George Washington’s Election to the Convention, Philadelphia *Independent Gazetteer*, 9 April 1787

On the coming of the American Fabius to the Federal Convention in May next.

> Had not great Cromwell aim’d to gain a crown,  
> Unsullied tales would hand his mem’ry down.  
> The hero comes, each voice resound his praise  
> No envious shafts can dare to chill his rays;  
> All hail! great man! who for thy country’s cause,  
> Flew at her call for to protect the laws.  
> But while dull notes like these my song disarm’d,  
> His rigid virtues ev’ry patriot warm’d;  
> Inspir’d each leader at his standard met,  
> Laurens who fell, with Greene and La Fayette.  
> Like the fair structure on the river side,  
> Which from reflection dazzles on the tide,  
> Each caught the flame, celestial pow’rs unite,  
> And stimulate them on to aid the fight.  
> He fought, he won, and calm’d the raging storm,  
> Tho’ rais’d by pride abstruse, in fury’s form;  
> Thy unambitious steps will paint thy name  
> To future ages thro’ historic fame.  
> Columbia now with independence crown’d,  
> Proclaims her consequence on foreign ground.  
> For, oh! great Washington! while war did rage,  
> From Clinton retrospectively to Gage,  
> Stood firm—till peace did crown thy native shore,  
> By superceding war’s terrific roar.  
> A time of rest at length appear’d in view,  
> With all its happiness in blooming hue;  
> A calm which oft the hero wish’d to see,  
> Where rural blessings with his mind agree;  
> But fly once more the Senate house to grace,  
> And crown the States with everlasting peace.

Philadelphia, April 6, 1787.
