

Stewart, *The Summer of 1787*, Chapters 16, 17, 18
Wesley Advocates 21 May 2017

The Curse of Heaven

What “curse of heaven” did the delegates keep returning to? How had Rutledge and his committee attempted to end this debate?

Who delivered the “first abolitionist speech in American political life”? On what occasion? To what end? What particular irony did he find in other delegates’ protection of this “nefarious institution”?

How did slavery influence discussions about import and export taxes?

How did the delegates resolve ultimately the issue of slave trade in the Constitution?

Stewart calls which delegate “least concerned about irritating his colleagues”? How did he earn that description?

Why does Stewart label 22 August the beginning of “a notable exercise in group hypocrisy”?

Whom would the delegates outrage if they exempted slave imports from taxation? Why?

What was Fitch’s *Perseverance*? What has it to do with Fulton?

Governor Livingston of New Jersey headed a new Committee of Eleven charged with what tasks? And the results?

According to Stewart, the ultimate pro-slavery stances in the Constitution resulted in what grim consequences?

David Brearly’s Presidency

Why was Brearly? How often did he speak at this convention? What main achievement do we remember him for? Charged by a convention that wanted “decisions, not debate, how quickly did Brearly’s committee act?

Who served on this committee, and how did those personalities shape the results? What did John Dickinson contribute?

How did this committee’s work revise or reshape the Senate?

How soon did amendments change what the Convention delegates decide concerning the Presidency? Why?

The Loyal Opposition

What three prominent delegates constitute the “loyal opposition” referred to in this chapter title?

What specifically did each of them object to in the finished Constitution? Which two seemed to stand on principle? And which one on politics?

Who constituted the Committee on Style? And how did they contribute to the Bill of Rights? Originally the proposed amendments numbered 12. What happened to the 2 when 10 became law in 1789?

How did “loyal opposition” from those original three lead to the Bill of Rights?