

Comte de Moustier to Comte de Montmorin, New York, 2 July 1788 (excerpt)

Yesterday news of the adoption of the new Constitution by the State of Virginia was received here. The majority was slight. Other details are not yet known. It is probable that the State of North Carolina, which is to assemble in Convention tomorrow, will follow the example of Virginia. It is expected that that of New York, now deliberating, will not want to break away from the union alone, for Rhode Island is counted as nothing, and besides both, by their situation, would be exposed to great inconveniences if all the other States should combine against them. Thus it is thought that New York will join and that Rhode Island will withdraw its refusal. Today there are ten that form the Confederation according to the new system, which is supposed to effect a consolidation rather than a new Confederation. The Congress will occupy itself ceaselessly with the last formalities necessary to sanction the new Government. It will decide at the same time at what place the new Congress that is to replace it will assemble. The choice of its permanent residence and final resolutions regarding the establishment of the federal City will be left for the latter's decision....

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