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## Solon

### Boston *Independent Chronicle*, 25 September 1788

Mess’rs. ADAMS & NOURSE, When the *very respectable Convention* of this Commonwealth, adopted the *federal Constitution*, their *wisdom* and *foresight* were truly *conspicuous*, and highly *praise-worthy*, in declaring that it was “The opinion of this Convention, that certain amendments and alterations in the said Constitution, would remove the fears, and quiet the apprehensions of many of the good people of this Commonwealth, and more effectually guard against an undue administration of the federal government, the Convention do therefore recommend, that the following alterations and provisions, be introduced into the said Constitution.” *Nine propositions* then follow. And an *injunction* on the *Representatives* of the people to endeavour to obtain a ratification of them. The *wisdom* and *sound* policy of this measure, *produced* a happy conciliatory disposition in the minds of the members of the Convention, and among the *people at large*, who could not but *anticipate* every reasonable advantage, to result from a *wise* and *energetic* government, which by the proposed amendments, would in *no part* or *degree*, be *marred* in its *beauty* or *excellence*, and at the same time, be *properly restricted*, from *encroaching* on the *rights* and *liberties* of the *people*, which *have been* rendered *more dear* and *invaluable*, in their *estimation* than *ever*, by the *late* almost *unparalleled exertions*, to *rescue* and *secure* them. It is therefore, NOW, for the *good people* of this Commonwealth, as far as their *weight* in the great political scale *extends*, to *determine* for *themselves*, and *eventually* for *posterity*, *whether* the *salutary* intentions, of their *late respectable* Convention, and those of several other States, *shall* be carried into *effect*, by *adopting*, and *pursuing* those measures which *tend to insure* it; or *permit* them to be *frustrated*, by *listening* to *men* who are *decidedly* opposed to *any* amendments in the *federal* Constitution, and who view with abhorrence, any instructions or injunctions of the people for obtaining the important object. Would not the latter, *again* awaken those *fears* and *apprehensions*, which the Convention endeavoured to *soothe*, and leave open that door, to the *undue* administration of the federal government, at some *future* time, which they supposed possible; and against which *they* conceived, as the *delegates* of the *people*, it was *their duty* to GUARD.

While therefore, the *people* *rationally*, and with *good* grounds, *anticipate*, under the new government, the *increase* of their *agriculture*, *manufactures*, and *commerce*, it is *indispensable*, that they *guard well* the *portals* of their *rights* and *liberties*; for what *assurance* can they *have* of the *uninterrupted* enjoyment of *them*, if they do not, in the *ONLY* proper time, *take* the *necessary* precautions, for their *security* and *permanence*.

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