

The constitution declares—article IV, section 2:

1. The citizens of each State, shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

2. A person charged in any State with treason, felony or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall, on demand of the executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime.

3. No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

These are important provisions, and confer rights and obligations that would not have existed without them. In the first place, the citizens of each State are entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States. They are placed on the same footing in each State with the citizens of that State, entitled to the protection of its laws, and to all benefits and advantages that they confer. This must have been provided for the purpose of making us more emphatically members of the same political family, and drawing us together more closely by a sense of our common interest in the government, and our common enjoyment of its privileges. And for the security of the citizens who thus share their privileges with strangers, it is provided that if they commit treason, felony or other crime, and flee beyond its jurisdiction, they may be demanded, surrendered and punished by the State whose confidence they have abused, whose laws they have transgressed. The words employed embrace every kind of offence. If their object had been expressly stated to be the extension of this right, because of the interest which all the States have in the morals and observance of law in the others, and for this purpose, to provide the means to punish offenders wherever found, they could not have used terms more likely to effect that purpose, unless they had prescribed the details of every such proceeding as between the States. The convention appear to have relieved this clause from the restrictions that technical terms might impose. As originally reported, this article read *treason, felony or high misdemeanor*; but the words "high misdemeanor" were struck out and the words "other crime" inserted, *in order to comprehend all proper cases: it being doubted whether high misdemeanor "had not a technical meaning too limited."* See Madison Papers—Vol. 3.—1447.