

**Cato, Boston *Massachusetts Centinel*, 26 January 1788**

To BRUTUS.

Oh! Brutus—how it grieves the ingenuous heart, thus to see thee prostitute thy sense and thy honesty (if any yet is left within thee) to the vile practice of falshood and deceit.—Every one who has read the letter of Gen. *Washington*, published in the last Centinel, is ashamed for his species, that there is one so corrupt as to endeavour to mislead his fellow-citizens as to its real meaning—which is this—*if Massachusetts, or Virginia, or a minority of the States, in refusing to accept the new Constitution, can suppose themselves strong enough to dictate to the majority of the States, whom they suppose to be weaker, such a Constitution as they please to make, [they] will very much deceive themselves—for they may depend on it that majority, though weaker, will never consent to be dictated to by a minority, who may suppose themselves stronger, unless they force them by dint of the bayonet.* This is his plain and obvious meaning.—Blush, Brutus! blush! wrap thyself again in thy native insignificance—retire from the world—and in solitude and silence pray heaven to forgive thee thy sins.

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