

Cato, Newburyport *Essex Journal*, 28 November 1787

Mr. Printer, As a couple of foreign preachers, by the names of Fæderalist and Antifæderalist seem to engross the attention of the public at the present day, perhaps an account of their origin and a summary of the different doctrines they hold up to view, may not be amiss at this critical season—

Fæderalist is of pure Roman extraction, whose lineage may with ease be traced up to *Fædus*, a most worthy and virtuous patriot of ancient Rome. It is very remarkable of *Fædus* the Roman, who was a statesman during the whole prosperity of that Republic, that his notions of policy were so well digested, that not a single instance of error in judgment could ever be imputed to him while he continued in office. Consequently, in his days the people were happy. At length thro' a close application to business, his health became impaired and he was obliged to retire. At this interval, one *Anti*, an outlaw from Greece, appeared in Rome, whose external features bore so striking a resemblance to those of *Fædus*, that he found it no difficult matter to impose himself upon the credulous multitude as a brother of their revered worn-out statesman, lately returned from his travels. The people rejoiced to find the brother of *Fædus*, and cried the Gods are for us! Without further evidence, he was immediately elected to fill that seat of office now vacated by their beloved patriot. Alas! deluded people! This object of their unanimous choice was not *Profædus* as they imagined. No—for soon the baseness of his heart discovered the impostor. As soon as he was clothed with power his every act proclaimed him to be, not *Pro*, but *Antifædus*.—I shall not enter into a particular detail of his iniquitous proceedings, but suffice it to say, that in a very short time after, Julius Cæsar was Emperor of Rome.

To return to their descendants who lately emigrated to America, *Fæderalist*, who inherits all the republican virtues, and has drawn all his maxims of national policy from his glorious Progenitor, concludes every address he makes to the public with the following laconic injunction, UNITE AND BE HAPPY—while the preachments of *Antifæderalist*, who retains all the perfidious, villainous, base, traitorous and anti-republican principles of *Antifædus* his great grandsire, when stripped of their sophism and false colourings amount to this: The peoples' happiness is incompatible with the aggrandizement of me and mine, therefore, IF YOU UNITE I FALL.

Cite as: *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution Digital Edition*, ed. John P. Kaminski, Gaspare J. Saladino, Richard Leffler, Charles H. Schoenleber and Margaret A. Hogan. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2009. Original source: Ratification by the States, Volume IV: Massachusetts, No. 1