

Common Sense 2012

Our 2012 Electoral Revolution



and

Our 99% Solution

Confronting Our Second Great Depression

*The American De-Centralization of
Wealth Program Model*

by

A.J. Wildman

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Published by VirtualBookWorm.com

Cover Graphic © 2004 Rich Faler
Beaver Pond Publishing, Greenville, PA

Companion books by A. J. Wildman

National Drug Reform (NDR) Proposal printed 2003

Common Interest printed 2004

The Second Coming of Common Sense printed 2008

eBook Published 2012 • VirtualBookWorm.com

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Common Sense, Thomas Paine, the original text February 1776, Revised Second Edition

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to you,
an American.

Yes, to you the individual American Citizen.

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Author’s Foreword – About Two Volumes

*“Public Leadership means informing the People
with the Plain Truth, and then
helping them all to deal with its Reality”*

These two (2) volumes are about prudent and practical Solutions for many of the American public’s long standing problems, including the removal of our primary road block to those Solutions – the current 535 members of the United States Congress.

The first volume was developed as an introduction to the politically Independent, American Peasant (AP) Party, its problem-solving and citizen-oriented platform that was taken from the 718-page book *The Second Coming of Common Sense* (CS2), and to yours truly. It overviews key points of many of the 27 proposals that comprise the AP Party’s base platform. Further, it is intended as a *do-it-yourself guide* for frustrated, volunteer citizens to join together and create at least 435 US Congressional District Chapters of the AP Party across America.

Also, how to then qualify up to 435 Independent candidates for the US House of Representative and up to 33 more for the US Senate to run under the AP Party platform against the dysfunctional congressional incumbents this November. It addresses the possibility of running Recall elections against the 67 Senators that are not normally up for re-election this year, as well. What fun that could be!

The second volume is actually an expanded version of my November 6, 2011 posting to the AP Party Blog, OurIAPP.typepad.com entitled, *Our 99% Solution and 2nd American Revolution*. It was my blunt and aggressive response to our coming Second Great Depression and the associated collapse of the US Dollar.

The pendulum of Power and Wealth has swung too far to one side and it details an idealist correction to that 1% vs 99% imbalance and dealing with the National Debt and Deficit. Not that it will be implemented in the manner I detail herein, BUT it should *ignite* the required public national debate over that pending crisis that is being functionally ignored by Congress and the White House. It is as serious as a heart attack!

Together with the book CS2 that I self-published in February 2008, these two (2) volumes provide the rationale for an Electoral Revolution in 2012. We the People, are challenged to make that required Second American Revolution in the months leading up to the November 6, 2012 National Election. Under the US Constitution We have the Right and the Power to do just that. For the People, to discharge up to 86% of the dysfunctional Congress and President of the United States on a single historic day. And to implement the platform that will serve the Common Good of our citizens and promotes the *Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness* that the *Declaration of Independence* demanded.

A J Wildman

*Founder of the Independent American Peasant Party
2012 Independent Candidate for President of the United States*

Volume I

Common Sense 2012

Our 2012 Electoral Revolution

Regarding These Words

What you are about to read is a short course on how to participate in America's 2012 Electoral Revolution, should you so bravely choose to do so! Be assured from the start that should *We the People* embrace and grow this grassroots movement, there is nothing "they" can do to stop us. Period!

Please consider this as a personal letter from me to you. From one concerned American *citizen* to another. While I do hope that others read and come to appreciate the words that We are sharing, these are only for us to consider acting upon for the Common Good.

These sincere, hopefully informative, and intentionally challenging words in fact follow several hundred thousand others in print and on the Internet over the last nine (9) years.

While I have and am writing this to and for the benefit of all 310,000,000 our fellow American citizens there are two (2) particular types of volunteers that I am urgently seeking. In the American Revolution it is said that only about 10% of the colonial population of about 2,500,000 actively participated in the war effort. That means only about 250,000 regular people decided to stand and fight – or to attend to whatever task no matter how small it was – in support of a historic war to obtain freedom for all. In today's political framing, their responsible 10% took care of the reluctant 90%.

Of those 250,000 activists 10% or 25,000 were killed in battle that is the equivalent of 3,100,000 of us today. Thus, in a strange irony, 1% of the colonial population died giving Freedom, Liberty, and Democracy to the 99%...

Thank God that We the People of 2012 will not need to take up arms as We execute the battle plans laid out in these pages, to resolve the problems with our government as our national ancestors had to. What took them years of fighting We can accomplish before this very year ends should We boldly rise to our challenge as they so bravely did.

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Thus, my fellow American citizens, You are hereby challenged to this noble task.

Whether, you are man or woman. Whether, you are 18 or 88 years old or more.

Whether you are from a large family or are a family of one.

You challenged and invited to help make our Revolution the success it can certainly become.

However, to be blunt, if your first impression is that this looks like nonsense or too much to bother reading please do us all a favor and immediately go and do something else! And thanks for being decisive.

To continue.

The two (2) types of volunteers sought are first those that would create and build the 435 AP Party US District Chapters, and secondly, those volunteers seeking to be considered as a viable candidate for office under the Independent American Peasant Party's platform.

The politically Independent American Peasant Party (APP) needs 468 to 535 true patriot leaders to step forward, help to organize, and actively execute a 2012 Electoral Revolution against the incumbent members of the US Congress and President Barack Obama.

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To be certain my fellow American citizen this announcement is to be taken as seriously as the current economic and social crisis condition our nation finds itself in today.

As you will find based upon your personal research the AP Party and its written citizen-friendly platform is the viable, Independent Third political party option that American politics has long needed.

My name is Andrew J (AJ) Wildman the founder of the Independent American Peasant Party and the first Presidential candidate supporting its platform. My lifelong interest in politics and the Common Good of our now 310,000,000 fellow citizens has brought me and hopefully now You to this moment of historic action.

Whether you are reading this as someone interested in becoming eligible to be an Independent candidate under the AP Party for Congressional office or the far greater number of those seeking information on this grassroots movement, this document is intended to serve your purpose.

To my fellow American citizens I offer this unique perspective of the 468 seats in the US Congress that are up for re-election this November. That is treating those prestigious congressional offices as soon-to-be-available job openings. Which they technically are!

We the People, and the American Electorate, the subset of us that can vote this November 6st in particular need to consider the technical perspective that those 468 men and women work for us! We are their employers since their basic income (\$174,300 annually) and benefits flow from our tax dollars.

All 535 Congressional members, as of early February have earned a collective public job “**Disapproval**” rating of 87%. That dismal rating will likely get worse before this year’s National Election – when the *do-nothing* Congress goes into even lower gear, if not reverse. Thus, they are worthless, counter-productive employees and We as their employer in any other business situation would have fired them long before this.

As We know all too well, this is currently a management over labor – labor market. I know there are many thousands of citizens capable of performing the public problem-solving and legislative work required as members of Congress. My belief is that there are 535 (if not over 53,500) out 310,000,000 of our fellow citizens that will now step forward and rise to this noble and historic challenge.

Herein is your introduction to a true Independent Third political party platform that addresses many long standing social and economic problems that was developed to be acceptable to at least 60% of our citizens. And just as importantly it presents the strategy for how this grassroots movement can put regular, capable Americans, not millionaires or lawyers in every seat in the US Congress and the White House.

This is to be our Second American Revolution. An Electoral Revolution waged with various Ballot and Recall signature drives to be conducted this year and with votes cast this coming November 6th.

In 1776 our national ancestors conducted of a bloody, physical war to remove the source of their on-going oppression, that being King George III of England and government by Monarchy.

We the People of 2012 have it within our Rights and Power under the US Constitution to remove the source of our on-going oppression, that being the current members of the US Congress and the Corporate Monarchy that blatantly controls it only to serve the Few at the hard cost of the Masses.

That is our solemn challenge my fellow Americans. Throughout history to this very day dictatorial governments have fallen once their abuse of the Masses, those they treated no more than *peasants*, finally rose up against their oppression and cast it out...

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Creating a Viable Third Party Movement – Nine Questions

To promote common understanding of what is being offered to and asked of potential candidates for nationally elected office and volunteers that will build the AP Party Chapters across America, the responses the following questions are presented. This level of detail will provide a reasonable picture of what this effort involves. Additional detail particularly in the area of the Independent American Peasant Party platform is covered in this document.

1. Who is the AP Party's Founder and Independent candidate for President of the United States, A J Wildman? Is he not just some well-intended patriot, but a person with a publicly acceptable and practical platform, a problem-solving background, and someone capable of leading our nation through its most difficult time since the Great Depression?
2. Who among of our fellow citizens and some of the public interest groups that would likely support the aggressive, yet publicly practical solutions contained in the AP Party platform and so its candidates for national offices?
3. Provide an informative glimpse into many of the 27 Proposals from the book, *The Second Coming of Common Sense* (CS2) that form the initial platform of the AP Party. After having reading about the 27 platform proposals under #3 you could probably think of others you could add to this list.
4. What is the public Purpose and Mission of the politically Independent American Peasant Party and how does it approach today's socially sensitive issues?
5. Is there adequate time between now (early February 2012) and the November 6, 2012 National Election to identify and qualify up to 468 Independents under the AP Party platform as challengers to the incumbent members of US Congress?
6. What are the official Federal eligibility requirements to be a candidate for the US House of Representatives and the US Senate?
7. How do the AP Party Chapter volunteers and/or a potential candidate determine the ballot requirements in their state to become an Independent, "non-party affiliated" candidate for the US the House of Representatives, the US Senate, President, and Vice President?
8. How does someone qualify themselves as a potential AP Party candidate for US House or the US Senate from their US District or state?
9. How will We the People across our nation create Local US District Chapters of the Independent American Peasant Party. What are the functional responsibilities of each local AP Party Chapter and how will they select, qualify, and promote our Independent candidates for the November 2012 National Election?

Again, what follows is the initial response to those pertinent questions. This is written in a conversational style as if We were having a cup of coffee discussing our concerns about our country's problems and exactly how We could go about actually fixing them. What a concept!

This entire presentation should be considered as an introduction to and continuation of the 718-page book, *The Second Coming of Common Sense* that you will be directed to and is a FREE download for your personal and private review.

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For Your Consideration

1. Who is the AP Party's Founder and Independent candidate for President of the United States, A J Wildman? Is he not just some well-intended patriot, but a person with a publicly acceptable and practical platform, a problem-solving background, and someone capable of leading our nation through its most difficult time since the Great Depression?

I would describe myself as a regular American citizen that has an odd and sometimes demanding political hobby. My professional background is a 34-year career in the Information Technology (IT) industry in Washington, DC supporting both corporate and Federal agency clients. While I designed computer systems and managed project development my specialties were solving business problems large and small, and resolving on difficult project situations. I am a professional business systems analyst and America is a business in Trouble.

It just so happens that my lifelong hobby has been observing national politics and legislative policy. While being raised in a Republican leaning household, I evolved thru a Democratic phase, and finally into a solid Independent after observing how both parties were failing the Common Good of the Masses.

More details on my background are to be found in the Internet references listed under this item so I will not bother you with it here – only enough to frame this effort. In December 2002, I left my IT career to begin doing whatever I could to help my country's situation. Because of my long interest in legislative policy I knew then that the bad times had already begun and worse times were certain to (and did) follow! Frankly, I did not see anyone else trying to protect the Common Good of our citizens. And I still don't, do you? That is our challenge!

Over the first years I had an official yet amateur Independent campaign for President 2003-2004 which taught me volumes about the campaign thought process. In 2004 I completed my first book, 321-page paperback size called, *Common Interest*. After Bush II got re-elected I determined to write the second book, because I knew his second term would be worse than the first for the Masses – only it turned out to be worse than I ever expected. *The Second Coming of Common Sense* (CS2) is its title and it was self-published in February 2008 before the financial meltdown. Its content is more relevant today than in 2008. Somewhat objectively, it turned out to be a modern day sequel in intent to Thomas Paine's Revolutionary War classic *Common Sense*. My CS2 is 718-pages on what is wrong with America and how We could actually fix it. And that it would do!

At the heart of the book is a piece called, *An American Agenda* that contains public concepts and 27 problem solving proposals. Those detailed proposals are designed to save lives, improve lives, improve our economy, and will make far better use of our taxpayer dollars in running the federal government programs. Granted some of those solution proposals are aggressive to radical, but certain long-standing problems We still face require such social and economic surgery to rebuild our society.

An American Agenda has now become the political, platform foundation of the American Peasant Party. Therefore, those who could be potential AP Party candidates need to familiarize themselves with its concepts and public philosophies and those contained in the rest of CS2 as well. Without any apology CS2 is intended to attend to the concerns and needs of our citizens before all others. Its 27 proposals are designed to be acceptable 60% or more of American citizens. Consider – that is the type of voter support

needed for us to get elected this year, and that will not even require 60% of the vote! In a real 3-way race for House, Senate or President the winner would need about 40-45% of the popular vote to win! Think about that. Every concept and proposal in CS2 was critiqued by many people and the result of literally thousands of one-on-one conversations over some decades. It is far from one person's opinion or written from a single point-of-view.

I will also offer on my background that in order to cover my expenses and maintain medical coverage over those nine (9) years I was a Mortgage Loan Officer for a couple years (@ 2004-2005) and worked in the retail industry for seven (7) of them. The economics of this personal project have been difficult at times and frankly wiped me out financially which was my free choice in this pursuit. However, I did not quit and now here we are with this historic opportunity at our fingertips. Consider that if this was easy politically and/or programmatically someone else would have done it already!

Those jobs granted me a great insight into the real estate boom and bust, as well as the contracting retail economy. I regularly talked with people of all types and opinions on politics and religion. So, enough on all that except to say that this is not a book selling exercise since CS2 posted for FREE download. At the same time your donation through the website to the AP Party is needed and would be very appreciated!

For detailed answers to a many questions about the platform, the AP Party, and yours truly here are five (5) Internet resources and the purpose of each.

CommonSense2009.typepad.com

In 2009 I created this website and posted the entire 718-page book, *The Second Coming of Common Sense* (CS2) in 44 excerpts or parts. It is presented as an expanded copy of the Table of Contents with some comments from me included.

Again the book was self-published in February of 2008, a rather busy political year as you might recall! It could be argued that CS2 was ahead of its time in many ways. Or in a more sarcastic note, that some of the issues it was warning us about just weren't bad enough yet to gain public attention. Well guess what! They sure as hell are bad enough now and getting worse even because our elected national government continues to ignore the suffering of the Masses. Ironically, even my most radical proposals calling for the involuntary restructuring of "key infrastructure industries" such as Medical Insurance, Oil, and Banking could gain wide public support given today's economic turmoil. We shall see!

There are a few introductory documents, but it is primarily a book reading site. Everything on the site is in PDF format for easy access and FREE download. If someone so desires, the soft cover version of CS2 can be ordered there for home delivery via a link to *VirtualBookWorm.com*.

TheCommonSenseBlog.typepad.com

Also in 2009 I created this site with many politically oriented document references and made minor additions to it in 2010 and 2011.

There are extended letters to President Obama, the Press, and "You" the citizens of our nation. To better understand and talk about the AP Party platform those are excellent resources.

In some way a few other documents I had on the site have dropped off. The set of them presenting American Industry Restructuring from the book CS2 are included on the Internet sites listed above and below this one. An informative document is my 2004, 130-page National Drug Reform (NDR) Proposal. It is actually a practical way to end the War on Drugs. The full legalization and decriminalization of

marijuana is a by-product of that prudent national reform program. I will add a PDF of the NDR to the Internet site below this one in the near future.

The few other downloads had to do with the US Congress seniority rankings as of 2008 election and are of minor importance now. As a grim note from that research, going into the 2008 election the 535 members of the US Congress collectively had over 5,000 years of experience under the US Capitol Dome. What a waste of good space.

Also, please check out some of the Blog's postings.

OurIApp.typepad.com – Official Website of The American Peasant Party

First of all, **OurIAPP** stands for *Our Independent American Peasant Party*. Try putting it into Google.

In July of 2011, I created what is currently the AP Party's only Internet site. As the other two (2) it is technically a Blog site. It presents a good amount of public friendly information. Data that you and those interested in supporting you as a candidate would be want to get familiar with. The volunteers that begin building the AP Party Chapters in each US District will find this is an excellent reference source for them learn about the Party, the platform, and yours truly. It is where to send people who want background on this Independent movement.

Besides my periodic Blog postings, it currently contains the following types of information all in FREE download, PDF format:

- A FREE, PDF copy of *The Second Coming of Common Sense (CS2)* .
- Links to read and/or order CS2 at CommonSense2009.typepad.com.
- All 27 proposals from An American Agenda in CS2.
- A 28th proposal about Recalling the 67 US Senators in 2012, that are not up for re-election this year. That is what is meant by 468 to 535 job openings!
- Copies of the first seven (7) postings again with good perspective on the party and our current political environment.
- Again, a good variety of postings since July, including my involvement with the New Orleans Occupy Wall Street group with photos and videos from some OWS marches.
- A PDF of this document, *Common Sense 2012* will soon to be in e-book form.
- A PDF of the document, *Our 99% Solution – More Common Sense* also soon to be in e-book form. That book is the finalized version of a 11-6-2011 posting (and PDF) entitled, *Our 99% Solution and 2nd American Revolution*. It was my blunt and aggressive response to the coming Second Great Depression and the collapse of the US Dollar. That is not a joke in any way. It is the greatest problem we now face as a nation and it is being covered over by both the Congress and the White House.

These two (2) books should be considered as companion documents. A one-two punch if you will at the current political system and our current economic crisis. Those and CS2 will soon be available for purchase in iPad, Kindle, etc., friendly format. That should make it easier for people to access the Independent political message of the AP Party. Good stuff!

[YouTube Channel, "WildmanforPresident" – My Campaign Channel](#)

It contains the initial set of informative videos with me discussing the AP Party and some of issues. Take a look. Going forward it will focus on my comments about issues of the day, other candidates, and campaign events.

YouTube Channel, “TheAmericanPeasantParty” – My Campaign Channel

This site will begin use in February. It will focus on topics surrounding the platform, developing AP Party Chapters across the country, and the candidates (like you) the party will be promoting.

2. Who among our fellow citizens and some of the public interest groups that would likely support the aggressive, yet publicly practical solutions contained in the AP Party platform and so its candidates for national offices?

Think of the following data as some talking points with those you know, those you meet at Chapter meetings, and finally during the campaign later this year.

One of the AP Party campaign slogans will be,
“Our Congress will solve – what their Congress will not”

First, We will take a look at the types of people that would appreciate the AP Party’s candidates and the platform they represent.

Your initial base is always your Family and Friends – your immediate human network in your physical community and workplaces – those that often share your concerns and values. These are the real people that will help build the AP Party Chapter in your USD and later will campaign for whoever is selected to run for office from your USD or state. And that could be you!

Now add those in your extended Friends and Acquaintances network from e.g., the schools you attended, workplaces, Facebook, Twitter, etc. This extended community allows you to gain support *and influence* in other USD’s and other states for that matter. This is how the AP Party National Network will grow organically just as the Occupy Wall Street (OWS) movement did in just a few months. Consider that the worldwide OWS movement did not exist until September 19, 2011...

As you review this list of *Human Statistics* remember that We are so numb to all the numbers thrown at us all the time – millions of them and billions of those are just lifeless counts. *However*, in many of these items consider that each one (1) is a person or a family comprised of one (1) or more real people – our fellow citizens.

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Now let’s review a few of what I call the *Human Statistics* that should help connect the problem-solving proposals in the AP Party platform to various citizens and public interest groups. Some items will reference the platform proposal that address the subject issue in some way. Those that do not are the types of problem areas that We will address during the campaign (and after we win the elections!).

These items are presented in no particular order except for the first two (2) bullets issues that to me best speak to the daily human failures of elected government at all levels.

- There are *1,600,000 homeless American children* and then add their parents of course. That while 10 million homes sit abandoned and empty. There can be no greater disgrace and all the Congress did was hold a few meetings after the 2010 Census released to pander to the Press.

We will implement a radical yet economically and socially renewing program that guarantees all *citizens* a fixed address and path to home ownership. We will rapidly pass legislation to insure the American Dream of home ownership for our citizens. This is a clarification and expansion of Proposal #12 – Family Basic Asset Protection.

- Over the last decade, of those *reported*, some 750,000 American women were pre-meditatedly raped. I am not talking here about date-rape. And just what are the “great women” in both houses of Congress even trying to do to stop this atrocity – absolutely *nothing*! Under Proposal #10 – Zero Tolerance for Free-Will Crime by All People, the law will be hardened and such offenders will have a near term meeting (90 days) with a lethal injection as a state’s rights over-riding federal law. This crime along with the two (2) others mentioned under this item are the first crimes addressed under this new law.

This proposal introduces the new legal concept of *Obvious Guilt* in pre-meditated, freewill acts of physical assault that the AP Party will aggressively work to implement. I am certain Americans will support and vote for all of these, including most Liberals! The Masses are not against the Death Penalty in specific cases.

Frankly, it was my concern of these three (3) crimes that kept me from leaving this project whenever I considered it over the years and now We can finally do something about it.

Several hundred thousand pedophile offenders are in a National Tracking System run by the Justice Department. Going forward such offenders will also have a near term meeting with a lethal injection. Such criminals cannot be rehabilitated and frankly do not deserve to be living. The public speaks.

Finally, murder(s) committed during pre-meditated criminal acts are the third type of freewill assault that will earn the perpetrator a near term meeting with a lethal injection. Because of this and other parts of the AP Party platform we will NEVER need to build another prison. Period! Saving taxpayer dollars from endless appeals and decades of warehousing what is human waste.

And in some cases these penalties could be implemented retro-actively. A fourth category that may be added depending on public response are the pimps running the sex-slave industry.

Harshly summarized, if civil society wants the end of certain free-will crimes, We will need to put some worthless people to death. It certainly works in other countries and the DNA is much the same!

- In 2009 some 50+ million Americans were without Health Care and those numbers up from 46 million in 2008. Since then the numbers continue to rise as the Medical Insurance Industry works to make it happen. Further, those with Insurance are forced into predatory annual renewal cycles that only charge them more dollars for less coverage each year. Proposals 22 thru 27 in An American Agenda from the book CS2, are grouped under the heading of the American Industry Re-Structuring (AIR) System. There will more on those under #3. AIR presents the rationale and approach to restructuring key infra-structure industries as We overhaul our broken economy.

In Proposal #22 – Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans (see a copy of it on , I used the Health Care industry to build the practical model used for the others. It details how We will bring an end to this public abuse by the involuntary restructuring of the Medical Insurance Industry. Wait until that idea hits the news! The others in the set are Pharmaceutical, Tobacco, Oil, Banking and Credit Card, and Defense. These are the biggest Congressional lobbies and this one will be the first to be dealt with. The majority of bankruptcies are now caused by large medical bills. This must and will end.

- *The Cost of Living...* In September 2011 the Census Bureau reported that 46.2 million Americans **were living in poverty – or 15.1%**. The government continues to use ridiculous income levels, which are **years out of date with economic reality** in defining how many of our citizens are below

the Poverty level. The bureau noted that the poverty line in 2010 for a family of four was \$22,314. That is clear example of “out of touch with economic reality”.

Our economic restructuring as reviewed in Volume II will address this problem. Here are some details on Poverty Guidelines:

2011 HHS Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Family	48 Contiguous States and D.C.			Alaska	Hawaii
	1	\$10,890	\$13,600	\$12,540	
2	14,710	18,380	16,930		
3	18,530	23,160	21,320		
4	22,350	27,940	25,710		
5	26,170	32,720	30,100		
6	29,990	37,500	34,490		
7	33,810	42,280	38,880		
8	37,630	47,060	43,270		
For each additional person, add	3,820	4,780	4,390		

SOURCE: *Federal Register*, Vol. 76, No. 13, January 20, 2011, pp. 3637-3638

- Some 280,000 government workers were laid-off just last year and due to budget cuts in federal to local governments more are on the way. How many of those individuals and families in this weak economy will eventually lose their medical benefits and lose homes to foreclosure and/or bankruptcy. Or will not be able to pay the rent? We talked about Medical Insurance already. Volume II – Our 99% Solution will freeze and end foreclosures. This is also clarification and expansion of Proposal #12 – Family Basic Asset Protection.
- Statistics note that there are well over 25 million “daily” cannabis users in America. Among other topics in this list, this is a natural Super Pac issue! Under Proposal #8 – The National Drug Reform (NDR) Program, cannabis will be fully legalized and decriminalized in America. People in prison for cannabis only offenses will be immediately released and their records cleared.

Further under Proposal#20 – The Domestic Cannabis Industry it will become a small business driven domestic industry. And it will be kept specifically out of the reach of the Pharmaceutical and Tobacco Industries that would love to take control of it! Also since the 1930s they have been the two (2) biggest industry lobbyists against cannabis legalization because it will hurt both of their sales. Both England and Canada have wanted to make cannabis possession a parking ticket level offense for years, but our national drug office has pushed them not to it because of certain lobbyists!

Potential candidates please consider that many of those same 25+ million citizens will vote! No joke intended.

- Currently one-half (1/2) of Americans under 30 years of age do not have a job. All of those in the 18 to 30 age group (approximately 45.5 million citizens) can vote AND all those 25 years old and older

satisfy the age requirement to run for the House of Representatives. This struggling group should seriously consider helping create the AP Party Chapter in their respective US Districts!

Those give you some idea of the aggressive and productive nature on the 27 solution proposals that form the AP Party basic Independent platform. For details on the others see #3, next and/or download a free copy of CS2 at OurIAPP.typepad.com.

Someone in Washington Must to be Responsible

Going back to January of 1776 when Thomas Paine published *Common Sense*, he wrote about the “*Design of Representative Government*”. He created the model of what would become the very offices that now make up the US House of Representatives and the Senate. In it he declared regarding how those few selected by people from each locality to represent them at central government should conduct their legislative decisions writing, they should act if as those that selected them *were present in the room*.

Congress seems to have forgotten all about that, and are now only voting like their industry lobbyists are in the room.

It is the primary responsibility of the members of the United States Congress to solve the public’s problems that cannot be resolved at the state or local levels. That is their basic job description.

Again, as their employer We have every Right to fire them and the AP Party approach actually gives the American Electorate a prudent and practical way to do it – this year!

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3. Provide an informative glimpse into many of the 27 Proposals from the book, *The Second Coming of Common Sense* (CS2) that form the initial platform of the AP Party. After having reading about the 27 platform proposals under #3 you could probably think of others you could add to this list.

An American Agenda in Brief

Now for some perspective on many of the 27 proposals of the AP Party platform and show how it is designed to help our people by solving our Common Problems. Some points will reference the platform 27 proposals in An American Agenda from the book CS2. Those that do not are the types of proposals that we will add during the campaign (and after we win the elections!).

Proposal#/Title/Description	Approach/Primary Public Benefits
Federal Level Reform	
1 Presidential and U.S. Representative Term Amendments	Changing the President to a single 6-year term, and the US House from 2 to 4-year terms. The new terms of office will require the 27 th and 28 th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
2 Voting Day Reform – Access to the Polls	First , the traditional first Tuesday voting date in November will be immediately and permanently moved to the first Saturday in November. Secondly , synchronizing the opening and closing of all polling places to the same 12 hour period. NO amendments required. Not rocket science!
3 Eligible Voter Reform	<p>We need to confront the issue that those citizens convicted of felonies, served their court appointed punishment, and been released are not allowed to vote in national elections often for the rest of their life, to say nothing about state and local levels which is worse. This is not healing or building respect for government. The People are fighting to reverse such law across the country.</p> <p>This proposal will allow all such people to vote in Federal elections.</p> <p>Granted some of these people committed terrible crimes, but our worthless Justice System made the mistake of not putting them to death as they likely deserved. Going forward under Proposal #10, We will put an end to that fault in the Judicial System.</p>
4 Real Campaign Finance Reform	<u>Real</u> campaign finance reform is about the struggle to control the excessive and imbalanced influence of the Special Interest money that is pouring into national elections. The same can be said for the state election

	<p>process, as well.</p> <p>In a version of the <i>Merriam-Webster</i> International Dictionary the word ‘bribe’ is defined as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a price, reward, gift, or favor bestowed or promised with a view to pervert the judgment or corrupt the conduct esp. of a person in a position of trust (as a public official).</p> <p>The U.S. Supreme Court ruled before 2008 in opposition to funding controls or limits to big campaign donors. They can do so anonymously also! It was very Republican of them.</p> <p>It could be observed as a ruling that honored “The Law” and completely ignored the Democratic Reason and <i>common sense</i>. I say the control and prevention of the abuse of political Power by the Few over the Many is exactly what the US Constitution is all about.</p> <p>Our grassroots movement to replace Congress will be our “final answer” to campaign finance reform <u>and</u> term limits!</p>
<p>National Programs</p>	
<p>5 American Population Management (APM)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Population Issue – The Practical Place to Start this Grand National Fix</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“We the People will decide who is allowed to play in our sandbox”</i></p> <p>The over-riding problem is that the world is not getting over populated it is already over-populated. And we have too many illegals in this country. In general and with the coming Depression we require the following to get our national people inventory under OUR control.</p> <p>Obviously, we currently do not have a functioning Immigration Control Program (ICP). The out of control IO problem has been allowed to grow for two (2) decades since 1986 when under President Ronald Reagan’s administration the last “half-baked” false-attempt was made to resolve and finally control the IO problems of the 1980’s. It included a provision for “only” a projected 1.5 million IOs to obtain citizenship. In the end however,</p>

	<p>anywhere from 3 to 5 <u>million</u> IOs snuck in the door with the illegal documentation they could buy for \$50 to \$100 per set.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A unique National ID System like almost every nation in the world has had for years. • All nations must be responsible for their own citizens and not dump them on other countries. • Our borders are violated more than any other nation. And our government has encouraged it especially with Mexico & C&S America – and denied it since 1986. • 3 groups = citizens, Other Legal Occupants (OLO), Illegal Occupants (IOs). • No amnesty for illegals. • All immigration needs to be frozen for a few years. • Our flat-lined economy and 15 to 20 million unemployed citizens are 2 more reasons why the IOs need to be purged over the next couple years. And no more in. • Freeze all non-citizen employment in taxpayer funded jobs local, state, and federal levels. • Citizen preference in all hiring. Relocation assistance supplied if required. • The governments of CSA countries promote the flow north to America and greedily wait for funds to be transferred back. Transfers made oh so easy by our very cooperative, well-lobbied, fee-charging banks. More on them later. • And then there is Mexico... that more than any other country needs to be reminded that the sign at the base of the Statue of Liberty does <u>not</u> read, <p>“Send me your excess population that you do not care to deal with”</p>
<p>6 English as First and Only Language</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straightforward. English finally declared official national language. Taxpayer dollars will not be used to support any other language such as Spanish. People must not expect to come here and have their native language catered to.
<p>7 The U.S. Re-Employment System</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A closed-end system to improve the American labor environment. • Now 3 employment Sectors with the resource sector introduced. • Evaluate education, vocation, and social skills.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation as economy demands utilizing the new Housing Inventory System. • Compliments the American Population Management proposal. <p><u>Overall:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a <u>viable</u> income and <u>legal</u> employment for all Americans. • American citizens, native born and naturalized, must be employed <u>before</u> any legal visitor/occupant (i.e., Permanent Resident Aliens). • Controlling legal immigration and the legal employment of any non-citizens, including what jobs they <u>cannot</u> have. • Minimizing the costs of unemployment and related programs against our taxes. • Minimizing the costs of public welfare and related programs against our taxes. • Re-locating people as needed across the country to respond to seasonal demands, as well as worker resource shortfalls in various areas of the country as the economy evolves over the years. • Stopping illegal immigration and the future employment of IOs. <p>And finally, We in America just as every other nation has the Sovereign Right to say,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“America does not owe anyone born outside this country a job or any social services, let alone entry into nor the right to remain inside our borders.”</p>
8 National Drug Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second failed Prohibition will be ended. Marijuana will be fully legalized and decriminalized. • No hard drugs will be legalized.
9 Re-Considering the Military Draft – Saving Our Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reinstitute some form of mandatory military Training post high school. • To have a system set-up with which to finish the schooling of all those that drop out of high school. • Partly to build a military preparedness, but not for foreign occupation.
10 Zero Tolerance for Free-Will Crime by All People	<p>There are many important parts to this proposal, but the lead legislation involves a major change to required punishment for certain freewill crimes of physical assault. In particular,</p>

	<p>the <u>pre-meditated</u> crimes of murder, rape, and pedophilia will no longer be tolerated. In brief, if a person is convicted in a standard court of law to be “Obvious Guilty” of any of those crimes they will be subject to the Death Penalty by lethal injection ninety (90) days later. The Masses are in favor of such punishment for certain crimes.</p>
11 The Family Support Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive review and efficient consolidation of all social programs providing support to citizens and families using taxpayer funds.
12 Family Basic Asset Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fixed address for all citizens ; a home resulting from The Adjustment program.
13 American Owned Business Preference Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SBA will focus on promoting US Citizens in small business start-ups.
Local Community Programs	
14 Local Pride and Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting both youth and adults to become more involved with their neighborhood, community, and US District.
15 Education – The “Final Answer” for Many Students and Adults	<p>Implementation of a nothing less than miraculous corrective learning program in all public and parochial schools. Permanently improves Auditory and Visual memory deficit.</p> <p>No longer a learning disability – a learning weakness that can be corrected.</p>
16 Physical Fitness for Our Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the well-known Palate exercise program in all public and parochial schools. • Low cost with tremendous benefits to students and short and long term Health Care costs.
17 Community Service Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Things such as emergency services training to make communities better prepared for storms, etc.
American Industry Restructuring (AIR) Proposals	
<u>New and Renewal Industries</u>	
18 Re-Cycling as a Major Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Recycling industry in all 435 US Districts. • Materials then used for domestic manufacturing – metal, paper, plastics
19 Hemp Industry – The Truth for a Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major domestic farm crop to make paper, heating oil, plastics, diesel fuel.

20 Domestic Cannabis Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small business industry that will be taxed and quality control will be required.
21 Take Back Industries (TBIs) – Domestic Manufacturing and IGEs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start non-profit manufacturing of underwear and light bulbs. Products that we will get the raw materials for from Proposal #18 Recycling as a major industry.
<u>Existing Industries</u>	
22 Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans	<p>See Appendix A that is a copy of Proposal #22 – Health Insurance for ALL Americans. It presents the end of For-profit Health Care against the model I developed for the involuntary restructuring of certain key national infrastructure industries. Proposals 23 thru 27 suggest the restructuring of other industries, but Medical Insurance is the place to start with the public.</p>
23 The Pharmaceutical Industry	
24 The Tobacco (Nailing the Most Deadly Drug) Industry	
25 The Oil Industry	
26 The Banking and Credit Card Industries	
27 The Defense (Military Industrial Complex) Industry	
2011 Proposals	
28 US Congress Recall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2012 Recall of the 67 US Senators that are not up for re-election in 2012. Forcing the all 535 members of the US Congress the stand for re-election.
29 American Wealth Decentralization Model – The Second American Revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement “The Adjustment” – The American Decentralization of Wealth Program. <p>The first American Revolution was against the selfish power of monarchy in government; once it was won the other things that the colonists had demanded in the Dec of Independence.</p> <p>Our Second American Revolution must confront and defeat</p>

	<p>the selfish abuse of the wealthy and politically powerful in Wall Street and Big Industry that blatantly control both Parties in both Houses of the US Congress.</p> <p>The AP Party's platform is comprised of 27 proposals designed to save and improve the lives of our citizens and/or make far better use of taxpayer dollars.</p> <p>OK. Buckle your seat belts and review this proposal brief from ouriapp.typepad.com</p> <p>Total US personal wealth \$55 Trillion; the wealthy have at least \$35T leaving us Peasants \$20T at most.</p> <p>A one-time decentralization of wealth "The Adjustment" of \$15T from their \$35T.</p> <p>Used to pay off ALL residential mortgages \$12T, ALL student loans \$1T, and ALL credit card debt \$1T, leaving \$1T for cleanup; and every American citizen would have a fixed address/residence; all that money would be back to the banks & investors to put into the economy (theoretically).</p> <p>We Peasants would be consumers again and then we could take a hard look at the national debt. See the blog for more detail. Founder of the American Peasant Party.</p> <p>This proposal has been added to and will be detailed later. It will address paying off at least ½ of the Federal Debt of \$15 Trillion!</p>
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4. What is the public Purpose and Mission of the politically Independent American Peasant Party and how does it approach today's socially sensitive issues?

Purpose

The Democratic and citizen-oriented Purpose of the American Peasant Party (APP) is to provide the American Electorate with a viable and politically Independent third party option. A national political party purely dedicated to the Common Good of our citizens.

Mission

A patriotic Mission to provide our nation with social, economic, and environmental legislative leadership that is Responsible to the Common Good of the citizens of America before and above all other people, groups, industries, and nations. It is America and Americans first, and without apology to any group, industry or nation. All publicly irresponsible lobbyists beware, because you have hereby been warned.

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First of all the AP Party is not at all like the pandering and publicly dysfunctional Republican and Democratic political parties.

The AP Party philosophy and its platform information are detailed on OurIApp.typepad.com.

As stated previously, when writing the Second Coming of Common Sense (CS2) and developing the 27 problem solving proposals in An American Agenda my objective was to satisfy at least 60% of our fellow citizens. That implies addressing the concerns and needs of the Masses. Not to be pulled away from practical and prudent public solutions to “try” and satisfy a too loud, self-serving minority on either the Republican Right or the Democratic Left. Those who seem never to be satisfied!

That is why the AP Party platform will find favor with at least “the 60%”! The platform contains solutions that the Left will like and dislike, as well as solutions the Right will like and dislike. The Independents and Moderates will be the happiest of them all.

One further piece of background, starting under the presidency of Ronald Reagan, the Republican Party decided to start playing to the “religious right”. Not so much to ever get them what they wanted legislatively, but to play them (like a cheap violin to my observations). Since then they cater to that group whenever they are looking for campaign donations and votes. Just think of the political circus that went on in the Iowa caucus and South Carolina primary. They pandered to them about God, abortion – gay and lesbian issues to get \$\$ and votes, but avoided talking at all about serious public problems like those in #2. Then after the primaries and general elections the Republicans just go back to doing whatever they want until the next fund raiser. They would be just as publicly dysfunctional in office as they are on the campaign trail.

Personally, I have always thought it odd that Republicans claimed God for their party as though Democrats do not go to church. Anyway if God were to miraculously show up at the polls one day to vote, He of course would be looking for the Independent candidates...

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How does the AP Party Platform address some of the more politically sensitive social issues?

Buckle your seat belts! It is time for a national reality check.

This is another decision moment for any potential AP Party candidate. Will you be in or out? Of course each of us has the Right to their personal position on political issues, especially the short list of public “hot buttons” that the Republicans as well as Democrats at times exploit for political reasons. If you are one of those that is hard Right or Left on any of these issues to the point where everything else in a party’s platform is meaningless, then as I said at the top please do us both a favor and go do something else! That said...

Since the AP Party platform basically flows from my Independent, political sensibilities I will be making statements and writing on such issues. Be certain that our nation’s economic and social problems will not be fixed with such continued political pandering. This party will be respectful of all groups, but is driven by what is viewed as best for the Common Good of all citizens. Each of us will be challenged to come to terms with Civil Responsibility across the board. Supporting what is best for restructuring our broken economic system and to make our neighborhoods safe and happy places for our citizens is first priority (Yes happy! You might remember *Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness*).

And I do mean American Citizens! All others get in line and not all those will be allowed to remain. Go read CS2 it covers many of these issues. Now my thoughts on the following “Social Values” issues which in effect are the AP Party position and will be promoted as such.

God. Whomever someone may believe God is will be honored as their choice. I personally am a Christian and pray to God some on most days, and that is all you will hear me say about “my faith”. Except I believe in saying, Merry Christmas!

Guns. In short the NRA will mostly love me. In the book CS2 I wrote, “Guns do not kill people. People exercising their freewill on someone else kill people”. As Proposal #10 – Zero Tolerance for Free-Will Crime by All People describes, We the People will deal harshly and swiftly with such criminals. Everything else work itself out from there.

Abortion. Will be controlled by *public agreement* – never banned, and not used for birth control or gender selection. The AP Party will actively promote practical, but woman-friendly restrictions on 2nd and 3rd trimester abortions. It will be allowed in the cases of rape and incest, as well as if the Mother’s life is at risk regardless of the trimester. She will decide!

Since prevention is the key to avoiding this entire decision, We will work intelligently to prevent unwanted pregnancies and thus avoid women needing to even make a hard life decision, for no matter what they choose it will in some way be with them the rest of their life.

I will add that a person’s position on abortion is not always driven by their church’s dictate. I know devote atheist that are both for and very much against it. In the end, if someone opposes it for religious reasons fine, just hold the members of *their church* to that standard and hopefully they won’t have one!

From a hard global perspective, there are now 7 billion people on this Earth and countless numbers die daily of disease, starvation, and lack of water. We cannot allow the planet to see 8 billion and God will not be offended.

Now one of my related hot buttons. Consider that every time the Republicans get the White House they cut foreign aid relating to birth control and family planning to please their religious campaign donors. Thus, more children in 3rd world countries are born into terrible conditions and women that are raped do not at least have access to morning-after pills. Grimly, some of those same children eventually wind up on cable infomercials asking viewers for money to help take care of them. I won't comment any more of that right now, but it is sick all the way around.

Gay and Lesbian Rights. This is the hard social issue of our day and the Republican's most favorite thing for generating public turmoil and raising campaign funds – especially now around the marriage issue. That is the truth whether you like it or not and people need to wake-up to that fact!

Frankly, I am not here to be anybody's friend, I am here to be everybody's leader and resolve the economic and social problems of our citizens. I do not really like having to address this, but it goes with the territory. Thus, let me rant!

If for example someone is against same-sex marriage for non-religious reasons fine, that is their freewill opinion on the issue. Again, if they oppose it for religious reasons fine, hold the members of *your church* to that standard, *but leave everybody else alone to make their own freewill choices*. It is fully acknowledged that the entire issue does disturb and disgust many people, but it does not affect their day-to-day life. We all know heterosexual couples that should have never been married and those that are terrible parents. Does this not fall under “judge not and you will not be judged”. God will not strike them or their church down for letting people marry whomever they want to.

Further, the “position statement” of the hard-Right of the church that an adolescent *decides* to be gay or lesbian is Beyond Sense (BS). Did anyone in the ‘church’ publicly ask Dick Cheney's or Dick Gephardt's lesbian daughters what age they made that decision – I guess not! But, when the news “came out” it sure changed good old Dad's and Mom's public rhetoric around the issue didn't it.

Such “religious or personal opinions” have nothing to do with the ridiculous rise in the cost-of-living, the destruction of the world's environment by oil and coal, crime in the streets, the ridiculous War on Drugs or 1.6 million homeless American children.

But it sure is a great way for worthless politicians to distract the Press from real issues, raise donations for the Republican Party and candidates, get votes, and sadly at times it is even used to get money in offering plates... Next.

Immigration Control. Back in 1986, the Republican President Ronald Reagan promoted and signed the last citizenship Amnesty Act to allow some 1.5 million illegals (mostly, but not all Latino) to obtain American citizenship – although it turned into well over 3 million, many with false papers. And he stated the government would then get tough on immigration and employers that dared to hire illegal workers in the future – while he was winking at the business community.

Some 26 years later We the People are still waiting for the *get tough* and now some in the government want yet another Amnesty for over 11 million international, freewill felons. And let me be very clear that while the vast majority are from somewhere south of the US/Mexico border, people from all over the world have arrived here since 1986 with one way tickets and never intended to leave. They are hiding behind that Latino-based immigration debate.

This is political pandering by both Parties and is Beyond Sense (BS). The Liberal Left wants everybody to move here regardless of the cost and harm their uncontrolled invasion has already done to American society. The Conservative Right wants cheap labor and people to fill their rental units!

Such amnesty cannot be allowed and the invasion must end. For one thing you read my comments above about the out-of-control world population growth. There is an extended piece on this topic under Proposal #5 – American Population Management. Each country must be responsible for their citizens and not send them without proper invitation to another to be burdened with.

Under Proposal #5, America will finally have a National Id System (like even most third world countries have) and We will sort everyone out! All immigration should be frozen for a few years given the current mess and our unemployment crisis. Many of the Illegal Occupants (IOs) will go home. The subset of those that are allowed to stay *and their offspring* will be forever in a special resident status and will never be entitled to vote! We will not cheapen our American citizenship Right to vote by giving it those that should not be here in the first place. And that regardless of Liberal polls is the sentiment of the vast majority of We the People.

The Dream Act is a nice Liberal act, but just another side door trick to help IOs. Enough said.

5. Is there adequate time between now (early February 2012) and the November 6, 2012 National Election to identify and qualify up to 468 Independents under the AP Party platform as challengers to the incumbent members of US Congress?

While it would be nice to have more time, Yes, there is adequate time for us to succeed by simply beating the somewhat rigged 2-Party Political System at its own game. IF, people like you and those you know, love, and otherwise care about decide to make it happen. And make it happen for your own good!

The political fact is that both the Republican and Democratic Parties do not want you to know such a thing can be done. And they diligently work to make it a little harder with each passing election at the state level by playing with the rules.

A Simple Tactic

The campaign tactic that I devised will allow us to present a viable, Third party candidates to the American Electorate without formally establishing the AP Party until after the November 2012 National Election, which is fully legal. Further, We will transform the 2012 Presidential and Congressional campaign rapidly into an economic and social issues driven event. Which is exactly what is needed and what both Parties and Obama are working to avoid!

AP Party candidates will run within each state as “non-party affiliated”, Independent candidates against all 435 members US House of Representatives and the 33 US Senators running for re-election this November. This approach is an end-around of the current political system that is rigged to make it administratively difficult to form new political parties in a timely manner. The people and legal overhead of establishing a new party’s presence in all 50 states to run candidates prevents most people from even trying – often because they start too late in the typical election cycle to accomplish the paperwork. That is one way the 2-Party Political System “protects” itself from Third parties intruders!

However, this election cycle We the People will show them We are smarter than they give us credit for. This knowledge is part of the benefit of my official, yet amateur campaign for President back in 2003/2004. It made me study the system and learn about its guidelines in a way you may only get from being involved the game, even if only partially.

Thus, we will enjoy the political benefit of a Third Party presence without the paperwork. Our candidates will be true Independents, will be commonly joined by a publicly acceptable, problem-solving platform, and lead by viable Independent Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates. This is history in the making and they cannot stop us, if We determine to make it happen!

As will be further explained in #8 below, AP Party candidates across all 50 states and the Presidential and VP candidates will aggressively support and promote each other. It is the difference between a regular campaign and a movement. There will be more unity than the Dems and Repubs display and the electorate will appreciate the difference.

We will have An American Agenda, the AP Party citizen-oriented platform to run under to provide the electorate with a practical and consistent message. Frankly a more realistic and Common Good driven platform for the American Electorate than either Repubs or the Dems currently or have ever had to offer.

If, independent thinking people like you across this country join in this grassroots effort the AP Party driven Electoral Revolution can spread as fast as the Occupy Wall Street (OWS) movement. Consider that on January 19th that the worldwide grassroots movement was only four (4) months old! Yes, it is

worldwide. Also note that OWS still does not have a particular agenda or any public leadership. Our movement has both of those essential public credibility requirements met from the start!

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This is the Ballot Qualifying Flow

These are the procedures to be followed by the AP Party Chapters to qualify to 535 of our Independent candidates for election this November.

Regarding the 468 Congressional incumbent members routinely up for re-election in 2012:

- For a given state's US Representative, Senator, President and Vice President we will file the proper forms, gather the required petition signatures, and/or pay the fee required to be placed on the official ballot for the November 6, 2012 National Election. The gathering of those requirements is addressed in #6 below.
- Should that regular filing date be missed for whatever reason, We will then submit the proper forms in order to be a Write-In candidate for the office in question. The gathering of those requirements is also addressed in #6 below.
- Granted there will certainly be some number of states that our candidates cannot be qualified to vote for, but in the vast majority of states they will be.

Thus, We have the potential of reaching a key AP Party Electoral Goal of capturing the numerical majority of 218 seats the House or even better 2/3 majority of 292. It would rock the Halls of the Capitol Dome.

In the Senate with only 33 seats up for re-election the more of those We capture the better. That is another reason why the Recall drives against the other 67 Senators not running this year is key. The Electoral Goal being to capture a numerical majority over the number of Democrats or Republicans and about 40 would probably do the trick.

The legislative Power in Congress is in having the most seats in the House or Senate because the "majority party" appoint the Chairperson to all congressional committees which is where the Power really exists. They also appoint the Speaker of the House of Representatives! Give the Power to the People.

A Good "Bad Example"

Not really wanting to pick on the good people of Nevada, but their state government, the following is a classic example of such political Party games.

Nevada closes their House and Senate filing the earliest allowing the petition process to run from January 2nd thru only February 9th in 2012. The End Date for submitting petitions is months ahead of most states for House and Senate. On top of that, Nevada also does not allow a Write-In option for House and Senate offices. A very closed to competition example don't you think?

I wonder if long serving Nevada Senator Harry Reed had anything to do with that? The good citizens of Nevada need to be informed about this.

This is the AP Party Revolutionary – The Recall Campaign Flow

With regard to the 67 US Senators that are not routinely up for re-election until 2014 or 2016, We have an frustrated American Electorate surprise for them that is detailed in Proposal 28 on the AP Party Blog site. For now here is now it would work:

- This too will be a historic civil action against our elected government, made possible by our citizen Rights as assigned under the US Constitution.
- One (1) and in some case two (2) US Senators from all 50 states fall into the category of not routinely being up for re-election this year.
- Every state is different in this process and some have made it intentionally difficult due to pressure from the 2-Parties. US Representatives and Senators protecting their jobs from frustrated constituents. Political games.
- The AP Party Chapters in all 50 states will research and publish the technical criteria for the 2012 Recall Drive against those 67 US Senators. They will need a some good legal volunteers to sort it out in some states. A lively public debate will undoubtedly occur after that publication.
- Each state's AP Party will coordinate an official Recall process with the public goal of forcing as many of those 67 incumbent Senators to stand for re-election this November 6th as possible. The AP Party goal being to achieve a majority of 51 Independent seats in the Senate, at least.
- The proper paperwork will be filed, any fees collected and paid, and the required petition signatures gathered to conduct the Recall action against those 67 US Senators.

Consider that the citizens in Great State of Wisconsin successfully accomplished a historic Recall petition gathering in January 2012 collecting approximately 1,000,000,000 signatures against their unpopular governor. They provide the rest of the states with a bold example of civil action that can be followed to the same successful end.

We the People, can do this my fellow Americans and our children and grandchildren will be proud of us.

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6. What are the official Federal eligibility requirements to be a candidate for the US House of Representatives and the US Senate?

These are Federal requirements for offices in the House and Senate. Please refer to the official websites of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate for additional background.

US House of Representative

Must be a citizen of the United States for at least 7 years.
Must be at least 25 years of age.
Must be a resident of the state when elected.

US Senator

Must be a citizen of the United States for at least 9 years.
Must be at least 30 years of age.
Must be a resident of the state when elected.

Please note that some states have added a specific number of years a candidate must be a resident of the given state in order to qualify.

Next regarding Congressional compensation just in case you were wondering:

The current salary (2011) for rank-and-file – 435 members of the House and 100 members of the Senate is \$174,000 per year. Thus, the base annual salary expense to the taxpayers of the US Congress equals \$93,090,000.

House Leadership

Speaker of the House - \$223,500
Majority Leader - \$193,400
Minority Leader - \$193,400

Senate Leadership

Majority Party Leader - \$193,400
Minority Party Leader - \$193,400

Plus, there is a generous “benefits and retirement” package and a separate budget to run your office.

There is also of course the prestige of being a member of the US Congress, having a private office in or next door to the Capitol building, an office in your home state with staff, and your own Washington, DC staff on-call 24x7.

You may consider that some of the same people that volunteer help with your campaign and/or work in your US District AP Party Chapter would eventually become part of your paid Congressional staff in DC and your home state.

Are you interested?

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7. How do the AP Party Chapter volunteers and/or a potential candidate determine the ballot requirements in their state to become an Independent, “non-party affiliated” candidate for the US the House of Representatives, the US Senate, President, and Vice President?

The Ballot Requirements Data Collection Process

In years past I have personally done this for all 50 states. It is not difficult, but can be tedious and candidate filing errors are not forgiven by State Elections Offices. In “most” cases, I have found the staff in those offices to be pleasant to work with and many are very helpful especially when treated with the respect they deserve.

I have begun the process for Congress and the office of President for 2012 to refresh myself to the process and provide some current examples on the AP Party Blog site, OurIAPP.typepad.com. However, I expect the potential candidates and newly forming AP Party chapters across the country to do this detailed research as part of their initial organizing activities. In most cases it will take hours not days to have 90 to 100% to the requirements documented and verified. Not so bad.

While there are 435 US Districts across 50 states there are only fifty (50) sets of requirements for House, Senate, and President. For example, in the case of California with 53 US Districts the same set of requirements (forms, signature counts, filing dates, fees, if any, etc.) apply to all 53 House candidates for the House and with a unique set for the two (2) Senators, and a final set for President and Vice President. And pretty much goes without saying that the ballot requirements are a little different for all 50 states!

I did tell you this was a short course on how We make our 2012 Electoral Revolution happen. A true Second American Revolution in the making and this is our cookbook to be used in towns and cities across the nation!

The Ballot Qualifying Requirements Gathering Process

This is an example of the Requirement gathering process. The following procedure briefly presents the types of data to be gathered from each state to be on the November 6, 2012 National ballot or to be qualified as an “official” Write-in candidate on that day. This is what each potential candidate and AP Party USD Chapter will need to do to document and verify. Then they can begin coordinating the Petition drives for each US District Representative, statewide for Senator, and President/VP.

This scenario will show the data types, but not all the details about each of them. Most really are obvious and questions will be resolved while the AP Party chapters are doing the appropriate research.

So, let us begin.

- Get on the Internet and go to Google.
- Enter, **SOS** (for Secretary of State), then your given state’s name, e.g., **Wisconsin**., and finally the word, **elections** i.e., **SOS Wisconsin elections** and press Enter. And the fun begins!
- Within the list presented from Google, you will find that most states have an Elections Office under the SOS, while some will have a separate Elections Division or Board of Elections. Document their phone and fax number (s) and Internet site names.
- Take a little time to review their website and then give them a call.

- Tell them you are researching the 2012 Ballot Requirements Independent, non-party affiliated candidates for US House, US Senate, and President/VP. Clarify that you are not researching state level candidates.
- Get connected to the right point of contact person(s). Document their name(s) and direct number if possible and always be respectful and nice to them!
- Often they will help with initial data like dates and signature counts. Others will walk you through the website to show you where the forms and data are located. In any case you will need to do some digging. For someone that likes to do detail research, of which I frankly am not one, this will be easy going in most cases.

The Type of Petition Data to Document

Number of US Districts – some of these are changing due to the Census so make sure of your USD number and verify the total count for your state.

Candidate Intent Form(s) – each office i.e., House, Senate, President (HSP) may or may not have forms to be filed before petitions are started. There may also be a filing fee, but not usually. In some cases neither are due until the petitions are filed.

Petition Forms – there is normally a state provided and unique Petition Forms that you can download. However, some states will require that you draft one and send it to them for acceptance which they will turn around quickly. In either case, they must be filled-in correctly by each petition signer. People need to print legibly so have them take their time.

Number of Signatures Required – in a few states depending on the HSP office a petition may be waived and a flat fee is paid. Normally a specific minimum number of valid voter signatures are stated, e.g., for Michigan:

- 3,000 petition signatures for each of the 15 US Districts.
- 30,000 statewide for a US Senate seat, if any are running this year.
- 30,000 statewide total for the Office of the President that also covers the Vice President.

However, in some states for the US District seats the counts will vary based upon voting counts from the prior election and the SOS Elections office will provide those separate counts.

Always plan to collect at least ten percent (10%) more signatures than required because when the petitions are verified some will always be rejected for various reasons.

Filings Fee(s) – As stated, there may also be a filing fee(s), but not usually. If so, it is normally very low and not due until the petitions are filed.

Petition Start and End Dates – Many states have a specific Start and End Date window for the collection of Petition signatures. Often the Start Date is open, but the End Date is always fixed.

There is data unique to the Office of President that I will review in a moment, but first a few items related to HSP Write-In situations. This will apply when the filing date is missed for whatever reason such as Nevada that closes their House and Senate filings very early on February 9, 2012.

The following should be documented as a practical backup plan.

Is Write-In an Option – Verify this for each HSP office in the state. It should be, but isn't always because the 2-Party's do like to restrict the process.

If it is not allowed in your state, it will be a very interesting item for the Press and residents of the state to be informed about!

Write-in Notification Form(s) to be Filed and by What Date – self-explanatory except in some states it is at the state level and in others at the county/parish, or voting precinct level. Often the name format(s) for the candidate must be filed in order to be counted. It is a bit tedious at times.

Data for the Offices of the President and Vice President

Number of Electors and Filing Documents and Dates – This is very serious data. This is a general write-up on the types of data and coordination you will need for your state. Most follow the similar data requirements, but a few can get a little complicated. The good thing is that the statewide network of AP Party Chapters will be working together to make it happen.

The Number of Electors – it is usually equal to the number of USDs for the state. They will be your candidate's and states official representatives to the Electoral College after the November 6, 2012 National Election to confirm the election results! Again, these are very serious positions and responsibilities. Your Electors could actually help certify the National Election results!

For the AP Party these Electors will selected, one (1) from each of the respective 435 AP Party USD Chapters.

Elector Filing Forms and Dates – there are official download forms to be completed, clearly signed, and filed by a specific date with the SOS Office for each Elector. Electors will be sworn often in writing to vote in the Electoral College for the AP Party candidate should they win their race.

Is Vice President's Name Required on Petition? – in most states this is not a requirement, but again the 2-Party's keep adding things like this to make to more difficult. In some cases, a VP name must be there, but it may also be changed before Election Day. Document this very carefully. What fun? In case you were wondering I prefer to find a woman as my VP running mate and will be seeking suggestions for the office.

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That wraps up the walk through of this process. Remember, “the devil is in the details” and the 2-Partys love to play with the rules.

Overall, the knowledge gained from this overview will make the data collection and verification process flow much easier in each AP Party USD Chapter. There will be more on the AP Party USD Chapter functions and responsibilities in #8 below.

Again the vast majority of the state Elections offices are staffed with pleasant and helpful people. However, filings must be done correctly and on time or they will be properly rejected! They take no prisoners. Good luck out there!

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8. How does someone qualify themselves as a potential AP Party candidate for US House or the US Senate from their US District or state?

First a Little Political Background for Rookies!

To begin with you must acknowledge certain realities going into what will be a very challenging, yet rewarding campaign process. This is a unique opportunity to serve and help our country rebuild its economic and social structure under the AP Party citizen-oriented, solution-based, political platform.

Here are just a couple of items to frame the Big Picture of what the AP Party candidates must be ready to deal with. And I do mean deal with for the Common Good of our citizens before all others!

First, of all and far more appropriately than when it was utilized in Bill Clinton’s 1992 campaign the phrase, “It is the economy, stupid” would seem to be the Electorate’s bottom line again in 2012.

However, even though Congress and the White House are praising the rising New York Stock Exchange numbers that are not helping Main Street, claiming that unemployment is under 9% when it is really double that on Main Street, and are saying things are improving – the Masses of our citizens know the Plain Truth. And, We the People are ready to explode!

Unlike in 1992, I would declare that the more applicable phrase to be used on Twitter to gain public response would be,

#NoItsTheCostOfLivingDummy.

We all know the **cost-of-living** is surging upward in the last couple years every time we go to the gas station or the grocery store. However, most do not know it has a lot to do with Wall Street setting the Commodities Market up to be a speculator’s playground.

For example, gasoline prices did not have to jump at the pump in early January because Iran threatened to block oil shipments thru the Strait of Hormuz that is the choke point between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to the Indian Ocean. I mean seriously, folks. If Iran were to even try that it would last about 30 minutes and they would be shall We say “forcibly corrected”. It is an example of international propaganda that is being treated as a real threat for political reasons both here and in Iran. And for profit in the Commodities Market!

And most Americans do not know that it is possible for someone in the Iranian government (with prior knowledge) to have someone buy Oil Futures in the Commodities Market through certain Wall Street Investment Houses *without public disclosure of who made purchase* “prior to the blockade announcement” and make a lot of money! And a rapid 25 cent/gallon price jump at over 150,000 gas stations nationwide makes the Oil Industry a lot of money, especially when they do not plan on bringing it back down when nothing actually happens. Which of course they have not and Congress and the White House have said nothing. This greedy manipulation must be stopped because the Masses on Main Street are running out of quarters!

Second, a baseline point of political fact is that Independent parties, candidates, and grassroots movements routinely fail and fade away if the Electorate public sees them as only one (1) or two (2) issues deep. They will have a following around issues like the environment, crime, immigration reform, corporate greed, and even God – but they are not viable in a national race. Like most of this year’s Republican primary candidates for President.

Further, even the extreme Social Values candidates can get massive attention in Iowa, then not in New Hampshire, then yes in South Carolina, and so on. However, they cannot carry the rest of the nation on such bedrock social issues BECAUSE those issues simply do not pay the monthly bills!

It is NOT just jobs because even those with jobs (often 2 of them) are being picked off one-by-one by the constant cost-of-living increases. The new Occupy Wall Street mantra of the 99% vs. the 1% is dead on target. The income disparity numbers We have all heard don't lie and I will not bother repeating them here.

The Republicans cry and say don't call this *class warfare*. OK, but "*a rose by any other name is still a rose*". Call it what you will, but we are on the clear verge of a Second Great Depression and both political Parties and the White House are just ignoring the 800-pound gorilla in the room until it all falls apart! Meantime, the "Greedy Bastards and Bitches" on Wall Street is sucking every last quarter out of We the People for fun, profit, and executive bonuses until it does.

Those are *a few* of the harsh reasons, along with the absence of the problem solutions like those offered by the AP Party platform that at least 56% of the American public believes a viable Third political party is NEEDED.

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And, I have not yet even talked about the extreme yet publicly workable method(s) that could be applied to our dying economy that are on an equal scale with Democracy crushing the long tradition of Tyranny in 1776. Those are Proposals 22 thru 27 about the involuntary restructuring of key national industries.

As I wrote four (4) years ago in *The Second Coming of Common Sense*, even before the 2008/2009 Financial Crisis, the American colonist's Revolution of 1776 dealt with the governmental edge of the double-edged Sword of Tyranny. That war gave our national ancestors Democracy in Government.

The 2012 Electoral Revolution We now have the Right and Obligation to conduct, will necessarily confront and deal with the other edge of that Sword of Tyranny, being Wealth and its abuse of Power over the Masses. Thus, our Revolution will deliver Democracy in Domestic Economics to the Masses, and our economy and society will be restored, if not resurrected!

Granted not a small order to fill, but a confrontation that We the People will now decide to engage in – or – just to be content being lowly peasants. Rather, We must be "*Peasant Kings and Queens*" – the bold American Citizens that our national ancestors fought to make us and that over 1,264,000 of our people have died for over these 236 years to keep us.

And the man said,

We do these things not because they are Easy, We do them because they are Hard...

President, John F. Kennedy

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And this will not be easy, but together We can absolutely accomplish it.

So then I ask you as a potential Independent candidate for a national leadership office.

Are you up to the challenge of leading your fellow American citizens?

If so, let's give the People the real political campaign they have longed for!

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On the Ground for Your USD and State

First, do your basic research into the AP Party references listed in #1 above to be found on the Internet. Begin by reading the parts of CS2 in whatever order may appeal to you, but from start to finish is recommended.

Just for fun type “A J Wildman” or “OurIAPP” into Google, hit Enter, to see what else might pop up!

Get a feel for An American Agenda and the rationale behind its 27 proposals. And any other subject matter research you would need to do to become comfortable about the party, its platform or me for that matter.

Begin talking *with* those you know to inform them about the AP Party and platform, but not so much to promote or defend it at first – more to inform them about the points being raised. Get their initial feedback and learn from that. *An important point* is whenever possible to only talk with people one-on-one if you really want them to open up and share their true political perspectives. I learned that quickly on the front-end of several thousand such conversations. Also, people will talk *with* you, if you talk *with* them. You are not selling them something or telling people what to believe, you are sharing a legislative perspective based on the Common Good with them.

Understand that people are worried and are looking for practical solutions at least, and realistic national leadership at best.

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In the end (and as soon as possible) *you* must decide to commit yourself not to the AP Party, but to the Common Good of the other 310,000,000 American citizens that you will never, ever meet. That is how I started working on this project years ago. You must be all in to be a viable candidate in the public's eyes. Not a fanatic or a zealot because the political environment is well-polluted with those types already. To be focused on the day-to-day problems that people are struggling with.

You must freely and sincerely agree to support the American Peasant Party platform as detailed in both concepts and proposals in the 2008 book, *The Second coming of Common Sense* (CS2) and other issues added since then. You may not agree with or even like all of them (neither do I), but you must carry the flag for your part of America. Frankly, I do not like the necessity of some of those solutions, but they will serve the Common Good of our citizens and that was my personal challenge to myself to define and present. And I have accomplished that.

Again, while you may/will not like all parts of the platform that is the way political parties work. New Democratic and Republican candidates do not fight their party about campaign planks. They join and accept the overall platform and will over time try to change it if possible. The very good thing is that you do not need to develop your own comprehensive platform. Further, you may defer complaints on various platforms proposals that people may have back to me! Challenge people to read the book over the next weeks or months.

Remember you cannot sell people on even the most practical solution to any problem if they are not open to listening. Do not waste your time and effort on such persons. People do not change their mind on the spot. They go off and ponder things often subconsciously and may alter their opinion on the practicality of a proposal or may not. You can debate someone on a given issue, but do not argue with them. It serves no good purpose. Some people will only be there to argue about something. Again, wish them a nice day and move on. If they want argue with someone they should talk the their current US Rep or Senators, if they can even find them!

Understand that in public problem-solving in a Democratic society of 310 million people such as ours, **THERE ARE NO PERFECT SOLUTIONS!!!** Our society has been degraded over the last few decades by politicians reacting to the cries from the extreme Left and Right, and that publicly dysfunctional process will now come to an abrupt end!

Are You One – Time to Become One of Many

In the beginning, February 2012 and forward you and others must decide to take personal, civil responsibility for creating an AP Party Chapter in your US District. There will be some initial guidance on that process in #8 below.

The members of the AP Party US District Chapter that you and others help create and build in your home area will determine in due time decide who is selected to run for their US House seat. Each Chapter will also coordinate with the other Chapters across your state to identify and select the candidate to run for the US Senator seats, if any are up for election in 2012. Democracy in action.

The more you show your leadership in building the Chapter, knowledge of the platform, real compassion for your fellow Americans the greater will be your chances of being selected for the House and/or Senate candidacy.

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I have spent the last nine (9) years working up to this moment and never knew if this could really happen, but here it finally is! I am more of a writer than a speaker, but I will do whatever necessary to promote the success of our Electoral Revolution. I will do everything I possibly can to promote 468 to 535 of our people having the real opportunity to be voted into national office this coming November 6, 2012.

As you can see I have done a good bit already, but this effort cannot go forward and will not succeed *unless people like you* come forward NOW to be a candidate and/or an active local USD volunteer and member or simply to make a needed donation to help make the wheels go around easier.

This is the essence of grassroots involvement in American style Democracy. The best form of people driven government in the world.

United, We the People cannot be stopped. Working together for the Common Good of our citizens there is no problem that We cannot solve.

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9. How will We the People across our nation the create Local US District Chapters of the Independent American Peasant Party. What are the functional responsibilities of each local AP Party Chapter and how will they select, qualify, and promote our Independent candidates for the November 2012 National Election.

First – Why Are We Here?

Again, this is written to You, an individual American citizen. You could be an individual man or woman seriously considering being a candidate for office. Maybe it's the first time you ever considered it or at least the first time it ever looked like there might be a way it could happen! And You and I will not need to be millionaires, either!

Or, you could be a volunteer type of person that is looking for background on this Independent party movement you heard about. Or some other variation of frustrated and/or curious You seeking something sensible in the political system that you could believe in and support in some way.

I am here looking for You all. Because if many of You do not act upon what is presented herein then *this entire effort will go no further.*

Throughout history it has often been only *one* that has deliberated and then presented their sincere suggestion for the betterment of the Masses for them to consider, but only when *they decided to act* does anything come of the initial effort of only *one*.

This is such a moment and only *You the People* can decide and will determine what, if anything happens next.

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The Concept of a Self-Generating, Grassroots, Third Party Movement

That is a mouth full isn't it? This is where the rubber meets the road! In the end this can turn out to be amazingly straightforward.

This entire presentation is a cookbook approach to making a viable, grassroots, Independent political movement. And in this case an Electoral Revolution. To make our revolution a success what are the political realities or ingredients required that yield a successful Mass civil action? We would need:

- A country whose Masses are struggling against the public dysfunction of their own government. We have that.
- An economy that was once great, but now is terminally broken. We have that.
- More than a third of our people struggling below the poverty line and many more falling below it each month because of the increasing cost-of-living. We have that.
- A government that gives lip service to saving the Middle Class and never even mentions those in the Lower Class accept in derogatory terms. We have that.
- A 2-Party Political System and a Congress that are completely sold-out to the Few with Power and Wealth and is out of contact with the deteriorating conditions of the Masses. We have that.
- The possibility of a viable Third Party to act to balance nation's politics with the other two (2) parties. We have that.

- A platform from that third Party that is citizen and problem solution oriented, and a person offering to lead that party and is truly concerned about the Common Good of the Masses. We have that.
- And a unique campaign approach and plan that will allow us to replace the majority of the members of Congress in 2012 with our own Independent candidates that are committed supporting the new Independent party's written, and citizen-oriented platform. We have that, as well.

We do have these necessary ingredients and more to make our Electoral Revolution a success and now We need (at least) 435 such kitchens to be freely and independently established across the country by small, motivated groups of our citizen volunteers. Minutemen and Minute-women, if you will!

Each *Democracy Kitchen* will organize itself and operate against a standard plan and any issues that come up will be practically and peacefully resolved as they are encountered. Those independent kitchens will work and coordinate with each other to produce up to 435 US Reps, up to 100 US Senators, Those will join with the Presidential (yours truly) and Vice Presidential (to be determined) candidates for the campaign.

These candidates will be set-up to officially compete for the seats in Congress and the White House this November 6th. The volunteers from those kitchens will support and promote their AP Party candidates and others across the country thru the campaign season.

That is how our Electoral Revolution shall be accomplished with 435 Democracy Kitchens working together for the Common Good, if We do our collective best to follow this common sense political recipe presented herein...

More Than *Just* 435 Democracy Kitchens

Please note that while I constantly reference 435 US District Chapters in reality there will actually be a *few thousand* should this grassroots movement be accepted by our fellow American citizens. AP Party Chapters will spring up in towns and cities all over a given state when the People find out how citizen, family, and neighborhood friendly its focus and policies are.

Consider there are over 3,000 counties and parishes (Louisiana) across America most of which are well-populated. The simple math from the 2010 census is 310,000,000 citizens / 435 US Districts = 712,643 citizens per USD. One of Congress favorite things is reapportionment and redistricting to balance these population shifts. Both parties seem to always find time to work on this. For example, Florida gained population and went from 27 to 29 US Districts in 2012 which means other states lost those two (2) districts.

My guidance is that the Lead Administrative Chapter for US District be formed in the primary or largest city therein. This will support the practical need for central coordination especially during the candidate selection phase.

Therefore, when I am referring to the USD Chapters below I am referring functionally to those 435 Lead Administrative Chapters.

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First We Walk and Last We Vote

This is a brief overview of the flow of Our 2012 Electoral Revolution from early February thru November 6, 2012.

I have given this overall process the formal title of “Walk, Select, Sign and Vote – Against Princes and Princesses” with the latter reference to the men and women currently in the House and Senate. That is after all what they must think they are.

I will probably be using WSSVAPP as the name of the Central Blog and/or Facebook for communication from and postings to the Central Chapter of the AP Party.

Walk

I suggest that those interested in organizing and meeting people besides contacting those they already know plan at least one (1) weekly public gathering time during February and possibly into March. I would suggest Saturday from noon to 2pm in front of your County, Parish, or City Hall.

Just have a good old fashioned “walk-about” – an open, public setting for people to come by and ask questions or just listen to others talking about the movement. People can network, exchange contact info, and find out how to join the local Chapter.

I will be starting in my local area Carroll County, Maryland on Saturday February 11th. The prior weekend is the Super Bowl and people have partying on their mind.

Do not bother with a permit to start because this is public space and the facilities should be closed on Saturday. As those you know to show up and advertise a little each week as you can. Let the local press know what you are doing and see if maybe they could stop by too. That will be the best free advertising we can get even if it is light soft or neutral the first week or so.

These Walks will bring the first volunteers and want-to-be candidates to your Chapter and it will grow as the members begin to network and the Press covers what is happening with this new Third party grassroots movement. Remember reporters and Editors are looking for political stories this year and they are as worried about the economy as we are. They have to buy gas and groceries, too!

I will also be pushing the movement of Twitter (@OURIAPP), my Facebook (Andrew Jaye Wildman) a little, and the AP Party Blog (OutIAPP.typepad.com). And the new site or sites noted above. I will be doing research into the states Ballot requirements and postings the Job Openings for Congress around the country.

I will be pushing hard on the topics of freezing gas and grocery prices, Proposal #10 issues around murder, rape, pedophile crimes, and Proposal #22 about Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans. I suggest you do the same especially with the Press. And I will not be quiet about it.

The Walks will start in February and should run into March.

Select

As a by-product of the Walks and advertising you will have want-to-be candidates showing up around the state. The Committees mentioned below will coordinate the selection process and there will be more information on the AP Party Blog site and/or others.

For my part, I will need to identify a viable VP candidate, as soon as possible. Sometimes the VP name needs to be on the Petitions when signatures are collected. Mid-April is my target date. As stated I prefer for a woman to fill that position and would appreciate qualified suggestions.

This selection process will start in late March and needs to be done in April. We will miss some states, but very few if We keep the process moving. In some of those We will have the Write-In process as a viable backup plan.

Sign

Once the candidates are identified and all paperwork is in place the Petition Signature gathering will begin in line with each state's Start and End Dates. This should be the easiest part of the process once the public warms to the movement. Again, We will set-up in public locations on certain days of the week and certain time frames and *the people will come*. There is a committee noted for this below.

This could start in late April depending on the Selection process and the Start Date for Petition gathering.

This is all going to scare the **** out of both Parties and will make the evening news and the campaign's content much more interesting.

Vote

We will help get the vote out in every way we can and the rest will be history. The goals are to get at least a majority of seats in the House and in the Senate as well which will be a bit more complicated.

And that is **WSSVAPP**...

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Establish and Organize the Chapter

Just like the people of Wisconsin that joined together to collect 1,000,000 signatures to Recall the Governor they are displeased with and even more like what the Occupy Wall Street (OWS) movement did starting on September 19, 2011 – people from neighborhoods will hear about the AP Party grassroots movement and say to themselves We could do that here.

The first AP Party volunteers in each US District will get some friends, neighbors, co-workers together and begin organizing and spreading the word about the grassroots movement in their area e.g.. town, city, county, etc.

They will only need to form a few committees to get started and make real progress. Some committee types and their function are suggested for starting your Chapter and making to quickly productive.

The AP Party US District Chapter Code

The AP Party Chapters are intended to be independent in operation. While there will some guidance such as this from yours truly at the start of this movement and from a Headquarters Chapter eventually, my intent is that the Chapters run their operations without any heavy over-site from a party Central

Committee. The Chapters are formed to support the Common Good of the citizens in their respective areas from Day One. They should evolve and expand into a community service group.

The forming of the AP Party US District Chapter network is the beginning of a revival of Democracy in American government. They will be the People's voice and will provide watchful, public over-site of the legislative process in the US Congress going forward.

State Ballot and Recall Requirements Committee

This committee will follow the instructions in #6 above to document and carefully verify the state's Ballot Requirements for the US Representative, US Senator, and President/VP. They will also start the process of documenting the Recall Requirements for US Senator in their state that will certainly be more detailed and legalistic.

The first Chapters established in a given state can share that data with other groups formed in their state. Remember that this is not a one (1) year exercise as the AP Party will become a permanent part of the American political system. The working relationships of USD Chapters within and between states must be mutually supportive in nature from Day One.

Note: While Chapters may set-up a bank account and some organizational entity, do not collect any donations toward a candidate campaign fund until you verify your state's related guidelines.

Also, that candidate campaign committees are *for-profit* organizations as far as the IRS is concerned. Thus, donations to them are not tax deductible.

The Chapter Communications Committee

They will of course focus on spreading the word of their US District Chapter, the AP Party, and the Independent political platform across their US District and beyond. The first Chapters in a given state will promote the establishment of others in the state and across the nation through their network of friends, family, and co-workers.

Of course, each Chapter could and should create its own Facebook account and/or Internet site to post and distribute information about the Chapter events, the AP Party and its platform, and in time about their candidate(s).

Potential Candidate(s) Selection Committee

They will work to attract potential candidates for their US Representative's seat in the House and one (1) Senator if their state has one up for election this year.

I will offer the following comments regarding the selection criteria of potential AP Party candidates. These are not rules I am handing down, but based on my political perspective are rational points to be considered by the Chapters in identifying and qualifying viable candidates from each US District and state, and to yield a representative cross-section of our population in the new US Congress! My thoughts in no particular order are:

- I believe in heading off arguments, so this issue should be brought early and often in the Chapter meetings on the selection process.
- In a perfect world we would replace each member of the existing Congress with an identical profile regarding age, gender, race, etc., but that is not likely to happen.

- I would strongly suggest that the trying to keep to the same gender and race balance would be very desirable, but at the same time We cannot discourage good people from coming forward for any office based on any personal characteristic.
- No offense, but We do not want all white dudes or all women! If I had to choose though it would be more women, but only those that are determined to fix things not just go to fundraisers and compare shoes!
- Age must be at least 25 or 30 depending on the House or Senate respectively. I would suggest the upper sixties as of 2012 as a top age range. The oldest of the Baby Boomer generation is 65 this year. I will be 64 in July!
- Overall I would expect the average age of Congress to drop as younger people compete for these offices and I believe that will be a good thing overall. Too much nearly deadwood in Congress right now!
- Preferably no one that has been involved in Party politics all their life. That is a dead giveaway to a political hard liner. No hard Right or Left please.
- No elected political experience is a Great plus. Less baggage.
- Pretty or handsome is not required!
- No lawyers please, please, please. The majority of the current members of Congress declare their profession to be a lawyer and see how that has worked out for getting these solved. Lawyers are taught from the first day of Law school to argue to win and being right *has nothing to do with it. Please!*
- They must fully support the written AP Party platform and there may well be a written Pledge to be signed to that affect. We do not want any Right or Left Wing zealots sneaking into the Party and the selection process within each USD should weed them out. Just be careful.

Those are my thoughts on the issue.

Additional comments and procedures for the final selection of the Chapters first candidate(s) will be posted on the internet in the next few months. Be assured that only the people in the respective US District and state will select their candidate(s) – not yours truly or some central Chapter.

Plan the Signature Ballot Collection Dates

It may seem a bit pre-mature thinking, but not really. This all needs to happen over the next 3 to 4 months or so. We need to be collecting Petition signatures for House, Senate, and President/VP in April, May, June depending upon a given state's criteria. And it can be accomplished.

I offer that Tuesday evenings about 6:00 to 7:30pm and Saturday from 11:00am to 2:00pm would be convenient for most people as a national standard. It could always be extended and maybe a time on Sunday afternoon after church hours could be added by a given AP Party US District Chapter at their discretion.

AP Party US District Chapters will publicize the dates, times, and locations for Petition Signature drives. Once this movement connects with the People, they will find the locations and go there to sign up. The Petition stations will be set-up (like a Girl Scout cookie stand) public places that do not require a fee to be paid, such as in front of grocery stores, public libraries, post offices, Home Depot (where I worked part and full time over the last 7 years!), Lowes, public school parking lots, etc.

It will not be that difficult to collect even several thousand signatures for a USD House seat or statewide for Senate and President/VP seats in a well-organized and well-publicized manner in just a few weeks.

If We build it – The People will come and sign!

Voter Registration and Personal ID Committee

This is where the Chapter’s volunteers can come to the aid of the Electoral process that is currently under attack by mostly Republican operatives working deviously to decrease voter turnout by making it harder for some of us to vote. You have probably heard that in some states and/or counties the requirements for “proper id” is being tightened up. There are plenty of examples on the web. Check out “Rock the Vote” on the Internet.

This public service effort is two-fold. First, the Chapters will verify the Voter Registration Cut-off Date in their state and publicize it. They can offer local people help with transportation to the voter registration office nearby. One of the best places is the Department of Motor Vehicles or whatever it is called in your state. It is quick and has a separate line!!

Second, many thousands of citizens are registered, but do not have a current ID and again need transport to obtain such. That effort can go on right up until the day before the November 6, National Election and would allow many more People to vote that those that are playing their anti-Democratic games are deviously trying to exclude. Take that!

Responsibilities of AP Party USD Chapter #01 in Each State

I would strongly suggest for consistency that wherever US District #1 is located in every state, that it be responsible for any statewide administrative coordination tasks as the AP Party grows and matures. US District #1 is not always on the same area as the state capital which is just fine. If that group votes and does not wish to accept those responsibilities it would automatically default to US District #2, and so on.

Initially, that Chapter in each state would be tasked with coordinating the selection of any US Senator candidate from the Chapter pool across the state. They would coordinate the required statewide petition drives for Senator, for President/VP, and any Recall Drives that are initiated in 2012.

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That is all on the AP Party US District Chapter Process for now. Given committed volunteers all of the above can happen this year and with historic results. Best of luck out there!

Our 2012 Electoral Revolution

Even after deciding to merge *Common Sense 2012* with *Our 99% Solution*, I labored over the content of this particular piece the most and so it was written the very last. So, even though it is in the middle of this book it could be considered its conclusion.

If We Do These Things

I will anticipate that you have read everything up to this point and are now somewhat familiar with the AP Party citizen-oriented platform.

You have been presented with a somewhat radical, yet practical *Vision* of Our obtainable future – as a result of local volunteers building a viable Third political party across America, selecting and qualifying Independent candidates to oppose the dysfunctional US Congress, voting the People’s Congress into office this November along with a new President and VP, and finally having publicly prudent Solutions implemented for the Common Good of our citizens, neighborhoods, economy, and the environment.

Not Hope. Not Change. We the People will bring actual Solutions to Our broken economy and ailing society.

I know the sober economic analysis and radical, but yet again practical proposals detailed in Volume II and the loud public and political debate that I expect it will ignite. That debate once initiated will last through the year, will change the content of the National Election campaign, and finally be resolved in 2013. As a result, We as a nation will finally come to terms with our broken economy and the 1% vs. 99% struggle that is the underlying problem to be resolved. And resolve it We shall.

Making Our Intent Known by Civil Actions

For, We the People to declare this domestic Electoral Revolution means to undertake the civil actions presented above and more. Such grassroots civil actions by regular American citizens, our government will not be able to ignore or suppress. And those actions will cause more and more of our fellow American citizens to become involved in this Independent, grassroots movement as the year progresses.

For my part, I will as of the first week of February (today is 2-1-2012) be sending this book off to the publisher and turning my full attention to promoting what I am writing to You about herein. I will be stating to work in Carroll County, Maryland that is one county to the west of Baltimore City. I like many of you will be doing something that I am not that comfortable doing. Remember I am a writer which by its nature is a reclusive pastime and for almost a decade. Thus, I will need to draw on my 34 years as a consultant in Washington, DC as I go out to promote the AP Party, the creation of USD Chapters across Maryland and America, its solution-based platform, this book and CS2, and yours truly.

And I will do it as loudly as I possibly can. I will grow to the challenge and connect with other concerned citizens with the desire to make this Independent AP Party grassroots movement the great success that We and Our nation need it to become.

A few weeks ago, I was discussing with an acquaintance my intent to run for President and create a viable Third party grassroots movement across America. He asked me what my chances of success were. I simply replied that “I, was going to do what has never been done before in American political history”.

And now my concerned fellow American citizen, You have been given the game plan for “Us, to do what has never been done before in American political history”.

We have a party, a plan, and a platform that will allow us to dictate our future and be once again in control of our government. And working together for the Common Good, We cannot be stopped.

One of the things that President Ronald Reagan said and that I would care to share is that *regular People will not take to the streets unless they know that there is something in it for them*. That is not a bad thing and it is a basic fact human nature for anyone to consider such personal grassroots political involvement. And frankly most of us never do.

However, to expand on what Reagan said, I believe that Americans will of course be drawn to their favorite parts of the AP Party platform for what personal benefit there is, but will also consider what it will benefit many other fellow citizens, as well. We will do it in the Democratic spirit of “what is best for the Common Good”.

Such Democratic spirit has run deep in the Citizens of the United States of America for over 230 years and it runs strong today.

Therefore, my fellow American, You and I are now challenged to engage in this 2012 Electoral Revolution for the sake of those that We know and Love, and otherwise care about. And for the 310,000,000 of our fellow citizens that You and I will never, ever meet.

Take care,

A J Wildman

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End of Volume I – Common Sense 2012

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Volume II

Our 99% Solution

Confronting Our Second Great Depression

*The American De-Centralization of
Wealth Program Model*

Introduction

Once in the course of human events our national ancestors were challenged to confront Tyranny in government. It was the English monarchy of King George III.

In January of 1776, Thomas Paine published his revolution igniting pamphlet, *Common Sense*. His words clearly identified the primary problem of the 2.5 million American colonists. It was living under an abusive, self-serving English monarchy that ignored their basic needs and concerns. It was Paine in *Common Sense* that first called for a “*declaration of independence*” to free the people from their Royal oppressor and to create a new Democratic form of government. Just six (6) months later on July 4th the *Declaration of Independence* was signed by 57 brave patriots and the American civil war for independence began. Yes, it was a civil war that had countrymen fighting against countrymen.

Some 235 years later We the People find ourselves in grimly similar situation. Economically and legislatively ignored and oppressed by the self-serving Few or “the 1%” that is their new public title. This public abuse is fully supported and maintained by the 535 members of “their” US Congress that ignores the growing pain of the 99%! Therefore, the Congress also deserves a more descriptive public nickname and the term “*legislative prostitutes*” is offered for public consideration. Just calling it like it is!

Their US Congress is now bought and paid for by big campaign donations from the 1%, Wall Street, and Big Industry lobbyists. The lobbyist control over the House and Senate is now so blatant they actually receive checks distributed on the floor of Congress.

Now, while the Republicans and Democrats put on a public show that they are battling each other over the issues – that is all it really is, a show. In spite of the fact that many members have been in Congress for decades, they will not fix the basic problems that We face.

For example, neighborhood crime is up all over the country and they do not even talk about it anymore. Consider that crime is a 99% problem and the Prison Industry related donors want to keep building and running prisons. Any questions?

They will not even work together to pass a much needed Jobs legislation. In the end their collective goal is to maintain the status quo, change nothing, and work to keep their campaign donors happy.

To speak about the White House for a moment, it must be acknowledged that our presidents Republican and Democrat come and go every 4 to 8 years and some are certainly been better for the Common Good of the People than others. However, they too serve and yield to the corporate monarchy that legislatively controls the Congress and large campaign donations. It is all a part of what could be called the, *Congressional System* – a self-perpetuating legislative network that lives to preserve the status quo.

So here we are my fellow American citizens living with a contracting economy regardless of how the Dow Jones Industrial average rises or how the politicians spin their domestic propaganda.

Over the last decade and in the last few years in particular the control of the Few over the legislative agenda in Congress has reached critical mass. Nothing for the Common Good of our citizens can be enacted when the Few demand the status quo be preserved. Combine the self-preserving greed of the 1% with an economy that is looking more like 1929 every day and We the People are being set-up for another

devastating fall. However, the 99% are becoming aware of that approaching catastrophe and We will not allow ourselves to be casually thrown under the bus as our predecessors were.

The way our contracting economy is absolutely headed right now – America will experience its second “Black Tuesday” type Stock Market and Financial Industry Crash in the near future. Financial experts are admitting that event is now inevitable and cannot be far off driven by Wall Street’s final greedy assault on our pockets. That assault is the speculative manipulation Commodity prices that have driven up the cost of food, energy prices with no relation to Supply and Demand or Free Market practices. The results have been another blow to our and many other national economies. It is making America financial enemies around the world – hence the term, “*American Greed*”.

In brief this worldwide, multiple-country, commodity pain is caused since the US Dollar is the World Reserve Currency, traditionally requiring that all goods from light bulbs to airplanes must be purchased in Dollars. Thus, nations must convert their currency into Dollars for all international trade.

Please reference Appendix A for an informative look at how Commodity prices jumped from August of 2010 to August of 2011. Every day the Wall Street Journal publishes a “Cash Prices” chart detailing a standard set of Energy, Food, Metal, and other Commodities. It shows the ‘actual’ price paid the prior day and from one (1) ago. Over that year Commodity prices jumped an average of 40% to 60% with Corn driven up 92%. In recent years, Wall Street management has deviously manipulated the price of human and business necessities and it has rippled negatively around the globe.

The result of all this greed and signs of the dollars pending collapse and our Second Depression includes:

- The Dollar continues to lose its value and has lost too much value already.
- The Dollar is not always accepted as Americans travel around the world.
- Russia and China are planning to use their own currencies for cross border trade.
- Middle Eastern oil producing countries are also moving toward other currencies for their trading.

One day this will all fall apart.

Play Money for the Fed

Note that it is only because the US Dollar is still the World’s Reserve Currency that the Federal Reserve Board (Fed) may print all the money it wants to. Since the Wall Street and Banking crisis off 2008 and 2009 the Fed has used that unique ability to print trillions of dollars to cover bailouts, the annual deficit, various debts, and other liabilities. That practice is like putting a Band-Aid on the sucking wound. If the economic doctors do not take aggressive action(s) soon enough the patient and in our case the economy will die. Since Congress and the White House are clueless and/or politically gutless when it comes to addressing the annual budget deficit, each year the National Debt can and does only grow. Here is why.

The following are the working numbers for the 2011 federal budget year:

Total Federal Budget	\$2.4 trillion
Less business tax receipts	.2 trillion
Less personal tax receipts	<u>.9 trillion</u>
Annual Deficit 2011	\$1.3 trillion

You can imagine that level of creative national accounting cannot go on forever. It is a reason why the Fed is printing money and the US Dollar could soon be quite useful for toilet paper. That is not a joke, but I wish it was.

I absolutely believe that the leadership of the Congress, the White House, the Treasury, the Fed of course, and the management of the mainstream Press are quite aware of this coming crisis. They also know that current domestic policy and all the jobs programs they could start cannot stop that decline. They are just killing time, going thru the public motions, and keeping the farce going as long as possible until our economy or Europe's finally collapses and the Second Great Depression crushes all Western economies. Then it will be 1929, again.

Now if you are not yet familiar with the US Dollar Crisis or the pending Wall Street Crash. Or if you initially find all this hard to believe just because the network and cable Press are not covering what should be the biggest story of the day, then try this.

Just type "US Dollar Crisis" into Google, hit Enter, and get ready for over 133,000,000 hits as of 1-29-2012 and that is up from 107,000,000 back on 10-22-2011. Technically, maybe it isn't propaganda if the Press is just not talking about it. Then again maybe the term suppression comes into play. Frankly, We are witnessing a national exercise in domestic propaganda favoring the Few with Power and Wealth against the Common Good of 310,000,000 American citizens.

Further, if you have not seen the 90-minute video at NewAmerica3.com that has been advertised on CNN and MSNBC, then key that into Goggle and press Enter. It is admittedly an infomercial for a financial services company and has some expected hype about it, the Big Picture view it gives of our economic predicament is well presented. You just might want to pour yourself a stiff drink beforehand though. Just watch it once, for yourself and those you love!

We the People must understand and accept that our economy is *terminally broken*. It was born in the 1940s, peaked in the mid-1970s, and has been in decline since then. The Plain Truth is that the Bush II economic policies accelerated that decline which Wall Street knew was coming, and allowed the 1% to ravage the 99% in the process.

Thus, our dying economy must be forcibly retooled over the cries of those who are still squeezing any nickel they can out of the Masses until it falls-apart some "Black Tuesday". The prudent, yet clearly radical framework of that retooling process is what we are talking about herein.

So, enough said on that.

The Strange Concept of National Preparation

Who Knows About this Coming Depression?

It must be crystal clear that the leadership of the Republican and Democratic parties in both the Senate and House of Representatives know this is coming. And that includes Boehner, Pelosi, Reed, and McConnell.

President Obama and his advisors know this is coming. Wall Street, big business, and the Banking Industry know this is coming primarily because they have caused it.

And most disturbing of all, the management and many individual members of the American Press, the Fourth Estate and the alleged protectors of the public good know about it and are not shamefully quiet. Shamefully! The working Press should realize how many more of them will lose their own jobs after the Crash.

Without significant national preparation for such a brutal economic event there will be initial public chaos for many months and a Second Depression for a bad decade at least. Frankly, people will die due to violence in their own neighborhoods and that is not hype or a joke.

The “hard fact” of this situation is that the Congressional leadership, the White House, and the management of the American Press have full knowledge of this pending disaster and are saying and doing nothing about it. Nothing for the 99% at least! Ask your own US Representative and/or Senator about it and watch them dance or their eyes glaze over! The miserable bunch of bastards and bitches... Yes do not forget that the women in Congress are also failing American families! Does that truth hurt ladies? It certainly should.

Granted that when these Wall Street games really got ramped up in the 2001 under Bush II, the 1% and their handlers “might not” have intended the economic train wreck their efforts could eventually bring down upon the Masses. However, the years have passed and as in 1929 the 1% has once again overly centralized personal wealth and political power. And they will not and cannot stop themselves.

“The greater the concentration of power, the greater the paranoia it generates about its need to destroy everything outside itself”.

Unknown...

Thus, the challenge of our Second American Revolution is the historic reckoning between the Haves and the Have-nots, for control for our economy, our lives, and national destiny. Whether it is 1vs99 or 5vs95, the “avoidable” economic tyranny must end. The current “wealth imbalance” is summarized as follows:

Approximate US Personal Wealth Distribution 2011

Total US Personal Wealth (dollars)	\$55 Trillion
Wealth held by Millionaire or higher households (and growing)	<u>\$35 Trillion</u> or @63%
Wealth held by all other US households (and shrinking)	\$20 Trillion or @37%

As will be reviewed later, the politicians keep yacking about income inequality which is certainly a key part of the current problem. For example, to be considered in the 1% relative to income, a person must be earning at least \$380,000 per year.

My research and analysis indicates that concept of adjusting income to correct the problem is not a viable approach and besides that it could never happen.

What is most distressing is that only 1 or 2 Americans in a thousand are even aware of this very real and pending calamity that will hurt the lives of everyone that they know and care about.

It will be a catastrophic economic event causing far greater public devastation than the 1929 Crash and the decade plus Great Depression that followed. Especially if the People are not warned and the nation is somewhat prepared for it. Prepared for the day-to-day disruption it will bring down upon our people, economy, and society for years to come.

However, We are getting and will be alerted. We will not be blind-sided by Wall Street, the Banks, and by our own dam government as the Masses were in 1929.

A Publicly Realistic Approach

With the growing awareness of this crisis, it is only responsible and expected that one of us would in time step forward with a solution to what the *experts* are quietly declaring as “un-fixable”. They are correct in that We cannot re-create the American economy that most of us grew up in. Capitalism as We know it was born in the post-World War II era when America was the only economy in the world that was not blown up! We were the only show in town and were re-building the world and expanding domestically from the East coast to the West coast. I dog with a note could have started a business in the 1950s and been successful! And I like dogs.

This is a whole new economic reality and world – and We the People must be brave and demanding.

Thus, in response to this coming crisis an admittedly radical, but potentially viable program has been developed. The 99% friendly approach addresses how the crisis could be prudently and practically confronted for the Common Good of our citizens. Yours truly has over 35 years of business problem solving background supporting corporate and federal agency clients. I am a leading edge Baby Boomer, a committed patriot and a hard core political Independent.

So That We Do Understand Each Other

The program to be overviewed will probably not be the final process to be implemented, BUT it is very close to what must be accomplished for the Common Good of our citizens and society. Make no mistake about that. I fully expect that some will not like parts or all of this program at first hearing and maybe never. That is their problem! Many American colonists did not want a war of independence from England when Thomas Paine wrote of it in *Common Sense* either.

To that public sentiment I will bluntly offer that I did not totally enjoy coming to these rational conclusions or the tedious task of writing them down here and in *The Second Coming of Common Sense* so that hopefully a couple hundred million of my fellow citizens to eventually read. However, one of us had to do it because our elected national leadership has collectively failed us.

It is not as though I drew the short straw and had to do this. I have deeply desired to do something like this for the good our people and my country, and have worked many years to come such an opportunity. Therefore, a little consideration would be appreciated. It may surprise, but personally wish that some of them were not absolutely necessary. However, they are practical problem solutions and will certainly serve the Common Good of our citizens, economy, and society. Thus, I fully expect them to find acceptance with at least 60% of our citizens *and most importantly* this year with the American Electorate.

What is in a Name?

The proposal's formal title is "***The American De-Centralization of Wealth Program***" or **DWP** and could also be referred to as "The Adjustment". It is an approach that will decrease the public's pain and would at least delay the Crash thus allowing more time for economic preparation. In the best case scenario it might even be aggressive enough to actually prevent the full blown Depression which *would* be a small miracle. And amen should that happen!

However, in any case, life in America will be forever altered. In the end my fellow Americans, We are practically faced with solutions that involve a national reckoning involving money, property, corporate spreadsheets, and acts of greed that is as old as civilization.

I know that any of our problems can be resolved to the Common Good of our 310,000,000 citizens.

The only remaining question at this point is are We finally ready to Demand those problems be resolved or will We do nothing and see just how hard our nation will Crash into the wall...

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What Problems Must Be Solved?

Simply stated, our nation's core economic problem is that the *cost-of-living (COL)* has become too high for too many Americans to live a reasonable Quality of Life. Granted some of the Few will reply that is a subjective evaluation, but this is America not a third world country. This is where the hard and ugly Truths of the 1% vs. 99% percent struggle is played out in every country in the world and America is not excluded from that confrontation with reality.

The Great Depression of the 1930s and early 1940s was our last confrontation with this ancient struggle that was initiated on a bad day in 1929 thanks to the Few of an earlier generation and another weak government. The only thing that interrupted that Depression was a World War and the 60-odd year Economic Bubble that came from rebuilding the developed world.

This time We will not have another World War and Boom to save the Masses from the Few, and We are thereby required to be more creative and forceful to prevent the economic disaster of the 1930s from returning to your and my neighborhoods. Again, the natural consolidation of wealth and political Power are just that and you can look at any nation and evaluate where it stands in that cycle. The wealthy are and will fight any effort at fairness which all the Masses actually desire. Wealth equality is nonsense to even discuss because it cannot ever be attained, nor should it.

The proposal presented herein is one way is technically addressing America's problem that has since our economy began is slow, but steady contraction in the mid-1970s! And now We are approaching 1940 as is much of the Western Financial world. And the 1% and their protectors in the financial industry and governments everywhere are and will fight any realistic plan to interrupt that contraction until it all falls apart. Not that any plan has even seen the light of day yet.

Therefore, here We are my fellow American citizens and economically it is early 1929 and all the bills are coming due. And in our case, We will be required to call on American style Democracy and the US Constitution to rule over what happens from here on for Common Good to be preserved.

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Thus, with that frame of reference let us continue.

The COL problems are only being made worse by Wall Street games in Banking and the Commodity Markets along with the failure of our elected national leadership to control them.

Individuals and families are struggling month-to-month if not day-to-day just to get by. *At least* one-third (1/3) of our fellow American citizens are below the Poverty Level and those income numbers are decades old and a sick joke. While 1/3 is any easy number to throw around on the evening news – it equates to 103,000,000 of our fellow American citizens – real people and the economy is not getting better for them. We all know that many in the next 1/3 is getting nervous!

The *COL crisis* must become an active political issue in America just as it is in a growing list of other countries Europe and other places.

Only Two (2) Ways Out

Realistically, ours or any nation's urgent struggle to effectively deal with such a *COL crisis* among its people can **only** be positively addressed in one (1) of two (2) ways. It must be done by *either increasing* people's *income* and/or by *decreasing the cost of necessities*, e.g., housing, food, energy items, etc. There are simply no other ways to do it. Period!

This is a major part of the economic problem the European countries such as Greece and Italy are having with other countries close behind. With the Arab Spring nations, Liberty and Freedom are important parts, but the COL and lack of living wage jobs are the strong under-current. Follow the money...

To think that our 2012 economic crisis can be remedied with "jobs programs" alone or that We have many years to resolve a \$15 Trillion national debt and \$1.5 Trillion annual deficit is ridiculous political propaganda – at best it is a fool's wishful thinking.

It is the false rhetoric that politicians representing those that put us in this mess are basing their Presidential and Congressional campaigns on! Our elected national leadership is clueless as to how to rebuild our economy for the Common Good of the Masses and those they really work for are not interested in suggestions anyway.

The DWP proposal radically, yet prudently addresses the COL problem in several related areas, but I declare the driving focus must be on **housing** that is practically a person's or family's largest monthly and lifetime expense.

Since 2008, rather than the Congress doing something about this dire situation, America has witnessed the orchestrated opposite of it. Food, energy, and metal prices are up 40 to 60% in just the last 14 months (Oct 2011). Also there is continued corporate outsourcing and slow hiring into often low wage jobs. Government jobs are being cut at all levels, including police when crime is going up! Wages have been stagnated for over a decade in a management friendly, labor hostile work place. Employers are finding creative ways to 'purge and replace' higher hourly wage employees with those at lower rates. That is happening every day.

The COL has steadily increased, but somehow our government keeps telling us inflation is low? Again, it is blatant domestic propaganda promoted by *quiet* agreement between the Congress, the White House, the Treasury, and the Fed. This provides an example of what it takes for them all to work together smoothly in Congress. Keeping the Masses in the dark like a bunch of mushrooms...

Once this revolutionary proposal is allowed to or screams its way into the Press and the general public's awareness, there should be quite a loud initial reaction from the wealthy and their protectors in Wall Street and the US Congress. It will make the evening news oddly entertaining!

Through countless conversations with all sorts of people of this program many of us not in the 1% do not really like this approach in that it is giving some others a chance at something they did not earn. Especially, those people that have worked hard all their life and earned what they have today. However, my friends this is the guts of solving the macro-economic problems of 310,000,000 in a broken economy.

I often point out to people that the only reason that Europe's Medical Systems serves all of their citizens and are not as screwed up as ours is today is because their entire Medical System was literally blown up in World War II! They had to start over from scratch and take care of everybody because no one had anything. Think about that FACT as the Medical Insurance

Industry rages against a practical Medical System via their well campaigned financed legislative prostitutes in Congress. The Medical Insurance Industry's selfish lobbying kills some of us every day, but helps them make their bonuses. Check Proposal 22 – Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans in The Second Coming of Common Sense. We can deal with them. But I digress.

Along with preparing our people for the expected Second Great Depression with the DWP program We will confront and finally deal with our central problem that being the destructive Have/Have-Not imbalance of wealth and political power in America.

As stated, the Few now possess over 63% of America's personal wealth. That serves as a clear example of economic and tax policies that are out of control and obviously not concerned with the Common Good of the Masses.

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At the human heart of addressing this complicated and highly sensitive national problem solving exercise are some society defining questions:

- How much does each of us really care about our fellow citizens?
- How much do we expect our fellow citizens to care each other?
- How much does American Democracy permit the People to Demand of each other to practically serve the Common Good of our 310 million citizens?

As radical as these public Solutions to overly centralized wealth first appear, and in spite of the verbal hell it will raise in opposition, some form of this Common Good program MUST indeed be implemented. Once the Plain Truth of this crisis has been communicated to the 99% -- We will not tolerate inaction.

It is for We the People, the concerned and struggling Masses to collectively demand implementation of these radical, yet necessary solutions. A few parts of the DWP program need be implemented as soon as possible. For the Common Good to be served, implementation should begin before the November 6, 2012 National Election. We must demand it and very loudly during the campaign season!

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Our Limited National Options

Over the last ten (10) years, the powers in Wall Street and Big Industry have successfully manipulated our economy and political system to create their false profits and to consolidate political power. Their actions were deliberate and very intentionally done without concern or respect for the Common Good of our citizens - or - the earth's deteriorating environment for that matter.

The 535 members of the US Congress and the Obama Administration are not approaching this Depression-level crisis with any realistic economic plans whatsoever. They are primarily concerned with re-election and not rocking the status quo.

Thus, I declare to you in this 11th hour the 99% are looking at two (2) hard options. Neither option is what we want to do, but the DWP proposal would *at least* provide us with a controlled economic Crash landing! We will briefly touch on both options and then will go into more detail on each of them. We do have some recourse in either approach.

Option One – The Government Does Nothing to Prepare the Nation

Our dysfunctional national leadership is currently exercising the classic first option in any problem solving exercise – which is to do nothing. They are content along with their masters to do nothing and one day all too soon the Second Great Depression will crush our economy and devastate the masses, the 99%. The details on how the 99% will prudently respond to such leadership failure will be presented shortly.

Option Two – The 99% Demand the American DWP Proposal

The intent is for the public to embrace this proposal and demand that the DWP be aggressively implemented and that means immediately.

That historic proposal deliberately draws social, economic, and political lines in the sand. The presentation will be fairly brief considering the magnitude of what is being proposed, but the key provisions and publicly oriented reasoning are presented. The model utilizes conservative wealth numbers in the De-centralization model. The model could be modified as those for and against the proposal publicize their opinions on it. And there will be loud opinions! However, it will only be modified in a manner that is consistent with the Common Good of our 310 million citizens. Period!

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Option One

The Government Does Nothing to Prepare the Nation

Regarding what will happen if the Crash occurs and little or nothing has been done to prepare the nation for it.

Please consider the real possibility that some entities on Wall Street already have tentative dates for the Crash already loaded into their corporate spreadsheets! The run up to this crisis is the result of cold, calculated pre-meditation involving Wall Street, Big industry, and the leadership of the US Congress for mutual profit. Their financial gains have come at the public's pain, the economy's expense, and now We are being set-up for what could be called Wall Street Act III – a Second Great Depression. Once again the Few will win and the Masses will lose. Greedy American history *tries* to repeat itself in just 83 years.

When the 1929-type Crash occurs along with the devastating loss of the US Dollar as the World Reserve Currency, these and other bad things will begin to occur:

- The Stock Market will lose half of its value in a matter of weeks.
- People's savings will be wiped out just as fast.
- Banks will fail and others will rapidly merge in order to survive.
- As in the 1930's the surviving banks will not want to make loans. Not that they are making any loans now. And that is simply because their management knows the Crash is coming.
- The already weak housing market will totally collapse. That is why the DWP proposal will freeze housing prices at their October 2011 values before the Crash happens.
- The price of everything will go straight up due to the related hyper-inflation caused by US Dollar devaluation. Just imagine bread at \$15 a loaf or more! Get the picture?
- Food costs and availability are where the real trouble in the streets will begin almost immediately. Especially if the government does nothing before-hand.
- Pension and retirement funds tied into Wall Street's investment fun houses will be severely impacted or emptied. This includes city, state pension funds as well.
- As the crisis settles in, struggling Americans will stop paying on some \$11 to \$12 trillion in outstanding mortgages.
- Renters will be unable to make their rent and soon many landlords will not be able to pay their rental mortgage. It will be like dominos falling!
- The investors in mortgages, for owner occupied and rental properties will lose much if not all of their investments.

As in the 1930's, the banks and landlords will begin evicting families and foreclosing on owner-occupied and rented homes. That is why the DWP proposal acts to pay-off residential housing

prior to the Crash. Doing it after the Crash starts would be more difficult, but sadly that may be how it is addressed in the end.

- People will soon stop paying on some \$1 trillion is outstanding Student Loans. Investors will lose.
- Many parents will not be able to afford tuition payments for Parochial and other private schools. Students and schools will lose. The same scenario applies for college tuition, as well.
- People will soon stop paying on some \$900 billion is outstanding Credit Card balances. Investors will lose.
- People will soon stop making their car/truck payments. Investors will lose.
- Public disorder will be a real threat in every community. Calm will be best maintained if the government *guarantees* people they will at least have food and a roof over their families head. Day-to-day life will be a hard struggle for many months simply while the country is adjusting to Depression level living conditions.
- Personal, family, and neighborhood safety and security will be a very real concern everywhere.

This is nothing to look forward to at all. Our people must be warned and prepared, but even with adequate warning many will remain in denial until it happens. That is just human nature.

We the People cannot allow the nation to be lead blindly down the same road as our family's predecessors were in 1929. The political power that orchestrated that national disaster and also kept it hidden until *the Crash* will not be allowed to cheap shot us again.

When national government has prior knowledge of such a human disaster and does nothing to prepare the Masses for it, the reasons for their inaction are:

- First, because they are serving the 1% and really do not care about the people they were elected to serve...
- They are scared of bringing it up.
- They know they do not have a clue about how to fix the problem.
- Or they themselves do not believe it can happen, being in denial themselves.

Fortunately, my fellow Americans, We will not let the pending Crash be hidden any longer. We have our own program for attacking the economic crisis, and we will be taking no prisoners!

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How the 99% Will Collectively Respond to Such Leadership Failure

The following is not a threat. It is a solemn promise as serious as a heart attack from the Masses, the Silent Majority, the 99%, from We the Citizens of the United States of America. It is a promise to the 535 current members of the US Congress, Wall Street and Bank management, the White House, the 1%, those that treat We the People as King George III treated our founding national ancestors.

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Should President Obama’s administration, the 435 members of the US House of Representatives, and the 100 members of the US Senate fail to prepare our nation for the coming financial crisis, We the People will immediately and as a united force respond as follows and more:

- We will declare all owner occupied foreclosures cancelled. People will stay in their homes.
- We will cease making mortgage payments and declare the property paid.
- We will claim our current residence whether owner occupied or rented as our own.
- We will reduce residential rental payments by 50% (and there will be more details on that).
- We will cease making Student Loan payments and declare them as paid.
- We will cease making gasoline and consumer credit card payments and declare them as paid.
- We will cease making car/truck loan payments and declare them as paid.
- We will cease making installment payments on any product as such furniture and declare them paid.
- We will declare all Chapter/13 personal bankruptcy plans cleared and satisfied.
- We will declare all Chapter/7 personal bankruptcies now in process, many of which are caused by huge medical costs to be cancelled and completely cleared.

In essence, We the People will stand united and reject any monthly expense other than:

- All utilities for our residence
- Food and household necessities
- Phone service
- Cable/satellite service
- Transportation expenses such as gasoline
- Home insurance
- Property taxes
- Vehicle insurance
- Property maintenance
- Disposable income, if there *is anything left*.

You get the idea and they will get it too! None of this is a joke or even light-hearted. And Wall Street and the Banks will know that We really are as serious as a heart attack. It will be their heart attack not ours!

That should get our point across. The negotiation will start from there and We the People shall not only be at the table this time – We will be running the meeting. Period.

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Option Two

The 99% Demand the

American De-Centralization of Wealth Proposal (DWP)

***“The Adjustment” for the Common Good of our Citizens*”**

What you are about to consider is admittedly just as radical as Thomas Paine in January of 1776 declaring to 2.5 million American colonists that if they ever wanted to be rid of their oppression that they must declare war on the British Empire! And this proposal or some version thereof is equally as necessary at this time. Sometimes, just considering a problem-solving alternative just as radical as the extreme situation that must be resolved allows People to see the Big Picture and then reach a rational compromise between two. We the People shall see...

I offer no excuse for the financial severity of what this proposal suggests. The pendulum of wealth abuse has swung too far to one-side in America this last decade and only a severe *adjustment* will force it back toward center. It is a *question of balance*.

I will only add as I make my final pass through these pages the afternoon of January 31, 2012 that in the Big Picture of Western Financial markets and all the debts of people, banks, corporations, and governments that in the end (which is so near) a gargantuan and historic reckoning is due and cannot be denied. Only an objective reconciliation of accounts and assets at all levels will settle all the players and avoid horrendous social upheavals.

It clearly must be done and it absolutely can be done. This writing hopes to ignite the national and international public debate that is now required and that coming events will soon enough force upon us.

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Since We hear so much about these percentages let’s note exactly what 1% versus 99% means today if We are talking about 310,000,000 American citizens.

100% equals	310,000,000	
99% equals	<u>306,900,000</u>	
1% equals	3,100,000	
1/10 of 1% equals	310,000	Which is where the greatest concentration really exists.

Thus, 99.9% equals 309,690,000 People!

And for that matter let’s note exactly what 5% versus 95% means today.

100% equals	310,000,000
95% equals	<u>294,500,000</u>
5% equals	15,500,000

Any questions?

De-centralization versus Re-distribution of National Wealth

For those sad Few among us that will surely start screaming that De-centralization of wealth is just another way of saying Re-distribution of wealth, let it be acknowledged that they are absolutely correct! The boring fact is that those same Few people never rage against the excessive “Centralization of Wealth” – because the growing and gross concentration of national wealth by the Few at the expense of the Masses is just fine with them.

We must acknowledge the ancient fact that wealth and power within a tribe or a nation will always evolve toward centralization. That is the way it has and always will work. It must also be noted that how poorly that centralized power traditionally treats the Common Good of the Masses over the centuries has typically been described as *revolution*. Therefore, We are only acting normally! However, thanks to our US Constitution, We will fight our war with votes!

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Fellow citizens, *this is the moment world history* when the People of one (1) nation, *our nation*, will finally stand and confront the tyranny of centralized wealth and political power, thus declaring an end to such avoidable public abuse. *We will be those People* because the US Constitution gives Us the Right, the Obligation to each other, and Absolute Power to do it... Thus, if We the People, the 99% collectively determine to set this plan in motion and confront the dysfunctional US Congress – there is nothing they can do to stop us. Period!

The condition of *over-centralization of wealth* and political power has shown its ugly head over the last decade in America and We owe our special thanks for that to the no corporate rules, last Republican administration. The abusive lobbyist control over the US Congress to benefit the 1%, at the obvious expense of the 99%, is a prime example of what is cautioned in the *Declaration of Independence*. It is implied that “in the Course of human events” *situations may arise over the years that the whole population must address – when the current government either can’t or won’t attend to the Common Good*.

We are the Many. We the People, *must take* collective action to confront and resolve this situation or else the Few among us will never stop their abuses. It is the way of the world. Remember the expression, “Absolute power corrupts absolutely”. That is our situation with Wall Street and the Big Industry lobbyists that blatantly control the Congress and it is frankly looking like the White House, as well.

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The American De-Centralization of Wealth Program (DWP)

Now let's review the De-centralization of Wealth model. Again, the numbers presented are intended to be conservative and thus provide a viable example. To be clear, this program will only serve legal citizens in all program areas. This crisis among other things will force us come to final terms with our illegal occupant (IO) problems and other population control issues.

The Four (4) Phases of Our National Financial Restructuring

It must be acknowledged right up front that We are not seeking financial equality for that is frankly unnatural and could never be accomplished even if it were acceptable which it is not! We are however demanding financial fairness and will accept nothing less.

- **Phase 1 – Control and Preparation**
- **Phase 2 – The Adjustment of Personal Debt**
- **Phase 3 – The Adjustment of the National Debt**
- **Phase 4 – The Citizen Pathway to Home Ownership**

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Phase 1 – Control and Preparation

These items are intended to be addressed in preparation for the Crash event.

- Cancel ALL on-going “owner-occupied” foreclosures.
- Citizens will stay in their homes.
- Recently completed foreclosures will be reversed if possible, also putting families back in their homes.

To be crystal clear, a hard and non-negotiable goal of this program is that every American citizen will have not only a fixed address, but be on a clear path to home ownership in some form. Our citizens ***must never again*** be worried about keeping a roof over their or their families head. It is called taking care of our people. What a concept!

- Residential Housing Prices will be frozen indefinitely at their fair market price as of October 1, 2011. From that point they will only be allowed to go down in value.
- Over the last few years, the Commodity prices that Wall Street has been deliberately manipulated upward have been pushing national economies around the world toward collapse.

From August 2010 to August 2011 prices went up 40 to 60% across the board. And they will adjusted back down immediately by at least 25%. *They will be frozen for at least six (6) months while world economies are brought under control.*

The out of control speculative trading in critical Commodities will end. Ponder all that for a few minutes. Those policy announcements alone will be like turning on the kitchen lights in a house invested with bugs. That refers to the Wall Street Houses and their clients that are legally buying Commodity Futures without being publicly identified. They will take their money and seek away.

- With many Commodity prices, especially in Energy and Food items lowered it will help economies around the world! Retailers especially grocery stores will be required to lower their prices appropriately.
- Consider that Wall Street with its freewill manipulation of Commodity prices has publicly trashed the *sacred* Republican mantras of Supply and Demand, and wanting a Free Market. Phrases that now only serve as domestic propaganda and bad tasting sound bites.
- Further, we may well decide to remove major Oil Commodities from the Markets altogether and go to direct contracts with actual users. Again, what a concept! This will cut out ALL speculation and game playing with the world's most critical natural resource (save water). The Oil Industry has treated the world's economy and environment like their private sandbox for decades while taking no responsibility for the disastrous results they (and coal) have directly caused! If someone rejects the science of Global Warming they are an idiot! The Republican Party actually had the term "climate change" invented to put a distracting name on it.

Importantly we would be severing the Oil Industry's power over the Congress and our lives. We will finally declare a real Energy Policy that is not written by the industry for Congress.

And by the way, OPEC no longer adjusts the price of Oil for several years now. It is controlled and thus can be manipulated for the fun and profit by an office on Wall Street! There is that absolute power thing again...

Such people-based policies as contained in the DWP will contribute to building a publicly oriented New World Order that will serve and be run, By the People! A very good thing!

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Phase 2 – The Adjustment of Personal Debt

Now folks, as they say this is where the rubber meets the road and bullet meets the bone!

Approximate US Personal Wealth Distribution

Total US Personal Wealth (dollars)	\$55 Trillion
Wealth held by Millionaire or higher households (at least)	<u>\$35 Trillion</u> or @63%
Wealth held by all other US households (at most)	\$20 Trillion or @37%

Wealth De-centralization Model

Wealth held by Millionaires or higher households	\$35 Trillion
<i>The Adjustment Factor (probable maximum amount)</i>	<u>\$15 Trillion</u>
Remaining Wealth held by Millionaire or higher households (at least)	\$20 Trillion or 37%

Use of Adjustment Funding

Pay-off – outstanding balances on Residential Mortgages on 1 to 4 family properties and farm residences. Commercial units are not included in this program.	\$12 Trillion
Pay-off – ALL existing Student Loans, approximately	\$1 Trillion
Pay-off – ALL existing personal credit card balances	<u>\$1 Trillion</u>
Total expended against Adjustment funding	\$14 Trillion

The Bankers and Wall Street types will certainly push back that it is too complicated getting that \$15 trillion dollars from people's assets. And for once they could be telling the Truth.

To them we will say that may be true, BUT just go and get it done or your replacement will take care of it. No whining and no prisoners. The exercise will probably expose even more of their monetary game playing.

All disbursements will be signed for, every dollar tracked, and any funds violators will go directly to jail. And that means a state prison not a federal play pen!

That leaves about \$1Trillion that will be used in the tedious process of converting many rental properties to owned properties over the next several years. In many cases, rentals could be transferred to the renter or another citizen. Mortgages on rental units will be paid off, but in many cases will not be retained by the investor. Some considerations and allowances will be made on a situation basis however this will not be an investor bail-out. They would not be bailed out in a blind-sided 1929 Crash and they will not need to expect such consideration – although they will probably ask for it.

A special note is that people who own their rentals outright will be protected.

Some will argue that since the National Debt is currently running at \$15 Trillion why don't we pay that off first? **Absolutely not**, because that is what the Federal Reserve, Wall Street, and the Banks would want to do for their own benefit. That option will not directly reduce the monthly expenses of a couple hundred million American citizens and families which is the prime objective.

Importantly, the public acceptance of this program will place our nation on far greater financial footing and our citizenry in a far better frame of mind.

Most importantly, with the public's involvement of this program We the People will be *actively involved* in managing our country and the nation will finally be in PROBLEM SOLUTION mode. That is where We need to be as a people, working as a team, considering what is coming!

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Phase 3 – The Adjustment of the National Debt

This part of the WDP is what could possibly save us from a full blown Second Great Depression, but no guarantees.

At this point, the funds used to pay off residential mortgages, Student Loans, and Credit Cards would typically be finding their way back into the hands of the banks, S&Ls, and other lenders. Instead, they will be forwarded to a special account in the US Treasury for the second disbursement procedure. That account will be referred to as the National Asset Trust Account.

Those financial institutions and their investors will put up an initial fit over this provision Claiming that it is abusive and doubling up on some people. However, they will be bluntly reminded that if the blind-sided Crash had occurred they would have lost most if not all of those funds anyway. The DWP is a onetime national, financial reckoning for the Common Good. This will cause some institutions to fail and/or be merged with others. Again, a Crash will do many of the same things anyway. This will at least give all parties a controlled Crash landing.

As the \$14 Trillion are cycled into Phase 2, they will be used in the following manner:

- The first \$3 Trillion will be used to cover the annual Federal Budget Deficit for the next two (2) fiscal years, currently expected to be around \$1.5 trillion each year. Thus we will not need to borrow more or print more money.
- The next approximately \$7 trillion will be used to pay-off (buy-back) all “non-China owned” national debt. This will protect smaller investors, businesses, and countries that own part of our debt. China is best able to cover the remaining debt balance.
- The remaining \$4 trillion will be used to pay down part of the China owned national debt.

In all this will pay down approximately \$11 of the current \$15 trillion national debt. That will greatly help our economy and could even improve our credit rating! What a deal?

In the best case scenario, the nation’s bold actions and financial restructuring may prevent the Second Great Depression. And if it does not prevent it, those actions will most certainly decrease the ill effects on our people and society as we journey thru those tough years as a nation. The simpler life style it will certainly force upon our society may not be the worse to happen to us either!

This will all be accomplished to make the uncertain future as good as *We the People* can possibly make it!

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Phase 4 – The Citizen Pathway to Home Ownership

The nation will very deliberately work through what will be the very tedious process of converting rental housing into the owned properties often, but not always by the current renters. We will be able to eliminate the on-going disaster of the HUD agency or greatly reduce its charter and \$ize.

No games will be played or allowed here. This will not be some no-questions asked give-a-way of homes. We will not be putting one (1) person into a 3-bedroom property. People will have contractual responsibilities attached to first obtaining and then retaining their residence, including proper maintenance and appearance, taxes, and insurance. Bluntly, some citizens will need to attend classes to learn how to care for their own home. Such classes already exist. For example and pulling no punches, too many of the existing “**Section 8**” renters are human disasters when it comes to treating the place they live properly and units are often trashed when they move out. That behavior will not be tolerated and some will be walked thru a FEMA trailer!

Again, Phase 2 left about \$1 trillion that will be used in the tedious process of converting rental properties to owned properties. Some considerations and allowances will be made on a situation basis. To repeat this will not be an investor bail-out. They would not be bailed out in a blind-sided 1929 Crash and they need not expect such consideration here!

The details of this process will be worked out as we move through the process.

Again, this procedure will be structured to protect landlords that own their properties outright or have high paid equity in them. It is a tedious process to be sure, but a necessary evil for the Common Good of our citizens, society, and economy.

From that point on home ownership will no longer be the American Dream. It will become the American Expectation! Amen to that...

This ends the American DWP presentation.

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Thus We the People Will Make Our Own American History

You could well be thinking that even if it this the absolute right program for the Masses of our citizens, our economy, and our society – that the economic facilitators on Wall Street, the protectors of the wealthy will never *allow* it to occur.

To repeat from above, the Bankers and Wall Street types will push back that it is too complicated getting that \$15 trillion dollars from the assets of the Wealthy. To them we will acknowledge that is probably correct. However, we will tell them to just go and get it done or your replacement will take care of it. We already fired the president of GM, so no problem and no prisoners.

Please refer to Proposal 26 – The Banking and Credit Card Industries in *The Second Coming of Common Sense* regarding the involuntary national restructuring of those key industries. The Wall Street Investment Houses could follow a similar course.

Folks, such matters will no longer be theirs to *allow* once We the People *stand up* and “oh yes, it is now ours to decide”. And we will not blink! We will have no mercy for those that had none for us – those same people that placed our nation in this crisis to begin with and have tried to hide a Second Depression from us just to prolong their financial benefit.

This, my frustrated fellow American citizens *and potential voters* is where the national debate and financial reckoning begins. It will be the biggest public debate on Domestic economics the nation has ever conducted. And this time for a change We will be at the negotiating table and will not sit there quietly. We will accept only rapid legislative passage by Congress and the White House, because the Crash is coming and We will be prepared!

This is a National debate that should have been conducted after the Crash of 1929, but the public’s opportunity was suppressed. However, today the Masses are not as naïve, trusting, uninformed, or as easily “dealt with and ignored” by the government. God bless the Internet and social networking.

Be deadly certain that the Few will do it to us again if We just *stand by* and let them for that is exactly what they are doing right now.

This time We the Masses, We the 99% will not allow history to repeat itself. We will not be lead into economic oblivion again, while the wealthy simply sit back and play their fiddle.

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In Closing

Our Nation's Three Civil Wars and Two Revolutions

What is going on RIGHT NOW can be acknowledged as our Third American Civil War. Consider the following perspectives. In 1776, our national ancestors fought and won a civil war to break away from Mother England, to *Create* our nation, and Democracy in government was born. Some 25,000 or about “1%” of the colonial population died in that war – equivalent to about 3,100,000 of us today. Ironically, the 1% of the colonists laid down their life for the Common Good of the 99%. My how things have changed!

In the 1860's, we again fought each other in the Great Civil War. Over 560,000 of our ancestors died in battle on both sides, yet our nation was *Preserved*. Consider that in just four (4) grizzly days in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania some 50,000 died in battle.

Today, in the time leading up to the November 2012 National Election, with the pending Depression as a central campaign issue, We will be legislatively and electorally be fighting each other in a final civil war. The Have/Have-Not struggle that exists in every nation in the world has reared its ugly head in America and We the People will deliberately deal with it once and for all.

The human injustice of the 1% casually destroying our society and the lives of the 99% WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. As Thomas Paine argued in *Common Sense* about the struggle between America and England – *Why should a continent be ruled by an island?* Why indeed?

The US Constitution is our ultimate protector in this confrontation and we will use it against them all – the 535 *legislative prostitutes* in the US Congress and their masters in Wall Street and Big industry.

Our civil war will finally determine who will *Control* our nation and thus our collective future. And it will be We the People.

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The first American Revolution dealt with one edge of the double-edged Sword of Tyranny and gave our national ancestors Democracy in Representative government.

In this our second American Revolution, We the People will boldly confront and deal with the other edge of the Sword of Tyranny and give ourselves and those that follow us Democracy in Domestic Economics.

They changed the world and so will we. Thus, America will regain respect in the eyes of the peoples of the world that has been so tarnished over the last decade.

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Finally, pause and consider that since 1776 all the way into the extended Afghanistan and needless Iraq wars that over 1,264,000 of our men and women have died in battle to insure our Democracy and the Common Good of our citizens. They did not pay that ultimate price to allow the 1% of us – the virtual descendants of the King of England and his Court – to destroy it all just because THEY NOW HAVE THE POLITICAL POWER TO DO IT!

Therefore, it is time my fellow citizens.

It is time for us to honor our national ancestor's sacrifices and struggles by peacefully, yet firmly taking back legislative and electoral control of our nation.

This historic confrontation, my fellow American citizens, is our hard bottom line over the next year. We will win the battles along way, and on 11-6-12 We the People will vote and replace our publicly dysfunctional national leadership. We the People will win our war.

And with thanks to the US Constitution, no one can stop We the People from doing just that.

And now may God bless you, those you Love and care about, and the 310,000,000 of our fellow citizens that we shall never, ever meet.

A J Wildman

Founder of the Independent American Peasant Party

2012 Independent Candidate for President of the United States

Appendices

Appendix A

Proposal #22 – Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans. Copied from the 718-page book, *The Second Coming of Common Sense* pages 376 thru 397. Self-published by author A J Wildman in February 2008.

“The End of the For-Profit Health Care Insurance Industry”

Appendix B

Common Sense, Thomas Paine, the original text February 1776, Revised Second Edition that was a 46-page pamphlet of approximate 21,500 words.

Appendix A

Proposal #22 – Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans. Copied from the 718-page book, *The Second Coming of Common Sense* pages 376 thru 397. Self-published by author A J Wildman in February 2008.

Existing Industries — Proposal 22

National Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans

“The End of the For-Profit Health Care Insurance Industry”

Issue/Problem

Simply stated, the absolute folly of “For-Profit” Health Care Insurance (HCI) in America can no longer be afforded by America’s National System.

From the individual that needs HCI to the small and large corporations that struggle with the growing costs and shrinking benefits — we can no longer justify this avoidable and counter-productive strain upon America’s social and economic systems.

Why is that? The most talked about issue is the pain and suffering of some 47-million ‘citizens’ without HCI coverage should be enough of a justification for the U.S. Congress to act in defense of the Common Good, but thus far it obviously has not. Next, the fact that those with HCI are paying more for less coverage each year thanks to the annual re-enrollment “ritual” put on the National System by the HCI corporations.

And finally there is the Plain Truth, that this critical and currently dysfunctional part of the National System is literally causing the *avoidable death* of some of our fellow Americans everyday. Any questions?

Highly Recommended Viewing

Even if you do not like the film maker Michael Moore, see “*Sicko*” the film is about the dynamic duo of the Medical and Pharmaceutical industries and their blatant control over both parties in Congress and so, our overall National Health Care Policy. It is excellent to the point that many Republicans even gave him credit for the film’s content. They don’t all have HCI, either!

In the film, it is noted that approximately 18,000 Americans die each year because they do not have HCI coverage. And even if that number is 50% over stated, it is still one (1) avoidable death of a real American every hour — do the math. This is a prime example of what I refer to as the acceptable Legislative Kill Factor (LKF) that has been lobbied into parts of our national, domestic policies.

Every American needs to see that film as soon as possible in 2008 — it is at Blockbuster on DVD.

A Origin of a Practical Economic Model

The AIR Program's Re-structuring and De-Profiteering models were originally developed to address the nation's HCI Industry problem. The model was expanded upon and modified for use in practically addressing the nation's problems with the five (5) other industries in this set.

The HCI Industry easily falls under what was previously described as a *national infrastructure industry*. In keeping with the spirit of productive, people-oriented Changes to the National System the HCI Industry will be restructured — under the provisions of the AIR Program — to best serve the Common Good of all American citizens, as well as to help American business to be more competitive (instead of less so) in the world market. The American public needs to demand action on this proposal during the 2008 Presidential and Congressional campaign season and beyond, until it is accomplished to our satisfaction.

The issue of health insurance for ALL American citizens is a national problem and will require the restructuring of the entire HCI Industry. In the mid-1990's the Clintons and Hillary in particular, at least tried to do something to help the masses in President Clinton's first term and basically got cut off at the ankles by the entrenched Medical and Pharmaceutical industry lobbies (see *Sicko* for the details). More than 12 years later and we are still begging (like peasants) for Congress to grow some guts, correct this situation, and provide ALL Americans with reasonable cradle to grave HCI.

The on-going delay in finally doing what needs to be done continues mainly for the following reasons:

- The Medical and Pharmaceutical Industry lobbyists in Congress were too strong, both overtly and covertly.
- The Medical *Insurance* Industry (a subset of the overall Medical Industry) lobbyists in Congress were too strong, both overtly and covertly.
- The Baby Boomer generation was not yet old enough in the early nineties. We are now with leading edge turning "61" in 2008!
- Medical insurance premiums, co-payments, and the overall cost of health care had not yet reached their currently abusive levels.
- American business while already struggling with HCI costs and the negative effects on their competitive edge in the world market, had not yet reached the critical mass in employee health benefit costs they have faced increasingly since 2001.
- Federal and state budgets were not facing the magnitude of medical and other social service costs forced upon them the explosion of Illegal Occupants (IOs) that they are now facing. A situation made even worse since 2001 by the Bush II, Open Southern Door Immigration Policy.
- Budgets intended to help provide a safety net for our people are being taken by IOs.
- The number of Americans without health insurance had not reached the 47-plus million where it is now and only continues to increase. Almost one in six of the 300 million Americans without HCI.

And in recent years, those Americans with HCI are being hit annually with higher premiums, deductibles, co-pays, and too often for less coverage.

The Law of the Jungle in corporate America — profits over people, and avoidable deaths on top of that. These industries are collectively getting away with murder.

That is **until now**...

This Challenge is Hereby Issued to the U.S. Congress

On the behalf of my fellow American citizens, I do bluntly challenge the entire 535 members of the U.S. Congress to answer the following — Yes or No — question:

Will the Congress once and for all, provide ALL American men, women, and children with basic cradle to grave health insurance – with the target date for said national coverage to take effect no later than 7-1-2009, if not retro-actively to 1-1-2009?

A simple question requiring exactly 535, **Yes or No**, one (1) word answers.

It is time for Congress to come clean with the American public. And we will not accept a voice vote – it will be 535 individually cast and recorded responses (It will make it even easier to know why they will be fired in November of 2008 when we vote).

After all, working out this type of common public problem is exactly what the U.S. Congress was originally created and chartered to do. They are responsible to solve our common problems — issues that cannot be resolved at the local, county, city or state levels. It is their job....

And Their “Final” Answer Is

If their answer is **NO**, we can all simply quit wasting public resources perpetually studying and discussing it, and move on other issues. The growing number of unfortunate Americans without HCI can just accept living without it and **stop their constant whining and complaining!** (And so can those that are paying more for less HCI each year. I guess that pretty well ‘covers’ everybody doesn’t it!).

Because obviously for some decades now the Congress of the United States of America and whoever the president happened to be, have been controlled by various Medical and Pharmaceutical Industry lobbyists and obviously **do not care** about *them*. The lobbyists have won the war! We the People have lost...

Face it that **is** where we are today! The truth is still the truth even if it is being blatantly ignored. And that scenario applies in more than one public problem we will be reviewing.

However, if their answer is **YES**, and I could not imagine any other response **IF** the electorate really presses the issue in 2008 — than what possible forms could the new National HCI entity take?

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Let’s take a look!

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The People’s Sense – Part 1 of 2

What to Do About It?

The real question to be resolved is how we will go about insuring ALL American citizens with “reasonable” cradle-to-grave health insurance? And we are talking about medical, dental, vision, and long term care for the aged as the baseline to be addressed.

A secondary issue is how we provide medical services to **legal visitors** from other countries just as other “developed and lesser developed” countries have done for years. We have many operational models to choose from.

And finally, how will we strictly control any services to IOs – during the process of their repatriation of the vast majority of them over the next several years.

National Health Care Insurance (HCI)

Implementing the Inevitable

With the direct challenge made on behalf of 300 million Americans to the Congress, we will now overview the four (4) HCI options. The pure intent is to orchestrate the open debate of those options primarily between the American public and the American business community — and to a far lesser extent with the existing management of the HCI industry or any other business entity.

The absolute goal is the resolution of this medically dysfunctional, nationally embarrassing condition once and for all. Most Americans see this action as practical and inevitable, and the cost of finally doing it only increases every year. We will act to implement national HCI for ALL Americans. It is only a matter of which of four (4) options will be selected and how soon it is effective. The hard target date will be 7-1-2009, if not 1-1-2009.

Frankly, when the four are laid out side-by-side for review, the only prudent and publicly practical choice to be made is quite obvious. And right up front I am recommending that We the People go with Option 4.

Years ago, a government contracting officer shared with me the Contractors are brought in to do what they are assigned to do, while Consultants are brought in to help determine and recommend what needs to be done. In CS2 I am serving as a Consultant and the Common Good of my 300 million Fellow Americans are the client being served.

As a side note, from 1998 until 12-12-2002 I worked first as a consultant and then as an employee of a major (non-profit) health care insurer in the Maryland and DC region, which does not make me an expert in the field, but does provide me with some first-hand perspective on the HCI Industry.

The Heart of the Matter

Until now HCI has been one of the un-holy grails within America’s National System. Countless books, studies, and articles have been written on the failure of our government and the American Healthcare Industry to provide “ALL” American citizens with reasonable healthcare coverage.

A classic case of something being studied and restudied *to death* with no practical solution delivered. This is a negative, day-to-day example of how self-interested lobbies within the National System have worked

and managed the Congress to prevent the implementation of such *common sense* programs that would protect the basic needs and welfare of our citizens. Those lobbyists have been doing their jobs very well. They will be among the first to go!

The proposals herein provide the basic set of options to be considered for the creation of a national HCI program to cover ALL Americans.

Insurance versus Providers

There are two basic functions that make-up the overall American Medical Industry in ours or any other country. One is the Health Care Insurance (HCI) function and the other is the Health Provider Network (HPN).

Health Care Insurance is a purely **administrative** function and has to do with enrollment, claims processing, control over coverage and cost of services, payment for products and services rendered, and identifying fraud. It is a *completely redundant* process currently being carried out by multiple companies performing the same routine procedures.

The Health Provider Network is comprised of doctors, nurses, hospitals, various laboratories, etc., those trained and charged with the **delivery** of health care services to the patient – you, hopefully.

The vast majority of people that I have spoken with on this issue believe that national HCI is a forgone conclusion. Their primary concerns are how much more or less will it cost me, what coverage would I have, what organizational form will it take, and when (how soon) will it finally happen? Not that a national HCI system is an exciting prospect to the public, but with insurance costs climbing every year and more people un-insured or less insured all the time, it is seen as a log overdue, practical necessity.

Do Health Care Insurance First

This proposal's approach is to address the HCI function first. The Provider function could be addressed at some later time after the practical improvements are made in administrative function and the resulting sharp reduction in overhead is being realized. It is certain that addressing the HCI function first is the logical approach. And it will certainly have publicly beneficial side effects on the Provider function as well. Follow the money!

The intent herein is to provide a very brief presentation on what are believed to be our only four (4) real options relative to national HCI. The four options are:

1. Continue the Status Quo
2. Government Managed Health Care Insurance
3. Total Privatization of Health Care Insurance
4. The U.S. Health Insurance Group

A brief overview each option is as follows:

Continue the Status Quo

The first option in any problem-solving exercise in your life, or in business, or in government is to determine to do absolutely **nothing** — to take no action!

This option would continue the Status Quo of the HCI system exactly as it is today. The 47-plus million Americans would continue being uninsured. Not counting the several decades prior, that has been the deliberate option taken by Congress for the last 12 plus years since the last real attempt (made by the Clinton Administration) and through six (6) Congressional elections. That may sound a bit sarcastic to some, but it is still the Plain Truth.

Of course this is the option favored by the Medical Industry and related Special Interest forces that have been controlling National Health Care Policy and the Congress. And until we determine to Change things that is exactly what will happen. We will continue to lose.

Government Managed Health Care Insurance

Granted this option does make many of us nervous whenever it is mentioned. It would have the Federal government takeover all insurance processing. In general this would require the government to assume the insurance processing now being performed by all for-profit (public stock) and non-profit insurance corporations.

Whether it is or is not a viable option remains to be seen. It may work very well since it does work in other countries despite on-going industry propaganda to the contrary. Of course they do currently manage Medicare, Medicaid, and Veterans Health Care Systems!

It will be interesting to see the real (non-doctored) numbers and review how this would be implemented. It may not be as bad as we generally fear, and that the lobbyist's predictable screams are always warning us about (domestic and corporate propaganda). It would be better than what we have now because everyone would be covered!

Total Privatization of Health Care Insurance

Under this option, all insurance processing would be turned over to (forced upon) the for-profit and non-profit insurance corporations, including functions that are now operated by the government!

The existing HCI Industry has been steadily merging into fewer and fewer corporate entities. Many of the remaining non-profit insurance corporations, such as those remaining from the original BlueCross BlueShield nationwide network, are either being absorbed into for-profit corporations or are working hard to convert to that status.

The biggest hole to point out in this approach, as well as a major obstacle to HCI for ALL Americans — is the Plain Truth that these are stock held corporations! It means that their management is expected to generate (one way or another) x% of stockholder dividends on an annual basis – desirably from 5 to 10% or more every year. After all these are stock-held corporations and senior management's real job is creating stock dividends. There is of course nothing wrong with that role in general, since that is the fundamental purpose of publicly held enterprises.

That said, the We the Masses must then frankly acknowledge that with regard today's Medical Insurance Industry their job is all about making profits and not about providing HCI for everyone. It never has been. Providing everyone with HCI would hurt their profitability and that is why they fight it.

Consider — if we were to project that requirement for stock dividends over the next 5, 10, 20 years and beyond, you can imagine what the cumulative affect (5 to 10% or more every year) it alone will have on increasing our insurance costs. And again that annual increase does not include the underlying and real

cost increases of the Provider Network services — paying those that are actually performing the work of health care.

You can probably sense where this is going. Obviously, part of the reason our costs are high now is because they have been adding the HCI administrative overhead, profit percentage on for decades. Maybe not 5 or 10% a year, but added all the same. The entire Medical Industry’s lobbyists can get away with this in a growing economy with “creative” lobbying to control congressional policymakers while more and more people have no or less coverage annually, but not when the economy is steadily contracting and the Baby Boomer generation — my generation — is reaching critical mass.

The Health Care Insurance Industry is the first of six industries in this set that, to the greatest extent their self-serving corporate lobbying could make possible, has blatantly demonstrated the Dark Side of Capitalism. Each has ignored the needs and well-being of the People and of the Nation to satisfy their annual desire for profits, stock dividends, and excessive executive compensation.

We, and every business in America absolutely can no longer afford this overtly redundant, HCI administrative function to continue its destructive, dictatorial, and on top of everything else its medically dysfunctional operation within the National System. Any questions?

So much for Option Number 3! Now let’s fix it!

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U.S. Health Insurance Group (HIG)

Finally, I offer the fourth option that will be something new in the HCI debate. And frankly, I believe to be our only viable, “final answer”.

The basic concept is that the American business community will work together to assume control and management of the nation’s HCI system. This approach would involve the following considerations:

- Creation of a fully, non-profit corporate entity administered by those selected from members of the American business community.
- The American business community would directly oversee the HCI system.
- The creation of this entity would be a joint venture between the federal government (We the taxpayers) and the American business community, including Wendy’s, Ford, Starbucks, Sears, Home Depot, Hallmark — virtually every grocery store, every other small and large business in the country.
- The existing for-profit and non-profit HCI corporations would systematically and involuntarily be merged into this new entity.
- ALL Americans would be enrolled into the existing HCI entities during the transition process.
- The existing stockholders would be bought out over a period of years at a ‘reasonable’ stock price. Some corporate assets could be sold off (to American buyers) to expedite the buy-out.
- All existing government operated health insurance functions, would also be systematically merged into this entity.

- There would be operating units in every state, major city, etc., as required to support the enrollment, claims processing, and fraud prevention.
- The existing senior management and Board of Directors of these corporations would be involuntarily retired. No more Golden Parachutes will be issued, ever!
- The new management of these companies would be compensated with ‘reasonable’ high six-figure or so incomes, not the mega-million dollar compensation packages executives now receive. There will be no shortage of qualified people seeking those positions. I’m sorry, but running an HCI company in 2008 is not rocket science. Working to keep the Congress from doing the right thing for multiple decades has been management’s mission, but no more.
- This new insurance entity’s mission will be to provide the American public with a centralized and efficient HCI processing system.
- It would not be a government agency or a stock held corporation.
- Employment in this entity would follow a corporate rather than a civil service model.

I have reviewed this concept with numerous people of varying social backgrounds and political persuasion, and it has been very well received.

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The People's Sense – Part 2 of 2

Those are the four (4) options that face the American public. I personally recommend that the only viable option for the short and long-term “health” of the American public — and to control the HCI costs to business, government and individuals — is the U.S. Health Insurance Group option.

The HCI Industry and their own entrenched Congressional lobbyists will be turned away from the halls of Congress.

Again, there is no easy way to make this point, but the existing structure of the HCI Industry and their successful lobbying against any form of National HCI causes the physical death of American citizens. Further, it often causes the financial destruction of families due to medical costs and bankruptcy every day. And under Bush II, the Bank Industry successfully pushed through legislation virtually killing a person's, a family's ability to file for bankruptcy. On April 20, 2005 Bush II signed the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act — delivering the goods on that one to the Banking Industry – demonstrating the true “compassion” of his Conservatism.

American lives in this and other broken portions of the National System have somehow come to be considered cheap and throw away over the years! We the People will bring this legislative abuse to an end, and now. Enough is enough.

To be clear, our message to the U.S. Congress is that they will need to pass laws that will implement HCI coverage for all American citizens – with a hard effective date of 7-1-2009, if not sooner. Or they should not bother to run for re-election, because We will fire all 468 of them at the polls in November 2008.

This will be a most interesting struggle for the American electorate not only to observe, but to participate in, as well. The battle lines are thus drawn! And, We the People will surely win this war and see the desired results starting in 2009.

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The AIR Program Re-Structuring

The Health Care Insurance (HCI) Industry

Overall Re-Structuring Approach

The American Health Care Insurance Industry will experience the full force of the AIR Program Re-Structuring process. Again, HCI is the industry for which the Air Program model was originally developed to practically confront — and finally deal with for the Common Good. And deal with it We will.

The U.S. Health Insurance Group (HIG) Implementation

All HCI corporate entities doing business in the U.S. will comply with this involuntary industry re-organization. This will not be a negotiation.

The remainder of this piece overviews the AIR Program's implementation and provides enough detail so that those involved in the HCI industry will know what is coming at them. We are coming. And the other details will be worked out in public during the 2008 campaign and early in 2009.

Initial List of Industry Entities

This is the initial and partial list of primary Health Care Insurance (HCI) corporations and companies to be included in the AIR Program Re-Structuring of the HCI Industry:

UnitedHealth Group
BlueCross BlueShield For-Profits
BlueCross BlueShield Non-Profits
Wellpoint
Aetna
Humana
Cigna
Health Net
Coventry Health Care
WellCare Health Plans
Amerigroup
Centene
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Molina Healthcare
Sierra Health Services

This initial, working list of corporate entities may very well be refined as 2008 progresses and the November 2008 National Election draws near.

By deliberate, united vote on that historic day, *We the People* can freely declare that such practical and prudent Change to the National System for the Common Good of us all — will be made.

AIR Program – The Entity Re-Structuring Levels (ERL) Overview

The Health Care Insurance (HCI) Industry

ERL 1 – Operational Reorganization

All existing HCI corporations both For-profit and Non-profit will become operating Divisions of the newly formed, Non-Profit Healthcare Insurance Group (HIG) – the Industry Management Consortium established for the restructured HCI Industry. A newly formed Board of Directors will comprise the first level of the new HIG Organization Chart.

Further any existing HCI corporation that is currently part of a larger (parent) non-HCI corporate entity will be transferred from that organization also to become an operating Division of the HIG. Such transfers under the AIR Program would not involve a purchase or a buy-out of stock as would be seen in a typical corporate merger, since this would not be a corporate merger in that the HCI business function is not the former parent organization’s primary line of business. It would be a direct corporate transfer. In all, those Divisions will form the second level of the HIG Organization. Again, this corporate reorganization will not be optional.

Some will *scream* that this is nationalization of the HCI industry. They may call the AIR Program restructuring of the HCI Industry and the others to be presented whatever they care to. We do not care! In such situations, it will be interesting to hear how much revenue/profit those corporations announce they could lose in the transfer! I acknowledge that in some ways it is the ‘hostile takeover’ — of an industry that is making some people a lot of money, while in this case the nation suffers with a HCI System that is clearly dysfunctional to the Common Good. I call it bringing order to chaos.

Over the next few years the operational and administrative offices of the former corporations, now HIG Divisions would be systematically and efficiently consolidated into a network of regional HIG Operations facilities. This process always happens when companies merge, with an appropriate amount of operational consolidation, we have all seen it. However, as exists today there would be an on-going need for regional HCI facilities (in each state and major cities), so while some reduction in employment would occur, there will be an on-going requirement for nationwide service offices.

Note: Although the Consortiums are set-up as Non-Profit corporations, these HIG organizations will initially pay taxes. In the case of the medical insurance function, We may very well determine that the HIG paying taxes only increases their cost doing business and therefore our insurance costs, as well. Thus, they could be relieved of that obligation in the future.

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There are non-profit HCI Corporations in the mix that of course do not have stockholders to pay, which will make them far easier and less costly to reorganize into the HIG. However, do not assume for a minute that they don’t make profits! They pay-out those dollars within their organization instead – that is where the money goes — always to the Board and management, and sometimes to the employees. They will pay out based on 2008 year-end numbers. Calendar year 2009 will be the end of that money train at least at the executive level. Of course, many of those executives will be gone in 2009.

ERL 2 – Existing Management Retirement

Existing Senior Management

- Any member of senior management with a Golden Parachute will be retired by May 30, 2009. Any and all stock options in their exit package will be eliminated.
- No Golden Parachutes will be offered to future management, ever.
- Any remaining member of management with a base salary in excess of one (1) million dollars per year will have it cut to that amount as of July 1, 2009.
- All stock options for 2009 will be eliminated.
- All bonuses for 2009 will be reviewed by the HIG group and may be reduced.

And if a given person does not like those Changes – they know where the door is...

Remember: The one-time offer to hold current and prior management and employees harmless from lawsuit will be presented and I believe will be accepted. This offer will be made to the current and prior members of the Board of Directors, as well.

Existing Boards of Directors (BOD)

The existing BOD would be relieved of their positions by May 30, 2009. By law most, if not all corporations are required to have some form of BOD whether it is actually functional to the operation or simply ornamental! The future form and function of the new BOD established for the aforementioned HIG Consortium will be reviewed.

ERL 3 – New Management Structure and Charter

The Industry Management Consortium Requirement

Again, with the consolidation of the existing HCI For-profit and Non-profit corporate entities, we are merging a group of businesses that are pretty much doing the same thing – pure operational redundancy. Each of these entities will become operating Divisions in the HIG Non-Profit organizational structure.

Therefore, a single Board of Directors “entity” is all that will be needed and they will not be simply ornamental. The costs that were associated with all of the former Boards are eliminated and will go back into the operation.

The HIG’s Board will be responsible to the American public for implementing, administering, strictly overseeing, and refining the new Charter of Operations. They will not manage the day-to-day operation within the Divisions. The management that remains after the existing senior people are retired will be given an opportunity to take charge of the day-to-day operation, but working under a new charter.

Some of the management and other employees from the Divisions will be transferred into first level HIG organization that will centralize certain key administrative functions such as insurance premium rates, coverage types, and the negotiation of pricing for goods and services from the Provider Network. With the number of qualified people in Divisions there will be little if any need to hire from outside staff for key positions – promotion from within will be the rule.

Recommended HIG Charter of Operations

The first level of the HIG will provide oversight and administrative control over the entire operation. While the majority of the HCI function will be performed in the Operating Divisions, the HIG Board of Directors and staff will facilitate and control HCI policy and act as the contact point for all vendors, other industries, state-level agencies, and the Congress. It will be a working Board of Directors.

Simply stated the HIG’s Inaugural Operational Charter will include:

1. Oversight of the consolidation of all existing HCIs into the new HIG organizational structure.
2. Enrollment of the currently uninsured American citizens.
3. Facilitate and expedite the full implementation and simplification of cradle-to-grave Health Care Insurance for all American citizens. This will include medical coverage, prescriptions, hospital, vision, dental, long term care, etc.
4. Oversight of the conversion Health Services for the U.S. Congress into the HIG system!
5. Oversight of the HCI coverage for all legal visitors. They will be required to pay for such coverage as is done by Americans in other countries.
6. The HIG will be concerned with retaining and/or transferring current employees within Divisions as the restructuring takes progresses.
7. The HIG will end out-sourcing (off-shore) activities and work to reclaim positions previously lost in that manner.
8. The HIG will be the interface control point with the U.S. Congress in any issues regarding policy, dollars, and pricing. And will delegate as much day-to-day responsibilities to the Division level as they deem most efficient, but no policy decision authority outside of their day-to-day operation.
9. The HIG will be the interface control-point for the American Pharmaceutical Group (APG) the Industry Management Consortium being created to manage the restructured Pharmaceutical Industry.

And the Big One

Since the former individual HCI corporations are now Divisions within the new organization, the HIG will be the control point for with all other Medical Industry vendors seeking payment for their products and services.

This is where We will begin to publicly analyze and control the costs of medical products and services. The HIG will serve as Medical Industry’s arbitration entity. It will insure that fair pricing policy is applied across the board and the games that “may have” been played in the past will come under prudent control.

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This charter will be amended with full public disclosure as the AIR Program progresses.

We will also need to have a public dialogue regarding what to do with the Medicare and Medicaid Services, i.e., merging them into the HIG System or not?

And lastly the Veterans Administration Health Care function will be reviewed against the HIG structure and services. We will have an open debate on the most operationally and cost efficient way to cover our active military and veterans over the long haul, but will not diminish VA coverage. That is our responsibility to them.

Again, the only way to straighten everything out is to put “everything on the table.”

ERL 4 – Stock, Profitability, and Pricing Controls

As is repeated in these six proposals — the following scenarios will begin taking effect as soon as possible in 2009 and will likely be applied retro-actively when the required legislation is passed by the **new** U.S. Congress.

While We can always hope, there is probably little chance that the existing Congress and White House will move on this proposal before the November Election. These six Industry proposals need to be the **hottest topics** in the country during 2008. The electorate must bring these and the other American Agenda Proposals to the campaigns! We can do this.

Stock Control

Stock trading in the involved former HCI corporations (now Divisions of the HIG) will be suspended at some point in 2009. They will be moving to Non-profit status under the HIG. The initial list of the involved corporate entities was presented above and will probably be added to as the AIR Program develops.

The stock markets will be intensely watched (by the SEC and others) in the run-up during 2009 AIR Program Effective Date for any questionable stock trading or other game playing. Violators will be severely dealt with including fines and prison time in a State run facility. No Federal playpens for the rich and famous anymore.

Profitability Control

Going forward the Health Care Insurance function under the HIG's management will convert the former publicly held corporations to the pure IGE's or Income Generating Entity model previously reviewed. Minimum profitability will be required to cover reasonable operating expenses, including payroll, facilities, taxes, enrollment, claims processing, fraud prevention, etc.

The costs related to the annual Re-enrollment "ritual" will be all but eliminated, as will most of the lobbying budget and the lobbyists! The only remaining item is how to deal with over the first years of the HIG Operation being the buy-out of existing stockholders.

Profitability requirements under the IGE model will be based on those cost of doing business. The profits in excess of that in the first years will be put to practical uses such as:

- signing up and covering at least part of the costs of the currently uninsured
- internal operational spending
- operational consolidation expenses
- elimination of any out-sourcing activities
- "fixed" stock dividends pay-outs in future years until the buy-back process is complete
- set aside for the future stock buy-back process

Starting in 2009 the stock dividend pay-outs to former HCI corporate stockholders will be capped and frozen. The analysis of the annual stock dividends paid out since 1999 will be published. The dividend pay-out for 2009 and beyond until all stock is bought back will not be generous. People will moan, but another choice is to say that their stock is worthless and will not be bought back. They could all find themselves "Enron'd". Now that would be pure nationalization!

Not that We would want to do such a thing, but remember that investing in stocks is free will risk, is organized gambling, whether by individual or money market funds managers. A full buy-out of existing stockholders in a situation like We are addressing is optional, and everyone needs to approach it in that manner. These corporations have been sticking it to the National System for decades and killing people! It could all be righteously wiped clean, but that would hurt the people and the economy other ways. This is hard compromise and We need to resolve to do the best possible for all parties. *"We do these things, because they are hard."*

Pricing Control

In the best case scenario, all HCI premiums and coverage plan options for individuals and companies will be frozen at their 2008 plan schedules. The wasteful, annual ritual of “**plan re-enrollment**” will come to an abrupt end. The reduced demand for stockholder-profitability starting in 2009 as noted above will be accompanied with the dropping of the plan re-enrollment process and the associated (and now avoidable) expenses. The vast majority of the cost to the HCIs of the plan re-enrollment process will be eliminated, as well the loss of productivity the annual plan re-enrollment process forces on companies large and small across the nation.

And think of the trees it will save! In an example of how things are connected, the lumber and especially the printing business will take a bit of a hit due to this change. They will need to adjust their 2009 budget projections accordingly.

In **Stage One** of the restructuring, people may continue with their current plans and coverage levels. Or they will be allowed to simply change their current plans and coverage levels. There would be a one percent (1%) premium, only rate increase for 2009 – with no reductions in coverage. All other deductible amounts, co-pays, etc., will be un-changed. That will suffice while the transition begins and the new HIG management is sorting things out in 2009 and planning for 2010.

The currently uninsured American citizens will be picked up by the existing HCIs within their geographic region. Thus, during the HCIs consolidation, all American citizens will be picked up by existing HCI corporations, thus finally attaining full national coverage.

It might be good to utilize the nationwide BlueCross BlueShield network of HCIs for this purpose. I believe they still cover all 50 states and DC, although many are now for-profit. That original nationwide network of HCIs could form the backbone of the new HIG structure. And it would only need a tune-up!

In **Stage Two** by the 2010 plan year the multitude of plans and options will be aggressively reduced to a very small and practical set. Simplicity will be applied across the board. Then, each of the insured people will have their existing plans and related coverage options converted to the new and much simplified plan and pricing structure.

How is all this sounding so far? Certainly not everything is worked out yet, but we will clearly be headed down the prudent and practical path. We can do this!

ERL 5 – Conversion of IGE Model

The AIR Re-structuring of the Health Care Insurance Industry offers the primary example and opportunity to transition a National Infrastructure Industry into an Income Generating Entity (IGE).

Consolidation of existing HCI corporations into the non-profit Healthcare Insurance Group (HIG) will lead the way to their being converted to a pure IGE within the National System.

Over a period of years to be determined, the existing stockholders will be bought out. The stock amounts involved and how the stockholders will be compensated for their share value will be worked by the HIG as part of the AIR Program implementation.

And no, that is not avoiding discussing the hard dollars involved. The numbers are what the numbers are, and they will only continue to grow worse the longer we delay this Change of necessity to our National

System. Therefore, I deliberately would not take the time extract and present that data on this or the others in this infamous group of six Existing Industries. Further, I predict those numbers will be one of the first things that the Special Interest lobbyists for that group throw out to scare the public.

The man said, “The only thing We have to fear, is fear itself.”

But, We will not be afraid or deterred from our Common Goal – Health Care Insurance for ALL American citizens starting in 2009.

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That is all.

Next the legal, hard drug pushers.

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Appendix B

Common Sense, Thomas Paine, the original text February 1776, Revised Second Edition

Common Sense by Thomas Paine

That revolutionary writer and his 46-page paperback size pamphlet are referred to throughout this book. The entire text of the second edition of Common Sense published in February 1776 publication are presented in Appendix A. The first edition was published a month earlier and contained 33-pages. Paine added some material, including a 'letter' to the Quakers for the second and final version.

C O M M O N S E N S E;

Addressed to the

Inhabitants

of

A M E R I C A,

on the following interesting

S U B J E C T S :

- I. Of the Origin and Defign of Government in general, with concife Remarks on the English Conftitution.
- II. Of Monarchy and Hereditary Succeffion.
- III. Thoughts on the prefent State of American Affairs.
- IV. Of the prefent ability of America, with fome mifcellaneous Reflections.

A NEW EDITION, with feveral Additons in the Body of the Work. To which is Added an APPENDIX: together with an Addrefs to the People called QUAKERS.

*Man knows no Mafter fave creating HEAVEN,
Or thofe whom choice and common Good ordain.*

T H O M S O N

INTRODUCTION

Perhaps the sentiments contained in the following pages, are not YET sufficiently fashionable to procure them general favour; a long habit of not thinking a thing WRONG, gives it a superficial appearance of being RIGHT, and raises at first a formidable outcry in defense of custom. But the tumult soon subsides. Time makes more converts than reason.

As a long and violent abuse of power, is generally the Means of calling the right of it in question (and in Matters too which might never have been thought of, had not the Sufferers been aggravated into the inquiry) and as the King of England hath undertaken in his OWN RIGHT, to support the Parliament in what he calls THEIRS, and as the good people of this country are grievously oppressed by the combination, they have an undoubted privilege to inquire into the pretensions of both, and equally to reject the usurpation of either.

In the following sheets, the author hath studiously avoided every thing which is personal among ourselves. Compliments as well as censure to individuals make no part thereof. The wise, and the worthy, need not the triumph of a pamphlet; and those whose sentiments are injudicious, or unfriendly, will cease of themselves unless too much pains are bestowed upon their conversion.

The cause of America is in a great measure the cause of all mankind. Many circumstances hath, and will arise, which are not local, but universal, and through which the principles of all Lovers of Mankind are affected, and in the Event of which, their Affections are interested. The laying a Country desolate with Fire and Sword, declaring War against the natural rights of all Mankind, and extirpating the Defenders thereof from the Face of the Earth, is the Concern of every Man to whom Nature hath given the Power of feeling; of which Class, regardless of Party Censure, is the AUTHOR.

P.S. The Publication of this new Edition hath been delayed, with a View of taking notice (had it been necessary) of any Attempt to refute the Doctrine of Independance: As no Answer hath yet appeared, it is now presumed that none will, the Time needful for getting such a Performance ready for the Public being considerably past.

Who the Author of this Production is, is wholly unnecessary to the Public, as the Object for Attention is the DOCTRINE ITSELF, not the MAN. Yet it may not be unnecessary to say, That he is unconnected with any Party, and under no sort of Influence public or private, but the influence of reason and principle.

Philadelphia, February 14, 1776

OF THE ORIGIN AND DESIGN OF GOVERNMENT IN GENERAL. WITH CONCISE REMARKS ON THE ENGLISH CONSTITUTION

Some writers have so confounded society with government, as to leave little or no distinction between them; whereas they are not only different, but have different origins. Society is produced by our wants, and government by our wickedness; the former promotes our POSITIVELY by uniting our affections, the latter NEGATIVELY by restraining our vices. The one encourages intercourse, the other creates distinctions. The first a patron, the last a punisher.

Society in every state is a blessing, but government even in its best state is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an intolerable one; for when we suffer, or are exposed to the same miseries BY A GOVERNMENT, which we might expect in a country WITHOUT GOVERNMENT, our calamity is heightened by reflecting that we furnish the means by which we suffer. Government, like dress, is the badge of lost innocence; the palaces of kings are built on the ruins of the bowers of paradise. For were the

impulses of conscience clear, uniform, and irresistibly obeyed, man would need no other lawgiver; but that not being the case, he finds it necessary to surrender up a part of his property to furnish means for the protection of the rest; and this he is induced to do by the same prudence which in every other case advises him out of two evils to choose the least. WHEREFORE, security being the true design and end of government, it unanswerably follows, that whatever FORM thereof appears most likely to ensure it to us, with the least expense and greatest benefit, is preferable to all others.

In order to gain a clear and just idea of the design and end of government, let us suppose a small number of persons settled in some sequestered part of the earth, unconnected with the rest, they will then represent the first peopling of any country, or of the world. In this state of natural liberty, society will be their first thought. A thousand motives will excite them thereto, the strength of one man is so unequal to his wants, and his mind so unfitted for perpetual solitude, that he is soon obliged to seek assistance and relief of another, who in his turn requires the same. Four or five united would be able to raise a tolerable dwelling in the midst of a wilderness, but one man might labour out of the common period of life without accomplishing any thing; when he had felled his timber he could not remove it, nor erect it after it was removed; hunger in the mean time would urge him from his work, and every different want call him a different way. Disease, nay even misfortune would be death, for though neither might be mortal, yet either would disable him from living, and reduce him to a state in which he might rather be said to perish than to die.

Thus necessity, like a gravitating power, would soon form our newly arrived emigrants into society, the reciprocal blessings of which, would supersede, and render the obligations of law and government unnecessary while they remained perfectly just to each other; but as nothing but heaven is impregnable to vice, it will unavoidably happen, that in proportion as they surmount the first difficulties of emigration, which bound them together in a common cause, they will begin to relax in their duty and attachment to each other; and this remissness will point out the necessity of establishing some form of government to supply the defect of moral virtue.

Some convenient tree will afford them a State-House, under the branches of which, the whole colony may assemble to deliberate on public matters. It is more than probable that their first laws will have the title only of REGULATIONS, and be enforced by no other penalty than public disesteem. In this first parliament every man, by natural right, will have a seat.

But as the colony increases, the public concerns will increase likewise, and the distance at which the members may be separated, will render it too inconvenient for all of them to meet on every occasion as at first, when their number was small, their habitations near, and the public concerns few and trifling. This will point out the convenience of their consenting to leave the legislative part to be managed by a select number chosen from the whole body, who are supposed to have the same concerns at stake which those who appointed them, and who will act in the same manner as the whole body would act, were they present. If the colony continues increasing, it will become necessary to augment the number of the representatives, and that the interest of every part of the colony may be attended to, it will be found best to divide the whole into convenient parts, each part sending its proper number; and that the ELECTED might never form to themselves an interest separate from the ELECTORS, prudence will point out the propriety of having elections often; because as the ELECTED might by that means return and mix again with the general body of the ELECTORS in a few months, their fidelity to the public will be secured by the prudent reflection of not making a rod for themselves. And as this frequent interchange will establish a common interest with every part of the community, they will mutually and naturally support each other, and on this (not on the unmeaning name of king) depends the STRENGTH OF GOVERNMENT, AND THE HAPPINESS OF THE GOVERNED.

Here then is the origin and rise of government; namely, a mode rendered necessary by the inability of

moral virtue to govern the world; here too is the design and end of government, viz. freedom and security. And however our eyes may be dazzled with show, or our ears deceived by sound; however prejudice may warp our wills, or interest darken our understanding, the simple voice of nature and of reason will say, it is right.

I draw my idea of the form of government from a principle in nature, which no art can overturn, viz. that the more simple any thing is, the less liable it is to be disordered; and the easier repaired when disordered; and with this maxim in view, I offer a few remarks on the so much boasted constitution of England. That it was noble for the dark and slavish times in which it was erected, is granted. When the world was overrun with tyranny the least remove therefrom was a glorious rescue. But that it is imperfect, subject to convulsions, and incapable of producing what it seems to promise, is easily demonstrated.

Absolute governments (tho' the disgrace of human nature) have this advantage with them, that they are simple; if the people suffer, they know the head from which their suffering springs, know likewise the remedy, and are not bewildered by a variety of causes and cures. But the constitution of England is so exceedingly complex, that the nation may suffer for years together without being able to discover in which part the fault lies; some will say in one and some in another, and every political physician will advise a different medicine.

I know it is difficult to get over local or long standing prejudices, yet if we will suffer ourselves to examine the component parts of the English constitution, we shall find them to be the base remains of two ancient tyrannies, compounded with some new republican materials.

FIRST - The remains of monarchial tyranny in the person of the king.

SECONDLY - The remains of aristocratical tyranny in the persons of the peers.

THIRDLY - The new republican materials in the persons of the commons, on whose virtue depends the freedom of England.

The two first, by being hereditary, are independent of the people; wherefore in a CONSTITUTIONAL SENSE they contribute nothing towards the freedom of the state.

To say that the constitution of England is a UNION of three powers reciprocally CHECKING each other, is farcical, either the words have no meaning, or they are flat contradictions.

To say that the commons is a check upon the king, presupposes two things:

FIRST - That the king is not to be trusted without being looked after, or in other words, that a thirst for absolute power is the natural disease of monarchy.

SECONDLY - That the commons, by being appointed for that purpose, are either wiser or more worthy of confidence than the crown.

But as the same constitution which gives the commons a power to check the king by withholding the supplies, gives afterwards the king a power to check the commons, by empowering him to reject their other bills; it again supposes that the king is wiser than those whom it has already supposed to be wiser than him. A mere absurdity!

There is something exceedingly ridiculous in the composition of monarchy; it first excludes a man from the means of information, yet empowers him to act in cases where the highest judgment is required. The state of a king shuts him from the world, yet the business of a king requires him to know it thoroughly;

wherefore the different parts, by unnaturally opposing and destroying each other, prove the whole character to be absurd and useless.

Some writers have explained the English constitution thus: The king, say they, is one, the people another; the peers are a house in behalf of the king, the commons in behalf of the people; but this hath all the distinctions of a house divided against itself; and though the expressions be pleasantly arranged, yet when examined, they appear idle and ambiguous; and it will always happen, that the nicest construction that words are capable of, when applied to the description of some thing which either cannot exist, or is too incomprehensible to be within the compass of description, will be words of sound only, and though they may amuse the ear, they cannot inform the mind, for this explanation includes a previous question, viz. **HOW CAME THE KING BY A POWER WHICH THE PEOPLE ARE AFRAID TO TRUST, AND ALWAYS OBLIGED TO CHECK?** Such a power could not be the gift of a wise people, neither can any power, **WHICH NEEDS CHECKING**, be from God; yet the provision, which the constitution makes, supposes such a power to exist.

But the provision is unequal to the task; the means either cannot or will not accomplish the end, and the whole affair is a *felo de se*; for as the greater weight will always carry up the less, and as all the wheels of a machine are put in motion by one, it only remains to know which power in the constitution has the most weight, for that will govern; and though the others, or a part of them, may clog, or, as the phrase is, check the rapidity of its motion, yet so long as they cannot stop it, their endeavours will be ineffectual; the first moving power will at last have its way, and what it wants in speed, is supplied by time.

That the crown is this overbearing part in the English constitution, needs not be mentioned, and that it derives its whole consequence merely from being the giver of places and pensions, is self-evident, wherefore, though we have been wise enough to shut and lock a door against absolute monarchy, we at the same time have been foolish enough to put the crown in possession of the key.

The prejudice of Englishmen in favour of their own government by king, lords, and commons, arises as much or more from national pride than reason. Individuals are undoubtedly safer in England than in some other countries, but the **WILL** of the king is as much the **LAW** of the land in Britain as in France, with this difference, that instead of proceeding directly from his mouth, it is handed to the people under the more formidable shape of an act of parliament. For the fate of Charles the First hath only made kings more subtle - not more just.

Wherefore, laying aside all national pride and prejudice in favour of modes and forms, the plain truth is, that **IT IS WHOLLY OWING TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE, AND NOT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT**, that the crown is not as oppressive in England as in Turkey.

An inquiry into the **CONSTITUTIONAL ERRORS** in the English form of government is at this time highly necessary; for as we are never in a proper condition of doing justice to others, while we continue under the influence of some leading partiality, so neither are we capable of doing it to ourselves while we remain fettered by any obstinate prejudice. And as a man. who is attached to a prostitute, is unfitted to choose or judge a wife, so any prepossession in favour of a rotten constitution of government will disable us from discerning a good one.

OF MONARCHY AND HEREDITARY SUCCESSION

Mankind being originally equals in the order of creation, the equality could only be destroyed by some subsequent circumstance; the distinctions of rich, and poor, may in a great measure be accounted for, and that without having recourse to the harsh, ill-sounding names of oppression and avarice. Oppression is

often the CONSEQUENCE, but seldom or never the MEANS of riches; and though avarice will preserve a man from being necessitously poor, it generally makes him too timorous to be wealthy.

But there is another and greater distinction, for which no truly natural or religious reason can be assigned, and that is, the distinction of men into **KINGS** and **SUBJECTS**. Male and female are the distinctions of nature, good and bad the distinctions of heaven; but how a race of men came into the world so exalted above the rest, and distinguished like some new species, is worth inquiring into, and whether they are the means of happiness or of misery to mankind.

In the early ages of the world, according to the scripture chronology, there were no kings; the consequence of which was, there were no wars; it is the pride of kings which throw mankind into confusion. Holland without a king hath enjoyed more peace for this last century than any of the monarchial governments in Europe. Antiquity favours the same remark; for the quiet and rural lives of the first patriarchs hath a happy something in them, which vanishes away when we come to the history of Jewish royalty.

Government by kings was first introduced into the world by the Heathens, from whom the children of Israel copied the custom. It was the most prosperous invention the Devil ever set on foot for the promotion of idolatry. The Heathens paid divine honours to their deceased kings, and the Christian world hath improved on the plan, by doing the same to their living ones. How impious is the title of sacred majesty applied to a worm, who in the midst of his splendor is crumbling into dust!

As the exalting one man so greatly above the rest cannot be justified on the equal rights of nature, so neither can it be defended on the authority of scripture; for the will of the Almighty, as declared by Gideon and the prophet Samuel, expressly disapproves of government by kings. All anti-monarchical parts of scripture have been very smoothly glossed over in monarchial governments, but they undoubtedly merit the attention of countries which have their governments yet to form. **RENDER UNTO CAESAR THE THINGS WHICH ARE CAESAR'S** is the scripture doctrine of courts, yet it is no support of monarchial government, for the Jews at that time were without a king, and in a state of vassalage to the Romans.

Now three thousand years passed away from the Mosaic account of the creation, till the Jews under a national delusion requested a king. Till then their form of government (except in extraordinary cases, where the Almighty interposed) was a kind of republic administered by a judge and the elders of the tribes. Kings they had none, and it was held sinful to acknowledge any being under that title but the Lord of Hosts. And when a man seriously reflects on the idolatrous homage which is paid to the persons of kings, he need not wonder that the Almighty, ever jealous of his honour, should disapprove of a form of government which so impiously invades the prerogative of heaven.

Monarchy is ranked in scripture as one of the sins of the Jews, for which a curse in reserve is denounced against them. The history of that transaction is worth attending to.

The children of Israel being oppressed by the Midianites, Gideon marched against them with a small army, and victory, through the divine interposition, decided in his favour. The Jews, elate with success, and attributing it to the generalship of Gideon, proposed making him a king, saying, **RULE THOU OVER US, THOU AND THY SON AND THY SON'S SON**. Here was temptation in its fullest extent; not a kingdom only, but an hereditary one, but Gideon in the piety of his soul replied, **I WILL NOT RULE OVER YOU, NEITHER SHALL MY SON RULE OVER YOU _THE LORD SHALL RULE OVER YOU._** Words need not be more explicit; Gideon doth not decline the honour, but denieth their right to give it; neither doth he compliment them with invented declarations of his thanks, but in the positive style of a prophet charges them with disaffection to their proper Sovereign, the King of heaven.

About one hundred and thirty years after this, they fell again into the same error. The hankering which the Jews had for the idolatrous customs of the Heathens, is something exceedingly unaccountable; but so it was, that laying hold of the misconduct of Samuel's two sons, who were entrusted with some secular concerns, they came in an abrupt and clamorous manner to Samuel, saying, BEHOLD THOU ART OLD, AND THY SONS WALK NOT IN THY WAYS, NOW MAKE US A KING TO JUDGE US, LIKE ALL OTHER NATIONS. And here we cannot but observe that their motives were bad, viz. that they might be LIKE unto other nations, i.e. the Heathens, whereas their true glory laid in being as much UNLIKE them as possible. BUT THE THING DISPLEASED SAMUEL WHEN THEY SAID, GIVE US A KING TO JUDGE US; AND SAMUEL PRAYED UNTO THE LORD, AND THE LORD SAID UNTO SAMUEL, HEarken UNTO THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IN ALL THAT THEY SAY UNTO THEE, FOR THEY HAVE NOT REJECTED THEE, BUT THEY HAVE REJECTED ME, _THAT I SHOULD NOT REIGN OVER THEM._ ACCORDING TO ALL THE WORKS WHICH THEY HAVE SINCE THE DAY THAT I BROUGHT THEM UP OUT OF EGYPT, EVEN UNTO THIS DAY; WHEREWITH THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME AND SERVED OTHER GODS; SO DO THEY ALSO UNTO THEE. NOW THEREFORE HEarken UNTO THEIR VOICE, HOWBEIT, PROTEST SOLEMNLY UNTO THEM AND SHEW THEM THE MANNER OF THE KING THAT SHALL REIGN OVER THEM, I.E. not of any particular king, but the general manner of the kings of the earth, whom Israel was so eagerly copying after. And notwithstanding the great distance of time and difference of manners, the character is still in fashion. AND SAMUEL TOLD ALL THE WORDS OF THE LORD UNTO THE PEOPLE, THAT ASKED OF HIM A KING. AND HE SAID, THIS SHALL BE THE MANNER OF THE KING THAT SHALL REIGN OVER YOU; HE WILL TAKE YOUR SONS AND APPOINT THEM FOR HIMSELF, FOR HIS CHARIOTS, AND TO BE HIS HORSEMAN, AND SOME SHALL RUN BEFORE HIS CHARIOTS (this description agrees with the present mode of impressing men) AND HE WILL APPOINT HIM CAPTAINS OVER THOUSANDS AND CAPTAINS OVER FIFTIES, AND WILL SET THEM TO EAR HIS GROUND AND REAP HIS HARVEST, AND TO MAKE HIS INSTRUMENTS OF WAR, AND INSTRUMENTS OF HIS CHARIOTS; AND HE WILL TAKE YOUR DAUGHTERS TO BE CONFECTIONARIES, AND TO BE COOKS AND TO BE BAKERS (this describes the expense and luxury as well as the oppression of kings) AND HE WILL TAKE YOUR FIELDS AND YOUR OLIVE YARDS, EVEN THE BEST OF THEM, AND GIVE THEM TO HIS SERVANTS; AND HE WILL TAKE THE TENTH OF YOUR SEED, AND OF YOUR VINEYARDS, AND GIVE THEM TO HIS OFFICERS AND TO HIS SERVANTS (by which we see that bribery, corruption, and favouritism are the standing vices of kings) AND HE WILL TAKE THE TENTH OF YOUR MEN SERVANTS, AND YOUR MAID SERVANTS, AND YOUR GOODLIEST YOUNG MEN AND YOUR ASSES, AND PUT THEM TO HIS WORK; AND HE WILL TAKE THE TENTH OF YOUR SHEEP, AND YE SHALL BE HIS SERVANTS, AND YE SHALL CRY OUT IN THAT DAY BECAUSE OF YOUR KING WHICH YE SHALL HAVE CHOSEN, _AND THE LORD WILL NOT HEAR YOU IN THAT DAY._ This accounts for the continuation of monarchy; neither do the characters of the few good kings which have lived since, either sanctify the title, or blot out the sinfulness of the origin; the high encomium given of David takes no notice of him OFFICIALLY AS A KING, but only as a MAN after God's own heart. NEVERTHELESS THE PEOPLE REFUSED TO OBEY THE VOICE OF SAMUEL, AND THEY SAID, NAY, BUT WE WILL HAVE A KING OVER US, THAT WE MAY BE LIKE ALL THE NATIONS, AND THAT OUR KING MAY JUDGE US, AND GO OUT BEFORE US, AND FIGHT OUR BATTLES. Samuel continued to reason with them, but to no purpose; he set before them their ingratitude, but all would not avail; and seeing them fully bent on their folly, he cried out, I WILL CALL UNTO THE LORD, AND HE SHALL SEND THUNDER AND RAIN (which then was a punishment, being in the time of wheat harvest) THAT YE MAY PERCEIVE AND SEE THAT YOUR WICKEDNESS IS GREAT WHICH YE HAVE DONE IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD, AND THE LORD SENT THUNDER AND RAIN THAT DAY, AND ALL THE PEOPLE GREATLY FEARED THE LORD AND SAMUEL. AND ALL THE PEOPLE SAID UNTO SAMUEL, PRAY FOR THY SERVANTS UNTO THE LORD THY GOD THAT WE DIE NOT, FOR _WE HAVE ADDED

UNTO OUR SINS THIS EVIL, TO ASK A KING._ These portions of scripture are direct and positive. They admit of no equivocal construction. That the Almighty hath here entered his protest against monarchical government, is true, or the scripture is false. And a man hath good reason to believe that there is as much of kingcraft, as priestcraft, in withholding the scripture from the public in Popish countries. For monarchy in every instance is the Popery of government.

To the evil of monarchy we have added that of hereditary succession; and as the first is a degradation and lessening of ourselves, so the second, claimed as a matter of right, is an insult and an imposition on posterity. For all men being originally equals, no ONE by BIRTH could have a right to set up his own family in perpetual preference to all others for ever, and though himself might deserve SOME decent degree of honours of his contemporaries, yet his descendants might be far too unworthy to inherit them. One of the strongest NATURAL proofs of the folly of hereditary right in kings, is, that nature disapproves it, otherwise she would not so frequently turn it into ridicule by giving mankind an ASS FOR A LION.

Secondly, as no man at first could possess any other public honours than were bestowed upon him, so the givers of those honours could have no power to give away the right of posterity. And though they might say, “We chooses you for OUR head,” they could not, without manifest injustice to their children, say, “that your children and your children’s children shall reign over OURS for ever.” Because such an unwise, unjust, unnatural compact might (perhaps) in the next succession put them under the government of a rogue or a fool. Most wise men, in their private sentiments, have ever treated hereditary right with contempt; yet it is one of those evils, which when once established is not easily removed; many submit from fear, others from superstition, and the more powerful part shares with the king the plunder of the rest.

This is supposing the present race of kings in the world to have had an honourable origin; whereas it is more than probable, that could we take off the dark covering of antiquities, and trace them to their first rise, that we should find the first of them nothing better than the principal ruffian of some restless gang, whose savage manners or preeminence in subtlety obtained the title of chief among plunderers; and who by increasing in power, and extending his depredations, overawed the quiet and defenseless to purchase their safety by frequent contributions. Yet his electors could have no idea of giving hereditary right to his descendants, because such a perpetual exclusion of themselves was incompatible with the free and unrestrained principles they professed to live by. Wherefore, hereditary succession in the early ages of monarchy could not take place as a matter of claim, but as something casual or complementary; but as few or no records were extant in those days, and traditional history stuffed with fables, it was very easy, after the lapse of a few generations, to trump up some superstitious tale, conveniently timed, Mahomet like, to cram hereditary right down the throats of the vulgar. Perhaps the disorders which threatened, or seemed to threaten, on the decease of a leader and the choice of a new one (for elections among ruffians could not be very orderly) induced many at first to favour hereditary pretensions; by which means it happened, as it hath happened since, that what at first was submitted to as a convenience, was afterwards claimed as a right.

England, since the conquest, hath known some few good monarchs, but groaned beneath a much larger number of bad ones; yet no man in his senses can say that their claim under William the Conqueror is a very honourable one. A French bastard landing with an armed banditti, and establishing himself king of England against the consent of the natives, is in plain terms a very paltry rascally original. It certainly hath no divinity in it. However, it is needless to spend much time in exposing the folly of hereditary right; if there are any so weak as to believe it, let them promiscuously worship the ass and lion, and welcome. I shall neither copy their humility, nor disturb their devotion.

Yet I should be glad to ask how they suppose kings came at first? The question admits but of three answers, viz. either by lot, by election, or by usurpation. If the first king was taken by lot, it establishes a

precedent for the next, which excludes hereditary succession. Saul was by lot, yet the succession was not hereditary, neither does it appear from that transaction there was any intention it ever should be. If the first king of any country was by election, that likewise establishes a precedent for the next; for to say, that the RIGHT of all future generations is taken away, by the act of the first electors, in their choice not only of a king, but of a family of kings for ever, hath no parallel in or out of scripture but the doctrine of original sin, which supposes the free will of all men lost in Adam; and from such comparison, and it will admit of no other, hereditary succession can derive no glory. For as in Adam all sinned, and as in the first electors all men obeyed; as in the one all mankind we re subjected to Satan, and in the other to Sovereignty; as our innocence was lost in the first, and our authority in the last; and as both disable us from reassuming some former state and privilege, it unanswerably follows that original sin and hereditary succession are parallels. Dishonourable rank! Inglorious connection! Yet the most subtle sophist cannot produce a juster simile.

As to usurpation, no man will be so hardy as to defend it; and that William the Conqueror was an usurper is a fact not to be contradicted. The plain truth is, that the antiquity of English monarchy will not bear looking into.

But it is not so much the absurdity as the evil of hereditary succession which concerns mankind. Did it ensure a race of good and wise men it would have the seal of divine authority, but as it opens a door to the FOOLISH, the WICKED, and the IMPROPER, it hath in it the nature of oppression. Men who look upon themselves born to reign, and others to obey, soon grow insolent; selected from the rest of mankind their minds are early poisoned by importance; and the world they act in differs so materially from the world at large, that they have but little opportunity of knowing its true interests, and when they succeed to the government are frequently the most ignorant and unfit of any throughout the dominions.

Another evil which attends hereditary succession is, that the throne is subject to be possessed by a minor at any age; all which time the regency, acting under the cover a king, have every opportunity and inducement to betray their trust. The same national misfortune happens, when a king, worn out with age and infirmity , enters the last stage of human weakness. In both these cases the public becomes a prey to every miscreant, who can tamper successfully with the follies either of age or infancy.

The most plausible plea, which hath ever been offered in favour of hereditary succession, is, that it preserves a nation from civil wars; and were this true, it would be weighty; whereas, it is the most barefaced falsity ever imposed upon mankind. The whole history of England disowns the fact. Thirty kings and two minors have reigned in that distracted kingdom since the conquest, in which time there have been (including the Revolution) no less than eight civil wars and nineteen rebellions. Wherefore instead of making for peace, it makes against it, and destroys the very foundation it seems to stand on.

The contest for monarchy and succession, between the houses of York and Lancaster, laid England in a scene of blood for many years. Twelve pitched battles, besides skirmishes and sieges, were fought between Henry and Edward. Twice was Henry prisoner to Edward, who in his turn was prisoner to Henry. And so uncertain is the fate of war and the temper of a nation, when nothing but personal matters are the ground of a quarrel, that Henry was taken in triumph from a prison to a palace, and Edward obliged to fly from a palace to a foreign land; yet, as sudden transitions of temper are seldom lasting, Henry in his turn was driven from the throne, and Edward recalled to succeed him. The parliament always following the strongest side.

This contest began in the reign of Henry the Sixth, and was not entirely extinguished till Henry the Seventh, in whom the families were united. Including a period of 67 years, viz. from 1422 to 1489.

In short, monarchy and succession have laid (not this or that kingdom only) but the world in blood and

ashes. 'Tis a form of government which the word of God bears testimony against, and blood will attend it.

If we inquire into the business of a king, we shall find that in some countries they have none; and after sauntering away their lives without pleasure to themselves or advantage to the nation, withdraw from the scene, and leave their successors to tread the same idle ground. In absolute monarchies the whole weight of business, civil and military, lies on the king; the children of Israel in their request for a king, urged this plea “that he may judge us, and go out before us and fight our battles.” But in countries where he is neither a judge nor a general, as in England, a man would be puzzled to know what IS his business.

The nearer any government approaches to a republic the less business there is for a king. It is somewhat difficult to find a proper name for the government of England. Sir William Meredith calls it a republic; but in its present state it is unworthy of the name, because the corrupt influence of the crown, by having all the places in its disposal, hath so effectually swallowed up the power, and eaten out the virtue of the house of commons (the republican part in the constitution) that the government of England is nearly as monarchical as that of France or Spain. Men fall out with names without understanding them. For it is the republican and not the monarchical part of the constitution of England which Englishmen glory in, viz. the liberty of choosing an house of commons from out of their own body - and it is easy to see that when republican virtue fails, slavery ensues. Why is the constitution of England sickly, but because monarchy hath poisoned the republic, the crown hath engrossed the commons?

In England a king hath little more to do than to make war and give away places; which in plain terms, is to impoverish the nation and set it together by the ears. A pretty business indeed for a man to be allowed eight hundred thousand sterling a year for, and worshipped into the bargain! Of more worth is one honest man to society and in the sight of God, than all the crowned ruffians that ever lived.

THOUGHTS ON THE PRESENT STATE OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS

In the following pages I offer nothing more than simple facts, plain arguments, and common sense; and have no other Preliminaries to settle with the reader, than that he will divest himself of prejudice and prepossession, and suffer his reason and his feelings to determine for themselves; that he will put ON, or rather that he will not put OFF the true character of a man, and generously enlarge his views beyond the present day.

Volumes have been written on the subject of the struggle between England and America. Men of all ranks have embarked in the controversy, from different motives, and with various designs; but all have been ineffectual, and the period of debate is closed. Arms, as the last resource, decide this contest; the appeal was the choice of the king, and the continent hath accepted the challenge.

It hath been reported of the late Mr. Pelham (who tho' an able minister was not without his faults) that on his being attacked in the house of commons, on the score, that his measures were only of a temporary kind, replied “THEY WILL LAST MY TIME.” Should a thought so fatal and unmanly possess the colonies in the present contest, the name of ancestors will be remembered by future generations with detestation.

The sun never shined on a cause of greater worth. 'Tis not the affair of a city, a county, a province, or a kingdom, but of a continent - of at least one eighth part of the habitable globe. 'Tis not the concern of a day, a year, or an age; posterity are virtually involved in the contest, and will be more or less affected, even to the end of time, by the proceedings now. Now is the seed-time of continental union, faith and honour. The least fracture now will be like a name engraved with the point of a pin on the tender rind of a young oak; the wound will enlarge with the tree, and posterity read it in full grown characters.

By referring the matter from argument to arms, a new aera for politics is struck; a new method of thinking hath arisen. All plans, proposals, &c. prior to the nineteenth of April, i. e. to the commencement of hostilities, are like the almanacs of the last year; which, though proper then are superseded and useless now. Whatever was advanced by the advocates on either side of the question then, terminated in one and the same point. viz. a union with Great-Britain: the only difference between the parties was the method of effecting it; the one proposing force, the other friendship; but it hath so far happened that the first hath failed, and the second hath withdrawn her influence.

As much hath been said of the advantages of reconciliation which, like an agreeable dream, hath passed away and left us as we were, it is but right, that we should examine the contrary side of the argument, and inquire into some of the many material injuries which these colonies sustain, and always will sustain, by being connected with, and dependent on Great Britain: To examine that connection and dependence, on the principles of nature and common sense, to see what we have to trust to, if separated, and what we are to expect, if dependant.

I have heard it asserted by some, that as America hath flourished under her former connection with Great Britain that the same connection is necessary towards her future happiness, and will always have the same effect. Nothing can be more fallacious than this kind of argument. We may as well assert that because a child has thrived upon milk that it is never to have meat, or that the first twenty years of our lives is to become a precedent for the next twenty. But even this is admitting more than is true, for I answer roundly, that America would have flourished as much, and probably much more, had no European power had any thing to do with her. The commerce, by which she hath enriched herself, are the necessaries of life, and will always have a market while eating is the custom of Europe.

But she has protected us, say some. That she has engrossed us is true, and defended the continent at our expense as well as her own is admitted, and she would have defended Turkey from the same motive, viz. the sake of trade and dominion.

Alas, we have been long led away by ancient prejudices, and made large sacrifices to superstition. We have boasted the protection of Great Britain, without considering, that her motive was INTEREST not ATTACHMENT; that she did not protect us from OUR ENEMIES on OUR ACCOUNT, but from HER ENEMIES on HER OWN ACCOUNT, from those who had no quarrel with us on any OTHER ACCOUNT, and who will always be our enemies on the SAME ACCOUNT. Let Britain wave her pretensions to the continent, or the continent throw off the dependence, and we should be at peace with France and Spain were they at war with Britain. The miseries of Hanover last war ought to warn us against connections.

It has lately been asserted in parliament, that the colonies have no relation to each other but through the parent country, i. e. that Pennsylvania and the Jerseys, and so on for the rest, are sister colonies by the way of England; this is certainly a very round-about way of proving relationship, but it is the nearest and only true way of proving enemyship, if I may so call it. France and Spain never were. nor perhaps ever will be our enemies as AMERICANS, but as our being the subjects of GREAT BRITAIN.

But Britain is the parent country, say some. Then the more shame upon her conduct. Even brutes do not devour their young, nor savages make war upon their families; wherefore the assertion, if true, turns to her reproach; but it happens not to be true, or only partly so and the phrase PARENT or MOTHER COUNTRY hath been jesuitically adopted by the king and his parasites, with a low papistical design of gaining an unfair bias on the credulous weakness of our minds. Europe, and not England, is the parent country of America. This new world hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from EVERY PART of Europe. Hither have they fled, not from the tender embraces of the mother,

but from the cruelty of the monster; and it is so far true of England, that the same tyranny which drove the first emigrants from home, pursues their descendants still.

In this extensive quarter of the globe, we forget the narrow limits of three hundred and sixty miles (the extent of England) and carry our friendship on a larger scale; we claim brotherhood with every European Christian, and triumph in the generosity of the sentiment.

It is pleasant to observe by what regular gradations we surmount the force of local prejudice, as we enlarge our acquaintance with the world. A man born in any town in England divided into parishes, will naturally associate most with his fellow-parishioners (because their interests in many cases will be common) and distinguish him by the name of NEIGHBOUR; if he meet him but a few miles from home, he drops the narrow idea of a street, and salutes him by the name of TOWNSMAN; if he travel out of the county, and meet him in any other, he forgets the minor divisions of street and town, and calls him COUNTRYMAN, i. e. COUNTRYMAN; but if in their foreign excursions they should associate in France or any other part of EUROPE, their local remembrance would be enlarged into that of ENGLISHMEN. And by a just parity of reasoning, all Europeans meeting in America, or any other quarter of the globe, are COUNTRYMEN; for England, Holland, Germany, or Sweden, when compared with the whole, stand in the same places on the larger scale, which the divisions of street, town, and county do on the smaller ones; distinctions too limited for continental minds. Not one third of the inhabitants, even of this province, are of English descent. Wherefore I reprobate the phrase of parent or mother country applied to England only, as being false, selfish, narrow and ungenerous.

But admitting, that we were all of English descent, what does it amount to? Nothing. Britain, being now an open enemy, extinguishes every other name and title: And to say that reconciliation is our duty, is truly farcical. The first king of England, of the present line (William the Conqueror) was a Frenchman, and half the Peers of England are descendants from the same country; therefore, by the same method of reasoning, England ought to be governed by France.

Much hath been said of the united strength of Britain and the colonies, that in conjunction they might bid defiance to the world. But this is mere presumption; the fate of war is uncertain, neither do the expressions mean any thing; for this continent would never suffer itself to be drained of inhabitants, to support the British arms in either Asia, Africa, or Europe.

Besides what have we to do with setting the world at defiance? Our plan is commerce, and that, well attended to, will secure us the peace and friendship of all Europe; because, it is the interest of all Europe to have America a FREE PORT. Her trade will always be a protection, and her barrenness of gold and silver secure her from invaders.

I challenge the warmest advocate for reconciliation, to shew, a single advantage that this continent can reap, by being connected with Great Britain. I repeat the challenge, not a single advantage is derived. Our corn will fetch its price in any market in Europe, and our imported goods must be paid for, buy them where we will.

But the injuries and disadvantages we sustain by that connection, are without number; and our duty to mankind at large, as well as to ourselves, instruct us to renounce the alliance: Because, any submission to, or dependence on Great Britain, tends directly to involve this continent in European wars and quarrels; and sets us at variance with nations, who would otherwise seek our friendship, and against whom, we have neither anger nor complaint. As Europe is our market for trade, we ought to form no partial connection with any part of it. It is the true interest of America to steer clear of European contentions, which she never can do, while by her dependence on Britain, she is made the make-weight in the scale of British politics.

Europe is too thickly planted with kingdoms to be long at peace, and whenever a war breaks out between England and any foreign power, the trade of America goes to ruin, BECAUSE OF HER CONNECTION WITH ENGLAND. The next war may not turn out like the last, and should it not, the advocates for reconciliation now, will be wishing for separation then, because, neutrality in that case, would be a safer convoy than a man of war. Every thing that is right or natural pleads for separation. The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries, 'TIS TIME TO PART. Even the distance at which the Almighty hath placed England and America, is a strong and natural proof, that the authority of the one, over the other, was never the design of Heaven. The time likewise at which the continent was discovered, adds weight to the argument, and the manner in which it was peopled increases the force of it. The reformation was preceded by the discovery of America, as if the Almighty graciously meant to open a sanctuary to the Persecuted in future years, when home should afford neither friendship nor safety.

The authority of Great Britain over this continent, is a form of government, which sooner or later must have an end: And a serious mind can draw no true pleasure by looking forward under the painful and positive conviction, that what he calls “the present constitution” is merely temporary. As parents, we can have no joy, knowing that THIS GOVERNMENT is not sufficiently lasting to ensure any thing which we may bequeath to posterity: And by a plain method of argument, as we are running the next generation into debt, we ought to do the work of it, otherwise we use them meanly and pitifully. In order to discover the line of our duty rightly, we should take our children in our hand, and fix our station a few years farther into life; that eminence will present a prospect, which a few present fears and prejudices conceal from our sight.

Though I would carefully avoid giving unnecessary offense, yet I am inclined to believe, that all those who espouse the doctrine of reconciliation, may be included within the following descriptions. Interested men, who are not to be trusted; weak men, who CANNOT see; prejudiced men, who WILL NOT see; and a certain set of moderate men, who think better of the European world than it deserves; and this last class, by an ill-judged deliberation, will be the cause of more calamities to this continent, than all the other three.

It is the good fortune of many to live distant from the scene of sorrow; the evil is not sufficient brought to their doors to make THEM feel the precariousness with which all American property is possessed. But let our imaginations transport us far a few moments to Boston, that seat of wretchedness will teach us wisdom, and instruct us for ever to renounce a power in whom we can have no trust. The inhabitants of that unfortunate city, who but a few months ago were in ease and affluence, have now, no other alternative than to stay and starve, or turn and beg. Endangered by the fire of their friends if they continue within the city, and plundered by the soldiery if they leave it. In their present condition they are prisoners without the hope of redemption, and in a general attack for their relief, they would be exposed to the fury of both armies.

Men of passive tempers look somewhat lightly over the offenses of Britain, and, still hoping for the best, are apt to call out, “COME, COME, WE SHALL BE FRIENDS AGAIN, FOR ALL THIS.” But examine the passions and feelings of mankind, Bring the doctrine of reconciliation to the touchstone of nature, and then tell me, whether you can hereafter love, honor, and faithfully serve the power that hath carried fire and sword into your land? If you cannot do all these, then are you only deceiving yourselves, and by your delay bringing ruin upon posterity. Your future connection with Britain, whom you can neither love nor honor will be forced and unnatural, and being formed only on the plan of present convenience, will in a little time fall into a relapse more wretched than the first. But if you say, you can still pass the violations over, then I ask, Hath your house been burnt? Hath your property been destroyed before your face! Are your wife and children destitute of a bed to lie on, or bread to live on? Have you lost a parent or a child by their hands, and yourself the ruined and wretched survivor! If you have not, then are you not a judge of

those who have. But if you have, and still can shake hands with the murderers, then are you unworthy the name of husband, father, friend, or lover, and whatever may be your rank or title in life, you have the heart of a coward, and the spirit of a sycophant.

This is not inflaming or exaggerating matters, but trying them by those feelings and affections which nature justifies, and without which, we should be incapable of discharging the social duties of life, or enjoying the felicities of it. I mean not to exhibit horror for the purpose of provoking revenge, but to awaken us from fatal and unmanly slumbers, that we may pursue determinately some fixed object. It is not in the power of Britain or of Europe to conquer America, if she do not conquer herself by DELAY and TIMIDITY. The present winter is worth an age if rightly employed, but if lost or neglected, the whole continent will partake of the misfortune; and there is no punishment which that man will not deserve, be he who, or what, or where he will, that may be the means of sacrificing a season so precious and useful.

It is repugnant to reason, to the universal order of things, to all examples from former ages, to suppose, that this continent can longer remain subject to any external power. The most sanguine in Britain does not think so. The utmost stretch of human wisdom cannot, at this time, compass a plan short of separation, which can promise the continent even a year's security. Reconciliation is NOW a fallacious dream. Nature hath deserted the connection, and Art cannot supply her place. For, as Milton wisely expresses, "never can true reconcilment grow, where wounds of deadly hate have pierced so deep."

Every quiet method for peace hath been ineffectual. Our prayers have been rejected with disdain; and only tended to convince us, that nothing Batters vanity, or confirms obstinacy in Kings more than repeated petitioning—and nothing hath contributed more than that very measure to make the Kings of Europe absolute: Witness Denmark and Sweden. Wherefore, since nothing but blows will do, for God's sake, let us come to a final separation, and not leave the next generation to be cutting throats, under the violated unmeaning names of parent and child.

To say, they will never attempt it again is idle and visionary, we thought so at the repeal of the stamp-act, yet a year or two undeceived us; as well may we suppose that nations, which have been once defeated, will never renew the quarrel.

As to government matters, it is not in the power of Britain to do this continent justice: The business of it will soon be too weighty, and intricate, to be managed with any tolerable degree of convenience, by a power so distant from us, and so very ignorant of us; for if they cannot conquer us, they cannot govern us. To be always running three or four thousand miles with a tale or a petition, waiting four or five months for an answer, which when obtained requires five or six more to explain it in, will in a few years be looked upon as folly and childishness—There was a time when it was proper, and there is a proper time for it to cease.

Small islands not capable of protecting themselves, are the proper objects for kingdoms to take under their care; but there is something very absurd, in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island. In no instance hath nature made the satellite larger than its primary planet, and as England and America, with respect to each other, reverses the common order of nature, it is evident they belong to different systems; England to Europe, America to itself.

I am not induced by motives of pride, party, or resentment to espouse the doctrine of separation and independance; I am clearly, positively, and conscientiously persuaded that it is the true interest of this continent to be so; that every thing short of THAT is mere patchwork, that it can afford no lasting felicity, —that it is leaving the sword to our children, and shrinking back at a time, when, a little more, a little farther, would have rendered this continent the glory of the earth.

As Britain hath not manifested the least inclination towards a compromise, we may be assured that no terms can be obtained worthy the acceptance of the continent, or any ways equal to the expense of blood and treasure we have been already put to.

The object, contended for, ought always to bear some just proportion to the expense. The removal of North, or the whole detestable junto, is a matter unworthy the millions we have expended. A temporary stoppage of trade, was an inconvenience, which would have sufficiently balanced the repeal of all the acts complained of, had such repeals been obtained; hut if the whole continent must take up arms, if every man must be a soldier, it is scarcely worth our while to fight against a contemptible ministry only. Dearly, dearly, do we pay for the repeal of the acts, if that is all we fight for; for in a just estimation, it is as great a folly to pay a Bunker-hill price for law, as for land. As I have always considered the independancy of this continent, as an event, which sooner or later must arrive, so from the late rapid progress of the continent to maturity, the event could not be far off. Wherefore, on the breaking out of hostilities, it was not worth while to have disputed a matter, which time would have finally redressed, unless we meant to be in earnest; otherwise, it is like wasting an estate on a suit at law, to regulate the trespasses of a tenant, whose lease is just expiring. No man was a warmer wisher for reconciliation than myself, before the fatal nineteenth of April 1775, but the moment the event of that day was made known, I rejected the hardened, sullen tempered Pharaoh of England for ever; and disdain the wretch, that with the pretended title of FATHER OF HIS PEOPLE can unfeelingly hear of their slaughter, and composedly sleep with their blood upon his soul.

But admitting that matters were now made up, what would be the event? I answer, the ruin of the continent. And that for several reasons.

FIRST. The powers of governing still remaining in the hands of the king, he will have a negative over the whole legislation of this continent. And as he hath shewn himself such an inveterate enemy to liberty. and discovered such a thirst for arbitrary power; is he, or is he not, a proper man to say to these colonies, “YOU SHALL MAKE NO LAWS BUT WHAT I PLEASE.” And is there any inhabitant in America so ignorant as not to know, that according to what is called the PRESENT CONSTITUTION, that this continent can make no laws but what the king gives leave to; and is there any man so unwise, as not to see, that (considering what has happened) he will suffer no law to be made here, but such as suit HIS purpose. We may be as effectually enslaved by the want of laws in America, as by submitting to laws made for us in England. After matters are made up (as it is called) can there be any doubt, but the whole power of the crown will be exerted, to keep this continent as low and humble as possible? Instead of going forward we shall go backward, or be perpetually quarrelling or ridiculously petitioning. —WE are already greater than the king wishes us to be, and will he not hereafter endeavour to make us less? To bring the matter to one point. Is the power who is jealous of our prosperity, a proper power to govern us? Whoever says No to this question, is an INDEPENDANT, for independancy means no more, than, whether we shall make our own laws, or whether the king, the greatest enemy this continent hath, or can have, shall tell us “THERE SHALL BE NO LAWS BUT SUCH AS I LIKE.”

But the king you will say has a negative in England; the people there can make no laws without his consent. In point of right and good order, there is something very ridiculous, that a youth of twenty-one (which hath often happened) shall say to several millions of people, older and wiser than himself, I forbid this or that act of yours to be law. But in this place I decline this sort of reply, though I will never cease to expose the absurdity of it, and only answer, that England being the King’s residence, and America not so, makes quite another case. The king’s negative HERE is ten times more dangerous and fatal than it can be in England, for THERE he will scarcely refuse his consent to a bill for putting England into as strong a state of defense as possible, and in America he would never suffer such a bill to be passed.

America is only a secondary object in the system of British politics, England consults the good of THIS country, no farther than it answers her OWN purpose. Wherefore, her own interest leads her to suppress the growth of OURS in every case which doth not promote her advantage, or in the least interferes with it. A pretty state we should soon be in under such a secondhand government, considering what has happened! Men do not change from enemies to friends by the alteration of a name: And in order to shew that reconciliation now is a dangerous doctrine, I affirm, THAT IT WOULD BE POLICY IN THE KING AT THIS TIME, TO REPEAL THE ACTS FOR THE SAKE OF REINSTATING HIMSELF IN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCES; in order, that HE MAY ACCOMPLISH BY CRAFT AND SUBTLETY, IN THE LONG RUN, WHAT HE CANNOT DO BY FORCE AND VIOLENCE IN THE SHORT ONE. Reconciliation and ruin are nearly related.

SECONDLY. That as even the best terms, which we can expect to obtain, can amount to no more than a temporary expedient, or a kind of government by guardianship, which can last no longer than till the colonies come of age, so the general face and state of things, in the interim, will be unsettled and unpromising. Emigrants of property will not choose to come to a country whose form of government hangs but by a thread, and who is every day tottering on the brink of commotion and disturbance; and numbers of the present inhabitants would lay hold of the interval, to dispense of their effects, and quit the continent.

But the most powerful of all arguments, is, that nothing but independence, i.e. a continental form of government, can keep the peace of the continent and preserve it inviolate from civil wars. I dread the event of a reconciliation with Britain now, as it is more than probable, that it will be followed by a revolt somewhere or other, the consequences of which may be far more fatal than all the malice of Britain.

Thousands are already ruined by British barbarity; (thousands more will probably suffer the same fate) Those men have other feelings than us who have nothing suffered. All they NOW possess is liberty, what they before enjoyed is sacrificed to its service, and having nothing more to lose, they disdain submission. Besides, the general temper of the colonies, towards a British government, will be like that of a youth, who is nearly out of his time; they will care very little about her. And a government which cannot preserve the peace, is no government at all, and in that case we pay our money for nothing; and pray what is it that Britain can do, whose power will be wholly on paper. should a civil tumult break out the very day after reconciliation! I have heard some men say, many of whom I believe spoke without thinking, that they dreaded an independence, fearing that it would produce civil wars. It is but seldom that our first thoughts are truly correct, and that is the case here; for there are ten times more to dread from a patched up connection than from independence. I make the sufferers case my own, and I protest, that were I driven from house and home, my property destroyed, and my circumstances ruined, that as man, sensible of injuries, I could never relish the doctrine of reconciliation, or consider myself bound thereby.

The colonies have manifested such a spirit of good order and obedience to continental government, as is sufficient to make every reasonable person easy and happy on that head. No man can assign the least pretence for his fears, on any other grounds, than such as are truly childish and ridiculous, viz. that one colony will be striving for superiority over another.

Where there are no distinctions there can be no superiority, perfect equality affords no temptation. The republics of Europe are all (and we may say always) in peace. Holland and Switzerland are without wars, foreign or domestic: Monarchical governments, it is true, are never long at rest; the crown itself is a temptation to enterprising ruffians at HOME; and that degree of pride and insolence ever attendant on regal authority, swells into a rupture with foreign powers, in instances, where a republican government, by being formed on more natural principles, would negotiate the mistake.

If there is any true cause of fear respecting independence, it is because no plan is yet laid down. Men do not see their way out— Wherefore, as an opening into that business, I offer the following hints; at the same time modestly affirming, that I have no other opinion of them myself, than that they may be the means of giving rise to something better. Could the straggling thoughts of individuals be collected, they would frequently form materials for wise and able men to improve into useful matter.

LET the assemblies be annual, with a President only. The representation more equal. Their business wholly domestic, and subject to the authority of a Continental Congress.

Let each colony be divided into six, eight, or ten, convenient districts, each district to send a proper number of delegates to Congress, so that each colony send at least thirty. The whole number in Congress will be at least 390. Each Congress to sit and to choose a president by the following method. When the delegates are met, let a colony be taken from the whole thirteen colonies by lot, after which, let the whole Congress choose (by ballot) a president from out of the delegates of that province. In the next Congress, let a colony be taken by lot from twelve only, omitting that colony from which the president was taken in the former Congress, and so proceeding on till the whole thirteen shall have had their proper rotation. And in order that nothing may pass into a law but what is satisfactorily just not less than three fifths of the Congress to be called a majority— He that will promote discord, under a government so equally formed as this, would have joined Lucifer in his revolt.

But as there is a peculiar delicacy, from whom, or in what manner, this business must first arise, and as it seems most agreeable and consistent, that it should come from some intermediate body between the governed and the governors, that is, between the Congress and the people. let a CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE be held, in the following manner, and for the following purpose.

A committee of twenty-six members of Congress, viz. two for each colony. Two Members from each House of Assembly, or Provincial Convention; and five representatives of the people at large, to be chosen in the capital city or town of each province, for and in behalf of the whole province, by as many qualified voters as shall think proper to attend from all parts of the province for that purpose; or, if more convenient, the representatives may be chosen in two or three of the most populous parts thereof. In this conference, thus assembled, will be united, the two grand principles of business KNOWLEDGE and POWER. The members of Congress, Assemblies, or Conventions, by having had experience in national concerns, will be able and useful counsellors, and the whole, being empowered by the people, will have a truly legal authority.

The conferring members being met, let their business be to frame a CONTINENTAL CHARTER, Or Charter of the United Colonies; (answering to what is called the Magna Carta of England) fixing the number and manner of choosing members of Congress, members of Assembly, with their date of sitting, and drawing the line of business and jurisdiction between them: (Always remembering, that our strength is continental, not provincial:) Securing freedom and property to all men, and above all things, the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience; with such other matter as is necessary for a charter to contain. Immediately after which, the said Conference to dissolve, and the bodies which shall be chosen conformable to the said charter, to be the legislators and governors of this continent for the time being: Whose peace and happiness may God preserve, Amen.

Should any body of men be hereafter delegated for this or some similar purpose, I offer them the following extracts or that wise observer on governments DRAGONETTI. “The science” says he “of the politician consists in fixing the true point of happiness and freedom. Those men would deserve the gratitude of ages, who should discover a mode of government that contained the greatest sum of individual happiness, with the least national expense. [Dragonetti on virtue and rewards]

But where, says some, is the King of America? I'll tell you. Friend, he reigns above, and doth not make havoc of mankind like the Royal Brute of Britain. Yet that we may not appear to be defective even in earthly honors, let a day be solemnly set apart for proclaiming the charter; let it be brought forth placed on the divine law, the word of God; let a crown be placed thereon, by which the world may know, that so far we approve of monarchy, that in America THE LAW IS KING. For as in absolute governments the King is law, so in free countries the law OUGHT to be King; and there ought to be no other. But lest any ill use should afterwards arise, let the crown at the conclusion of the ceremony, be demolished, and scattered among the people whose right it is.

A government of our own is our natural right: And when a man seriously reacts on the precariousness of human affairs, he will become convinced, that it is infinitely wiser and safer, to form a constitution of our own in a cool deliberate manner, while we have it in our power, than to trust such an interesting event to time and chance. If we omit it now, some [Thomas Anello otherwise Massanello a fisherman of Naples, who after spiriting up his countrymen in the public marketplace, against the oppressions of the Spaniards, to whom the place was then subject prompted them to revolt, and in the space of a day became king.] Massanello may hereafter arise, who laying hold of popular disquietudes, may collect together the desperate and the discontented, and by assuming to themselves the powers of government, may sweep away the liberties of the continent like a deluge. Should the government of America return again into the hands of Britain, the tottering situation of things will be a temptation for some desperate adventurer to try his fortune; and in such a case, that relief can Britain give? Ere she could hear the news, the fatal business might be done; and ourselves suffering like the wretched Britons under the oppression of the Conqueror. Ye that oppose independence now, ye know not what ye do; ye are opening a door to eternal tyranny, by keeping vacant the seat of government. There are thousands, and tens of thousands, who would think it glorious to expel from the continent that barbarous and hellish power, which hath stirred up the Indians and Negroes to destroy us; the cruelty hath a double guilt, it is dealing brutally by us, and treacherously by them.

To talk of friendship with those in whom our reason forbids us to have faith, and our affections wounded through a thousand pores instruct us to detest, is madness and folly. Every day wears out the little remains of kindred between us and them, and can there be any reason to hope, that as the relationship expires, the affection will increase, or that we shall agree better, when we have ten times more and greater concerns to quarrel over than ever?

Ye that tell us of harmony and reconciliation, can ye restore to us the time that is past? Can ye give to prostitution its former innocence? Neither can ye reconcile Britain and America. The last cord now is broken, the people of England are presenting addresses against us. There are injuries which nature cannot forgive; she would cease to be nature if she did. As well can the lover forgive the ravisher of his mistress, as the continent forgive the murders of Britain. The Almighty hath implanted in us these unextinguishable feelings for good and wise purposes. They are the guardians of his image in our hearts. They distinguish us from the herd of common animals. The social compact would dissolve, and justice be extirpated the earth, or have only a casual existence were we callous to the touches of affection. The robber, and the murderer, would often escape unpunished, did not the injuries which our tempers sustain, provoke us into justice.

O ye that love mankind! Ye that dare oppose, not only the tyranny, but the tyrant, stand forth! Every spot of the old world is overrun with oppression. Freedom hath been hunted round the globe. Asia, and Africa, have long expelled her—Europe regards her like a stranger, and England hath given her warning to depart. O! receive the fugitive, and prepare in time an asylum for mankind.

OF THE PRESENT ABILITY OF AMERICA, WITH SOME MISCELLANEOUS REFLECTIONS

I have never met with a man, either in England or America, who hath not confessed his opinion that a separation between the countries, would take place one time or other: And there is no instance, in which we have shewn less judgement, than in endeavouring to describe, what we call the ripeness or fitness of the Continent for independence.

As all men allow the measure, and vary only in their opinion of the time, let us, in order to remove mistakes, take a general survey of things, and endeavour, if possible, to find out the VERY time. But we need not go far, the inquiry ceases at once, for, the TIME HATH FOUND US. The general concurrence, the glorious union of all things prove the fact.

It is not in numbers, but in unity, that our great strength lies; yet our present numbers are sufficient to repel the force of all the world. The Continent hath, at this time, the largest body of armed and disciplined men of any power under Heaven; and is just arrived at that pitch of strength, in which no single colony is able to support itself, and the whole, when united, can accomplish the matter, and either more, or, less than this, might be fatal in its effects. Our land force is already sufficient, and as to naval affairs, we cannot be insensible, that Britain would never suffer an American man of war to be built, while the continent remained in her hands. Wherefore, we should be no forwarder an hundred years hence in that branch, than we are now; but the truth is, we should be less so, because the timber of the country is every day diminishing, and that, which will remain at last, will be far off and difficult to procure.

Were the continent crowded with inhabitants, her sufferings under the present circumstances would be intolerable. The more seaport towns we had, the more should we have both to defend and to lose. Our present numbers are so happily proportioned to our wants, that no man need be idle. The diminution of trade affords an army, and the necessities of an army create a new trade.

Debts we have none; and whatever we may contract on this account will serve as a glorious memento of our virtue. Can we but leave posterity with a settled form of government, an independent constitution of its own, the purchase at any price will be cheap. But to expend millions for the sake of getting a few vile acts repealed, and routing the present ministry only, is unworthy the charge, and is using posterity with the utmost cruelty; because it is leaving them the great work to do, and a debt upon their backs, from which they derive no advantage. Such a thought is unworthy of a man of honor, and is the true characteristic of a narrow heart and a peddling politician.

The debt we may contract doth not deserve our regard, if the work be but accomplished. No nation ought to be without a debt. A national debt is a national bond; and when it bears no interest, is in no case a grievance. Britain is oppressed with a debt of upwards of one hundred and forty millions sterling, for which she pays upwards of four millions interest. And as a compensation for her debt, she has a large navy; America is without a debt, and without a navy; yet for the twentieth part of the English national debt, could have a navy as large again. The navy of England is not worth, at this time, more than three millions and an half sterling.

The first and second editions of this pamphlet were published without the following calculations, which are now given as a proof that the above estimation of the navy is just. [See Entic's naval history, intro. page 56.]

The charge of building a ship of each rate, and furnishing her with masts, yards, sails and rigging,

together with a proportion of eight months boatswain's and carpenter's seastores, as calculated by Mr. Burchett, Secretary to the navy.

		[pounds Sterling]
For a ship of a 100 guns	–	35,553
90	–	29,886
80	–	23,638
70	–	17,795
60	–	14,197
50	–	10,606
40	–	7,558
30	–	5,846
20	–	3,710

And from hence it is easy to sum up the value, or cost rather, of the whole British navy, which in the year 1757, when it was at its greatest glory consisted of the following ships and guns:

Ships.	Guns.	Cost of one.	Cost of all
6	100	35,553	213,318
12	90	29,886	358,632
12	80	23,638	283,656
43	70	17,785	764,755
35	60	14,197	496,895
40	50	10,606	424,240
45	40	7,558	340,110
58	20	3,710	215,180
85 Sloops, bombs, and fireships, one with another, at			
		2,000	170,000
			Cost 3,266,786
Remains for guns,			233,214
			Total 3,500,000

No country on the globe is so happily situated, or so internally capable of raising a fleet as America. Tar, timber, iron, and cordage are her natural produce. We need go abroad for nothing. Whereas the Dutch, who make large profits by hiring out their ships of war to the Spaniards and Portuguese, are obliged to import most of their materials they use. We ought to view the building a fleet as an article of commerce, it being the natural manufactory of this country. It is the best money we can lay out. A navy when finished is worth more than it cost. And is that nice point in national policy, in which commerce and protection are united. Let us build; if we want them not, we can sell; and by that means replace our paper currency with ready gold and silver.

In point of manning a fleet, people in general run into great errors; it is not necessary that one fourth part should be sailors. The Terrible privateer, Captain Death, stood the hottest engagement of any ship last war, yet had not twenty sailors on board, though her complement of men was upwards of two hundred. A

few able and social sailors will soon instruct a sufficient number of active landmen in the common work of a ship. Wherefore, we never can be more capable to begin on maritime matters than now, while our timber is standing, our fisheries blocked up, and our sailors and shipwrights out of employ. Men of war of seventy and eighty guns were built forty years ago in New-England, and why not the same now? Ship-building is America's greatest pride, and in which she will in time excel the whole world. The great empires of the east are mostly inland, and consequently excluded from the possibility of rivalling her. Africa is in a state of barbarism; and no power in Europe hath either such an extent of coast, or such an internal supply of materials. Where nature hath given the one, she has withheld the other; to America only hath she been liberal of both. The vast empire of Russia is almost shut out from the sea: wherefore, her boundless forests, her tar, iron, and cordage are only articles of commerce.

In point of safety, ought we to be without a fleet? We are not the little people now, which we were sixty years ago; at that time we might have trusted our property in the streets, or fields rather; and slept securely without locks or bolts to our doors or windows. The case now is altered, and our methods of defense ought to improve with our increase of property. A common pirate, twelve months ago, might have come up the Delaware, and laid the city of Philadelphia under instant contribution, for what sum he pleased; and the same might have happened to other places. Nay, any daring fellow, in a brig of fourteen or sixteen guns might have robbed the whole continent, and carried off half a million of money. These are circumstances which demand our attention, and point out the necessity of naval protection.

Some, perhaps, will say, that after we have made it up Britain, she will protect us. Can we be so unwise as to mean, that she shall keep a navy in our harbours for that purpose? Common sense will tell us, that the power which hath endeavoured to subdue us, is of all others the most improper to defend us. Conquest may be effected under the pretence of friendship; and ourselves after a long and brave resistance, be at last cheated into slavery. And if her ships are not to be admitted into our harbours, I would ask, how is she to protect us? A navy three or four thousand miles off can be of little use, and on sudden emergencies, none at all. Wherefore, if we must hereafter protect ourselves, why not do it for ourselves?

The English list of ships of war, is long and formidable, but not a tenth part of them are at any one time fit for service, numbers of them not in being; yet their names are pompously continued in the list, if only a plank be left of the ship: and not a fifth part of such as are fit for service, can be spared on any one station at one time. The East and West Indies, Mediterranean, Africa, and other parts over which Britain extends her claim, make large demands upon her navy. From a mixture of prejudice and inattention, we have contracted a false notion respecting the navy of England, and have talked as if we should have the whole of it to encounter at once, and for that reason, supposed, that we must have one as large; which not being instantly practicable, have been made use of by a set of disguised Tories to discourage our beginning thereon. Nothing can be farther from truth than this; for if America had only a twentieth part of the naval force of Britain, she would be by far an overmatch for her; because, as we neither have, nor claim any foreign dominion, our whole force would be employed on our own coast, where we should, in the long run, have two to one the advantage of those who had three or four thousand miles to sail over, before they could attack us, and the same distance to return in order to refit and recruit. And although Britain, by her fleet, hath a check over our trade to Europe, we have as large a one over her trade to the West Indies, which, by laying in the neighbourhood of the continent, is entirely at its mercy.

Some method might be fallen on to keep up a naval force in time of peace, if we should not judge it necessary to support a constant navy. If premiums were to be given to merchants, to build and employ in their service ships mounted with twenty, thirty, forty or fifty guns, (the premiums to be in proportion to the loss of bulk to the merchants) fifty or sixty of those ships, with a few guardships on constant duty, would keep up a sufficient navy, and that without burdening ourselves with the evil so loudly complained of in England, of suffering their fleet, in time of peace to lie rotting in the docks. To unite the sinews of

commerce and defense is sound policy; for when our strength and our riches play into each other's hand, we need fear no external enemy.

In almost every article of defense we abound. Hemp flourishes even to rankness, so that we need not want cordage. Our iron is superior to that of other countries. Our small arms equal to any in the world. Cannon we can cast at pleasure. Saltpetre and gunpowder we are every day producing. Our knowledge is hourly improving. Resolution is our inherent character, and courage hath never yet forsaken us. Wherefore, what is it that we want? Why is it that we hesitate? From Britain we can expect nothing but ruin. If she is once admitted to the government of America again, this Continent will not be worth living in. Jealousies will be always arising; insurrections will be constantly happening; and who will go forth to quell them? Who will venture his life to reduce his own countrymen to a foreign obedience? The difference between Pennsylvania and Connecticut, respecting some unlocated lands, shews the insignificance of a British government, and fully proves, that nothing but Continental authority can regulate Continental matters.

Another reason why the present time is preferable to all others, is, that the fewer our numbers are, the more land there is yet unoccupied, which instead of being lavished by the king on his worthless dependants, may be hereafter applied, not only to the discharge of the present debt, but to the constant support of government. No nation under heaven hath such an advantage at this.

The infant state of the Colonies, as it is called, so far from being against, is an argument in favour of independance. We are sufficiently numerous, and were we more so, we might be less united. It is a matter worthy of observation, that the more a country is peopled, the smaller their armies are. In military numbers, the ancients far exceeded the modems: and the reason is evident. For trade being the consequence of population, men become too much absorbed thereby to attend to anything else. Commerce diminishes the spirit, both of patriotism and military defence. And history sufficiently informs us, that the bravest achievements were always accomplished in the non-age of a nation. With the increase of commerce, England hath lost its spirit. The city of London, notwithstanding its numbers, submits to continued insults with the patience of a coward. The more men have to lose, the less willing are they to venture. The rich are in general slaves to fear, and submit to courtly power with the trembling duplicity of a Spaniel.

Youth is the seed time of good habits, as well in nations as in individuals. It might be difficult, if not impossible, to form the Continent into one government half a century hence. The vast variety of interests, occasioned by an increase of trade and population, would create confusion. Colony would be against colony. Each being able might scorn each other's assistance: and while the proud and foolish gloried in their little distinctions, the wise would lament, that the union had not been formed before. Wherefore, the PRESENT TIME is the TRUE TIME for establishing it. The intimacy which is contracted in infancy, and the friendship which is formed in misfortune, are, of all others, the most lasting and unalterable. Our present union is marked with both these characters: we are young and we have been distressed; but our concord hath withstood our troubles, and fixes a memorable are for posterity to glory in.

The present time, likewise, is that peculiar time, which never happens to a nation but once, viz. the time of forming itself into a government. Most nations have let slip the opportunity, and by that means have been compelled to receive laws from their conquerors, instead of making laws for themselves. First, they had a king, and then a form of government; whereas, the articles or charter of government, should be formed first, and men delegated to execute them afterward but from the errors of other nations, let us learn wisdom, and lay hold of the present opportunity —TO BEGIN GOVERNMENT AT THE RIGHT END.

When William the Conqueror subdued England, he gave them law at the point of the sword; and until we consent, that the seat of government, in America, be legally and authoritatively occupied, we shall be in

danger of having it filled by some fortunate ruffian, who may treat us in the same manner, and then, where will be our freedom? where our property? As to religion, I hold it to be the indispensable duty of all government, to protect all conscientious professors thereof, and I know of no other business which government hath to do therewith, Let a man throw aside that narrowness of soul, that selfishness of principle, which the niggards of all professions are willing to part with, and he will be at delivered of his fears on that head. Suspicion is the companion of mean souls, and the bane of all good society. For myself, I fully and conscientiously believe, that it is the will of the Almighty, that there should be diversity of religious opinions among us: It affords a larger field for our Christian kindness. Were we all of one way of thinking, our religious dispositions would want matter for probation; and on this liberal principle, I look on the various denominations among us, to be like children of the same family, differing only, in what is called, their Christian names.

In page forty, I threw out a few thoughts on the propriety of a Continental Charter, (for I only presume to offer hints, not plans) and in this place, I take the liberty of rementioning the subject, by observing, that a charter is to be understood as a bond of solemn obligation, which the whole enters into, to support the right of every separate part, whether of religion, personal freedom, or property. A firm bargain and a right reckoning make long friends.

In a former page I likewise mentioned the necessity of a large and equal representation; and there is no political matter which more deserves our attention. A small number of electors, or a small number of representatives, are equally dangerous. But if the number of the representatives be not only small, but unequal, the danger is increased. As an instance of this, I mention the following; when the Associators petition was before the House of Assembly of Pennsylvania; twenty-eight members only were present, all the Bucks county members, being eight, voted against it, and had seven of the Chester members done the same, this whole province had been governed by two counties only, and this danger it is always exposed to. The unwarrantable stretch likewise, which that house made in their last sitting, to gain an undue authority over the delegates of that province, ought to warn the people at large, how they trust power out of their own hands. A set of instructions for the Delegates were put together, which in point of sense and business would have dishonoured a schoolboy, and after being approved by a FEW, a VERY FEW without doors, were carried into the House, and there passed IN BEHALF OF THE WHOLE COLONY; whereas, did the whole colony know, with what ill-will that House hath entered on some necessary public measures, they would not hesitate a moment to think them unworthy of such a trust.

Immediate necessity makes many things convenient, which if continued would grow into oppressions. Expedience and right are different things. When the calamities of America required a consultation, there was no method so ready, or at that time so proper, as to appoint persons from the several Houses of Assembly for that purpose; and the wisdom with which they have proceeded hath preserved this continent from ruin. But as it is more than probable that we shall never be without a CONGRESS, every well wisher to good order, must own, that the mode for choosing members of that body, deserves consideration. And I put it as a question to those, who make a study of mankind, whether representation and election is not too great a power for one and the same body of men to possess? When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember, that virtue is not hereditary.

It is from our enemies that we often gain excellent maxims, and are frequently surprised into reason by their mistakes, Mr. Cornwall (one of the Lords of the Treasury) treated the petition of the New-York Assembly with contempt, because THAT House, he said, consisted but of twenty-six members, which trifling number, he argued, could not with decency be put for the whole. We thank him for his involuntary honesty. [Those who would fully understand of what great consequence a large and equal representation is to a state, should read Burgh's political disquisitions.]

TO CONCLUDE, however strange it may appear to some, or however unwilling they may be to think so,

matters not, but many strong and striking reasons may be given, to shew, that nothing can settle our affairs so expeditiously as an open and determined declaration for independance. Some of which are,

FIRST. — It is the custom of nations, when any two are at war, for some other powers, not engaged in the quarrel, to step in as mediators, and bring about the preliminaries of a peace: hut while America calls herself the Subject of Great Britain, no power, however well disposed she may be, can offer her mediation. Wherefore, in our present state we may quarrel on for ever.

SECONDLY. — It is unreasonable to suppose, that France or Spain will give us any kind of assistance, if we mean only, to make use of that assistance for the purpose of repairing the breach, and strengthening the connection between Britain and America; because, those powers would be sufferers by the consequences.

THIRDLY. — While we profess ourselves the subjects of Britain, we must, in the eye of foreign nations. be considered as rebels. The precedent is somewhat dangerous to THEIR PEACE, for men to be in arms under the name of subjects; we, on the spot, can solve the paradox: but to unite resistance and subjection, requires an idea much too refined for common understanding.

FOURTHLY. — Were a manifesto to be published, and despatched to foreign courts, setting forth the miseries we have endured, and the peaceable methods we have ineffectually used for redress; declaring, at the same time, that not being able, any longer, to live happily or safely under the cruel disposition of the British court, we had been driven to the necessity of breaking off all connections with her; at the same time, assuring all such courts of our peaceable disposition towards them, and of our desire of entering into trade with them: Such a memorial would produce more good effects to this Continent, than if a ship were freighted with petitions to Britain.

Under our present denomination of British subjects, we can neither be received nor heard abroad: The custom of all courts is against us, and will be so, until, by an independance, we take rank with other nations.

These proceedings may at first appear strange and difficult; but, like all other steps which we have already passed over, will in a little time become familiar and agreeable; and, until an independance is declared, the Continent will feel itself like a man who continues putting off some unpleasant business from day to day, yet knows it must be done, hates to set about it, wishes it over, and is continually haunted with the thoughts of its necessity.

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Note: This is the end of the body text of Common Sense. Thomas Paine added the Appendix that follows to his February 1776 second edition. I do love the power and purity of that last paragraph. AJW

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APPENDIX

Since the publication of the first edition of this pamphlet, or rather, on the same day on which it came out, the King's Speech made its appearance in this city. Had the spirit of prophecy directed the birth of this production, it could not have brought it forth, at a more seasonable juncture, or a more necessary time. The bloody mindedness of the one, shew the necessity of pursuing the doctrine of the other. Men read by way of revenge. And the Speech, instead of terrifying, prepared a way for the manly principles of Independence.

Ceremony, and even, silence, from whatever motive they may arise, have a hurtful tendency, when they give the least degree of countenance to base and wicked performances; wherefore, if this maxim be admitted, it naturally follows, that the King's Speech, as being a piece of finished villany, deserved, and still deserves, a general execration both by the Congress and the people. Yet, as the domestic tranquillity of a nation, depends greatly, on the CHASTITY of what may properly be called NATIONAL MANNERS, it is often better, to pass some things over in silent disdain, than to make use of such new methods of dislike, as might introduce the least innovation, on that guardian of our peace and safety. And, perhaps, it is chiefly owing to this prudent delicacy, that the King's Speech, hath not, before now, suffered a public execution. The Speech if it may be called one, is nothing better than a wilful audacious libel against the truth, the common good, and the existence of mankind; and is a formal and pompous method of offering up human sacrifices to the pride of tyrants. But this general massacre of mankind. is one of the privileges, and the certain consequence of Kings; for as nature knows them NOT, they know NOT HER, and although they are beings of our OWN creating, they know not US, and are become the gods of their creators. The Speech hath one good quality, which is, that it is not calculated to deceive, neither can we, even if we would, be deceived by it. Brutality and tyranny appear on the face of it. It leaves us at no loss: And every line convinces, even in the moment of reading, that He, who hunts the woods for prey, the naked and untutored Indian, is less a Savage than the King of Britain.

Sir John Dalrymple, the putative father of a whining jesuitical piece, fallaciously called, "THE ADDRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND TO THE INHABITANTS OF AMERICA," hath, perhaps, from a vain supposition, that the people here were to be frightened at the pomp and description of a king, given, (though very unwisely on his part) the real character of the present one: "But" says this writer, "if you are inclined to pay compliments to an administration, which we do not complain of," (meaning the Marquis of Rockingham's at the repeal of the Stamp Act) "it is very unfair in you to withhold them from that prince by WHOSE NOD ALONE THEY WERE PERMITTED TO DO ANY THING." This is toryism with a witness! Here is idolatry even without a mask: And he who can calmly hear, and digest such doctrine, hath forfeited his claim to rationality an apostate from the order of manhood; and ought to be considered as one, who hath not only given up the proper dignity of man, but sunk himself beneath the rank of animals, and contemptibly crawl through the world like a worm.

However, it matters very little now, what the king of England either says or does; he hath wickedly broken through every moral and human obligation, trampled nature and conscience beneath his feet; and by a steady and constitutional spirit of insolence and cruelty, procured for himself an universal hatred. It is NOW the interest of America to provide for herself. She hath already a large and young family, whom it is more her duty to take care of, than to be granting away her property, to support a power who is become a reproach to the names of men and christians—YE, whose office it is to watch over the morals of a nation, of whatsoever sect or denomination ye are of, as well as ye, who, are more immediately the guardians of the public liberty, if ye wish to preserve your native country uncontaminated by European corruption, ye must in secret wish a separation—But leaving the moral part to private reflection, I shall chiefly confine my farther remarks to the following heads.

First. That it is the interest of America to be separated from Britain.

Secondly. Which is the easiest and most practicable plan, RECONCILIATION OR INDEPENDANCE? With some occasional remarks.

In support of the first, I could, if I judged it proper, produce the opinion of some of the ablest and most experienced men on this continent; and whose sentiments, on that head, are not yet publicly known. It is in reality a self-evident position: For no nation in a state of foreign dependance, limited in its commerce, and cramped and fettered in its legislative powers, can ever arrive at any material eminence. America doth not yet know what opulence is; and although the progress which she hath made stands unparalleled in the history of other nations, it is but childhood, compared with what she would be capable of arriving at, had she, as she ought to have, the legislative powers in her own hands. England is, at this time, proudly coveting what would do her no good, were she to accomplish it; and the Continent hesitating on a matter, which will be her final ruin if neglected. It is the commerce and not the conquest of America, by which England is to be benefited, and that would in a great measure continue, were the countries as independant of each other as France and Spain; because in many articles, neither can go to a better market. But it is the independance of this country on Britain or any other, which is now the main and only object worthy of contention, and which, like all other truths discovered by necessity, will appear clearer and stronger every day.

First. Because it will come to that one time or other.

Secondly. Because, the longer it is delayed the harder it will be to accomplish.

I have frequently amused myself both in public and private companies, with silently remarking, the specious errors of those who speak without reflecting. And among the many which I have heard, the following seems the most general, viz. that had this rupture happened forty or fifty years hence, instead of NOW, the Continent would have been more able to have shaken off the dependance. To which I reply, that our military ability, AT THIS TIME, arises from the experience gained in the last war, and which in forty or fifty years time, would have been totally extinct. The Continent, would not, by that time, have had a General, or even a military officer left; and we, or those who may succeed us, would have been as ignorant of martial matters as the ancient Indians: And this single position, closely attended to, will unanswerably prove, that the present time is preferable to all others. The argument turns thus—at the conclusion of the last war, we had experience, but wanted numbers; and forty or fifty years hence, we should have numbers, without experience; wherefore, the proper point of time, must be some particular point between the two extremes, in which a sufficiency of the former remains, and a proper increase of the latter is obtained: And that point of time is the present time.

The reader will pardon this digression, as it does not properly come under the head I first set out with, and to which I again return by the following position, viz.

Should affairs be patched up with Britain, and she to remain the governing and sovereign power of America, (which, as matters are now circumstanced, is giving up the point entirely) we shall deprive ourselves of the very means of sinking the debt we have, or may contract. The value of the back lands which some of the provinces are clandestinely deprived of, by the unjust extension of the limits of Canada, valued only at five pounds sterling per hundred acres, amount to upwards of twenty-five millions, Pennsylvania currency; and the quit-rents at one penny sterling per acre, to two millions yearly.

It is by the sale of those lands that the debt may be sunk, without burthen to any, and the quit-rent reserved thereon, will always lessen, and in time, will wholly support the yearly expence of government. It matters not how long the debt is in paying, so that the lands when sold be applied to the discharge of it, and for the execution of which, the Congress for the time being, will be the continental trustees. .

I proceed now to the second head, viz. Which is the easiest and most practicable plan, RECONCILIATION or INDEPENDANCE; With some occasional remarks.

He who takes nature for his guide is not easily beaten out of his argument, and on that ground, I answer GENERALLY—THAT INDEPENDANCE BEING A SINGLE SIMPLE LINE, CONTAINED WITHIN OURSELVES; AND RECONCILIATION, A MATTER EXCEEDINGLY PERPLEXED AND COMPLICATED, AND IN WHICH, A TREACHEROUS CAPRICIOUS COURT IS TO INTERFERE, GIVES THE ANSWER WITHOUT A DOUBT.

The present state of America is truly alarming to every man who is capable of reflexion. Without law, without government, without any other mode of power than what is founded on, and granted by courtesy. Held together by an unexampled concurrence of sentiment, which, is nevertheless subject to change, and which, every secret enemy is endeavouring to dissolve. Our present condition, is, Legislation without law; wisdom without a plan; a constitution without a name; and, what is strangely astonishing, perfect Independance contending for dependance. The instance is without a precedent; the case never existed before; and who can tell what may be the event? The property of no man is secure in the present unbraced system of things. The mind of the multitude is left at random, and seeing no fixed object before them, they pursue such as fancy or opinion starts. Nothing is criminal; there is no such thing as treason; wherefore, every one thinks himself at liberty to act as he pleases. The Tories dared not have assembled offensively, had they known that their lives, by that act, were forfeited to the laws of the state. A line of distinction should be drawn, between, English soldiers taken in battle, and inhabitants of America taken in arms. The first are prisoners, but the latter traitors. The one forfeits his liberty, the other his head.

Notwithstanding our wisdom, there is a visible feebleness in some of our proceedings which gives encouragement to dissensions. The Continental Belt is too loosely buckled. And if something is not done in time, it will be too late to do any thing, and we shall fall into a state, in which, neither RECONCILIATION nor INDEPENDANCE will be practicable. The king and his worthless adherents are got at their old game of dividing the Continent, and there are not wanting among us, Printers, who will be busy in spreading specious falsehoods. The artful and hypocritical letter which appeared a few months ago in two of the New York papers, and likewise in two others, is an evidence that there are men who want either judgment or honesty.

It is easy getting into holes and corners and talking of reconciliation: But do such men seriously consider, how difficult the task is, and how dangerous it may prove, should the Continent divide thereon. Do they take within their view, all the various orders of men whose situation and circumstances, as well as their own, are to be considered therein. Do they put themselves in the place of the sufferer whose ALL is ALREADY gone, and of the soldier, who hath quitted ALL for the defence of his country. If their ill judged moderation be suited to their own private situations only, regardless of others, the event will convince them, that “they are reckoning without their Host.”

Put us, says some, on the footing we were on in sixty-three: To which I answer, the request is not now in the power of Britain to comply with, neither will she propose it; but if it were, and even should be granted, I ask, as a reasonable question, By what means is such a corrupt and faithless court to be kept to its engagements? Another parliament, nay, even the present, may hereafter repeal the obligation, on the pretense, of its being violently obtained, or unwisely granted; and in that case, Where is our redress?—No going to law with nations; cannon are the barristers of Crowns; and the sword, not of justice, but of war, decides the suit. To be on the footing of sixty-three, it is not sufficient, that the laws only be put on the same state, but, that our circumstances, likewise, be put on the same state; Our burnt and destroyed towns repaired or built up, our private losses made good, our public debts (contracted for defence) discharged; otherwise, we shall be millions worse than we were at that enviable period. Such a request, had it been

complied with a year ago, would have won the heart and soul of the Continent - but now it is too late, "The Rubicon is passed."

Besides, the taking up arms, merely to enforce the repeal of a pecuniary law, seems as unwarrantable by the divine law, and as repugnant to human feelings, as the taking up arms to enforce obedience thereto. The object, on either side, doth not justify the means; for the lives of men are too valuable to be cast away on such trifles. It is the violence which is done and threatened to our persons; the destruction of our property by an armed force; the invasion of our country by fire and sword, which conscientiously qualifies the use of arms: And the instant, in which such a mode of defence became necessary, all subjection to Britain ought to have ceased; and the independancy of America, should have been considered, as dating its aera from, and published by, THE FIRST MUSKET THAT WAS FIRED AGAINST HER. This line is a line of consistency; neither drawn by caprice, nor extended by ambition; but produced by a chain of events, of which the colonies were not the authors.

I shall conclude these remarks with the following timely and well intended hints. We ought to reflect, that there are three different ways by which an independancy may hereafter be effected; and that ONE of those THREE, will one day or other, be the fate of America, viz. By the legal voice of the people in Congress; by a military power; or by a mob—It may not always happen that OUR soldiers are citizens, and the multitude a body of reasonable men; virtue, as I have already remarked, is not hereditary, neither is it perpetual. Should an independancy be brought about by the first of those means, we have every opportunity and every encouragement before us, to form the noblest purest constitution on the face of the earth. We have it in our power to begin the world over again. A situation, similar to the present, hath not happened since the days of Noah until now. The birthday of a new world is at hand, and a race of men, perhaps as numerous as all Europe contains, are to receive their portion of freedom from the event of a few months. The Reflexion is awful—and in this point of view, How trifling, how ridiculous, do the little, paltry cavillings, of a few weak or interested men appear, when weighed against the business of a world.

Should we neglect the present favourable and inviting period, and an Independance be hereafter effected by any other means, we must charge the consequence to ourselves, or to those rather, whose narrow and prejudiced souls, are habitually opposing the measure, without either inquiring or reflecting. There are reasons to be given in support of Independance, which men should rather privately think of, than be publicly told of. We ought not now to be debating whether we shall be independant or not, but, anxious to accomplish it on a firm, secure, and honorable basis, and uneasy rather that it is not yet began upon. Every day convinces us of its necessity. Even the Tories (if such beings yet remain among us) should, of all men, be the most solicitous to promote it; for, as the appointment of committees at first, protected them from popular rage, so, a wise and well established form of government, will be the only certain means of continuing it securely to them. WHEREFORE, if they have not virtue enough to be WHIGS, they ought to have prudence enough to wish for Independance.

In short, Independance is the only BOND that can tye and keep us together. We shall then see our object, and our ears will be legally shut against the schemes of an intriguing, as well, as a cruel enemy. We shall then too, be on a proper footing, to treat with Britain; for there is reason to conclude, that the pride of that court, will be less hurt by treating with the American states for terms of peace, than with those, whom she denominates, "rebellious subjects," for terms of accommodation. It is our delaying it that encourages her to hope for conquest, and our backwardness tends only to prolong the war. As we have, without any good effect therefrom, withheld our trade to obtain a redress of our grievances, let us now try the alternative, by independantly redressing them ourselves, and then offering to open the trade. The mercantile and reasonable part in England, will be still with us; because, peace with trade, is preferable to war without it. And if this offer be not accepted, other courts may be applied to.

On these grounds I rest the matter. And as no offer hath yet been made to refute the doctrine contained in

the former editions of this pamphlet, it is a negative proof, that either the doctrine cannot be refuted, or, that the party in favour of it are too numerous to be opposed. WHEREFORE, instead of gazing at each other with suspicious or doubtful curiosity; let each of us, hold out to his neighbour the hearty hand of friendship, and unite in drawing a line, which, like an act of oblivion shall bury in forgetfulness every former dissension. Let the names of Whig and Tory be extinct; and let none other be heard among us, than those of A GOOD CITIZEN, AN OPEN AND RESOLUTE FRIEND, AND A VIRTUOUS SUPPORTER OF THE RIGHTS OF MANKIND AND OF THE _FREE AND INDEPENDANT STATES OF AMERICA_.

To the Representatives of the Religious Society of the People called Quakers, or to so many of them as were concerned in publishing the late piece, entitled “THE ANCIENT TESTIMONY and PRINCIPLES of the People called QUAKERS renewed, with Respect to the KING and GOVERNMENT, and touching the COMMOTIONS now prevailing in these and other parts of AMERICA addressed to the PEOPLE IN GENERAL.”

The Writer of this, is one of those few, who never dishonours religion either by ridiculing, or cavilling at any denomination whatsoever. To God, and not to man, are all men accountable on the score of religion. Wherefore, this epistle is not so properly addressed to you as a religious, but as a political body, dabbling in matters, which the professed Quietude of your Principles instruct you not to meddle with. As you have, without a proper authority for so doing, put yourselves in the place of the whole body of the Quakers, so, the writer of this, in order to be on an equal rank with yourselves, is under the necessity, of putting himself in the place of all those, who, approve the very writings and principles, against which, your testimony is directed: And he hath chosen this singular situation, in order, that you might discover in him that presumption of character which you cannot see in yourselves. For neither he nor you can have any claim or title to POLITICAL REPRESENTATION.

When men have departed from the right way, it is no wonder that they stumble and fall. And it is evident from the manner in which ye have managed your testimony, that politics, (as a religious body of men) is not your proper Walk; for however well adapted it might appear to you, it is, nevertheless, a jumble of good and bad put unwisely together, and the conclusion drawn therefrom, both unnatural and unjust.

The two first pages, (and the whole doth not make four) we give you credit for, and expect the same civility from you, because the love and desire of peace is not confined to Quakerism, it is the natural, as well the religious wish of all denominations of men. And on this ground, as men labouring to establish an Independant Constitution of our own, do we exceed all others in our hope, end, and aim. OUR PLAN IS PEACE FOR EVER. We are tired of contention with Britain, and can see no real end to it but in a final separation. We act consistently, because for the sake of introducing an endless and uninterrupted peace, do we bear the evils and burthens of the present day. We are endeavoring, and will steadily continue to endeavour, to separate and dissolve a connexion which hath already filled our land with blood; and which, while the name of it remains, will be the fatal cause of future mischiefs to both countries.

We fight neither for revenge nor conquest; neither from pride nor passion; we are not insulting the world with our fleets and armies, nor ravaging the globe for plunder. Beneath the shade of our own vines are we attacked; in our own houses, and on our own lands, is the violence committed against us. We view our enemies in the character of Highwaymen and Housebreakers, and having no defence for ourselves in the civil law, are obliged to punish them by the military one, and apply the sword, in the very case, where you have before now, applied the halter— Perhaps we feel for the ruined and insulted sufferers in all and every part of the continent, with a degree of tenderness which hath not yet made its way into some of your bosoms. But be ye sure that ye mistake not the cause and ground of your Testimony. Call not coldness of soul, religion; nor put the BIGOT in the place of the CHRISTIAN.

O ye partial ministers of your own acknowledged principles. If the bearing arms be sinful, the first going to war must be more so, by all the difference between wilful attack, and unavoidable defence. Wherefore, if ye really preach from conscience, and mean not to make a political hobbyhorse of your religion convince the world thereof, by proclaiming your doctrine to our enemies, **FOR THEY LIKEWISE BEAR _ARMS_**. Give us proof of your sincerity by publishing it at St. James's, to the commanders in chief at Boston, to the Admirals and Captains who are piratically ravaging our coasts, and to all the murdering miscreants who are acting in authority under HIM whom ye profess to serve. Had ye the honest soul of **BARCLAY** ye would preach repentance to YOUR king; Ye would tell the Royal Wretch his sins, and warn him of eternal ruin. [“Thou hast tasted of prosperity and adversity; thou knowest what it is to be banished thy native country, to be over-ruled as well as to rule, and set upon the throne; and being oppressed thou hast reason to know how hateful the oppressor is both to God and man: If after all these warnings and advertisements, thou dost not turn unto the Lord with all thy heart, but forget him who remembered thee in thy distress, and give up thyself to fallow lust and vanity, surely great will be thy condemnation.— Against which snare, as well as the temptation of those who may or do feed thee, and prompt thee to evil, the most excellent and prevalent remedy will be, to apply thyself to that light of Christ which shineth in thy conscience, and which neither can, nor will flatter thee, nor suffer thee to be at ease in thy sins.”—Barclay's address to Charles II.] Ye would not spend your partial invectives against the injured and the insulted only, but, like faithful ministers, would cry aloud and **SPARE NONE**. Say not that ye are persecuted, neither endeavour to make us the authors of that reproach, which, ye are bringing upon yourselves; for we testify unto all men, that we do not complain against you because ye are Quakers, but because ye pretend to be and are **NOT** Quakers.

Alas! it seems by the particular tendency of some part of your testimony, and other parts of your conduct, as if, all sin was reduced to, and comprehended in, **THE ACT OF BEARING ARMS**, and that by the people only. Ye appear to us, to have mistaken party for conscience; because, the general tenor of your actions wants uniformity—And it is exceedingly difficult to us to give credit to many of your pretended scruples; because, we see them made by the same men, who, in the very instant that they are exclaiming against the mammon of this world, are nevertheless, hunting after it with a step as steady as Time, and an appetite as keen as Death.

The quotation which ye have made from Proverbs, in the third page of your testimony, that, “when a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him”; is very unwisely chosen on your part; because, it amounts to a proof, that the king's ways (whom ye are desirous of supporting) do **NOT** please the Lord, otherwise, his reign would be in peace.

I now proceed to the latter part of your testimony, and that, for which all the foregoing seems only an introduction viz.

”It hath ever been our judgment and principle, since we were called to profess the light of Christ Jesus, manifested in our consciences unto this day, that the setting up and putting down kings and governments, is God's peculiar prerogative; for causes best known to himself: And that it is not our business to have any hand or contrivance therein; nor to be busy bodies above our station, much less to plot and contrive the ruin, or overturn of any of them, but to pray for the king, and safety of our nation. and good of all men - That we may live a peaceable and quiet life, in all godliness and honesty; **UNDER THE GOVERNMENT WHICH GOD IS PLEASED TO SET OVER US**” - If these are **REALLY** your principles why do ye not abide by them? Why do ye not leave that, which ye call God's Work, to be managed by himself? These very principles instruct you to wait with patience and humility, for the event of all public measures, and to receive that event as the divine will towards you. Wherefore, what occasion is there for your **POLITICAL TESTIMONY** if you fully believe what it contains? And the very

publishing it proves, that either, ye do not believe what ye profess, or have not virtue enough to practise what ye believe.

The principles of Quakerism have a direct tendency to make a man the quiet and inoffensive subject of any, and every government WHICH IS SET OVER HIM. And if the setting up and putting down of kings and governments is God's peculiar prerogative, he most certainly will not be robbed thereof by us: wherefore, the principle itself leads you to approve of every thing, which ever happened, or may happen to kings as being his work. OLIVER CROMWELL thanks you. CHARLES, then, died not by the hands of man; and should the present Proud Imitator of him, come to the same untimely end, the writers and publishers of the Testimony, are bound, by the doctrine it contains, to applaud the fact. Kings are not taken away by miracles, neither are changes in governments brought about by any other means than such as are common and human; and such as we are now using. Even the dispersion of the Jews, though foretold by our Saviour, was effected by arms. Wherefore, as ye refuse to be the means on one side, ye ought not to be meddlers on the other; but to wait the issue in silence; and unless ye can produce divine authority, to prove, that the Almighty who hath created and placed this new world, at the greatest distance it could possibly stand, east and west, from every part of the old, doth, nevertheless, disapprove of its being independent of the corrupt and abandoned court of Britain, unless I say, ye can shew this, how can ye on the ground of your principles, justify the exciting and stirring up the people "firmly to unite in the abhorrence of all such writings, and measures, as evidence a desire and design to break off the happy connexion we have hitherto enjoyed, with the kingdom of Great-Britain, and our just and necessary subordination to the king, and those who are lawfully placed in authority under him." What a slap of the face is here! the men, who in the very paragraph before, have quietly and passively resigned up the ordering, altering, and disposal of kings and governments, into the hands of God, are now, recalling their principles, and putting in for a share of the business. Is it possible, that the conclusion, which is here justly quoted, can any ways follow from the doctrine laid down? The inconsistency is too glaring not to be seen; the absurdity too great not to be laughed at; and such as could only have been made by those, whose understandings were darkened by the narrow and crabby spirit of a despairing political party; for ye are not to be considered as the whole body of the Quakers but only as a factional and fractional part thereof.

Here ends the examination of your testimony; (which I call upon no man to abhor, as ye have done, but only to read and judge of fairly;) to which I subjoin the following remark; "That the setting up and putting down of kings," most certainly mean, the making him a king, who is yet not so, and the making him no king who is already one. And pray what hath this to do in the present case? We neither mean to set up nor to pull down, neither to make nor to unmake, but to have nothing to do with them. Wherefore, your testimony in whatever light it is viewed serves only to dishonor your judgement, and for many other reasons had better have been let alone than published.

First, Because it tends to the decrease and reproach of all religion whatever, and is of the utmost danger to society to make it a party in political disputes.

Secondly, Because it exhibits a body of men, numbers of whom disavow the publishing political testimonies, as being concerned therein and approvers thereof.

Thirdly, because it hath a tendency to undo that continental harmony and friendship which yourselves by your late liberal and charitable donations hath lent a hand to establish; and the preservation of which, is of the utmost consequence to us all.

And here without anger or resentment I bid you farewell. Sincerely wishing, that as men and christians, ye may always fully and uninterruptedly enjoy every civil and religious right; and be, in your turn, the means

of securing it to others; but that the example which ye have unwisely set, of mingling religion with politics, MAY BE DISAVOWED AND REPROBATED BY EVERY INHABITANT OF _AMERICA._

FINIS.