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Henry Jackson to Henry Knox Boston, 10 February 1788 (excerpts)

my dear Harry—

Your favor of the 3d Inst. came to hand by the post last Eveng—

mine of last Wednesday Evening must have given you the highest g[r]atification & pleasure, and removed all your doubts with respect to the adoption of the Constitution in this State—If you will refer to mine three weeks since, you will observe that the *Majority* stands nearly what I then wrote you,—I attend the debates & had good information, or should not have written you so positive on the subject—I am pleased that I did, in the highest degree, because I put it in your power, to give *comfort* to the *Fed's*—and *blast* the expectations of the *Antis*—

after the Vote was decided on Wednesday Eveng—the Convention adjourned to Thursday Morg: 10. OC. for the purpose of completing their Pay Rolls &c. &c. a Number of the Principle leaders of the *Antis*, beg'd to have an opportunity to speak a few words to the Convention, before they dissolved—which was granted them—they all declared that the whole business of the Convention had been conducted with the most perfect fairness & impartiality, they were beaten by clear reasoning & unequivocal argument, & altho they were in the *Minority*, they wou'd conduct as peaceable & good Citizens, & do every thing in their power to reconcile their constituents to the Constitution, as much, as if they had been of the *Majority*—this discovered a candid temper & will have a very good effect. . . .

Governour Hancock has gained himself immortal Honor, in his conduct on this occasion—it is certain if he had not taken an active—indeed a very active part in favor of the adoption, we never should have gained a vote in favor of it—all the first & leading Characters in the Town & State have pledge'd themselves to him, to support him to the utmost [of] their power, & ability—for he has acted a most noble part in this business—& he never stood so high with the people as now—its true he lost some of the influence of the Insurgent party—but let the Fedral Constitution take place & their song will soon be over—

that party talk of Mr. Gerry to be Governour, & Genl. Warren Lt. G. next year—but poor dogs their day is past—

I will attend to the small map & send it you—write Govr. Hancock it will please him—

your friends are all well—my love to Lucy & the Children—

god bless you—from your ever affectionate

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