

**Printed Material: Text Transcription****LUKE DAY'S DEMANDS TO WILLIAM SHEPARD PRINTED IN THE GAZETTE**

The following is a copy of the paper inclosed in the above letter.  
Head-quarters, West-Springfield, Jan 25, 1787.

THE body of the people assembled in arms, adhering to the first principles in natural self-preservation, do, in the most peremptory manner, demand,

1. That the troops in Springfield lay down their arms.
2. That their arms be deposited in the public stores, under the care of the proper officers, to be returned to the owners at the termination of the present contest.
3. That the troops return to their homes upon parole.

To the Commanding Officer at Springfield, Jan. 25, 1787,  
Luke Day, Captain Commandant of this division  
On the back,--"By Col. Eli Parsons"

**Printed Material: Text Transcription****SOUTHERN PAPERS SUGGESTING DIVISION OF THE  
CONFEDERATION**

NORTHAMPTON, May 2.

A hint has, in the southern papers, been suggested to the Deputies of the Federal Convention, on the propriety of recommending a dissolution of the Confederation and a division of the states into four republics---The first to contain the states of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode-Island and Connecticut, to which Vermont might be added. The second to contain New-York, New-Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Maryland. The third, Virginia, the two Carolinas, and Georgia. The fourth to contain the state of Franklin, Kentucky and the lands lying on the Ohio. This division seems to be pointed out by climate, whose effect no positive law can surpass---The religion, manners, customs, exports, imports, and general interest of each, being in them the same, no opposition, arising difference in these (as at present) would any longer divide their councils---unanimity would render us secure at home, and respectable abroad, and promote agriculture, manufactures and commerce.

**Printed Material: Text Transcription****"A CROSTICK" POEM PRINTED IN THE GAZETTE**

Mr. BUTLER---Please to publish the following.

THERE is a word much-used at this day, which is not explained by Johnson or Bayley: perhaps some idea of its signification may be found in the following:

**A CROSTICK**

I nsolvent debtors, aiming ne'er to pay:  
N otorious gamblers risking all at play.  
S editious whigs, who think a man should die,  
U nless his sentiments with their' comply.  
R evengeful tories, democracy disdain;  
G reat Britain, they think ought to rule & reign.  
E nlarg'd jail-birds, men with five years pay:--  
N ews-men, Court members, servants run away  
T he vicious ign'rant herd; for knaves fit tools  
S ome may be honest, yet deluded fools.

### Printed Material

# AN ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE BY DANIEL GRAY OF PELHAM

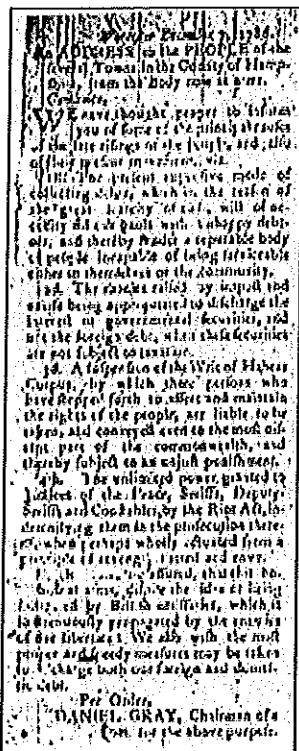
Date: December 27, 1786

Creator: Daniel Gray

Publisher: Hampshire Gazette

### About this artifact

Daniel Gray was the richest man in Pelham and was an ardent supporter of the Regulators. Gray lists the grievances which he felt were the causes of the rebellion. These include the method of debt collection which he believes would fill the jails with debtors, and the taxes imposed by the state to help pay off debt accumulated during the war. He also cites the suspension of Habeas Corpus, which allowed men to be arrested and detained without due process, and sent to "any gaol, or other safe place, within the Commonwealth." The Riot Act referred to in item four was passed on October 28, 1786. It stated that the sheriffs, constables and Justices of the Peace "shall be indemnified and held guiltless" if they killed rioters who did not disband. It also provided that the rioters would "forfeit all their lands" and be whipped and imprisoned for up to one year. William Butler began publication of the *Hampshire Gazette* on September 6, 1786, in Northampton, Massachusetts, 18 days after the Regulators prevented the Court of Common Pleas from convening there. The newspaper often urged support of the government and was generally against the activities of the Regulators. The paper came out on Wednesdays and consisted primarily of articles reprinted from other newspapers.



**Printed Material: Text Transcription****AN ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE BY DANIEL GRAY OF  
PELHAM**

*Worcester December 7, 1786.*

**An ADDRESS to the PEOPLE of the several Towns in the County of Hampshire,  
from the Body now at arms.**

*Gentlemen,*

WE have thought proper to inform you of some of the principal causes of the late risings of the people, and also of their present movement, viz.

1st: The present expensive mode of collecting debts, which by the reason of the great scarcity of cash, will be necessity fill our gaols with unhappy debtors, and thereby render a reputable body of people incapable of being serviceable either to themselves or the community.

2d. The monies raised by impost and excise being appropriated to discharge the interest of governmental securities, and not the foreign debt, when these securities are not subject to taxation.

3d. A suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus, by which those persons who have stepped forth to assert and maintain the rights of the people, are liable to be the taken, and conveyed even to the most distant part of the commonwealth, and thereby subject to an unjust punishment.

4th. The unlimited power granted to Justices of the Peace, Serriffs, Deputy-Serriffs and Constables, by the Riot Act, indemnifying them in the prosecution thereof, when perhaps wholly actuated from a principle of revenge, hatred and envy.

5th. \_\_ \_\_ be assured, that this body now at arms, dispite the idea of being initiated by British emissaries, which is to strenuously propagated by the enemies of our liberties: We also with the most proper and speedy measures may be taken to discharge both our foreign and domestic debt.

Per Order,

DANIEL GRAY, Chairman of a Com. for the above purpose.

**Printed Material: Text Transcription****EXTRACT OF A LETTER URGING STERN MEASURES  
AGAINST REBELS**

NORTHAMPTON, February 14.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in one of the eastern counties, to his friend, an officer in General Lincoln's army.

"In monarchies, mercy to rebels may be the highest magnanimity—In republics, it assumes a different character, and becomes a weakness. Insurrection in a monarchy effects but the extremities and limbs. In a republic, the disease is in the head; the disease therefore, must not only be removed, but the seeds of it rooted out for one or two returns may bring on a political dissolution. And it is not enough to hang two or three to terrify the rest—many must be cut off, because it is dangerous to society that they should live. The poor wretches I pity, God knows. It is melancholy their vices and follies should plunge them into such deep distresses. Pardon ought, I think, to be granted upon these conditions and disqualifications, that they petition—the petition be preferred before \_\_\_ days. That the pardon be available to them, but upon condition that they keep the peace, and are of good behaviour, for a certain number of years. That the petitioner be ineligible to any office or to vote for others for a certain number of years. How absurd is it, that the very men, whom you have this day declared rebels, shall on the morrow, merely from the circumstance of defeat, have a right to appoint magistrates, and constitute a part of the supreme authority? The present appearance of the General Court is highly favourable. They speak out.—Some cunning men however, are wriggling about among them: Their vices are pitiful. They are known and marked; some with the business to be but half finished, because they flourish most in confusion. Some fear to be decided, least they should shake their popularity. Others are desirous of having the business taper off, to throw an odium on the present administration. But the current in favor of exertion, sets so strong at present in the court, that the characters I have described, are obliged to grin their teeth and vote—they dare not stand in opposition.

Last Monday evening was committed to gaol in this town, a John Wheeler, of Hardwick, who has acted in the capacity of an Aid to Capt. Shays.—Nine others were also committed the same evening.

Yesterday was brought to this town and committed to gaol, a Capt. Clark, of Colrain.

**Printed Material: Text Transcription****LETTER TO EDITOR OF *NEW HAVEN GAZETTE* RE:  
REGULATORS**

NEW-HAVEN, March 15.

*Copy of a letter from a gentleman in Great-Barrington, to the Rev. Ezra Stiles, D. D. dated Great-Barrington, March 3. 1787.*

Rev. Sir,

I write you at the request of Mr. Burghardt, and his son, your pupil- tho' he needs no apology for not having sooner returned to his studies, yet he wishes me to acquaint you with the reasons of his long delay- He was near four weeks indefatigably employed in endeavourings to subdue the Rebels in this county; he discharged his duty with honor; and obtained a dismissal, a few days before the troop of horse in which he served was discharged; with a view immediately to repair to New-Haven- He made the necessary preparations; and began his journey on Tuesday last- He had not gotten out of town, before an express arrived with intelligence, that a large body of Rebels were on their march from Stockbridge to this town- Anxious to defend his country from the brutal savages of a lawless banditti, he again had recourse to arms, and determined to wait the event- A battle ensued- After the Rebels were put to flight, Burghardt was shot from his horse by one of the fugitives: He was at first supposed to be mortally wounded, but is at present (blessed be God) in a fair way to recover. He was about 20 feet distant from the man who shot him. - He received a musket ball in his right arm, which came out behind his shoulder;- a Swan-shot entered the upper part of his right Breast, and is supposed to be lodged under his shoulder; another entered his arm about an inch from the orifice made by the entry of the ball, which is lodged in the flesh; a third entered his side by the ribs, and was cut out by the Surgeon, about five inches back of the place where it entered- His present circumstances being such, you will not expect him for a considerable time.

You will doubtless hear very differing accounts of what has happened; having obtained particular information, I shall trouble you with a short narrative of the matter.

After the Rebels had been routed, in this and Hampshire County, they fled in great numbers to New-York State- On Monday last they collected about 80 men at New-Canaan which borders on this state, and marched between the hours of 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening- Their first object was to carry off a field piece from Lenox; but on their march they received information that it was that evening removed to Pittsfield- They then turned their course to Stockbridge, where they arrived about break of day; they made prisoners of the 25 of the inhabitants; plundered the town, and began their march, with their prisoners, immediately for Great-Barrington - They arrived within about 2 miles of the Court-House before any intelligence of their motion was obtained by the inhabitants- The people along the main street immediately collected to the amount of 40 men; and as the Rebels had increased their numbers to about

130, it was judged not prudent to attack them till the people of Great-Barrington should be joined by the people of Sheffield; they accordingly repaired thither in sleighs- As soon as a junction was formed, (which made up now about 100 men) they set off in quest of the Rebels. The two little armies met between Great-Barrington and Sheffield- A very vigorous, tho' very short battle immediately ensued; for within 3 or 4 minutes after the action became general, the Rebel party was put to a total rout, and fled in every direction. They were pursued several miles, and about 60 of them taken prisoners. there were 3 men left dead of the field of battle, and a much greater number wounded- Among the slain, was one of the government people; one of the Rebel party, and one of the prisoners whom they brought along from Stockbridge- This last account of one of the prisoners being slain, perhaps will surprise you, but your surprise will be turned to indignation, when I inform you, that the Rebels had the more than Savage barbarity, to force their prisoners, by the point of the Bayonet, into the front of the battle, and there kept them for a breast-work- Capt. Hamlin, their leader, was badly wounded, and taken on the spot. On the side of government, there was not one man wounded, excepting Burghardt as above related- This you may depend on as a true relation of the matter.

Mr. Burghardt and son join me in respectful compliments. I am Sir, with the highest esteem,  
Yours &c.