

which was forfeited by force and effect of the statute law of that State to the State of Connecticut, a warrant was issued by the said Sherman, apparently on the 7th day of January, 1777, to seize and hold all the goods, etc., of the said Joel. At a County Court holden at Litchfield in and for the County of the same name on the fourth Tuesday of March, 1777, it was found that the property in the goods seized was Mr. Stone's and judgment was given that they should be sold for the use of the State and that an execution should be issued according to law, which was done on the 22d April, 1777. At the same Court, enquiry was made as to the truth of an information of the select men of Washington in Litchfield County against Joel Stone for joining the enemies of the United States and upon the evidence produced judgment was given that his estate was forfeit and an order was made to dispose of the same according to law.

Under the judgment as to personal property and the execution issued thereupon, one Enos Mitchell, a constable, appears to have sold such personal property and according to his return the avails amounted to the sum of £491 6s. 9d. lawful money of the State of Connecticut (viz.), at the rate of twenty-eight shillings for an English guinea or six shillings for a Spanish milled dollar, and he paid the sum so realized to the Treasury of the State.

It would appear that under the judgment of the County Court, proceedings were subsequently taken in the Court of Probate as if Mr. Stone was deceased. Indeed, in an inventory of his estate he is described as "politically deceased."

At a Court of Probate held at Woodbury, June 18, 1779, administration of Joel Stone's estate was granted unto one Daniel W. Brinsmade, sufficient bonds having been given. A commission was granted to certain persons, one of their duties apparently having been to appraise the value of the estate. Under date of the 28th day of June, 1779, Jonathan Fornand and Ebenezer Clark, Jr., stated that they had appraised to the best of their judgment under oath. They appraised at the rate of twenty-eight shillings for a guinea or six shillings for a Spanish milled dollar, or at the rate of silver at 6/8 per oz gold in the same proportion, and it would appear that they valued the estate at £359 10s. 4d., of which £354 13s. 0d. was the value of real estate. How they came to deal with personalty (which they did to the extent of an appraised amount of £4 17s. 4d.) we do not know, unless they found some items which had escaped Enos Mitchell in his seizure and sale. In making the valuation of land which had been conveyed to Mr. Stone and his partner, Jabez Bacon, hereinbefore named, one-half was valued. Claims were allowed by the Commissioners against the estate to the amount of £61 7s. 9d. Let it not be supposed that this sum was allowed to creditors of Joel Stone. No; for it is said the greatest part of it was paid as wages to the people who hunted Mr. Stone around the country just before his departure to join the British Army, and as costs incurred by those who proceeded against the estate. But notwithstanding the vigilance and zeal of those who took these proceedings, there was one valuable piece of real estate situated in the Township of Winchester containing about 250 acres in which Mr. Stone had a one-half interest with his partner Bacon, hereinbefore referred to, of which they had no knowledge, as the deed was not registered. Samuel Talcott, Jr., of Hartford, had sold the land to Mr. Stone on 12th September, 1776, for £500, and had