

**Marcus V, *Norfolk and Portsmouth Journal*, 19 March 1788 (excerpt)**

*Answers to Mr. Mason's Objections to the New Constitution, Recommended by the late Convention at Philadelphia.*

*(Concluded from our last.)*

Those gentlemen who think we may at our ease go on from one Convention to another, to try if all objections cannot be conquered by perseverance, have much more sanguine expectations that I can presume to form. There are critical periods in the fate of nations, as well as in the life of man, which are not to be neglected with impunity. I am much mistaken if this is not such a one with us. When we were at the very brink of despair, the late excellent Convention, with an unanimity that none could have hoped for, generously discarding all little considerations, formed a system of government which I am convinced can stand the nicest examination, if reason and not prejudice is employed in viewing it. With a happiness of thought, which in our present awful situation ought to silence much more powerful objections than any I have heard, they have provided in the very frame of government a safe, easy and unexceptionable method of correcting any errors it may be thought to contain...

*January, 1788.*

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