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From: [Jack Venrick](#)

Sent: Friday, November 28, 2008 8:44 PM

Subject: A Treatise On The Corruption of the Constitutional Conventions in the Several States

To: The Corrupted Union and Their Several States

This treatise is about 40 pages long if you print it out. Why should you care what happened at these Constitutional Conventions over 200 years ago? Simply because most of us have not yet heard both sides of the story. Once you hear more of this story, you will become the judge and jury and not just the judged. Knowledge is power to take back our long lost freedoms, liberties and unalienable rights.

- There are three levels of abstracts to accommodate those of you with limited time and interest

1. one paragraph abstract
 2. one short abstract
 3. one long abstract
 4. the report
- This information was later confirmed by two other books noted in the References at the end
 - Please read References #9 and #10 at the end for a more complete accounting
 - Our worst enemy is our own belief systems
 - We have been programmed to lay down our rights and our life for what we believe is on this parchment
 - Yet what we believe is more often not true or at least misguided when you fully understand what happened
 - What follows is only the tip of the sword, so to speak
 - Some may find this too hard to believe
 - Such is the nature of "hard truth" which often goes against all we have been taught to believe

Rough Historical Time Line Background

- Benjamin Franklin suggested in 1773, the idea for a Continental "Congress" but it failed to gain support until the Boston Tea Tax.
- First Continental "Congress" (i.e. "meetings" - dinners, gatherings, taverns) Sept. 5, 1774
- Second Continental "Congress" May 10, 1775
- On May 10, 1776 the 2nd Continental Congress passed a resolution, specifically using the word "states,"
 - in requiring each of the several "states" to write individual constitutions.
 - Before that it appears they were in transition from "colonies" to "republics" to "Commonwealths" (4 were Commonwealths) to "states".
- The Continental Congress passes the Articles of Confederation of the United States of America on November 15, 1777
 - Which required ratification of ALL 13 STATES
- Continental Congress existed from 1774 to 1789
- Continental Congress passes Articles of Confederation of USA (Confederation Charter) March 1, 1781
- Continental Congress ends March 1, 1781

- "The United States in Congress Assembled" begins March 2, 1781
- The Constitutional Convention debated what type of government to form - May into October 1787 - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 - A central general government or single purpose government or a Confederacy of the Republics
 - Every state but Rhode Island sent delegates
 - Constitutional draft was approved on September 17, 1787
 - And sent to the "United States in Congress Assembled"
- United States in Congress Assembled receives the draft
 - they agreed to send it to the several states on September 28, 1787...
 - for debate in each of the state separate ratifying conventions
 - "Some" congressman were so displeased at the Convention they walked out
 - the conventions were assumed to revise the Articles of Confederation
 - not to come up with a new plan for a central government

Introduction

Jonathan Elliot collected and published a series of debate (The Elliot Debates) in the several state conventions in 1787 together with other sources.

The U.S. Constitution took 4 years to "ratify" starting in 1786 at Annapolis, Maryland Convention, then Philadelphia Convention in 1787 with ratification of the last of the original 13 colonies by Rhode Island, May 29, 1790. It was adopted in September 17, 1787.

As you will discover below, the vast majority of the state convention "delegates" considered direct taxes to be "dangerous and oppressive" in the words of Luther Martin, one of the delegates and Attorney General and delegate of Maryland.

Also you will discover the "rest of the story" and the hard truth that is stranger than fiction.

This is NOT my opinion - This information is directly from the Elliot Debates Record plus a few other sources listed below.

Original spelling from the Elliot Debate Material is not corrected.

Abstract - One Paragraph

This is a "minority report" of how a handful of men rammed through an idea to take control of 13 free and independent states and the territories thereof, using fear, violence, secret meetings, backroom deals, voting fraud, agenda tactics, big city power politics, without full authority of their applicable state legislatures & the citizens therein, while stampeding the people away from a very simple original idea of a single purpose government limited to the regulation of trade ONLY funded with a 5% tax on imposts into a central and general, relative at the time, all powerful government, i.e. our current form of a "Constitutional Republic."

Abstract - Short Version

1. 5 of the 13 states "ratified" no direct taxes at all in their conventions
2. 5 of the 13 states "ratified" no direct taxes with emergency only exceptions
3. 2 of the 13 states "ratified" direct taxes with general limitations
4. Georgia had no position on direct taxes
5. Despite 10 states insisting on no direct taxes and some with emergency only exceptions, this wording was omitted from the Constitution
6. Some states stated that direct taxes were contrary to their sovereignty as well as individual sovereignty
7. The Pennsylvania Convention went on for 4 months in a closed door session with utmost secrecy
8. Violence was used to drag dissenting member back to the floor to force a quorum
9. The assembly who called the convention were accused of acting as individuals not as the legislature of the state
10. The Constitutional Convention was also accused of being in direct violation of the 13th Article of the Articles of the Confederation
11. The conventions were not the Continental Congress and were told they had no authority to do what they did

12. The opponents to the Constitution and the conventions wanted a Confederation of Republics NOT a consolidated general Constitutional Republic

13. The Constitutional Conventions were suppose to submit their convention findings to their legislatures

- then the legislatures were to submit it to their people
- Only then it became an act of the people
- the Constitution was never put before the people
- the Constitution was never approved by the people
- Lysander Spooner said the same thing -
<http://www.lysanderspooner.org/>

14. Those who framed the Constitution were accused of exceeding their power by "very far."

15. The dissenters to the Constitution had grave concerns of the extreme judicial power of the consolidated federal government"

16. "A consolidated government is executed by force"

17. The "Constitution" was rammed through by certain elite factions in the big cities

18. The original idea was NOT a limited government NOR a consolidated government BUT

- a single purpose government for the regulation of trade only using only 5% impost (customs duty)

19. There was strong objection to the use of "We the people" by some delegates - "We, the people, is surely an assumed power."

20. "This government will not enjoy the confidence of the people, but be executed by force"

21. Edmond J. Randolph, a Virginia State Constitutional delegate who ultimately became the Secretary of State under President Washington, was forced to resign after embezzling gold from the treasury for a clandestine plan to invade the several states and recover them for England

Abstract - Long Version

Here are the high points. More detail follows if you wish to scroll through the extracted quotes highlighted and underscored below the Abstract.

1. 4 of the 13 states convention "delegates" "ratified" no direct taxes at all, 5 including Rhode Island's qualification of no poll or capitation tax

2. 5 of the 13 states convention "delegates" "ratified" no direct taxes with emergency only exceptions
3. 2 of the 13 states convention "delegates" "ratified" direct taxes with general limitations
4. Georgia had no position on direct taxes
5. Despite 10 state conventions strong objections and limitation against direct taxes.....

- these strict definitive limitations were omitted from the Constitutional wording completely

6. Direct taxes were considered contrary to the sovereignty of a free state and a free citizen
7. 5 of the 13 states conventions "ratified" came within 3 to 9.6% of rejecting the Constitution
8. 65% of the state convention "delegates" voted for the new federal constitution
9. 35% of the state convention "delegates" voted against the federal constitution
10. The Pennsylvania Convention went on for 4 months under these conditions:

- doors were kept shut,
- members brought under utmost secrecy,
- many refused to sign, opposed to the convention going so far beyond their powers
- it is agreed on all hands to be a work of haste and accommodation
- i.e. this "Constitution" was rammed through
- "the journals of the conclave are still concealed"
- Members of the Continental convention acted as individuals in proposing the plan
 - NOT as deputies from (Pennsylvania)
- The assembly who called the (Pennsylvania) state convention acted as individuals
 - NOT as the legislature
- The Constitutional Convention is in direct violation of the 13th article of the Articles of Confederation
 - the 13th article requires "Every state shall abide by the determination of the State.."
 - Article VII of the Constitution states only nine States shall be sufficient for the establishment of the Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

- the conventions were not the Continental Congress and had no authority to do what they did
- Violence was used to commandeer members of the Pennsylvania Commonwealth who left, to forcibly bring them back, to get a quorum

11. The opponents of the constitution, i.e. some 577 "delegates" or 35% of the total wanted a Confederation of Republics

- NOT a Consolidated "Constitutional" Republic
- they considered that a centralized government would be used against the free states (Isn't 20-20 hindsight great)
- they considered a consolidated government representation unsafe because -
 - of the exercise extreme power and trusts
 - exposed to corruption and undue influence,
 - the gift of the numerous places of honor and emolument at the disposal of the executive;
 - by the arts and address of the great and designing
 - and by direct bribery.

12. The Constitutional Conventions were suppose to submit their convention findings to their legislatures

- then the legislatures were to submit it to their people
- ONLY then it became an act of the people
- It appears some of the convention "transmitted" their findings to -
 - "The United States in Congress Assembled" directly
 - Researchers are still digging for validation of who did and who did not transmit their recommendations
 - <http://www.barefootsworld.net/constit9.html>
- the Constitution was never put before the people
- the Constitution was never approved by the people
- it was only "witnessed" vs. approved
- "no part of it is binding until the whole Constitution received the solemn assent of the people"

13. " The so called "delegates" did not represent the people and were not meant to"

14. "The dissenters to the Constitution had grave concerns of the extreme judicial power of the consolidated federal government"

- judicial power under the proposed constitution is founded on civil law by which judges determine both law and fact
- appeals are allowed from the inferior tribunals to the superior
- facts as well as law would be reexamined and new facts brought forward in the court of appeals
- trial by jury is only secured by the constitution in criminal cases
- the appeal of both law and fact is inconsistent with the principles of the common law and trial by jury
- ...the absurdity of calling and swearing juries merely for the purpose of contradicting their verdicts which would render juries contemptible and worse than useless
- courts would decide all cases of law and equity which is a well known characteristic of the civil law
- courts would have jurisdiction over laws of the U.S., treaties, cases affecting ambassadors, admiralty and maritime
- the monstrous expense and inconveniences of the mode of proceedings
- the lengthy proceedings of the civil law courts
- the poor man must therefore submit to the wealthy
- length of the purse will too often prevail against right and justice"

15. "A consolidated government is executed by force" - (does this sound all too familiar with your 20-20 hind sight?)

- "a very expensive and burdensome government
- the standing army must be numerous
- it will be the policy of this government to multiply officers in every department
- judges, collectors, tax-gatherers, excisemen and the whole host of revenue officers will swarm over the land
- devouring the hard earning of the industrious
- Like the locusts of old, impoverishing and desolating all before them"

16. "The gentlemen who "framed" the Constitution have exceeded their owners, and very far."

17. Voting Fraud - Colonial Style - (DOES THIS SOUND FAMILIAR TOO?)

- "but on examining the number of votes given for members of the recent state convention,
 - we find that of upwards of *seventy thousand* freemen who are entitled to vote in Pennsylvania. (original spelling)
 - the whole convention has been elected by about *thirteen thousand* voters, and
 - though *two thirds* of the members of the convention have thought proper to ratify the proposed constitution,
 - yet those *two thirds* were elected by the votes of only *six thousand and eight hundred* freemen."
- the Articles of Confederation required unanimous approval of all the several "states"
- the Constitution only "required" 9 of the several states to ratify -
 - Article. VII. - The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.
 - Why wasn't it unanimous like the Articles of Confederation
 - Answer - they knew they could not get an unanimous decision immediately, so rather than waiting for all the states/Commonwealths, they orchestrated a separate article to buy off the Constitution by the 9 states and pressure the others later into compliance if they had to.

18. In short the "Constitution" was rammed through by certain factions in the big cities (Does This Sound Familiar also?)

- to accomplish an agenda
- Many delegates were strongly opposed to the aggressiveness of those who demanded such extreme unlimited powers

19. The agenda was to force the independent states into a consolidated general central government (Federalist)

- a general government was feared by many states to be stronger than the states (Anti-federalist)
 - which was feared to override individual state rights

- which were further feared to bully individual unalienable right
- which then forced a compromise, i.e. "Bill of Rights"

20. The original idea was NOT a limited government NOR a consolidated government

- BUT a single purpose government, i.e.
- "give it 5% of the impost (customs duty)
- for the regulation of TRADE ONLY"
- "Their ideas reached no farther than to give the general government the five per centum impost, and the regulation of trade."

21. "There was strong objection to the use of "We the people" by some delegates

- "We, the people, is surely an assumed power.

- Have they said, We, the delegates of the people?
- It seems to me that, when they met i Convention, they assumed more power than was given them.
- Did the people give them the power of using their name?
- This power was in the people. They did not give it up to the members of the Convention.
- If, therefore, they had not this power, they assumed it.
- It is the interest of every man, who is a friend to liberty, to oppose the assumption of power as soon as possible.
- I see no reason why they assumed this power. "
- they had no power, from the people at large, to use their name, or to act for them.
- They were not delegated for that purpose."
 - Mr. MACLAINE. "The reverend gentleman has told us, that the expression, *We, the people*, is wrong,
 - because the gentlemen who framed it were not the representatives of the people.
 - I readily grant that they were delegated by states.
 - But they did not think that they were the people, but intended it for the people, at a future day.

- The sanction of the state legislatures was in some degree necessary.
- It was to be submitted by the legislatures to the people; so that, when it is adopted, it is the act of the people.
- When it is the act of the people, their name is certainly proper.
- This is very obvious and plain to any capacity"

22. "As this government will not enjoy the confidence of the people, but be executed by force,

- it will be a very expensive and burthensome government.
- The standing army must be numerous, and as a further support,
- it will be the policy of this government to multiply officers in every department:
- judges, collectors, tax-gatherers, excisemen and the whole host of revenue officers will swarm over the land,
- devouring the hard earnings of the industrious.
- Like the locusts of old, impoverishing and desolating all before them."

23. Edmond J. Randolph, a Virginia State Constitutional delegate who ultimately became the Secretary of State under President Washington, was forced to resign after embezzling gold from the treasury for a clandestine plan to invade the several states and recover them for England. He conspired with the French Ambassador to raise a private army in Florida and Louisiana.

I. Elliot Debates & State Ratification Positions Summarized

The debate results are captured in a couple tables below so you can see the outcome among the several states regarding direct tax. 19 delegates of some 7 states were clearly defined - Maryland, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Rhode island and South Carolina. Rhode Island, Delaware, Georgia & New Jersey delegates were not individually identified in the Elliot debate collection, however their positions were found in the ratification statements of the applicable states.

TABLE 1. - Elliot Debate Convention "Delegate" Records

The Debates In The Several State Conventions	State Delegates	Number of	The 10 States Statements Found in
Regarding The Direct Tax (1786-1788)	Recorded	States	Elliot Debate Material
(Commonly Referred To As The Elliot Debates)	Speaking Out	Voting	Defining Position on Direct Tax
No Direct Taxes At All	8	5	Massachusetts + Connecticut + Virginia + North Carolina + Rhode Island
No Direct Taxes unless War Or Certain Extraordinary Emergencies (1)	5	3	Massachusetts + Connecticut + Virginia + New York
No Direct Taxes unless Insufficient Revenue & If State is Delinquent	2	6	Maryland + New York + Virginia + New Hampshire + So. Carolina
No Direct Taxes unless Insufficient Revenue	2	3	Maryland + Mass + New York
Direct Taxes only with General Limitations & Reservations	2	2	Pennsylvania + Virginia
Total	19	(2)	
(1) 2 votes of the 5 expressed grave concern even used for war			
(2) Sum not applicable due to colony voting for more that one method			Compiled by J. R. Vanfick

Table 1 - Summary

1. 8 of the 19 delegates and 4 of the represented 10 state aid no direct taxes at all, 5 states counting Rhode Island (see Footnote 3)

- Massachusetts, Connecticut, Virginia, North Carolina amp; Rhode Island said no direct tax at all
- Footnote 3 - Rhode Island adds no poll tax AND no capitation tax

2. 5 of the 19 delegates and 4 of the represented 10 state aid no direct taxes except in war or extraordinary emergencies

- and 2 of these state had grave concerns even the

3. 2 of the 19 delegates and 5 of the represented 10 state aid no direct taxes unless insufficient revenue AND

- if state is delinquent in payment of its share of central government expenses

4. 2 of the 19 delegates and 4 of the represented 10 state aid no direct taxes unless insufficient revenue

5. 2 of the 19 delegates and 2 of the states said direct taxes only with general limitations and reservations

TABLE 2. - Continental Convention "Delegates" "Ratification" Records

	State	Delegates		Total	% State			Ratification Date	State Convention Ratified Position on Direct Tax
		Voting For	Voting Against		Delegates For	Delegates Against	Difference For - Against		
		Federal	Federal						
		Constitution	Constitution						
1	Delaware	30	0	30	100.0	0.0	100.0	12-12-1787	No direct tax unless insufficient indirect funds AND state delinquent
2	Pennsylvania	46	23	69	66.7	33.3	33.3	12-12-1787	Direct tax with general limitations & reservations
3	New Jersey	38	0	38	100.0	0.0	100.0	12-18-1787	Direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States
4	Georgia	26	0	26	100.0	0.0	100.0	12-31-1787	No position stated on direct tax
5	Connecticut	128	40	168	76.2	23.8	52.4	1-9-1788	No direct tax under any conditions
6	Massachusetts	187	168	355	52.7	47.3	5.4	2-6-1788	No direct tax unless insufficient indirect funds AND state delinquent
7	Maryland	63	11	74	85.1	14.9	70.3	4-26-1788	No direct tax unless state is delinquent
8	South Carolina	149	73	222	67.1	32.9	34.2	5-23-1788	No direct tax unless insufficient indirect funds AND state delinquent
9	New Hampshire	57	47	104	54.8	45.2	9.6	6-21-1788	No direct tax unless insufficient indirect funds AND state delinquent
10	Virginia	89	79	168	53.0	47.0	6.0	6-25-1788	No direct tax under any conditions
11	New York	30	27	57	52.6	47.4	5.3	7-26-1788	No direct tax unless insufficient indirect taxes AND state neglects or refuses to pay
12	North Carolina	194	77	271	71.6	28.4	43.2	11-21-1789	No direct tax under any conditions
13	Rhode Island	34	32	66	51.5	48.5	3.0	5-29-1790	No direct tax unless insufficient funds AND state delinquent AND No Poll AND No Capitation Tax
	Total	1071	577	1648	65.0	35.0	30.0		Compiled by J.R. Verrick 9-7-2008

Table 2 - Summary

1. 4 of the 13 states ratified no direct taxes under any conditions counting Rhode Island use no poll and no capitation tax
 - o Connecticut, Virginia & North Carolina conventions "ratified no direct taxes under any conditions
 - o Massachusetts first voted for both no direct taxes under any conditions then added unless war and emergencies
2. 6 of the 13 states conventions ratified no direct tax unless insufficient indirect funds AND state is delinquent
3. Rhode Island, one of the above mentioned states, also conditioned the direct tax to no poll AND no capitation tax
4. Pennsylvania ratified a direct tax with general limitations amp; reservations
5. New Jersey ratified direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states
6. Georgia had no position stated on direct tax
7. 65% of the 1648 delegates of the then 13 several states voted for the federal constitution (The Federalists)
8. 35% of the 1648 voted against it (the Anti-Federalists)
9. Notice 5 of the states came within less than 10% of rejecting the constitution

Observations

1. **Notice the Elliot debate records show 5 (counting Rhode Island) of the states voting for no direct taxes under any conditions**
2. **Notice the state ratification documents show only 4 (counting Rhode Island with no poll or no capitation tax) of the states voting for no direct taxes under any conditions**
3. **7 states voted no direct taxes except certain exceptions for emergency situations**
4. **Notice this overwhelming resistance and limitations to the direct tax completely left out of the constitutional wording**
 1. **"Art. I. Section 2, Clause 3 - "Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States"**
5. **Why were 10 of the 13 states debated and ratified restrictions to a direct tax omitted from the Constitution?**

II. Direct Tax History 101

While history including modern times is filled with just about every form of tyrannical taking of private property including one's home, land, animals, wages, etc.; it is critical to understand the following perspective.

1. "Direct taxes were only imposed on the lower classes like the French taille or the Russian soul tax as in inferior social status, poorest people
2. The affluent were ASKED for money only in national emergencies and were considered voluntary aids.
3. In England, direct taxes were viewed as gifts offered to the crown through the subjects representatives
4. This attitude prevailed in colonial America
5. In ancient Athens, taxes were considered a hallmark of tyranny & Athenian citizens were exempt from them
6. The city state financed itself from incomes of public properties, court fees, indirect taxes, harbor tax, etc.
7. Athenians donated money to the city defense according to their ability
8. As a rule direct taxes in Europe were emergency wartime measures
9. The power to tax was considered a form of eminent domain without compensation
10. The American Revolution war was not financed by direct tax but by loans, donations, etc.
11. Early American government met its expenses from custom duties and sale of land" Property & Freedom, Richard Pipes
12. The corruption of the Constitutional limits on taxes by war and CONgress - see Table 3
13. "Income" taxes are unconstitutional

- The 16th Amendment was never fully ratified by the then 48 states
 - And even if it was, it was meant to be for legal fiction corporate profit and gain
 - i.e. an indirect tax on corporations not on the private property of sovereign state Citizens
 - There have been a number of high court rulings confirming this
 - Never-the-less, this is all ignored by the government and those non government groups living off this fraud
14. Property taxes are also unconstitutional and have been ruled so by at least 4 state high courts
- i.e. they are not apportioned
 - and even if they were, that too would be unconstitutional as you learn
15. Sales taxes are an excise tax and cannot be transferred directly or added on to a consumer sale like currently and fraudulently being done.
- i.e. it must be absorbed into the cost and pricing of the product by the merchant
 - then the consumer must make a free choice which product i cheaper that he wants to buy
16. "Flat taxes, Fair taxes, Death taxes, VAT taxes are all unconstitutional, unnecessary and immoral
- These tax scam myths are perpetrated by groups who live off the donations from the gullible
 - They will deny it because they read history the way it best lines their pockets

III. The Railroading of the Constitution through Pennsylvania Commonwealth

Table 3

Date	War	Tax Raised	Constitutional	Comments
7-14-1796	Pending War with France	\$20M	"Yes"	
7-22-1813	War of 1812	\$3M	"Yes"	
8-2-1813	Companion Act	\$6M	"Yes"	
8-5-1861	Civil War	\$20M	No	
1861-72	Tax Act of 1861	\$347M	No	
1894	1896 Income Tax Act	?	No	U.S. Supreme Court declared Unconstitutional
4/4/1913	16th Amendment	Trillions	No	Fraudulently Ratified - Needed 36 states, only 12 legally ratified

A. This dissent is written by the following 23 "delegates" who also cast the NAYS to "ratification" of the Philadelphia Constitutional convention.

- Note one of the delegate is Abraham Lincoln.

Nathaniel Breading,	John Ludwig,
John Smilie	Abraham Lincoln
Richard Baird	John Bishop
Adam Orth	Joseph Heister
John A. Hanna	Joseph Powel
John Whitehill	James Martin
John Harris	William Findley
Robert Whitehill	John Baird
John Reynolds	James Edgar
Jonathan Hoge	William Todd.
Nicholas Lutz	

- "The Continental convention met in the city of Philadelphia at the time appointed.
 - It was composed of some men of excellent character
 - of others who were more remarkable for their ambition and cunning, than their patriotism;
 - and of some who had been opponents to the independence of the United States.
 - The doors were kept shut, and the members brought under the most solemn engagements of secrecy.
 - Whilst the gilded chains were forging in the secret conclave,
 - the meaner instruments of despotism without, were busily employed in alarming the fears of the people with dangers which did not exist,
 - and exciting their hopes of greater advantages from the expected plan than even the best government on earth could produce.
- The proposed plan had not many hours issued forth from the womb of suspicious secrecy, ...

- While every measure was taken to intimidate the people against opposing it, the public papers teemed with the most violent threats against those who should dare to think for themselves, and tar and feathers were liberally promised to all those who would not immediately join in supporting the proposed government be it what it would.
- Under such circumstances petitions i favour of calling a convention were signed by great numbers in and about the city, before they had leisure to read and examine the system, many of whom, now they are better acquainted with it, and have had time to investigate its principles, are heartily opposed to it.
- The petitions were speedily handed into the legislature.
- That violence and outrage which had been so often threatened was now practiced;
- some of the members were seized the next day by a mob collected for the purpose,
- and forcibly dragged to the house, and there detained by force whilst the quorum of the legislature, so formed, compleated their resolution.
- The assembly who called the state convention acted as individuals, and not as the legislature of Pennsylvania; nor could they or the convention chosen on their recommendation have authority to do any act or thing, that can alter or annihilate the constitution of Pennsylvania..
- (both of which will be done by the new constitution) nor are their proceedings in our opinion, at all binding on the people.
- but on examining the number of votes given for members of the present state convention,
 - we find that of upwards of **seventy thousand** freemen who are intitled to vote in Pennsylvania,
 - the whole convention has been elected by about **thirteen thousand** voters, and
 - though *two thirds* of the members of the convention have thought roper to ratify the proposed constitution,
 - yet those *two thirds* were elected by the votes of only **six thousand and eight hundred freemen.**
- During the discussion we met with many insults, and some personal abuse; we were not even treated with decency..
 - for the preservation of those invaluable rights you have thought proper to commit to our charge, we acted with a spirit becoming freemen,..
 - that has so often baffled the attempts of a aristocratic faction, to rivet the shackles of slavery on you and your unborn posterity

B. WE DISSENT ..

1. "a very extensive territory cannot be governed...than by a confederation of republics..but united in the management of their general and foreign concerns
2. because the powers vested in Congress by this constitution, must necessarily annihilate and absorb the legislative, executive, and judicial powers of the several states,
 - and produce from their ruins one consolidated government,
 - which from the nature of things will be *art iron handed despotism,*
 - as nothing short of the supremacy of despotic sway could connect and govern these United States under one government.
 - The powers of Congress under the new constitution, are complete and unlimited over the *purse* and the *sword*,
 - and are perfectly independent of, and supreme over, the state governments; whose intervention in these great points is entirely destroyed
 - By virtue of their power of taxation.
 - Congress may command the whole, or any part of the property of the people.
 - They may impose what imposts upon commerce;
 - they may impose what land taxes, poll taxes, excises, duties on all written instruments, and duties on every other article that they may judge proper;
 - in short, every species of taxation, whether of a external or internal nature is comprised in section the 8th, of article the 1st, viz. "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States.
 - "As there is no one article of taxation reserved to the state governments,
 - the Congress may monopolise every source of revenue,
 - and thus indirectly demolish the state governments,
 - for without funds they could not exist, the taxes, duties and excises imposed by Congress
 - may be so high as to render it impracticable to levy further sums on the same articles;

- but whether this should be the case or not, if the state governments should presume to impose taxes, duties or excises, of the same articles with Congress,
 - the latter may abrogate and repeal the laws whereby they are imposed, upon the allegation that they interfere with the due collection of their taxes, duties or excises, by virtue of the following clause,
 - part of section 8th, article 1st. viz. "To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof."
3. Because if it were practicable to govern so extensive a territory as these United States includes,
- on the plan of a consolidated government,
 - consistent with the principles of liberty and the happiness of the people,
 - yet the construction of this constitution is NOT calculated to attain the object,
 - for independent of the nature of the case, it would of itself, necessarily, produce a despotism,
 - and that not by the usual gradations, but with the celerity that has hitherto only attended revolutions effected by the sword.
 - The representation is unsafe, because in the exercise of such great powers and trusts,
 - it is so exposed to corruption and undue influence,
 - by the gift of the numerous places of honor and emoluments at the disposal of the executive;
 - by the arts and address of the great and designing
 - and by direct bribery.
 - The judicial power, under the proposed constitution, is founded on the well-known principles of the *civil law*, by which the judge determines both on law and fact, and appeals are allowed from the inferior tribunals to the superior, upon the whole question; so that *facts* as well as *law*, would be re-examined, and even new facts brought forward in the court of appeals; and to use the words of a very eminent Civilian - "The cause is many times another thing before the court of appeals, than what it was at the time of the first sentence."

- That this mode of proceeding is the one which must be adopted under this constitution, is evident from the following circumstances: -
 - 1st. That the trial by jury, which is the grand characteristic of the common law, is secured by the constitution, only in criminal cases. -
 - 2d. That the appeal from both *law and fact* is expressly established, which is utterly inconsistent with the principles of the common law, and trials by jury. The only mode in which an appeal from law and fact can be established, is, by adopting the principles and practice of the civil law; unless the United State should be drawn into the absurdity of calling and swearing juries, merely for the purpose of contradicting their verdicts, which would render juries contemptible and worse than useless. -
 - 3d. That the courts to be established would decide on all cases of *law and equity*, which is a well known characteristic of the civil law, and these courts would have conusance not only of the laws of the United States and of treaties, and of cases affecting ambassadors, but of all cases of *admiralty and maritime jurisdiction*, which last are matters belonging exclusively to the civil law, in every nation in Christendom.
 - Not to enlarge upon the loss of the invaluable right of trial by an unbiased jury, so dear to every friend of liberty,
 - **the monstrous expence and inconveniences of the mode of proceedings to be adopted,**
 - **are such as will prove intolerable to the people of this country.**
 - **The lengthy proceedings of the civil law court in the chancery of England, and in the courts of Scotland and France, are such that few men of moderate fortune can endure the expence of**
 - **the poor man must therefore submit to the wealthy.**
 - **Length of purse will too often prevail against right and justice.**
 - **For instance, we are told by the learned judge Blackstone, that a question only on the property of an ox, of the value of three guineas, originating under the civil law**

proceedings in Scotland, after many interlocutory orders and sentence below, was carried at length from the court of sessions, the highest court in that part

- The power of direct taxation will further apply to every individual, as congress may tax land, cattle, trades, occupations, etc. in any amount, and every object of internal taxation i of that nature, that however oppressive, the people will have but this alternative, except to pay the tax, or let their property be taken, for all resistance will be in vain. The standing army and elect militia would enforce the collection.
- A standing army in the hands of a government placed so independent of the people,
 - may be made a fatal instrument to overturn the public liberties;
 - it may be employed to enforce the collection of the most oppressive taxes,
 - and to carry into execution the most arbitrary measures.
 - An ambitious man who may have the army at his devotion, may step up into the throne, and seize upon absolute power.
 - The absolute unqualified command that Congress have over the militia
 - may be made instrumental to the destruction of all liberty,
 - both public and private;
 - whether of a personal, civil or religion nature.
- As this government will not enjoy the confidence of the people, but e executed by force,
 - it will be a very expensive and burthensome government.
 - The standing army must be numerous, and as a further support,
 - it will be the policy of this government to multiply officers i every department:
 - judges, collectors, tax-gatherers, excisemen and the whole host of revenue officers will swarm over the land,
 - devouring the hard earnings of the industrious.

- Like the locusts of old, impoverishing and desolating all before them."

IV. The Debates in The Convention of the State of North Carolina on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution

- .. it appears to this committee, that there was a disturbance and riot at the first election,
 - before all the tickets could be taken out of the box, and the box was then taken away by violence; at which time it appear there were a sufficient number of tickets remaining in the box to have given a majority of the whole poll to five others of the candidates, besides those who had a majority of the votes at the time when the disturbance and riot happened. It is, therefore, the opinion of this committee, that the sheriff could have made no return of any five member elected; nor was there any evidence before the committee by which they could determine, with certainty, which candidates had a majority of vote of the other electors.
- Mr. CALDWELL. Mr. Chairman, those maxims which I conceive to e the fundamental principles of every safe and free government, are -
 - 1st. A government is a compact between the rulers and the people,
 - 2d. Such a compact ought to be lawful in itself.
 - 3d. It ought to be lawfully executed.
 - 4th. Unalienable rights ought not to be given up, if not necessary.
 - 5th. The compact ought to be mutual.
 - And, 6th. It ought to be plain, obvious, and easily understood.
 - Now, sir, if these principles be just, by comparing the Constitution with them, we shall be able to judge whether it is fit for our adoption.
- Mr. GOUDY. Mr. Chairman, I wonder that these gentlemen, learned in the law, should quibble upon words.
 - I care not whether it be called a *compact, agreement, covenant, bargain*, or what.

- Its intent is a concession of power, on the part of the people, to their rulers.
 - We know that private interest govern mankind generally.
 - Power belongs originally to the people; but if ruler e not well guarded, that power may be usurped from them.
 - People ought to be cautious in giving away power.
 - These gentlemen say there is no occasion for general rules: every one has one for himself.
 - Every one has an unalienable right of thinking for himself.
 - ..If we give away more power than we ought, we put ourselves in the situation of a man who puts on an iron glove, which he can never take off till he breaks his arm.
 - Let us beware of the iron glove of tyranny.
 - Power is generally taken from the people by imposing on their understanding, or by fetters.
 - Let us lay down certain rules to govern our proceedings.
 - It will be highly proper, in my opinion, and I very much wonder that gentlemen should object to it.
- Mr. RUTHERFORD. The honorable gentleman has mistaken me. Sorry I am that it is so late taken up by North Carolina, if we are to be influenced and persuaded in this manner. I am unhappy to hear gentlemen of learning and integrity preach up the doctrine of adoption by the states.
- Sir, it is my opinion that we ought to decide it as if no state had adopted it.
 - Are we to be thus intimidated into a measure of which we may disapprove?

- The preamble of the Constitution was then read to the convention.....
- Mr. CALDWELL. Mr. Chairman, if they mean, *We, the people*, - the people at large, - I conceive the expression is improper.
 - Were not they who framed this Constitution {16} the representatives of the legislatures of the different states?
 - In my opinion, they had no power, from the people at large, to use their name, or to act for them.
 - They were not delegated for that purpose.

- Mr. MACLAINE. The reverend gentleman has told us, that the expression, We, the people, is wrong,
 - because the gentlemen who framed it were not the representatives of the people.
 - I readily grant that they were delegated by states.
 - But they did not think that they were the people, but intended it for the people, at a future day.
 - The sanction of the state legislatures was in some degree necessary.
 - It was to be submitted by the legislatures to the people; so that, when it is adopted, it is the act of the people.
 - When it is the act of the people, their name is certainly proper.
 - This is very obvious and plain to any capacity.
- Mr. DAVIE. Mr. Chairman, the observation of the reverend gentleman is grounded
 - or whatever powers they might propose to give this new government,
 - no part of it was binding until the whole Constitution had received the solemn assent of the people.
 - What was the object of our mission? "To decide upon the most effectual means of removing the defects of our federal union."
 - Were not the state legislature afterwards to review our proceedings?
 - Is it not immediately through their recommendation that the plan of the Convention is submitted to the people?
- Mr. CALDWELL wished to know why the gentlemen who were delegated by the states, styled themselves *We, the people*. He said that he only wished for information.

Mr. IREDELL answered, that it would be easy to satisfy the gentleman; that the style, *We, the people*, was not to be applied to the members themselves, but was to be the style of the Constitution, when it should be ratified in their respective states.

Mr. JOSEPH TAYLOR. Mr. Chairman, the very wording of this Constitution seems to carry with it a {24} assumed power.

- **"We, the people, is surely an assumed power."**
- **Have they said, We, the delegates of the people?**
- **It seems to me that, when they met in Convention, they assumed more power than was given them.**
- Did the people give them the power of using their name?
- This power was in the people. They did not give it up to the members of the Convention.
- If, therefore, they had not this power, they assumed it.
- It is the interest of every man, who is a friend to liberty, to oppose the assumption of power as soon as possible.
- I see no reason why they assumed this power.
- Matters may be carried still farther. This is a consolidation of all the states. Had it said, *We, the states*, there would have been a federal intention in it. But, sir, it is clear that a consolidation is intended.
- Will any gentleman say that a consolidated government will answer this country? It is too large.
- The man who has a large estate cannot manage it with convenience. I conceive that, in the present case, a consolidated government can by no means suit the genius of the people. The gentleman from Halifax (Mr. Davie) mentioned reasons for such a government. They have their weight, no doubt; but at a more convenient time we can show their futility.
- We see plainly that men who come from New England are different from us. They are ignorant of our situation; they do not know the state of our country. They cannot with safety legislate for us.
- I am astonished that the servants of the legislature of North Carolina should go to Philadelphia, and, instead of

speaking of the state of North Carolina, should speak of the *people*.

- I wish to stop power as soon as possible; for they may carry their assumption of power to a more dangerous length.
- I wish to know where they found the power of saying *We, the people*, and of consolidating the states.
- Mr. MACLAINE. Mr. Chairman, I confess myself astonished to hear objections to the preamble. They say that the delegate to the Federal Convention assumed powers which were not granted them; that they ought not to have used the words *We, the people*.
- That they were not the delegates of the people, is universally acknowledged.
- The Constitution is only a mere proposal.
- Had it been binding on us, there might be a reason for objecting.
 - this is very similar to Lysander Spooner's writing (Jack's side comments)
- After they had finished the plan,
 - they proposed that it should be recommended to the people by the several state legislatures.
- If the people approve of it, it become their act. Is not this merely a dispute about words, without any meaning whatever? Suppose any gentleman of this Convention had drawn up this government, and we thought it a good one; we might respect his intelligence and integrity, but it would not be binding upon us. We might adopt it if we thought it a proper system, and then it would be our act. Suppose it had been made by our enemies, or had dropped from the clouds; we might adopt it if we found it proper for our adoption. By whatever means we found it, it would be our act as soon as we adopted it. It is no more than a blank till it be adopted by the people. When that is done here, is it not the people of the state of North Carolina that do it, joined with the people of the other states who have adopted it? The expression is, then, right. But the gentleman has gone farther, and says that the people of New England are different from us. This goes against the Union altogether. They are not to legislate for us; we are to be represented as well as they. Such a futile objection strikes at all union. We know that without union we should not have been debating now. I hope to hear no more objections of this trifling nature, but that we shall enter into the spirit of the subject at once.

Mr. CALDWELL observed, that he only wished to know why they had assumed the name of the people.

Mr. JAMES GALLOWAY. Mr. Chairman, I trust we shall not take up more time on this point. I shall just make a few remarks on what has been said by the gentleman from Halifax. He has gone through our distresses, and those of the other states. As to the weakness of the Confederation, we all know it. A sense of this induced the different states to send delegates to Philadelphia. They had given them certain powers; we have seen them, they are now upon the table. The result of their deliberations is now upon the table also. As they have gone out of the line which the states pointed out to them, we, the people, are to take it up and consider it.

- [The gentlemen who framed it have exceeded their powers, and very far.](#)

They will be able, perhaps, to give reason for so doing. If they can show us any reasons, we will, no doubt, take notice of them. But, on the other hand, if our civil and religion liberties are not secured, and proper checks provided, we have the power in {26} our own hands to do with it as we think proper. I hope gentlemen will

V. The Debates in The Convention of the State of [Virginia](#) on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution

Mr. Grayson: "There are certain modes of governing the people which will succeed. There are others which will not.

- [The idea of consolidation is abhorrent to the people of this country.](#)
- [How were the sentiments of the people before the meeting of the Convention at Philadelphia?](#)
 - [They had only one object in view.](#)
 - [Their ideas reached no farther than to give the general government the five per centum impost, and the regulation of trade.](#)
 - [When it was agitated in Congress, in a committee of the whole, this was all that was asked, or was deemed necessary.](#)

- Since that period, their views have extended much farther.
- Horrors have been greatly magnified since the rising of the Convention."
- I admit that coercion is necessary in every government in some degree; that it is manifestly wanting in our present government, and that the want of it has ruined many nations.
 - But I should be glad to know what great degree of coercion is in this Constitution, more than in the old government, if the states will refuse to comply with requisitions, and they can only be compelled by means of an army.
 - Suppose the people will not pay the taxes is not the sword to be then employed?
 - The difference is this -
 - that, by this Constitution, the sword is employed against individuals;
 - by the other, it is employed against the states, which is more honorable.
 - Suppose a general resistance to pay taxes in such a state as Massachusetts; will it not be precisely the same thing as a non-compliance with requisitions?
- We ought to be wise enough to guard against the abuse of such a government.
 - Republics, in fact, oppress more than monarchies.
 - If we advert to the page of history, we shall find this disposition too often manifested in republican governments.
 - The Romans, in ancient, and the Dutch, in modern times, oppressed their provinces in a remarkable degree.
- Here Mr. Mason read a letter from Mr. Robert Morris, financier of the United States, to Congress, wherein he one of the propriety of laying the following taxes for the use of the United States; viz., six shillings on every hundred acres of land, six shillings per poll, and ninepence per gallon on all spirituous liquors distilled in the country. Mr. Mason

declared that he did not mean to make the smallest reflection on Mr. Morris, but introduced his letter to show what taxes would probably be laid.]

- He (Mr. George Mason) -then continued: This will at least show that such taxes were in agitation, and were strongly advocated by a considerable part of Congress. I have read this letter to show that they will lay taxes most easy to be collected. {265} without any regard to our convenience; so that, instead of amusing ourselves with a diminution of our taxes, we may, rest assured that they will be increased. But my principal reason for introducing it was, to show that taxes would be laid by those who are not acquainted with our Situation, and that the agents of the collection may be consulted upon the most productive and simple mode of taxation. The gentleman who wrote this letter had more information on this subject than we have; but this will show gentlemen that we are not to be eased of taxes. Any of those taxes which have been pointed out by this financier as the most eligible, will be ruinous and unequal, and will be particularly oppressive on the poorest part of the people."

VI. Fragment Of The Debates in The Convention of the State of Connecticut on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution

- Oliver Ellsworth - "But to come nearer home. Mr. President, have we not see and felt the necessity of such a coercive power?
 - What was the consequence of the want of it during the late war, particularly towards the close?
 - A few states bore the burden of the war.
 - While we and one or two more of the states were paying eighty or a hundred dollars per man to recruit the Continental army, the regiments of some states had scarcely men enough to wait on their officers.
 - Since the close of the war, some of the states have done nothing toward complying with the requisitions of Congress.
 - Others. who did something at first, seeing that they were left to bear the whole burden, have become equally remiss.
 - What is the consequence? To what shifts have we been driven?

- To the wretched expedient of negotiating new loans in Europe, to pay the interest of the foreign debt.
- And what is still worse, we have even been obliged to apply the new loan to the support of our own civil government at home."
- JANUARY 7, 1788. [*On the Power of Congress to lay Taxes.*]

OLIVER ELSWORTH.

- "Direct taxation can go but little way towards raising a revenue.
- To raise money in this way, people must be provident; they must constantly be laying up money to answer the demands of the collector.
- But you cannot make people thus provident.
- If you would do any thing to the purpose, you must come in when they are ending, and take a part with them.
- This does not take away the tools of a man's business, or the necessary utensils of his family: it only comes in when he is taking his pleasure, and feels generous; when he is laying out a shilling for superfluities, it take twopence of it for public use, and the remainder will do him as much good a the whole.
- I will instance two facts, which show how easily and insensibly a revenue is raised by indirect taxation.
 1. I suppose people in general are not sensible that we pay a tax to the state of New York. Yet it is an incontrovertible fact, that we, the people of Connecticut, pay annually into the treasury of New York more than fifty thousand dollars.
 2. Another instance I will mention: one of our common river sloops pays i the West Indies a portage bill of £60. This is a tax Which foreigners lay upon us, and we pay it; for a duty laid upon our shipping, which transports our produce to foreign markets, sinks the price of our produce, and operates as an effectual tax upon those who till the ground, and bring the fruits of it to market.
- All nations have seen the necessity and propriety of raising a revenue by indirect taxation, by duties upon articles of consumption.
 - France raises a revenue of twenty-four millions sterling per annum; and it is chiefly in this way.

- Fifty millions of livres they raise upon the single article of salt.
 - The Swiss cantons raise almost the whole of their revenue upon salt.
 - Those states purchase all the salt which is to be used in the country: they sell it out to the people at an advanced price; the advance is the revenue of the country.
 - In England, the whole public revenue is about twelve millions sterling per annum.
 - The land tax amounts to about two millions; the window and some other taxes, to about two millions more.
 - The other eight millions are raised upon articles of consumption.
 - The whole standing army of Great Britain could not enforce the collection of this vast sum by direct taxation.
 - In Holland, their prodigious taxes, amounting to forty shillings for each inhabitant, are levied chiefly upon articles of consumption. They excise every thing, not excepting even their houses of infamy.
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VII. Other Prominent Early Americans Who May Have Held Undue Influence upon the Constitutional Conventions, Constitution wording & Banking Systems

1. Secretary of State Edmund J. Randolph history of treason & embezzlement of the treasury

- Political Experience
 - State Constitutional Convention of Virginia 1776
 - Clerk of the Virginia House of delegates 1778-1779
 - Continental Congress 1779-1780
 - Confederation Congress 1781-1782
 - Attorney General of Virginia 1776-1786
 - Governor of Virginia 1786-1789
 - Annapolis Convention Signer 1786
 - Attorney General of the United States 1789-1794
 - U.S. Secretary of State, 1794-1795
- In 1794 Attorney General Edmund Randolph with the French Ambassador Edmond Genet organized private

armies for the purpose of invading Florida and Louisiana. They intended to set up a separate country on the border of the thirteen states to invade and recover the United States for England"

- When President Washington learned of Genet's plans, he instructed Secretary of State Randolph to withdraw Genet's credentials and expel him from the country. Randolph assisted Genet by failing to act on Washington's instructions.
- President Washington issued the order himself and fired Randolph
- When the State Department books were examined it was found Randolph had embezzled 165 kilograms of gold (363 lbs.) which was never found
- The subversion of America was underway no later than 1788.
- Source 1 "The French Revolution, Nesta Webster &
- Source 2 "The Mystery and The Fraud" by Anthony L. Harqis Institute

2. Secretary of Treasury Alexander Hamilton (Attorney)

- was also a former aide to Robert Morris founder of Bank of North America
- Federalists gathered around Hamilton's idea of a central bank
- Congress would not emit bills of credit, the bank would
- Hamilton and Jefferson(Secretary of State) were at great odds over a central bank system
- Jefferson position was that the Constitution did not grant Congress power to create a bank.
 - "A private central bank issuing the public currency is a greater menace to the liberties of the people than a standing army."
 - " We must not let our rulers loads us with perpetual debt."
- Hamilton position
 - "No society could succeed which did not unite the interest and credit of such individuals with those of the state.
 - "A national debt, if it is not excessive, will be to us a national blessing"
- Hamilton was responsible for starting the Bank of New York (1784 - ?)

- Working in concert with Hamilton, [Aaron Burr](#) helped to secure a charter and raise subscriptions for a private company to improve the water supply of pestilence-ridden [Manhattan](#), but New Yorkers were shocked to learn that the surplus capital from the venture had been used to establish the [Bank of Manhattan](#) (renamed the Bank of New York). The Bank of New York was created by Hamilton and other wealthy New York investors that included Burr and the Bank of England. It was, and is still, underwritten by the Bank of England and was later chartered by the Congress as the [First Bank of the United States](#).

Mortal combat

Hamilton became a mortal enemy of [Aaron Burr](#). In 1791, Burr's election to the U.S. Senate unseated Senator Philip Schuyler and made a lifelong enemy of Schuyler's son-in-law, Hamilton. In 1792, Hamilton played a leading role in denying Burr the governorship of New York. The former had thrown his support to Thomas Jefferson, formerly his political adversary, in a successful effort to defeat Burr for the presidency in the disputed [Election of 1800](#).



Hamilton and Burr duel

- On July 11, 1804, Hamilton and Burr met in a pistol duel at Weehawken, [New Jersey](#), in which Hamilton sustained a mortal wound. Alexander Hamilton was a talented political figure in American history, but he was prevented from achieving widespread recognition because of an overbearing nature and an inability to relate to the concerns of the common man. His views on the issues of favoring federal authority over the states rights, now firmly established, are still argued today.

*The Bank of New York, opened on June 9, 1784, was created by private investors and chartered (underwritten) by The Bank of England. It was the first bank in New York City.

The Bank won a 20-year charter from Congress that was rescinded in 1811, due to its association with the Bank of England, tight monetary policies, and competition with state chartered banks. Some accused it of corruption, but it survived and continues to operate independently.

- In 1913, the Bank of New York became the controlling bank of America's central banking scheme, the Federal Reserve System.
<http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h367.html>

Hamilton was responsible for starting the First Bank of U.S. modeled after Bank of England (1791- 1811)

- **Capitalized on less than 9% of charter requirements**
- **Hamilton was a Rothschild supporter**

3. "Rothschild banking dynasty in Europe had extensive & powerful influence in dictating American financial laws." E. Griffin

4. Robert Morris -

- "Organized America's first Bank - Bank of North America modeled after Bank of England (1782-83)
 - the bank was fraudulent from the start and went bankrupted after the war
 - member of Congress & leader of a groups of politicians & merchants who wanted the new nation to imitate the mercantilism of England"
 - They wanted high taxes, a powerful centralized government, high tariffs, large army & navy, colonial outposts in foreign lands and markets
 - He profited greatly from the American Revolution
 - He was the financial wizard of Congress"
 - Started Bank of Massachusetts (1784 - ?)
- Source: Edward Griffin The Creature From Jekyll Island

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www.freedomforallseasons.org



