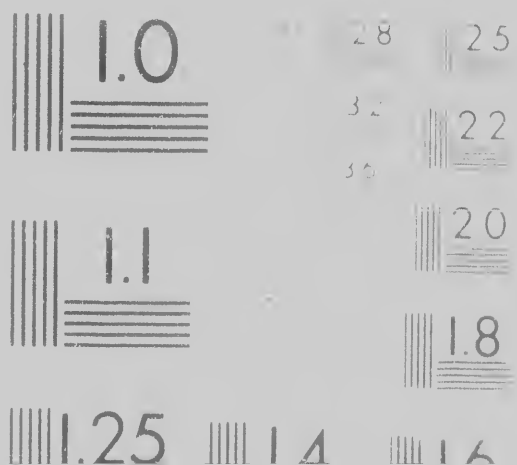


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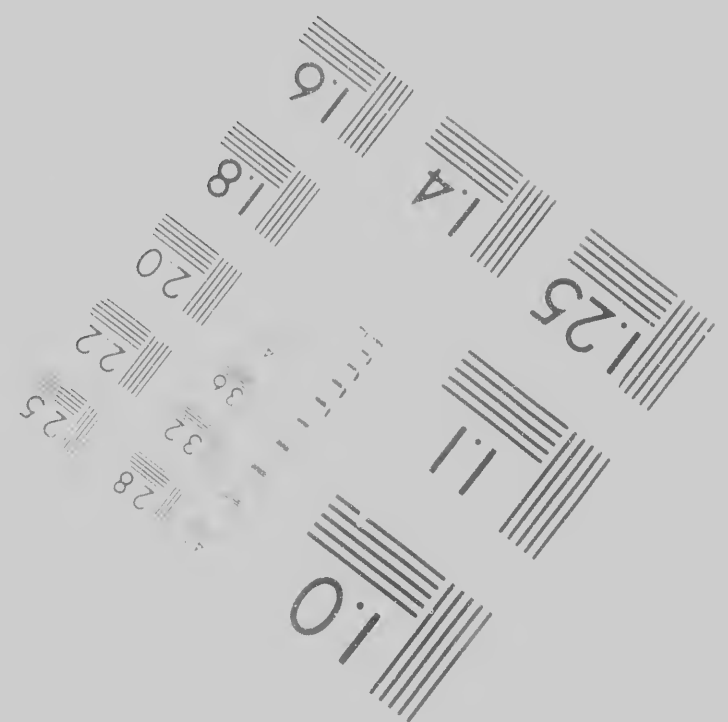
Commodore Rodgers, Arrived!

.....
BOSTON GAZETTE-OFFICE. }
Monday Morning, 9 o'clock. }

MORE AGREEABLE NEWS.

WE have the pleasure of announcing, that Com. RODGERS, after a cruise of five months, has arrived at *Newport*, having taken, destroyed, and ransomed 27 sail of vessels.

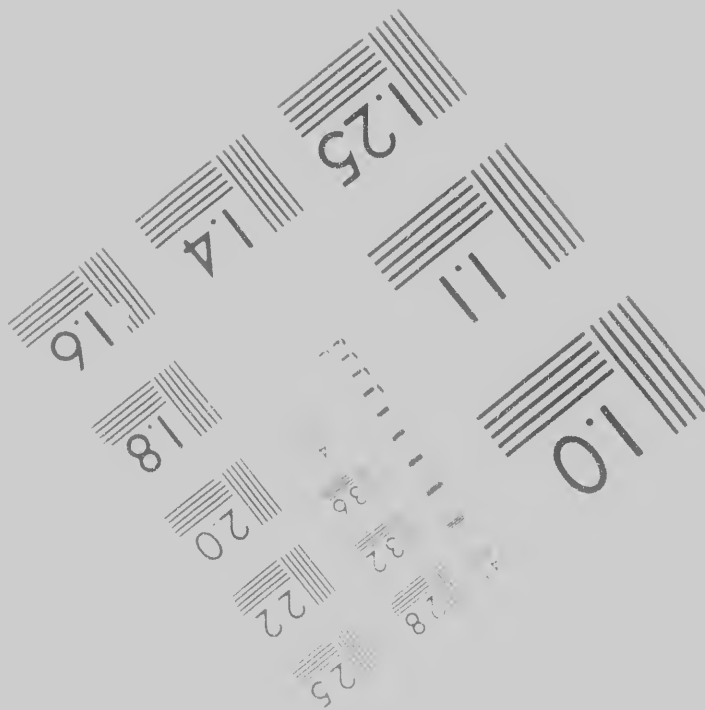
This information is communicated to us by Capt. Russell of Salem, who has this moment arrived in town from New Bedford. He informs us, that the Russian Cartel ship *Hoffnung*, arrived there on Saturday last, from Plymouth, (Eng.) having spoken, off Nantucket Shoals, two



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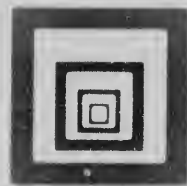


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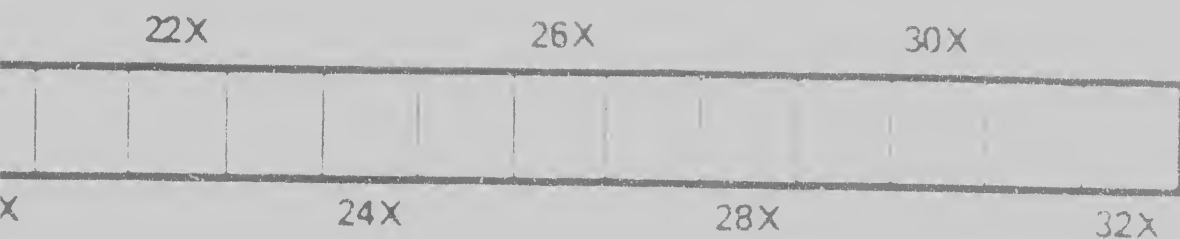
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ten, who has this moment arrived in town from New Bedford. He informs us, that the Russian Cartel ship *Hoffnung*, arrived there on Saturday last, from Plymouth, (Eng.) having spoken, off Nantucket Shoals, two days previous to her arrival, the U. S. frigate *President*, Com. Rodgers; and were informed from her, that she had captured **TWENTY-SEVEN SAILED OF BRITISH MERCHANTMEN**, some of which she had manned, others despoiled, or given up—had taken a Fleet of Greenland Fishermen, but not being able to man them out, ransomed eleven of them for *Twenty Thousand Dollars. Each*—was chased off North Cape (White Sea) by a 74 and a frigate, for five days; but escaped by running round the Islands of Ice—A large American privateer schooner was in company with her—she had been into North Bergen, and into Scotland; but had seen no single British frigate; the passengers in the Cartel, did not understand from the *President*, that she had captured any B^h government vessel; or had seen any thing of the *Congress* or *Essex* frigates. Capt. Russell also informs us, that previous to his leaving New-Bedford, a Gentleman had arrived there from Newport, with information, that **COMMODORE RODGERS** arrived at Newport yesterday, with a prize, the British Government schooner *Highfliey*, which a few days since, was cruising off Holmaes' Hole

Since preparing the above, we have understood that the Commodore, during the above mentioned chase, finding the frigate about 5 or 6 miles a head of the 74, hove too and hoisted his colors; but that the frigate then immediately altered her course, and stood for the 74

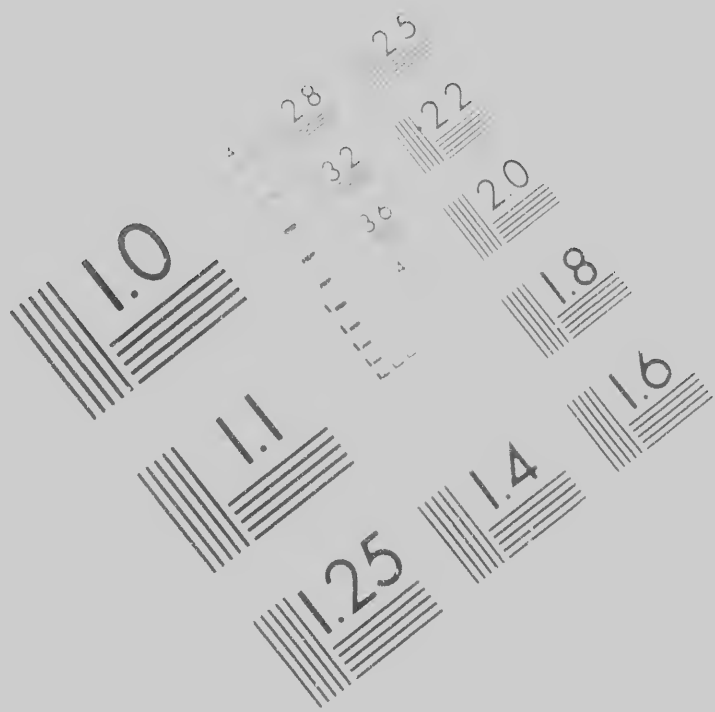


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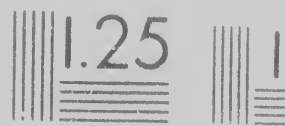
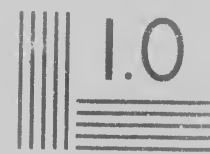
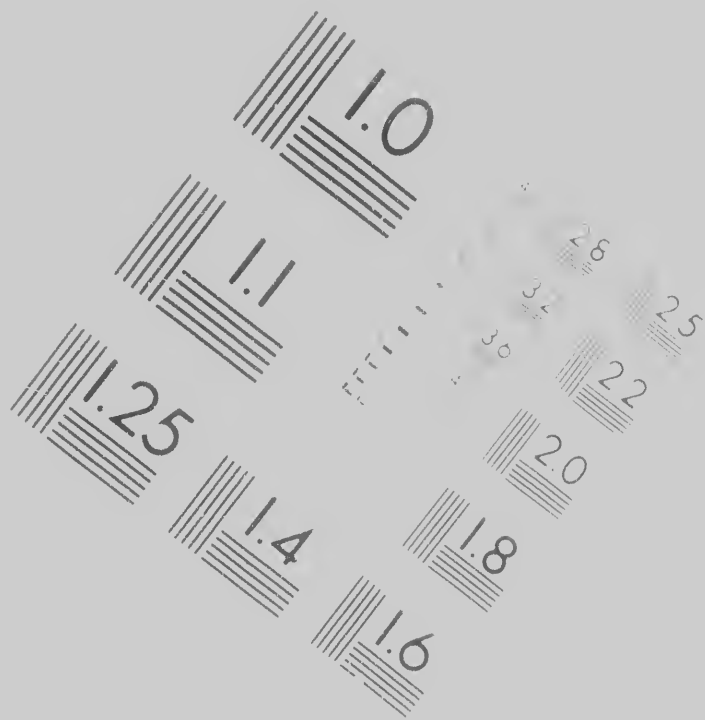
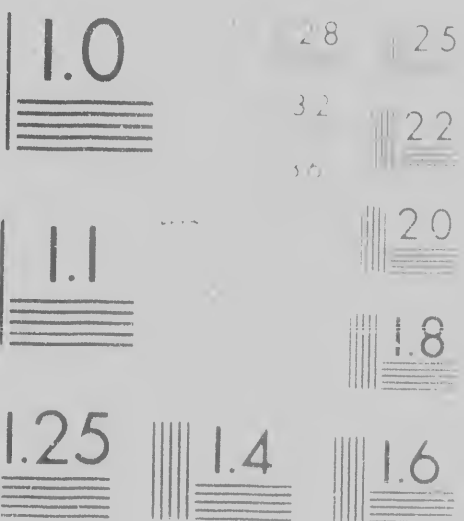


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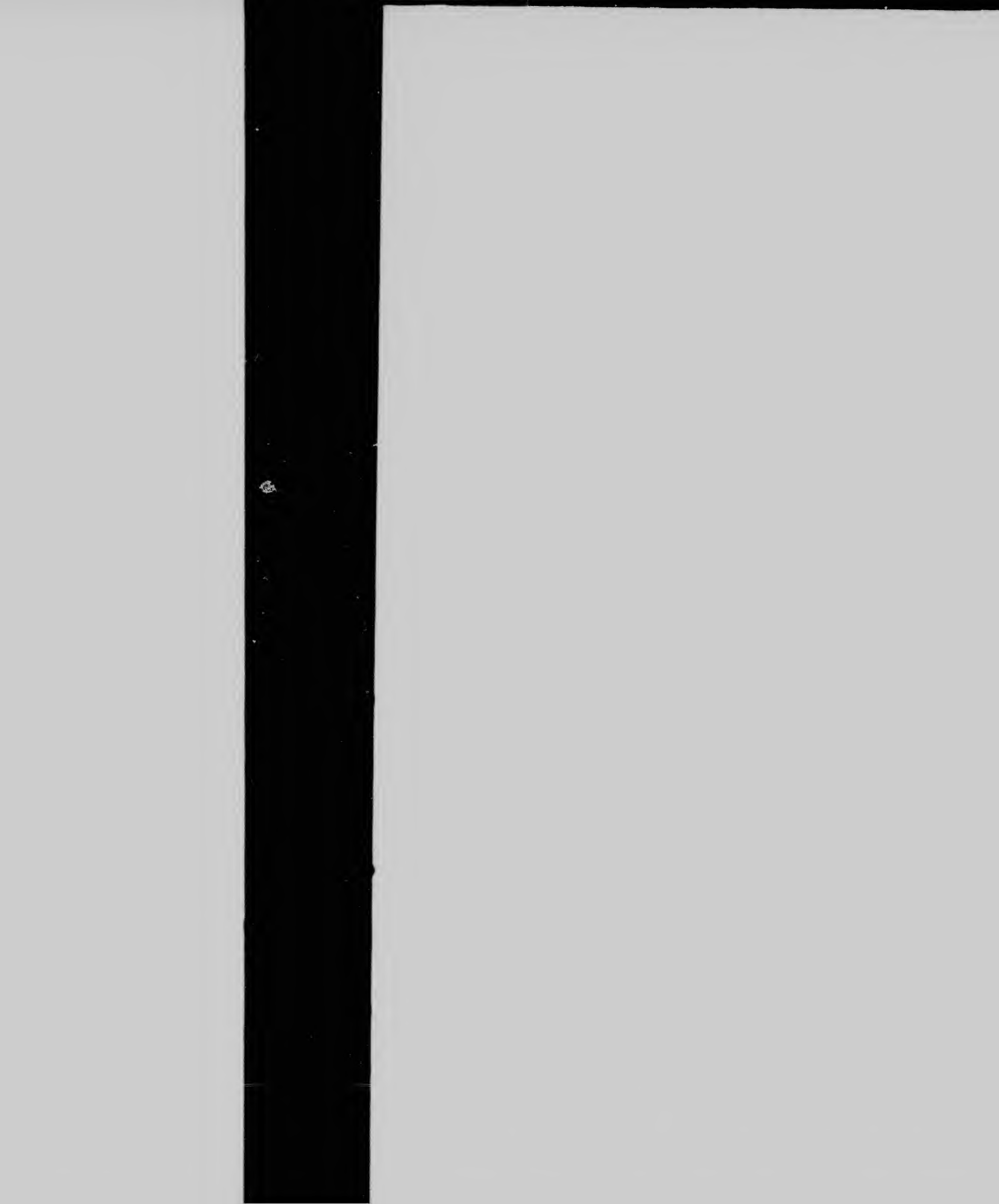
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

*The Committee to whom was referred the Message of his Excellency, and
Documents accompanying the same, respectfully REPORT in par*

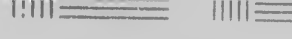
THAT the ruinous war, declared against Great-Britain, has assumed an aspect of great and immediate danger to this Commonwealth. The present invasion of Canada, has, at length, produced, as by natural consequence, the invasion of our Atlantic, Frontier, and *River* towns. A portion of the territory of this state, is already in the actual occupation of the enemy; and the settlements in all such parts as may be deemed assailable, is openly menaced with destruction. To defend our soil, and to repel the invader, no force or means, bearing a proportion to the emergency, have been provided by the national government. It was justly to have been expected, that before hostilities were provoked against a formidable enemy, or, at least that, at some period subsequent to their commencement, means of defence and protection would have been afforded to a sea-board so extended, and so exposed to the ravages of an enemy, as that of Massachusetts. But events forbid a reliance on any such expectation. The principal part of the regular force raised, or at any time quartered, in this state, has been withdrawn for the war on the Canada border. The fortifications, until lately strengthened by the exertions of our own citizens, were essentially defective; and the national situation calculated to invite, rather than repel, aggression; and to require protection, instead of affording it. Indeed, when the circumstances under

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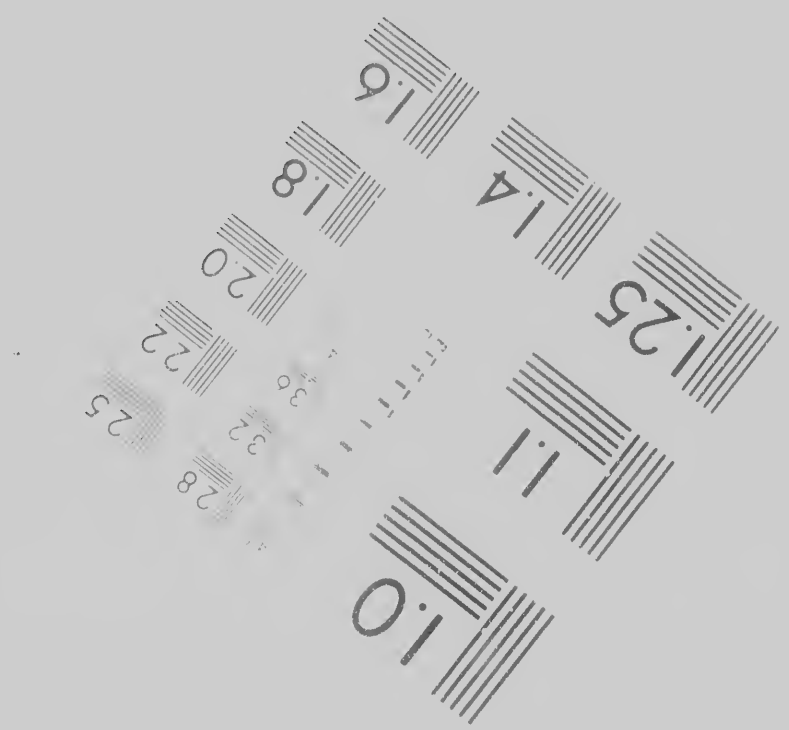
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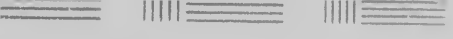
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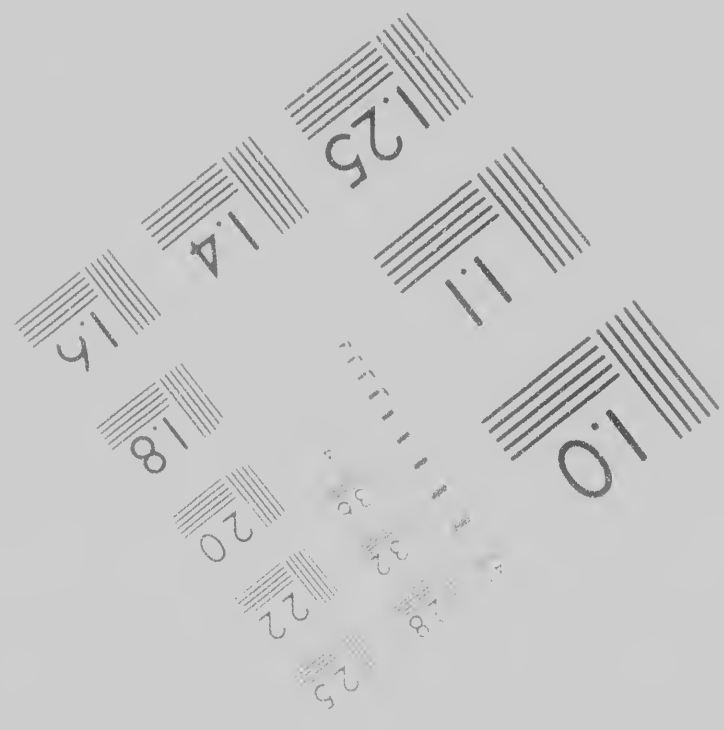


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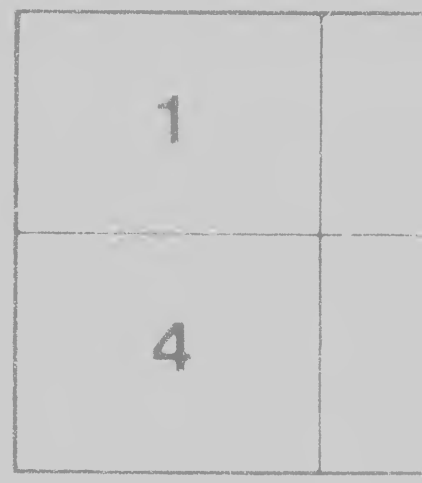
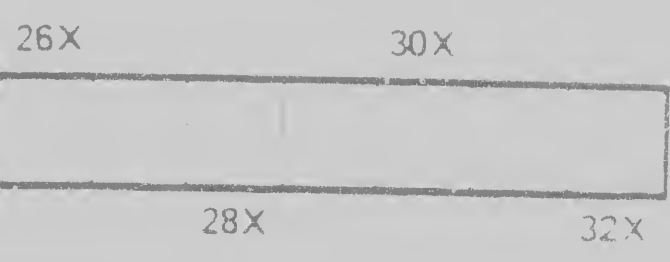
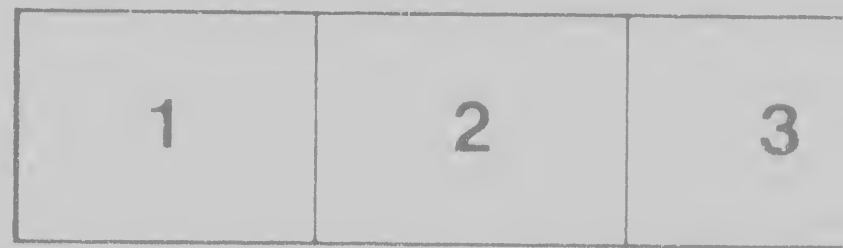
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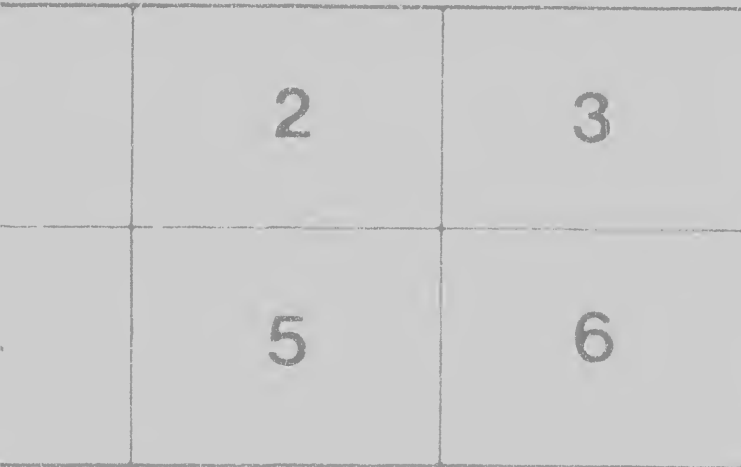
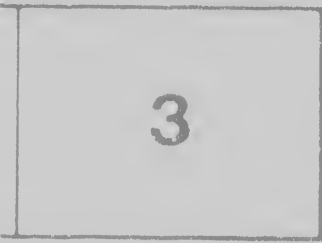
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situation calculated to invite, rather than repel, aggression ; and to require protection, instead of affording it. Indeed, when the circumstances under which the war was declared, and has been prosecuted, are viewed in connexion with the utter neglect of the ordinary preparation for such a state, the inference is fairly warranted, that the American cabinet intended no other means of defence for this state, but such as a brave and free people would feel themselves obliged to make, by their own sense of danger and love of country. That it relied on the passions and sufferings, incident to a state of war, to overcome the repugnance so universally felt by our citizens to the unjust and ruinous contest ; and to leave them at liberty to drain our population and our treasures for the prosecution of their favorite enterprises. But when the Commonwealth was found to be in danger of invasion, the people have not paused to consider the motives or objections of their national rulers, in leaving them defenceless ; but at the summons of the Governor, they have repaired to the standard of their country, with a zeal and alacrity which demonstrate, that the principles which unite men of every rank and description in the determination to conquer or die in its defence, are not weakened by our party divisions. Thousands of brave and hardy yeomanry, composing a part of a well provided and well disciplined militia, have hastened to the post of danger, and other thousands are ready to follow, at a moment's warning.—The most liberal and effectual aid has been afforded in erecting fortifications and batteries ; and but one spirit animates the whole mass of our citizens, with an invincible resolution of defending their native land against the incursions of an enemy. It is, however, a fact, not to be disguised, that while the people of this state, with the blessing of heaven, have confidence in the sufficiency of their resources, for defending their own soil, if applied exclusively to this object, yet, they cannot be supposed equal to this, and also competent to respond to the heavy and increasing demands of the national government.

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Your Committee are also o
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The national Treasury, as exhibited by the proper officer, requires of existing taxes, and if, in addition to these, the people are deprived of their commerce, and harassed by a formidable enemy, to provide for the indispensable duty of self-defence, it must be possible for them to sustain this burden. There remains to them no alternative but submission to the enemy, or the control of arms, to repel his aggressions. It is impossible to hesitate in this case. This people are not ready for conquest or submission, and determined to defend themselves, and having no other adequate means of defence, they have the greatest need of all those arms and accoutrements from themselves, which the national government has hitherto employed elsewhere.

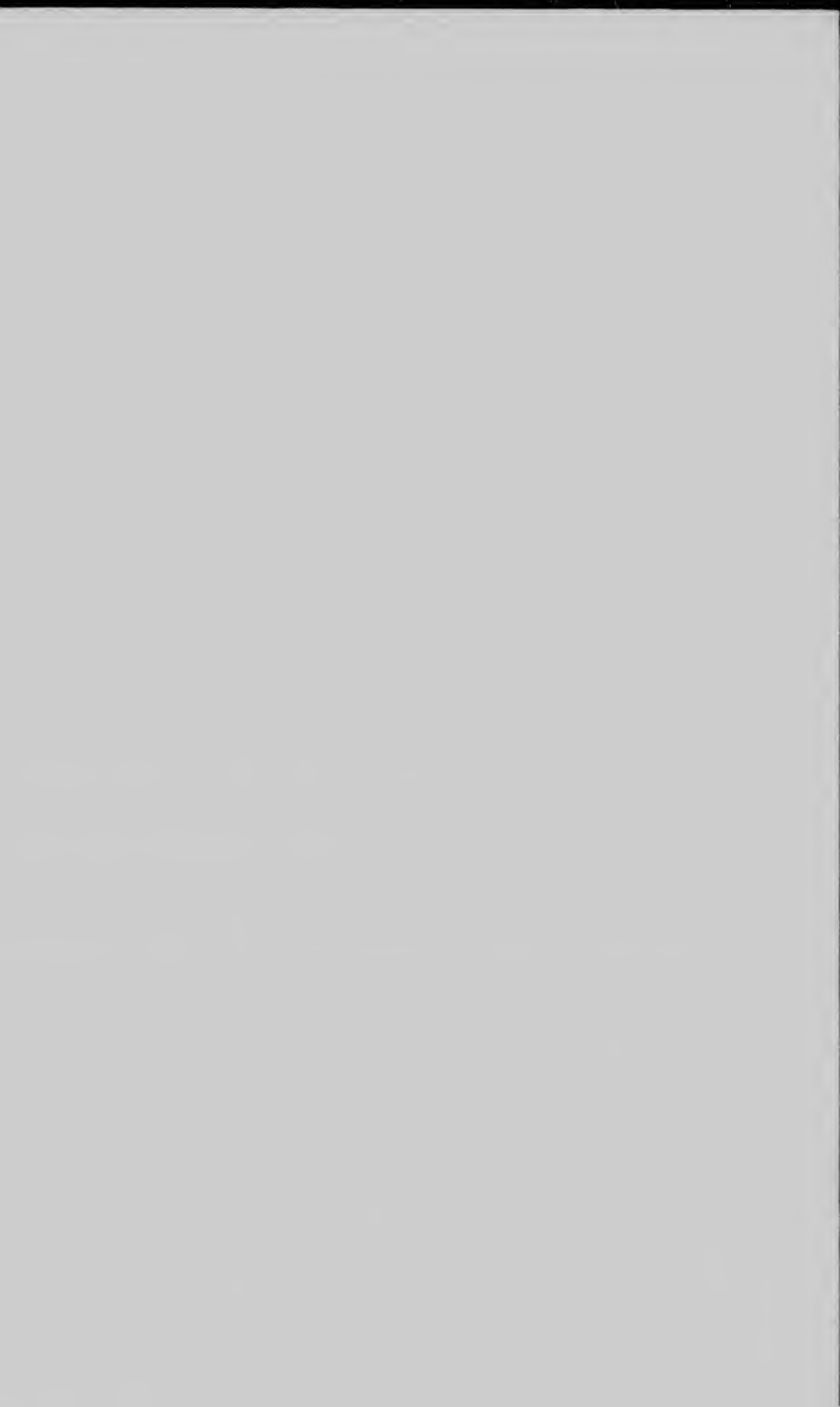
They are also of opinion, that if the war is to continue, provision must be made, in addition to the ordinary militia, must be resorted to: that a force must be constantly embodied and maintained, ready to meet the various and distant enterprises: that the continual calls upon

them are not to be considered as a burden, but as a privilege, and that they are not to be dragged into an unwarlike and unprofitable war, their liberties endangered.

It is therefore their opinion, that they are not to declare their conviction, that they are not to be dragged into an unwarlike and unprofitable war, their liberties endangered. It is therefore their opinion, that they are not to declare their conviction, that they are not to be dragged into an unwarlike and unprofitable war, their liberties endangered. It is therefore their opinion, that they are not to declare their conviction, that they are not to be dragged into an unwarlike and unprofitable war, their liberties endangered.

deprived of all influence in the national councils, this state has been drawn into an unnatural and distressing war, and its safety, perhaps its liberties, endangered.

It is therefore with great concern, that your Committee are obliged to declare their conviction, that the constitution of the United States, under the administration of the persons in power, has failed to secure to this Commonwealth, they believe, to the eastern section of this union, those equal rights and liberties which were the great objects of its formation, and which they cannot enjoy without ruin to themselves and posterity. These grievances justify and demand vigorous, persevering and peaceable exertions, to unite those who realize the dangers, and foresee the dangers of the country, in some system of measures, for relief, for which the ordinary mode of procuring amendments to the constitution, affords no reasonable expectation, in season to prevent the complete ruin. The people, however, possess the means of certain redress; and their safety, which is the supreme law, is in question, these means should be promptly applied. The framers of the constitution made provision to amend



Commonwealth, who shall be entitled to full pay and rat-
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the entire term of their enlistment.

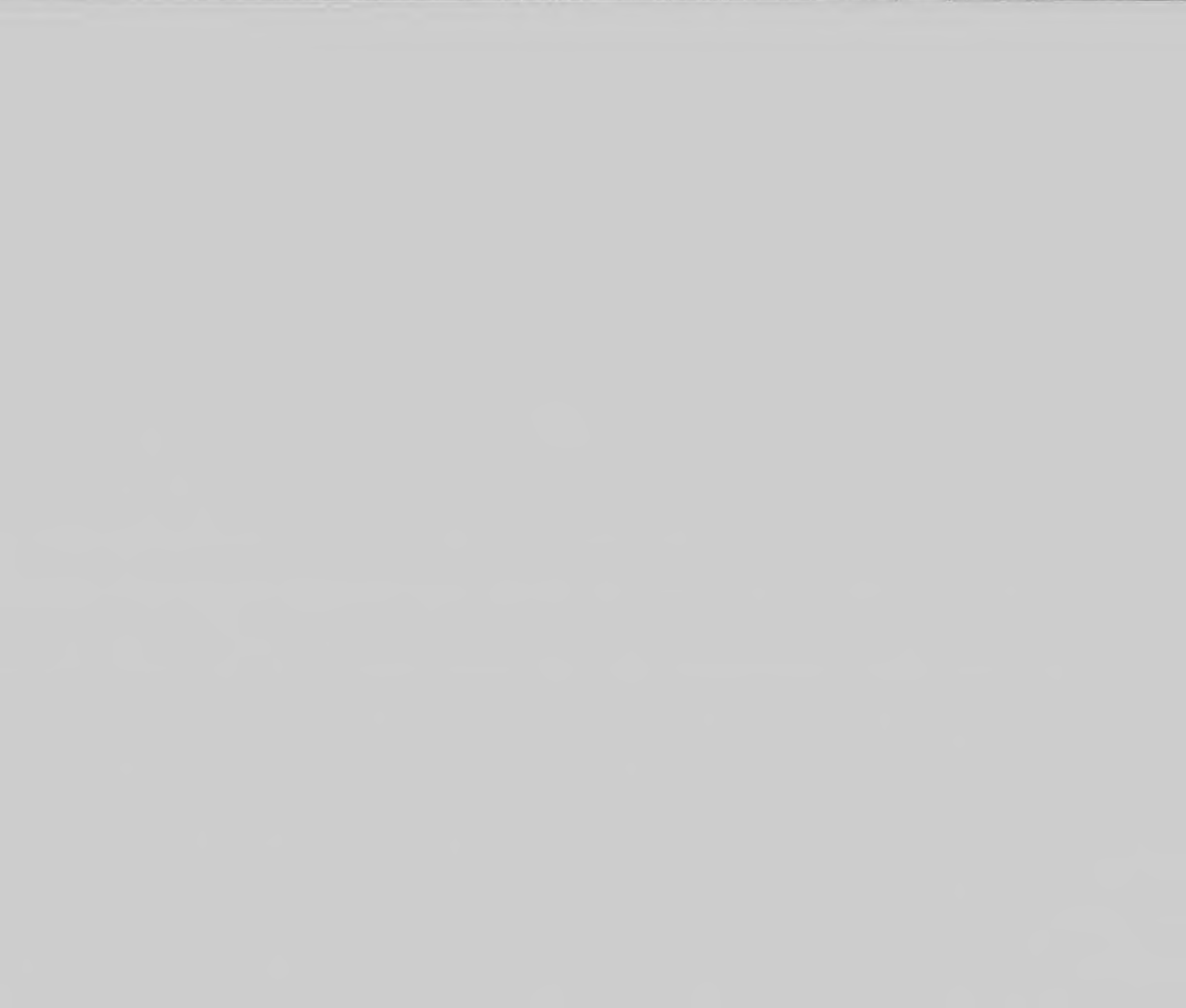
Resolved, That the Governor be authorized
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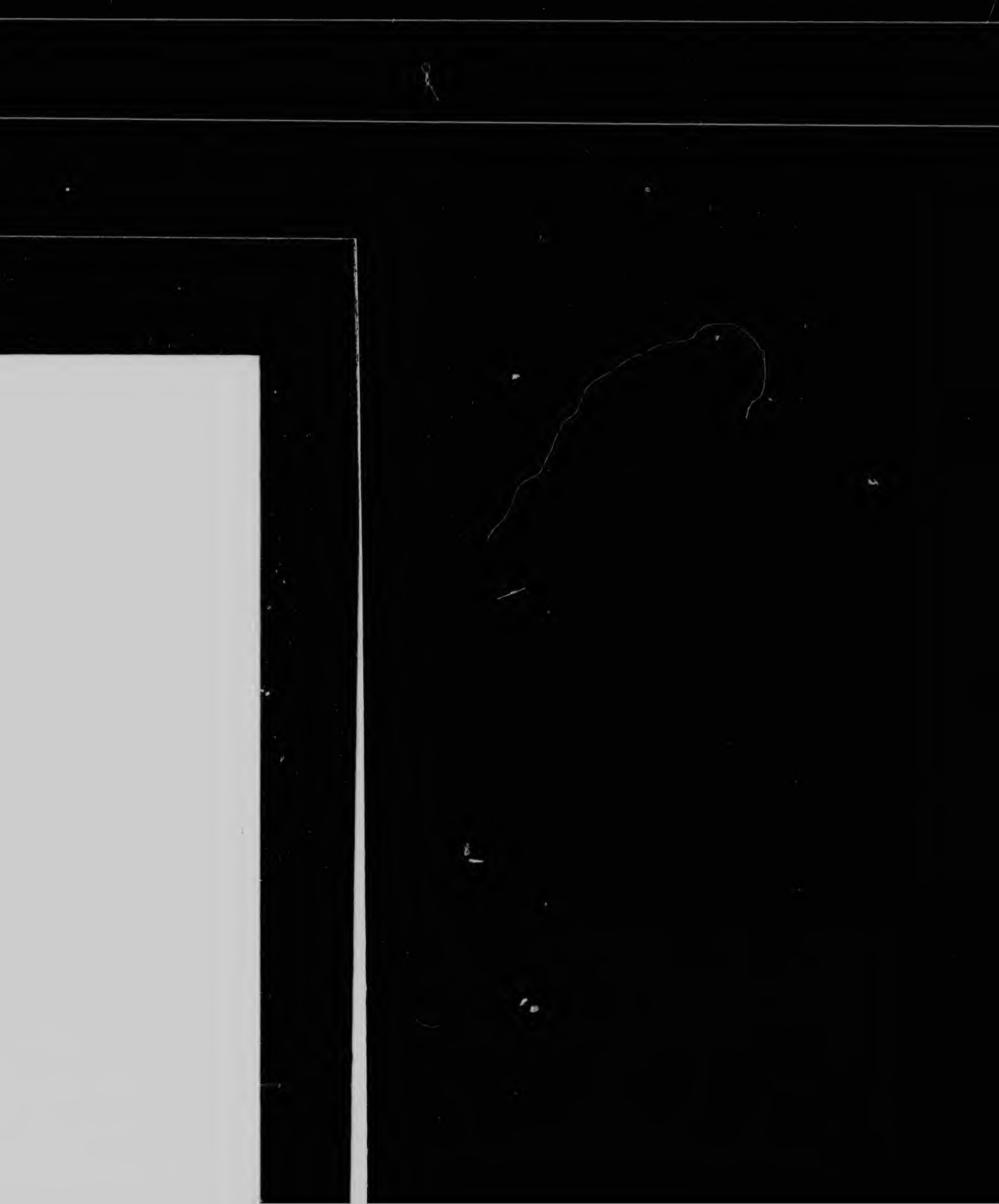
Resolved, That twelve persons be appointed as De-
monwealth, to meet and confer with Delegates from the other
or any of them upon the subjects of their public grievance
on the best means of preserving our resources and of
my, and to devise and suggest for adoption by those
measures as they may deem expedient ; and also to take
think proper, for procuring a convention of Delegates from
in

pay and rations, when in actual ser-
vice, to be provided by law, during

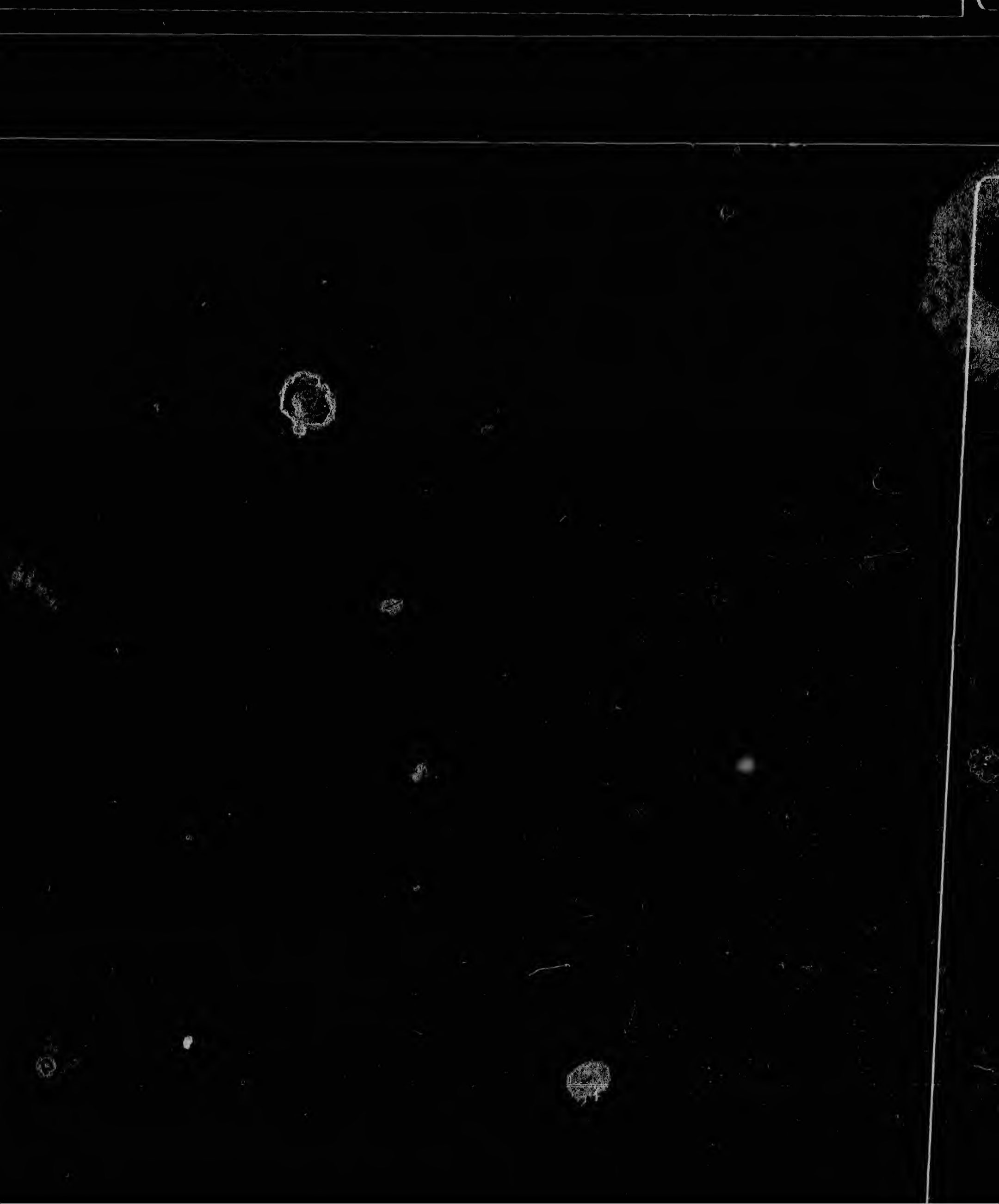
authorized to borrow from time to
time not exceeding one million of dol-
lars per cent, and that the faith of this
Act be at the next session of this Legis-
lature on the sums borrowed.

appointed as Delegates from this Com-
mittee from the other states of New England,
to represent the public grievances and concerns, and up-
on the defence against the ene-
my by those respective states, such
Delegates also to take measures, if they shall
think proper, Delegates from all the United States









the enemy in his varied and
great bodies of militia, to ma
distance from their families, v
of any mode of defence which
But while your Committee
to unite, and that they will ur
that is dear, in repelling an in
ligation imposes silence, upon
national misfortunes. It is, o
on all occasions, the destructiv
felicity, has been converted in
unless an almost ruined peopl
which have induced this state
salvation is past. It should n
public affairs has been forced
sent, but in opposition to her m
the administration, yielding to
commenced its system of comm
to the views of the late tyrant
the most needless and cruel en
ed by former Legislatures. T
commerce to cope with that of
nounced by the united warning
ject. It was never doubted b
would be accompanied by an c
sailors; the desolation of our
the failure of national credit;
mation of national ruin, by an a
greatest of all calamities, we h
evils, were our rulers forewarn
thus put in jeopardy; and the
and humanity, to stay their har
terests of those, who asked fro
own industrious callings. Bu
men distinguished in their nati
the enjoyment of a patronage,
consider the patriotic citizens o
union and with predilection fo
sure, in vain attempts to fix, by

carried and distant enterprises; that the continual calls upon militia, to march from home, at all seasons, and to remain at a distance from their families, will be the most oppressive, and least economical defence which can be devised, in a protracted warfare.

The Committee think, that the people of this Commonwealth ought to be informed, that if they will unite, under any circumstances, at the hazard of all property, in opposing an invading foe, it is not believed, that this solemn obligation, upon their just complaints against the authors of the present state of affairs. It is, on the contrary, a sacred duty to hold up to view, the destructive policy, by which a state of unparalleled national degradation has been converted into one of humiliation and danger; believing, that a people so united will discard the measures which have produced this state of peril and suffering, the day of their political redemption is not far distant.

It should never be forgotten, that this disastrous condition of affairs has been forced upon Massachusetts, not merely against her consent, but in defiance of her most earnest protestations. From the moment that she yielded to its own passions and calculations of party power, she incurred a system of commercial hostility to Great-Britain, and of conformity to the late tyrant of France, its tendency to involve the nation in a state of ruin and cruel embarrassments, was distinctly foreseen, and declared by the Legislature. The insufficiency of our youthful, though flourishing militia, in a struggle with that of Great-Britain in a struggle of restrictions, was an- ticipated and warned of those best versed in a knowledge of this subject. It is not to be doubted by these persons, that a war with Great-Britain, would be attended by an extinction of commerce; by the banishment of our shipping from the coast; the blockade and invasion of our sea ports; the loss of our national credit; the necessity of oppressive taxes; and the consequent ruin, by an alliance with the late despot of Europe; from which our liberties and liberties, we have been preserved only by his fall. Of all these dangers we were forewarned by Massachusetts, whose vital interests were at stake; and they were implored by every consideration of policy to abstain from their hands from the cruel and wanton sacrifice of the innocent blood of their fellow-citizens. No assistance was asked from them, nothing but the privilege of pursuing their peaceful occupations. But the government, deaf to this voice, and listening to the suggestions of its enemies, have, in their native state, only by their disloyalty to its interests and the abuse of its patronage, bestowed upon them as its price, have affected to consider the patriotic citizens of this great state as tainted with disaffection to the British Empire, and have lavished the public treasure upon them, to fix, by evidence, this odious imputation. Thus dishon-

when their safety, will be promptly applied to the defects which were known to exist in the provision itself was not made. The parts of the instrument which preclude the right of amendment, and it is not a presumption, but a duty, to be attended by experience, to obviate the principal defects in the state of peace and order, and to give it a duration to the satisfaction of a single session. It admits not of delay, it is a conference should be held, as the interests is closest, and the other causes, are most important, and views, some more than others, those states, and measures to be devised; and also it is expedient, to lay the matter inviting to a future conference. They therefore report

RESOLVED,

That the territory of this Commonwealth, being exposed to the enemy, our sea coast, and our shipping, being exposed to immediate attack, it is the duty of self defence, to call upon the citizens to their country, to the state and expelling the enemy, no concessions can ever interfere with the safety of the state.

Resolved,

That the President of the Commonwealth be authorized to raise a regiment for twelve months, to consist of ten thousand rank and file, for the defence of the state.

Resolved,

That the President be authorized to call upon any volunteers, and to hold themselves in readi-

our safety, which is the supreme law, is in question, these means should promptly applied. The framers of the constitution, made provision to amend which were known to be incident to every human institution; and the project itself was not less liable to be found defective upon experiment, than other the instrument. When this deficiency becomes apparent, no reason can be the right of the whole people, who were parties to it, to adopt another; not a presumptuous expectation, that a spirit of equity and justice, enlightened by experience, would enable them to reconcile conflicting interests, and remove the principal causes of those dissensions, which unfit government for a peace and of war, and so to amend the constitution, as to give vigor and stability to the union of the states. But as a proposition for such a convention in a single state, would probably be unsuccessful, and our danger admitting of delay, it is recommended by the Committee, that in the first instance, a conference should be invited between those states, the affinity of whose interests is the closest, and whose habits of intercourse, from their local situation and circumstances, are most frequent; to the end, that by a comparison of their sentiments and views, some mode of defence, suited to the circumstances and exigencies of the times, and measures for accelerating the return of public prosperity, may be devised; and also to enable the delegates from those states, should they deem it expedient, to lay the foundation for a radical reform in the national compact, by proposing to a future convention, a deputation from all the states in the union.—Therefore report the following Resolves—which are submitted.

H. G. OTIS, *Per order.*

RESOLVED, That the calamities of war being now brought home to the bosom of this Commonwealth—a portion of it, being in the occupation of the enemy, our sea coast and rivers being invaded in several places, and in all parts in immediate danger, the people of Massachusetts are impelled by the necessity of self defence, and by all the feelings and attachments which bind good citizens to their country, to unite in the most vigorous measures for defending the same, and expelling the invader; and no party feelings, or political dissensions, shall ever interfere with the discharge of this exalted duty.

Resolved, That provision be made by law for raising by voluntary enlistment, for twelve months or during the war, a number of troops not exceeding five thousand men and rank and file, to be organized and officered by the Governor, for the defence of the state.

Resolved, That the Governor be authorized to accept the services of volunteers, and to organize them as part of the aforesaid troops, who shall keep themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning, to any part of the



think proper, for procuring a convention of Delegates from
in order to revise the constitution thereof, and more effec-
port and attachment of *all* the people, by placing *all* upon
sentation.

Resolved, That a circular letter from this Legislat-
sident of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Rep-
ed to the executive government of each of said states, to be
Legislatures, explaining the objects of the proposed conf-
to concur in sending Delegates thereto.

Resolved, That on the eighteenth day of October
will, by joint ballot, elect twelve persons to meet such Dele-
ed by the said states, or either of them, at Hartford, in t-
on the fifteenth day of December next.

In Sena

Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence

JOHN PH

In the House of Representa

Read and concurred,

TIMOTHY B

October 15, 1814.

Approved,

CA

Secretary's Office,
20th October, 1814. } A true Copy.

ATTEST.

Handwritten signature

Handwritten signature

Handwritten notes:
H. J. ...
...
1814

also to take measures, if they shall
Delegates from all the United States,
more effectually to secure the sup-
ing *all* upon the basis of fair repre

his Legislature, signed by the Pre-
use of Representatives, be address-
states, to be communicated to their
posed conference, and inviting them

of October instant, this Legislature
et such Delegates as may be appoint-
artford, in the state of Connecticut,

In Senate, October 12, 1814.

or concurrence.

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President*.

Representatives, Oct. 15, 1814.

MATTHEW BIGELOW, *Speaker*.

CALEB STRONG

Matthew Bigelow
Secy of Comm^{rs}

