

James Madison To Thomas Jefferson, Philadelphia, 6 June 1787

DEAR SIR PHILADA. June 6th. 1787.

...Mr. Adams' Book which has been in your hands of course, has excited a good deal of attention. An edition has come out here and another is in the press at N. York. It will probably be much read, particularly in the Eastern States, and contribute with other circumstances to revive the predilections of this Country for the British Constitution. Men of learning find nothing new in it. Men of taste many things to criticize. And men without either not a few things, which they will not understand. It will nevertheless be read, and praised, and become a powerful engine in forming the public opinion. The name & character of the Author, with the critical situation of our affairs, naturally account for such an effect. The book also has merit, and I wish many of the remarks in it, which are unfriendly to republicanism, may not receive fresh weight from the operations of our Governments...

Cite as: The Papers of James Madison Digital Edition, J. C. A. Stagg, editor. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, Rotunda, 2010.

Canonic URL: <http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/JSMN-01-10-02-0019> [accessed 26 Nov 2012]

Original source: Congressional Series, Volume 10 (27 May 1787–3 March 1788)