



R. I. P.

February 25 -- September 22
1787

(Waiting for Resurrection)



LIBERTY



GAZETTE

Printed Weekly and Open to ALL, but INFLUENCED by None!

VOLUME I

TOMBSTONE

Week of September 16 -- September 22, 1787

EDITION

NUMBER XX

Learned Reader, a Constitution has now been created by the Gentlemen in Convention. They have said: "This is the best we can do." They have instructed Congress: "You may not nullify, you may only approve." They have told the State Legislatures: "If nine of you agree, it will be the Law of the Land."

Our argument against ratification is precise: no government can be trusted! This Constitution ASSUMES that anything not defined as being a National Responsibility belongs to the States or the People. We are to trust the government not to pass laws infringing on Our Rights as Citizens? No, Learned Reader, a Thousand Times NO!!!

Our Constitution must tell government what it can not do just as precisely as it tells government what it can do. Col. George Mason, among others, has identified this error, and has not signed the Document. We applaud the courage of that Gentleman from Virginia!

The argument for ratification is compelling: Our Articles do not work; we have no national standards in economics, military protection, political or legal equality. We have a Confederation which will shatter easily by madness or jealousy.

A Citizen who travels from New Hampshire to Georgia should recognize that he belongs to a single Republic. He must be secure during his journey through Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas, and upon entering Augusta, he should know he has traveled One Country, top to bottom, in security.

Learned Reader, weigh security against Freedom: Do you see Bloodybacks in your home? Do you see Truth as the government wants you to see it? Do you see Tyranny? Do you see unfair taxation ... Do you see the might of government crushing you, even though you ASSUMED you were under the protection of this Constitution?

Our Government must tell us precisely what it will not do! We will ASSUME nothing! Any government by its very nature, absorbs as much power over the lives of its citizens as it can; it is the very nature of the Beast.

George Mason is the greatest political thinker of this century. It is through his Reason that we have learned not to just define government's power for what it may do, but to define even more clearly what it must not do!

Our Republic will fail if a new Constitution is not passed; Our Republic will also fail if a Constitution is passed which only ASSUMES OUR RIGHTS, and we will be shackled by our bloody wrists, forever ...

The Legislatures must insist upon a Body of Law attached to this Constitution limiting government's intrusion into Our Lives, or the Legislatures must reject this Constitution!

Plautus

(N.B.: Willmer DeHuff coined the phrase Freedom and Responsibility: you only enjoy Freedom if you claim Responsibility. Learned Reader, this Country, this Constitution, is your Responsibility, give it up, become lazy, and Freedom flies.
Our "Gazette" is finished; we hope to be with you again.)

DISAPPEARANCE

JIMMY MILLER, an apprentice of John Peters has disappeared. The boy is about 5 feet tall, freckled, very talkative, much given to swearing, and speaks with an Irish accent. At the time of his disappearance, Miller was on an errand. Mr. Peters is offering a nine p. reward to the person who finds him. A special warning has gone out to Masters of Vessels and others forbidding them to unlawfully hold the boy.

Sir:

We have now the honour to submit to the consideration of the United States in Congress assembled, that Constitution which has appeared to us the most advisable.

The friends of our country have long seen and desired, that the power of making war, peace and treaties, that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correspondent executive and judicial authorities should be fully and effectually vested in the general government of the Union: but the impropriety of delegating such extensive trust to one body of men is evident -- Hence results the necessity of a different organization.

It is obviously impracticable in the federal government of these States, to secure all rights of independent sovereignty to each, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all -- Individuals entering into society, must give up a share of liberty to preserve the rest. The magnitude of the sacrifice must depend as well on situation and circumstance, as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with precision the line between those rights which must be surrendered, and those which may be reserved; and on the present occasion this difficulty was increased by a difference among the several States as to their situation, extent, habits, and particular interests.

In all our deliberations on this subject we kept steadily in our view, that which appears to us the

greatest interest of every true American, the consolidation of our Union, in which is involved our prosperity, felicity, safety, perhaps our national existence. This important consideration, seriously and deeply impressed on our minds, led each State in the Convention to be less rigid on points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwise expected; and thus the Constitution, which we now present, is the result of a spirit of amity, and of that mutual deference and concession which the peculiarity of our political situation rendered indispensable.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every State is not perhaps to be expected; but each will doubtless consider, that had her interest alone been consulted, the consequences might have been particularly disagreeable or injurious to others; that it is liable to as few exceptions as could reasonably have been expected, we hope and believe; that it may promote the lasting welfare of that country so dear to us all, and secure her freedom and happiness, is our most ardent wish.

With great respect,
We have the honour to be,
SIR,
Your Excellency's most
Obedient and humble Servants,
GEORGE WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT.
By unanimous Order of the Convention

Our Constitution: Will It Be Ratified?

Nine States Needed!

Opposition Expected in New Hampshire, Rhode-Island, New York, Virginia and The Carolinas ...



Constitutional Intelligence

John McCullough, a Philadelphia scholar working on a book entitled *Introduction to the History of America*, will include a copy of our New Constitution. It will appear sometime this year and will be the first text with the Constitution as passed by the Convention.

There has been some opposition to this lead by James Walsh, a distinguished professor from Connecticut, who states, quite correctly, that the Constitution may fail to be ratified by the necessary number of States, and Mr. McCullough's history would be false!

Baltimore: Thomas and Samuel Hollingsworth of this City have reported that most people there have read the New Constitution and it has been accepted by the populace.

Germantown, Pennsylvania: Leading Citizens met here today and have unanimously approved the proposed Constitution, and expressed their hope it will soon be ratified. Accounts of the Germantown action will probably be carried in newspapers around the country.

Philadelphia: Many Philadelphians have read the New Constitution and there is general support; however, many citizens have voiced disgust with the Slave Trade provision. Citizens of Southwark and Northern Liberties are circulating a petition for residents to sign to show their support for the Document.

Mr. Rufus King, Delegate from Massachusetts, moved that His Excellency should hold all papers of the

Convention. The motion carried with only Maryland voting Nay. The Delegates then adjourned *sine die* and took a cordial leave of each other at a dinner at City Tavern.

After nearly four months in which the Convention concluded its business of creating a new Constitution, the Pennsylvania Assembly was finally able to reclaim its meeting place. At about 11:00 a.m., Doctor Franklin and other Pennsylvania Delegates to the Grand Convention entered the room and Dr. Franklin addressed the Speaker thus:

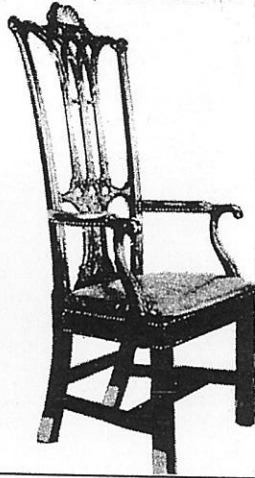
"Sir, I have the very great satisfaction of delivering to you and to this honourable house the results of our deliberation in the late convention. We hope and believe that the measures recommended by that body will produce happy effects to this Commonwealth, as well as to every other of the United States."

This was delivered the New Constitution to the Assembly for consideration.

The North-Carolina Delegation sent a copy of our New Constitution to Governor Richard Caswell noting "that no exertions have been wanting on our part to guard and promote the particular interest of North-Carolina." The Delegates pointed out the particular advantages for their State if the Constitution is Ratified. Many, including some Delegates, feel Ratification by their State will be a long, difficult process.

President's Rising Sun Chair

We had occasion to speak with Mr. James Madison, Delegate from Virginia, today. In response to our question regarding whether or not the Delegates were optimistic about their work in



the Grand Convention, he related the following intelligence from the extensive notes he took.

According to Mr. Madison, during the signing of the new Constitution, while the Delegates were awaiting their turn, Doctor Franklin gestured toward His Excellency's Chair, which was placed slightly higher than all others, and commented: "I have often and often in the course of the Session, and the vicissitudes of my hopes and fears as to its issue, looked at that behind the President without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting; But now at length I have the happiness to know it is a rising and not a setting sun."

The President's Chair to which Doctor Franklin was referring, was built by the cabinet maker, John Folwell for the Pennsylvania Assembly. It is a grand celebration of cosmopolitan taste with a Gothic back, red leather seat, and the oversized proportions of public seating furniture. This "rising sun chair" is sixty-one inches high, and certainly provided the ideal prop for the imposing presence of General Washington on the speakers' platform.

Our LIBERTY GAZETTE is extremely pleased with Doctor Franklin's observation, for we also envision a rising sun, and in our joy at the calling of this Grand Convention chose the rising sun as our symbol, placed proudly in our Flag.

September 19, 1787

Turkey Declares War on Russia

As has long been expected, the Turkish Sultan Abdul Hamid declared war against Russia on 15 August. Such an action has been anticipated ever since the Empress Catherine of Russia made a most provocative progress to the Crimea in the spring. Catherine, in company with her ally Joseph II, Emperor of Austria, traveled across the Crimea, a province recently wrested from Turkey by the Russians, and made no secret of her further designs on Turkish lands; at one point, Catherine, Joseph and their escorts rode beneath a triumphal arch decorated with a banner proclaiming, "On to Constantinople," a clear expression of the Russian desire to obtain control of the straits from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. Catherine and Joseph have also stirred up rebellion in the Balkan provinces of Turkey, Moldavia and Wallachia, promising support to Christians seeking freedom from the rule of the Moslem Turk.

With this declaration of war, the Turks are expected to move at once with a large force against the Russian city of Odessa, near the mouth of the Dniester River; from that vantage, the Turks expect to force a passage to the Crimea, regaining that disputed province. There are said to be strong Russian forces, ably commanded, in the path of the Turks, and all observers expect a fierce battle to ensue. There is every reason to think that a long and bloody war is in prospect for this troubled region which has already seen much bloodshed and destruction from generations of war.

Moscow ... August 20, 1787

Possible Attack Against New Orleans!!

By a gentleman lately arrived from South America, we have learned that the kingdom of Mexico is at this instant involved in a most violent insurrection. The Indians who are headed by the descendants of Montezuma have defeated the Spanish in a pitched battle. The slaughter was general and indiscriminate. The remembrances of Spanish brutality to their progenitos on this occasion led to their success.

While passing through the greater part of our settlements on the Western waters, this gentleman also observed that the people there are planning to use force to open the Mississippi River for navigation. There is currently a noted officer of the late continental army now in this city who is employed by the state of Franklin and other settlements. He is purchasing large quantities of arms and ammunition. It is strongly believed that a daring enterprise against New Orleans is imminent.

Augusta, Georgia ... August 20, 1787

Dunlap to Print Constitution

John Dunlap, Printer of Our Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation, has been given the honour of printing the new Constitution. Dunlap and his partner, David Claypoole have furnished eight different drafts of the Constitution, and on Monday, instant, finished the final version. By ten o'clock, Tuesday, they had placed the final printing on the stage to New York to be placed in the hands of Congress.

Our Learned Reader will also be aware that Mr. Dunlap converted his PENNSYLVANIA PACKET into the first daily paper in American in September, 1784. We of the "GAZETTE" applaud his industry, though we often disagree with his politics.

Philadelphia ... September 19, 1787

AMERICAN MADE FLOOR AND BEDSIDE CARPET

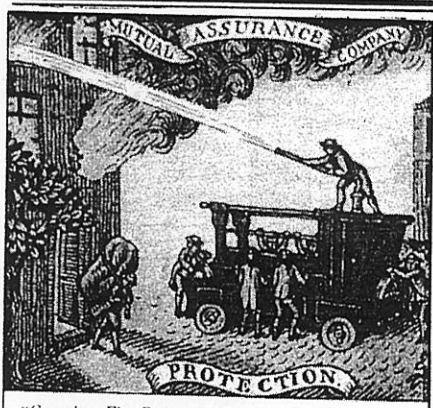
Peter William Spregue of Burlington, New Jersey, the Manufacturer, states without question, his carpet is fashioned on the AXMINSTER Mode "which for softness, warmth, and duration, exceeds anything of the kind ever attempted in this country! Customers can inspect Samples at the RICHARD NEEDS AND SON Store on Third Street. Carpets may be purchased with NEW JERSEY PAPER MONEY!!!

Jefferson Arranges Ransom!!

Our Minister to France, the Honourable Thomas Jefferson, informed John Jay, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, that he had agreed to purchase the freedom of Americans held hostage in Algiers for \$400 each, as soon as He received the money from the United States Commissioners of the Treasury.

The transaction was made by the Mathurines religious order who claim the United States is "buying the freedom of their countrymen at a bargain rate." The arrangement is not yet final. Mr. Jefferson has calculated that the cost will be \$10,000, and He has suggested that Secretary Jay not inform the families of the captives until they were set free.

Philadelphia ... September 19, 1787



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