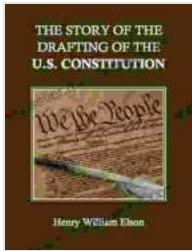


The Story of the Drafting of the Constitution



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

by Henry W. Elson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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The drafting of the United States Constitution was a complex and contentious process that took place over several months in 1787. The delegates to the Constitutional Convention were tasked with creating a new framework for the government of the United States, and they had to overcome a number of challenges in order to reach a consensus.

The Convention was convened in Philadelphia on May 25, 1787. Fifty-five delegates from twelve states attended the Convention, but only thirty-nine of them signed the final document. The delegates were a diverse group of men, including lawyers, merchants, planters, and politicians. They had different backgrounds, different interests, and different visions for the future of the United States.

The Convention was divided into several committees, each of which was tasked with drafting a different part of the Constitution. The Committee on

Style and Arrangement was responsible for putting the final document together.

The delegates to the Convention debated a wide range of issues, including the structure of the government, the powers of the different branches of government, and the rights of citizens. They also had to address the issue of slavery, which was a major source of tension between the northern and southern states.

The Convention reached a compromise on the issue of slavery by agreeing to the Three-Fifths Compromise. This compromise counted slaves as three-fifths of a person for the purposes of taxation and representation in the House of Representatives.

The Convention also agreed to create a strong central government that would be able to regulate commerce, raise taxes, and declare war. This was a significant departure from the Articles of Confederation, which had created a very weak central government.

The Constitution was finally completed on September 17, 1787. It was then sent to the states for ratification. The Constitution was ratified by nine states by June 21, 1788, and it went into effect on March 4, 1789.

The drafting of the Constitution was a major turning point in the history of the United States. The Constitution created a new framework for the government of the United States, and it has served as the foundation of American government for over two centuries.

Challenges in Drafting the Constitution

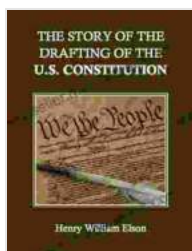
The delegates to the Constitutional Convention faced a number of challenges in drafting the Constitution. These challenges included:

- **The different interests of the states.** The states had different economic interests, different political interests, and different social interests. The delegates had to find a way to create a government that would be fair to all of the states.
- **The issue of slavery.** Slavery was a major source of tension between the northern and southern states. The delegates had to find a way to address the issue of slavery in a way that would not split the country apart.
- **The fear of a strong central government.** Many of the delegates were afraid of creating a strong central government that would be able to infringe on the rights of the states. The delegates had to find a way to create a government that would be strong enough to protect the country from foreign threats, but not so strong that it would be able to oppress the people.

Despite these challenges, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention were able to reach a consensus and create a document that has served as the foundation of American government for over two centuries.

The drafting of the Constitution was a complex and contentious process, but it was also a successful process. The delegates to the Constitutional Convention were able to overcome a number of challenges and create a document that has served as the foundation of American government for over two centuries.

The Constitution is a living document that has been amended over time to meet the changing needs of the country. However, the basic principles of the Constitution remain the same. The Constitution is a testament to the wisdom and foresight of the Founding Fathers, and it continues to serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for people around the world.

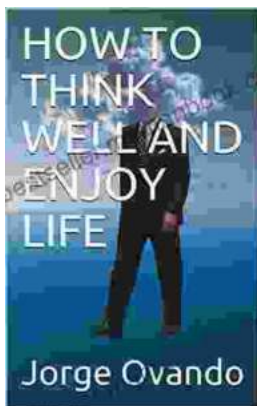


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