

Pennsylvania Gazette, 21 November 1787

Extract of a letter from Rhode-Island, dated the 7th instant.

“By the papers now forwarded, you may form some idea of the politics of this state. From the proceedings of our Legislature last week, you may reasonably conclude that *our rulers* have not yet compleated their diabolical Schemes. How far they mean to carry their vile plans, time alone must make known. A viler and more abandoned sett of beings never disgraced any Legislative, Judicial or Executive Authorities since the Fall of Adam. Every *conscientious* and *honest* man in our devoted republic is employed in contemplating with admiration, and devoutly wishing for the *speedy* adoption of the NEW CONSTITUTION, tho’ their fears are occasionally on the alarm from the ill-founded suggestions of a G–r–y, and the more sly insinuations of *your* SIXTEEN seceding members; performances too well adapted to blow up the flame of disunion, and to imbitter the minds of the people against all *good* and *virtuous government*. <Such men, I am sorry to find, you have in Pennsylvania. Were we favored with a *civil constitution* immediately from Heaven, I have no doubt but that THEY, with our abandoned *leaders*, would enter their objections.> God grant that there may be wisdom and goodness enough still found among the *majority* to adopt, without hesitation, what a WASHINGTON, a FRANKLIN, a MADISON, &c. so warmly recommend. Without this adoption, a civil war, I am afraid, will take place. This *must* arise from the present confusion of our different state governments.– The proceedings of the *Baptist* Association, lately convened at New-York, are highly approved here. Their brethren throughout the eastern states are also highly federal. May all other christian denominations evidence the same zeal, in cordially recommending and fervently espousing a *firm, vigorous* and *well-established* government, so admirably calculated for the preservation of our dear-bought liberty, CIVIL and RELIGIOUS.”

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