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 forms of civil government.

We declare,
Sec. 1. That all men when they form a social compact, are equal in rights, and that no man, or set of men, entitled to exclusive privileges or privileges from the community.
Sec. 2. That all political power is in the people, and all free government may be recognized and established.

Sec. 3. That the right of the people to keep and bear arms, for the defense of themselves and the state, shall not be questioned.

Wealth
ARTICLE FIRST, Sec. 1.
The legislative power of this state shall be vested in two distinct houses or branches; the one to be styled the Senate and the other, the House of Representatives. And it shall be an essential and constitutional principle, that all men are equal before the law.

Sec. 2.
The sovereign and rightful end of all legislative powers of government, for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, address or remonstrance.

Sec. 3.
The citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble for their own common good, and to apply to those in power for the redress of grievances or invasion, the public safety may require it; nor in any case, but by the legislature.

Sec. 4.
The people shall be entitled to the protection of the law, and every person shall be secure in his liberty.

Sec. 5.
The judicial power of the state shall be vested in a supreme court, and such inferior courts as may be provided by law, and shall define and determine all controversies respecting property, liberty, personal rights, and personal liberty.

Sec. 6.
The supreme executive power of the state shall be vested in the Governor, who shall be elected for the term of four years, and no person who has not been a citizen of the state for ten years, shall be eligible to that office.

Sec. 7.
The General Assembly shall consist of a house of representatives, and a house of senators, to which all able-bodied white men shall be entitled.

Sec. 8.
The property of no person shall be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Sec. 9.
The General Assembly is hereby empowered to create such inferior courts as the legislature shall from time to time establish.
Sec. 10. The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves after conviction, in all cases except those of impeachment. No bill shall be deemed passed during a recess of the General Assembly, and no bill shall be laid under consideration of the General Assembly until the next meeting thereof.

Sec. 11. All commissions shall be in the name and by authority of the state of Connecticut; shall be sealed with the seal state, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary.

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 the bill, 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 the respective houses. 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 case, in which case it shall not be a law.

Sec. 12. The Governor shall receive, pay, and disburse the public money under the direction of the Secretary and Controller only. He shall have 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, unless such order shall be signed by the Secretary and Controller only.

Sec. 13. All warrants and orders of the General Assembly, and the Secretary and Controller, shall be legal, valid, and sufficient; and shall be held, received, and paid by the Governor and Controller, as good as if signed by them.

Sec. 14. When the governor 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 be absent, the Secretary and Controller only shall administer, and shall, in such administration, discharge the duties of the office of Governor pro tempore, shall, in like manner, administer the government until the Lieutenant Governor be appointed, or be qualified, or until the Governor, impeached or absent, be acquitted or return.

Sec. 15. 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 be absent, the Secretary and Controller only shall administer, and shall, in such administration, discharge the duties of the office of Governor pro tempore, shall, in like manner, administer the government until the Lieutenant Governor be appointed, or be qualified, or until the Governor, impeached or absent, be acquitted or return.

Sec. 16. If the Lieutenant Governor shall be required to administer the government, and shall, while in such administration, 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 succeeded by a Governor, unless the same shall be filled by the General Assembly.

Sec. 17. A Treasurer shall annually be chosen by the electors at their meeting in April, and the votes shall be returned, counted, canvassed, and declared, in the same manner as is provided for the election of Governor and Lieutenant Governor, but the Treasurer shall be elected by the Secretary and Controller only. He 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, unless such order shall be signed by the Secretary and Controller.

Sec. 18. A Secretary shall be chosen next after the Treasurer, and in the same manner, and the votes for Secretary shall be returned to, counted, canvassed, and declared by the Treasurer and Controller. He shall have the safe keeping and custody of the public records and documents, and particularly of the records and documents of the General Assembly, and shall act in the same capacity, 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.

Sec. 19. A Controller of the public accounts shall be annually appointed by the General Assembly. He shall adjust and settle all public accounts and demands, except grants and orders of the General Assembly. He shall preserve the mode of keeping and rendering all public accounts. He shall, ex officio, be the treasurer of the University of the state, and shall receive and manage all monies belonging to the university. He shall perform all other duties in relation to his office, and to that of the Treasurer, and shall preserve the manner in which his duties shall be performed.

Sec. 20. A sheriff shall be appointed in each county by the General Assembly, who shall hold his office for the term of years prescribed by said Assembly, and shall be removable by said Assembly, for misconduct, neglect of duty, or inefficiency. He shall be a member of said Assembly, and shall be bound, in like manner, to preserve the public peace, to perform his other duties in relation to his office, and to that of the Treasurer, and shall preserve the manner in which his duties shall be performed.

Sec. 21. 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.

Sec. 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 may establish. The judges of the Supreme Court, the Superior Court, and such inferior courts, and all justices of the peace, shall be appointed by the General Assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

Sec. 2. There shall be appointed in each county, a sufficient number of justices of the peace, with such jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases, as the General Assembly may prescribe.

Sec. 3. All judges of the Supreme Court, and of the Superior Court, shall hold their offices during good behavior; but may be removed by impeachment; and the Governor shall also remove him from any other office as prescribed by law.

Sec. 4. Every elector shall be entitled to a copy of the constitution, which shall be printed in the year of the admission of the state into the Union, and whenever the United States shall increase in population, it shall be printed anew.

Sec. 5. The electors and town clerk of the several towns, shall decide on the elections of all officers of the state, as may be prescribed by law.

Sec. 6. Laws shall be made to provide 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 inducements.

Sec. 7. In all elections of officers of the state, or members of the General Assembly, the votes of the ballot shall be public.

Sec. 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.

Sec. 9. The meetings of the electors for the election of the several state officers, by law, annually to be held, and members of the General Assembly, shall be held on the first Monday of April in each year.

ARTICLE SEVENTH. Of Religion.

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

Sec. 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, among the several schools societies, as justice and equality shall require.

ARTICLE NINTH. Of Impeachments.

Sec. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate; and when sitting for that purpose, they shall be presided over by the President pro tempore of the Senate.

Sec. 2. If the President of the Senate is an impeached, the Vice President pro tempore shall act in his stead.

Sec. 3. If the President and Vice President pro tempore shall be impeached, the Secretary and Controller shall act in their stead.

Sec. 4. No Senator or Representative shall, in any other capacity, be a member of the committee appointed to try impeachments.

Sec. 5. If any person shall be impeached, he shall be tried by the Senate, and the Lieutenant Governor shall act in the stead of the President pro tempore.

Sec. 6. Law shall be made to support the privilege of free sufferage, prescribing the manner of law, which may have been passed in pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, passed in May, 1792, is hereby confirmed.

Sec. 7. In all elections of officers of the state, or members of the General Assembly, the votes of the ballot shall be public.

Sec. 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.

Sec. 9. The meetings of the electors for the election of the several state officers, by law, annually to be held, and members of the General Assembly, shall be held on the first Monday of April in each year.

ARTICLE ELEVENTH. Of Amendments to the Constitution.

Sec. 1. All propositions for amendments to this Constitution, shall be submitted to the people by popular vote. Each proposition shall be submitted, with a statement, containing not less than two-thirds of the words of this Constitution, in like manner, to the convention of Congress, and the several legislatures of the several states, for their concurrence.

Sec. 2. If any state shall ratify such amendments, the same shall be inoperative, unless they shall have been proposed by the legislature of the United States, and confirmed by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states, in convention.

Sec. 3. The legislature of the state shall, at any time, by a majority of a quorum of the several houses of the General Assembly, propose such additions to this Constitution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Sec. 4. No amendment shall be made to this Constitution, which shall impair the obligation of contracts, or abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, or any person within the jurisdiction thereof.

Sec. 5. No amendment shall be made to this Constitution, without the concurrence of a majority of the states, and the concurrence of a majority in number in both houses of Congress.