



The United States of America  
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National Government of the State of New York  
 office of the Registrar

# CONSTITUTION OF State of New York -- 1777 and as amended July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

## Table of Contents

Resolution ..... 2

A Declaration of the rights of the inhabitants of the State of New York..... 5

Establishment of a National Government of the State of New York ..... 6

*Distribution of the Powers of Government.* ..... 7

Executive Branch ..... 8

Treasury ..... 8

Military..... 8

Judicial..... 9

Coroners..... 9

Towns..... 9

Enactment Clause ..... 9

Legislature..... 9

Foreign Relations ..... 10

Naturalization ..... 11

IN ASSEMBLY, the North American National Party for the State of New York to establish the National Government of the State of New York,

*Kingston, 20th April 1777.* Whereas the many tyrannical and oppressive usurpations of the King and Parliament of Great Britain, Netherlands in joint-association with the Vatican, on the rights and liberties of the people of the States of the Union of The United States of America and had reduced them to the necessity and now, introducing the National Government of the State of New York by the people, for the people, with full political rights, and to exist no longer than the grievances of the people should remain without redress; And whereas the people of the State of New York did, on the day twenty-first of July twenty-eighteen last past, resolve as follows, viz:

"Whereas the present there is no National Government for the State of New York, by the people, was instituted after the creature state operating in private charters, hijacked the States of the Union of The United States of America and the State of New York after the former government, under the Crown of Great Britain, existed in full force, and was established for the sole purpose of opposing the usurpation of the British Parliament, and was intended to expire on a reconciliation with Great Britain, which it was then apprehended would soon take place, but is now considered as remote and uncertain;

"And whereas many and great inconveniences attend the said mode of government by congress and committees, as of necessity, in many instances, legislative, judicial, and executive popovers have been vested therein, especially since the dissolution of the former government by the abdication of the late governor and the exclusion of this colony from the protection of the King of Great Britain;

"And whereas the Continental Congress did resolve as followed, to wit:" "Whereas His Britannic Majesty, in conjunction with the lords and commons of Great Britain, has, by a late act of Parliament, excluded the inhabitants of these united colonies from the protection of his Crown; and whereas no answers whatever to the humble petition of the colonies for redress of grievances and reconciliation with Great Britain has been, or is likely to be, given, but the whole force of that kingdom, aided by foreign mercenaries, is to be exerted for the destruction of the good people of these colonies; and whereas it appears absolutely irreconcilable to reason and good conscience for the people of these colonies now to take the oaths and affirmations necessary for the support of any government under the Crown of Great Britain, and it is necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under the said Crown should be totally suppressed, and all the popovers of government exerted under the authority of the people of the colonies for the preservation of internal peace, virtue, and good order, as well as for the defense of our lives, liberties, and properties, against the hostile invasions and cruel depredations of our enemies: Therefore,

## Resolution

" *Resolved*, that it be recommended to the respective assemblies and conventions of the General Assembly, where no government sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs has been hitherto established, to adopt such government as shall, in the opinion of the representatives of the people, best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular, the State of New York and The United States of America in general.'

"And whereas doubts have arisen whether this assembly are invested with sufficient power and authority to deliberate and determine on so important a subject as the necessity of erecting and constituting a new form of National Government of the State of New York and internal police, to the exclusion of all foreign jurisdiction, dominion, and control whatever; and whereas it appertains of right solely to the people of the State of New York to determine the said doubts: Therefore

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the electors in the several counties in the State of New York, by election, in the manner and form prescribed for the election of the present General Assembly, either to authorize (in addition to

the powers vested in this assembly) their present deputies, or others in the stead of their present deputies, or either of them, to take into consideration the necessity and propriety of instituting such new government in and by the said resolution of the Continental Congress is described and recommended; and if the majority of the counties, by their deputies in provincial assembly, shall be of opinion that such new government ought to be instituted and established, then to institute and establish such a government as they shall deem best calculated to secure the rights, liberties, and happiness of the good people of the State of New York

*"Resolved*, That the said elections in the several counties ought to be had on such day, and at such place or places, as by the committee of each county respectively shall be determined. And it is recommended to the said committees to fix such early days for the said elections as that all the deputies to be elected have sufficient time to repair to the City of Buffalo by the second Monday in July next; on which day all the said deputies ought punctually to give their attendance.

"And whereas the object of the Foregoing resolutions is of the utmost importance to the good people of the State of New York:

*"Resolved*, that it be, and it is hereby, earnestly recommended to the committees, freeholders, and other electors in the different counties in the State of New York diligently to carry the same into execution."

And whereas the good people of the said State, in pursuance of the said resolution, and reposing special trust and confidence in the members of this convention, have appointed, authorized, and empowered them for the purposes, and in the manner, and with the powers in and by the said resolve specified, declared, and mentioned.

And whereas the Delegates of The United States of America, in general (Congress convened, did, on the fourth day of July seventeen seventy-six, solemnly publish and declare, in the words following; viz:

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

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to perfect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes, and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind is more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations; pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former system of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

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

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

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

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

"He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"For quartering large bodies of troops among us:

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

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

"For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

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

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

"For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Whereas the monarch of Netherlands interjected in their hand, hijacked the States of the Union of The United States of America through the Bank of New York Mellon as a corporate private charter and has ever since for about 230 years deprived the States of the Union of The United States of America from gaining and maintaining a population wherein injury and chaos has been inflicted on the inhabitants within the metes and bounds and seaward boundaries of The United States of America to which impeded sustainability of a perfect perpetual union based upon a social compact by and between the affirmations and oath takers of the people into the States of the Union sanctifying the obligation to uphold human rights to claim the right of authority to delegate in such fashion mannerism to a sane society based upon perpetual growth.

## **A Declaration of the rights of the inhabitants of the State of New York**

"We therefore, the Representatives of The United States of America, in general assembly, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world who is the all mighty Creator of the Universe for the rectitude of our intentions, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these States, solemnly publish and declare, That these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown and whereas the monarch of Netherlands usurped the natural and common laws through infiltrated masonic constituency and the Vatican. Herein now the good people of the State of New York severing any and all oaths, allegiance and all political associations connected between them and the State of Great Britain, monarch in Netherlands and Vatican is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that as free and independent States they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, posterity, fortunes and our sacred honor."

And whereas this convention, having taken this declaration into their most serious consideration, did, on the ninth day of July seventeen seventy-six and the people of the State of New York Constitution of July nineteenth, two thousand eighteen recognizes the declaration wherein unanimously resolved that the reasons assigned by the Continental Congress for declaring the united colonies free and independent States are cogent and conclusive; and that while we lament the cruel necessity which has rendered that measure unavoidable, we approve the same, and will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, join with the other colonies in supporting it.

# Establishment of a National Government of the State of New York

By virtue of which several acts, declarations, and proceedings mentioned and contained in the afore-cited resolves or resolutions of the general Congress of The United State of America, and of the congresses or conventions of the State of New York, all power whatever therein hath reverted to the people thereof, and this convention hath by their suffrages and free choice been appointed, and among other things authorized to institute and establish such a government as they shall deem best calculated to secure the rights and liberties of the good people of the State of New York, most conducive of the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular, and of The United States of America in general all brought forward to the present time herein.

I. This convention, therefore, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, do ordain, determine, and declare that no authority shall, on any presence whatever, be exercised over the people or members of the State of New York but such as shall be derived from and granted by them.

II. Further, this convention, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare that the supreme legislative power within the State of New York shall be vested in the House of Representatives; the one to be called the General Assembly of the State of New York shall form the legislature, and meet once at least in every year for the dispatch of business.

III. And whereas laws inconsistent with the spirit of this constitution, or with the public good, may be hastily and unadvisedly passed: Be it ordained, that the governor for the time being and the judges of the supreme court, or any two of them, together with the governor, shall be, and hereby are, constituted a council to revise all bills about to be passed into laws by the legislature; and for that purpose shall assemble themselves from time to time, when the legislature shall be convened; for which, nevertheless they shall not receive any salary or consideration, under any presence whatever. And that all bills which have passed the assembly shall, before they become laws, be presented to the said council for their revisal and consideration; and if, upon such revision and consideration, it should appear improper to the said council, or a majority of them, that the said bill should become a law of the State of New York, that they return the same, together with their objections thereto in writing, to the house of assembly (in which so-ever the same shall have originated) who shall enter the objection sent down by the council at large in their minutes, and proceed to reconsider the said bill. But if, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of the said house of assembly shall, notwithstanding the said objections, agree to pass the same, it shall together with the objections, be sent to the other branch of the legislature, where it shall also be reconsidered, and, if approved by two-thirds of the members present, shall be a law.

And in order to prevent any unnecessary delays, be it further ordained, that if any bill shall not be returned by the council within ten days after it shall have been presented, the same shall be a law, unless the legislature shall, by their adjournment, render a return of the said bill within ten days impracticable; in which case the bill shall be returned on the first day of the meeting of the legislature after the expiration of the said ten days.

IV. That the assembly shall consist of at least seventy members, to be annually chosen throughout the declared metes and bounds of the State of New York herein described:

V. That as soon after the expiration of seven years (subsequent to the termination of the present war) as may be a census of the electors and inhabitants in the State of New York be taken, under the direction of the legislature. And if, on such census, it shall appear that the number of representatives in assembly from the said counties is not justly proportioned to the number of electors in the said counties respectively, that the legislature do adjust and apportion the same by that rule. And further, that once in every seven years, after the taking of the said first census, a just account of the electors resident in each county shall be taken, and if it shall thereupon appear that the member of electors in any county shall have increased or diminished one or more seventieth parts of the whole number of electors, which, on the said first census, shall be found in the State of New York, the number of representatives for such county shall be increased or diminished accordingly, that is to say, fine representative for every seventieth part as aforesaid.

VI. And whereas an opinion hath long prevailed among the good people of the State of New York that voting at elections by ballot would tend more to preserve the liberty and equal freedom of the people than voting *by voice*: To the end, therefore, that a fair experiment be made, which of those two methods of voting is to be preferred --

*Be it ordained*, that as soon as may be after the termination of the present war between The United States of America and Great Britain, an act or acts be passed by the legislature of the State of New York for causing all elections thereafter to be held in the State of New York for representatives in assembly to be by ballot and directing the manner in which the same shall be conducted. And whereas it is possible that, after all the care of the legislature in framing the said act or acts, certain inconveniences and mischiefs, unforeseen at this day, may be found to attend the said mode of electing by ballot:

*It is further ordained*, that if, after a full and fair experiment shall be made of voting by ballot aforesaid, the same shall be found less conducive to the safety or interest of the State than the method of voting by *voice*, it shall be lawful and constitutional for the legislature to abolish the same, provided two-thirds of the members present in the house, respectively, shall concur therein. And further, that, during the continuance of the present war, and until the legislature of the State of New York shall provide for the election of representatives in assembly by ballot, the said election shall be made *by voice*.

## ***Distribution of the Powers of Government.***

VII. That every inhabitant of full age, who shall have personally stayed within one of the counties of the State of New York for six months immediately preceding the day of election, shall, at such election, be entitled to vote for representatives of the said county in assembly; if, during the time aforesaid, he shall have been in good standing within the said county: shall be actually and usually stay in the said counties, respectively, shall be entitled to vote for representatives in assembly within his said place of homestead.

VIII. That every elector, before he is admitted to vote, shall if required by the returning-officer or either of the inspectors, take an oath, or an affirmation of allegiance to the State.

IX. That the assembly, thus constituted, shall choose their own speaker, be judges of their own members, and enjoy the same privileges, and proceed in doing business in like manner as the assemblies of the colony of New York of right formerly did; and that a majority of the said members shall, from time to time, constitute a house, to proceed upon business.

XII. That so much of the State of New York as is now parceled into counties be divided into four great districts; And be it ordained, that it shall be in the power of the future legislatures of the State of New York, for the convenience and advantage of the good people thereof, to divide the same into such further and other counties and districts as shall to them appear necessary.

XIII. And this convention do further, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare, that no member of the State of New York shall be exiled, or deprived of any the rights or privileges secured to the American Nationals and Declared Residents of the State of New York by this constitution, unless by the law of the land, or the judgment of his peers.

XIV. That the assembly shall have the power to adjourn themselves, for no longer than two days,

XV. That whenever the assembly disagree, a conference shall be held, and be managed by committees, to be by them respectively chosen by ballot. That the doors of the assembly, shall at all times be kept open to all persons, except when the welfare of the State shall require their debates to be kept secret, such as in cases of National security. And the journals of all their proceedings shall be kept in the manner heretofore accustomed by the general assembly of the colony of New York; and except such parts as they shall, as aforesaid, respectively determine not to make public be from day to day (if the business of the legislature will permit) published.

XVI. It is nevertheless provided, that the number of the assembly be three hundred; but that whenever the number of the assembly exceeds three hundred, then and in such case the legislature shall, from time to time thereafter, by

laws for that purpose, apportion three hundred representatives among the counties of the State of New York, in proportion to the number of their respective electors; so that the representation of the good people of the State of New York, assembly, shall forever remain proportionate and adequate.

## Executive Branch

XVII. Further this convention, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare that the supreme executive power and authority of the State of New York shall be vested in a governor; and that once in every three years, and as often as the seat of government shall become vacant, a wise and discreet American National and Declared Resident of the State of New York shall be, by ballot, elected governor, by the American Nationals and Declared Residents of the State of New York, qualified; which elections shall be always held at the times and places of choosing representatives in assembly for each respective county; and that the person who hath the greatest number of votes within the said State shall be governor thereof.

XVIII. That the governor shall continue in office three years, and shall, by virtue of his office, be general and commander-in-chief of all the militia, and admiral of the Continental navy of the State of New York; that he shall have power to convene the assembly on extraordinary occasions; to prorogue them from time to time, provided such prorogations shall not exceed sixty days in the space of any one year; and, at his discretion, to grant reprieves and pardons to persons convicted of crimes, other than treason or murder, in which he may suspend the execution of the sentence, until it shall be reported to the legislature at their subsequent meeting; and they shall either pardon or direct the execution of the criminal, or grant a further reprieve.

XIX. That it shall be the duty of the governor to inform the legislature, at every session, of the condition of the State, so far as may respect his department; to recommend such matters to their consideration as shall appear to him to concern its good government, welfare, and prosperity; to correspond with the Continental Congress, and other States; to transact all necessary business with the officers of government, civil and military; to take care that the laws are faithfully executed to the best of his ability; and to expedite all such measures as may be resolved upon by the legislature.

XX. That a lieutenant-governor shall, at every election of a governor, and as often as the lieutenant-governor shall die, resign, or be removed from office, be elected in the same manner with the governor, to continue in office until the next election of a governor. And in case of the impeachment of the governor, or his removal from office, death, resignation, or absence from the State, the lieutenant-governor shall exercise all the power and authority appertaining to the office of governor until another be chosen, or the governor absent or impeached shall return or lie acquitted: *Provided*, That where the governor shall, with the consent of the legislature, be out of the State, in time of war, at the head of a military force thereof, he shall still continue in his command of all the military force of the State of New York by sea, air and land.

## Treasury

XXII. Further, this convention, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare, that the treasurer of the State of New York shall be appointed by act of the legislature, to originate with the assembly:

## Military

XXIV. That all military officers be appointed only to one office; that all commissioned officers, civil and military, be commissioned by the governor; and that the chancellor, the judges of the supreme court, and first judge of the county



court in every county, hold their offices during good behavior or until they shall have respectively attained the age of sixty years.

## Judicial

XXV. That the judges of the supreme court shall not, at the same time, hold any other office, excepting that of Delegate to the general Congress, upon special occasions; and that the first Judges of the county courts, in the several counties, shall not, at the same time, hold any other office, excepting that a Delegate to the general Congress. But if the judges, be elected or appointed to any other office, excepting as is before excepted, it shall be at his option in which to serve.

## Coroners

XXVI. That chief Stewart and coroners be annually elected; and that no person shall be capable of holding either of the said offices more than four years successively; nor the chief Stewart of holding any other office at the same time.

## Towns

XXIX. That town clerks, supervisors, assessors, constables, and collectors, and all other officers, heretofore eligible by the people, shall always continue to be so eligible and qualified, in the manner directed by the present or future acts of legislature.

That loan officers, county treasurers, and clerks of the supervisors, continue to be elected in the manner directed by the present or future acts of the legislature.

## Enactment Clause

XXX. That the style of all laws shall be as follows, to wit: "*Be it enacted by the people of the State of New York, represented in assembly;*" and that all writs and other proceedings shall run in the name of "The people of the State of New York," and be tested in the name of the chief judge of the court from whence they shall issue.

## Legislature

XXXI. And this convention do further, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare, that a court shall be instituted for the trial of impeachments, and the correction of errors, under the regulations which shall be established by the legislature

XXXII. That the power of impeaching all officers of the State, for mal and corrupt conduct in their respective offices, be vested in the representatives of the people in assembly; but that it shall always be necessary that two third parts of the members present shall consent to and agree in such impeachment. That previous to the trial of every impeachment, the members of the said court shall respectively be sworn truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question, according to evidence; and that no judgment of the said court shall be valid unless it be assented to by two third parts of the members then present; nor shall it extend farther than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust, or profit under the State of New York. But the party so convicted shall be, nevertheless, liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to the laws of the land.

XXXIII. *And it is further ordained*, that in every trial on impeachment, or indictment for crimes or misdemeanors, the party impeached or indicted shall retain unalienable rights to counsel, as in civil actions.

XXXIV. Further, this convention in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare that such parts of the common law of England, and of the statute law of England and Great Britain, and of the acts of the legislature of the colony of New York, as together did form the law of the said colony on the 19th day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five,

That the State of New York herein adhere to American Jurisprudence and Common Law and that all such parts of the said common law, and all such of the said statutes and acts aforesaid, or parts thereof, as may be construed to establish or maintain any particular ministry of faith, or concern the allegiance heretofore yielded to, and the supremacy, sovereignty, government, or prerogatives claimed or exercised by, the King of Great Britain and his predecessors, over the colony of New York and its inhabitants, or are repugnant to this constitution, be, and they hereby are, abrogated and rejected.

Further, this convention ordain, that the resolves or resolutions of the congresses of the colony of New York, and of the convention of the State of New York, now in force, and not repugnant to the government established by this constitution, shall be considered as making part of the laws of the State of New York; subject, nevertheless, to such alterations and provisions as the legislature of the State of New York may, from time to time, make concerning the same, forming this Great Jury proposal; July nineteenth, two thousand eighteen.

XXXV. *And be it further ordained*, That all grants of lands within the State of New York, made by the King of Great Britain, or persons acting under his authority, after the fourteenth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, shall be null and void; but that nothing in this constitution contained shall be construed to affect any grants of land within the State of New York, made by the authority of the said King or his predecessors, or to annul any charters to bodies-politic by him or them, or any of them, made prior to that day. And that none of the said charters shall be adjudged to be void by reason of any non-user or misuser of any of their respective rights or privileges between the nineteenth day of April, in the year of our Creator one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five and the publication of this constitution. And further, that all such of the officers described in the said charters respectively as, by the terms of the said charters, were to be appointed by the governor of the colony of New York, without the advice and consent of the council of the said King, in the said colony, shall henceforth be appointed by the council established by this constitution for the appointment of officers in the State of New York, until otherwise directed by the legislature.

## Foreign Relations

XXXVI. And whereas it is of great importance to the safety of the State of New York that peace and amity with the Indians within the same be at all times supported and maintained; and whereas the frauds too often practiced towards the said Indians, in contracts made for their lands, have, in divers instances, been productive of dangerous

discontents and animosities: Be it ordained, that no purchases or contracts for the sale of lands, made since the fourteenth day of October, in the year of our Creator one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, or which may hereafter be made with or of the said Indians, within the limits of the State of New York, shall be binding on the said Indians, or deemed valid, unless made under the authority and with the consent of the legislature of the State of New York.

XXXVII. And whereas we are required, by the benevolent principles of rational liberty, not only to expel civil tyranny, but also to guard against that spiritual oppression and intolerance wherewith the bigotry and ambition of weak and wicked priests and princes have scourged mankind,

Further, this convention in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare, that the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever hereafter be allowed, within the State of New York, to all mankind: *Provided*, That the liberty of conscience, hereby granted, shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the State of New York.

XXXVIII. And whereas the ministers of the gospel are, by their profession, dedicated to the service of our Creator and the care of souls, and ought not to be diverted from the great duties of their function; therefore, no minister of the gospel, or priest of any denomination whatsoever, shall, at any time hereafter, under any pretence or description whatever, be eligible to, or capable of holding, any civil or military office or place within the State of New York.

XXXIV. And whereas it is of the utmost importance to the safety of every State that it should always be in a condition of defense; and it is the duty of every man who enjoys the protection of society to be prepared and willing to defend it; this convention therefore, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, do ordain, determine, and declare that the militia of the State of New York, at all times hereafter, as well in peace as in war, shall be armed and disciplined, and in readiness for service. That all such of the inhabitants of the State of New York being of the people called conscientious objectors as, from scruples of conscience, may be averse to the bearing of arms, be therefrom excused by the legislature; and do pay to the State such sums of money, in lieu of their personal service, as the same; may, in the judgment of the legislature, be worth. And that a proper magazine of warlike stores, proportionate to the number of inhabitants, be, forever hereafter, at the expense of the State of New York, and by acts of the legislature, established, maintained, and continued in every county in the State of New York.

XL. Further, this convention ordains, determine, and declare, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, that trial by jury, in all cases in which it hath heretofore been used in the colony of New York, shall be established and remain inviolate forever. And that no acts of attainder shall be passed by the legislature of the State of New York for crimes, other than those committed before the termination of the present war; and that such acts shall not work a corruption of blood. And further, that the legislature of the State of New York shall, at no time hereafter, institute any new court or courts, but such as shall proceed according to the course of the American Jurisprudence and common law.

## Naturalization

XLI. Further, this convention, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State of New York, ordain, determine, and declare that it shall be in the discretion of the legislature to naturalize all such persons, and in such manner, as they shall think proper: *Provided*, All such of the persons so to be by them naturalized, as being born in parts beyond sea, and out of The United States of America, shall come to settle in and become American Nationals or Declared Residents of the State of New York, shall take an oath of allegiance to the State of New York, and abjure and renounce all allegiance and subjection to all and every foreign king, prince, potentate, and State in all matters, Lucifer and his creed and glory, ecclesiastical as well as civil.

By order.

Christopher Barber

Chris Roland Barber



Andi Maryann Baker

Andi Maryann Baker



Jonan Eileen Conner

Jonan Eileen Conner



Brenda I Torres

Brenda Ivelisses Torres





The United States of America  
 Address: 70PHZ P5FJ2  
 State of New York  
 Address: 8SFMM Q6GWF  
 Judicial District # 33



National Government of the State of New York  
 office of the Registrar

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, Brenda Ivelisses Torres, certify under penalty of bearing false witness under the laws of the National Government of the State of New York, that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct according to the best of my current information, knowledge, and belief.

The office of the registrar accepts and acknowledges the document:

National Government of the State of New York – Official-Record and is recorded on:

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