

A Pennsylvania Mechanic, Philadelphia *Independent Gazetteer*, 29 October 1787

To the Printers of the United States.

GENTLEMEN, I have been delighted with the noble struggle which the brave and virtuous throughout America have been, and still are, making to establish the new frame of government. I am charmed with the good sense and humanity of the people at large, who, though they are very generally warmly attached to it, yet they bear, with uncommon patience, all the insults hitherto thrown out against it, and the gentlemen of the late convention.

The friends of the new system are not ashamed to avow their principles, and their writings, on the subject, while its enemies take every prudent measure to prevent detection.

I know a gentleman in this city, high in office, who has written much against the new system, notwithstanding he has never, in company, uttered a syllable against it. Hence I conclude that the antifederal junto are conscious of the wickedness of their proceedings—that their cause is that of the devil—and of it they are truly ashamed. It appears by a late eastern paper, that the publisher of the Massachusetts Gazette is determined to publish no sentiments on this important subject, unless the writers leave their names with the printers, “that any one who may be desirous of knowing the author, may be informed.” No honest man—no true friend to America—or to the liberty or happiness of mankind, can object to this.

For your imitation, gentlemen, I humbly propose the conduct of this your worthy brother, the publisher of the Massachusetts Gazette.

26th October, 1787.

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