

The Papers of James Madison. Volume 14: 6 April 1791-16 March 1793. Edited by Robert A. Rutland and Thomas A. Mason. (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1983. Preface, acknowledgments, editorial method, abbreviations, short titles, Madison chronology, index. Pp. xxx, 495. \$27.50.)

This latest volume of the Madison Papers covers the two years during which Madison served in the Second Congress. As the editors note in their brief introduction, these were years in which Madison suffered political setbacks. His victories in Congress became less frequent, his rift with Alexander Hamilton deepened, and his influence with President Washington declined. At the same time, Madison began laying the groundwork for future triumphs as he promoted the founding of Philip Freneau's opposition newspaper and contributed to the development of the embryonic Republican party.

Included in this volume are Madison's correspondence, memorandums, speeches, and newspaper essays. Politics dominates most of the writings, which touch on issues such as Washington's indecision about seeking reelection, attempts to unseat John Adams as vice-president, formation of a state government in Kentucky, and a host of other topics. The two North Carolina references in the index refer to the vice-presidential campaign in 1792. The titles of Madison's newspaper essays, such as "The Union: Who Are Its Real Friends?" and "A Candid State of Parties," reveal the growing factionalism of the era. Not all of the writings, however, are limited to the practical side of politics. Madison's penchant for political theory can be found throughout the volume. In his essay entitled "Universal Peace," he advanced the theory that needless bloodshed could be avoided if nations were required to adopt balanced budgets during wartime. Madison's scientific interests can be seen in his notes from his famous northern tour with Thomas Jefferson. The manuscript, which is printed in its entirety for the first time, had been previously known only from excerpts in a nineteenth-century auction catalog.

On at least one occasion, one finds repetition that could have been avoided. On pages 71-73 the editors have printed three letters soliciting subscriptions to Freneau's *National Gazette* that are nearly identical in wording. This, however, is a minor point, and the editors deserve praise for their useful index, restrained annotation, and careful editing. As part of a distinguished series, this volume will remain useful to students of history long after current monographs have been forgotten.

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