

Luther Martin: Genuine Information IV, Baltimore *Maryland Gazette*, 8 January 1788 (excerpts)

...the warm advocates and patrons of the system in convention, *strenuously opposed* the *choice* of the senators by the *State legislatures*, *insisting* that the *State governments ought not to be introduced in any manner* so as to be *component parts of, or instruments for carrying into execution*, the general government—Nay, so far were the friends of the system from pretending that they meant it or considered it as a *federal* system, that on the question being proposed, “that a union of the States, merely federal, ought to be the sole object of the exercise of the powers vested in the convention:” it was negated by a majority of the members, and it was resolved, “that a *national* government ought to be formed”—afterwards the word “*national*” was struck out by them, because they thought the *word* might tend to *alarm*—and although *now*, they who *advocate* the system, pretend to call themselves *federalists*, in convention the distinction was just the reverse; those who *opposed* the system, were *there* considered and stiled the *federal party*, those who *advocated* it, the *antifederal*. Viewing it as a *national*, not a *federal* government, as calculated and designed not to *protect* and *preserve*, but to *abolish* and *annihilate* the *State governments*,...

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: Commentaries on the Constitution, Volume XV: Commentaries on the Constitution, No.