

ARTICLE 16.

That the people have a right to bear arms for the defence of themselves and the state; and, as standing armies in time of peace are dangerous to liberty, they ought not to be kept up; and that the military should be kept under strict subordination to, and governed by, the civil power.

ARTICLE 17.

That no person in this state can, in any case, be subjected to law martial, or to any penalties or pains by virtue of that law, except those employed in the army, and the militia in actual service.

ARTICLE 18.

The frequent recurrence to fundamental principles, and firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, and frugality, are absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty, and keep government free; the people ought, therefore, to pay particular attention to these points, in the choice of officers and representatives, and have a right, in a legal way, to exact a due and constant regard to them, from their legislators and magistrates, in making and executing such laws as are necessary for the good government of the state.

ARTICLE 19.

That all people have a natural and inherent right to emigrate from one state to another that will receive them.

ARTICLE 20.

That the people have a right to assemble together to consult for their common good: to instruct their representatives: and apply to the legislature for redress of grievances by address, petition, or remonstrance.

ARTICLE 21.

That no person shall be liable to be transported out of this state for trial of any offence committed within the same.

CHAPTER II.

Plan or Form of Government.

§ 1. The commonwealth or state of Vermont shall be governed hereafter by a governor or lieutenant-governor, council, and an assembly of the representatives of the freemen of the same, in manner and form following:

§ 2. The supreme legislative power shall be vested in a house of representatives of the freemen of the commonwealth or state of Vermont.

§ 3. The supreme executive power shall be vested in a governor, or, in his absence, a lieutenant-governor, and council.

§ 4. Courts of justice shall be maintained in every county in this state, and also in new counties, when formed; which courts shall be open for the trial of all causes proper for their cognizance; and justice shall be therein impartially administered, without corruption or unnecessary delay. The judges of the supreme court shall be justices of the peace throughout the state; and the several judges of the county courts, in