Inside the Vault:
Highlights from the Gilder Lehrman Collection

September 17, 2020

The session will start shortly. Please note:

• Your video and audio will automatically turn off.
• You can participate through the Q&A function.
• If you have technical difficulties, please email firstfriday@gilderlehrman.org so we can assist you.
Gilder Lehrman Staff

Panelists

• Sandy Trenholm - Collection Director
• Conroe Brooks - Hercules Mulligan/James Madison, George Washington, and King George in HAMILTON
• Kevin Cline - 2016 National Teacher of the Year from Frankton, Indiana

Support

• Allison Kraft - Assistant Curator
During the Session

- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature, which is at the bottom of your screen.
- Viewing in full screen is recommended to see the presenters and the presentation at the same time.

For Security

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.
Today’s Documents

- Pierce Butler’s notebook from the Constitutional Convention
- The First Draft of the Constitution
- The Final Version of the Constitution
- A letter from George Washington, written during the Convention
- A newspaper article detailing a “fracus” over ratification
Pierce Butler (1744–1822)

- Born in Ireland, Butler was the third son of a baronet.
- In 1758, his parents bought him an army commission and he served in the King’s 29th Regiment.
- In 1773, he sold his commission and bought land in South Carolina.
- In 1787, he served as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.
- He befriended Aaron Burr and sheltered him for a month after Hamilton’s death.
- He was one of the richest men in America when he died.
In February 1787, a call went out for a convention to amend the Articles of Confederation. Constitutional Convention began on May 14, 1787. It ended on September 17, 1787.
“May ye 30.th 1787 –
Resolved therefore that a National Government ought to be Established Consisting of a Supreme Legislative judiciary & Executive
*Resolved that the Representation in the National Legislature be not according to the present system *Not agreed to –

June ye 7.th 1787

....

The State Governments Mr Willson says will be rivals of the National surely they will be more jealous of them if they have no hand in Creating them....”
“18th of June  Col. Hambleton”

“Men Collectively he says are Governed by passions. The States will be rivals of the General--No! Make it their Interest by Laws of General Equity--and they will support the General Government. ”
Butler's Notebook
Butler’s Notebook
The Fugitive Slave Clause

“Wheresoever any person bound to service or labour in any state, shall flee into another state, it shall be lawful for the person intitled to such service or labour to reclaim and recover him he shall not be thereby discharged from such service or labour: but the legislatures of the several states shall make provision for the recovery of such person.”
The Fugitive Slave Clause

Kinsee -say Abraham
Abraham Kinsey
Markett Street on the
left hand near Sixth
Street -- Clifton at
the Blue Bell Wharf--
First Draft of the US Constitution

- July 24, 1787: Committee of Detail appointed to draft the Constitution
  - John Rutledge, South Carolina
  - Edmund Randolph, Virginia
  - Nathaniel Gorham, Massachusetts
  - Oliver Ellsworth, Connecticut
  - James Wilson, Pennsylvania
- Dated August 6, 1787
- Pierce Butler’s copy
Edits made on Page 6

- Supreme Court
- Impeachment
- Trial by jury
- Suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus
- Credit and coinage
Adding the Fugitive Slave Clause
August 28, 1787

Added to the Constitution as Article 15 on August 28, 1787.

“If any person bound to service or labor [inserted: illegible of the US] shall escape into another state, He or She shall not be discharged from such service or labor in consequence of any regulations subsisting in the State to which they escape; but shall be delivered up to the person justly Claiming their Service or labor.”
● It was distributed to the delegates on September 17.
● Each delegate received multiple copies to disseminate at home.
● Benjamin Franklin gave this copy to his nephew, Jonathan Williams.
● This copy resurfaced in the 1990s.
Preamble to the US Constitution

We the People of the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, do ordain, declare and establish the following Constitution for the Government of Ourselves and our Posterity.

ARTICLE I.
The title of this Government shall be, "The United States of America."

II.

WE, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

Sect. 1. ALL legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Sect. 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States, and the electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislature.
George Washington to Henry Knox, August 19, 1787

“By slow, I wish I could add & sure, movements, the business of the Convention progresses; but to say when it will end, or what will be the result, is more than I can venture to do…”

“I wish a disposition may be found in Congress – the several States Legislatures – and the community at large to adopt the Government which may be agreed on in Convention; because I am fully persuaded it is the best that can be obtained at the present moment, under such diversity of ideas as prevail.”
NEW YORK, July 11.

A letter from Poughkeepsie, dated July 8. Friday last the 4th instant, a very disagreeable fracus happened in the city of Albany, all the parties of which, as far as they have come to my knowledge, are—That the federalists having received the adoption by Virginia, last Thursday evening, proposed having a procession next day; but on manifestation of many of the antifederalists that should be disagreeable to them, they gave up the plan. When the next day came, July 4, it was proposed to the federalists to observe a party of about fifty federalists marching in procession to a vacant lot in the town, where, after firing three guns, they burnt the constitution. The federalists at saw this, and declared the constitution thus burnt.
"A very disagreeable fracus"

guns, they burnt the constitution. The federa-
who were then collected, determined imme-
to have a procession; and having arranged them-
began a march through the principal streets
the city; they met with no interruption till they
eto a narrow street in which Mr. Dennison lives
and on Green-street) when they were ordered not
proceed, by a large party who had collected there
pose them; after a few words, a general battle
place, with swords, bayonets, clubs, stones, &c.
lasted for some time, both parties fighting with
greatest rage, and determined obstinacy, till at
the antifederalists being overpowered by numbers
way and retreated, many into the house of a Mr.
son, where they made a second stand, and others
the country for safety. The federalists attacked
left of Mr. Hilt.
“A very disagreeable fracus”

...
We, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, in every year.

Section 3. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second year by the People of the several States, and the Number of Representatives shall be equally divided among them, having in each State a Population of not less than 30,000.

Section 4. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof for six years, and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Section 5. Each State shall have one Vote. A quorum for the purpose of making any rule of the House or for proceeding with any business shall consist of a majority of the whole number of Members of each House, and a quorum shall not be necessary to the election of Speaker or other officers.

Section 6. The House of Representatives shall be supplied by votes of election from the executive officers of the State, in the representation from which they shall happen.
We, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the Blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five Years, and been a Resident within that State for at least two Years before he shall be eligible to that Office. And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under the United States, shall be a Candidate for any司任 of Congress.

Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and perhaps more, if they think proper; and ought to keep open Session during all the Time within which they are sitting. They shall sit at such Place, and on such Days, as they may determine.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, except such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Members thereof shall be answerable for the Manners of their Respective Votes and Proceedings, to the Satisfaction of their Peers.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Controversies respecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls,

Judgment in cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disability to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, trust or profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Section 4. The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any Time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall begin on the first Monday in December, unless they think proper to meet sooner.

Section 5. Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its own Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behavior, and, with the Concurrence of two-thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, except such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Members thereof shall be answerable for the Manners of their Respective Votes and Proceedings, to the Satisfaction of their Peers.

Judgment in cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disability to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, trust or profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Section 6. The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Controversies respecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, which shall be held in such manner as the Senate may direct.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker, and such Speaker shallpreside over the Senate when it is in Session.

The President pro Tempore of the Senate shall preside over the same when the Vice President shall not be present, and the Said Speaker, or such Speaker as may be elected, shall preside in all Cases under this Article on which the Senate shall sit for the Trial of a Senator, when the Senate shall sit for the Trial of a Senator, when the Senate shall sit for the Trial of a Member of the House of Representatives.

The President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The President shall choose their Secretary and such other Officers as the Congress may with authority, and may require the Oaths of all such Officers.

Section 7. The right of the People to be secure in their Persons, Houses, Papers, and Effects, against unreasonable Searches and Seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable Cause, supported by Oath or Affirmation, and particularly describing the Place to be searched, and the Persons or Things to be seizure.

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We the People of the United States,
in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defence, promote the General Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article I, Section 1. A Bill of Rights shall be proposed by the Congress, and shall become a Law, if ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, before the end of the second Session of the Congress aforesaid. This Article shall be inoperative unless ratified as an amendment to the Constitution at the next General Election; and as soon as ratified, it shall be printed and published in every State, Territory, and County, in the manner provided by law.

The Bill of Rights shall consist of two parts: the first part, containing the first nine Amendments, shall be printed and published as follows:

First Amendment:
The Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Second Amendment:
The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be invaded.

Third Amendment:
No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be determined by law.

Fourth Amendment:
The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated.

Fifth Amendment:
No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Sixth Amendment:
The right of the Accused to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and to have the assistance of counsel for his defence.

Seventh Amendment:
The right of trial by jury shall be preserved, in criminal as well as civil cases.

Eighth Amendment:
The Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Ninth Amendment:
The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Tenth Amendment:
The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

The Bill of Rights shall be printed and published as follows:

First Amendment:

Second Amendment:

Third Amendment:

Fourth Amendment:

Fifth Amendment:

Sixth Amendment:

Seventh Amendment:

Eighth Amendment:

Ninth Amendment:

Tenth Amendment:

The Bill of Rights shall be printed and published as follows:

First Amendment:

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Fifth Amendment:

Sixth Amendment:

Seventh Amendment:

Eighth Amendment:

Ninth Amendment:

Tenth Amendment:
The Pennsylvania Packet, and Daily Advertiser.

[Price Four-Pence.] WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1787. [No. 1690.]

WE, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defence, promote the General Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every Year by the People of the several States, and the Members of the Senate shall be chosen in the manner which the several States may prescribe, subject to the Damn of the President of the United States, who shall have Power to veto any such Appropriation, or to propose or veto any other Bill, which shall be introduced into either House, and which shall not have been introduced into the Senate; and if not approved by Him, the Same shall not become a Law.

Section 3. Every Bill which shall have passed the Senate and House of Representatives, shall, before it becomes a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it, with his Objections, to that House in which it shall have originated, which shall then reconsider it; if, after a second Reading, and if approved by two thirds of the Members present, it shall be sent to the other House, by which it shall be likewise approved, it shall become a Law. But if not approved by both Houses, such Bill shall not be a Law.
Q&A

How?

Why?

Did you know?

Who?
Study the Founding Era with EduHam Online
A Tribute to Teachers: Heroes of 2020

Join us on **October 7 at 8pm ET** for a special virtual event celebrating teachers. Lin-Manuel Miranda will present the 2020 National History Teacher of the Year award, and we will hear from historians, teachers, and students about the **profound** and **lasting** influence teachers have had on their lives.

Questions? Email: events@gilderlehrman.org
Upcoming Programs

● **Book Breaks**, Sunday, September 20 at 12 pm ET (9 am PT)
  ○ Richard Brookhisier discusses his book *Give Me Liberty*

● **Inside the Vault**, Thursday, October 1 at 7 pm ET (4 pm PT)
  ○ Featuring documents related to the abolitionist John Brown

● **A Tribute to Teachers: Heroes of 2020**, October 7 at 8 pm ET (5 pm PT)

● **Siempre, Luis**, Wednesday, October 14 at 8 pm ET (5 pm PT)
  ○ Students in conversation with Luis Miranda about the documentary that airs on HBO on October 6

● Visit [gilderlehrman.org](http://gilderlehrman.org) for free resources for students, teachers, families, and history enthusiasts of all ages