

JAMES MADISON. *The Papers of James Madison*, Vol. 3: 3 March 1781–31 December 1781. Edited by William T. Hutchinson and William M. E. Rachal. Pp. xxv, 381. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1963. \$10.00.

Twelve days after Congress ratified the Articles of Confederation in 1781, delegate James Madison proposed an amendment which gave early evidence of his stand on the powers of the federal government. In it he used, for the first time, a term which was later to become well associated with his name—"implied power." Those words, as his editors remind us, were to become "a phrase of great moment in the constitutional history of the United States." Madison's proposal, which would have authorized Congress to require the confederated states to fulfill their federal engagements, appears early in this new volume of the Madison papers. The young man from Virginia was beginning to find himself, to win the attention of his older colleagues, and to make up in logical analysis and clarity of insight what he lacked in flair.

Philadelphia was an uneasy and often tumultuous place in the spring of 1781; there were military and financial crises to vex the government. Washington's north-

ern army was unpaid and unfed, inflation was raging, and now Cornwallis had entered Madison's beloved Virginia. The apprehension, and indeed the bitter anger, which Madison felt at the despoiling of Virginia is evident in many of these documents. Virginia had borne a heavy burden for the past two years of the war. Then, early in 1781, Richmond had been occupied and ravaged. In despair at the persistent policy of the British in burning towns and terrorizing the townspeople, Madison drafted a public manifesto calling for the shooting of British officers in retaliation. In a calmer moment, the measure was wisely put aside, and a proclamation of prayer and thanksgiving substituted.

Finally, in late September, Lieutenant Colonel Tench Tilghman rode a spent and mud-flecked horse into Philadelphia, carrying the news of Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown. "I return you my fervent congratulations," Madison wrote to his friend Edmund Pendleton. "If these severe doses of ill fortune do not cool the phrenzy and relax the pride of Britain, it would seem as if Heaven had in reality abandoned her to her folly & her fate."

In this third volume there is much to assure us that the editors of Madison's papers are continuing their work with high competence and the greatest fidelity to scholarship.

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