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A New Test

New Haven Gazette, 31 January 1788

A NEW TEST. Humbly proposed to those who wish for a test in the new Constitution.

I swear, in the name of the all-seeing DEITY, that I will henceforth be a slave to no sect or party of men. That I will espouse no principles either in religion or politics but such as I believe true, and that I will submit myself only to reasonable authority.

I likewise solemnly declare that I consider myself as a citizen of the intellectual world and a subject of its Almighty Lawgiver and Judge. That by Him I am placed upon an honorable theater of action to sustain, in the sight of mortal and IMMORTAL beings, that character and part which He shall assign me, in order to my being trained up for perfection and immortality—and shall, from this time forth, devote my life to the service of GOD, my country, and mankind.

So help me GOD!

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