Philadelphia Federal Gazette, 27 December 1788

There is not, says a correspondent, a more absurd idea, than to prefer public characters *only* because they were whigs in 1776.

Some of the earliest opposers of the tyranny of Charles the first, fought by his side afterwards; and many, who assisted in deposing him, were active in bringing in his successor, Charles the second, to the throne.

There were many sorts of whigs in 1776. Such as the speculating whig—the tarring and feathering whig—the ambitious whig—the fly whig—the ignorant whig—the tory hunting whig—the office hunting whig—and the *sick* whig, who was always in disposed when he was called out to face the enemies of the country.

The *real* whig differed from each of these counterfeits. He was a disinterested consistent character. His objects, in the revolution, were order and good government; not power or revenge. Now, adds our correspondent, the leading federalists are the REAL WHIGS of 1776, while the antifederalists consist only of the former group of counterfeit whig characters. WASHINGTON and ADAMS were REAL WHIGS: let the first be President, and the second Vice-President of the United States.