

powerful and numerous party, who were unfriendly to its adoption. The party, which framed and supported it, was composed of those who saw the necessity of the United States, considered as one nation, being provided with a national government; that is to say, with an organ or instrument, by which their intercourse with foreign states might be carried on, and by which, at the same time, such matters of internal police, as are closely connected with that intercourse, might be regulated. In furnishing the United States with this indispensable organ, the chief difficulty consisted in establishing a government, which should both possess sufficient vigour for the purposes its founders had in view, and at the same time be armed with no prerogatives that might seem dangerous to the liberties of the nation, or deviate from those forms of democratic polity to which the American people are so closely attached.

The constitution actually framed, seems, in an eminent degree, to possess both these commendations. The powers, with which it is