

A.B.: The Raising
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1787

The RAISING:

A New SONG for Federal Mechanics.

I.

Come muster, my Lads, your mechanical Tools,
Your Saws and your Axes, your Hammers and Rules;
Bring your Mallets and Planes, your Level and Line,
And Plenty of Pins of American Pine;
*For our Roof we will raise, and our Song still shall be—
A Government firm, and our Citizens free.*

II.

Come, up with *the Plates*, lay them firm on the Wall,
Like the People at large, they're the Ground-work of all;
Examine them well, and see that they're sound,
Let no rotten Parts in our Building be found;
*For our Roof we will raise, and our Song still shall be—
Our Government firm, and our Citizens free.*

III.

Now hand up *the Girders*, lay each in his Place,
Between them *the Joists* must divide all the Space;
Like Assembly-men, *these* should lye level along,

Like *Girders*, our Senate prove loyal and strong;
For our Roof we will raise, and our Song still shall be—
A Government firm, over Citizens free.

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IV.

The Rafters now frame—your *King-Posts* and *Braces*,
And drive your *Pins* home, to keep all in their *Places*;
Let *Wisdom* and *Strength* in the *Fabric* combine,
And your *Pins* be all made of *American Pine*;
For our Roof we will raise, and our Song still shall be—
A Government firm, over Citizens free.

V.

Our *King-Posts* are *Judges*—how upright they stand,
Supporting the *Braces*, the *Laws of the Land*—
The *Laws of the Land*, which divide *Right* from *Wrong*,
And strengthen the *Weak*, by weak'ning the *Strong*;
For our Roof we will raise, and our Song still shall be—
Laws equal and just, for a People that's free.

VI.

Up! Up with the *Rafters*—each *Frame* is a *State*!
How nobly they rise! their *Span*, too, how great!
From the *North* to the *South*, o'er the *Whole* they
extend,
And rest on the *Walls*, while the *Walls* they defend!
For our Roof we will raise, and our Song still shall be—
Combined in Strength, yet as Citizens free.

VII.

Now enter the *Purlins*, and drive your Pins through,
And see that your Joints are drawn home, and all true;
The *Purlins* will bind all the Rafters together,
The Strength of the Whole shall defy Wind and
Weather;

*For our Roof we will raise, and our Song still shall be—
United as States, but as Citizens free.*

VIII.

Come, raise up the Turret-our Glory and Pride—
In the Centre it stands, O'er the Whole to preside;
The Sons of *Columbia* shall view with Delight
It's Pillars, and Arches, and Towering Height;
*Our Roof is now rais'd, and our Song still shall be—
A Fæderal Head, o'er a People still free.*

IX.

Huzza! my brave Boys, our Work is complete,
The World shall admire *Columbia's* fair Seat;
It's Strength against Tempest and Time shall be Proof,
And Thousands shall come to dwell under our Roof.
*Whilst we drain the deep Bowl, our Toast still shall be—
Our Government firm, and our Citizens free.*

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