

2. SUPERFICIAL MEASURE.

The hundredth,	-	Roods.	.01	95.79 square feet English.
The tenth,	-		.1	957.9
The rood,	-		1.	9579.085
The double acre,	-		10.	2.199, or say 2.2 acres English.
The square furlong,	-		100.	22.

3. MEASURE OF CAPACITY.

		Bushels.	Cub. Inches.	
The metre,	-	.001	1.62	
The demi-pint,	-	.01	16.2, about $\frac{1}{24}$ less than the English half-pint.	
The pottle,	-	.1	162.005, about $\frac{1}{5}$ more than the English pottle.	
The bushel,	-	1.	1620.05506862	} about $\frac{1}{4}$ less than the middle sized English bushel.
			.937531868414884352 cub. feet.	
The quarter,	-	10.	9.375, about $\frac{1}{5}$ less than the English quarter.	
The last,	-	100.	93.753, about $\frac{1}{2}$ more than the English last.	

4. WEIGHTS.

		Pounds.	Avoirdupois.	Troy.
The mite,	-	.00001	-	.041 grains, about $\frac{1}{5}$ less than the English mite.
The minim, or	}	.0001	-	.4101, about $\frac{1}{5}$ less than the half grain troy.
The demi-grain,				
The carat,	-	.001	-	4.101, about $\frac{1}{40}$ more than the carat troy.
The double scruple,	}	.01	-	41.017, about $\frac{1}{40}$ more than 2 scruples troy.
The ounce,				
		.1	.937531868414884352 oz.	{ 410.170192431 } about $\frac{1}{16}$ less than the ounce avoirdupois.
		1.	{ 9.375 } { .585957417759 lb. }	.712101 lb., about $\frac{1}{4}$ less than the pound troy.
The stone,	-	10.	{ 93.753 oz. } { 5.8595 lb. }	7.121 about $\frac{1}{4}$ less than the English stone of 8 lbs. avoirdupois.
The kental,	-	100.	{ 937.531 oz. } { 58.5957 lb. }	71.21 about $\frac{4}{10}$ less than the English kental of 100 lbs. avoirdupois.
The hoghead,	-	1000.	{ 9375.318 oz. } { 585.9574 lb. }	712.101

5. COINS.

	Dollars.			Troy grains.
The mill,	.001	The dollar, -	1.	{ 375.98934306 pure silver. 34.18084937 alloy.
The cent,	.01			
The dime,	.1			
		The eagle, -		10.

[NOTE.—See Nos. 18, 21, and 28.]

DELETERIOUS EFFECTS OF DISTILLED SPIRITS ON THE HUMAN SYSTEM.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, DECEMBER 29, 1790.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled: the memorial of the College of Physicians of the city of Philadelphia respectfully sheweth:

That they have seen, with great pleasure, the operation of a National Government, which has established order in the United States.

They rejoice to find, amongst the powers which belong to this Government that of restraining, by certain duties, the consumption of distilled spirits in our country.

It belongs more peculiarly to men of other professions to enumerate the pernicious effects of these liquors upon morals and manners. Your memorialists will only remark that a great proportion of the most obstinate, painful, and mortal disorders which affect the human body are produced by distilled spirits; that they are not only destructive to health and life, but that they impair the faculties of the mind, and thereby tend equally to dishonor our character as a nation, and to degrade our species as intelligent beings.

Your memorialists have no doubt that the rumor of a plague or any other pestilential disorder, which might sweep away thousands of their fellow-citizens, would produce the most vigorous and effectual measures in our Government to prevent or subdue it.

Your memorialists can see no just cause why the more certain and extensive ravages of distilled spirits upon human life should not be guarded against with corresponding vigilance and exertions by the present rulers of the United States.

Your memorialists beg leave to add further, that the habitual use of distilled spirits, in any case whatever, is wholly unnecessary; that they neither fortify the body against the morbid effects of heat or cold, nor render labor more easy nor more productive; and that there are many articles of diet and drink, which are not only safe and perfectly salutary, but preferable to distilled spirits, for the above-mentioned purposes.

Your memorialists have beheld with regret the feeble influence of reason and religion in restraining the evils which they have enumerated. They centre their hopes, therefore, of an efficient remedy for them, in the wisdom and power of the Legislature of the United States; and in behalf of the interests of humanity, to which their profession is closely allied, they thus publicly entreat the Congress, by their obligations to protect the lives of their constituents, and by their regard to the character of our nation, and to the rank of our species in the scale of beings, to impose such heavy duties upon all distilled spirits as shall be effectual to restrain their intemperate use in our country.

Signed by order of the College: JOHN REDMAN, *President*.  
Attest: SAMUEL POWELL GRIFFITHS, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA, *December 27, 1790.*

1st CONGRESS.]

No. 17.

[3d SESSION.]

JUDICIARY SYSTEM.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DECEMBER 31, 1790.

SIR:

PHILADELPHIA, *December 27, 1790.*

The order of the House of Representatives, requiring me to report on the judiciary system of the United States, has prescribed a task of no common difficulty.

I doubt whether any one man could answer for the accuracy of such a work; and even for more than one, a greater portion of time would be necessary to insure precision, than the interval between the last and present session.

But these are not my only embarrassments. I am called upon to revise a plan approved by legislative wisdom; and, although I have examined it with a deference most respectful and sincere, yet have I been compelled to question the fitness of some of its leading features.

I submit, therefore, to the candor and indulgence of the House, the enclosed report. The first part contains an enumeration of what I conceive to be the principal defects. Those of the smaller kind would have been treated in the same form, but for the opportunity which a bill affords, to avoid too much minuteness of comment, and to express my ideas more definitely.

A bill is prepared, in the second part, in which a large share of the former matter is preserved. But the language and arrangement of the judicial law have not been implicitly pursued, it being almost impracticable to incorporate the proposed amendments by references to pages and lines. Where the changes or additions are essential, I have endeavored to justify them by explanatory remarks.

After all, however, I am persuaded that time and practice can alone mature the judicial system. If, in this attempt to put it into the train of improvement, I have maintained errors in doctrine, it is a consolation to me to reflect that my opinions have nothing of authority in them.

I have the honor, sir, to be, with the highest respect, your most obedient servant,

EDMUND RANDOLPH.

The SPEAKER of the *House of Representatives.*

The ATTORNEY GENERAL, to whom were referred, by the order of the House of Representatives, "such matters relative to the administration of justice under the authority of the United States, as may require to be remedied, and such provisions in the respective cases as he should deem advisable," in obedience thereto, makes the following report:

FIRST PART.

1. The first object of this duty is to suggest any defects existing in the judiciary system.

The courts of the United States demand an organization, of which we have no apposite example in the history of foreign jurisprudence, and our own scheme has not received the full light of experience. The following observations must, therefore, depend for their chief support on reasoning, unaccompanied by precedent.

1. From which of the judicial powers enumerated in the constitution the State courts may be rightfully excluded, is an inquiry, to which an early part of the judiciary law gives birth.

The aggregate of these powers relate—

1. To cases arising in law or equity under the constitution.
2. Under the laws of the United States.
3. Under treaties made, or to be made, by their authority.
4. To cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls.
5. To cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction.
6. To controversies to which the United States shall be a party.
7. To controversies between a State and citizens of another State.
8. To controversies between citizens of different States.
9. To controversies between citizens of the same State, claiming lands under grants of different States: and,
10. To controversies between a State or the citizens thereof, and foreign States, citizens, or subjects.

Of these ten classes of jurisdiction, some are vested in the federal, concurrently with the State tribunals; others in the federal, exclusively of the State tribunals.