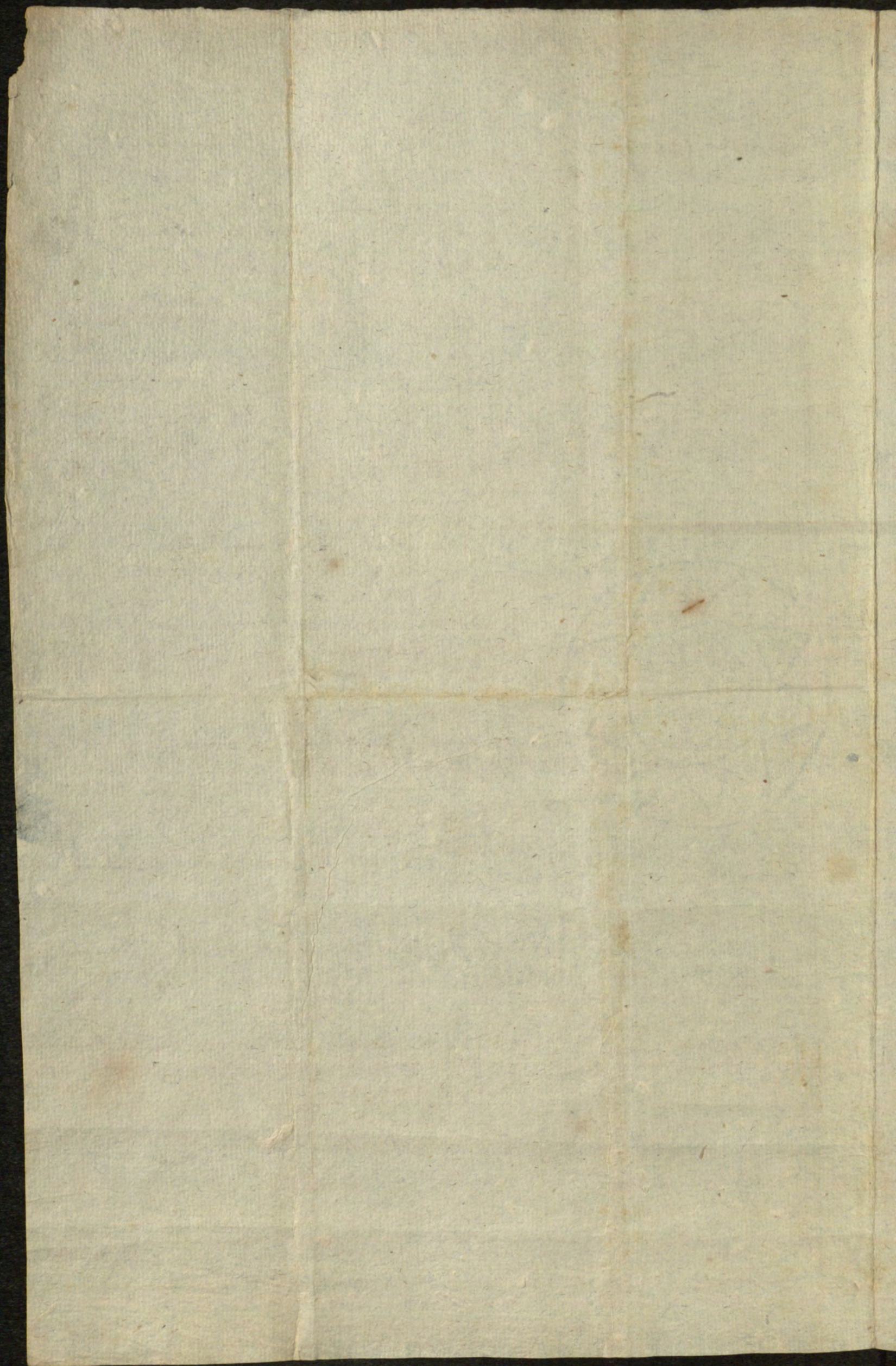


State of New Hampshire & So Capt Jeremiah Tice Representative
Buckingham for ———
for the Town of Andover we Thomas English Joseph Wright Richard
Dow Moody Morse Amos Dow Daniel May Jr Benjamin Bixby
~~Amos~~ ~~May~~ & William Hall being a Committee appointed by
Sd Town to consider of the Articles of Confederation & Perpetual
Union between the States: and to prepare some instructions for
you Sir as our Member of the Honourable the General Assembly of
Sd State & being met for that above said Purpose would express our
sentiments in the first place with respect to Government in general
it being as we conceive an undoubted Truth that no man has a
Natural Right to exercise any Authority or Jurisdiction over another
and Government being absolutely necessary for the Conservation of the
Peace & Welfare of Society it becomes necessary that some Person
should be vested with the Power of Government, yet in such a manner
as that the Liberties of the People may be preserved inviolable in order
to which we think it necessary there should always be some settled plan
or System of Government formed not by the General Assembly but by
a free Convention of the People delegated for that purpose which
Fundamental Right of the People we believe that our Honourable the
General Assembly are very cautious not to violate by holding up to
the ~~People~~ public view So regarding the Articles of Confederation &
asking for the Sentiments of the People thereon & likewise requesting
the free Voice of the People relative to the forming of a Plan or
System for the Government of this State this Conduct of our General
Assembly we view with gratitude & applause & we think you Sir
in Particular for the Fidelity you have discovered in the Discharge
of your office as our Representative & in general we would recommend
it to you to endeavour as far as in you lies to maintain the Honour
of this State & the Rights of the People & as to our Particular ~~Opinion~~ ^{Opinion}
we having examined the Articles of Confederation & perpetual Union
between the States: do firmly believe that they are wisely Calculated
& well Adapted in general to answer the Purpose for which ^{they were designed} we esteem
^{cannot a part of two articles} as a considerable grievance particularly y^t Part of the 8th Article
that Treat of the Taxation of real to the Excluding of Personal Estate
as this is mostly an inland State & contains but a very little Personal
Property compared with some of the other States it therefore appears
very unequal & injurious to us that real & not personal Property should
be taxed we therefore instruct you Sir by no means to Consent to this
Article as it now stands but to earnestly pray that this Amendment
may be made (viz) the Taxation of Personal as well as real Estate
we likewise instruct you to pray for an Amendment of that part of
the Ninth Article where Requisition from each State for its Quota
of Land Forces is to be made in proportion to the Number of White
Inhabitants we cannot see why the Ethiopians any more than
an English or Dutchman should be excused from defending



his Property in times of war in Case he is equally free (64)
we also instruct you to pray for the Confirmation of the
Articles of Confederation with the above or similar Amendment

I with respect to the forming of a plan or system for the future
Government of this State; all this we think is absolutely necessary,
yet it is our opinion that the said Petition should be well
Established Before the Members are formed, we therefore
instruct you Sir to pray that the forming of said plan may
be Defered for the present.

Thos. Loughs
Moody Morfe
Joseph Wright
Daniel Maysey
Benja Bixby
William Hall
Amos Dow
Rich^d Dow

Committee

Salem Instructions.
Feb. 9, 1778.

Salem Instructions