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John Lamb to George Clinton New York, 17 June 1788

I now forward to you (by a special Messenger [Charles Tillinghast]) the Letters from our Friends in Virginia which, were brought yesterday Evening, by Colo. Oswald himself as he did not think proper to risque them, with any other Person.

Colo. Oswald says, that, Mr. Henry, and the other Gentlemen are of Opinion, it would answer a very valuable purpose, and have a tendency to fix some of the doubtful Characters, if our Convention would immediately, appoint a Delegation, to meet one from their Body, to agree on the necessary Amendments; which measure they flatter themselves, could be brought about, in their Convention, if ours would open the Door for it.

I have also forwarded to you a Pamphlet, written by Colo. Monro, who is a Member of the Convention—which induced him (from a point of delicacy) to tear off the Title-Page.

From the best information Colo. Oswald could obtain, all the Members from Kentucky, are opposed to the New Constitution;¹—And so are almost all the People, in the back Counties of Virginia and Pennsylvania.

I will make it a point to give you the earliest intelligence of every thing, that, transpires respecting the common Cause.

PS. Should a Delegation be appointed by our Convention for the purpose mentioned in this Letter, I conceive that, it will be necessary to transmit an Account of it immediately, to Virginia, by an Express.

1. In the Virginia Convention, delegates from the seven Kentucky counties voted 10 to 3 against the ratification on 25 June, with one absent.

CITE AS: John P. Kaminski et al., eds., *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. XVIII: Commentaries on the Constitution, Public and Private [6] (Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 1995), 48, 64.