Gastonia, N. C.: September 16, 1887.

(ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF PER ANNUM,)

THE CONSTITUTION.

How, When and by Whom It Was Adopted,

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

To Be Held in Philadelphia Sept. 15, 16 and 17,

History of the Movement Leading to the Adoption of the Document-Portraits of Some of the Men Who Had a Hand in Its Preparation and Who Took Part in the Adopting Convention.

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Our readers are already apprised of the fact that it is proposed to hold a centennial celebration of the adoption of the constituthe 15th, 16th and 17th of September. Not all who know this are familiar with the causes that led up to the adoption of the consti-tution and the history of the movement. One hundred years ago there was no United States of America. There was no nation on this continent—only English, French, Spanish and Portuguese colonics from Hudson's bay to the Pio de La Plata There was in this country no president, no cabluet, no senate and no national treasury; there was no public credit, no power to create a national revenue, no authority to secure union at home and respect abroad. Even the piratical Barbary states specred at the talk of American power. The contribution box was passed Sunday after Sunday in New England churches for means to ransom American sailors in Algerian captivity. The last—the definitive—treaty of peace had been signed at Versailles on Sept. 3, 1783, and the army had been disbanded with a mere fraction of its pay. None of the treaties regognized the oxistence of a new nation—the independence and sovereignty of thirteen colonies, each by name, were separately acknowledged. The public securities were stendily dectining, the worn soldier of liberty sought his desolated home with only wounds and glory for his pay. Not because the country was poor-it was admittedly rich in resources that could

rately independent sovereignties bound to-cether only by a vague something which could not be called a charter of union, was illy defined as a confederation, and scarcely merital even the title of a league or compact. Each state had its own army, its own commercial marine, its own system of adabove all, its own system is duties, one state tarifling against nother. In short, each state held in itself ete power of the sword and the ly obeyed the mandate of the

soon be converted into cash-but there was

no central power; there were thirteen, sepa-

mate could defeat an important law, a plan was in imitation of that of the ited produces of the Netherlands in the seeding century—a very poor model ineed, and very badly imitated. The system almost ruined the united provinces, and was utterly unsuited to a confederation the area of a single state was greater than

that of the Netherlands. There had been three governments-Colo pini, Revolutionary or Continental, and Confederated. The Colonial had ended in revolution, the royal governors flying to British ships and the people seizing the power; the Continental began to take form in the first congress at Philadelphia, September, 1774, out could not be called complete (if it all) till a few weeks after the Declaration of Independence; and it expired peaceably in March, 1781, when the last state (Maryland) accorded to the Articles of Confederation, and the congress then in session at once proceeded to act under its new powers. The Colonial had expired in revolution and the Continental had grown slowly into the Confederated; and w the Confederation was dying of dry rot. Lonly had power to "request" of the states; h successive requisition was met with re indifference until, on Nov. 1, 1784, bert Morris announced that he could pay interest on any foreign loans and a very small fraction of the domestic claims, and that he saw no way of securing a revenue under the Confederation—then resigned his ost as superintendent of the finances in s one that seemed like a wail of despair.



INDEPENDENCE HALL. All these years, however, the spirit of on was growing fast. There had been from the first a' few who could "think coninentally," as the phrase was. They saw in patriotic fancy a time when all this country should form "an empire of free republics inssolubly united." Most active among these vere Washington, Hamilton, Madison, Gouverneur Morris and Gen. Philip Schuyr. They had many ardent supporters; but ass of mankind are naturally decentraliationists. The citizen stands for his neighbors as against the next neighborhood, for his county as against the state; he loves his own stafe, and it is not till it becomes truly great that his heart swells with pride at thought of his nation. The states' rights principle in our system is one that needs little cultivationonly intelligent direction. So the "Strong Government Whigs," as they began to be called, worked cautiously. Every schoolboy knows the repeated difficulties Washington had with their sovereignties, the states; how often he appealed for a stronger central power, how often he had to literally beg the state authorities to stand by him. And if too strong within the memory of living men, what must it have been when as yet no glorions memories clustered about the general government, when there was but a vague

ise of union, but an ideal nation? Nevertheless, there were a few conditions which made Americans one people. Though lauted in adverse interests at intervals stretching over 126 years, with forms of government varying from the extreme of proprietaryship to the extreme Democracy of Connection and Rhode Island, representing at least six great branches of Christianity, and extremely diverse social and industrial nditions, the colonies still had many more

tially the same literature; they all claimed the liberties of Englishmen and judged cases upon the principles of the English common law; they were all planted by men who longed for a larger liberty, and were all swayed by the same necessities as against wild nature and the Indians, and most of all, perhaps, the native born Americans were similarly transformed from the European type by breathing the air and seizing upon the opportunities of a new continent. The result was apparent in this: the animosities of the Seventeenth century between Puritan and Quaker, and Yankee and Dutchman Protestant and Catholic had yielded so rapidly that in the middle of the Eighteenth century but a trace remained; Catholic Charles Carroll, Liberal Sephen Hopkins and Free Thinking Puritan Franklin joined in the public devotions without hesitation, and the new comer from Europe remarked with amazement that there was already the one American type, with local variations less than marked the counties of England, from Boston to Savannah. While the Lincolnshireman still laughed at the "babble" of the Cornishman, and both of them regarded the Yorkshireman as an "outlanguidged vurriner," it was but barely possible (and seldom that) in the continental congress to distinguish the accents of the Georgian and the Bostonian. The written language was absolutely one, the most acute critic cannot decide by the internal evidence in which colony any document of that time was produced. The same books were read,

They all had the same language and substan-

MOVEMENT FOR A GENERAL GOV-

and often exchanged the length of a conti

nent, and at the foot of the Blue Ridge as at

the head of the Hudson were many men like

Madison and Jefferson, of powerful intellects

and of vast and varied reading. The Amer-

icans were one far more truly than the Eng-

lish of that day and more than the English

ERNMENT. It is not possible to assign an exact date to the movement for a general government -it was in the air. In 1643 the three New England colonies joined in a short lived confederney against the Indians and the Dutch. In 1684 a common movement against the six mations of Indians united all the colonies but South Carolina. The attempt of James II to restrict colonial liberties led to temporary nions, but the British revolution of 1688 rought in William and Mary, who restored the colonial charters. John Locke then drew

ain general and one assembly for all the colonies, but parliament refused to consider it. In 1697 William Penii (in England) proposed a congress of two members from each colony, but the ministry of that day refused it. In 1754 Benjamin

Franklin drew up a very good plan of confederation, but could not get it considered. In 1765 nine colonies resented in a conference at New York. Finally, on the 5th of September, 1774, the first Continental congress met at Phila-delphia, and thereafter the tendency toward mion was wresistible till the declaration of ndependence, July 4, 1776,

It is not easy to define the powers of the Continental congress, they were so augmented by necessity and so supplemented by the colonial legislatures and local committees of safety, which exercised almost despotic powers. The movement for a better organzed government was already in progress. Tom Paine issued his brilliant pamphlet in favor of a national government, and Alexander Hamilton warmly seconded Paine's argument in many letters and addresses. Paine was a revolutionist, Hamilton an organizer; Washington followed as the moderator. He first ventured to use the word "empire," meaning, as subsequent letters show, an "empire of republics." After taking command of the army he often urged the members to consider "that power and weight which ought of right to belong only to the whole," Four years he continued to urge a stronger central power, and in March, 1779, wrote to George Mason, of Virginia: "I lament the fatal policy of the states employing their ablest men at home. How useless to put in fine order the smallest parts of a clock unless the great spring which is to set the whole in motion is well attended to. Let this voice call forth you, Jefferson and others to save their country." Yet it took the congress two years to complete the articles of confederation and nearly two more to get them sanctioned by all the states, only to find them inefficient within six months after their

On the 1st of March, 1781, the delegates

from Maryland subscribed the articles; on the second it was taken for granted that the new government was in force, and within the month several members complained of the want of sufficient powers. On the 16th, James Madison introduced a new clause, that the states should give congress the power to compel a recalcitrant state to perform its obligations. On the 2d of May it was referred to a committee of one from each state; on the 20th of July they reported a substitute, that congress might in time of war lay an embargo for sixty days and name receivers of public money, after it had been collected by state officers. On the same day Edmund Randolph presented the resolutions of the Virginia legislature, that congress "ought to have more power." In July and August Hamilton issued a series of papers called "The Continentalist," in which he vigorously urged a more complete union, a central executive and a national revenue. But all in vain. Soon after Cornwallis surrendered, the British hastily concentrated in two or three ports, ready for embarking; every one went wild in expectation of an immediate close of the war, and the "more perfect union" was ignored. Philip Schuyler, Alexander Hamilton and others had just before this persuaded the great state of New York to agree that duties should "be collected in such manner and by such officers as congress should direct," and Virginia had consented to a similar measure; but the other states were so slow that the opposition had time to rally, and both concessions were revoked or ignored. New York, however, for the first, proposed a convention to form a new constitution. Hamilton drafted the resolutions, his father-in-law, Schuyler, urged them vigorously, and they passed both houses of the legislature by unanimous vote. Thereafter they were the platform, the store house of texts and arguments for the "Strong Government Whigs." Finally all the states but Rhode Island consented to a national revenue from customs duties; the negative of the one state ruined the scheme, and thus the weary seesaw went on four years longer, till the confederation was without cash at home or credit abroad, and was fast sinking into contempt. In Virginia the issue was debated almost in-

only a strengthening of the existing confed-

cessantly for six years, Washington and

state sovereignty, Patrick Henry advocating

pressure was needed to force a more perfect union, and it came exactly at the right time. When the British parliament met after the peace of Versailles the liberal element proposed a renewal of close intercourse with America and "free trade on liberal principles." When asked what guarantees they could secure, they were forced to reply that they knew of no power to bind the separate colonies; a reaction set in and ceased not till Great Britain had adopted the most stringent navigation laws and every practical method of crippling the trade of Americans. When this was known in the states, the number of those who could "think continentally" increased suddenly and rapidly. Virginia especially advanced toward extreme national views. Jefferson said that his first choice would be no navigation laws, no distinction

between ports and the freest possible commerce; but as Great Britain had chosen otherwise, we must have a government that could meet her in the same spirit. Rhode Island, as usual, resolved that ench state should do its own retaliating; but almost every where else there

ALEXANDER HAMELTON, Was a movement oward union. The states began measures to surrender their western lands to the general government, and the movement progressed so rapidly that it was completed before the

onstitution. Congress had already established a mint and Federal coin. The Bank of North America had been set up. Settlements in the western territory were in rapid progress, and the settlers were impatient for exact statements of their relations to government. Already Spain was harassing the border with mi-friendly legislation. Treaties with the Indians were imperative and wars probable Kentucky and her neighbors were demandng, in daily louder tones, free navigation of the Mississippi, or ——! On all sides foreign and domestic questions pressed the demand for a stronger central government; yet a few states held back and the others delayed out of deference to them. Myanwhile Pitt was enforcing the British navigation acts against the United States with the utmost severity, and the "Strong Government Whigs" were making converts. The powers of established churches in the several states were greatly curtailed: religious freedom became general. and by local acts the rights of a citizen in any state were freely accorded to immigrants from other states. And the clause on this subject in the constitution is the only one more obscure, at any rate more awkwardly worded, than the laws it superseded. Commerce between the states was being better systematized. In short, the country was traveling slowly toward a sort of unity. But the war between debtor and creditor was raging with great severity; the "soft money men" of many localities dreaded a general government which would abolish legal tender paper; there vere riots in divers places, and Capt. Daniel Shay's rebellion in Massachusetts. Commerce, finances and foreign affairs demanded

a stronger government. On March 28, 1785, commissioners from the two states of Virginia and Maryland met at Mount Vernon to form a plan for the joint navigation of the Potomac Beorge Mason and Alexander Henderson for Virginia, Daniel-of-St.-Thomas Jenifer, Thomas Stone and Samuel Chase for Maryland, all assisted by Washington. Their special work was quickly done, so they discussed general politics, and ended by drawing up a plan of union for the two states involving uniform money and taxes. Maryland promptly acceded and asked that Delaware and Pennsylvania might be added. Virginia argued these matters till Jan. 21, 1786, then by large majorities in both branches invited all the other states to meet her in convention at Annapolis, Md., on the first Monday of the next September. The sixth congress was in session, and South Carolina, by Charles Pinckney, led the movement for a new government. He proposed a number of amendments to the articles giving the central government more power, but was defeated by the extremists. Those who wanted no change and those who wanted an entirely new system were alike opposed to reform The Annapolis convention met, but three states sent no delegates and others arrived so late that the short sitting was over before they could act. The few present united in an able appeal to cougress to order a national convention. Even this action excited violent criticism. The Nationalists were in despair, when Madison, of Virginia, raised them again to hope. On his motion the general assembly unanimously resolved on a Federal convention, to meet at Philadelphia, May 2, 1787, and draft an entire constitution to be presented to the states, As soon as the news reached New Jersey that state, on the 23d of November, acceded and chose its delegates. Pennsylvania followed in December, North Carolina in January and Delaware in February. Congress next approved the measure, and then the states fol lowed one by one-all but Rhode Island, which refused to act as usual. But Maryland, distracted by a fight over paper money

did not elect till near the end of May, and New Hampshire was a few days later. On the 14th of May, 1787, the day finally set, only Pennsylvania and Virginia were represented; but their delegates repaired to the state house, organized and were soon joined by others. On the 17th came South Carolina, on the 18th New York, on the 21st Delaware, on the 22d North Carolina. On the 25th William Churchill Houston, of New Jersey, previously detained by illness, arrived, and so the seven states needed for a quorum were represented-from the south, four states, with nineteen members; from the north, three states, with ten members. On motion of Benjamin Franklin Washington was manimously chosen president of the convention. On the 28th the delegates from Massa chusetts and Maryland arrived. It was a convention of learned men. There were nine graduates of Princeton, four of Yale and six of other colleges; at least seven were of some eminence in literature, one, a native of Scotand, had taught in her first universities; a very large proportion were well read lawyers, and nearly all had had long and valuable training in the state legislatures or congress. And to these men was submitted this problem: How shall we combine these sovereigns into one sovereignty? How shall we take just enough power from the thirteen to form a government sufficient for all general concerns, especially commerce and foreign affairs, and yet leave all other powers unimpaired in each state!

THE CONVENTION. Their work may be detailed historically or analyzed by themes. For many reasons the second plan is the better, chiefly because it

avoids detail and makes the conclusion clearer. Four general schemes were suggested: First-The extreme Federalist or Nationalist plan: That the states should be practically Madison leading the nationalists, Richard abolished; reduced to mere departments, and on their ruins one strong government established, contending for separation and light world and leading the nationalists, Richard abolished; reduced to mere departments, and on their ruins one strong government established, contending the nationalists, Richard abolished; reduced to mere departments, and on their ruins one strong government established. abolished; reduced to mere departments, and lished-"on the British model," added Hamilton. The convention took one good look at this plan and rejected it-manimously. It Pressure from without had kept Americans does not appear that they did more than united during the war; a renewal of that | merely listen to its presentation.

Second-The extreme states' rights plan: That the Confederation should be strengthened a little, so far as to have an independent evenue and exercise some control over comerce, each state to retain its absolute sovereignty as before. The convention con-sidered this at some length and rejected it,

not quite unanimously.
Third—The moderate Nationalist plan. Fourth-The moderate states rights plan. Out of the last two, by compromise, the envention evolved the present constitution, with the understanding that it was to be construed according to the plain meaning of the vords on these three basis principles; First-That the power of the flag, the

word and the national purse (and these contitute sovereignty) should be vested excluively in the national government, Second-That as to these, the public prop-erty, especially the land, certain general unctions, and all foreign affairs, the people

of the United States should constitute one Third—That just enough—and no more— owers should be taken from the states to onstitute a government for these general urposes, and all other powers remain in the

states as before. James Madison came with the outline of a enstitution already formed and employed the days of waiting in urging its main points upon the delegates who first arrived. Ednund Randolph had elaborated certain prinriples in addition to those of Madison. Washngton had drawn up the heads of these constitutions. Paterson, of New Jersey, had a clan which was merely to strengthen the confederation. And it was known that Conecticut was coming with still another. The New Jersey system," said those who spoke first, "is federal, the Virginia system national; in the first the powers flow from the state governments, but in the latter they lerive authority from the people of the states," And even before the convention met, the extreme states' rights party had ounded an alarm about the Virginia plan. William Jones, of North Carolina, refused to

serve, as he understood the convention was signed to subordinate the states, and was replaced by Hugh Williamson, an "original free soiler," who wanted slavery excluded from all new states. Patrick Henry, Thomas Nelson and Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, refused to accept their appointments, as they would not act under the Virginia resolutions, and were replaced by men of much less note but ardent nationalists. Edmund Randolph vavered. His first intent was to vote for a nere strengthening of the confederation, but his personal record pointed to nationalism as his final position. Though but 33 years old, e had borns a very active part in the revoation and was now governor of Virginia, To him, therefore, was intrusted the duty of resenting the "Virginia plan" to the convenon, which he did May 29 in a preamble and fifteen resolution They declared for a national legislature of

two branches, with specific powers over national concerns; a national executive to be chosen by the legislature and eligible for but one term; a council of revision to examine and approve the acts of the legislature before ary, substantially such as we now have; a national revenue to be collected from the states by quotas, and the right of suffrage in each state should be the basis of enumeration for apportioning the quetar new states to be admitted on terms of equality, and each state to be required to have, and to be guaranteed a republican form of government. This plan contained two notable clauses. One provided for representation in both branches accordng to population; the other suggested that only "free inhabitants" should be counted for representation. We do not find in the canty accounts that the latter proposition attracted much attention, but the former at once provoked fierce opposition from the smaller states. Charles Pinckney, of South Carolina, only 29 years old, presented a series of resolutions very similar to those from Vir-

ginia, and both were referred to a committee f one from each state. On the morning of the 30th Nathaniel Gornam, of Massachusetts, offered a resolution that "A national government ought to be established, consisting of a supreme legislative, executive and judiciary." Fierce Butler, of outh Carolina, now passed over from the Confederationists to the Nationalists, saying that the division of powers between three departments, the democratic branch coming diect from the people and holding the power of the purse, had removed his objections. So the Gorham resolution passed, Connecticut only voting in the negative; New York divided. Next day the first clause of the Virginia plan, that there should be a national egislature of two branches, passed without behate, Pennsylvania alone voting in the negative, Three weeks later she withdrew her negative, and the vote was made unanimous. All the powers of the legislature were agreed upon the same day. On the 1st of June the xecutive was taken up and debated long and carnestly. The veto power was conferred by the votes of eight states against Connecti cut and Maryland. The judiciary was de-bated for a week and settled nearly as we now have it. Then came the hard fight as to equality of representation; and the first settlement was that each state should have at east one senator and others in some proportion to its population. The remaining ginia resolutions were gone through with rapidly, and in thirteen sessions the work on hem was complete. But the smaller states had been deprived of equal representation, and their discontent soon took active form. New Jersey organized and led the oppoition of the smaller states. Connecticut, by Roger Sherman, had already presented and chemently urged what might be called the noderate states' rights plan, but it was merged in the "New Jersey plan," which Paterson presented on the 15th of June. It provides for a legislature with a single house, and was renerally less national than the "Virginia olan." The convention debated this five days, and by the vote of seven states rejected it. In he midst of this debate Hamilton introduced his plan-for extreme centralization. It was praised by everybody but supported by hobody," says one member in his memoirs. It was, in fact, a plan for an elective monarchy, with democratic features-very much such a government as that of England now is,

or would be if the monarch were elected "for life or good behavior." From the 19th of June to the 21 of tion debated almost constantly on one subject-the rights of the states, especially the right to equal representation. Connecticut

PATRICK HENKY. and by Roger Sherman proposed a compromiser-that there should be equal representation in one branch and proportional in the other. On the 2d of July five states voted for it and five against it, Georgia divided and New Hampshire was not present. So the matter was referred to a committee of one from each state, and, as the convention was in a very hot temper over it, an adjournment of three days after

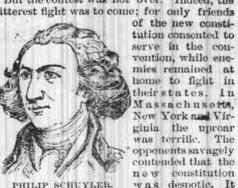
mony. The final settlement was in favor of equality in the senate. As soon as this was done Paterson, Sherman and Ellsworth passed over to the Nationalists, and thereafter voted for every measure to strengthen the general government. Paterson was for the rest of his life an ardent and extreme Federalist.

The basis of representation in the lower house, or democratic branch, excited long discussions on the slavery question; but the agreement on a three-fifths enumeration of the slaves was nearly unanimous. The next ten days were devoted to drawing the line between state and national powers, and per-fecting the general outlines of the constitu-tion. Meanwhile the states had completed the cession of their western lands, and congress (the congress of the old confederation being in session contemporaneously with the invention) had adopted the ordinance of 1787, for the government of the territory north of the Ohio and west of Pennsylvania, so the convention's next task was to provide for a territorial system.

From the 17th to the 26th of July the conention debated the general outlines of the astitution, adopted some restrictions on the lowers of the states, agreed unanimously that the states were to retain all powers not specifically taken from them, but that it was necessary to so state in the constitution; appointed a committee of three from the orth and two from the south to formulate the work so far done, and then adjourned to Aug, 6. The committee of detail consisted of Gorham, Ellsworth, Wilson, Ran-dolph and John Rutledge—the last an eminent scholar of South Carolina, of great experience in congress and state egislature, being chairman. On Aug. they presented each member of the conention with a printed copy of their draft of a constitution, and thence to Sept. 10 it was thoroughly discussed in detail.

From the middle to the end of August slavery was debated with great carnestness and the compromise agreed upon, the word 'slave" being carefully excluded from the constitution. The method of choosing the esident was long and warmly debated; the alt was the most awkward clause in the strument. The judicial system of the United States was settled with little heat, after which it was decided that the constitution should be submitted to conventions, chosen for that purpose only, in the states, and should go into operation in the adopting states as soon as they numbered nine. A mmittee of five was named to make the omplete draft-Madison, Hamilton, King, ohnson and Gouverneur Morris-and the last named wrote the final copy. And now a new difficulty arose; a few members refused sign the completed lustrument, and leclared they would oppose its adopion in their states. Washington, Hamlton, Madison and Franklin labored with them most earnestly. Finally all signed it but Gerry, Mason and Randolph. so the unanimous consent of the eleven states present was secured on Monday, the 17th of September; the convention adjourned, the mbers dined together and then retired, says Washington, "to meditate on the montous work which had been executed."

ADOPTED BY THE STATES. But the contest was not over. Indeed, the



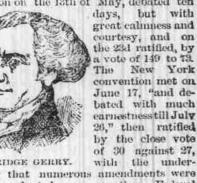
ntained no bill of rights, it made no pro-

visions to secure the citizens against illegal owers; there was nothing about the right of nscience, the freedom of the press, the trial by jury, excessive bails, fines, forfeitures or ppressive military establishments. Its riends replied that the whole instrument was bill of rights, since the general government ould exercise no powers except such as were granted, and the states could devise as many safeguards as they chose. Nevertheless, they generally consented that these things hould be provided for in amendments, though sisting (and truly, too) that they were needless. The first fight came on in the concress still in session, which was, indeed, asked o approve its own annihilation. Richard Henry Lee opposed the new government because it was too strong; Grayson, also of Virginia, because it was too weak. All the New York delegates, Melancthon Smith at their head, opposed it on the ground hat New York could not afford to surrender per customs duties. Finally congress decided to submit the constitution to the states without special recommendation. But Richard Henry Lee was implacable. He and Grayson had been outvoted by their three olleagues, and so Virginia was recorded in ongress as for the constitution. He now tirred up opposition in every state, scattering many thousand copies of his "Letters from the Federal Farmer." Madison and Hamilton replied in The Federalist, while Washington exerted himself in Virginia against Harrison, Nelson and Patrick Henry. The Virginia assembly met on the third Monday in October, and wrangled till March before ordering a convention; and then the late of its meeting was postponed to the first Monday in June (1788). The debutes of this convention furnished a most valuable guide to the intent of the framers and the meaning of the constitution; but this is no place for de tails. Suffice it that after long and heated discussion, and only upon the pledge of its supporters that the constitution should be nuended, the Virginia convention ratified it on the 25th of June, 1788, by the narrow marin of eighty-nine yeas to seventy-nine navs. n Delaware the legislature hastened to say that it "could not find language to express he joy of the people," and called a convenion at once. That body, as soon as organzed, unanimously ratified the constitution on Dec. 6, 1787. The Pennsylvania convention net Nov. 20, and after three weeks' debate, ratified the constitution on Dec. 12 by a vote of 46 to 23. Twenty-one of the minority signed a protest "that the powers vested in congress would lead to an iron handed desootism, with unlimited control of the purse and sword." New Jersey's convention met Dec. 11, 1787, resulthe constitution by sections for a week, and on the 18th ratified it unanimously. So the union of the central states was complete. Georgia also ratified unanimously and without debate, Jan. 2, 1788, firing thirteen guns as the signing progressed. Connecticut, with very little opposition, ratified Jan. 9, 1788, by a vote of 128 to 40. Then

came the great battle royal in Massachusetts. The delegates in that state were elected in the heat and fury following the Shay's insurrection, and eighteen "rebels" had seats in the convention. The friends of the constitution confessed themselves in a minority at the start, but they gained by concession and the Maine delegates saved the day (Maine was then a district of Massachusetts). For three weeks the opposition offered every objection that the mind of man can conceive religious, commercial and fiscal, the lack of a the 3d was voted, in the hope that rest and | bill of rights, the want of a religious test, the the celebration of the 4th would restore har- oxatters. They then tried all possible schemes

of delay; another convention was proposed, a reference of the matter back to congress etc. Finally, when the friends of the constitution had promised all sorts of amendnents, the ratification was squeezed through, Feb. 6, 1788, by the painfully small majority of 187 to 168. Boston was wild with enthusiasm for the new government, and celebrated with exceeding great joy. New Hampshire had substantially same fight, with variations; so the friends of the constitution proposed an adjournment till June, hoping that the influence of other tates would help them. Finally, on June 21, 1788, after agreeing to twelve amendments the ratification was carried by 57 against 46, This was the ninth state, and so the existence of the new Union was secured.

Maryland, after a short but very spirited debate, had ratified, April 26, by 63 votes to 11. South Carolina's convention met at Charleston on the 13th of May, debated ten days, but with



ELBRIDGE GERRY. with the underanding that numerous amendments were to be adopted or another Federal convention called at once North Carolina's convention met July 21, and on the 1st of August declined immediate ratification by a tie vote-184 to 184. The next day, however, the convention provided that congressional laws as to commerce should be in force in the state just as if she had ratified. After the new government was fairly established North Carolina acceded, Nov. 21, 1789. Rhode Island, as usual, was in opposition to the last; unrepresented in the convention and in the first congress, she rati-fied May 29, 1790, the last of the thirteen. J. H. BEADLE.

How the Maracalbans Live. Going ashore early before sunrise, our first visit was made to the market place to see what Maraculbans live upon. A better and a cheaper market would be hard to find. Excellent beef, goat, pork and fowls averaged ten cents a pound, and all varieties of tropical fruits abounded at corresponding prices. Tied together in bunches were great green lizards two or three feet long, with brown warts all over them and vicious black beads of eyes. They snapped at us like dogs as we passed, and when teased with a stick clung to it like bull terriers. These were iguanas, whose delicious waite flesh is eagerly enten by all classes. It tastes like chicken, but is more deficate. Of course considerable hunger would be needed to make them appetizing to a stranger who should recognize them in a a stew. Farther on an animal with head and tail like a rat, feet like an alligator and a coat of mail like an ironclad man of war was tied itself promptly into a ball, head and all being quite covered by its plates, and thus defical further attack. This was an armadillo, also a tidbit when properly stewed or roasted.

Monkeys were scarce in the market; and the old school book fable of travelers making use of them to get eccounts from lofty trees, by shying stones up at them and dodging nuts that came down in return, came to mind as I watched the antics of a few of these poor brutes waiting their turn to be sold. The fact is, monkeys are very shy of their human cousins, and retreat from civilization with all speed. Cocoanut trees do not grow wild, out require careful cultivation and constant care, being planted for profit or for ornanent near houses; so that a monkey is almost as likely to be found upon an apple tree as on a cocoa palm. And owners of plantations would probably welcome any stranger. whether two or four handed, who attempted to steal their fruit, very much in the same manner as they would with us. I fear that the story of monkey usefulness is exaggerated, not to say mythical.—Dr. W. F. Hutch-inson in American Magazine.

A Couple of Stirring Scenes. In the earlier days of Colorado mining camps there were some very stirring scenes and adventures, and the tender feet were broken in without much ceremony sometimes. I remember visiting a certain camp when it was quite new, and saving a man's life the very first night. He was in the bed next to mine in the tent, and about midnight an order came for him to get up, as he was wanted. He was asked to lose no time, as he was to be summarily tried for having shot a man. I jumped up and declared that the man was snocent, but I was shown the muzzle of a forty-two caliber and told to lie down. However, as there was no help for it, I said I would accompany the accused, who was nearly frightened out of his wits. We went down to one who was styled "the justice," and the complaint was lodged that the prisoner had shot a man. As he could say nothing in his own behalf, I spoke for him, and stated that at the time the shooting was said to have occurred the accused was soundly sleeping. Just then a stranger appeared and announced that he did the shooting, and proved that it was in self defense, and the natter was all settled.

Next day we were treated to a little "fun." A tin can was tied to an unwelcoms visitor's cont tail and he was told to "git," He lost no time in striking a two-forty gait, and as he flew down the road the can daugling behind him was a mark for all the rest of the boys to "take a crack at." More than one of them hit the can, too, and I am not sure but that I made it quiver myself. We thought it was very funny, and so did the poor victim perhaps.—George Trumbull in Globe-Demo-

The Matches Which Smokers Use. Those small wax matches which cigar smokers use, and which are put up in fancy boxes, come from Mexico. There is one facbory in this country, but the agent informed me that he had the greatest difficulty in getting dealers to take them. We import them from Mexico, and yet are able to sell them at three boxes for a nickel, after paying heavy duty. There are fifty in a box. will notice what care must be taken in preparing them. They are molded something after the style I have seen my mother use in making candles. There is a wick and tallow and a colored mixture of pho-phorus to ignite. The boxes are nearly constructed, consisting of two cases held together by a piece of rubber. They contain colored pictures on all sides. In Mexico they sell for a half cent a box, so you see to make a profit the manufacturers must have very cheap labor. They have no great machinery as in this country, yet their trade scems to thrive. These matches are the ones commonly in use in Mexico. After paying duty on our matches we cannot compete with them. They are not in general use here, but are favorites with smokers.—G. W. Krebs in Globe-Democrat.

The Old Testament in Ethiopia. It is not generally known that in Ethiopia a people numbering about 200,000 have the Old Testament in Ethiopic version and still adhere rigidly to the Mosaic ceremonies and laws. They are the children of Hebrew immigrants who, in the time of the great dispersion, settled in Abyssinia and morried wiver of that pation - Detroit Free Press.



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