

## Werk

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## CONNECTICUT.

Length 82 Breadth 57 between { 41° and 42° 2' North Latitude. Breadth 57 } between { 1° 50' and 3° 20' East. Longit.

DOUNDED North, by Massachusetts; East, by

Rhode Island; South, by the Sound, which divides it from Long-Island; West, by the state of New-York.

Rivers. The principal rivers in this state are Connecticut, Housatonick, the Thames, and their branches. The Housatonick\* passes through a number of pleasant towns, and empties into the Sound between Stratford and Milsord. It is navigable twelve miles, to Derby. In this river, between Salisbury and Canaan, is a cataract, where the water of the whole river, which is 150 yards wide, salls about fixty seet perpendicularly, in a persectly white sheet. A copious mist arises, in which shoating rainbows are seen in various places at the same time, exhibiting a scene exceedingly grand and beautiful.

The Thames empties into Long-Island Sound at New-London. It is navigable fourteen miles, to Norwich Landing. Here it loses its name, and branches into Shetucket, on the east, and Norwich or Little river, on the west. The city of Norwich stands on the tongue of land between these rivers. Little river, about a mile from its mouth, has a remarkable and very romantick cataract. A rock ten or twelve feet in perpendicular height, extends quite across the channel of the river. Over this the whole river pitches, in one entire sheet, upon a bed of rocks below. Here the river is compressed into a very narrow channel between two craggy cliffs, one of which towers to a confiderable height. The channel descends gradually, is very crooked, and covered with pointed rocks. Upon these the water swiftly tumbles, foaming with the most violent agitation, fifteen or twenty rods, into a broad, fmooth bason which spreads before it. At the bottom of the perpendicular falls, the rocks are curiously excavated by the constant pouring of the water. Some of the cavities, which are all of a circular form, are sive or six feet deep. The smoothness of the water above its descent—the regularity and beauty of the perpendicular fall—the tremendous roughness of the other, and the craggy, towering cliff which impends the whole, present to the view of the spectator a scene indescribably delightful and majestick. On this river are some of the siness mill seats in New-England.

Harbours ] The two principal harbours are at New-London and New-Haven. The former opens to the fouth. From the light-house, which stands at the mouth of the harbour, to the town, is about three miles; the breadth is three quarters of a mile, and in some places more. The harbour has from five to six sathoms water—a clear bottom—tough ooze, and as far as one mile above the town is entirely secure, and

commodious for large ships.

New-Haven harbour is greatly inferior to that of New-London. It is a bay which fets up northerly from the Sound, about four miles. Its entrance is about half a mile wide. It has very good anchorage, and two and an half fathoms at low water, and three fath-

oms and four feet at common tides.

Climate, Soil and Productions. ] Connecticut, though fubject to the extremes of heat and cold in their feafons, and to frequent sudden changes, is very healthful. As many as one in forty-fix of the inhabitants of Connecticut, who were living in 1774, were upwards of seventy years old. From accurate calculation it is found that about one in eight live to the age of seventy years and upwards; one in thirteen, to the age of ninety.

Connecticut is generally broken land, made up of mountains, hills and vallies; and is exceedingly well watered. Some small parts of it are thin and barren. It lies in the fifth and fixth northern climates, and has a strong, sertile soil. Its principal productious are Indian corn, rye, wheat in many parts of the state, oats

and

and barley, which are heavy and good, and of late buck wheat—flax in large quantities—fome hemp, potatoes of feveral kinds, pumpkins, turnips, peas, beans, &c. &c. fruits of all kinds, which are common to the climate. The foil is very well calculated for passure and mowing, which enables the farmers to feed large numbers of neat cattle and horses. The beef, pork, butter and wheese of Connecticut, are equal to any in the world.

Trade.] The trade of Connecticut is principally with the West-India Islands and New-York, and is carried on in vessels from fixty to one hundred and forty tons. The exports consist of horses, mules, oxen, oak staves, hoops, pine boards, oak plank, beans, Indian

corn, fish, beef, pork, &c.

Connecticut has a large number of coasting vessels employed in carrying the produce of the state to other states. To Rhode-Island, Massachusetts and New-Hampshire they carry pork, wheat, corn and rye.—To North and South Carolinas and Georgia, butter, cheefe, salted beef, cider, apples, potatoes, hay, &c. and receive in return rice, indigo and money. But as New-York is nearer, and the state of the markets always well known, much of the produce of Connecticut, especially of the western parts, is carried there; particularly pot and pearl ashes, slax seed, beef, pork, cheefe and butter, in large quantities. Most of the produce of Connecticut river from the parts of Massachusetts, New-Hampshire and Vermont, as well as of Connecticut, which are adjacent, goes to the same market.

Manufactures.] The farmers in Connecticut and their families are mostly clothed in plain, decent homespun cloth. Their linens and woollens are manufactured in the family; and although they are generally of a coarser kind, they are of a stronger texture, and much more durable than those imported from France and Great-Britain. Many of their cloths are fine and handsome. A variety of manufactories have been established in different parts of Connecticut, which are

flourishing and productive.

Civil Divisions and Population. Connecticut is di-

vided into eight counties, viz. Hartford, New Haven, New-London, Fairfield, Windham, Litchfield, Middiefex and Tolland. These counties are subdivided into 70 townships, each of which is a corporation.

The following TABLE exhibits a view of the population, &c. of this state in 1782. Since this time the counties of Middlesex and Tolland have been consituted, and a number of new townships have impoli-

tickly been incorporated.

| Counties.   | Towns where the Courts are held.       | Number of<br>Townships. | Males be-<br>tween 16<br>and 59. | Total<br>whites. | Tot. Black:<br>Ind. & Neg. | 103,735.<br>bout 45.<br>237,942.                                   |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hartford.   | Hartford,<br>Middletown,*<br>Tolland.* | 21                      | 10,815                           | 55,647           | 1320                       | Females in the state, for every square mile a inhabitants in 1790, |
| New-Haven.  | New-Haven.                             | 9                       | 4,776                            | 25,092           | 331                        |                                                                    |
| New-London  | New London,<br>Norwich.                | 8                       | 5,884                            | 31,131           | 1920                       |                                                                    |
| Fairfield.  | Fairfield,<br>Danbury.                 | 10                      | 5,755                            | 29,722           | 1134                       |                                                                    |
| Windham.    | Windham.                               | 12                      | 5,361                            | 28,185           | .485                       | Number of<br>Population<br>Number of                               |
| Litchfield. | Litchfield.                            | 19                      | 6,797                            | 33,127           | 529                        | Pop<br>Nui                                                         |
|             | Total.                                 | 79                      | 39,388                           | 202,877          | 6273                       | ,                                                                  |

Connecticut is the most populous, in proportion to its extent, of any of the thirteen states. It is laid out in small farms, from fifty to three or four hundred acres each, which are held by the farmers in fee simple. The whole state resembles a well-cultivated garden, which, with that degree of industry that is necessary to happiness, produces the necessaries and conveniencies of life in great plenty.

Character, Manners, &c.] In addition to what has been already said on these particulars, under New-

England,

<sup>\*</sup> Middletown and Tolland are now the shire towns of Middlesex and Tolland counties. Courts are also held at Haddam, which is the half shire town of Middlesex county.

England, it may be observed, that the people of Connecticut ere remarkably fond of having all their difputes, even those of the most trivial kind, fettled according to law. The prevalence of this litigious spirit affords employment and support for a numerous body of lawyers. The number of actions, entered annually upon the feveral dockets in the state, justifies the above observations. That party spirit, however, which is the bane of political happinels, has not raged with fuch violence in this state as in Massachusetts and Rhode-Island. Publick proceedings have been conducted; generally, and especially of late, with much calmness and candour. The people are well informed in regard to their rights, and judicious in the methods they adopt to fecure them. The flate was never in greater po-

inical tranquillity than at prefent.

Religion. The best in the world, perhaps, for a republican government. As to the mode of exercifing church government and discipline, it might not improperly be called a republican religion. Each church is a separate jurisdiction, and claims authority to choose their own minister, to exercise government, and enjoy gospel ordinances within itself. The churches, however, are not independent of each other; they are affociated for mutual benefit and convenience. The affociations have power to license candidates for the miniftry, to consult for the general welfare, and to recommend measures to be adopted by the churches, but have no authority to enforce them. When disputes arise in churches, councils are called by the parties, to settle them; but their power is only advisory. There are as many afforciations in the state as there are counties; and they meet twice in a year. These are all combined in one general affociation, who meet annually.

All religions, that are confistent with the peace of fociety, are tolerated in Connecticut. There are very few religious fects in this state. The bulk of the people are Congregationalists. Besides these, there are Episcopalians and Baptills. The Episcopalian churches are respectable, and are under the superintendence of a

Bishon

Bishop. There were twenty-nine congregations of the Baptists in 1784. These congregations, with those in the neighbouring states, meet in associations, by delegation, annually. These associations consist of messengers chosen and sent by the churches. Some of their principles are, "The imputation of Adam's sin to his posterity; the inability of man to recover himself; effectual calling by sovereign grace; justification by imputed righteousness; immersion for baptism, and that on profession of faith and repentance; congregational churches, and their independency; reception into them upon evidence of sound conversion." The Baptists, during the late war, were active friends to their country; and by their early approbation of the new form of government, have manifested the continuance of their patriotick sentiments.

Chief Towns.] There are a great number of very pleafant towns, both maritime and inland, in Connecticut. It contains five incorporated towns or citics, viz. Hartford, New-Haven, New-London, Norwich, and Middletown. Two of these, Hartford and New-Haven, are the capitals of the state. The General Assembly is holden at the former in May, and at the lat-

ter in October, annually.

HARTFORD is fituated at the head of navigation, on the west side of Connecticut river, about sifty miles from its entrance into the Sound. Its buildings are, a state-house; two churches for Congregationalists; a distillery, besides upwards of 300 dwelling houses, a number of which are handsomely built with brick. Hartford is advantageously situated for trade, has a very sine back country, enters largely into the manufacturing business, and is a rich, slourishing, commercial town.

NEW-HAVEN lies round the head of a bay, which makes up about four miles north from the Sound. It covers part of a large plain, which is circumferibed on three fides by high hills or mountains. Two small rivers bound the city east and west. The town was originally laid out in squares of fixty rods. Many of these squares have been divided by cross streets. Four

fircets

threets run north-west and south-east; these are crossed by others at right angles. Near the center of the city is the publick square; on and around which are the publick buildings, which are a state-house, college and chapel, three churches for Congregationalists, and one for Episcopalians. These are all handsome and commodious buildings. The college, chapel, state-house, and one of the churches, are of brick. The publick square is encircled with rows of trees, which render it both convenient and delightful.

There are about 500 dwelling-houses in the city, and between 3 and 4000 souls. About one in seventy disannually; this proves the healthfulness of its climate. Indeed as to pleasantness of situation and salubrity of air, New-Haven is not exceeded by any city in America. It carries on a considerable trade with New-York

and the West-India islands.

NEW-LONDON stands on the west side of the river Thames, near its entrance into the Sound. It has two places for publick worship, one for Episcopalians and one for Congregationalists, and about 300 dwelling-houses. Its harbour is the Lest in Connecticut. A considerable part of the town was burnt, by the infamous Benedict Arnold, in 1781. It has since been rebuilt

Nowwich stands at the head of Thames river, 12 or 14 miles north from New-London. It is a commercial city, has a rich and extensive back country, and avails itself of its natural advantages at the head of navigation. Its situation, upon a river which affords a great number of convenient seats for mills and water machines of all kinds, renders it very eligible in a manufactural view. The inhabitants are not neglectful of the advantages which nature has so liberally given them. They manufacture paper of all kinds, stockings, clocks and watches, chaises, buttons, slone and earthen ware, wire, oil, chocolate, bells, anchors, and all kinds of forge work. The city contains about 450 dwelling-houses, a courthouse, and two churches for Congregationalists, and one for Episcopalians.

MIDDLETOWN is pleasantly situated on the western

bank of Connecticut river, fifteen miles fouth of Hartford. It is the principal town in Middlesex county—
has about 300 houses—a court-house—one church for
Congregationalits—one for Episeopalians—a navaloffice—and carries on a large and increasing trade.

Four miles south of Hartford is Wethersfield,

a very pleasant town, of between two and three hundred houses, fituated on a fine soil, with an elegant brick church for Congregationalists. This town is

noted for raising onions.

Literature and College.] In no part of the world is the education of all ranks of people more attended to than in Connecticut. The several townships in the state are divided into districts, and in each district a school is kept a greater or less part of every year.—More than one third of the monies, raised by a tax on the polls and rateable estate of the inhabitants, is appropriated to the support of schools. Grammar schools are kept in various parts of the state. At Greensield, Plainsield, Norwich, and Windham, academies have been instituted; and some of them are sourishing and respectable.

The only college in this flate is YALE COLLEGE, at New-Haven, founded in the year 1700. It was named. after Governor Yale, who was one of its principal benefactors. The buildings are, Connecticut Hall, 100 feet long and 40 wide, with 32 convenient rooms—a Chapel, in the second story of which are the Library and Museum-and a large and convenient dining hall, all built of brick. The college library confifts of 2500 volumes. The philosophical apparatus confills of the principal machines necessary for exhibiting most of the experiments in the whole course of experimental philosophy. An addition of £.300 worth has been lately added to it. The regulation of the college is committed, by charter, to eleven Ministers of the Gospel, who are a corporate body, and hold estates, appoint officers, confer degrees, &c. The present officers of the college are, a President, who is also a Professor of Ecclesialical History; a Professor of Divinity, and three Tutors. Upwards of 2000 have received the honours of this univerfity;

university; of whom about 640 have been ordained to the work of the ministry. As many as five fixths of those who have been educated at this college were natives of Connecticut.

Government. This state has no other constitution than what originated from the charter of Charles II. granted in 1662. Agreeable to this charter, the legiflative authority is vested in a Governor, Deputy-Governor, twelve Counfellors, and the Representatives of the People, (not exceeding two from each town) ftyled the General Affembly. This affembly is divided into two branches, called the Upper and Lower Houses; the former is composed of the Governors and Counfellors, who are chosen annually in May; the latter of the Representatives, who are chosen twice a year, to attend the two annual fessions on the second Thursdays of May and October. The qualifications of freemen, who elect all the members of the General Affembly, are maturity of years, quiet and peaceable behaviour, a civil conversation, and forty shillings freehold, or forty pounds personal estate.

History.] The first English settlements in Connecticut were made in the Fall of 1635, by emigrants from Newtown, Dorchester, and Watertown, in Massachusetts. The first court held in Connecticut was at

Hartford, April 26th, 1636.

About the year 1644, a war broke out between the Mohegan and Narraganset Indians. A personal quarrel between Myantonomo, Sachem of the Narragansets, and Uncas, Sachem of the Mohegans, was the foundation of the war.

Myantonomo raised an army of 900 warriors, and marched towards the Mohegan country. Uncas, by his spies, received timely notice of their approach. His seat of residence was in some part of Norwich. He quickly collected 600 of his bravest warriors, and told them, "The Narragansets must not come into our town, we must meet them." They accordingly marched about three miles to a large plain, where the two armies met, and halted within bow-shot of each other. A par-

ley was proposed by Uncas, and agreed to by Myan-tonomo. The Sachems met, and Uncas addressed his enemy as follows: "You have a great many brave men-fo have I; you and I have quarrelled, but these warriors, what have they done? Shall they die to avenge a private quarrel between us? No. Come like a brave man, as you pretend to be, and let us fight. If you kill me, my men shall be yours; if I kill you, your men shall be mine." Myantonomo replied, "My men came to fight, and they shall fight." Uneas, like an experienced warrior, aware of the result of the conference from the superior force of his enemy, had previously fignified to his men, that if Myantonomo refused to fight him in fingle combat, he would immediately fall, which was to be the fignal for them to begin the attack. As foon therefore as Myantonomo had finished his laconick speech, Uncas dropped, his men in-stantly obeyed the signal, and poured in a shower of arrows upon the unsuspecting Narragansets, and rushing on with their horrid yells and favage fierceness, put them to flight. Many were killed on the spot; the rest were closely pursued, and some were precipitately driven down craggy precipices, and dashed in pieces. At a place called, from this event, Sachem's Plain, Uncas overtook and feized Myantonomo by the shoulder. They fat down together; and Uncas, with a hoop, called in his men, and the battle ceased. Doubtful what to do with the royal prisoner, Uncas and his warriors, in council, determined to carry him to the Governor and Council at Hartford, and be advised by them. Thither he was accordingly conducted. The Governor having advifed with his Council, told Uncas, that the English were not then at war with the Narra-gansets, and of course, that it was not proper for them to intermeddle in the matter. Uncas was left to do with him as he pleased. Myantonomo was conducted back to the plain where he was taken, and put to death by Uncas himself. The tragick scene did not end with his death. Uncas, after the manner of the Indians, with his tomahawk, cut off a large piece of

stell from the shoulder of his slaughtered enemy, broiled and ate it, faying, with an air of favage triumph, " It is the sweetest meat I ever ate; it makes me have a stout heart." His body was afterwards buried, and a pillar erected over it, the remains of which are visible to this day.

The history of Connecticut is marked with traces of the same spirit which has been mentioned as characteriflick of the Massachusetts, in different stages of their history. Indeed, as Massachusetts was the stock whence

Connecticut proceeded, this is to be expected.

The colony of Connecticut expressed their disapprobation of the nse of tobacco, in an act of their general assembly at Hartford, in 1647, wherein it was ordered, "That no person under the age of twenty years, nor any other that hath already accustomed himself to the use thereof, shall take any tobacco, until he shall have brought a certificate from under the hand of some who are approved for knowledge and skill in physick, that it is ofeful for him; and also that he hath received a license from the court for the same." All others who had addicted themselves to the use of tobacco, were, by the same court, prohibited taking it in any company, or at their labours, or on their travels, unless they were ten miles at least from any house, or more than once a day, though not in company, on pain of a fine of fix pence for each time; to be proved by one substantial evidence. The constable in each town to make presentment of such transgressions to the particular court, and upon conviction, the fine to be paid without gainfaying.

Nor were the Connecticut settlers behind their brethren in Maffachusetts in regard to their severity against the Quakers; and they have the same apology.\* The General Court of New-Haven, 1658, passed a fevere law against the Quakers. They introduced their law with this preamble:-

"Whereas there is a curfed fect of hereticks lately forung up in the world, commonly called Quakers, who

<sup>\*</sup> See Hist. Massachusetts, p. 91.

take upon them that they are immediately fent from God, and infallibly affilted by the Spirit, who yet speak and write blasphemous opinions, despite government, and the order of God in church and commonwealth.

fpeaking evil of dignities, &c.

"Ordered, That whosoever shall bring, or cause to be brought, any known Quaker or Quakers, or other blasphemous hereticks, shall forfeit the sum of £.50." Also, if a Quaker come into this jurisdiction on civil business, the time of his stay shall be limited by the civil authority, and he shall not use any means to corrupt or feduce others. On his first arrival, he shall appear before the magistrate, and from him have license to pals on his business. And (for the better prevention of hurt to the people) have one or more to attend upon him at his charge, &c. The penalties in case of disobedience were whipping, imprisonment, labour, and a deprivation of all converse with any person. For the fecond offence, the person was to be branded in the hand with the letter H; to fuffer imprisonment, and be put to labour. For the third, to be branded in the other hand, imprisoned, &c. as before. For the fourth, the offender was to have his tongue bored through with a red hot iron, imprisoned, and kept to labour, until fent away at their own charge. Any person who should attempt to defend the fentiments of the Quakers, was, for the third offence, to be sentenced to banishment.

Had the pious framers of these laws paid a due attention to the excellent advice of that sagacious doctor of the law, Gamaliel, they would, perhaps, have been prevented from the adoption of such severe and unjustisable measures. This wise man, when his countrymen were about to be outrageous in persecuting the apostles, addressed them in the following words, which merit to be engraved in letters of gold: "Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God. This divine maxim was but

little

little attended to in times of perfecution. Our ancestors feem to have left it to posterity to make the important discovery, that persecution is the direct method to

multiply its objects.

But these people, who have been so much censured and ridiculed, had perhaps as many virtues as their potterity; and had they an advocate to defend their cause, he no doubt might find as broad a field for ridicule, and as just a soundation for censure, in the survey of modern manners, as has been afforded in any period since the settlement of America. It would be wise then in the moderns, who stand elevated upon the shoulders of their ancestors, with the book of their experience spread before them, to improve their virtues and veil their faults.

In 1672, the laws of the colony were revised, and the general court ordered them to be printed; and also, that "every family should buy one of the law books. Such as pay in silver, to have a book for twelve pence; such as pay in wheat, to pay a peck and a half a book; and such as pay in pease, to pay two shillings a book, the pease at three shillings the bestel." Perhaps it is owing to this early and universal spread of law books, that the people of Connecticut are, to this day, so found of the law.

Connecticut has ever made rapid advances in population. There has been more emigrations from this, than from any of the other states, and yet it is at prefent full of inhabitants. This increase, under the divine benediction, may be ascribed to several causes. The bulk of the inhabitants are industrious husbandmen. Their farms furnish them with all the necessaries, most of the conveniencies, and but sew of the luxuries of life. They of course must be generally temperate, and if they choose, can subsist with as much independence as is consistent with happiness. The subsistence of the farmer is substantial, and does not depend on incidental circumstances, like that of most other professions. There is no necessity of serving an apprenticeship to the business, nor of a large stock of money to commence.

mence it to advantage. Farmers, who deal much in barter, have less need of money than any other class of people. The ease with which a comfortable sub-fistence is obtained, induces the husbandman to marry young. The cultivation of his farm makes him strong and healthful. He toils cheerfully through the day; eats the fruit of his own labour with a gladsome heart; at night, devoutly thanks his bounteous God for his daily blessings, retires to rest, and his sleep is sweet. Such circumstances as these have greatly contributed to the amazing increase of inhabitants-in-this state.

Belides, the people live under a free government, and have no fear of a tyrant. There are no overgrown estates, with rich and ambitious landlords, to have an undne and pernicious influence in the election of civil officers. Property is equally enough divided, and must continue to be so, as long as estates descend as they now do. No person is prohibited from voting, or from being elected into office, on account of his poverty. He who has the most merit, not he who has the most money, is generally chosen into publick office. As instances of this, it is to be observed, that many of the citizens of Connecticut, scom the humble walks of life, have arisen to the first offices in the state, and filled them with dignity and reputation. That base business of electioneering, which is so directly calculated to introduce wicked and designing men into office, is yet but little known in Connecticut. A man who wishes to be chosen into office, acts wisely, for that end, when he keeps his desires to himself.

The revolution, which so effentially affected the governments of most of the colonies, produced no very perceptible alteration in the government of Connecticus. While under the jurisdiction of Great-Britain, they elected their own Governors, and all subordinate civil officers, and made their own laws, in the same manner, and with as little control as they now do. Connecticut has ever been a republick, and perhaps as perfect and as happy a epublick as has ever existed. While other states, more monarchical in their government and man-