687 it became evident that the Colony was likely to be deprived of the charter, and measures were taken accordingly. There is a very curious entry on the Colonial Records in June 1687, of the production of the (original) charter in court, and of its being left on the table with the key in the box at the adjournment of the Court, with no one responsible for its safety, the committee which had been appointed to keep it being discharged by their surrendry of it to the Court. Perhaps it was at this time that the charter was quietly taken by Nathaniel Stanly and John Talcott, and concealed in the famous oak.

On the 31st of October, 1687, Sir Edmund Andros came to Hartford to receive the surrender of the charter. The Assembly met and sat late at night. The duplicate charter was brought forth and placed on the table. Suddenly the lights were extinguished, and Captain Joseph Wadsworth carried off and concealed the duplicate, which he retained until 1715, when the Assembly made him a grant for his good service in the matter. The one more highly ornamented than the other, now hangs in the Secretary's office. What remains of the second copy may be seen in the rooms of the Connecticut Historical Society at Hartford. How it was saved from being cut up to make the foundation of a bonnet is told in a note in Vol. 4 of the Colonial Records.

The charter continued to be the basis of our government until it was superseded by the constitution of 1818. — *C. J. Hoadly.*]

[STATE LIBRARY, Aug. 1900.]

# Charter of 1662

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**C**harles the Second, By the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the Faith, &c.; To all to whome this presents shall come, Greeting: **W**hereas, by the severall Navigaçons, discoveries and successfull Plantaçons of diverse of our loveing Subjects of this our Realme of England, Severall Lands, Islands, Places, Colonies and Plantaçons have byn obtayned and settled in that parte of the Continent of America called New England, and thereby the Trade and Commerce there hath byn of late yeares much increased, **A**nd **W**hereas, wee have byn informed by the humble Petiçon of our Trusty and welbeloved John Winthrop, John Mason, Samuell Willis, Henry Clerke, Mathew Allen, John Tappen, Nathan Gold, Richard Treat, Richard Lord, Henry Woolicott, John Talcott, Daniell Clerke, John Ogden, Thomas Wells, Obedias Brewen, John Clerke, Anthony Haukins, John Deming and Mathew Camfeild, being Persons Principally interested in our Colony or Plantaçon of Conecticut in New England, that the same Colony or the greatest parte thereof was purchased and obteyned for greate and valuable Consideraçons, **A**nd some other part thereof gained by Conquest and with much difficulty, and att the onely endeavours, expence and Charge of them and their Associates, and those vnder whome they Clayme, Subdued and improved, and thereby become a consider-

able enlargement and addition of our Dominions and interest there,—~~Now~~ **Know** **yea**, that in consideration thereof, and in regard the said Colony is remote from other the English Plantations in the Places aforesaid, And to the end the Affaires and Busines which shall from tyme to tyme happen or arise concerning the same may be duely Ordered and managed, **Wee** have thought fitt, and att the humble Petition of the Persons aforesaid, and are graciously pleased to Create and Make them a Body Politique and Corporate, with the powers and Priviledges herein after mentioned; And accordingly Our will and pleasure is, and of our especiall grace, certeine knowledge and meere motion, **wee** have Ordeyned, Constituted and Declared, And by theis presents, for vs, our heires and Successors, **Doe** Ordeine, Constitute and Declare That they, the said John Winthrop, John Mason, Samuel Willis, Henry Clerke, Mathew Allen, John Tappen, Nathan Gold, Richard Treat, Richard Lord, Henry Woollcot, John Talcot, Daniell Clerke, John Ogden, Thomas Wells, Obadiah Brewen, John Clerke, Anthony Hawkins, John Deming and Mathew Camfeild, and all such others as now are or hereafter shall be Admitted and made free of the Company and Society of our Collony of Connecticut in America, shall from tyme to tyme and for ever hereafter, be one Body Corporate and Politique in fact and name, by the Name of Governour and Company of the English Collony of Connecticut in New England in America; And that by the same name they and their Successors shall and may have perpetuall Succession, and shall and may be Persons able and Capable in the law to Plead and be Impleaded, to Answer and to be Answered vnto, to Defend and be Defended in all and singuler Suits, Causes, quarrelles, Matters, Accions and things of what kind or nature soever, And



alsoe to have, take, possesse, acquire and purchase lands, Tenements or hereditaments, or any goods or Chattells, and the same to Lease, Graunt, Demise, Alien, bargaine, Sell and dispose of, as other our leige People of this our Realme of England, or any other Corporaçon or Body Pollitique within the same may lawfully doe. **And** further, that the said Governour and Company, and their Successors shall and may for ever hereafter have a Comon Seale to serve and vse for all Causes, matters, things and affaires, whatsoever of them and their Successors, and the same Seale to alter, change, breake and make new from tyme to tyme att their wills and pleasures, as they shall thinke fitt. **And** further, we will and Ordeine, and by theis presents for vs, our heires and Successors **Doe** Declare and appoint, that for the better ordering and manageing of the affaires and businesse of the said Company and their Successors, there shall bee one Governour, one Deputy Governour and Twelve Assitants, to bee from tyme to tyme Constituted, Elected and Chosen out of the Freemen of the said Company for the tyme being, in such manner and forme as hereafter in these presents is expressed; which said Officers shall apply themselves to take care for the best disposing and Ordering of the Generall busines and affaires of and concerning the lands and hereditaments herein after mençoned to bee graunted, and the Plantaçon thereof and the Government of the People thereof. And for the better execuçon of our Royall Pleasure herein, wee **doe** for vs, our heires and Successors, Assigne, name, Constitute and appoint the aforesaid John Winthrop to bee <sup>the</sup> first and present Governour of the said Company; And the said John Mason to bee <sup>the</sup> Deputy Governour; And the said Samuell Willis, Mathew Allen, Nathan Gold, Henry Clerke, Richard Treat, John Ogden, Thomas Tappen,

John Talcott, Thomas Wells, Henry Woolcot, Richard Lord and Daniell Clerke to bee the Twelve present Assitants of the said Company; to contynue in the said severall Offices respectively, vntill the second Thursday which shall bee in the moneth of Oötober now next comeing. And further, we will, and by theis presents for vs, our heires and Successors, Doe Ordaine and Graunt that the Governour of the said Company for the tyme being, or, in his absence by occasion of sicknes, or otherwise by his leave or permission, the Deputy Governour for the tyme being, shall and may from tyme to tyme vpon all occasions give Order for the assembling of the said Company and calling them together to Consult and advise of the businesse and Affaires of the said Company, And that for ever hereafter, Twice in every yeare, That is to say on every Second Thursday in Oötober and on every Second Thursday in May, or oftener, in Case it shall bee requisite, The Assitants and freemen of the said Company, or such of them, not exceeding twoe Persons from each Place, Towne or Citty, whoe shall bee from tyme to tyme therevnto Elected or Deputed by the maior parte of the freemen of the respective Townes, Cittyes and Places for which they shall bee soe elected or Deputed, shall have a generall meeting or Assembly, then and their to Consult and advise in and about the Affaires and businesse of the said Company; And that the Governour, or in his absence the Deputy Governour of the said Company for the tyme being, and such of the Assitants and freemen of the said Company as shall be soe Elected or Deputed and bee present att such meeting or Assembly, or the greatest number of them, whereof the Governour or Deputy Governour and Six of the Assitants at least, to bee Seaven, shall bee called the Generall Assembly, and shall have full power and authority to

alter and change their dayes and tymes of meeting or Generall Affsemblies for Electing the Governour, Deputy Governour and Assistants or other Officers or any other Courts, Affsemblies or meetings, and to Choofe, Nominate and appoint such and soe many other Persons as they shall thinke fitt and shall bee willing to accept the same, to be free of the said Company and Body Politique, and them into the same to Admitt and to Eleçt, and Constitute such Officers as they shall thinke fitt and requisite for the Ordering, mannageing and disposeing of the Affaires of the said Governour and Company and their Successors. **And wee doe** hereby for vs, our heires and Successors, Establish and Ordeine, that once in the yeare for ever hereafter, namely, the said Second Thursday in May, the Governour, Deputy Governour, and Assistants of the said Company and other Officers of the said Company, or such of them as the said Generall Assembly shall thinke fitt, shall bee in the said Generall Court and Assembly to bee held from that day or tyme newly Chosen for the yeare ensuing, by such greater part of the said Company for the tyme being then and there present. And if the Governour, Deputy Governour and Assistants by these presents appointed, or such as hereafter bee newly Chosen into their Roomes, or any of them, or any other the Officers to bee appointed for the said Company shall dye or bee removed from his or their severall Offices or Places before the said Generall day of Elecçon, whome wee doe hereby Declare for any misdemeanour or default to bee removeable by the Governour, Assistants and Company, or such greater part of them in any of the said publique Courts to bee Affsembled as is aforesaid, That then and in every such Case itt shall and may bee lawfull to and for the Governour, Deputy Governour and Assistants and Company aforesaid, or such greater parte of them soe to



bee Affembled as is aforesaid in any of their Affsemblies to Proceede to a New Elecōn of one or more of their Company in the Roome or Place, Roomes or Places of such Governour, Deputy Governour, Assistant or other Officer or Officers soe dyeing or removed, according to their discretions; and immediatly vpon and after such Elecōn or Elecōns made of such Governour, Deputy Governour, Assistant or Assistants, or any other Officer of the said Company in manner and forme aforesaid, The Authority, Office and Power before given to the former Governour, Deputy Governour or other Officer and Officers soe removed, in whose stead and Place new shall be chosen, shall as to him and them and every of them respectively cease and determine. ¶ Provided, also, and our will and pleasure is, That as well such as are by this presents appointed to bee the present Governour, Deputy Governour and Assistants of the said Company as those that <sup>shall</sup> succeed them, and all other Officers to bee appointed and Chosen as aforesaid, shall, before they vndertake the Execuōn of their said Offices and Places respectively, take their severall and respective Corporall Oathes for the due and faithful performance of their duties in their severall Offices and Places, before such Person or Persons as are by these Presents hereafter appoynted to take and receive the same; That is to say the said John Winthrop, whoe is herein before nominated and appointed the present Governour of the said Company, shall take the said Oath before one or more of the Masters of our Court of Chancery for the tyme being, vnto which Master of Chancery wee doe, by this presents, give full power and authority to Administer the said Oath to the said John Winthrop accordingly. And the said John Mason, whoe is herein before nominated and duely appointed the present Deputy Governour of the

faid Company, fhall take the faid Oath before the faid John Winthrop, or any twoe of the Affiftants of the faid Company, vnto whome wee doe by thefe presents, give full power and authority to Adminifter the faid Oath to the faid John Mafon accordingly. And the faid Samuell Willis, Henry Clerke, Mathew Allen, John Tappen, Nathan Gold, Richard Treat, Richard Lord, Henry Woolcott, John Talcott, Daniell Clerke, John Ogden and Thomas Welles, whoe are herein before Nominated and appointed the present Affiftants of the faid Company, fhall take the Oath before <sup>the</sup> faid John Winthrop and John Mafon, or one of them, to whome wee doe hereby give full power and authority to Adminifter the fame accordingly. And our further will and pleasure is, that all and every Governour or Deputy Governour to bee Elected and Chofen by vertue of thefe presents, fhall take the faid Oath before two or more of the Affiftants of the faid Company for the tyme being, vnto whom wee doe, by thefe presents, give full power and authority to give and Adminifter the faid Oath accordingly. And the faid Affiftants and every of them, and all and every other Officer or Officers to bee hereafter Chofen from tyme to tyme, to take the faid Oath before the Governour or Deputy Governour for the tyme being, vnto which faid Governour or Deputy Governour wee doe, by thefe presents, give full power and authority to Adminifter the fame accordingly. And further, of our more ample grace, certeine knowledge and meere moçon wee have given and Graunted, and by thefe presents, for vs, our heires and Succeffors, Doe give and Graunt vnto the faid Governour and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America, and to every Inhabitant there, and to every Perfon and Perfons Trading thither, And to every fuch Perfon and Perfons as are or

shall bee free of the said Collony, full power and authority from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter, to take, Ship, Transport and Carry away, for and towards the Plantacon and defence of the said Collony such of our loveing Subjects and Strangers as shall or will willingly accompany them in and to their said Collony and Plantacon; (Except such Person and Persons as are or shall bee therein restrayned by vs, our heires and Successors;) And alsoe to Ship and Transport all and all manner of goods, Chattells, Merchandizes and other things whatsoever that are or shall bee vsefull or necessary for the Inhabitants of the said Collony and may lawfully bee Transported thither; Neverthelesse, not to bee discharged of payment to vs, our heires and Successors, of the Dutyes, Customes and Subsidies which are or ought to bee paid or payable for the same. **And further,** Our will and pleasure is, and wee doe for vs, our heires and Successors, Ordeyne, Declare and Graunt vnto the said Governor and Company and their Successors, That all and every the Subiects of vs, our heires or Successors which shall goe to Inhabite within the said Colony, and every of their Children which shall happen to bee borne there or on the Sea in going thither or returneing from thence, shall have and enjoye all liberties and Immunities of free and naturall Subiects within any the Dominions of vs, our heires or Successors, to all intents, Construcions and purposes whatsoever, as if they and every of them were borne within the Realme of England. **And wee doe** authorise and impower the Governour, or in his absence the Deputy Governor for the tyme being, to appointe two or more of the said assistants att any of their Courts or Assemblyes to bee held as aforesaid, to have power and authority to Administer the Oath of Supremacy and obedience to all and every Person and Persons which shall att any tyme or



tymes hereafter goe or passe into the said Colony of Connecticut, vnto which said Assistants soe to be appointed as aforesaid, wee doe, by these presents, give full power and authority to Administer the said Oath accordingly. And wee doe further, of our especiall grace, certeine knowledge and meere moõon, give and Graunt vnto the said Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America, and their Successors, that itt shall and may bee lawfull to and for the Governor or Deputy Governor and such of the Assistants of the said Company for the tyme being as shall bee Asssembled in any of the General Courts aforesaid, or in any Courts to bee especially Sumoned or Asssembled for that purpose, or the greater parte of them, whereof the Governor or Deputy Governor and Six of the Assistants, (to be all wayes Seaven,) to Erect and make such Judicatories for the heareing and Determining of all Acõons, Causes, matters and thinges happening within the said Colony or Plantaõon and which shall bee in dispute and depending there, as they shall thinke fitt and convenient; And alsoe from tyme to tyme to Make, Ordaine and Establiish All manner of wholsome and reasonable Lawes, Statutes, Ordinances, Direcõons and Instrucõons, not contrary to the lawes of this Realme of England, aswell for setling the formes and Ceremonies of Government and Magestracy fitt and necessary for the said Plantaõon and the Inhabitants there as for nameing and Stileing all sorts of Officers, both superior and inferior, which they shall find needfull for the Government and Plantaõon of the said Colony, and the distinguishing and setting forth of the severall Dutyes, Powers and Lymitts of every such Office and Place, and the formes of such Oaths, not being contrary to the Lawes and Statutes of this our Realme of England, to bee Administred for the Execuõon of the

faid feverall Offices and Places; As alſoe for the diſpoſeing and Ordering of the Elecçon of ſuch of the ſaid Officers as are to bee Annually Chosen, and of ſuch others as ſhall ſucceed in caſe of death or removall, and Adminiſtring the ſaid Oath to the new Elected Officers, and Graunting neceſſary Comiſſions, and for impoſiçon of lawfull Fines, Mulçts, Imprifonment or other Punifhment vpon Offenders and Delinquents, according to the Courſe of other Corporaçons within this our Kingdome of England, and the ſame Lawes, fines, Mulçts and Execuçons to alter, change, revoke, adnull, releaſe or Pardon, vnder their Comon Seale, As by the ſaid Generall Affembly or the maior part of them ſhall bee thought fitt; And for the directing, ruleing and diſpoſeing of all other matters and things whereby our ſaid people, Inhabitants thare, may bee ſoe religiously, peaceably and civilly Governed as their good life and orderly Converſaçon may wynn and invite the Natives of the Country to the knowledge and obedience of the onely true God and Saviour of mankind and the Chriſtian faith, which in our Royal intençons and the Adventurers free profeſſion is the onely and principall end of this Plantaçon; **Williing**, Commanding and requireing, and by theſe preſents, for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Ordaineing and appointeing That all ſuch Lawes, Statutes and Ordinances, Inſtrucçons, Impoſiçons, and Direcçons as ſhall bee ſoe made by the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Aſſiſtants, as aforeſaid, and publiſhed in writeing vnder their Comon Seale, ſhall carefully and duely bee obſerved, kept, performed and putt in execuçon, according to the true intent and meaning of the ſame. **And** theſe our letters Patent, or the Duplicate or Exemplificaçon thereof, ſhall bee to all and every ſuch Officers, Superiors and inferiors, from tyme to tyme for the Putting of the ſame Orders, Lawes, Statutes, Ordi-

nances, Instruccōns and Direcōns in due Execuōn, against vs, our heires and Successors, a sufficient warrant and discharge. **And wee doe further,** for vs, our heires and Successors, give and Graunt vnto the said Governor and Company and their Successors, by these presents, That itt shall and may bee lawfull to and for the Cheife Commanders, Governors and Officers of the said Company for the tyme being whoe shall bee resident in the parts of New England hereafter menōned, and others inhabiting there by their leave, admittance, appointment or direcōn, from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter, for their speciall defence and safety, to Assemble, Martiall, Array, and putt in Warlike posture the Inhabitants of the said Colony, and to Commishonate, Impower and authorise such Person or Persons as they shall thinke fitt to lead and Conduēt the said Inhabitants, and to encounter, expulse, repell and resist by force of Armes, as well by Sea as by land, And alsoe to kill, Slay and destroy, by all fitting wayes, enterprizes and means whatsoever, all and every such Person or Persons as shall att any tyme hereafter Attempt or enterprize the destruccōn, invasion, detriment or annoyance of the said Inhabitants or Plantaōn, And to vse and exercise the Law Martiall in such Cafes onely as occasiōn shall require, And to take or surprize by all wayes and means whatsoever, all and every such Person and Persons, with their Shipps, Armour, Ammuñiōn, and other goods of such as shall in such hostile manner invade or attempt the defeating of the said Plantaōn or the hurt of the said Company and Inhabitants; and vpon iust Causes to invade and destroy the Natives or other Enemyes of the said Colony. **Nevertheless,** Our Will and pleasure is, And wee doe hereby Declare vnto all Christian Kings, Princes and States, That if any Persons which shall hereafter bee of the said Company or



Plantacon, or any other, by appointment of the said Governor and Company for the tyme being, shall att any tyme or tymes hereafter Robb or Spoile by Sea or by land, and doe any hurt, violence or vnlawfull hostility to any of the Subiects of vs, our heires or Successors, or any of the Subiects of any Prince or State beinge then in league with vs, our heires or Successors, vpon Complaint of such iniury done to any such Prince or State, or their Subiects, **wee**, our heires and Successors, will make open Proclamacon within any parts of our Realme of England fitt for that purpose, That the Person or Persons committing any such Robbery or Spoile, shall within the tyme lymitted by such Proclamacon, make full restitucon or satisfacccon of all such iniuries done or committed, Soe as the said Prince or others soe complayneing may bee fully satisfied and contented. And if the said Person or Persons whoe shall committ any such Robbery or Spoile shall not make satisfacccon accordingly, within such tyme soe to bee limited, That then itt shall and may bee lawfull for vs, our heires and Successors, to putt such Person or Persons out of our Allegiance and Proteccon. And that it shall and may bee lawfull and free for all Princes or others to Prosecute with hostility such Offenders and every of them, their and every of their Procurers, ayders, Abettors and Councillors in that behalfe. **Provided**, alsoe, and our expresse will and pleasure is, **And wee doe** by these presents for vs, our heires and Successors, Ordeyne and appointe that these presents shall not in any manner hinder any of our loveing Subiects whatsoever to vse and exercise the Trade of Fishinge vpon the Coast of New England in America, but they and every or any of them shall have full and free power and liberty to contynue and vse the said Trade of Fishing vpon the said Coast, in any of the Seas therevnto adioyning, or any Armes of the

Seas or Salt Water Rivers where they have byn accustomed to Fish, And to build and sett vpon the wast land belonging to the said Colony of Conecticut, such Wharfes, Stages and workehouses as shall bee necessary for the Salting, dryeing and keepinge of their Fish to bee taken or gotten vpon that Coast,—any thinge in these presents conteyned to the contrary notwithstanding. **And knowe yee further,** That Wee, of our more abundant grace, certaine knowledge and meere mocon have given, Graunted and Confirmed, And by theis presents for vs, our heires and Successors, **Doe** give, Graunt and Confirme vnto the said Governor and Company and their Successors, **All** that parte of our Dominions in Newe England in America bounded on the East by Norrogancett River, comonly called Norrogancett Bay, where the said River falleth into the Sea, and on the North by the lyne of the Maffachusetts Plantacon and on the South by the Sea, and in longitude as the lyne of the Maffachusetts Colony, runinge from East to West; that is to say, from the said Narrogancett Bay on the East to the South Sea on the West parte, with the Islands therevnto adioyninge, Together with all firme lands, Soyles, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Waters, Fishings, Mynes, Myneralls, Precious Stones, Quarries, and all and singuler other Comodities, Iurisdiccōns, Royalties, Priviledges, Franchises, Preheminences, and hereditaments whatsoever within the said Tract, Bounds, lands and Islands aforefaid, or to them or any of them belonging, **To have and to hold** the same vnto the said Governor and Company, their Successors and Assignes, for ever vpon Trust and for the vse and benefitt of themselves and their Associates, freemen of the said Colony, their heires and Assignes, **To bee holden** of vs, our heires and Successors, as of our Manor of East Greenwich, in Free and Comon Soccage, and not in Capite nor

by Knights Service, **Veilding and Peayinge** therefore to vs, our heires and Successors, onely the Fifth parte of all the Oare of Gold and Silver which from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter shall bee there gotten, had or obteyned, in lieu of all Services, Dutyes and Demaunds whatsoever, to bee to vs, our heires or Successors, therefore or thereout rendered, made or paid. **And lastly,** Wee doe for vs, our heires, and Successors, Graunt to the said Governor and Company and their Successors, by these presents, that these our Letters Patent shall bee firme, good and effectuell in the lawe to all intents, Construccõs and purposes whatsoever, accordinge to our true intent and meaneing herein before Declared, as shall bee Construed, reputed and adiudged most favourable on the behalfe and for the best benefitt and behoofe of the said Governor and Company and their Successors, **Although expresse mention** of the true yearely value of certainty of the premises, or of any of them, or of any other Guifts or Graunts by vs or by any of our Progenitors or Predecessors heretofore made to the said Governor and Company of the English Colony of Conecticut in New England in America aforesaid in this presents is not made, or <sup>any</sup> Statute, Act, Ordinance, Provision, Proclamaçon or Restricçon heretofore had, made, Enacted, Ordeyned or Provided, or any other matter, Cause or thinge whatsoever to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. **In witness** whereof, we have caused these our Letters to bee made Patent; **witness** our Selfe, att Westminster, the three and Twentieth day of Aprill, in the Fowerteenth yeare of our Reigne.

By writt of Privy Seale.


**Howard.**



# *The Constitution* of Connecticut

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**I**NCLUDING all AMENDMENTS to date  
and excluding such parts as are not  
now in force, being the **Constitution**  
as it now exists in legal effect and with  
its original language and arrangement 

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**Compiled by the HON. LEWIS SPERRY**

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*







STATE OF CONNECTICUT,  
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,  
HARTFORD, December, 1901.

For the convenience of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1902, and all interested in the study of the present Constitution, I have printed this compilation.

Originally prepared by the Hon. Lewis Sperry, of Hartford, at the request of Ex-Governor Morgan G. Bulkeley, it is now reprinted from his last edition by his permission.

“So much of the original Constitution and amendments as has become obsolete, either by subsequent amendment or by limitation, has been stricken out. The amendments still in force have been written into the Constitution, in their proper places, and the original language of the Constitution, including even capitals and punctuation, has been preserved as far as possible; so that the draft herewith presented is the Constitution of Connecticut not only in legal effect but in its exact form as it now exists.”

A. CHAMBERLAIN,

*Comptroller.*





# The Constitution of Connecticut.

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## PREAMBLE.

THE people of Connecticut acknowledging with gratitude, the good providence of God, in having permitted them to enjoy a free government, do, in order more effectually to define, secure, and perpetuate the liberties, rights and privileges which they have derived from their ancestors, hereby, after a careful consideration and revision, ordain and establish the following Constitution, and form of civil government.

## Article first.

### DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

That the great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established,

### We Declare,

SECT. 1. That all men when they form a social compact, are equal in rights; and that no man or set of men are entitled to exclusive public emoluments or privileges from the community.

SECT. 2. That all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their benefit; and that they have at all times an undeniable and indefeasible right to alter their form of government in such a manner as they may think expedient.

SECT. 3. The exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination, shall forever be free to all persons in this State, provided that the right hereby declared and established, shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or to justify practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the State.

SECT. 4. No preference shall be given by law to any Christian sect or mode of worship.

SECT. 5. Every citizen may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

SECT. 6. No law shall ever be passed to curtail or restrain the liberty of speech or of the press.

SECT. 7. In all prosecutions or indictments for libels, the truth may be given in evidence, and the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court.

SECT. 8. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers and possessions from unreasonable searches or seizures; and no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or things, shall issue without describing them as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause supported by oath or affirmation.

SECT. 9. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have the right to be heard by himself and by counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted by the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process to obtain witnesses in his favour; and in all prosecutions by indictment or information, a speedy public trial by an impartial jury. He shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, but by due process of law. And no person shall be holden to answer for any crime, the punishment of which



may be death or imprisonment for life, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury; except in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war, or public danger.

SECT. 10. No person shall be arrested, detained or punished, except in cases clearly warranted by law.

SECT. 11. The property of no person shall be taken for public use, without just compensation therefor.

SECT. 12. All courts shall be open, and every person, for any injury done to him in his person, property or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial or delay.

SECT. 13. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed.

SECT. 14. All prisoners shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great; and the privileges of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it; nor in any case, but by the legislature.

SECT. 15. No person shall be attainted of treason or felony, by the legislature.

SECT. 16. The citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government, for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, address or remonstrance.

SECT. 17. Every citizen has a right to bear arms in defence of himself and the State.

SECT. 18. The military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

SECT. 19. 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.

SECT. 20. No hereditary emoluments, privileges, or honors, shall ever be granted, or conferred, in this State.

SECT. 21. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

## Article Second.

### OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS.

The powers of government shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them confided to a separate magistracy, to wit, those which are legislative, to one; those which are executive, to another; and those which are judicial, to another.

## Article Third.

### OF THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

SECT. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in two distinct houses or branches; the one to be styled THE SENATE, the other THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and both together THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. The style of their laws shall be, *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.*

SECT. 2. There shall be a stated session of the General Assembly to be holden at Hartford biennially on the Wednesday following the first Monday of the January next succeeding the election of its members as now provided by law, and at such other times as the General Assembly shall judge necessary; but the person administering the office of Governor, may, on special emergencies, convene the General Assembly at said place at any other time. And in case of danger from the prevalence of contagious diseases, in said

place, or other circumstances, the person administering the office of Governor may, by proclamation, convene said Assembly at any other place in this State.

SECT. 3. The House of Representatives shall consist of electors residing in towns from which they are elected. Every town which now contains, or hereafter shall contain a population of five thousand, shall be entitled to send two representatives, and every other one shall be entitled to its present representation in the General Assembly. The population of each town shall be determined by the enumeration made under the authority of the census of the United States, next before the election of representatives is held. In case a new town shall hereafter be incorporated, such new town shall not be entitled to a Representative in the General Assembly unless it has at least twenty-five hundred inhabitants, and unless the town from which the major portion of its territory is taken has also at least twenty-five hundred inhabitants; but until such towns shall each have at least twenty-five hundred inhabitants, such new town shall, for the purpose of representation in the General Assembly, be attached to, and be deemed to be a part of, the town from which the major portion of its territory is taken, and it shall be an election district of such town for the purpose of representation in the House of Representatives.

[The Senate of this State shall consist of not less than eighteen nor more than twenty-four members, and be chosen by districts. The General Assembly (of 1829) shall divide the State into districts for the choice of Senators, and shall determine what number shall be elected in each, which districts shall not be less than eight, nor more than twenty-four in number, and in forming them regard shall be had to the population in said apportionment in such manner that no county shall have less than two Senators.]\*

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\* The Constitutional provision relating to Senators and Senatorial districts appears in the amendment of 1828. The remaining portions of that amendment authorize the Legislature to redistrict the State



SECT. 4. From and after the Wednesday after the first Monday of January, 1905, the senate shall be composed of not less than twenty-four and not more than thirty-six members, who shall be elected at the electors' meetings held biennially on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

SECT. 5. The general assembly which shall be held on the Wednesday after the first Monday of January, 1903, shall divide the state into senatorial districts, as hereinafter provided; the number of such districts shall not be less than twenty-four nor more than thirty-six, and each district shall elect only one senator. The districts shall always be composed of contiguous territory, and in forming them regard shall be had to population in the several districts, that the same may be as nearly equal as possible under the limitations of this section. Neither the whole or a part of one county shall be joined to the whole or a part of another county to form a district, and no town shall be divided, unless for the purpose of forming more than one district wholly within such town, and each county shall have at least one senator. The districts, when established as hereinafter provided, shall continue the same until the session of the general assembly next after the completion of the next census of the United States, which general assembly shall have power to alter the same, if found necessary to preserve a proper equality of population in each district, but only in accord-

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from time to time on the basis of population, and provide the manner in which districts shall be formed. The Legislature has acted several times under that amendment, the last time in 1881, Revised Statutes of 1888, Section 197, when the limit of twenty-four Senators allowed by the amendment of 1828 was reached, and the next Senate will be elected under that statute. The amendment adopted in 1901, which becomes operative in 1903, is largely copied from the amendment of 1828 in respect to the time and manner in which the State may be redistricted by the Legislature, and the manner in which districts may be formed. Those provisions appear in this compilation of the Constitution in the second succeeding section [Sec. 5], but have not been inserted here because they will apply to only one more election in the districts as already formed, and because to insert those provisions here would simply be repetition.

ance with the principles above recited; after which said districts shall not be altered, nor the number of senators altered, except at a session of the general assembly next after the completion of a census of the United States, and then only in accordance with the principles hereinbefore provided. The persons voted for for Senators shall, at the time of such vote, belong to and reside in the respective districts in which they are so voted for.

SECT. 6. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Comptroller, for the time being, shall canvass the votes publicly. The person in each district having the greatest number of votes for senator shall be declared to be elected for such district: but in cases where no choice is made by the electors in consequence of an equality of votes, the House of Representatives shall designate, by ballot, which of the candidates having such equal number of votes, shall be declared to be elected. The return of votes, and the result of the canvass, shall be submitted to the House of Representatives, and also to the Senate, on the first day of the session of the General Assembly; and each house shall be the final judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members.

SEC. 7. A general election for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, Comptroller, and members of the General Assembly shall be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November, biennially, as now provided by law, and for such other officers as are herein and may be hereafter prescribed. The General Assembly shall have power to enact laws regulating and prescribing the order and manner of voting for said officers, and also providing for the election of representatives at some time subsequent to the Tuesday after the first Monday of November in all cases when it shall so happen that the electors in any town shall fail on that day to elect the representative or representatives to which such town shall be by law entitled.

SEC. 8. At the general election for State officers and members of the General Assembly the presiding officers shall

receive the votes of the electors, which shall be by ballot, either written or printed, and count and declare them in open meeting. The presiding officers shall also make duplicate lists of the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each, which shall be certified by the presiding officers; one of which lists shall be delivered to the town clerk, and the other within ten days after said meeting, shall be delivered under seal, either to the secretary, or to the sheriff of the county in which said town is situated; which list shall be directed to the Secretary, with a superscription expressing the purport of the contents thereof: and each sheriff, who shall receive such votes, shall, within fifteen days after said meeting, deliver, or cause them to be delivered, to the Secretary.

SECT. 9. The members of the General Assembly shall hold their offices for two years from the Wednesday following the first Monday of the January next succeeding their election, and until their successors are duly qualified.

SECT. 10. The House of Representatives, when assembled, shall choose a speaker, clerk, and other officers. The Senate shall choose its clerk, and other officers, except the President. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members in such manner, and under such penalties, as each house may prescribe.

SECT. 11. Each house shall determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish members for disorderly conduct, and, with the consent of two thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause; and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the legislature of a free and independent State.

SECT. 12. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same, when required by one-fifth of its members, except such parts as, in the judgment of a majority require secrecy. The yeas and nays of the mem-



bers of either house shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journals.

SECT. 13. The senators and representatives shall, in all cases of civil process, be privileged from arrest, during the session of the general assembly, and for four days before the commencement, and after the termination of any session thereof. And for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

SECT. 14. The debates of each house shall be public, except on such occasions as, in the opinion of the house, may require secrecy.

SECT. 15. The compensation of members of the General Assembly shall not exceed three hundred dollars for the term for which they are elected, and one mileage each way for the regular session at the rate of twenty-five cents per mile; they shall also receive one mileage at the same rate for attending any extra session called by the Governor.

SECT. 16. Neither the General Assembly, nor any County, City, Borough, Town, or School District, shall have power to pay or grant any extra compensation to any public officer, employe, agent, or servant, or increase the compensation of any public officer or employe, to take effect during the continuance in office of any person whose salary might be increased thereby, or increase the pay or compensation of any public contractor above the amount specified in the contract.

### **Article Fourth.**

#### **OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.**

SECT. I. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, and Comptroller shall hold their respective offices for two years from the Wednesday following the first Monday of the January next succeeding their election, and until their successors are duly qualified.

SECT. 2. At the meetings of the electors in the respective towns held biennially as herein provided for the election of State officers, members of the General Assembly, and for such other officers as are and may be hereafter prescribed, the presiding officers shall receive the ballots and shall count and declare the same in the presence of the electors. When such ballots shall have been so received and counted, duplicate lists of the persons voted for, and of the number of votes given for each, shall be made and certified by the presiding officer, one of which lists shall be deposited in the office of the town clerk within three days, and the other, within ten days after said election, shall be transmitted to the Secretary, or to the sheriff of the county, in which such election shall have been held. The sheriff receiving said votes shall deliver, or cause them to be delivered to the Secretary, within fifteen days next after said election. The votes so returned shall be counted, canvassed and declared by the Treasurer, Secretary, and Comptroller, within the month of November. The vote for Treasurer shall be counted, canvassed and declared by the Secretary and Comptroller only; the vote for Secretary shall be counted, canvassed and declared by the Treasurer and Comptroller only; and the vote for Comptroller shall be counted, canvassed and declared by the Treasurer and Secretary only. A fair list of the persons and number of votes given for each, together with the returns of the presiding officers, shall be, by the Treasurer, Secretary, and Comptroller, made and laid before the General Assembly, then next to be holden, on the first day of the session thereof. In the election for governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary, treasurer, comptroller, and attorney-general, the person found by the general assembly, in the manner herein provided, to have received the greatest number of votes for each of said offices respectively, shall be declared by said assembly to be elected. But if two or more persons shall be found to have an equal and the greatest number of votes for any of said offices, then the general assembly, on the second day of its session, by joint ballot of both houses, shall proceed without debate to choose said officer from a list of the names of the

persons found to have an equal and greatest number of votes for said office. The General Assembly shall by law prescribe the manner in which all questions concerning the election of the above named officers shall be determined.

SECT. 3. The supreme executive power of the State shall be vested in the Governor. No person, who is not an elector of this State, and who has not arrived at the age of thirty years, shall be eligible.

SECT. 4. The Lieutenant Governor shall possess the same qualifications as are herein prescribed for the Governor.

SECT. 5. The compensations of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be established by law, and shall not be varied so as to take effect until after an election, which shall next succeed the passage of the law establishing said compensations.

SECT. 6. The Governor shall be Captain General of the militia of the State, except when called into the service of the United States.

SECT. 7. He may require information in writing from the officers in the executive department, on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

SECT. 8. The Governor, in case of a disagreement between the two houses of the General Assembly, respecting the time of adjournment, may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next stated session.

SECT. 9. He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly, information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall deem expedient.

SECT. 10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.



SECT. 11. The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves after conviction, in all cases except those of impeachment, until the end of the next session of the General Assembly, and no longer.

SECT. 12. All commissions shall be in the name and by authority of the State of Connecticut; shall be sealed with the State seal, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary.

SECT. 13. Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the General Assembly, shall be presented to the Governor. If he approves, he shall sign and transmit it to the Secretary, but if not, he shall return it to the house in which it originated, with his objections, which shall be entered on the journals of the house; who shall proceed to reconsider the bill. If after such reconsideration, that house shall again pass it, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, which shall also reconsider it. If approved, it shall become a law. But in such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays; and the names of the members voting for and against the bill, shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively. If the bill shall not be returned by the Governor within three 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 General Assembly, by their adjournment, prevents its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

SECT. 14. The Lieutenant Governor shall, by virtue of his office, be President of the Senate, and have, when in committee of the whole, a right to debate, and when the Senate is equally divided, to give the casting vote.

SECT. 15. In case of the death, resignation, refusal to serve, or removal from office of the Governor, or of his impeachment, or absence from the State, the Lieutenant Governor shall exercise the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Governor, until another be chosen at the next

periodical election for Governor, and be duly qualified; or until the Governor impeached or absent, shall be acquitted or return.

SECT. 16. When the government shall be administered by the Lieutenant Governor, or he shall be unable to attend as President of the Senate, the Senate shall elect one of their members as President *pro tempore*. And if during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall die, resign, refuse to serve, or be removed from office, or if he shall be impeached, or absent from the State, the President of the Senate *pro tempore*, shall, in like manner, administer the government, until he be superseded by a Governor or Lieutenant Governor.

SECT. 17. If the Lieutenant Governor shall be required to administer the government, and shall, while in such administration, die or resign during the recess of the General Assembly, it shall be the duty of the Secretary, for the time being, to convene the Senate for the purpose of choosing a President *pro tempore*.

SECT. 18. The Treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the State, and disburse the same only as he may be directed by law. He shall pay no warrant or order for the disbursement of public money, until the same has been registered in the office of the Comptroller.

SECT. 19. The Secretary shall have the safe keeping and custody of the public records and documents, and particularly of the Acts, Resolutions and Orders of the General Assembly, and record the same; and perform all such duties as shall be prescribed by law. He shall be the keeper of the seal of the State, which shall not be altered.

SECT. 20. The Comptroller shall adjust and settle all public accounts and demands, except grants and orders of the General Assembly. He shall prescribe the mode of keeping and rendering all public accounts. He shall *ex officio* be one

of the auditors of the accounts of the Treasurer. The General Assembly may assign to him other duties in relation to his office, and to that of the Treasurer, and shall prescribe the manner in which his duties shall be performed.

SECT. 21. Sheriffs shall be elected in the several counties quadrennially on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November, as now provided by law, and shall hold office for the term of four years from the first day of June following their election. They shall become bound, with sufficient sureties, to the Treasurer of the State, for the faithful discharge of the duties of their office, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law. They shall be removable by the General Assembly. In case the sheriff of any county shall die, resign, or shall be removed from office by the General Assembly, the Governor may fill the vacancy occasioned thereby, until the same shall be filled by the next quadrennial election.

SECT. 22. A statement of all receipts, payments, funds, and debts of the State, shall be published from time to time, in such manner and at such periods as shall be prescribed by law.

## Article Fifth.

### OF THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

SECT. 1. The judicial power of the State shall be vested in a Supreme Court of Errors, a Superior Court, and such inferior courts as the General Assembly shall, from time to time, ordain and establish: the powers and jurisdiction of which courts shall be defined by law.

SECT. 2. The justices of the peace for the several towns in this State shall be appointed by the electors in such towns; and the time and manner of their election, the number for each town, and the period for which they shall hold their offices, shall be prescribed by law. They shall have such

jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases as the General Assembly may prescribe.

SECT. 3. The judges of the Supreme Court of Errors and of the Superior Court shall, upon nomination of the Governor, be appointed by the General Assembly in such manner as shall by law be prescribed. They shall hold their offices for the term of eight years, but may be removed by impeachment; and the Governor shall also remove them on the address of two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly. No judge or justice of the peace shall be capable of holding office after he shall arrive at the age of seventy years.

SECT. 4. Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas, and of the District Courts, shall be appointed for terms of four years. Judges of the City Courts and Police Courts shall be appointed for terms of two years.

SECT. 5. Judges of Probate shall be elected by the electors residing in their respective districts at the general election biennially. They shall hold their offices for two years from the Wednesday after the first Monday of the January next succeeding their election.

## Article Sixth.

### OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS.

SECT. 1. All persons who have been, or shall hereafter, previous to the ratification of this Constitution, be admitted freemen, according to the existing laws of this State, shall be electors.

SECT. 2. Every male citizen of the United States who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, who shall have resided in this State for a term of one year next preceding, and in the town in which he may offer himself to be



admitted to the privileges of an elector, at least six months next preceding the time he may so offer himself, and shall be able to read in the English language any article of the Constitution or any section of the Statutes of this State, and shall sustain a good moral character, shall, on his taking such oath as may be prescribed by law, be an elector.

SECT. 3. The privileges of an elector shall be forfeited by a conviction of bribery, forgery, perjury, duelling, fraudulent bankruptcy, theft, or other offense for which an infamous punishment is inflicted. But the General Assembly shall have power, by vote of two-thirds of the members of both branches, to restore the privileges of an elector to those who may have forfeited the same by a conviction of crime.

SECT. 4. Every elector shall be eligible to any office in this State, except in cases provided for in this Constitution.

SECT. 5. The selectmen and town clerk of the several towns shall decide on the qualifications of electors, at such times and in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

SECT. 6. Laws shall be made to support the privilege of free suffrage, prescribing the manner of regulating and conducting meetings of the electors, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence therein, from power, bribery, tumult and other improper conduct.

SECT. 7. In all elections of officers of the State, or members of the General Assembly, the votes of the electors shall be by ballot.

SECT. 8. At all elections of officers of the State, or members of the General Assembly, the electors shall be privileged from arrest, during their attendance upon, and going to, and returning from the same, on any civil process.

## Article Seventh.

### OF RELIGION.

SECT. 1. It being the duty of all men to worship the Supreme Being, the Great Creator and Preserver of the Universe, and their right to render that worship, in the mode most consistent with the dictates of their consciences; no person shall by law be compelled to join or support, nor be classed with, or associated to, any congregation, church or religious association. But every person now belonging to such congregation, church, or religious association shall remain a member thereof until he shall have separated himself therefrom, in the manner hereinafter provided. And each and every society or denomination of Christians in this State, shall have and enjoy the same and equal powers, rights and privileges; and shall have power and authority to support and maintain the ministers or teachers of their respective denominations, and to build and repair houses for public worship, by a tax on the members of any such society only, to be laid by a major vote of the legal voters assembled at any society meeting, warned and held according to law, or in any other manner.

SECT. 2. If any person shall choose to separate himself from the society or denomination of Christians to which he may belong, and shall leave a written notice thereof with the clerk of such society, he shall thereupon be no longer liable for any future expences which may be incurred by said society.

## Article Eighth.

### OF EDUCATION.

SECT. 1. The charter of Yale College, as modified by agreement with the corporation thereof, in pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly, passed in May, 1792, is hereby confirmed.

SECT. 2. The fund, called the SCHOOL FUND, shall remain a perpetual fund, the interest of which shall be inviolably appropriated to the support and encouragement of the public, or common schools throughout the state, and for the equal benefit of all the people thereof. The value and amount of said fund shall, as soon as practicable, be ascertained in such manner as the General Assembly may prescribe, published, and recorded in the Comptroller's office; and no law shall ever be made, authorizing said fund to be diverted to any other use than the encouragement and support of public, or common schools, among the several school societies, as justice and equity shall require.

### Article Ninth.

#### OF IMPEACHMENTS.

SECT. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching.

SECT. 2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. When the Governor is impeached, the Chief Justice shall preside.

SECT. 3. The Governor, and all other executive and judicial officers, shall be liable to impeachment; but judgments in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust or profit under this State. The party convicted, shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial and punishment according to law.

SECT. 4. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or 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 on confession in open court. No conviction of treason, or attainder, shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture.

## Article Tenth.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECT. 1. Members of the General Assembly, and all officers, executive and judicial, shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, take the following oath or affirmation, to wit :

You do solemnly swear, or affirm, (as the case may be,) that you will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, so long as you continue a citizen thereof; and that you will faithfully discharge, according to law, the duties of the office of . . . . . to the best of your abilities. So help you God.

SECT. 2. Each town shall annually elect selectmen, and such officers of local police, as the laws may prescribe.

SECT. 3. No County, City, Town, Borough, or other municipality, shall ever subscribe to the capital stock of any railroad corporation, or become a purchaser of the bonds, or make donation to, or loan its credit, directly or indirectly, in aid of any such corporation; but nothing herein contained shall affect the validity of any bonds or debts incurred under existing laws, nor be construed to prohibit the General Assembly from authorizing any Town or City to protect by additional appropriations of money or credit any railroad debt contracted prior to the amendment to the Constitution, adopted October, 1877.

SECT. 4. The rights and duties of all corporations shall remain as if this Constitution had not been adopted; with the exception of such regulations and restrictions as are contained in this Constitution. All judicial and civil officers now in office, shall continue to hold their offices until their terms of office shall expire, or until they shall resign, or be removed from office according to law. All military officers shall continue to hold and exercise their respective offices, until their terms of office shall expire or until they shall resign, or be



removed according to law. All laws not contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Constitution, shall remain in force, until they shall expire by their own limitation, or shall be altered or repealed by the General Assembly, in pursuance of this Constitution. The validity of all bonds, debts, contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies corporate, or the State, of all suits, actions, or rights of action, both in law and equity, shall continue as if no change had taken place.

SECT. 5. No judge of the Superior Court, or of the Supreme Court of Errors; no member of Congress; no person holding any office under the authority of the United States; no person holding the office of Treasurer, Secretary, or Comptroller; no sheriff or sheriff's deputy, shall be a member of the General Assembly.

### Article Eleventh.

#### OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Whenever a majority of the House of Representatives shall deem it necessary to alter, or amend this Constitution, they may propose such alteration and amendments; which proposed amendments shall be continued to the next General Assembly, and be published with the laws which may have been passed at the same session; and if two-thirds of each house, at the next session of said Assembly, shall approve the amendments proposed, by yeas and nays, said amendments shall, by the Secretary, be transmitted to the town clerk in each town in the State; whose duty it shall be to present the same to the inhabitants thereof, for their consideration, at a town meeting, legally warned and held for that purpose; and if it shall appear in a manner to be provided by law, that a majority of the electors present at such meetings, shall have approved such amendments, the same shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of this Constitution.

# Constitutional Reform

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EXTRACT FROM

*Gov. McLean's Message*

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

January Session, 1901

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*



# *Constitutional Reform*

[Extract from Governor McLean's Message.]

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**T**HE Constitution of the State of Connecticut, like those of her sister republics, always has been, is now, and always will be complained against by good and patriotic men.

The State of Connecticut is, however, by the testimony of all her loyal sons, as good a State to live in as there is in the Union.

Many of her blessings are due to the wealth and variety of her natural endowments, but many more are due to the wisdom of the fathers who laid the foundations of her government in the adamant of morality and justice.

For more than two centuries the fundamental law of Connecticut has been the admiration and inspiration of the representative republics of the world. And if the citizens of Connecticut have preferred stability to uncertain change, their choice has brought them great prosperity and the reputation of being a people of steady habits which, with God's help, may they long retain.

Nothing is so destructive of credit and the general well-being of society as constant modification of fundamental law, and injustices in a constitution offending theory only may well be preferred to experimental attempts at impossible ideals.

The general plan of our Constitution in its protection against the wrong kind of liberty is, in the judgment of many, better than that possessed by any other State in the Union. I do not say that it is perfect. Perfection is hard to find in temples made with hands.

We are told that a perfect form of government is possible,



and that it will be the one that runs in exact harmony with the immutable laws of Nature. This may be true, and when discovered still be unsatisfactory, for some of the best of us will, I fear, always find occasion to criticise natural regulations.

On the other hand, we need never fear to remedy a manifest wrong in fundamental law, if that wrong clearly affects a majority of the people. And the minority, however dearly it may cherish the law that causes that wrong, should remember that the very life of a democracy depends upon the patriotic obedience of all to the will of the majority. We must expect to amend our Constitution for years, if not for centuries to come. We should be willing and even glad to do so when natural causes that could not be foreseen have, in the course of time, rendered an amendment a plain duty.

In 1639 when the State had but three towns, each town was given four deputies to the General Court, and it was further provided in the first of written Constitutions that whatever other towns should thereafter be added to Connecticut, "They shall send so many deputies as the Court should judge meet a reasonable proportion to the number of freemen that are in the said towns being."

It was then the definite expressed purpose of the founders of the State to give to each town such number of deputies as would be in reasonable proportion to the number of freemen therein, and to every town some representation. It cannot be denied that this apportionment was conservative, wise, and just.

At present, owing to a very large increase in the population of some towns and very little, if any, in others, it is theoretically possible for less than twenty per cent. of the people of Connecticut to elect a clear majority of both branches of the General Assembly, and so secure absolute control of the entire State government, and as an adjunct to this unanticipated departure from the original intent of the founders, some towns having a population of less than 500

retain two representatives, while others having ten times that number are entitled to but one.

Some of you may be tempted to point to the proposed increase in the Senate as fully satisfying the spirit of the Constitution. I cannot see wherein this amendment can be soberly considered as a remedy for the real and growing injustice in the apportionment of the representation in the House. The Senate in name, purpose, and history is the smaller and conservative body, and it should in my judgment remain such.

There are at present eighty-seven towns having two representatives and eighty-one towns having but one. If each town is given one representative, and there is added to every town exceeding a certain population one representative for each ten thousand or more of such excess, you will fairly and substantially remove the present injustice, and still retain the federal or territorial element in the present Constitution.

It is a compromise, but an honorable and logical compromise, in which the people gain much, and the towns save much in retaining a privilege which to them is an education and a dignity as dear and sacred as it is conservative and beneficial to the State.

A reapportionment that would entirely deprive the smaller towns of their individual representation would be a radical and complete departure from the plan of the founders, and I fear that any attempt to secure such a reapportionment would be as unsuccessful as it would be unwise. Many of us still believe in the little town republics. And whether they created the State or the State created them, they have lived together in harmony and stood shoulder to shoulder in defense of each other and the State too long to become antagonists now.

If, upon careful and unprejudiced deliberation, you become convinced, as I am convinced, that a fair reapportionment of the representation in the co-ordinate branches of the General Assembly is due to and greatly desired by a large

majority of the people of Connecticut, the manner in which the Constitution shall be altered to allow such reapportionment will be of next importance.

You will hear much about the necessity of a constitutional convention from many zealous and farseeing men, but I caution you that in adopting this plan you would open the door to guest and stranger alike and throw the key away. I can see no argument in favor of this irregular, expensive, and wide-open policy but that of speed. It is cutting across lots in the dark with many ditches to avoid, and some of us were wisely taught by our fathers that "the longest way around is the shortest way home." There is ability enough and to spare in this Assembly to compile, if thought best, the nineteen pages of our present Constitution, save the living provisions, and add thereto such changes as you may approve.

The Constitution so compiled and amended would be printed with the laws enacted by you and freely circulated and discussed during the next two years, and when finally submitted to the people it could be voted for intelligently and without fear of hidden flaw or deception.

It should also be remembered that most of the vital provisions in our present Constitution have been judicially construed by our Supreme Court, and any change in the text, however slight, might entail much hardship, uncertainty, and expensive litigation.

In view of the large number of self-professed experts in constitutional surgery who, anticipating the pleasures of unrestricted vivisection, have already provided themselves with knife and antiseptic, you will, in my judgment, serve and please the people best by permitting the use of such remedies only as may be necessary to preserve the vigor and spirit of the trusted guardian of the people's rights.

The proposal to require the election of County Commissioners by the people, and all similar tilting for party advantage, have no place in this discussion, and should in my opinion occupy but little of your time. The Constitution is a limitation and should never be made a code.

If any change is needed in the manner of choosing County Commissioners or the Judges of our minor courts, it does not, I think, lie in the direction of the town caucus.

The amendment now pending which provides for plurality election of State officers, although clearly undemocratic in theory, is abundantly approved by precedent and experience, and until some plan is devised whereby a majority can express its choice at one poll it will be more satisfactory than the present ultra conservative method.

As a possible help to a clear understanding of the history and purpose of our Constitution and the present need of a change in the apportionment of the representation in the General Assembly, I recommend that each member be supplied with a copy of Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull's Historical Notes on the Constitutions of Connecticut, printed by order of the Legislature in 1873.





# Amendments to the Constitution

CONCERNING REPRESENTATION

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*Proposed to and Rejected by  
the General Assembly, 1901*

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*





# *Amendments to the Constitution*

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## **Resolution** Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution concerning the Number of Members of the House of Representatives.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 1901.

*Resolved by this House:*

That the following be proposed as an amendment to the constitution of this state, which, when approved and adopted in the manner provided by the constitution, shall, to all intents and purposes, become a part thereof, to wit:

SECTION 1. The house of representatives shall consist of electors residing in the towns from which they are elected. Every town having less than twenty-five hundred inhabitants shall be entitled to send one representative to the general assembly; every town having twenty-five hundred inhabitants shall be entitled to send two representatives, and every town having a greater number of inhabitants shall be entitled to send one additional representative for each twenty thousand inhabitants in excess of twenty-five hundred. The population of each town shall be determined by the enumeration made under the authority of the census of the United States, next before the election of representatives is held, and when once determined the number of representatives shall not be changed until after the enumeration made under authority of the next succeeding census of the United States.

SEC. 2. The general assembly which shall be held on the



Wednesday after the first Monday of January, A.D. 1905, shall divide each town entitled to more than two representatives into districts, and one representative shall be chosen from each district. Such districts shall always be composed of contiguous territory and shall contain as nearly as practicable an equal number of inhabitants. Such districts, when established as herein provided, shall continue the same until the session of the general assembly next after the next succeeding census of the United States, which general assembly shall have power to increase or reduce the number of districts in any town according to the principles above prescribed, and to alter such districts when necessary to preserve a proper equality of population therein.

SEC. 3. The provisions of article XVIII of the amendments to the constitution respecting the representation of new towns shall remain in full force and effect.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be continued to the next session of the general assembly, and be published with the laws passed at the present session.

[House Resolution No. 25.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
JANUARY SESSION, 1901.

*Resolved by this House:*

That the following be proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of this State, which, when approved and adopted in the manner provided by the Constitution, shall to all intents and purposes become a part thereof.

Any town in this State having a less population than five thousand, by the last previous census of the United States, shall be hereafter entitled to only one representative in the House. Towns having a population of five thousand or more shall each be entitled to two representatives. Towns, or towns including cities, having a greater population than ten thousand by the last previous census shall be entitled to

one additional representative in the House for each additional ten thousand of population or a greater fraction thereof, according to said census. The General Assembly shall provide for the election of all representatives in such towns having a greater number than two representatives by districts, and shall prescribe by law the division of such towns or cities into districts, which districts shall be composed of contiguous territory, and as nearly equal in population as practicable.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution be continued to the next session of the General Assembly, and be published with the laws passed at the present session.

[House Resolution No. 42.]

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 1901.

## **Resolution** Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution concerning Rep- resentation.

*Resolved by this House:*

That the following be proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of this State, which, when approved and adopted in the manner provided by the Constitution, shall to all intents and purposes become a part thereof.

Hereafter no town having less than twenty-five hundred inhabitants, as determined by the enumeration made under the authority of the census of the United States next before the election of representatives is held, shall be entitled to more than one representative.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution be continued to the next session of the General Assembly and be published with the laws passed at the present session.





# Constitutional Reform

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SPECIAL MESSAGE

of His Excellency

GOV. GEORGE P. McLEAN

TO THE

General Assembly of 1901

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*





[Reprinted from House Journal of June 10, 1901.]

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
HARTFORD, June 10, 1901.

*To the Honorable General Assembly:*

I AM informed that your committee on Constitutional Amendments has reported to your honorable body a resolution providing for a Constitutional Convention in the event such convention is approved by the electors of Connecticut. In my suggestions upon this subject communicated to your honorable body at the opening of its session, I opposed this method of amending our Constitution. Since that time a candid and earnest effort has been made to secure in the definite way provided by the Constitution a reapportionment of the membership in the House of Representatives upon a rational, conservative basis most liberal to the small communities. This effort has failed. I now consider it my duty to myself to inform you that I look upon a Constitutional Convention as far less dangerous to the system of town representation and the good of the State than would be continued failure to give this matter the favorable consideration it deserves before your final adjournment. As a citizen of a town of less than 2,500 inhabitants, and a firm believer in town representation as established by the founders of our government, I am convinced that we cannot too soon indicate our determination to treat this all-important subject fairly and fearlessly if we desire to merit and preserve the confidence and support of the people of Connecticut. If the small towns ever lose their right of representation in the General Assembly it will be due to their own refusal to so exercise that right that it can be defended by its best friends.

GEORGE P. McLEAN,  
*Governor.*





# A C T

Providing for the Calling of a  
Constitutional Convention

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General Assembly

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*





# Call

## *for a Constitutional Convention*

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[House Bill No. 95.]

CHAPTER 146.

### **An Act** to Provide for the Calling of a Constitutional Convention.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in  
General Assembly convened:*

SECTION 1. The question is hereby submitted to the electors of this state whether a convention shall or shall not be called for the purpose of framing, in the manner and under the limitations and restrictions of this act, a form of a constitution for the state of Connecticut to be proposed to the electors of this state for their adoption or rejection. The annual town meetings which shall be held in the several towns of this state and in the several voting districts of those towns which are divided into voting districts, on the first Monday of October, 1901, for the election of town officers, shall also be held for the purpose of deciding said question, and in those towns of this state and in the several voting districts of those towns which are divided into voting districts, which do not hold their annual town meetings for the election of town officers on the first Monday of October, there shall be special town meetings on said first Monday of October, 1901, for the purpose of deciding said question, and notice that said question shall be voted upon shall be given in the warnings of said annual and said special town meetings.

SEC. 2. The ballots to be used in voting whether said convention shall or shall not be called in addition to the official endorsement shall contain only the words "Constitutional Convention, Yes," or "Constitutional Convention, No," and shall be furnished by the secretary of the state printed ready for use in the same manner as provided in chapter CCXIII of the public acts of 1897, and shall be of uniform size, quality, color, thickness, and style of printing for each ballot, to be determined by the secretary. The ballots for and against the calling of said convention shall be placed in the same official envelope with ballots for town officers.

SEC. 3. Said ballots shall be distributed, voted, counted, canvassed, and the result of such vote in each town and voting district declared and returned to the secretary of the state in the same manner, by the same officers, and within the same time after election as is by law provided in the case of the votes for governor, and the said votes shall be canvassed by the secretary, treasurer, and comptroller at the capitol in Hartford on or before the first day of November, 1901, and the result shall within five days thereafter be certified by them or a majority of them to the governor, who shall forthwith issue his proclamation declaring that said convention has or has not been called by said electors as it shall appear from said certificate of the secretary, treasurer, and comptroller, or a majority of them. Provided that it shall be ascertained in the manner hereinbefore provided that said convention has been called by the electors of this state, the governor shall call a special election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November, 1901, for the purpose of electing delegates to such convention, and notice that said delegates are to be elected shall be given in the warning of said special election.

SEC. 4. The said constitutional convention shall consist of one delegate to said convention from each town in the state, and at said special election held as aforesaid there shall be chosen, in the same manner as representatives to the gen-

eral assembly are now chosen, one delegate to said convention from each town, and said delegate shall possess the same qualifications now required for a representative in the general assembly.

SEC. 5. The ballots to be used in the election of said delegates shall be issued, printed, distributed, cast, counted, and declared in the same manner, by the same officers, and at the same time with reference to said election as is now provided by law in the case of votes for representatives in the general assembly, and the ballots for delegates voted to said convention shall be placed in the same official envelope.

SEC. 6. The said delegates shall meet in convention at the capitol in Hartford on the first Wednesday of January next succeeding their election. They shall choose one of their number to be their president, and they may appoint such other officers as they may deem necessary for the convenient transaction of their business, and they may determine what shall be the duties and compensation of such other officers respectively. Said convention shall be the final judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own number, and shall cause a record of its proceedings to be duly kept, and shall have power to make all rules and regulations not inconsistent with this act which said convention may deem necessary for its own government or for the proper transaction of its business. A majority of the whole number of said delegates duly elected and sworn shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any of the business of said convention, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day.

SEC. 7. Said convention shall frame under and in accordance with the limitations and restrictions of this act a form of constitution for this state to be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or disapproval in the manner which said convention may prescribe.

SEC. 8. Said convention shall not have power to embody and shall not embody in said proposed constitution, or in any article to be separately submitted as aforesaid, any pro-



vision whereby, if said constitution or article should be adopted, any town may or can cease to exist as a separate town; *provided, however*, that nothing herein contained shall prevent said convention, if it shall see fit to do so, from making provision whereby any town having a city within its limits may be merged into such city so that such city may stand in the place of such town and become vested with all the powers, rights, and functions of such town.

SEC. 9. Said convention shall not have any power to embody and shall not embody in said proposed constitution or in any such separate article or articles any provision or provisions whereby any town can cease to have at any time at least one representative in the house of representatives.

SEC. 10. Said convention shall not have power to embody and shall not embody in said proposed constitution or in any such separate article or articles any provision or provisions whereby any representatives in the house of representatives shall or may be elected otherwise than by towns, each town to have, as now, the right of electing its own representative or representatives; *provided, however*, that notwithstanding anything in this act contained, said convention may make in said constitution provision whereby any city, into which the town in which it is situated shall have been merged, may acquire with the other rights of said town the right of electing a representative or representatives instead of said town; and *provided further*, that said convention may make in said constitution provision whereby any town or city entitled to two or more representatives may be divided into representative districts equal in number to its representatives and each entitled to elect one representative, and no more.

SEC. 11. Every delegate to the convention shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, make solemn oath or affirmation that he will faithfully discharge the duties of said office to the best of his ability.

SEC. 12. The form of constitution which shall be framed by said convention as aforesaid shall be submitted to the electors of this state for their adoption or rejection at electors'

meetings which shall be held in the several towns upon some day to be designated by said convention, which day shall be not less than one month and not more than three months subsequent to the final adjournment of said convention. The secretary of state shall cause such proposed constitution to be published before the holding of said meetings within such times and in such manner as said convention shall prescribe. Said constitution, if so adopted, shall go into effect at such time as shall be fixed by its own express terms for that purpose; or if no such time shall be fixed therein for that purpose, then at such time as said convention shall by separate resolution have designated. The votes at said electors' meetings shall be duly canvassed by the same officials in the same manner and within the same time as votes returned as cast for representatives in congress are now canvassed. The result of said canvass of said votes shall be duly certified by said canvassers, without delay, to the governor, who shall thereupon publicly declare said result by his proclamation.

SEC. 13. All electors' meetings provided for by this act shall be warned and held in the same manner in which electors' meetings for the election of state officers and representatives are warned and held, and all laws regulating the modes of procedure at meetings for the election of state officers and members of the general assembly, and all laws relating to illegal voting, and all other laws relating to electors and elections, so far as such laws are in their nature applicable to the electors' meetings and proceedings provided for by this act, shall apply to the electors' meetings and proceedings provided for by this act, so far as said laws are not inconsistent with any of the provisions of this act.

SEC. 14. The members of said convention shall have the same privileges from arrest and immunity for speech as is given to the members of the general assembly by section 10, article III, of the constitution of this state.

SEC. 15. The compensation of said delegates shall be such as shall be hereafter established by law. Said convention may make out its debentures according to law, and may

make the grants necessary and proper to cover its contingent expenses, which being duly registered in the comptroller's office, shall be paid by the treasurer.

SEC. 16. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed so far as relates to the carrying out of the purposes of this act, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Approved, June 14, 1901.



# Proclamation

OF HIS EXCELLENCY

GEORGE P. McLEAN

*Governor of Connecticut*

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Calling for Election of Delegates to the  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*





*By his Excellency* GEORGE P.  
MCLEAN, Governor of the  
State of Connecticut 

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A Proclamation

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WHEREAS, in pursuance of Chapter 146 of the Public Acts of 1901, it being "An Act to provide for the Calling of a Constitutional Convention," the question was submitted to the electors of this State at their meetings held in the several towns in this State on the first Monday in October, 1901, "Whether a convention shall, or shall not, be called for the purpose of framing, in the manner and under the limitations and restrictions of this act, a form of constitution for the State of Connecticut to be proposed to the electors of this State for their adoption, or rejection," and

WHEREAS, in pursuance of said act, the Secretary, Treasurer, and Comptroller did, on the seventeenth day of October, 1901, canvass the votes returned to the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of said act, and did on the nineteenth day of October, 1901, transmit to me their certificate, under their hands in the words and figures following, viz.:

"STATE OF CONNECTICUT,  
"OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
"HARTFORD, October 17, 1901.

"*To His Excellency* GEORGE P. MCLEAN, *Governor*:

"The undersigned, having been designated by law to canvass the votes given in by the electors at their meetings in the several towns in this State on the first Monday in October, A.D. 1901, in favor of and against the proposed Constitutional Convention, hereby certify that they entered upon the duties prescribed them on this seventeenth day of October, and duly canvassed the said votes, which were received according to law from all the towns in this State, except from the town of East Haven.

“ The whole number of votes received and counted relative to such proposed Constitutional Convention is seventy-four thousand and sixty-two, of which number forty-seven thousand three hundred and seventeen are in favor of said proposed Constitutional Convention, and twenty-six thousand seven hundred and forty-five are against said proposed Constitutional Convention.

“ All of which is respectfully submitted.

“ CHAS. G. R. VINAL, *Secretary,*

“ HENRY H. GALLUP, *Treasurer,*

“ ABIRAM CHAMBERLAIN, *Comptroller.*”

AND WHEREAS, it appears from said certificate that a majority of said votes are in favor of calling said Constitutional Convention, and that said Constitutional Convention has been called by the electors of this State,

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with the direction of said act, I do herein declare that said convention has been called by the electors of this State,

AND WHEREAS, it has been ascertained in the manner provided by law that said convention has been called by the electors of this State,

NOW THEREFORE, I, George P. McLean, Governor of the State of Connecticut, acting herein by virtue of the authority vested in me by Chapter 146 of the Public Acts of 1901, do hereby call a special election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November, 1901, for the purpose of electing delegates to such convention, according to the provisions of said act, and notice that said delegates are to be so elected at such meeting shall be given by the proper officers in the warning of said special election in the manner provided by law.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have caused the seal of the State to be hereunto affixed, and have hereunto set my hand, at Hartford, on this nineteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-sixth.

[SEAL.]

GEORGE P. McLEAN, *Governor.*

R O L L  
of the Delegates

*To the* Constitutional Conven-  
tion *of* Connecticut 1 9 0 2

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PREPARED BY THE SECRETARY

January, 1902

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*Printed by Order of the Comptroller*





## Hartford County

Hartford . . .	Charles Hopkins Clark
Avon . . .	Robert J. Holmes
Berlin . . .	Charles M. Jarvis
Bloomfield . . .	William Martin Brown
Bristol . . .	Noble E. Pierce
Burlington . . .	E. Samuel Gillette
Canton . . .	Edward H. Sears
East Granby . . .	Julius G. Dickinson
East Hartford . . .	Percy S. Bryant
East Windsor . . .	Howard A. Middleton
Enfield . . .	Thompson S. Grant
Farmington . . .	Amasa A. Redfield
Glastonbury . . .	Henry E. Loomis
Granby . . .	William C. Case *
“ . . .	Theodore M. Maltbie †
Hartland . . .	George W. Miller
Manchester . . .	Frank W. Cheney
Marlborough . . .	Frederick Cooley
New Britain . . .	Robert J. Vance
Newington . . .	George E. Churchill
Plainville . . .	Aquila H. Condell
Rocky Hill . . .	Owen R. Havens
Simsbury . . .	Joseph L. Bartlett
Southington . . .	Marcus H. Holcomb
South Windsor . . .	Lewis Sperry
Suffield . . .	Charles C. Bissell
West Hartford . . .	William H. Hall
Wethersfield . . .	Stephen F. Willard
Windsor . . .	D. Ellsworth Phelps
Windsor Locks . . .	Thomas L. Healy

\* Died December 23, 1901.

† Elected December 30, 1901.

## New Haven County

New Haven . . .	Norris G. Osborn
Waterbury . . .	Francis P. Guilfoile
Ansonia . . .	Denis T. Walsh
Beacon Falls . . .	Adna D. Warner
Bethany . . .	Samuel R. Woodward
Branford . . .	Louis A. Fisk
Cheshire . . .	Alonzo E. Smith
Derby . . .	Daniel E. McMahon
East Haven . . .	William K. Stevens
Guilford . . .	Edward Griswold
Hamden . . .	James H. Webb
Madison . . .	John H. Meigs
Meriden . . .	H. Wales Lines
Middlebury . . .	George W. Wallace
Milford . . .	Dumond P. Merwin
Naugatuck . . .	John H. Whittemore
North Branford . . .	George L. Ford
North Haven . . .	Marcus D. Marks
Orange . . .	Samuel J. Bryant
Oxford . . .	William O. Davis
Prospect . . .	David B. Hotchkiss
Seymour . . .	William H. H. Wooster
Southbury . . .	Henry B. Russell
Wallingford . . .	John B. Kendrick
Wolcott . . .	Evelyn M. Upson
Woodbridge . . .	G. Halsted Bishop



## New London County

New London	.	Thomas M. Waller
Norwich	. .	Frank T. Brown
Bozrah	. .	E. Judson Miner
Colchester	. .	Harley P. Buell
East Lyme	. .	Edwin C. Chipman
Franklin	. .	J. Henry King
Griswold	. .	Arthur M. Brown
Groton	. .	Henry L. Bailey
Lebanon	. .	Isaac Gillette
Ledyard	. .	William I. Allyn
Lisbon	. .	Calvin D. Bromley
Lyme	. .	James L. Raymond
Montville	. .	Joseph F. Killeen
North Stonington		James F. Brown
Old Lyme	. .	Joseph S. Huntington
Preston	. .	George A. Frink
Salem	. .	Alvah Morgan
Sprague	. .	William J. Riley
Stonington	. .	Frank H. Hinckley
Voluntown	. .	E. Byron Gallup
Waterford	. .	Charles A. Gallup



## Fairfield County

Bridgeport . . .	Daniel Davenport
Danbury . . .	Eugene C. Dempsey
Bethel . . .	Howard H. Woodman
Brookfield . . .	Elmer H. Northrop
Darien . . .	Thaddeus Bell
Easton . . .	Edgar G. Jennings
Fairfield . . .	John H. Perry
Greenwich . . .	R. Jay Walsh
Huntington . . .	Sturges Whitlock
Monroe . . .	Edwin C. Shelton
New Canaan . . .	Benjamin P. Mead
New Fairfield . . .	Homer L. Wanzer
Newtown . . .	Charles H. Northrop
Norwalk . . .	Asa B. Woodward
Redding . . .	Jonathan B. Sanford
Ridgefield . . .	William O. Seymour
Sherman . . .	George A. Barnes
Stamford . . .	Schuyler Merritt
Stratford . . .	Henry P. Stagg
Trumbull . . .	Ormel Hall
Weston . . .	Frank Gorham
Westport . . .	Rufus Wakeman
Wilton . . .	H. E. Chichester

## Windham County

Windham	.	.	Eugene S. Boss
Putnam	.	.	Byron D. Bugbee
Ashford	.	.	Thomas K. Fitts
Brooklyn	.	.	Henry M. Evans
Canterbury	.	.	Levi N. Clark
Chaplin	.	.	William J. Groesbeck
Eastford	.	.	Monroe F. Latham
Hampton	.	.	William H. Burnham
Killingly	.	.	Aurin P. Somes
Plainfield	.	.	Edwin Milner
Pomfret	.	.	Thomas O. Elliott
Scotland	.	.	Gerald Waldo
Sterling	.	.	Claramon Hunt
Thompson	.	.	Randolph H. Chandler
Woodstock	.	.	George Austin Bowen



## Litchfield County

Litchfield . . .	Charles B. Andrews
Winchester . . .	Wellington B. Smith
New Milford . . .	Charles M. Beach
Barkhamsted . . .	Hubert B. Case
Bethlehem . . .	Abner P. Hayes
Bridgewater . . .	Marcus B. Mallett
Canaan . . . . .	John H. Belden
Colebrook . . . . .	Julian H. Smith
Cornwall . . . . .	Philo M. Kellogg
Goshen . . . . .	Henry G. Wright
Harwinton . . . . .	Clarence M. Ely
Kent . . . . .	Irwin J. Beardsley
Morris . . . . .	Lyman W. Whittlesey
New Hartford . . . . .	John Fox Smith
Norfolk . . . . .	William O'Connor
North Canaan . . . . .	Charles W. Camp
Plymouth . . . . .	Charles H. Smith
Roxbury . . . . .	George R. Crofut
Salisbury . . . . .	Donald T. Warner
Sharon . . . . .	George S. Kirby
Thomaston . . . . .	Frank W. Etheridge
Torrington . . . . .	Orsamus R. Fyler
Warren . . . . .	Noble B. Strong
Washington . . . . .	John C. Brinsmade
Watertown . . . . .	Augustus N. Woolson
Woodbury . . . . .	Horace D. Curtiss

## Middlesex County

Middletown . . .	D. Ward Northrop
Haddam . . .	George M. Clark
Chatham . . .	William N. Markham
Chester . . .	Wilbur A. Brothwell
Clinton . . .	Charles A. Pelton
Cromwell . . .	Edward S. Coe
Durham . . .	Frederic P. Hubbard
East Haddam . . .	Albert E. Purple
Essex . . .	George H. Blake
Killingworth . . .	Lauren L. Nettleton
Middlefield . . .	Fred W. Terrill
Old Saybrook . . .	William H. Smith
Portland . . .	Asaph H. Hale
Saybrook . . .	Frederick L'Hommedieu
Westbrook . . .	Theodore D. Post



## Tolland County

Tolland	.	.	Loren Newcomb
Andover	.	.	Elliot P. Skinner
Bolton	.	.	J. White Sumner
Columbia	.	.	William A. Collins
Coventry	.	.	Alexander S. Hawkins
Ellington	.	.	Francis M. Charter
Hebron	.	.	Marshall Porter
Mansfield	.	.	Ralph W. Storrs
Somers	.	.	George E. Keeney
Stafford	.	.	Edwin C. Pinney
Union	.	.	Milton H. Kinney
Vernon	.	.	Charles Phelps
Willington	.	.	William H. Hall

T O W N  
Representation

*in the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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*By* DR. CHARLES J. HOADLY

Late State Librarian

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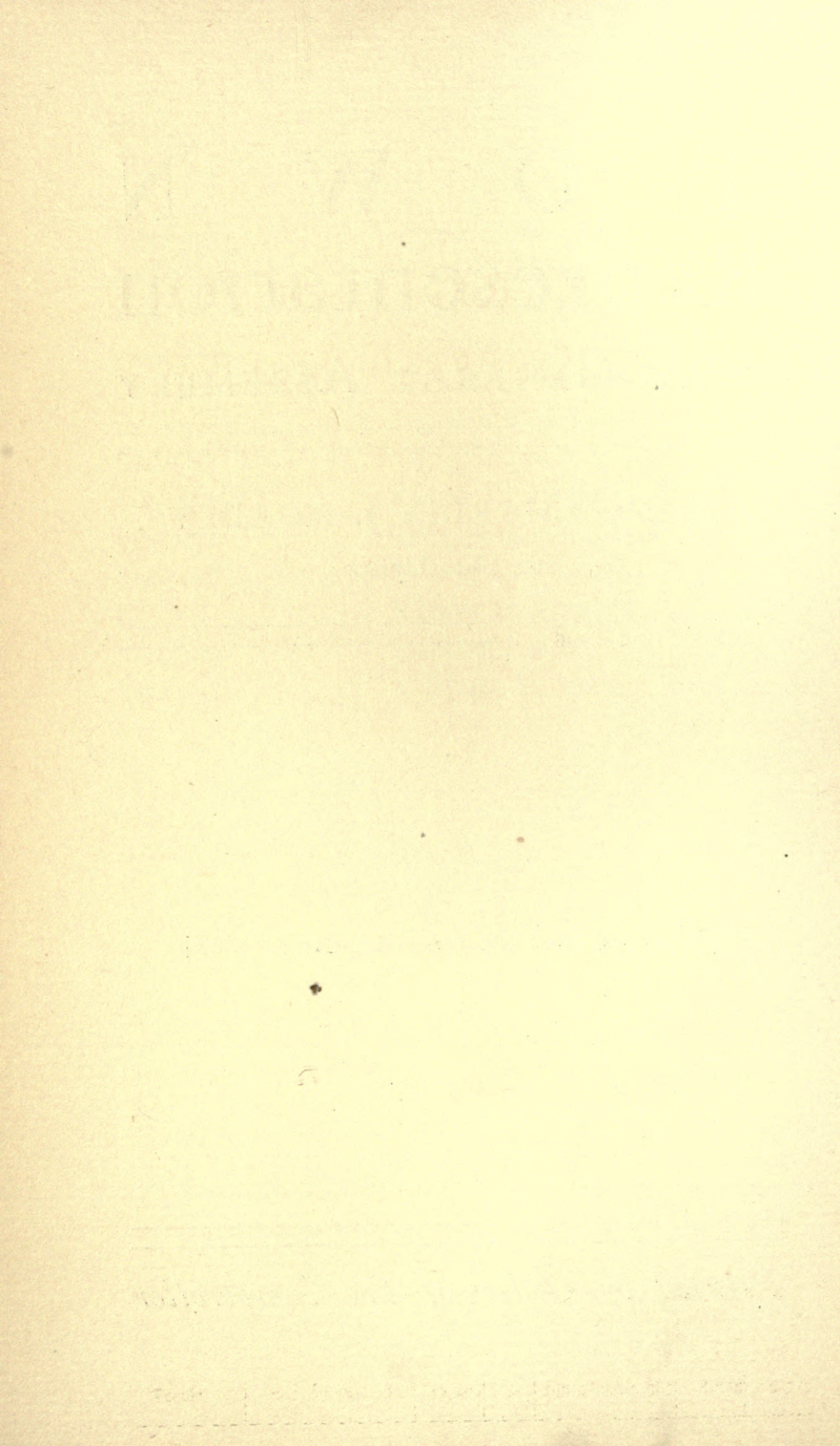
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## TOWN REPRESENTATION in the General Assembly.

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**B**Y the Fundamental Orders, or constitution, of Connecticut, adopted in January, 1638-9, the towns of Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield, then the only ones in combination, were authorized to send four of their freemen as their deputies to every General Court; and it was provided that whatsoever other towns should be thereafter added to this jurisdiction, they should send so many deputies as the Court should judge meet, "a reasonable proportion to the number of freemen that are in the said towns being to be attended therein."

Within twenty years from the adoption of the constitution above referred to, the number of towns represented in the General Court was increased to ten; none of them, however, save Hartford, Windsor, and Wethersfield, sent more than two deputies. The largest number of representatives which had attended at any session was twenty-six, but there were not usually so many.

In October, 1661, the general assembly ordered that it "be commended to the consideration of the freemen the great cost and burthen that lies upon this colony by the great number of deputies that attend the general courts; and if it seem good to the freemen it is desired that the number may be lessened one-half in each town in this colony."

The charter of 1662 regulated the number of representatives by fixing it at "not exceeding two persons from each place, town, or city."

New towns were excused from paying taxes to the colony treasury during the difficulties of their first beginnings; and,



as taxation and representation were coupled, they sent no deputies to the general assembly: thus Litchfield, settled about 1720, sent none until 1740; Barkhamsted and Colebrook, named in 1732, incorporated as towns, 1779, were not represented until October, 1796; Winchester, named 1733, given town privileges 1771, was first represented in 1781; so, when in 1720, the east parish of Greenwich was exempted from public taxes for four years, to enable them to maintain the gospel ministry, it was provided that the town should send during that period but one deputy at the public charge; so, in 1725, Ashford was exempted from public taxes for two years, with a proviso that they neither send deputies nor draw money for their school during said term; and so, in 1730, New Milford was freed from public taxes for two years, provided they should pay the salaries of any deputies they should send to the assembly during that time.

In May, 1734, the town of Haddam was divided and East Haddam made a distinct town; and it was provided that neither Haddam nor East Haddam should send but one representative. These were the first towns so restricted. It seems, however, by the records that Haddam sent two representatives in October, 1742, and in May, 1743. In May, 1767, Reading, which had been a parish annexed to Fairfield, was erected into a town, and in October of the same year, Chatham was set off from Middletown, and the new towns were allowed one representative each; but in October, 1768, these four towns complained that it was unequal they should be so restricted, and the general assembly gave them permission to send two deputies each.

In the year 1780 the House of Representatives consisted of two members from each of 77 towns (including Westmoreland, now in Pennsylvania). Barkhamsted, Colebrook, and Winchester were not represented.

Watertown, incorporated in May, 1780, with the privilege of sending two representatives, lost one of them in 1795, when Plymouth was set off. Berlin, incorporated in 1785, lost one of her representatives when New Britain was set off in 1850. Bristol, incorporated in 1785, with the right of sending one

representative, is now entitled to send two by the amendment of the state constitution of 1874. East Haven was incorporated in 1785 and allowed one representative. East Haven had been made a village distinct from the township of New Haven in May, 1707. The inhabitants, apparently regarding the act as giving them town privileges, sent representatives (generally two) to seven sessions of the assembly between 1708 and 1710, who were admitted to seats; but, in October, 1710, the assembly voted that there was nothing in the act incorporating them a village which empowered them to send representatives. One appeared, however, for East Haven in May, 1713, with a certificate of election, but was not allowed to take a seat. Thompson was incorporated in 1785, with the right to send one representative, and has sent two since May, 1803. The ancient town of Derby lost one when Oxford was set off in 1798, but has recovered it under the constitutional amendment of 1874.

In 1786, no less than eleven new towns were constituted; and not only were they restricted to one representative each, but in the case of Simsbury, from which Granby was separated, the parent town was also so limited, the general assembly seeming to think that if their number was to be so greatly enlarged as would be done by giving each new town the privilege of sending two deputies, not only would the expenses of the state be considerably increased, but, as the chamber in which the house of representatives sat was only thirty feet square, it would be difficult to find accommodation for the members. Besides, new towns could only be made by carving them out of others already existing, and by giving the new towns one representative each no substantial injustice would be done: for instance, Bozrah, Franklin, and Lisbon, were all set off from Norwich, in 1786, so that after that year five deputies came from the territory whence had previously come two.

The privilege of sending two was restored to Simsbury in October, 1787, and the same was accorded to Granby in October, 1794.

Some towns incorporated since 1786 were allowed to send

two deputies though sending but one at the present time, — as Weston, set off from Fairfield and Norwalk in 1787, originally allowed to send but one, subsequently permitted to send two, and relinquishing that right upon the incorporation of Easton, made from its territory in 1845. Huntington was separated from Stratford in 1789, and was limited to one representative upon the setting off of Monroe, in 1823.

Attempts to lessen the number of representatives have been made at various times. About 1723, a bill was passed in the upper house referring to the needless expense of time and money occasioned by so large a representation, calculating that were each town to send but one about £400 *per annum* would be saved to the colony treasury, and providing for submitting the question to the freemen. This bill was rejected in the lower house.

Governor Saltonstall had a controversy with the General Assembly for several years, ending only with his life; he claiming that the loss he had suffered in his salary by depreciation of paper money should be made good to him, and the legislature pretending that the expenses of government were already burdensome to the people. In his speech to both houses, May 15, 1721, the Governor said:

“ I am persuaded the freemen, if they thought the annual charges of the government for salaries (which is not above six or seven hundred pounds *per annum* in bullion, reckoning it at 8s. per ounce) to be an oppression to them, would desire that an abatement should be made in that part which is least necessary. Now you know that there must be a Governor, and Deputy Governor and Assistants, but the charter does not require that there should be two gentlemen from all the small towns that then were or since have been in the colony, at every assembly, and those supported at the public charge. Not that I think such a number of you gentlemen of the lower house may not do good service while you are here, or that it is not very agreeable to me to see such a number of good gentlemen and friends around me: but then, certainly, you ought not to look on the expense for the support of the government as too heavy, when you think good (at the same time)



to support that part of it which is not of such *absolute* necessity."

Recurring to the subject, in his speech of May 13, 1723, the Governor said: "If you think the circumstances of the colony such that the payment of the salaries of the members of this court is too great a burthen, and are desirous of lessening it, I will offer this one thing more, *viz.* that if you think fit to lessen the annual charge, by providing that but one deputy be sent from each town to any assembly, (which you have sometimes had under consideration,) I will, at the same time, yield to the public all pretensions of right" to the sum claimed.

In May, 1785, a bill drawn by Oliver Ellsworth, providing that no town thereafter incorporated whose list of polls and estate should not at the time of such incorporation amount to £20,000, should be entitled to send more than one representative, passed the upper house, and was negatived in the lower. Again, in 1786 and in 1787, bills to take the sense of the freemen, as to lessening the number of representatives, were under consideration. The debate on the subject in the lower house in the latter year is reported in the *Courant* of June 4, 1787, and upon putting the question to the house there were in favor of the proposition 62, and 75 against it. The town of Hartford instructed their deputies to use their influence that the number of representatives might be lessened or made more equal. Some other towns took similar action. The argument by which the proposition was defeated seems to have been: The charter having said that each town might send one or two deputies to the General Assembly, no town could be deprived of the constitutional privilege of sending two but by its own consent; a general vote of the freemen of the State could not do it.

In the Constitutional Convention of 1818 the draft of Section 3, Article III., as reported by the committee, read as follows: "The House of Representatives shall consist of freemen residing in towns from which they are elected. The number of representatives from each town shall be the same as at present allowed and practiced; but the general assembly

may reduce the number, provided that there shall be always at least one representative from each town." The last clause was stricken out on motion of Mr. Alexander Wolcott. Mr. Fairchild moved to strike out the first clause, and insert: "Each town containing 4,000 persons, or more, shall be entitled to two representatives, and each town containing a lesser number shall be entitled to one representative and no more; the population to be ascertained by the census of the United States which shall have been taken next preceding any election." This was negatived, as were also propositions successively made to insert 2,500 and 2,000 in the place of 4,000. According to the census of Connecticut, there were in 1820 but nine towns with a population of 4,000 and upwards.

On the last day of the sitting of the convention, on the motion of Mr. Pitkin, there was added to Section 3d, Article III., the clause providing that new towns thereafter incorporated should be entitled to one representative only; and that the town or towns from which such new town should be made should be entitled to the same representation as then allowed, unless the number should be reduced by the consent of such town or towns.

Seven towns which sent two representatives each in 1818 now send but one, having given up the right of sending a second at the division of their territory in the years following their names: Berlin, in 1850; Branford, 1831; Woodbridge, 1832; Huntington, 1823; Stratford, 1821; Weston, 1845; Canaan, 1858.

In 1850, upon the petition of Berlin, that town was divided and a portion of it incorporated by the name of New Britain, "with the right of sending one representative to the general assembly." This act was passed on condition that the inhabitants of Berlin, "not including those within the limits of the said new town of New Britain," should pass a vote relinquishing all claim to have two representatives, and consenting forever hereafter to have but one. However, in 1851, and ever since, the "new town" of New Britain has sent two at each session, on the ground that New Britain was, in fact, the *old town*, retaining the old records of Berlin; and the house of

representatives resolved in 1853 that the town of New Britain was entitled under the constitution of this State to two representatives in the general assembly. At the same session, May, 1853, a joint resolution was passed repealing so much of the resolution dividing the town of Berlin as limited New Britain to one representative.

In 1874, this constitutional amendment was adopted: "The House of Representatives shall consist of electors residing in towns from which they are elected. Every town which now contains, or hereafter shall contain, a population of five thousand, shall be entitled to send two representatives, and every other one shall be entitled to its present representation in the General Assembly. The population of each town shall be determined by the enumeration made under the authority of the census of the United States next before the election of Representatives is held."

Under this provision the following towns, incorporated since the adoption of the constitution in 1818, are now (1892) entitled to send two Representatives each: Ansonia, Bridgeport, Manchester, Naugatuck, and Putnam; and these towns of older date have each gained one: Derby, Meriden, and Vernon.

Another constitutional amendment was adopted in 1876, which provided: "In case a new town shall hereafter be incorporated, such new town shall not be entitled to a Representative in the General Assembly, unless it has at least twenty-five hundred inhabitants, and unless the town from which the major portion of its territory is taken has also at least twenty-five hundred inhabitants; but until such towns shall each have at least twenty-five hundred inhabitants, such new town shall, for the purpose of representation in the General Assembly, be attached to, and be deemed to be a part of, the town from which the major portion of its territory is taken, and it shall be an election district of such town for the purpose of representation in the House of Representatives."

Since the adoption of this amendment no town has been incorporated with a population less than 2,500, nor has any town been reduced below that number by the setting off of a portion of its territory.



When the constitution was adopted, in 1818, there were 120 towns, of which 81 sent two representatives, and 39 sent one each—the House then consisting of 201 members. Since the census of 1890, the House consists of 252 members,—84 of the 168 towns being entitled to send two, and the same number to send one each.

In 1851, there was prepared by the Comptroller, and printed by order of the Legislature, in a pamphlet of 14 pages, a “Tabular Statement of the Number of Representatives from the several Counties and Towns in Connecticut, and of the taxes paid by each; with the Numerical Ratio of the Representation to the Population and to the Taxation, and the Number of Acres and Value of Land in each Town;” which is mentioned here because the existence of such a document is probably unknown to most of this generation. No use has been made of it in the preparation of this article.

CHARLES J. HOADLY.

# STATISTICS

O F

Representation, Population,  
Changes in Jurisdiction, etc., of  
the Towns in Connecticut

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*Compiled and Printed by Order of the  
Comptroller*





## Note



In the following compilation the number of representatives is copied from the Printed Records of the State; the population in 1774 and 1820 from the manuscript volume in this office containing the census of Connecticut from 1756 to 1830 inclusive, and that for 1900 from the printed volume of the Twelfth Census of the United States; the number of Electors is from the State Register of 1901; the vote upon calling the Constitutional Convention of 1901 from the official returns in the office of the Secretary; and the dates of incorporation, changes, etc., from the State Register and other official publications of the State.

It will be observed that for convenience sake the County lines of the present are followed, rather than those of earlier days.



## HARTFORD COUNTY.

TOWNS.	No. Reprs. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. Reprs. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reprs. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALLING CONST'L CONVENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
Hartford	2	5,031	2	6,901	2	79,850	17,435	3,846	819
Avon	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,302	293	46	90
Berlin	..	.....	2	2,877	1	3,448	752	134	126
Bloomfield	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,513	353	45	82
Bristol	..	.....	1	1,362	2	9,643	2,379	459	379
Burlington	..	.....	1	1,360	1	1,218	263	51	48
Canton	..	.....	1	1,322	1	2,678	689	145	116
East Granby	..	.....	..	.....	1	684	197	9	63
E. Hartford	..	.....	2	3,373	2	6,406	1,478	156	202
E. Windsor	2	2,999	2	3,400	2	3,158	780	138	166
Enfield	2	1,360	2	2,065	2	6,699	1,413	297	380
Farmington	2	6,069	2	3,042	2	3,331	818	110	126
Glastonbury	2	2,071	2	3,114	2	4,260	994	78	145
Granby	..	.....	2	3,012	2	1,299	354	29	203
Hartland	2	500	2	1,254	2	592	122	6	56
Manchester	..	.....	..	.....	2	10,601	2,312	193	342
Marlborough	..	.....	1	839	1	322	86	2	61
New Britain	..	.....	..	.....	2	28,202	6,037	1,451	110
Newington	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,041	259	28	104
Plainville	..	.....	..	.....	1	2,189	536	67	83
Rocky Hill	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,026	264	17	103
Simsbury	2	3,700	2	1,954	2	2,094	547	47	230
Southington	..	.....	2	1,875	2	5,890	1,509	205	202
So. Windsor	..	.....	..	.....	1	2,014	474	22	137
Suffield	2	2,017	2	2,681	2	3,521	865	42	383
W. Hartford	..	.....	..	.....	1	3,186	651	90	105
Wethersfield	2	3,489	2	3,825	2	2,637	496	46	123
Windsor	2	2,125	2	3,008	2	3,614	886	88	344
W'd'r Locks	..	.....	..	.....	1	2,997	745	358	45
Totals	20	29,361	32	47,264	45	195,415	43,987	8,205	5,373

## HARTFORD COUNTY.—CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
Named 1637. Part to E. Hartford 1783. Do. to W. Hartford 1854.	Hartford
From Farmington 1830. (1 Rep. 1831.)	Avon
" Farmington, Wethersfield, and Middletown 1785. (2 Rep. 1785.) Part to N. Britain 1850. (1 Rep. 1851.)	Berlin
" Windsor 1835. (1 Rep. 1836.)	Bloomfield
" Farmington 1785. (1 Rep. Oct. 1785.) (2 do. 1881.) Part to Burlington. 1806.	Bristol
" Bristol 1806. (1 Rep. 1806.)	Burlington
" Simsbury 1806. (1 Rep. 1806.)	Canton
" Granby and Windsor Locks 1858. (1 Rep. 1859.)	East Granby
" Hartford 1783. (2 Rep. 1784.) Part to Manchester 1823.	E. Hartford
" Windsor 1768. Part to Ellington 1786. Do. to S. Windsor 1845.	E. Windsor
Annexed from Mass. 1749.	Enfield
Inc. 1645. Part to Southington 1779. Do. to Bristol 1785. Do. to Berlin 1785. Do. to Avon 1830. Do. to Plainville 1869.	Farmington
From Wethersfield 1690. Part to Marlborough 1803.	Glastonbury
" Simsbury 1786. (1 Rep. 1787.) (2 do. 1795.) Part to E. Granby 1858.	Granby
Inc. 1761.	Hartland
From E. Hartford 1823. (1 Rep. 1823.) (2 do. 1882.)	Manchester
" Colchester, Glastonbury, and Hebron 1803. (1 Rep. 1804.)	Marlborough
" Berlin 1850. (2 Rep. 1851.)	New Britain
" Wethersfield 1871. (1 Rep. 1872.)	Newington
" Farmington 1869. (1 Rep. 1870.)	Plainville
" Wethersfield 1843. (1 Rep. 1844.)	Rocky Hill
Named 1670. Part to Granby 1786. Do. to Canton 1806.	Simsbury
From Farmington 1779. (2 Rep. 1780.) Part to Wolcott 1796.	Southington
" E. Windsor 1845. (1 Rep. 1846.)	So. Windsor
Annexed from Mass. 1749.	Suffield
From Hartford 1854. (1 Rep. 1855.)	W. Hartford
Named 1637. Part to Glastonbury 1690. Do. to Berlin 1785. Do. to Rocky Hill 1843. Do. to Newington 1871.	Wethersfield
" 1637. Part to E. Windsor 1768. Do. to Bloomfield 1835. Do. to Windsor Locks 1854.	Windsor
From Windsor 1854. (1 Rep. 1855.) Part to E. Granby 1858.	W'd'r Locks

## NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

TOWNS.	No. Reps. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. Reps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALLING CONST'L CONVENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
New Haven	2	8,295	2	8,327	2	108,027	25,590	10,510	287
Ansonia	..	.....	..	.....	2	12,681	2,774	498	62
Beacon Falls	..	.....	..	.....	1	623	184	13	37
Bethany	..	.....	..	.....	1	517	155	4	84
Branford	2	2,051	2	2,230	2	5,706	1,265	240	323
Cheshire	..	.....	2	2,281	2	1,989	495	53	161
Derby	2	1,889	1	2,088	2	7,930	1,775	342	46
East Haven	..	.....	1	1,237	1	1,167	320	No returns	
Guilford	2	2,930	2	4,131	2	2,785	823	31	235
Hamden	..	.....	1	1,687	1	4,626	1,087	111	87
Madison	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,518	392	9	161
Meriden	..	.....	1	1,309	2	28,695	6,485	1,866	321
Middlebury	..	.....	1	838	1	736	161	4	80
Milford	2	2,127	2	2,785	2	3,783	1,018	193	307
Naugatuck	..	.....	..	.....	2	10,541	2,366	260	79
No. Branford	..	.....	..	.....	1	814	212	16	45
No. Haven	..	.....	1	1,298	1	2,164	514	31	99
Orange	..	.....	..	.....	2	6,995	1,745	367	126
Oxford	..	.....	1	1,683	1	952	253	7	108
Prospect	..	.....	..	.....	1	562	118	4	31
Seymour	..	.....	..	.....	1	3,541	875	69	111
Southbury	..	.....	1	1,662	1	1,238	317	2	212
Wallingford	2	4,915	2	2,237	2	9,001	2,168	530	197
Waterbury	2	3,536	2	2,882	2	51,139	9,879	5,637	584
Wolcott	..	.....	1	943	1	581	129	No vote taken	
Woodbridge	..	.....	2	1,998	1	852	191	6	36
Totals	14	25,743	25	39,616	38	269,163	61,291	20,803	3,819



## NEW HAVEN COUNTY.—CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
Named 1640. N. H. Colony Juris. United with Conn. 1665. Part to Woodbridge 1784. Do. to E. Haven 1785. Do. to No. Haven 1786. Do. to Hamden 1786. Do. to Orange 1822.	New Haven
From Derby 1889. (2 Rep. 1891.)	Ansonia
" Bethany, Oxford, Seymour and Naugatuck 1871. (1 Rep. 1872.)	Beacon Falls
" Woodbridge 1832. (1 Rep. 1833.) Part to Naugatuck 1844. Do. to Beacon Falls 1871.	Bethany
Sett. 1644. N. H. Col. Juris. United with Conn. 1665. Part to No. Branford 1831. (1 Rep. 1832.) (2 do. 1901.)	Branford
From Wallingford 1780. (2 Rep. 1780.) Part to Prospect 1827.	Cheshire
Named 1675. Date org. uncertain. Part to Oxford 1798. (1 Rep. 1799.) Do. to Seymour 1850. (2 Rep. 1875.) Do. to Ansonia 1889.	Derby
From New Haven 1785. (1 Rep. 1785.)	East Haven
Named 1643. N. H. Col. Juris. United with Conn. 1662. Part to Madison 1826.	Guilford
From New Haven 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.)	Hamden
" Guilford 1826. (1 Rep. 1827.)	Madison
" Wallingford 1806. (1 Rep. 1806.) (2 do. 1875.)	Meriden
" Waterbury, Woodbury, and Southbury 1807. (1 Rep. 1807.)	Middlebury
Sett. 1639. N. H. Col. Juris. Submitted to Conn. 1664. Part to Woodbridge 1784. Do. to Orange 1822.	Milford
From Waterbury, Bethany, and Oxford 1844. (1 Rep. 1845.) Part to Beacon Falls 1871. (2 Rep. 1891.)	Naugatuck
" Branford 1831. (1 Rep. 1832.)	No. Branford
" New Haven 1786. (1 Rep. 1787.)	No. Haven
" Milford and New Haven 1822. (1 Rep. 1823.) (2 do. 1901.)	Orange
" Derby and Southbury 1798. (1 Rep. 1799.) Part to Naugatuck 1844. Do. Beacon Falls 1871.	Oxford
" Cheshire and Waterbury 1827. (1 Rep. 1828.)	Prospect
" Derby 1850. (1 Rep. 1851.) Part to Beacon Falls 1871.	Seymour
" Woodbury 1787. (1 Rep. 1787.) Part to Oxford 1798. Do. to Middlebury 1807.	Southbury
Named 1670. Part to Cheshire 1780. Do. to Meriden 1806.	Wallingford
" 1686. Part to Watertown 1780. Do. to Wolcott 1796. Do. to Middlebury 1807. Do. to Prospect 1827. Do. to Naugatuck 1844.	Waterbury
From Waterbury and Southington 1796. (1 Rep. 1796.)	Wolcott
" New Haven and Milford 1784. (2 Rep. 1784.) Part to Bethany 1832. (1 Rep. 1833.)	Woodbridge

## NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Towns.	No. Reps. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. Reps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALLING CONST'L CONVENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
New London	2	5,888	2	3,330	2	17,548	3,967	897	280
Norwich	2	7,327	2	3,634	2	24,637	5,444	1,667	218
Bozrah	..	.....	1	1,083	1	799	213	45	67
Colchester	2	3,258	2	2,152	2	1,991	571	239	16
East Lyme	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,836	503	115	70
Franklin	..	.....	1	1,161	1	546	146	8	43
Griswold	..	.....	1	1,869	1	3,490	872	172	179
Groton	2	3,488	2	4,664	2	5,962	1,566	327	376
Lebanon	2	3,960	2	2,719	2	1,521	387	3	111
Ledyard	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,236	303	24	54
Lisbon	..	.....	1	1,159	1	697	151	1	42
Lyme	2	4,088	2	4,069	2	750	226	6	106
Montville	..	.....	1	1,951	1	2,395	648	14	91
N. Ston'gton	..	.....	2	2,624	2	1,240	350	11	158
Old Lyme	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,180	308	12	98
Preston	2	2,338	2	1,899	2	2,807	728	19	81
Salem	..	.....	..	1,053	1	468	127	3	76
Sprague	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,339	253	44	31
Stonington	2	5,412	2	3,056	2	8,540	2,115	294	279
Voluntown	2	1,511	1	1,116	1	872	211	31	45
Waterford	..	.....	1	2,239	1	2,904	675	12	267
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37,630</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>39,778</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>82,758</b>	<b>19,764</b>	<b>3,944</b>	<b>2,688</b>

## NEW LONDON COUNTY.—CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
Named 1658. Part to Groton 1705. Do. to Montville 1786. Do. to Waterford, 1801.	New London
Settled 1660. Part to each, Bozrah, Franklin, and Lisbon 1786.	Norwich
From Norwich 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.)	Bozrah
Named 1699. Part to Marlborough 1803. Do. to Salem 1819.	Colchester
From Lyme and Waterford 1839. (1 Rep. 1840.)	East Lyme
" Norwich 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.) Part to Sprague 1861.	Franklin
" Preston 1815. (1 Rep. 1816.)	Griswold
" New London 1705. Part to Ledyard 1836.	Groton
Inc. 1700. Part to Columbia 1804.	Lebanon
From Groton 1836. (1 Rep. 1837.)	Ledyard
" Norwich 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.) Part to Sprague 1861.	Lisbon
" Saybrook 1665. Part to Salem 1819. Do. to E. Lyme 1839. Do. to Old Lyme 1855.	Lyme
" New London 1786. (1 Rep. 1787.) Part to Salem 1819.	Montville
" Stonington 1807. (1 Rep. 1807.) (2 do. 1812.)	N. Ston'gton
" Lyme 1855. (1 Rep. 1856.)	Old Lyme
Named 1687. Part to Griswold 1815.	Preston
From Colchester, Lyme, and Montville 1819. (1 Rep. 1820.)	Salem
" Lisbon and Franklin 1861. (1 Rep. 1862.)	Sprague
Inc. by Mass. 1658. Part to No. Stonington 1807.	Stonington
Named 1708. Part to Sterling 1794. (1 Rep. 1794.)	Voluntown
From New London 1801. (1 Rep. 1802.) Part to E. Lyme 1839.	Waterford
.....	.....



## TOWN STATISTICS.

## FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

TOWNS.	No. Reps. 1776.	Pop. 1774	No. Reps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALLING CONST'L CONVENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
Bridgeport	..	.....	..	.....	2	70,996	15,535	3,090	151
Bethel	..	.....	..	.....	1	3,327	888	217	96
Brookfield	..	.....	1	1,159	1	1,046	281	14	123
Darien	..	.....	..	1,126	1	3,116	583	60	23
Danbury	2	2,526	2	3,873	2	19,474	4,971	1,747	400
Easton	..	.....	..	.....	1	960	218	1	108
Fairfield	2	4,863	2	4,151	2	4,489	1,066	156	164
Greenwich	2	2,776	2	3,790	2	12,172	2,608	516	261
Huntington	..	.....	2	2,805	2	5,572	1,193	216	80
Monroe	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,043	287	16	141
New Canaan	..	.....	1	1,689	1	2,968	707	169	159
New Fairfield	2	1,308	1	788	1	584	161	9	91
Newtown	..	2,229	2	2,879	2	3,276	1,025	203	143
Norwalk	2	4,388	2	3,004	2	19,932	4,969	772	136
Redding	2	1,234	2	1,678	2	1,426	381	16	190
Ridgefield	2	1,708	2	2,301	2	2,626	640	92	248
Sherman	..	.....	1	957	1	658	185	1	105
Stamford	2	3,563	2	3,284	2	18,839	4,583	1,192	483
Stratford	2	5,555	2	3,438	1	3,657	841	115	214
Trumbull	..	.....	1	1,232	1	1,587	371	4	163
Weston	..	.....	2	2,767	1	840	222	13	59
Westport	..	.....	..	.....	1	4,017	938	155	120
Wilton	..	.....	1	1,818	1	1,598	426	27	31
Totals	18	30,150	28	42,739	33	184,203	43,079	8,801	3,689

## FAIRFIELD COUNTY — CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
From Stratford 1821. (1 Rep. 1822.) (2 do. 1875.)	Bridgeport
" Danbury 1855. (1 Rep. 1856.)	Bethel
" Danbury, New Milford, and Newtown 1788. (1 Rep. 1788.)	Brookfield
" Stamford 1820. (1 Rep. 1821.)	Darien
Named 1687. Part to Brookfield 1788. Do. to Bethel 1855.	Danbury
From Weston 1845. (1 Rep. 1846.)	Easton
Named 1645. Part to Redding 1767. Do. to Weston 1787. Do. to Westport 1835.	Fairfield
Settled 1640. N. H. Col. Juris. Submitted to Conn. 1662.	Greenwich
From Stratford 1789. (2 Rep. 1789.) Part to Monroe 1823. (1 Rep. 1824.) (2 do. 1901.)	Huntington
" Huntington 1823. (1 Rep. 1824.)	Monroe
" Norwalk and Stamford 1801. (1 Rep. 1801.)	New Canaan
Inc. 1740. Part to Sherman 1802. (1 Rep. 1803.)	New Fairfield
" 1711. Part to Brookfield 1788. (2 Rep. 1747 and irregularly afterwards. No. Rep. in 1776.)	Newtown
" 1651. Part to New Canaan 1801. Do. to Wilton 1802. Do. to Westport 1835.	Norwalk
From Fairfield 1767.	Redding
Inc. 1709.	Ridgefield
From New Fairfield 1802. (1 Rep. 1803.)	Sherman
Named 1641. N. H. Col. Juris. Submitted to Conn. 1662. Part to New Canaan 1801. Do. to Darien 1820.	Stamford
Settled 1639. Part to Huntington 1789. Do. to Trumbull 1797. Do. to Bridgeport 1821. (1 Rep. 1822.)	Stratford
From Stratford 1797. (1 Rep. 1798.)	Trumbull
" Fairfield 1787. (1 Rep. 1788.) (2 do. 1808.) Part to Westport 1835. Do. to Easton 1845. (1 Rep. 1846.)	Weston
" Fairfield, Norwalk, and Weston 1835. (1 Rep. 1836.)	Westport
" Norwalk 1802. (1 Rep. 1802.)	Wilton
.....	.....

## TOWN STATISTICS.

## WINDHAM COUNTY.

TOWNS.	No. Reps. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. Reps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALL- ING CONST'L CON- VENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
Brooklyn	..	.....	1	1,264	1	2,358	373	35	66
Ashford	2	2,241	2	2,778	2	757	246	8	125
Canterbury	2	2,444	2	1,984	2	876	270	12	117
Chaplin	..	.....	..	.....	1	529	140	11	71
Eastford	..	.....	..	.....	1	523	161	7	92
Hampton	..	.....	1	1,313	1	629	189	13	78
Killingly	2	3,486	2	2,803	2	6,835	1,390	72	304
Plainfield	2	1,562	2	2,097	2	4,821	870	117	385
Pomfret	2	2,306	2	2,042	2	1,831	388	15	96
Putnam	..	.....	..	.....	2	7,348	1,269	107	408
Scotland		.....	..	.....	1	471	149	6	63
Sterling	..	.....	1	1,200	1	1,209	301	17	110
Thompson	..	.....	2	2,928	2	6,442	735	113	253
Windham	2	3,528	2	2,489	2	10,137	2,075	353	498
Woodstock	2	2,054	2	3,017	2	2,095	499	33	136
Totals	14	17,621	19	23,915	24	46,861	9,055	919	2,802



## TOWN STATISTICS.

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## WINDHAM COUNTY.—CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
From Pomfret and Canterbury 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.) Part to Hampton 1786. Named 1710. Part to Eastford 1847.	Brooklyn Ashford
From Plainfield 1703. Part to Brooklyn 1786. Do. to Hampton 1786.	Canterbury
" Mansfield and Hampton 1822. (1 Rep. 1823.)	Chaplin
" Ashford 1847. (1 Rep. 1848.)	Eastford
" Windham, Pomfret, Brooklyn, Canterbury, and Mansfield 1786. (1 Rep. 1787.) Part to Chaplin 1822. Inc. 1708. Part to Thompson 1785. Do. to Putnam 1855.	Hampton Killingly
" 1699. Part to Canterbury 1703.	Plainfield
Named 1713. Inc. uncertain. Part to Brooklyn 1786. Do. to Hampton 1786. Do. to Putnam 1855.	Pomfret
From Pomfret, Thompson, and Killingly 1855. (1 Rep. 1856.) (2 do. 1881.)	Putnam
" Windham 1857. (1 Rep. 1858.)	Scotland
" Voluntown 1794. (1 Rep. 1794.)	Sterling
" Killingly 1785. (1 Rep. 1785.) (2 do. 1803.) Part to Putnam 1855.	Thompson
Inc. 1692. Part to Mansfield 1702. Do. to Hampton 1786. Do. to Scotland 1857.	Windham
From Mass. 1749.	Woodstock
.....	.....

## TOWN STATISTICS.

## LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

TOWNS.	No. Reps. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. Reps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALL- ING CONST'L CON- VENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
Litchfield	2	2,554	2	4,610	2	3,214	823	61	382
Barkhamsted	..	250	2	1,592	2	864	251	7	158
Bethlehem	..	.....	1	932	1	576	151	31	44
Bridgewater	..	.....	..	.....	1	649	173	17	38
Canaan	2	1,635	2	2,332	1	820	214	12	75
Colebrook	..	150	2	1,274	2	684	197	5	134
Cornwall	2	974	2	1,662	2	1,175	312	9	206
Goshen	2	1,111	2	1,586	2	835	210	13	96
Harwinton	2	1,018	2	1,500	2	1,213	293	30	107
Kent	2	1,996	1	1,956	1	1,220	325	8	120
Morris	..	.....	..	.....	1	535	154	7	67
N. Hartford	2	1,001	2	1,685	2	3,424	567	58	182
N. Milford	2	2,776	2	3,830	2	4,804	1,268	192	243
No. Canaan	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,803	456	67	80
Norfolk	..	969	2	1,422	2	1,614	399	13	275
Plymouth	..	.....	1	1,758	1	2,828	614	89	81
Roxbury	..	.....	1	1,124	1	1,087	227	19	73
Salisbury	2	1,980	2	2,695	2	3,489	757	45	275
Sharon	2	2,012	2	2,573	2	1,982	542	14	245
Thomaston	..	.....	..	.....	1	3,300	796	276	20
Torrington	2	845	2	1,449	2	12,453	2,752	876	96
Warren	..	.....	1	875	1	432	105	2	65
Washington	..	.....	2	1,487	2	1,820	454	36	201
Watertown	..	.....	1	1,439	1	3,100	653	134	188
Winchester	..	339	2	1,601	2	7,763	1,913	187	673
Woodbury	2	5,313	2	1,885	2	1,988	515	32	246
Totals	24	24,923	38	41,267	41	63,672	15,121	2,240	4,370

## TOWN STATISTICS.

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## LITCHFIELD COUNTY.—CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
Inc. 1719. Part to Washington 1779. Do. to Morris 1859.	Litchfield
" 1779. (No State tax till 1796, then 2 Rep.)	Barkhamsted
" 1787. (1 Rep. 1787).	Bethlehem
From New Milford 1856. (1 Rep. 1857.)	Bridgewater
Inc. 1739. Part to North Canaan 1858. (1 Rep. 1859.)	Canaan
" 1779. (No State tax till 1796, then 2 Rep.)	Colebrook
" 1740.	Cornwall
" 1739.	Goshen
" 1737.	Harwinton
" 1739. Part to Washington 1779. Do. to Warren 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.)	Kent
From Litchfield 1859. (1 Rep. 1860.)	Morris
Inc. 1738.	N. Hartford
" 1712. Part to Washington 1779. Do. to Brookfield 1788. Do. to Bridgewater 1856.	N. Milford
From Canaan 1858. (1 Rep. 1859.)	No. Canaan
Inc. 1758. (2 Rep. Oct., 1777.)	Norfolk
From Watertown 1795. (1 Rep. 1795). Part to Thomaston 1875.	Plymouth
" Woodbury 1796. (1 Rep. 1797.)	Roxbury
Inc. 1741.	Salisbury
" 1739.	Sharon
From Plymouth 1875. (1 Rep. 1876.)	Thomaston
Inc. 1740.	Torrington
From Kent 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.)	Warren
" Woodbury, Litchfield, Kent, and New Milford 1779. (2 Rep. 1779.)	Washington
" Waterbury 1780. (2 Rep. 1780). Part to Plymouth 1795. (1 Rep. 1795.)	Watertown
Inc. 1771. (No State tax till 1781, then 1 Rep.) (2 Rep. 1797.)	Winchester
Named 1674. Part to Washington 1779. Do. to Southbury 1787. Do. to Roxbury 1796. Do. to Middlebury 1807.	Woodbury



## TOWN STATISTICS.

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

TOWNS.	No. Reps. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. Reps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALL- ING CONST'L CON- VENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
Middletown	2	4,878	2	6,479	2	17,486	3,597	1,113	190
Haddam	2	1,726	2	2,478	2	2,015	500	23	201
Chatham	2	2,397	2	3,159	2	2,271	612	65	276
Chester	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,328	333	49	91
Clinton	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,429	375	32	162
Cromwell	..	.....	..	.....	1	2,031	458	97	51
Durham	2	1,076	2	1,210	2	884	245	8	102
E. Haddam	2	2,808	2	2,572	2	2,485	559	24	212
Essex	..	.....	..	.....	1	2,530	770	97	204
Killingworth	2	1,990	2	2,342	2	651	144	6	76
Middlefield	..	.....	..	.....	1	845	191	21	75
Old Saybrook	..	.....	..	.....	1	1,431	355	27	117
Portland	..	.....	..	.....	1	3,856	850	246	262
Saybrook	2	2,687	2	4,165	2	1,634	404	48	133
Westbrook	..	.....	..	.....	1	884	229	14	93
Totals	14	17,562	14	22,405	22	41,760	9,622	1,870	2,245

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY. — CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
Inc. 1651. Part to Chatham 1767. Do. to Berlin 1785. Do. to Cromwell 1851. Do. to Middlefield 1866. “ 1668. Part to East Haddam 1734.	Middletown Haddam
From Middletown 1767. Part to Portland 1841.	Chatham
“ Saybrook 1836. (1 Rep. 1837.)	Chester
“ Killingworth 1838. (1 Rep. 1839.)	Clinton
“ Middletown 1851. (1 Rep. 1852.)	Cromwell
Inc. 1708.	Durham
From Haddam 1734.	E. Haddam
“ Old Saybrook 1854. (1 Rep. 1855.)	Essex
Named 1667. Part to Clinton 1838.	Killingworth
From Middletown 1866. (1 Rep. 1867.)	Middlefield
“ Saybrook 1852. (1 Rep. 1853.) Part to Essex 1854.	Old Saybrook
“ Chatham 1841. (1 Rep. 1842.)	Portland
United with Conn. 1644. Part to Lyme 1665. Do. to Chester 1836. Do. to Westbrook 1840. Do. to O. Saybrook 1852.	Saybrook
From Saybrook 1840. (1 Rep. 1841.)	Westbrook
.....	.....

## TOWN STATISTICS.

## TOLLAND COUNTY.

TOWNS.	No. Reps. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. Reps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. Reps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE ON CALL- ING CONST'L CON- VENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
Tolland	2	1,262	2	1,607	2	1,036	288	6	138
Andover	..	.....	..	.....	1	385	104	13	38
Bolton	2	1,001	1	731	1	457	119	4	38
Columbia	..	.....	1	941	1	655	162	7	74
Coventry	2	2,056	2	2,058	2	1,632	448	25	150
Ellington	..	.....	1	1,196	1	1,829	421	38	107
Hebron	2	2,337	2	2,094	2	1,016	236	13	70
Mansfield	2	2,466	2	2,993	2	1,827	492	21	179
Somers	2	1,027	2	1,306	2	1,593	341	45	35
Stafford	2	1,334	2	2,369	2	4,297	982	180	285
Union	..	514	2	757	2	428	102	3	54
Vernon	..	.....	1	966	2	8,483	1,916	171	488
Willington	2	1,001	2	1,246	2	885	232	9	103
Totals	16	12,998	20	18,264	22	24,523	5,843	535	1,759



## TOLLAND COUNTY.—CONCLUDED.

Incorporation, Changes in Jurisdiction, Representation, etc.	TOWNS.
Named 1715.	Tolland
From Hebron and Coventry 1848. (1 Rep. 1849.)	Andover
Inc. 1720. Part to Vernon 1808. (1 Rep. 1809.)	Bolton
From Lebanon 1804. (1 Rep. 1805.)	Columbia
Named 1711. Part to Andover 1848.	Coventry
From East Windsor 1786. (1 Rep. 1786.)	Ellington
Inc. 1708. Part to Marlborough 1803. Do. to Andover 1848.	Hebron
From Windham 1702. Part to Hampton 1786. Do. to Chaplin 1822.	Mansfield
" Massachusetts 1749.	Somers
Settled 1719.	Stafford
Inc. 1734. (No State tax or Representation till 1780, then 2 Rep.)	Union
From Bolton 1808. (1 Rep. 1809.) (2 do. 1875.)	Vernon
Inc. 1727.	Willington
.....	.....



## TOWN STATISTICS.

## RECAPITULATION.

Counties.	No. R'ps. 1776.	Pop. 1774.	No. R'ps. 1818.	Pop. 1820.	No. R'ps. 1901.	Pop. 1900.	No. Electors 1900.	VOTE UPON CALL- ING CONST'L CON- VENTION, 1901.	
								Yes.	No.
Hartford	20	29,361	32	47,264	45	195,415	43,987	8,205	5,373
New Haven	14	25,743	25	39,616	38	269,163	61,291	20,803	3,819
New London	18	37,630	25	39,778	30	82,758	19,764	3,944	2,688
Fairfield	18	30,150	28	42,739	33	184,203	43,079	8,801	3,689
Windham	14	17,621	19	23,915	24	46,861	9,055	919	2,802
Litchfield	24	24,923	38	41,267	41	63,672	15,121	2,240	4,370
Middlesex	14	17,562	14	22,405	22	41,760	9,622	1,870	2,245
Tolland	16	12,998	20	18,264	22	24,523	5,843	535	1,759
Totals	*138	*195,988	201	195,988	255	908,355	207,762	47,317	26,745

\*The town of Westmoreland, now in Pennsylvania, was included in Litchfield County and had two Representatives in 1776, making a total of 140, and in 1774 had a population of 1,922, making the total census of Connecticut 197,910.

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