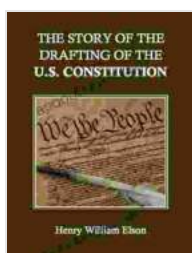


# The Story of the Drafting of the Constitution: A Journey into the Birth of a Nation

The United States Constitution is widely regarded as one of the most enduring and influential documents in human history. Its principles of limited government, individual rights, and the separation of powers have served as a model for countless constitutions around the world.



## The Story of the Drafting of the U.S. Constitution

by Henry W. Elson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 75 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting: Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 13 pages

Lending : Enabled



But how did this remarkable document come to be? The story of the drafting of the Constitution is a fascinating tale of political intrigue, compromise, and sheer brilliance.

## The Constitutional Convention

In the summer of 1787, delegates from 12 of the 13 states (Rhode Island refused to send delegates) gathered in Philadelphia for a convention to

revise the Articles of Confederation, the weak central government that had been in place since the American Revolution.

The convention was initially supposed to last a few weeks, but it quickly became clear that a wholesale revision of the Articles was needed. The delegates spent four months debating and deliberating over the fundamental principles of government.

## **Key Figures**

Among the most influential delegates at the convention were:

- **George Washington:** The presiding officer of the convention and a towering figure in American history.
- **James Madison:** The "Father of the Constitution," who played a key role in drafting the document.
- **Alexander Hamilton:** A brilliant orator and advocate for a strong central government.
- **Benjamin Franklin:** The oldest delegate at the convention and a wise and respected statesman.

## **Debates and Compromises**

The delegates at the convention grappled with a wide range of issues, including:

- The structure of the government
- The powers of the different branches of government
- The rights of individuals

- The issue of slavery

One of the most contentious issues was the question of representation in the new government. Should states be represented equally in Congress, or should representation be based on population? The delegates eventually reached a compromise, known as the Great Compromise, which created a bicameral legislature with a Senate where states were represented equally and a House of Representatives where representation was based on population.

Another major compromise was the Three-Fifths Compromise, which counted slaves as three-fifths of a person for the purposes of representation and taxation. This compromise helped to appease Southern states, which had a large slave population.

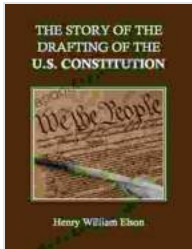
## **The Final Document**

After four months of intense debate and negotiation, the delegates finally agreed on a final draft of the Constitution. The document was signed on September 17, 1787.

The Constitution has been amended 27 times since its adoption, but its basic principles remain the same. It is a testament to the wisdom and foresight of the Founding Fathers that this remarkable document has stood the test of time.

The story of the drafting of the Constitution is a reminder that even in the most tumultuous of times, it is possible to come together and create something truly great. The Constitution is a testament to the power of

compromise, cooperation, and the enduring belief in the principles of liberty and justice.



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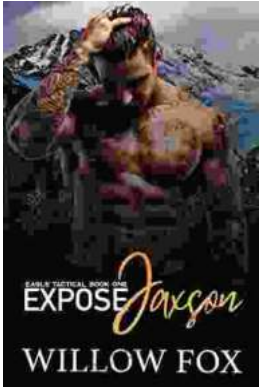
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