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A Receipt for an Antifederalist Essay *Pennsylvania Gazette*, 14 November 1787

This item is one of the first examples of a receipt (i.e., recipe), which was a popular literary technique used in eighteenth-century newspapers.

A RECEIPT *for an* ANTIFEDERAL ESSAY.

WELL-BORN, nine times—*Aristocracy*, eighteen times—*Liberty of the Press*, thirteen times repeated—*Liberty of Conscience*, once—*Negroe slavery*, once mentioned—*Trial by jury*, seven times—*Great Men*, six times repeated—Mr. WILSON, forty times—and lastly, GEORGE MASON'S *Right Hand in a Cutting-box*,¹ nineteen times—put them altogether, and dish them up at pleasure. These words will bear boiling, roasting, or frying—and, what is remarkable of them, they will bear being served, after being once used, a dozen times to the same table and palate.

1. For Mason's statement "that he would sooner chop off his right hand than put it to the Constitution as it now stands."

CITE AS: John P. Kaminski et al., eds., *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. XIV: Commentaries on the Constitution, Public and Private [2] (Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 1983), 103.