

The Albany Anti-Federal Committee to Melancton Smith, Albany, 1 March 1788

We daily experience Inconveniencies from the partiality of the printers in this part of the State whose papers are constantly filled with pieces in Favor of the new Constitution and whenever any are inserted against it, which is always done with Reluctance, they are accompanied with others to counteract their Effects, by which Means the people are prevented from forming a proper Judgment on the Occasion.

We conceive it therefore of the Utmost Importance to have an impartial printer in this City and will exert ourselves as much as possible to promote his Interest—We are at present willing to stipulate for 200 Subscribers, and doubt not but that this with the Aid of our Friends in the other Counties of the State will be a sufficient Inducement for the Establishment of a press here.—

We flatter ourselves that our Friends in New York will likewise open a subscription for the purpose and entreat you to adopt immediate Measures to procure a printer and to send him up without Delay with his press.

We are also disposed if necessary to Advance him a sum of Money on Account, immediately on his Arrival, we propose the Title of the paper to be the *Albany Register*.

If this should Transpire it may possibly influence the printers here to refuse the Insertion of any publications against the New Constitution—we therefore wish decided Measures may be taken to furnish us before our Intentions are made public—

Be so good to let us have your sentiments on this Subject directed to Abraham G. Lansing Esqr. as early as possible.

We are Sir. Your most Obedient and very Humble Servants.

John Lansing Junr.

Jer V Rensselaer

Peter W Yates

Henry Oothoudt

Richard Lush

Mathew Visscher

Abm G Lansing.

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