

Henry Jackson to Henry Knox, Boston, 11 November 1787 (excerpt)

my dear Harry

... Mr. Gerrys Letter has done much *mischief* in this State as to the adoption of the proposed Federal Constitution—it has given great strength to the small, *very small* party that were in the opposition—he has gone for the *Vote*, as this measure will either *damn* him, or place him at the head of a *restless and uneasy* junto in the government—his friends and Circle in which he moved in this quarter, are exceedingly displeased with him, and with them he has lost all their confidence.—had he been under the necessity of writing the Letter, every allowance would have been made for him, which was not the case, as it appears to have originated in his officious brain—however *the System* stands firm & well as yet, and have no doubt but it will be finally adopted in this State—this is sentiments of all the leading and influential Men.—

We intend sending a good Representation from this Town to the State convention—Govr. Hancock, Govr. Bowdoin, & Gentlemen of that class and reputation—we shall also send the *Revd. Mr. Stillman*—he is a high Federal Man, & charmed with the proposed plan.—he being at the head of the *Baptists* in this State, and of great influence among them, it is thought policy to choose him one of the Deligates by which means we shall gain that whole *Sect* in favor of it....

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