

David Ramsay to John Eliot Charleston, 19 January 1788 (excerpt)¹

... Our Assembly is now sitting & the foederal constitution has been discussed before them for the sake of informing the country members. There appears a great majority for it. Indeed it seems to be a prevailing sentiment here that if Virginia & her neighbors should refuse it that we would confoederate with New England. For my part I am fully of that sentiment I would much rather be united with Massachusetts New Hampshire & Connecticut than with North Carolina, Virginia & Maryland. My first wish is union but if that cannot be my second is a confoederation with the eastern & middle states. I trust it will be universally accepted. One thing is certain that I shall live under it if I live & if it ever operates....

1. RC, Andrew-Eliot Papers, MHi. Printed: CC:462. No recipient is indicated on the letter, but internal evidence reveals that it was written to John Eliot (1754-1813), a Harvard graduate and Congregationalist pastor of the New North Church in Boston.

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