

Philadelphia *Independent Gazetteer*, 27 October 1787

A correspondent says that the brave Colonel George Mason, of Virginia, who nobly said that he would sooner cut off his hand than sign the new constitution, of the United States, deserves high praise; he should consider that time is only wanting to manifest the proposed constitution to be an odious system of tyranny, and therefore that his manly conduct will be attended with a growing fame; but if his conduct were not to be attended with the applauses which he is going to receive, he should consider that, as a celebrated poet expresses himself,

One self approving hour, whole years outweighs,

Of stupid starers, and of loud hazzas.

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-03-13-02-0212> [accessed 05 Sep 2012]

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