

## **Don Diego de Gardoqui to Conde de Floridablanca, New York, 22 April 1788**

My Lord. The adverse winds which have detained the Perlador, to which some days ago I delivered the Packet of letters, give me the opportunity by which I add this one, in order to communicate to Your Excellency that the Information received this day from Virginia confirms very reliably the Suspicion that that State will not adopt the New Plan of Government.

With this News I have spoken in earnest with the President, who is a Virginian and a sincere man, and he has Responded to me, that the likelihood is very much to the contrary, because the Representatives of Kentucky upon whom he was relying are very much opposed, from which he infers that the best that could possibly be expected is that it will be delayed much more than was believed.

To ground myself further, I have just spoken in earnest with General Knox, Minister of War who openly has made himself known a very vigorous and strong Supporter of the new Plan of Government.

This Individual, who promoted it with all his power, has told me countless times, that the organization would begin during the course of this year, but now he just confessed to me Discreetly, that the opposition is much greater than that which was believed, and he fears with good reason that the aforementioned Government will not be established before next year.

This is the feeling of the day of the most partial Federalists, so that Your Excellency will infer that there is not the slightest probability of their being able to bring about a [commercial] Convention, as long as this Country is not established as a Nation.

In the meantime they scarcely find sufficient funds to Maintain the small expenditure of the President, and I believe the Employees moreover do not receive their Salaries.

The discord is confirmed in [the State of] Franklin, whose Inhabitants are so involved in difficulties that [a number of?] encounters, and some Dead and wounded have resulted, so, our Don Jaime who should have left today, will arrive in good time.

It seems that it is going to set sail, for which reason I conclude, renewing my obedience, and praying God keep Your Excellency's Life for many years.

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