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Pennsylvania Gazette, 12 September 1787

The “distinction” between “*fœderal*” and “*antifœderal*,” referred to in this article, was apparently first used by Noah Webster in November 1786 to describe Connecticut politics. In April 1787 the *Massachusetts Centinel* applied the labels to the national discussion of a new government. Despite Antifederalist objections that the terms were misnomers, the labels were used during the debate over ratification.

The former distinction of the citizens of America (says a Correspondent) into whigs and tories, should be lost in the more important distinction of *fœderal* and *antifœderal* men. The former are the friends of liberty and independence—the latter are the enemies of liberty, and the secret abettors of the interests of Great-Britain.

CITE AS: John P. Kaminski et al., eds., *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. XIII: Commentaries on the Constitution, Public and Private [1] (Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 1981), 193.