

Stewart, *The Summer of 1787*, Chapters 5 – 7
Wesley Advocates 2 April 2017

Virginia Leads

Describe the room where the delegate met and its layout. When did they meet precisely? In what arrangements did they sit? In what arrangements did they vote?

How did layout, temperatures, resolutions about secrecy affect the delegates and their debates?

Who presided, and who served as scribe? How was each particularly suited to his role?

What was the so-called Virginia Plan, and who presented it? How many provisions did it include? Why was the first one “a lie”?

What exactly was the Committee of the Whole? Who chaired it? How did it operate?

Wilson’s Bargain

Who was James Wilson? What was his chief goal?

Why did slavery figure so prominently in decisions about representation to the new legislature? What key models did the delegates cite as they sought to create a proper legislature?

Briefly state the large-states’ case for ending one-state-one-vote rule and process. And state the small states’ case for continuing that rule and process. Which state was largest? Smallest? Which sent no delegation?

What was James Wilson’s “bargain”? What problems did it solve? Which did it create?

What bargains did Wilson strike to win votes for his plan?

What states had ended slavery before this meeting in summer 1787?

What was St. George’s church? Why important? What was the Pennsylvania Abolition society? Why important?

Three Fifths of a Human Being

(or *Three-Fifths Human Being*, the hyphen warranted by turning the fraction into an adjective modifying *being* though superfluous if *three* serves as an adjective before the noun *fifths*)

Whom does Stewart regard as the subtlest politician present?

Why do “quotas of contribution” fail as a means of deciding representation?

Who was Elbridge Gerry, and what arguments did he offer for ending one-state-one-vote rule?

The 9-2 vote favoring Wilson’s three-fifths human being brought what states onto each side of the vote?

How did the summer’s heat affect tempers, debates, votes?

How did the delegates amuse themselves when not meeting?