

## ANIMALS

### THE BEST BLOODED COLT

There is a Jockey Club now sitting in this city, to examine the pedigree of young Federalist, and it is thought he will turn out to be the best blooded colt that has ever been in America, or perhaps in the world. When he gets another summer's grass, I would advise you to mount him; for as to old Constitutionalist, there is not a man of any credit will lay a leg over him.

“P.T.,” Winchester *Virginia Gazette*  
11 January 1788 (RCS SUPPL. VA., #39, p. 26)

### CAT OUT OF THE BAG

Franklin not very Sagaciously has let the Cat out of the Bag—and indirectly confirmed the World in their Opinion of his want of public *disinterested* Spirit.

John Francis to Nicholas Brown, Philadelphia  
11 November 1787 (RCS SUPPL. R.I., #70, p. 71)



Come on brother scribblers, 'tis idle to lag.  
The CONVENTION has let the cat out of the bag,  
Write something at randum, you need not be nice,  
*Public spirit, Montesquieu, and great Dr. Price.*

The News-Mongers' Song for the Winter of 1788  
N.Y. *Albany Gazette*, 15 November 1787 (CC 2, 117)

### CREATURE

We would ask the disinterested part of the community just to look over the characters which are so fond of swallowing this creature, which exhibits all the pourtrraits of an over-bearing aristocracy, and see if *they*

are not chiefly composed of salary men and pensioners, and those who at least think themselves fair candidates for places of honour and emolument, whenever the aristocratick wheels of the federal chariot shall be set in motion.

“The Yeomanry of Massachusetts,” *Massachusetts Gazette*  
25 January 1788 (RCS MASS., 803)

### THE FEDERAL BIRD

The present winter exhibits favorable prospects to Vermont: emigration is truly great: more than double the number of families are moving daily than was even seen among us before. The plentiful harvests of last year will afford an abundant supply to the industrious emigrant, while the labour of his hands will augment the value of an extensive, fertile country. Attention to agriculture and manufactures in Vermont, together with her accession to the union, will give a fresh spring to commerce, consequently encrease our circulating medium, and diffuse rewards to industry in every direction throughout the state.

The federal bird extends her well plum'd wing  
Millions unborn her fostering care shall sing.

*Vermont Gazette*, 14 February 1791 (RCS SUPPL. VT., #71, p. 32)

### A FIERY HIGH-BLOODED STEED

I really at this time think there is a decided majority for anterior amendments that is, who do not think it prudent to mount a fiery high-blooded Steed without a bridle—the amendments which will be proposed, will contain simple propositions, guarding the rights of States and of individuals from the encroachments of Tyrants, and State factions in the General government.

Theodorick Bland to Arthur Lee, Richmond, Va.  
13 June 1788 (RCS VA., 1617)

### HALTER . . . BRIDLE . . . BIT . . . SADDLE

The conduct of the advocates and framers of this system, towards the *thirteen states*, in pretending it was designed for their advantage, and gradually obtaining power after power to the general government, which could not but end in *their* slavery, he compared to the conduct of a

number of *jockeys*, who had thirteen *young colts* to break—they begin with the appearance of kindness, giving them a lock of hay, or a handful of oats, and stroaking them while they eat, until being rendered sufficiently gentle, they suffer a halter to be put round their necks—obtaining a further degree of their confidence, the jockeys slip, a curb bridle on their heads, and the bit into their mouths, after which the saddle follows of course, and well booted and spurred, with good whips in their hands, they mount and ride them at their pleasure, and although they may kick and flounce a little at first, not being able to get clear of their *riders*, they soon become as *tame* and *passive* as their *masters* could wish them.

Luther Martin to the Printer, *Maryland Journal*  
18 January 1788 (CC 3, 414–16)

### NEW CREATED ANIMAL

Should Virginia, whose Convention are now sitting, concur in the Measure, we may expect to see the new created Animal in Motion in the Course of the present Year.

Benjamin Chew to Samuel Chew, Philadelphia  
5 June 1788 (RCS N.Y., 1130)

### NEW CREATURE

I Acknowledge your kind favour of the Second Instant your Information Comes opportunly as we are now Looking over the New Creature.

Samuel Nasson to George Thatcher, Boston  
22 January 1788 (RCS MASS., 1545)

### ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR OWN BODY

Upon the subject of which I can freely give you my opinion as one, and that is, according to the best of my judgment and penetration, to advise your Delegates to adopt the New Constitution; for without it, it appears to me, we shall be like one of the members of our own body, that is withered and useless, receiving no nourishment from the body.

“Uniform,” *Newport Herald*, 25 February 1790 (RCS R.I., 697)

**YOUNG LION**

To you perhaps our America must owe the indelible Honour of chaining and reducing within proper Bounds this young Lion, fostered by so many States, and permitted to run rampant trampling under Foot all our Bulworks of Liberty.

Joshua Atherton to John Lamb, Amherst, N.H.  
23 June 1788 (RCS N.H., 396)