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Virginia Independent Chronicle, 26 September 1787

We learn, from good Authority, that the FÆDERAL CONSTITUTION was unanimously passed on the 17th Instant, when the Hon. Convention of the United States closed their deliberations:—We are sorry to add, from the same Authority, that his Excellency EDMUND RANDOLPH, Esq; our worthy CHIEF MAGISTRATE, will not return to this City as soon as might be expected, owing to the Indisposition of his Lady. But however anxious we may be for the Pleasure of beholding him among us, we cannot, without Exultation, reflect on the profitable Sacrifice, which we have made of it this some time past: What VIRGINIAN's breast glows not with the Expectation of the Boon, he is bearing towards us, when he considers, that its first Shoot sprung from this State;¹—that it has been reared to Maturity by Men, who give Dignity to human Nature;—that it is *the Tree of Life*, whose Fruit will enthrone this western Empire high among the Nations, and raise the firmest and fairest Temple to LIBERTY, that has ever yet dignified this Globe.

1. Probably a reference to the call that Virginia issued in early 1786 for a commercial convention to meet in Annapolis, Md., in September 1786. Virginia was also among the first states to appoint delegates to the constitutional convention proposed by the Annapolis Convention.

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