

**Office of the Vermont Secretary of State
Vermont State Archives**

**Lemuel Chipman,
Impeachment Sought,
Dismissed, 1792**

A petition to the Council of Censors called for the impeachment of Chipman, a Rutland County assistant judge, for mal-administration. The Censors dismissed the petition on the grounds that it was more properly a matter for the General Assembly.

On October 11, 1792 the Council of Censors received a petition from Matthew Lyon "Praying that Lem'l Chipman Esq. might be impeached for Mal-Administration for signing an attachment against him without oath being given as the law direct..." On October 13th the Censors dismissed the petition on the grounds it was "expedient that complaints of individual officers for offenses against the Constitution should be made in the first instance to the Gen'l Assembly."

There is no record that Lyon subsequently petitioned the General Assembly. In November, 1792 Chipman was elected a presidential elector for Vermont. Chipman was the brother to Nathaniel Chipman, who had been counsel to the Council of Censors in 1785 when Lyon was impeached.

See [Council of Censors](#), pp. 105-106. Lyon's petition can be found in the Manuscript Vermont State Papers, Vol. 18, p. 385.