

Philadelphia *Freeman's Journal*, 24 October 1787

Extract of a letter from Boston, *Octob.* 14.

“You federalists in Pennsylvania have but secondary merit—you saw, read and approved the new form of government—we—to our honour be it spoken, were true, staunch, federal men almost before we saw it!—He must be a *bold Jonathan* here, that will dare to say a word against it now.—An *anti-federalist* and a *tory* are held to be one and the same, and curses in plenty are denounced on the heads of both; as the popular breath allows no discrimination.—I must confess, nothing for a long time has so much alarmed me, as the endeavour of *certain characters* amongst us to insult the understanding of the public, by preventing that freedom of enquiry which truth and honour never dreads, but which tyrants and tyranny could never endure.—The merits of the New Constitution out of the question, the conduct of too many here respecting it is strikingly analogous to that of Lord Peter in the tale of a tub—‘Look ye, brothers Martin and Jack, if ye do not believe this crust of bread to be as good a shoulder of mutton as ever was sold in Leadenhall market, I pronounce you both a couple of blind, positive, conceited sons of bitches, and may the devil roast you to all eternity!’”

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