

Philadelphia Freeman's Journal, 7 November 1787

Extract of a letter from N. York, Nov. 4.

"It is astonishing with what a high hand matters are carried in Massachusetts, relative to the adoption of the New Constitution. Freedom of enquiry, particularly among the Bostonians, seems to be put entirely out of countenance. *John Adam's Chickens* (commonly called the *Well Born*) are already, in imagination, completely mounted upon the shoulders of the populace.— Some nations have been cheated out of their freedom by a long concatenation of subtilty and deceit; there are, in this country, too many that would carry the *same point* by downright impudence and effrontery:

'Who first the generous steed opprest

Not kneeling did salute the beast;

But with high courage, life, and force

Approaching, tam'd the unruly horse.'

"The clergy, I find, are, generally, very busy in proving by their present (as well as by some past) conduct, that *politics* and *theology* are by no means incompatible. I had hitherto imagined, this order of men were paid and maintained by the people to keep them in mind of their duty to God and their neighbours. But, it seems, they have a sufficiency of leisure upon their hands to fix, at least, *one eye* pretty steadily upon the political affairs of the world we are in."

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