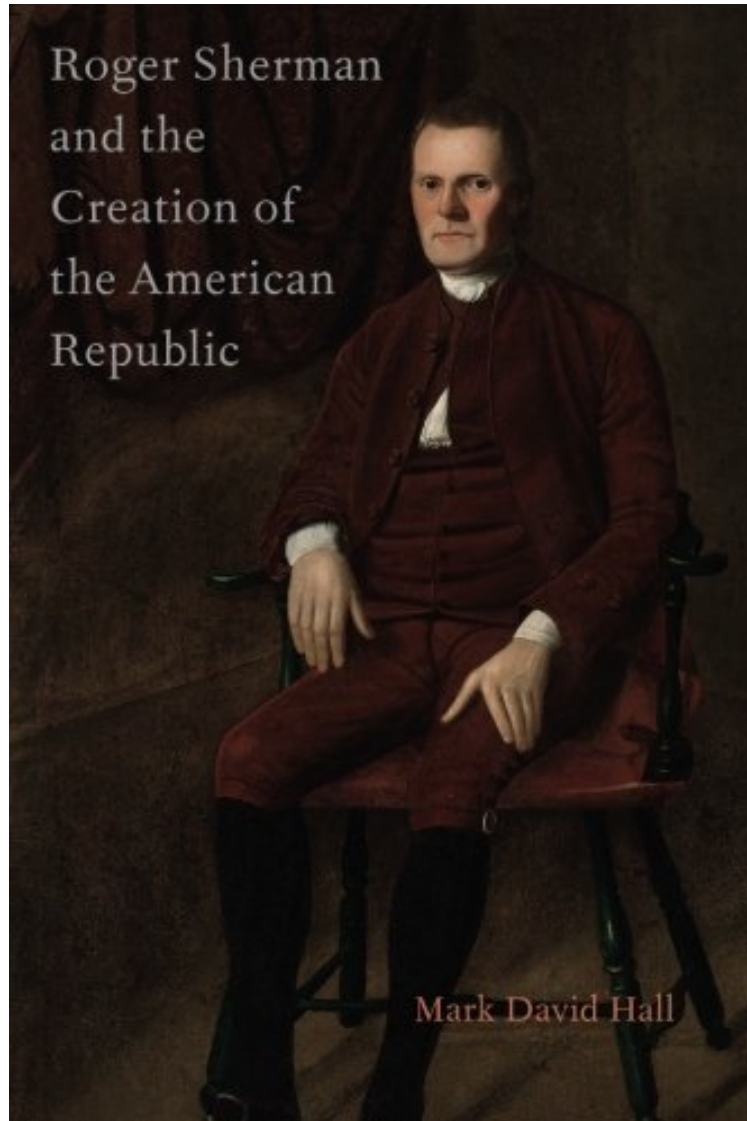


[Free read ebook] Roger Sherman and the Creation of the American Republic

Roger Sherman and the Creation of the American Republic

Mark David Hall

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#1679524 in Books Mark David Hall 2015-01-01 2015-01-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 6.10 x .70 x 9.101, .78 #File Name: 0190218703240 pages Roger Sherman and the Creation of the American Republic | File size: 58.Mb

Mark David Hall : Roger Sherman and the Creation of the American Republic before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roger Sherman and the Creation of the American Republic:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Inconclusive EvidenceBy VA DuckProfessor Mark David Hall offers a look at one of the most important of the least known Founders and Framers of the Constitution. The author's approach is NOT biographic (by his own assertion, loc. 230) but rather a careful examination of the influence of

Sherman's religion (New Light Congregational) on his political acts. Roger Sherman's resum is one of the most impressive of the founders. He was the ONLY Founder to sign all four of the Great State Papers of the United States (Continental Association, 1774; Declaration of Independence, 1776; Articles of Confederation, 1777; U.S. Constitution, 1787). He addressed the Constitutional Convention more times (138) than any but three of the other Delegates (Gouverneur Morris James Wilson of PA and James Madison of VA) and served on five of its committees, an honor equalled only by Hugh Williamson of NC and exceeded only by Rufus King (6) of MA. Professor Hall's work impressively examines Sherman's religion and its influence on him. The book also explores Sherman's political contributions. Where the book falls short (for this reader at least) is the promised connection, i.e. a clear illustration of HOW (and where) Mr. Sherman's particular brand of religious belief made its way into the Founding Documents. For the purpose of the author's thesis, one could (carefully) stipulate that religion influenced the Founders, or even influenced the drafting of the Great Papers. Notably, Professor Hall's book promised much more: "In this book I contend that the political ideas of many leaders in the founding era are best understood in light of a long tradition of CALVINIST reflection on politics" - but in the end, concludes without living up to the contention. Professor Hall may have set the bar higher than the particulars of Calvinism could support. Separating Calvinist tenants from Diest, or Episcopal, or even Catholic (heaven help us) as they relate to Mr. Sherman's contribution to the Founding Documents proves to be a muddled and unsatisfying distillation, e.g., "Sherman like many of his New England colleagues, was simultaneously an advocate of democracy, state's rights and a stronger national government." (loc. 1435). Or, "Sherman and his Reformed colleagues were part of a tradition that had long held that individuals possess natural rights, that governments should be based on the consent of the people, that civil authority should be limited, and that people have a right to overthrow tyrannical regimes." (loc.1249). But so too did Madison, Jefferson, Pinckney, Carroll, Mason, etc. and no Calvinists, they! The book is worth the read, but recommended to those who's interest in Sherman may be from the religious perspective rather than traditionally biographic. The book can also be appreciated as a rare and welcome offering outside the historical "litany" of: Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Franklin, and THAT is worth congratulations to the author. Professor Hall takes the time to frequently inform the reader of his intention for the book, or chapter, or section, so there is little reason to miss the objectives intended. Frequently, however, the conclusions come off as incomplete, forced, or obscure. In the end you will be better off for the read having learned more of a very important founder, but you may need a more generous perception of accountability, than this reader, to be convinced of Professor Hall's contention. While that assessment is arguable, Professor Hall does convince his readership of Mr. Sherman's deserved importance and undeserved neglect as a one of the Great Founders.-----kindle edition-----A well done e-book containing the proper links to chapters and citations. There is a well populated notes section, an appendix and an index. The index contains page numbers (from its paper book siblings) but is unlinked; easily overcome by the kindle's "highlight-search book" function, which replicates index functionality. There is one illustration - a stilted painting of Sherman by the ungifted portraitist Ralph Earl. The text-to-speech is enabled, but there are no page numbers, the electronic functional equivalent only... the lame "location". No text errors, but William Pierce is confused as "Franklin" Pierce at location 120. e-book publication quality for Publisher Oxford University Press , good job. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. he was my Great, GreatBy R. Jones Outstanding! Also, he was my Great, Great, Great Grandfather! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Who will be the Sherman of the 21st century? By Althusius We need a new army of black robed lovers of liberty to reignite the great themes of federalist/covenant ideas that founded our republic.

One of leading figures of his day, Roger Sherman was a member of the five-man committee that drafted the Declaration of Independence and an influential delegate at the Constitutional Convention. As a Representative and Senator in the new republic, he had a hand in determining the proper scope of the national government's power as well as drafting the Bill of Rights. In *Roger Sherman and the Creation of the American Republic*, Mark David Hall explores Sherman's political theory and shows how it informed his many contributions to America's founding. A close examination of Sherman's religious beliefs provides insight into how those beliefs informed his political actions. Hall shows that Sherman, like many founders, was influenced by Calvinist political thought, a tradition that played a role in the founding generation's opposition to Great Britain, and led them to develop political institutions designed to prevent corruption, promote virtue, and protect rights. Contrary to oft-repeated assertions that the founders advocated a strictly secular policy, Hall argues persuasively that most founders believed Christianity should play an important role in the new American republic.

"It is one of the many virtues of Mark David Hall's succinct, lucid monograph that he makes a convincing case for Sherman's significance without falling prey to the whining tone of special pleading that so often taints books examining neglected Founding Fathers... Hall has written an admirable introduction to Roger Sherman's life, political career, and role as a thinking politician... [An] excellent book." --Church History and Religious Culture "Dr. Mark Hall offers a compelling Calvinist narrative to the formation of the American order in his recent political biography, *Roger Sherman and the Creation of the American Republic*... Hall's political biography of Roger Sherman is an excellent and

heartily welcomed addition to this woefully neglected field of research." --Alan R. Crippen II, John Jay Institute "As is, we have a book on Roger Sherman that religious and revolutionary historians should find useful." --Journal of Church and State "A great book about a great but little known American. Professor Hall gracefully explains how one of the Founding Era's best politicians fully integrated his religious faith into a life of pragmatic and effective public service. Why can't more histories be this enjoyable to read?"--William R. Casto, Paul Whitfield Horn University Professor of Law, Texas Tech University "Hardly the 'simple cobbler from Connecticut' portrayed on Broadway in 1776, Roger Sherman emerges from Professor Hall's excellent volume as deeply immersed in both Reformed theology and the practical politics of nation-building. Sherman's contributions to the American founding have been overlooked for too long, and Professor Hall has done a great service to remind us not only of the importance of Sherman himself but also of the Protestant Reformed tradition that he represented."--Donald L. Drakeman, author of Church, State, and Original Intent "While most debates about the constitutional intent of our Founding Fathers focus on Madison, Franklin, Washington, and Jefferson, Mark David Hall expands our intellectual horizons with this detailed examination of the life and thought of Roger Sherman, the most important of the 'forgotten founders.' But Hall's research is more than just a biography of one man; he uses the person of Roger Sherman to reveal the deep-seated culture of Calvinism that influenced the original structure of our nation's government. This book is a must-read for anyone engaged in legal debates about the nature of the U.S. Constitution."--Anthony Gill, author of The Political Origins of Religious Liberty "The best life of Connecticut's foremost Founding Father ever written." --The American Conservative "In this thoughtful, compelling book, Mark David Hall not only demonstrates that Roger Sherman was one of the most influential Founding Fathers, but he also convincingly locates Sherman's politics in the Reformed Christian tradition. Sherman deserves recognition as an indispensable leader of the new American nation, and every student and scholar of the Revolutionary period would profit greatly from reading Hall's treatment of this distinguished Connecticut Patriot."--Thomas S. Kidd, author of Patrick Henry: First Among Patriots "Elegantly written, carefully researched, and downright persuasive...Hall so brilliantly and strenuously challenges the consensus view that we should look forward to this book being banned from public schools across the country...it is a book worth reading."--Library of Law and Liberty "This slim volume should find its way onto many syllabi. Clearly and engagingly written, it is perfect for undergraduates, who also respond enthusiastically to the 'forgotten founder' trope. This fine study is recommended not only for students but also for scholars who believe they can understand the founding as a purely secular event." --The Journal of American History About the Author Mark David Hall is Herbert Hoover Distinguished Professor of Politics at George Fox University.