

court, by such return, that the sense of the people of the state has been taken, and that, in the opinion of the majority of the qualified voters in the state, present and voting at said meetings, there is a necessity for a revision of the constitution, it shall be the duty of the general court to call a convention for that purpose; otherwise the general court shall direct the sense of the people to be taken, and then proceed in the manner before mentioned. The delegates to be chosen in the same manner, and proportioned as the representatives to the general court; provided, that no alteration shall be made in this constitution, before the same shall be laid before the towns and unincorporated places, and approved by two-thirds of the qualified voters present and voting on the subject.

And the same method of taking the sense of the people as to a revision of the constitution, and calling a convention for that purpose, shall be observed afterwards, at the expiration of every seven years.

This form of government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land; and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this state, in all future editions thereof.

JOHN PICKERING, *President, P. T.*

Attest, JOHN CALFE, *Secretary.*

AMENDMENTS, adopted Sept. 16, 1852.

By striking from it in part 2d, section 14th, the words, "*shall have an estate within the district where he may be chosen to represent, of the value of one hundred pounds, one half of which to be a freehold whereof he is seized in his own right;*" and from section 29th, the words, "*and seized of a freehold estate in his own right of the value of a hundred pounds, being within this State;*" and section 42d, the words, "*and unless he shall at the same time have an estate of the value of five hundred pounds, one half of which shall consist of a freehold in his own right, within this State.*"

CONSTITUTION OF VERMONT.

ADOPTED BY THE CONVENTION HOLDEN AT WINDSOR, JULY 4TH, 1793.

CHAPTER I.

A Declaration of Rights of the Inhabitants of the State of Vermont.

ARTICLE I.

THAT all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety; therefore, no male person, born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law to serve any person as a servant, slave, or apprentice, after he arrives to the age of twenty-one years, nor female, in like manner, after she arrives to the age of eighteen years, unless they are bound by their own consent, after they arrive to such age, or bound by the law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like.

ARTICLE 2.

That private property ought to be subservient to public uses when necessity requires it; nevertheless, when any person's property is taken for the use of the public, the owner ought to receive an equivalent in money.