in a meeting of the said inhabitants and other inhabitants of the town of Pelham on Monday, the ninth day of February, 1778. The following instructions were reported by all the inhabitants, a committee appointed for that purpose which was accepted by said town.

To James Gibson Esq. Representative for the town of Pelham.

Gentlemen,

You being chosen by the voice of the town of Pelham, to represent them in the great and general court, and as it must be agreeable to you to know the minds of your constituents in all important matters, we think it fit to give you the following instructions.

With respect to the articles of conjunction, you are directed to move for and exert yourself to get a determination in part of the fifth paragraph in the ninth article, where they mention a state which we cannot be unequal.

One reason is because of the present disproportionate number of black inhabitants in this town, and some of them chiefly done by black men when we in this estate have but few of that race, and whether it make good relations in the fields of labor, therefore making the proportion of laborers only, even their fields full of laborers when ours are empty.

You are also directed to present the following of all the people in this state to meet in convention at such time and place as shall be agreed upon of forming a plan or system for the future government of this state.

Well, matter with others, that may come before the general court, firmness and prudence, and treat your elections in the common cause, will be as much recommended to you as in the common cause and liberty. Send what is most gainful in the approbation of God and his own conditions.

James Gibson

[Signatures]

Joseph Gage

[Signatures]