

18. There is no established church in the United States, religion being left to the voluntary choice of the people; yet in all the well-settled parts of the Union, religious instruction and observances are as faithfully dispensed and performed as in any other country in the world.

19. The great body of the people are attached to the various sects belonging to the Protestant faith: of these the Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Episcopalians, stand first as to numbers. There are also many Catholics, Universalists, Lutherans, Unitarians, and Friends, or Quakers.

20. The United States is a Federal Republic. Each state is independent in its local affairs; but the defence of the country, the regulation of commerce, and all the general concerns of the Union, are committed by the Constitution to a general government.

21. The government comprises three distinct powers, the Legislative, Judicial, and Executive branches: the first named power makes the laws, the second expounds, and the last executes them.

22. The Legislative power is vested in a Congress consisting of a Senate and House of Representatives. The Senate consists of two members from each state, who are elected for six years, one-third of the number being changed every two years. The members of the House of Representatives are elected by the people for two years.

23. The Judicial power is composed of a Supreme Court of one chief and eight associate Judges, who are appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and hold their offices during life or good behaviour.

24. The Executive power is vested in a President, who, together with the Vice-President, is chosen for four years by electors from all the states. The principal subordinate officers of the executive department are the Secretary of State, of the Treasury, of War, of the Navy, and of the Home Department, the Post-Master-General, and the Attorney-General. They are all removable at the will of the President; and, with the Vice-President, form the Cabinet.

25. The inhabitants of the United States amount to almost twenty-two millions, of which the black or coloured races form one-sixth part. The Indians number about 400,000, but are not usually considered as forming a part of the population of the Union.

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Government? Of the first settlers in New England? 18. Established Church? 19. To what are the great body of the people attached? What are they? 20. What is the United States? 21. What is said of the government? 22. Of the legislative power? House of Representatives? Senate? 23. The judicial power? 24. Executive power? The subordinate officers? What do they form? 25. What may the