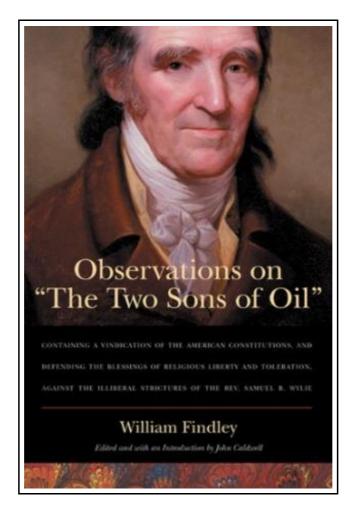
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OBSERVATIONS ON 'THE TWO SONS OF OIL': CONTAINING A VINDICATION OF THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONS, AND DEFENDING THE BLESSINGS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND TOLERATION, AGAINST THE ILLIBERAL STRICTURES OF THE REVEREND SAMUEL B. WYLIE



Liberty Fund Inc. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Observations on 'The Two Sons of Oil': Containing a Vindication of the American Constitutions, and Defending the Blessings of Religious Liberty and Toleration, Against the Illiberal Strictures of the Reverend Samuel B. Wylie, William Findley, William Findley was an important, if lesser-known, politician during the early national period of American history. He was a captain in the Revolutionary army, an Anti-Federalist, and a forty-year veteran politician of both state and national office. In the Pennsylvania ratifying convention he had vigorously opposed the approval of the proposed Constitution because he felt that it did not guarantee the protection of some basic liberties such as jury trial; religious freedom; and freedom of speech, assembly, press, etc. After the Bill of Rights was adopted, Findley became a strong supporter of the Constitution. OBSERVATIONS ON 'THE TWO SONS OF OIL' was written in 1811 in response to the Reverend Samuel B Wylie's work, 'The Two Sons of Oil', which was published in 1803. In this work of radical Presbyterian theology, Wylie pointed out what he considered to be deficiencies in the constitutions of both Pennsylvania and the United States and declared them to be immoral. Findley's response to Wylie's criticisms in 'Observations' showed that it was neither the purpose nor the design of the United States government to have a federal religion and a federal creed. In a broader sense the book is also a passionate defense of a civil government guided by moral principles that allow for essential freedoms. Findley's defense of religious liberty and the American constitutions affords a grand window through which to view early American understanding about the relationship between politics and faith and why it is essential for both liberty and piety to resist any attempt to unite government and...

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