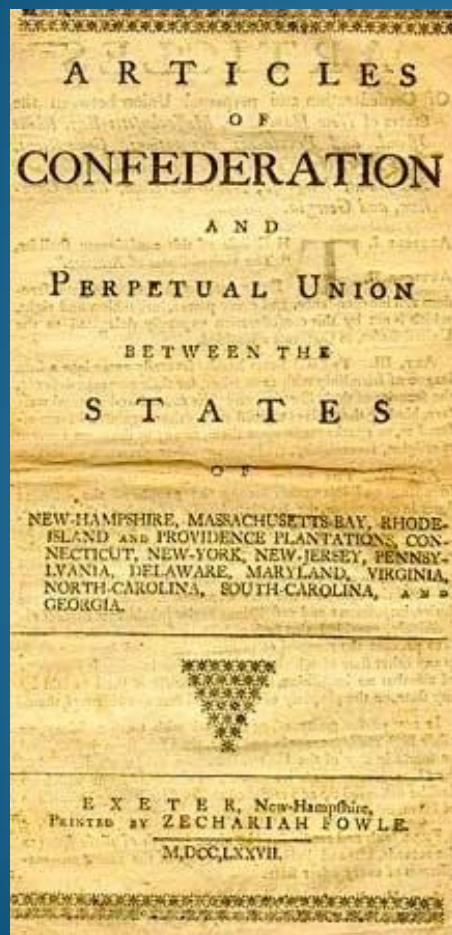


Constitutional Underpinnings 1776-1789



FRENCH, SPANISH, AND ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS TO 1776



End of American Revolution and Creation of American government

- American Revolution concludes, an independent nation develops, 1781.
- Articles of Confederation ratified by states March 1781
- framework for National government



Effects of the American Revolution

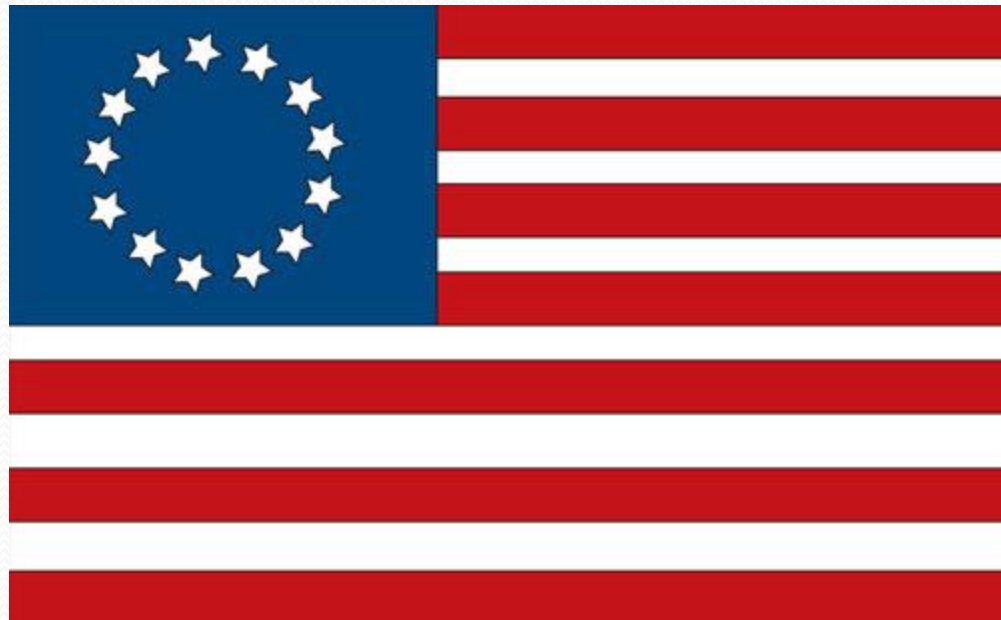
- Relative Peace: Accelerated evolution rather than outright revolution
- Egalitarianism
 - Limits: women, blacks, non-property owning individuals
- Constitution-Making: state constitutions provided the foundation for fundamental laws
- Cheap land is easily available
- Political Aptitude – major strength for U.S.

Egalitarianism

- Thoughts that favor equality
- Results of the American Revolution
 - Slavery: abolitionism mvmt. (Quakers)
 - Abolished in many northern states
 - Trade organizations for artisans and laborers
 - Reduction of property qualifications for voting

The Purpose of the Articles of Confederation

1. Unify the colonies by creating a new government
2. Avoid strong national government by creating a confederacy



Strengths of the Articles

- Held the states together...loosely
 - Only a congress, no president or court system
- Admit new states on equal footing with those already admitted
- Created a Congress that had departments of Foreign Affairs, War, Marine, and Treasury
- Make war and peace with other nations
- Standardized weights and measures
- States ceded land claims west of Appalachian mountains to the central government

State Land Claims and Cessions To the Federal Government, 1782-1802



Weaknesses of the Articles

- Central Government could not charge taxes
- Could not regulate trade between different states
 - or how individual states trade with other countries
- States developed own Constitutions
- States developed own currency – inflation was high
- No Executive or Judicial branch
- All states had same representation
- States did not have to obey the Nat. Govt.
- States were still the ones with the most power over the central government
 - Amendments could not pass unless all 13 states agreed to it
 - Any major laws require 9 out 13 states

Interesting Fact About the Articles

- Article XI- Invited Canada to join the United States if it declared its Independence from Great Britain.



Issues that forced the States to Rethink the Articles

Shay's Rebellion

- Leader was Daniel Shay, a Continental Army soldier who after the war found himself in debt.
- Shay led many other people in Rebellion against the state of Massachusetts because they were unable to pay debts and taxes, and their land was being foreclosed.
- Rebellion stopped when the state militia was called in.

Pennsylvania

- Extreme democracy
 - Majority was infringing on peoples rights
 - Freedom of religion



Annapolis Convention

- Meeting of 5 different states- New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Virginia in September 1786.
- They met to discuss the weaknesses to the Articles of Confederation and what they thought could be improved.
- Since only 5 states could attend, they thought it would be better to have a meeting the next May in Philadelphia to discuss revising the Articles.

The Framers – A Truly Motley Crue

- **Philadelphia Convention – 55 men**
- Wide knowledge, wealth, prestige, nationalists
- Many had fought in Revolution
- 39 were members of Cont. Congress
- Seven were state governors
- Eight signed Dec. of Independence
- 31 had attended college
- Two college presidents
- Three professors
- Three were to become Pres. of the U.S.
- One Vice President
- 17 later served in Senate or House

Constitutional Convention 1787

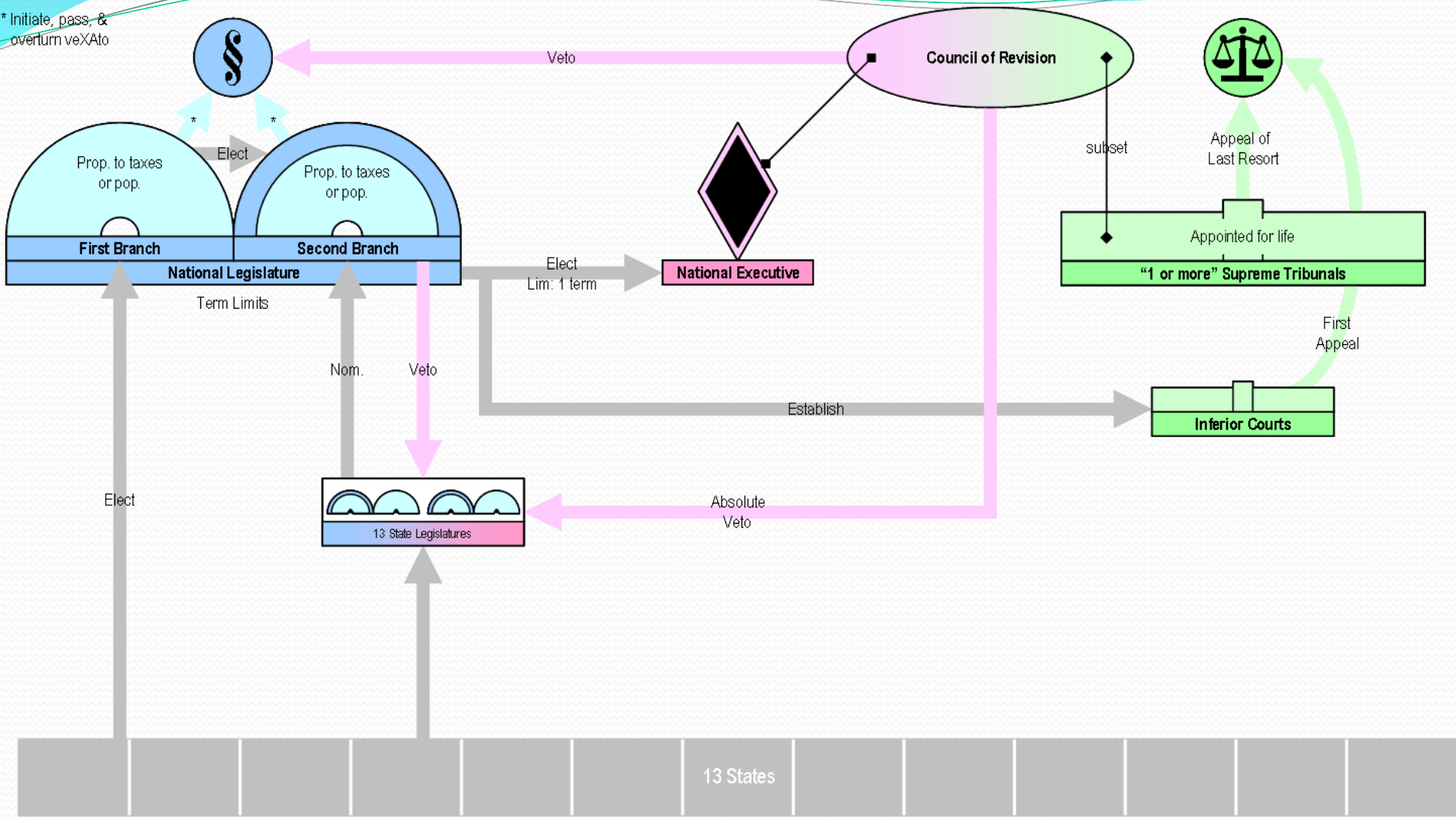
- Purpose: revise the Articles of Confederation
- End Result: A new Constitution



The Virginia Plan

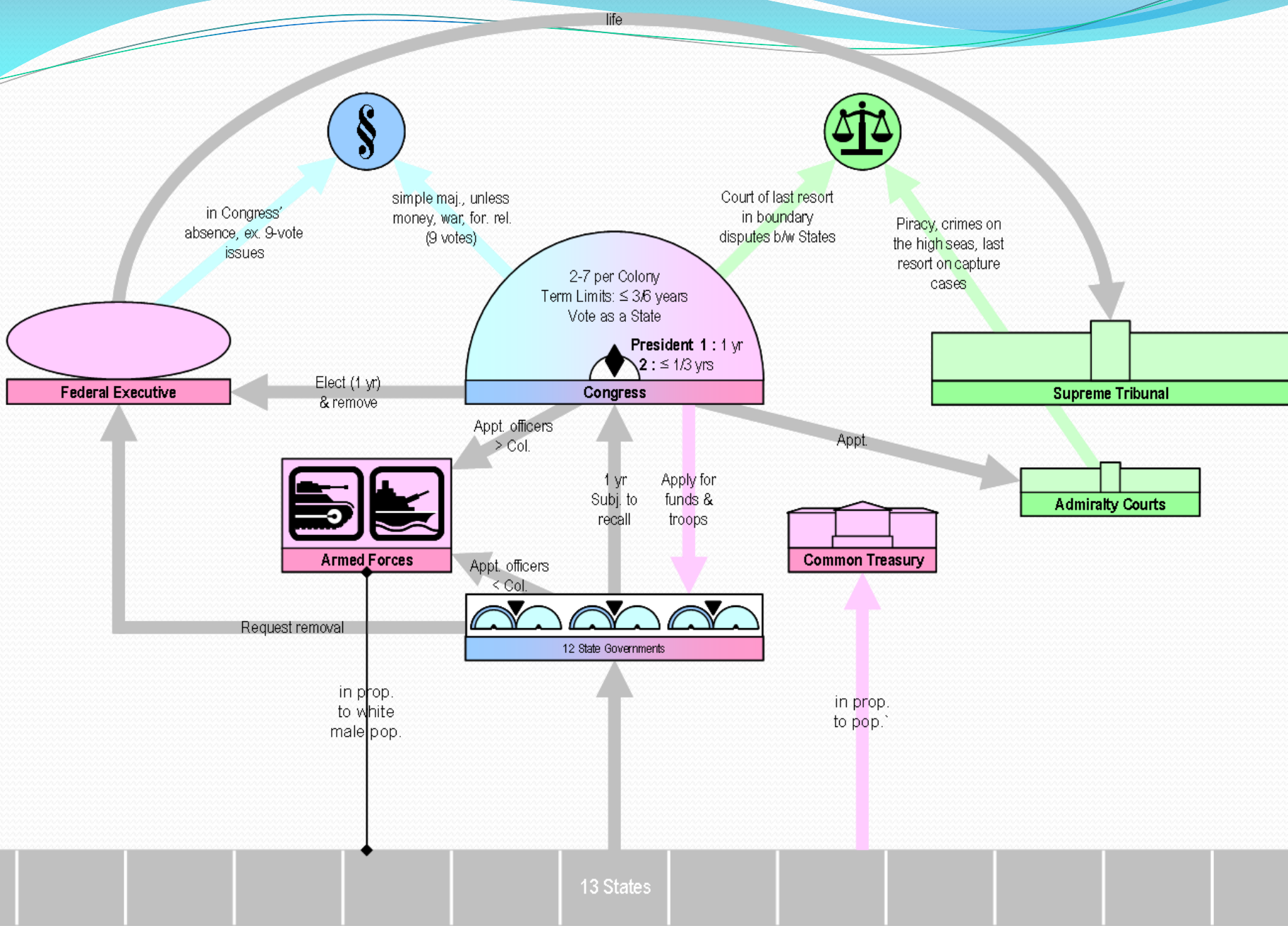
- Written by James Madison
- Introduced by Edmund Randolph
- Created a legislative, executive, and judicial branch
- Legislative – bicameral
 - House = representation based on population
 - Reprs. chosen by the citizens of each state
 - Senate = representation based on population
 - Senators chosen by the members of the State Legislatures.

* Initiate, pass, & overturn veto



The New Jersey Plan

- Wanted a legislative branch based on state representation, not population
- Retained the Unicameral Congress
- Federal Executive – chosen by Congress



life



in Congress' absence, ex. 9-vote issues

simple maj., unless money, war, for. rel. (9 votes)

Court of last resort in boundary disputes b/w States

Piracy, crimes on the high seas, last resort on capture cases

2-7 per Colony
Term Limits: ≤ 3/6 years
Vote as a State

President 1 : 1 yr
2 : ≤ 1/3 yrs

Congress

Federal Executive

Supreme Tribunal

Armed Forces

Admiralty Courts

Common Treasury

12 State Governments

Elect (1 yr) & remove

Appt. officers > Col.

Appt.

1 yr Subj. to recall

Apply for funds & troops

Appt. officers < Col.

Request removal

in prop. to white male pop.

in prop. to pop.

13 States

Compromises

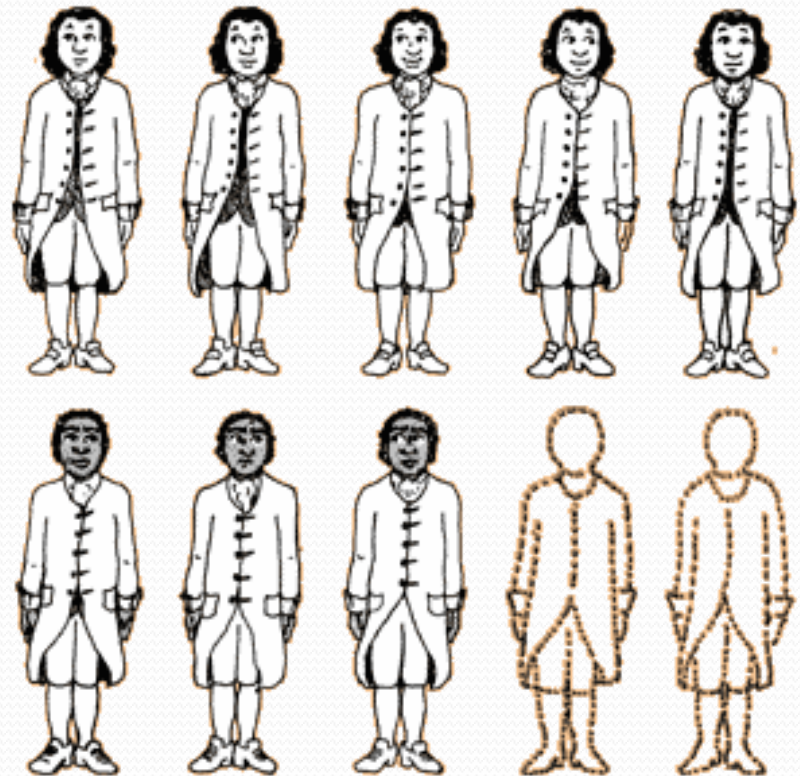
- **Issue:** Large states expected to dominate
 - Connecticut Compromise
 - Three-fifths Compromise
 - The Commerce and Slave Trade clauses

The Connecticut Compromise

- Congress should be bicameral
 - “Great Compromise”: House and a Senate
 - Senate: equal representation
 - House: population = representation
 - All taxes would originate in the House

The Three-Fifths Compromise

- Slaves equal more votes for the South
 - Compromise:
 - Free people = one person
 - All others = $3/5$ of a person
 - * fight over the fundamentals of slavery would destroy national unity



The Commerce and Slave Trade Compromise

- Congress could not tax exported “goods” between States
 - What do you think “goods” mean?

Fight for Ratification

- Now that the Constitution is written, it has to be accepted by a majority of voters in 9/13 states
- There are those that appreciate the Constitution (Federalists) and those that do not (Anti-Federalists)

Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists

Federalists (for Const.)

- Strong National Govt. – controls factions
- Liberty, order, progress
- Power to tax
- Power to raise an army/navy
- Power to establish credit
- Power to negotiate trade
- Power to print money
- Creation of Washington D.C.
- States have to obey national government
- Control interstate commerce

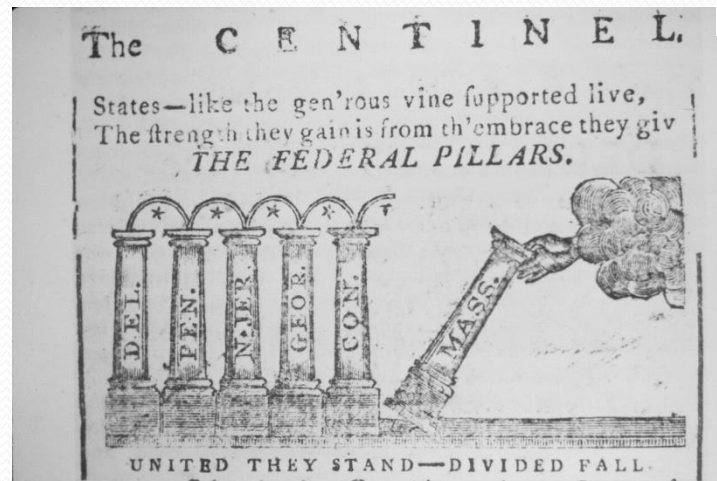
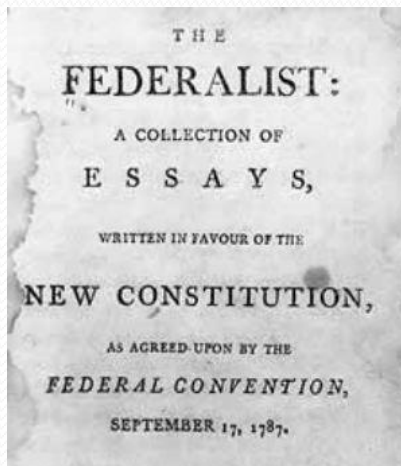
Anti-Federalists (against Const.)

- Fearful of strong national government
- Concerned the Const. did not mention God
- Concerned the Const. did not include a Bill of Rights
- Feared Wash. D.C. would be a palace
- Loss of states' rights
- States could not print money



Campaigning for the Const.

- Federalist Papers
 - Controlling factions
 - Jay, Hamilton, Madison
- Federalist/Anti-Federalist Debates



**RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION
BY STATES**

FOR	STATE AND DATE	AGAINST
30	Delaware Dec. 7, 1787	0
46	Pennsylvania Dec. 12, 1787	23
38	New Jersey Dec. 18, 1787	0
26	Georgia Jan. 2, 1788	0
128	Connecticut Jan. 9, 1788	40
187	Massachusetts Feb. 6, 1788	168
63	Maryland April 28, 1788	11
149	South Carolina May 23, 1788	73
57	New Hampshire June 21, 1788	47
89	Virginia June 25, 1788	79
30	New York July 26, 1788	27
194	North Carolina Nov. 27, 1789	77
34	Rhode Island May 29, 1790	32

Three Common Beliefs

- Sound money and protection of private property
- Strong government with three branches and checks and balances among them
- “Manhood-suffrage” democracy should be feared