

***American Herald, 19 November 1787***

On DR. FRANKLIN'S shedding a TEAR at signing the DEATH-WARRANT of his COUNTRY'S LIBERTIES.

The worn-out Sage too full his joy to speak,  
The puerile tear stole down his wrinkl'd cheek;  
He paused a moment—but alas, too late,  
He lent his Signet to his Country's fate,  
He grasped the trembling quill and signed his name,  
And damn'd the Laurels of his former fame.

*Boston, 12th Nov. 1787.*

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.

Canonic URL: <http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/RNCN-02-04-02-0003-0072-0003> [accessed 04 Sep 2012]

Original source: *Ratification by the States, Volume IV: Massachusetts, No. 1*