

Pieter Johann Van Berckel to the States General, New York, 1 October 1788 (excerpt)

Since my last dispatch, dated September 6th, of which I have the honor to enclose a Copy, the Convention, which was meeting in Philadelphia since the Month of May, has adjourned after first having finished the business for which it had convened. I have the honor to enclose a copy of a new plan of Government, which was presented by that meeting to the Congress, in order that the latter would send it to the different States, where it has to be considered by the people, who have the power to adopt or reject it, and when nine States have given their Approval to this new Plan, it will immediately go into effect. This plan, which passed the Congress on the 30th [28th] of last Month, was dispatched immediately, and if any credence can be given to the feelings of many influential persons, it may be expected that most of the States will approve it without many difficulties, so that one can hope to see, within a short time, a Government being established through which America will be able to enjoy the advantages of her independence....

Cite as: *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution Digital Edition*, ed. John P. Kaminski, Gaspare J. Saladino, Richard Leffler, Charles H. Schoenleber and Margaret A. Hogan. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2009.

Canonic URL: <http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/RNCN-03-13-02-0123> [accessed 08 Mar 2011]

Original source: Commentaries on the Constitution, Volume XIII: Commentaries on the Constitution, No. 1