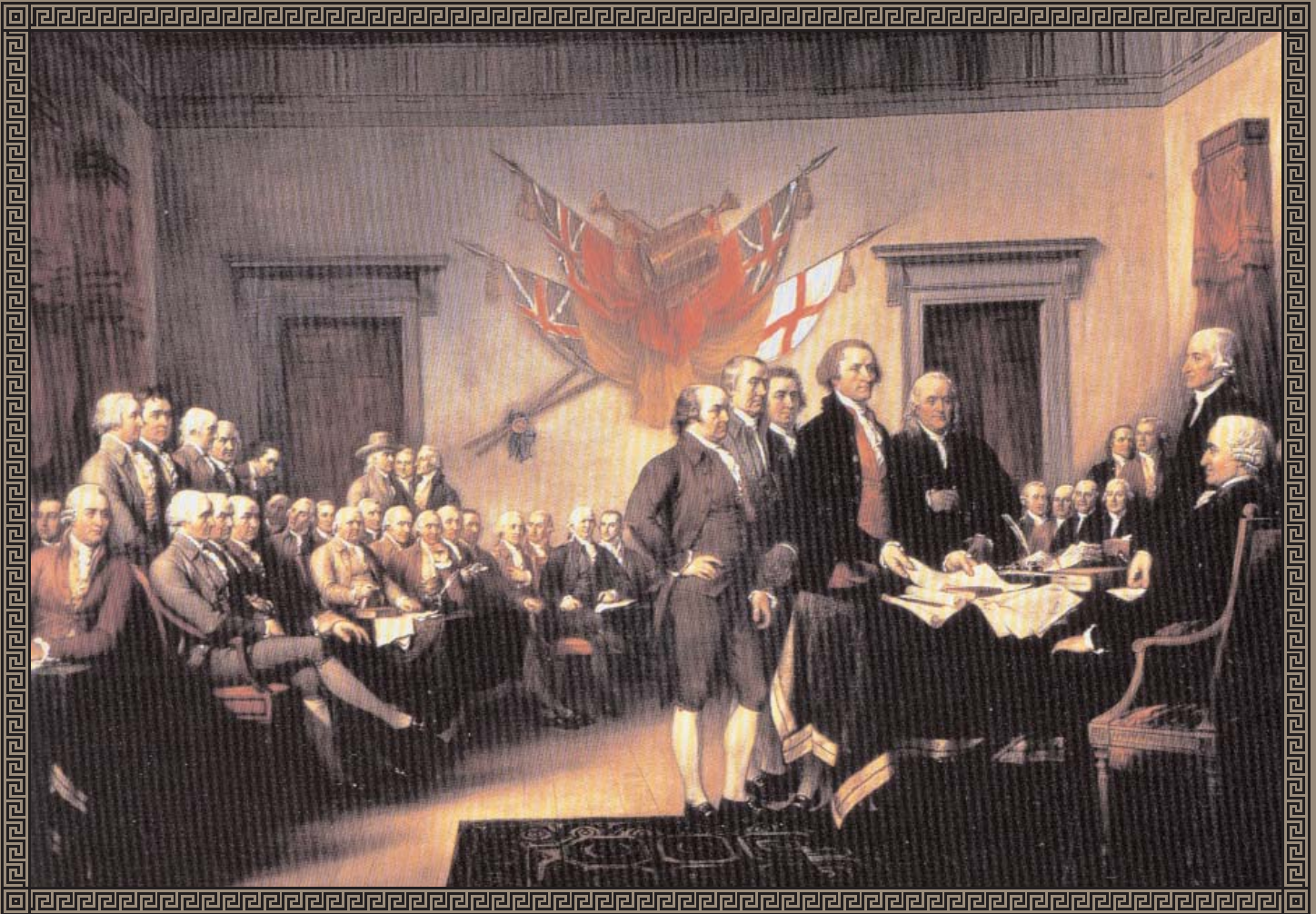


Adams

National Historical Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior



PEN & PARCHMENT

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Dear Teacher,

Adams National Historical Park is a unique setting where history comes to life. Our school programs actively engage students in their own exciting and enriching learning process. We hope that students participating in this program will come to realize that communication, cooperation, sacrifice, and determination are necessary components in seeking justice and liberty.

The American Revolution was one of the most daring popular movements in modern history. The Colonists were challenging one of the most powerful nations in the world. The Colonists had to decide whether to join other Patriots in the movement for independence or remain loyal to the King. It became a necessity for those that supported independence to find ways to help America win its war with Great Britain. To make the experiment of representative government work it was up to each citizen to determine the guiding principles for the new nation and communicate these beliefs to those chosen to speak for them at the Continental Congress. Those chosen to serve in the fledgling government had to use great statesmanship to follow the directions of those they represented while still finding common ground to unify the disparate colonies in a time of crisis. This symbiotic relationship between the people and those who represented them was perhaps best described by John Adams in a letter that he wrote from the Continental Congress to Abigail in 1774. He wrote, "I must entreat you, my dear Partner in all the joys and sorrows, Prosperity and Adversity of my Life, to take part with me in the Struggle." This program focuses on the great achievement of the Declaration of Independence, and the monumental role that John Adams played in its passage. In addition, this program will examine the great achievement of Abigail Adams in setting forth her own vision for the new nation and her use of writing to communicate these ideas.

Pen & Parchment is an active and thoughtful program, in which students travel through time and space to discover the meaning of independence. Students then assume the roles of delegates to the Continental Congress and journey from Penn's Hill to Pennsylvania to take part in the crucial debate over the Declaration of Independence and, finally, to sign it.

ADAMS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

THEME

John and Abigail Adams' role in founding a just and free nation

GOALS

To have students actively learn, through the Adams family's example, that sacrifice, cooperation, and determination are necessary attributes for seeking justice and liberty.

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this program, students should be able to ...

Identify Abigail Adams and John Adams as two ardent patriots of the Revolutionary era who contributed greatly to the founding and strengthening of their nation.

List some ways that John Adams and Abigail Adams helped their nation during the American Revolutionary War.

Identify why Abigail Adams' letters to John Adams during the American war were important then and are still relevant today.

List two major compromises made in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence.

Identify why Abigail Adams felt compelled to urge her husband to "Remember the ladies."



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

PEN & PARCHMENT is an active and thoughtful program, in which students travel through time and space to discover the meaning of independence. This program focuses on the great achievement of the Declaration of Independence, and the monumental role that John Adams played in its passage. In addition, this program will examine the great achievement of Abigail Adams in setting forth her own vision for the new nation and her use of writing to communicate these ideas. Students participating in the program will be introduced to primary sources and historical reasoning.

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Pre-visit activities and materials are designed to introduce the American Revolutionary Era and the people who played key roles in the framing of the Declaration of Independence. The materials provide a comprehensive preparation for on-site activities and their use will enhance the on-site experience.

Included in the pre-visit materials are role cards for the 56 delegates of the Continental Congress who signed the Declaration of Independence. While it is not mandatory that teachers assign roles before their visit, doing so will allow students to become familiar with the characters they will portray in the program. * Please do not assign the roles of Abigail Adams or John Adams. These roles will be portrayed by Park Rangers. Even though you may not have 56 students to portray the 56 delegates, all delegates are integral to the program. When assigning more than one delegate's role to a student, please make sure the delegates are from the same colony.

Also included in the pre-visit materials are two sheets labeled: Road to the Congress: A Difference of Opinion and A Woman's View of a Man's World: A Difference of Opinion. These program sheets can be read by students to give them perspective on the issues raised in the program or they can be used as scripts for an in-class debate or play on these subjects. This also is true of the 56 delegate role cards.

ON-SITE ACTIVITIES

Students will assume the roles of the delegates and travel to "Philadelphia." With direction from John Adams, a delegate from Massachusetts, students will debate the important issues of the day, vote to adopt the Declaration of Independence and, finally, sign the momentous document.

Through their participation in this program students will enhance their understanding that communication, cooperation, sacrifice, and determination are necessary components in seeking justice and liberty.

POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

To reinforce lessons learned from On-site Activities, students are encouraged to complete one or more of the following post-visit activities:

Have the class or each student write a letter to their representative in Congress urging them to remember, as they formulate new laws, the sacrifices made by the framers of the Declaration of Independence.

Have the class frame its own "code of laws" for the class that pays special attention to being fair and remembering those that sometimes are forgotten.

Locate and visit at least one site in the area that commemorates a woman who has made an important contribution in some area of American life. (Phillis Wheatley at the Old South Meeting House, The Mill Girls of Lowell, Rosie the Riveter at Charlestown Navy Yard, etc.)

Learn more about the public service of Abigail and John Adams by reading the biographies included in the Post-Visit Materials.

Research what happened to each of the delegates after the Declaration of Independence was passed by reading the short subsequent histories in the Post-Visit Materials section. Find out if anything was named in honor of the student's Signer in the delegate's home state (county, town, college, school, etc.).

PRE-VISIT MATERIALS



ABIGAIL ADAMS AT PENN'S HILL

June 18, 1775 Letter from Abigail Adams to John Adams

Map of the Battle of Bunker's Hill

Picture of Charlestown Burning

Worksheet with Questions about Bunker's Hill

ABIGAIL ADAMS: DOMESTIC PATRIOTISM

Excerpts from Letters of Abigail Adams from her farm in Braintree

Worksheet with Questions about Home Life During the Revolution

American Revolution Rebus

ABIGAIL ADAMS: "REMEMBER THE LADIES"

A Woman's View of a Man's World (Timeline)

Abigail Adams: "Mrs. Delegate"

March 31, 1776 Letter of Abigail Adams to John Adams

Worksheet about Women in Revolutionary America

AT THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

Road to the Congress: A Difference of Opinion (Timeline)

Brief History of the Continental Congress

Road Map of Thirteen Colonies in 1775

Worksheet about Road Map of the Thirteen Colonies in 1775

Creation of the American Flag

The American Colonies in 1775

56 Role Cards for Delegates

Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence

Final Version of Declaration of Independence

Worksheet about the Declaration of Independence

ABIGAIL ADAMS AT PENN'S HILL



Dearest Friend

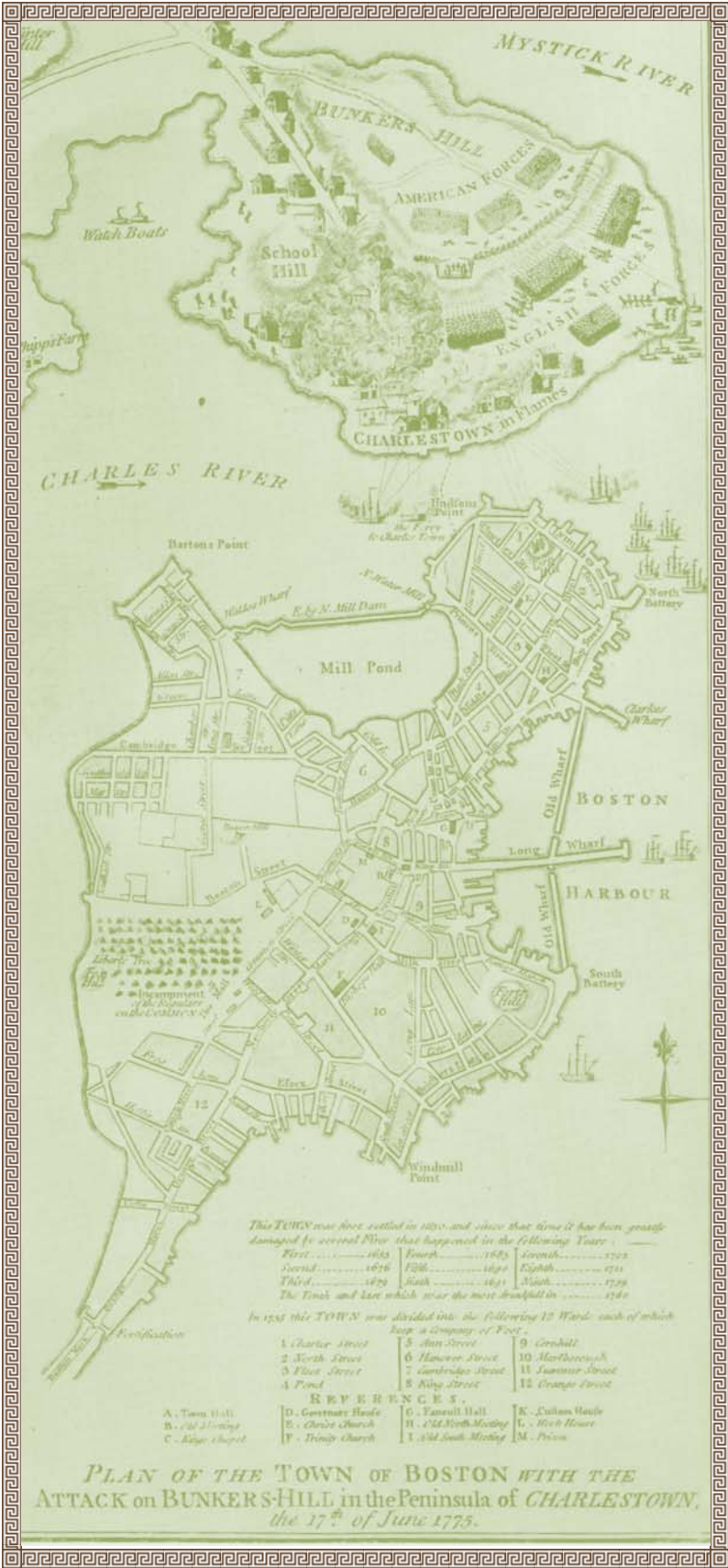
Sunday June 18, 1775

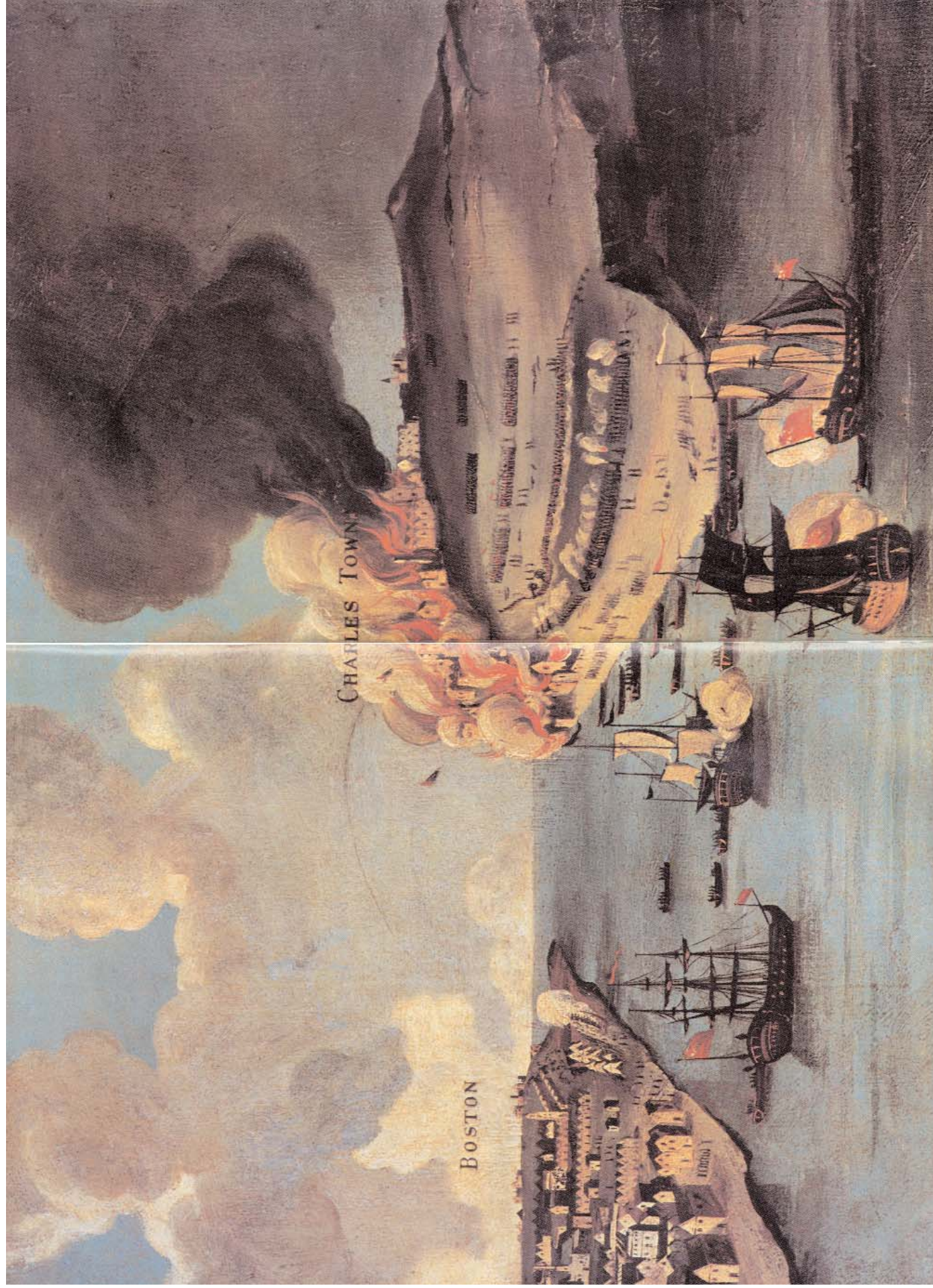
The Day; perhaps the decisive Day is come on which the fate of America depends. My bursting Heart must find vent at my pen. I have just heard that our dear Friend Dr. Warren is no more but fell gloriously fighting for his Country-saying better to die honourably in the field than ignominiously hang upon the Gallows. Great is our Loss. He has distinguished himself in every engagement, by his courage and fortitude, by animating the Soldiers and leading them on by his own example. A particular account of these dreadful, but I hope Glorious Days will be transmitted you, no doubt in the exactest manner.

... Charlestown is laid in ashes. The Battle began ..., Saturday morning about 3 o'clock and has not ceased yet and tis now 3 o'clock Sabbath afternoon.

Tis expected they will come out over the Neck to night, and a dreadful Battle must ensue. ... How many have fallen we know not-the constant roar of the cannon is so distressing that we can not Eat, Drink or Sleep. May we be supported and sustained in the dreadful conflict. I shall tarry here till tis thought unsafe by my Friends, and then I have secured myself a retreat at your Brothers who has kindly offerd me part of his house. I cannot compose myself to write any further at present. I will add more as I hear further.

Abigail Adams





Attack on Bunker's Hill with the Burning of Charlestown, Massachusetts, June 17, 1775

WORKSHEET FOR LETTER DATED JUNE 18, 1775

Name:



Directions: Read Abigail Adams' letter of June 18, 1775 and answer the following questions.

1. Who do you think Abigail is writing this letter to? Does it help you to know that she sent it to Philadelphia?
2. What event, that happened on June 17, 1775, is Abigail describing?
3. In the first paragraph, Abigail tells of the death of Dr. Warren. Play detective and see if you can find out anything more about this man. *(Extra Credit: What is Dr. Warren's connection to the Adams family?)
4. Who does Abigail expect to "come out over the Neck tonight?"
5. What does Abigail tell her "Dearest Friend" that she will do?

ABIGAIL ADAMS: DOMESTIC PATRIOTISM



Dear John,

Braintree May 24 1775

Our House has been upon this alarm in the same Scene of confusion that it was on the first - Soldiers coming in for lodging, for Breakfast, for Supper, for Drink &c. &c. Sometimes refugees from Boston tired and fatigued, seek an asylum for a Day or Night, a week -- you can hardly imagine how we live ... We know not what a day will bring forth, or what distress one hour may throw us into.

Estigail Adams

Dear Mercy,

Braintree April 13 1776

I find myself...doubled in cares to which I know myself unequal, in the Education of my little flock .. I find it necessary not only to pay attention to my own in door domestic affairs, but to everything without, about our little farm.. Frugality, Industry, and economy are the Lessons of the day--at least they must be so for me or my small Boat will suffer ship-wreck.

Estigail Adams

DOMESTIC PATRIOTISM WORKSHEET

Name:

Directions: Read the letter from Abigail Adams to John Adams dated May 24, 1775 and the letter from Abigail to her friend, Mercy Otis Warren, dated April 13, 1776 and answer the questions below.

1. In the first letter Abigail tells John Adams that "our house is in a state of alarm." Why do you think it is in alarm? Does it help you to know that the Battle of Lexington and Concord took place just one month before Abigail wrote this letter.
2. When John Adams is at the Continental Congress, he is being a Patriot. At home on her farm Abigail is also being a Patriot. What does she say in her letter to her husband that she is doing at home to help her country?
3. What do you think Abigail means when she says to her husband, "you can hardly imagine how we live?"
4. In the second letter, who do you think Abigail means by "her little flock?"
5. Abigail says that she must do her "Domestic Affairs" (housework) and "everything without" (farm chores). Why did Abigail and other women who lived during the Revolutionary War have to do so much?

COLONIAL REBUS

Rebuses were a popular form of puzzle when John and Abigail Adams were alive. A rebus combines pictures and words to send a message. Solve the rebus to answer the questions below.



Who do you think wrote the letter? _____

Who do you think the letter was written to? _____

What is the subject of the letter? _____

ABIGAIL ADAMS: REMEMBER THE LADIES

*I desire you would remember the Ladies, &
be more & favourable to them than your ancestors*



WOMAN'S VIEW OF A MAN'S WORLD: A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

In 1776, women represented half the American population, but they did not enjoy the same rights as the other half of the population. While the American Revolutionary War continued and the delegates at the Continental Congress talked about independence, women wondered if they would be given more opportunity in the new nation.



He Says...

Why should women attend college? They haven't the need for mathematics or science more than figuring out when to take the teapot off the fire or counting how many eggs the chicken laid!!!

Women should not concern themselves with politics! They don't have the education to make the right choice in leaders! What energy they have should be spent on keeping house!!!

Only men have skill to deal with money matters!!! Women would surely lose everything to the first clever flim-flam man that they met!!!

Women can not indure the hardships of the road!!! They would be prey to any robber that meets them along the way!!!

Rights of Women in the United States in 1776



She says...

Why books and learning should be as much a part of a woman's life as her household duties!

War, Starvation, Rebellion, Massacres, if these are the politics of men perhaps women should be put in charge! Women run households why not governments as well!!

Why should a woman give everything she owns to the man that she marries! Why, she herself becomes her husband's property!!

Women like men should be able to pass freely from place to place. They are as capable as men of traveling on their own !!!

Education

Voting & Politics

Owning Property

Traveling

ABIGAIL ADAMS: "MRS. DELEGATE"

Why should we not assume your titles when we give you up our names?

Abigail Adams asked her husband this question while he was at the Continental Congress.



There is a Lady at the Foot of Penn's Hill, who obliges me with clearer and fuller Intelligence, than I can get from a whole Committee of Gentlemen.

John Adams said this about his wife while he was at the Continental Congress.

On Education: *If we mean to have Heroes, Statesmen and Philosophers, we should have learned women.*

On Politics: *What a politician you have made me...if I cannot be a voter upon this occasion, I will be a writer of votes. I can do some thing in that way.*

On Owning Property: *We cannot be free without being secure in our property...we cannot be secure in our property if without our consent others can take it away. We know too well the blessings of freedom, to tamely resign it.*

On Travel: *Women you know Sir are considered as domestic beings and although they inherit an equal share of curiosity as men, yet but few ..venture abroad, and explore the amazing variety of distant Lands. ...the many Dangers we are subject to from men, makes it almost impossible to travel without injury.*

On the Homefront: *Our House has been upon alarm...Soldiers coming in for lodging, for Breakfast, for Supper, for Drink etc. Sometimes refugees from Boston tired and fatigued, seek an asylum for a day or night, a week -- you can hardly imagine how we live...We know not what a day will bring forth, or what distress one hour may throw us into...*

On the Congress: *Does every Member feel for us? Can they realize what we suffer? And can they believe with what patience and strength we endure the conflict?*

Dear John,

Braintree March 31 1776

... I have sometimes been ready to think that the passion for Liberty cannot be Equally Strong in the Breasts of those who have been accustomed to deprive their fellow Creatures of theirs. Of this I am certain that it is not founded upon that generous and Christian principle of doing to others as we would that others should do unto us.

... I long to hear that you have declared an independancy—and by the way in the new Code of Laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make I desire you would Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favourable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands. Remember all Men would be tyrants if they could. If perticuliar care and attention is not paid to the Laidies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation.

Eligail Adams

REMEMBER THE LADIES WORKSHEET

Name:

Directions: Read Abigail Adams' letter to her husband dated March, 31, 1776 and answer the following questions.

1. In the first paragraph, Abigail says some people are depriving others of their liberty. Who are the people depriving others of their liberty? Who is being deprived of liberty?

2. Name some liberties that women were deprived of in 1776.

3. In the second paragraph, Abigail says she hopes to hear that John and his fellow delegates at the Continental Congress have declared an independency. What do you think she means?

4. If the Delegates vote for independence, who does Abigail hope will be remembered in the "new code of laws?"

5. What does Abigail suggest might happen if the delegates don't "remember the ladies?"

AT THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,



Dutton, Gwinnett,
Lynch, Hall,
Geo. Walton.

Geo. Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn

(Edward Rutledge).

Thos. Heyward, Jr.
Thomas Lynch, Junr.
Arthur Middleton

John Hancock

Samuel Adams
Wm. C. C. Smith
John Adams
Charles Carroll of Carrollton

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Th. Jefferson
Peyton Harrison
John Witherspoon
Francis Pickens
Carter Braxton

Robt. Morris
Benjamin Rush
Ben. Franklin
John Morton

Geo. Clymer
Jas. Smith
Geo. Taylor
James Wilson
Wm. Ross
Edward B. Rouse
John M. Smith
Theodore M. Smith

Samuel B. Smith
Col. Livingston
John Lewis
Lewis Morris

Paul D. Smith
Geo. Washington
Thos. Hopkins
John Smith
Alva Clark

Joshua Bartlett
Wm. Heyward
Sam. Adams
John Adams
Wm. Heyward
Elbridge Gerry
Step. Hopkins
William Ellery
Roger Sherman
John A. Huntington
Moses W. Huntington
Oliver W. Huntington
Matthew Harrison

ROAD TO THE CONVENTION: A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

In 1763, thousands of colonists took pride in joining forces with British soldiers to defeat their common enemies in the French and Indian War. At that time, the colonists in North America were proud to be British, but in just a few years a series of events caused the colonists to oppose the King they had been so loyal to. Several important events happened between 1763 and 1775 to cause a difference of opinion between the Patriots who favored an independent America and the Tories who thought we still should be loyal to England. The disagreement became so great that it led to war. In 1775 delegates from each of the thirteen colonies met in Philadelphia to talk about what to do next !



PATRIOT

We colonists paid with our lives for our King and beat the French in North America. Why should we now pay to keep British soldiers here!

The British have no right to tax things like newspapers and legal documents. What will they tax next??

We will not pay taxes on lead, tea, paper and paint! And the colonies will never pay taxes without representation!

First, they make us pay unfair taxes. Now they are taking our jobs!! They leave us no choice but to fight for our rights!!!

Those bloody Redcoats gunned down defenseless citizens like dogs. They should have been hanged!

Let the King try to collect his Tea Tax now!!!

Let that be a lesson to the King! As Patrick Henry said, "Give me liberty or give me death!"

EVENTS LEADING TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

**1756-1763
FRENCH & INDIAN WAR**

**1765
STAMP ACT**

**1767
TOWNSEND ACTS**

**1768
BRITISH TROOPS ARRIVE
IN BOSTON**

**1770
THE BOSTON MASSACRE**

**1773
THE BOSTON TEA PARTY**

**1775
"THE SHOT HEARD
'ROUND THE WORLD"**



TORY

Britain has made great sacrifices to protect America from the French and Indians. They should be forever grateful!

The Stamp Act is a jolly good way to get money to support the King! How else would the colonists pay for the British soldiers sent to protect them!

Like spoiled children the colonists take, take, take but offer nothing in return. The taxes must be paid or else!!!

Cheerio!! The King at last has sent his troops to whip the Boston troublemakers into shape!

The British soldiers merely defended themselves against a mob of bloodthirsty Bullies!

How uncivilized ! The finest English tea dumped into the muddy waters of Boston Harbor!!

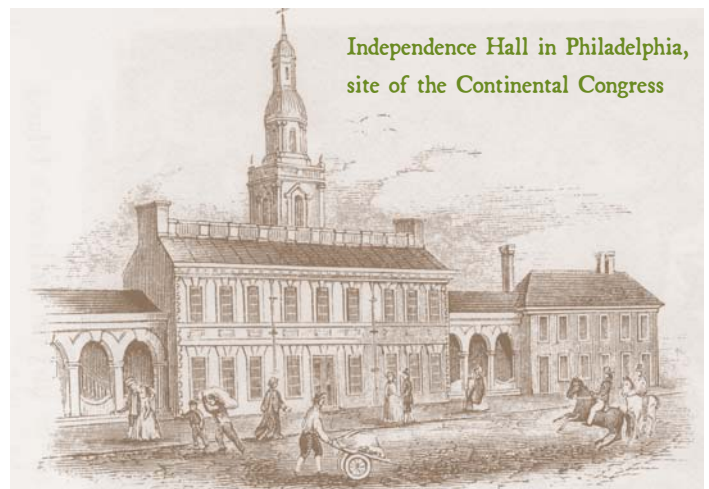
Ambushing the King's Army! They call themselves "Patriots" but they will soon be dead men!!!

THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS: A BRIEF HISTORY

The Continental Congress was a meeting of delegates from most American colonies, and eventually became the revolutionary government that directed the war for independence. **THE FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS** convened in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, on September 5, 1774, to decide what to do about the British Parliament's retaliation for the Boston Tea Party. Twelve colonies were represented by about 50 delegates in the First Continental Congress; Canada and Georgia were not represented. One of the Virginia delegates, Peyton Randolph, was unanimously elected president of the assembly. The First Continental Congress issued a petition to George III, king of Great Britain, called the Declaration of Rights and Grievances, and invited the people of Canada to join in an appeal to the king to help restore peace between Britain and the colonies. In addition, the Congress called for the colonies to adopt a radical agreement—the Continental Association—boycotting trade with Britain. Committees of Safety were responsible for enforcing the association, creating the first effective union among the colonies and silencing Loyalist opinion. Before adjourning on October 26, 1774, the First Continental Congress called for a second Congress to assemble in Philadelphia on May 10, 1775, if the king failed to respond favorably to its petition.

THE SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS convened in the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall) on May 10, 1775 and now the congress included all thirteen colonies. The battles of Lexington and Concord had recently taken place in Massachusetts, and militiamen were attacking the British forces in Boston. The Congress had no basis in law and its delegates were uncertain about their jobs there. The fighting forced them to form committees and to govern. The Congress appointed George Washington to organize a continental army and to lead the attack on British troops in Boston. It made rules for trading; issuing paper money; and sending diplomats to seek help from other countries. Most of the delegates, including Washington, still hoped for reconciliation with Britain, but by the end of 1775 this possibility had faded. In August, the British King declared that his army would crush the rebellion and hired 20,000 German soldiers to help him.

The revolutionaries in Congress remained unable to convince a majority of their colleagues that independence was their only alternative until the spring of 1776. At that time, Congress began debating a resolution in favor of independence. Through the hard work of many delegates, especially John Adams, Congress approved the resolution on July 2, 1776, and on July 4 it adopted the Declaration of Independence.



Independence Hall in Philadelphia,
site of the Continental Congress

TRAVEL IN COLONIAL TIMES

Most people hardly ever travelled in Colonial Times. In fact many never left their own home town in their life time! But, when people did travel they mostly travelled in one of four ways:

Walking



Advantages: Cheap,
Could Do On Your Own



Disadvantages: Slow,
Hard Work, Dangerous

Horseback



Advantages: Not Expensive,
Faster Than Walking



Disadvantages: Hard Work,
Dangerous, Other Ways Faster

Carriage Ride



Advantages: Faster, Easier,
Not so Dangerous



Disadvantages: Expensive,
Roads Bumpy

Ocean Voyage

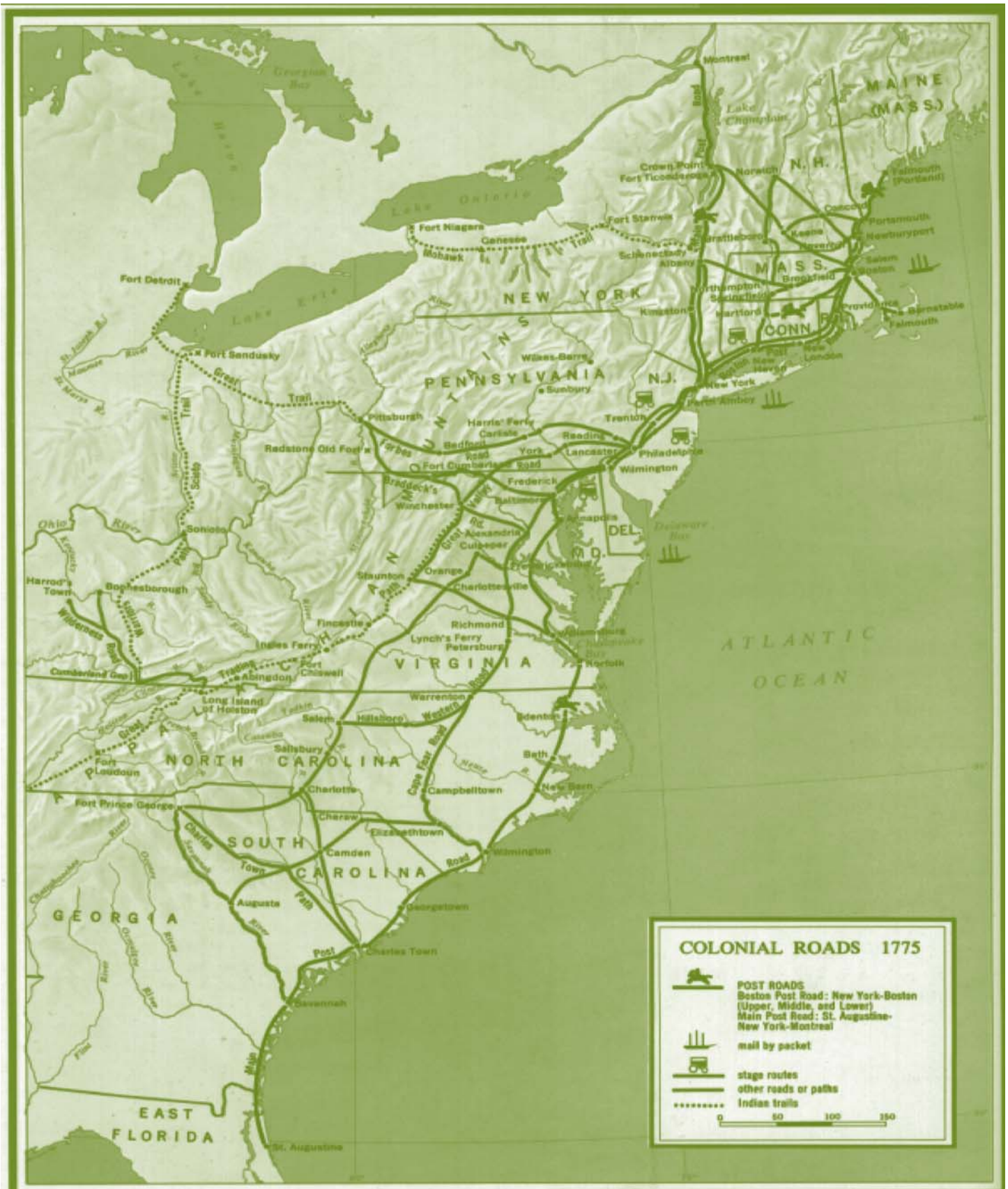


Advantages: Fastest, Safest,
Had Company



Disadvantages: Expensive,
Weather, Couldn't Go Inland

MAP OF COLONIAL ROADS



MAP OF COLONIAL ROADS WORKSHEET

Name:

Date:

Directions: Look at the map of colonial roads in 1775 and answer the questions below.

1. What does the map tell you about the system of roads in America compared with roads today?

2. What ways could a person travel in 1775? What would the difficulties be traveling in each way?

3. Try to chart the course of each delegate from their home colony to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

4. Think about how hard a trip it was for each delegate to reach their destination. What does this tell you about how important the delegates thought the congress was?

5. From what you have learned about transportation in 1775, imagine how long it took a letter to reach its destination. Does it help you to know that the fastest trip John Adams ever made between Boston and Philadelphia was 13 days, and that was going as fast as possible and with few stops?

How Our FLAG GREW UP!

Our flag has changed a lot since colonial times. When people first arrived from Europe many felt the British flag was their flag. In 1775, when the United States decided to fight for their freedom from Britain, many felt they should make a new flag. At first Americans could not decide on what that flag should look like. They agreed on 13 stripes to stand for the 13 colonies, but at first many felt they should also include the British flag. Once it seemed to most that America would be free of Britain they agreed on a design that featured thirteen stars and thirteen stripes to stand for the 13 colonies. Ever since as the United States has grown a new star has been added for each new state so that today we have 50 stars!

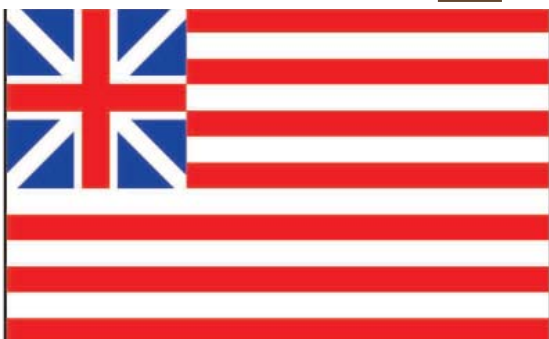
All of these flags at one time Americans called their flag. Can you put the flags in the right order from the very first to our flag today? Put a number from 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 in the box above each flag.



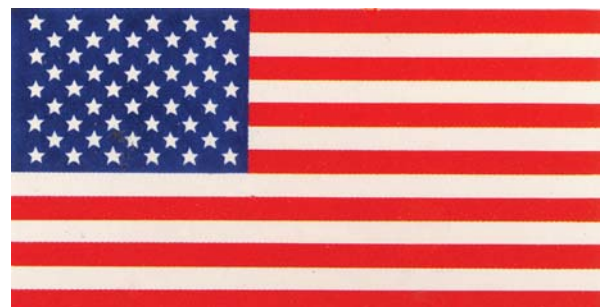
British Flag
1607-1775



Betsy Ross Flag
1777



Grand Union Flag
1775-1777



United States Flag
Today

THE AMERICAN COLONIES IN 1776

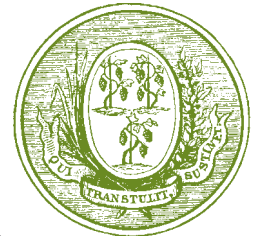
Connecticut

DELEGATES (4): Samuel Huntington, Roger Sherman, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott

POPULATION: Mainly from England

ECONOMY: Cattle, Grain, Shipbuilding, Ironworks

POSITION: Favors independence, but doesn't want to make things worse by having threatening words about England in the Declaration. Doesn't want slavery, but won't fight with others to get rid of it.



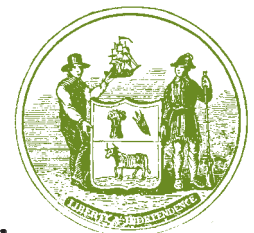
Delaware

DELEGATES (3): Thomas McKean, George Read, Caesar Rodney

POPULATION: Mainly from England

ECONOMY: Slavery, Tobacco, Cattle, Grain, Shipbuilding

POSITION: Divided over independence, many Tories, many slave owners. While state votes for independence it doesn't want too many threatening words about England or about slavery in the Declaration.



Georgia

Delegates (3): Button Gwinett, Lyman Hall, George Walton

Population: Scotch, Irish, English, African

Economy: Slavery, Rice, Indigo, Fur, Trading and Shipping

Position: Favors independence, but doesn't want to get rid of slavery in the Declaration.



Maryland

Delegates (4): Charles Carroll, Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone

Population: English, Scotch, Irish, German, African

Economy: Slavery, Tobacco, Cattle, Grain, Fishing, Ironworks

Position: Had some doubts about independence, but finally agreed to vote for independence. Didn't want to get rid of slavery because this would hurt the state's economy.



Massachusetts

DELEGATES (5): John Adams, Samuel Adams, Elbridge Gerry, John Hancock, Robert Treat Paine

POPULATION: Mainly English

ECONOMY: Cattle, Grain, Ironworks, Rum, Fishing, Whaling, Shipbuilding, Trading, Shipping

POSITION: Wants independence now and at any price. Doesn't want slavery, but won't fight with other states to get rid of it.



New Hampshire

DELEGATES (3): Josiah Bartlett, Matthew Thornton, William Whipple

POPULATION: Mainly English

ECONOMY: Cattle, Grain, Fur, Lumber, Shipbuilding

POSITION: Wants independence. Doesn't want slavery, but won't fight with other states to get rid of it.



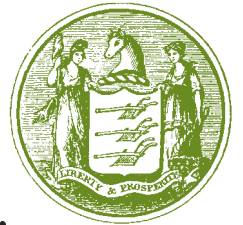
New Jersey

DELEGATES (5): Abraham Clark, John Hart, Francis Hopkinson, Richard Stockton, Jonathan Witherspoon

POPULATION: Dutch, German, English

ECONOMY: Cattle, Grain, Trading, Shipping, Ironworks

POSITION: Doesn't want to make things worse by having threatening words about England in the Declaration. Doesn't want slavery, but won't fight with others about it. Now favors Independence.



New York

DELEGATES (4): William Floyd, Francis Lewis, Philip Livingston, Lewis Morris

POPULATION: Dutch, English, German, Scotch, Irish

ECONOMY: Cattle, Grain, Furs, Lumber, Trading, Shipping, Ironworks, Shipbuilding

POSITION: Deeply divided over independence, delegates can't vote until told which way to vote. Won't fight to get rid of slavery.



North Carolina

DELEGATES (3): Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, John Penn

POPULATION: English, Scotch, Irish, African, German

ECONOMY: Slavery, Furs, Tobacco, Rice, Indigo, Cattle, Grain, Lumber, Trading, Shipping

POSITION: Told by their state to vote for independence. Opposes getting rid of slavery in the Declaration.



Pennsylvania

DELEGATES (9): George Clymer, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, John Morton, George Ross, Benjamin Rush, Joseph Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson

POPULATION: German, English, Scotch, Irish, Dutch

ECONOMY: Cattle, Grain, Fur, Ironworks, Lumber, Trading, Shipping, Shipbuilding

POSITION: Divided over independence, but finally votes for it. Doesn't want to make things worse by having threatening words about England in the Declaration. Doesn't want slavery, but won't fight with others over it.



Rhode Island

Delegates (2): William Ellery, Stephen Hopkins

Population: Mainly English

Economy: Cattle, Grain, Ironworks, Shipbuilding, Fishing, Whaling, Rum

Position: First State to declare its independence. The state favors independence. Won't fight with other states to abolish slavery.



South Carolina

DELEGATES (4): Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton, Edward Rutledge

POPULATION: Scotch, Irish, English, African, German

ECONOMY: Slavery, Rice, Indigo, Furs, Cattle, Grain, Lumber, Trading, Shipping

POSITION: Divided over independence, finally agrees to vote for independence, but doesn't want to make things worse by having threatening words about England in the Declaration. State's economy relies on slavery, will oppose independence if other states want to get rid of it.



Virginia

DELEGATES (7): Carter Braxton, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Jefferson, Francis Lightfoot Lee, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Nelson, Jr., George Wythe

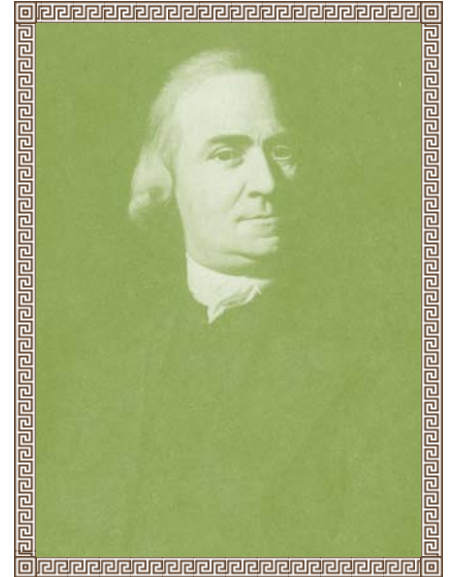
POPULATION: Scotch, Irish, English, Africans, German

ECONOMY: Slavery, Tobacco, Cattle, Grain, Fur, Trading, Shipping, Fishing

POSITION: Leaders of the Independence Movement. Sent to congress their own state resolution on independence. State's economy relies on slavery, doesn't want to get rid of it.



SAMUEL ADAMS



STATE - Massachusetts

AGE - 53 (Born: 9/27/1722)

HOME - Boston

EDUCATION - Boston Latin School, Harvard College

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 2 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Brewer, Tax Collector

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Hot Temper, Bad Dresser, Loves to Eat, Stubborn

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - In a Tavern near the docks

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Before the Independence Movement began, Samuel Adams failed at every job he tried and was deeply in debt. However, when people began to disagree with the policies of the King, Sam used his great speaking and writing abilities to lead the group of Americans who wanted independence. He organized a secret group of the most radical Patriot leaders in Boston and called them the Sons of Liberty. When the King imposed more taxes on America, Adams wrote letters to people in other colonies to convince them of the need for independence. When the Continental Congress met in Philadelphia to talk about the need to form a government separate from Great Britain, Samuel Adams had to be there!

AT THE CONGRESS Samuel Adams will stop at nothing to make sure the Declaration of Independence is signed! Because he does not like giving speeches, Sam lets his cousin John Adams speak for him. Sam works behind the scenes to convince undecided delegates to vote for independence.

DATE OF DEATH 10/2/1803, (81 Years Old)

SAMUEL ADAMS

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING:

When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, Samuel Adams of Massachusetts, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

AT THE SIGNING:

After you sign you say to all the signers: ***"I see a Revolution BREWING!"***

Sam Adams

JOSIAH BARTLETT



STATE - New Hampshire

AGE - 46 (Born: 11/21/1729)

HOME - Kingston, New Hampshire

EDUCATION - Grammar School and Medical Training

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 12 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Doctor, Justice of the Peace, Militia Colonel, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Family Man, Patriot, Persistent, Loves New Hampshire

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Helping Sick People

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Before the Independence Movement, Josiah Bartlett was famous for his medical skill and his experiments in diagnosing and treating disease. In 1774, Josiah cast his lot with the revolutionaries. He became a member of the New Hampshire Committee of Correspondence. At that time Tories burned his house to the ground, but he immediately built another one on the very same spot. Because of his patriotism he was elected to congress.

AT THE CONGRESS Josiah Bartlett rarely participated in congressional debates because it seemed to him that they were a waste of time. But he did sit on various committees and worked towards gaining independence. Because of the voting order, he was the first representative to vote for independence and the second to sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 5/19/1795, (65 Years Old)

JOSIAH BARTLETT

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING:

When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Josiah Bartlett of New Hampshire, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

AT THE SIGNING:

After you sign you say to all the signers: *"Now I'm going to the WEST WING!"*

Josiah Bartlett

CARTER BRAXTON



STATE - Virginia

AGE - 39 (Born: 9/10/1736)

HOME - Newington Plantation, Virginia

EDUCATION - College of William & Mary

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 18 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Plantation Owner

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Rich, Conservative, Against Violence, Slave Owner

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Dining with Philadelphia Society

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Carter Braxton was a wealthy plantation and ship owner and a member of the Virginia legislature at the age of 25. When problems with Great Britain began, Carter sided with the Patriots but he did not like violence. He did his best to prevent fighting between Tories and Patriots in Virginia. When the American Revolutionary War began, the British captured most of his ships and burned his plantation. He was selected as representative to the Continental Congress when another delegate died.

AT THE CONGRESS As a conservative, Carter Braxton at first criticized the independence movement but later changed his mind and supported the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 10/10/1797, (61 Years Old)

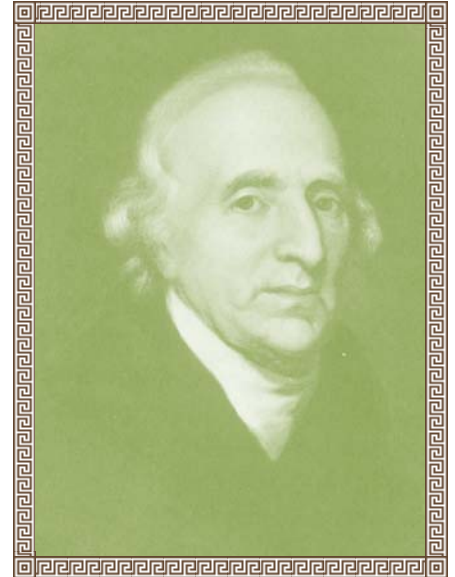
CARTER BRAXTON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you have friends in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say:
I, Carter Braxton of Virginia vote aye, for the Declaration of Independence.

Carter Braxton

CHARLES CARROLL



STATE - Maryland

AGE - 38 (Born: 9/19/1737)

HOME - Carrollton, Maryland

EDUCATION - Private Catholic Schools, Universities in Paris and London

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 7 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Plantation Owner, Businessman, Politician

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Rich, Catholic, Brave, Intelligent

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Church

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Charles Carroll grew up in Maryland and lived a quiet country life at his family's plantation. He was one of the wealthiest and most intelligent men of his time. Despite his great abilities, Charles was kept out of politics because Catholics were not allowed to hold office. In 1773, Charles became a supporter of the Patriots and wrote newspaper articles in support of independence. He played an important role in convincing the Maryland legislature to declare independence.

AT THE CONGRESS He arrived in Philadelphia just in time to sign the Declaration of Independence. He was a strong supporter of independence.

DATE OF DEATH 11/14/1832 (95 Years Old)

CHARLES CARROLL

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, Charles Carroll of Maryland, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

Charles Carroll of Carrollton

SAMUEL CHASE

STATE - Maryland

AGE - 35 (Born: 4/17/1741)

HOME - Princess Anne, Maryland

EDUCATION - Taught by his father, Studied Law

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 2 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Good Speaker, Hot Temper, Intelligent

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - With his friend Charles Paca

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Samuel Chase grew up near Baltimore where his father was an Anglican clergyman. He studied law and became a lawyer. In 1764, he joined the Maryland legislature and became a critic of the King and a supporter of the independence movement. He played an important role in making sure that Maryland voted for independence and was elected by the state to be a delegate to the Continental Congress.

AT THE CONGRESS He arrived in Philadelphia just in time to sign the Declaration of Independence. He was a strong supporter of independence.

DATE OF DEATH 6/19/1811 (70 Years Old)



SAMUEL CHASE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING

After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, Samuel Chase of Maryland, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Samuel Chase". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'S' and a long, sweeping underline.

ABRAHAM CLARK

STATE - New Jersey

AGE - 50 (Born: 2/15/1726)

HOME - Roselle, New Jersey

EDUCATION - Grammar School, Self-taught

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 10 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Surveyor, Sheriff, Mathematician

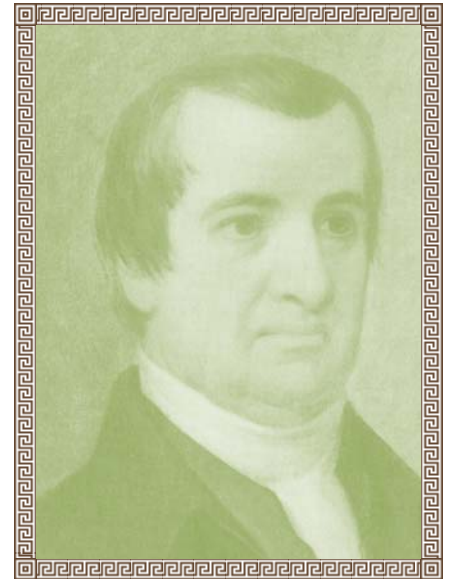
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Intelligent, Helpful to Others

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Outside Surveying and Giving Legal Advice

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Abraham Clark owned a small farm and became a surveyor. To help solve boundary disputes, Abraham studied Law. He became a Sheriff for his home county. Abraham supported the Independence Movement and attended several Revolutionary conventions. In June of 1776, he and four other men replaced New Jersey's earlier delegates who had opposed independence. Abraham's two sons fought in the war and were captured and held prisoner by the British.

AT THE CONGRESS Despite poor health, concern for his family, and the safety of his home, located not far from an area controlled by the British, Abraham Clark bravely voted for independence.

DATE OF DEATH 9/15/1794, (68 Years Old)



ABRAHAM CLARK

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Abraham Clark of New Jersey, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*



GEORGE CLYMER

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 37 (Born: 3/16/1739)

HOME - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - Taught by his Uncle

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 8 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Businessman

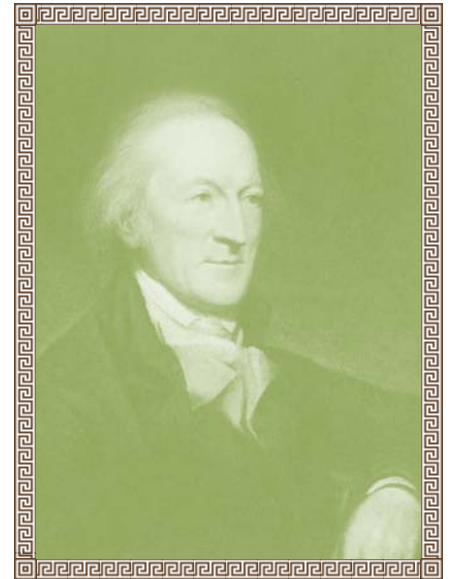
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Wealthy, Generous, Cultured, Quiet

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - At his home

BEFORE THE CONGRESS George Clymer became a businessman and took over his uncle's company. He realized his business would do better if America was independent of Great Britain so he became one of the first to recommend independence.

AT THE CONGRESS He rarely spoke in debate but was active in committees dealing with money. He was the Continental Treasurer.

DATE OF DEATH 1/24/1813, (73 Years Old)



GEORGE CLYMER

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, George Clymer of Pennsylvania, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A stylized, handwritten signature of George Clymer in green ink. The signature is written in a cursive script, with the first letter 'G' being particularly large and ornate. The name 'Clymer' is clearly legible, and the signature ends with a large, sweeping loop.

WILLIAM ELLERY

STATE - Rhode Island

AGE - 48 (Born: 12/22/1727)

HOME - Newport, Rhode Island

EDUCATION - Harvard College

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 16 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriotic, Wealthy, Busy, Scholar

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - In the Library

BEFORE THE CONGRESS William Ellery grew up in Newport, Rhode Island and tried several professions before deciding to become a lawyer. He supported the Independence Movement early on and worked on several Revolutionary committees. Rhode Island sent him as a delegate to the Continental Congress in May of 1776.

AT THE CONGRESS He bravely supported the Declaration even though he thought that all of the delegates were signing their own death warrants. He stood behind the table where the delegates signed the Declaration of Independence to see their expressions as they signed.

DATE OF DEATH 2/15/1820, (92 Years Old)



WILLIAM ELLERY

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, William Ellery of Rhode Island, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

AT THE SIGNING: During the signing of the Declaration of Independence you stand next to John Hancock and watch the delegates sign. When John Adams asks you what you are doing, you say: *I am watching these men sign their death warrants!!*

A cursive signature in green ink that reads "William Ellery". The signature is written in a fluid, elegant style with a long, sweeping underline.

WILLIAM FLOYD

STATE - New York

AGE - 41 (Born: 12/17/1734)

HOME - Suffolk County, Long Island

EDUCATION - Educated by Parents

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Farmer, Land Owner, Colonel

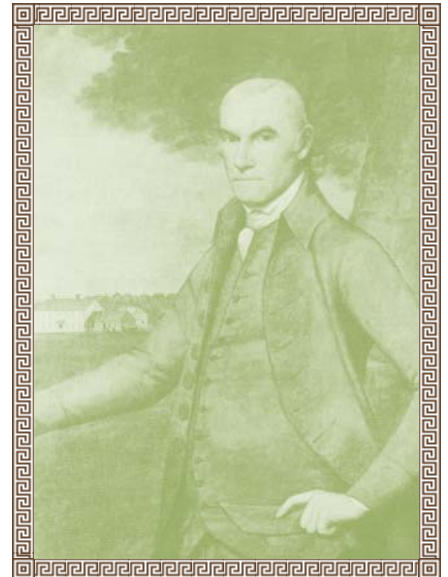
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Family Man, Unlucky, Adventurous

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Hunting

BEFORE THE CONGRESS William Floyd grew up in Long Island, New York where he managed the family farm. He enjoyed hunting and entertaining. He supported the Independence Movement and when war began he became a Colonel. When the British landed on Long Island, he assembled his men and scared the British off.

AT THE CONGRESS Like other delegates from New York, William was forced to abstain from voting on independence. He was however, a great Patriot.

DATE OF DEATH 8/4/1821, (86 Years Old)



WILLIAM FLOYD

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, William Floyd of New York, can not vote for the Declaration of Independence until told to by the New York Congress. I abstain, COURTEOUSLY!*

A handwritten signature in green ink, reading "Wm Floyd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 70 (Born: 1/17/1706)

HOME - Boston, Massachusetts

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

EDUCATION - Self-Taught

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Printer, Inventor, Postmaster

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Clever, Fun-loving, Party Animal

Where to find him in Philadelphia - On the town or flying kites

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston but ran away to Philadelphia where he became a successful printer. Ben was interested in many things especially inventing. He wrote a series of articles giving advice called "Poor Richard's Almanac." Ben lived in England for a while and decided to support the Independence Movement and returned to America.

AT THE CONGRESS Benjamin Franklin served on the committee that drafted the Declaration of Independence. When he finished signing, he said: "Gentleman, we must now all hang together, or we shall most assuredly all hang separately."

DATE OF DEATH 4/17/1790, (84 Years Old)

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

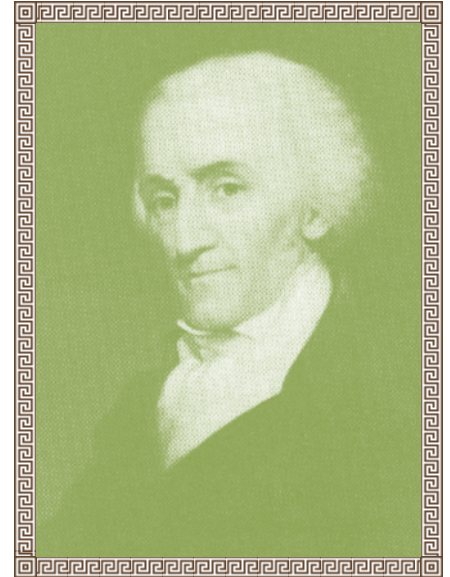
CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

AT THE SIGNING: After signing the Declaration of Independence you say: *Gentleman, we must now all HANG TOGETHER, or we shall most assuredly all HANG SEPARATELY.*

A stylized, cursive signature of Benjamin Franklin in green ink. The signature is written in a flowing, elegant script, with the first letters of 'Benjamin' and 'Franklin' being capitalized and prominent. The signature ends with a large, decorative flourish.

ELBRIDGE GERRY



STATE - Massachusetts

AGE - 32 (Born: 7/17/1744)

Home - Marblehead, Massachusetts

Education - Harvard College

Family - 1 Marriage, 7 Children

Jobs before Congress - Businessman, Legislator

What he is like - Patriot, Stubborn, Feisty, Suspicious

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - With Sam Adams

BEFORE THE CONGRESS After graduating from college, Elbridge Gerry joined his father and two brothers in the family business of exporting dried codfish to Spain. In 1772, he entered the colonial legislature and made friends with Sam Adams. Elbridge became a great Patriot and worked hard in the Independence Movement. On the night before the Battle of Lexington and Concord, he barely missed being captured by the British.

AT THE CONGRESS Elbridge Gerry entered the Continental Congress in 1776. He served on committees having to do with military and financial matters. For trying to help the Continental Army get more money, he earned the nickname, "soldiers' friend."

DATE OF DEATH 11/23/1814, (70 Years Old)

ELBRIDGE GERRY

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

AT THE SIGNING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Elbridge Gerry of Massachusetts, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Elbridge Gerry". The script is cursive and elegant, with a large, sweeping 'E' and a long, flowing 'y'.

BUTTON GWINNETT



STATE - Georgia

AGE - 41 (Born: 1735)

HOME - Savannah, Georgia

EDUCATION - Educated by Uncles

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Businessman

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Bad Businessman, Feisty, Slave Owner

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Grocery Store

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Button Gwinnett grew up in England. He did so much business with people in the colonies that he decided to move to America. When he first arrived he bought a store and worked there but soon tried to become a plantation owner. He was a poor businessman and soon lost his plantation. He was not welcomed as a Patriot at first because he was born in England and still had a lot of friends there. However, in 1775 a friend of his convinced him to become a Patriot and he was elected soon after to the Continental Congress.

At the Congress Although Button was at the Continental Congress only 10 weeks, he did get to sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 5/15/1777, (42 Years Old)

BUTTON GWINNETT

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you were born in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

AT THE SIGNING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Button Gwinnett of Georgia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Button Gwinnett

LYMAN HALL



STATE - Georgia

AGE - 52 (Born: 4/12/1724)

HOME - St. John's Parish, Georgia

EDUCATION - Yale College

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 1 Child

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Minister, Doctor, Planter, Governor

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Persistent, Talented, Smart, Likes to Travel, Patriot

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Getting Button Gwinnett out of trouble

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Lyman Hall grew up in Connecticut and studied to be a Minister. Looking for opportunity, he moved south to Georgia. Lyman worked at first in Georgia as a Doctor and a Minister and later bought a plantation. He was upset that many people in Georgia could not make up their minds about the Independence Movement.

AT THE CONGRESS As one of the most patriotic Georgians, Lyman Hall was elected as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1776 and signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 10/19/1790, (66 Years Old)

LYMAN HALL

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

AT THE SIGNING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Lyman Hall of Georgia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Lyman Hall

JOHN HANCOCK

STATE - Massachusetts

AGE - 39 (Born: 1/12/1737)

HOME - Boston, Massachusetts

EDUCATION - Harvard College

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 2 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Businessman

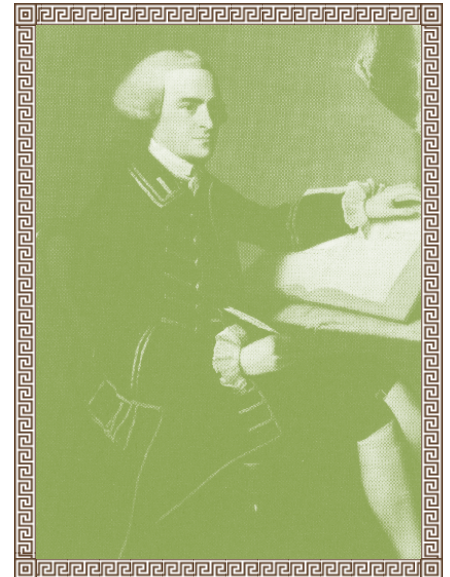
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Rich, Conceited, Great Clothes

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Wining, Dining and Shopping

BEFORE THE CONGRESS John Hancock grew up in Boston and was raised by a rich uncle who left John his business, his home and his money. John realized that his business would do better if America was free, so he became a leader of the Independence Movement. When Hancock did not pay his taxes, the British took one of his ships and accused him of being a smuggler. John Adams defended him in court and Hancock got his ship back and became a hero to all Patriots. On the night before the Battle of Lexington and Concord, John Hancock and Samuel Adams were almost captured by the British but they escaped and went to Philadelphia.

AT THE CONGRESS John Hancock was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress and soon after he arrived he became the President of the Congress. He was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence. John signed his name in very big letters so the King could read his name without his glasses.

DATE OF DEATH 10/8/1793, (56 Years Old)



JOHN HANCOCK

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are the President of the Congress so you sit in the front and bang the gavel to start the Congress. After banging the gavel you say: *The Second Continental Congress is called to order!* You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People, and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, John Hancock of Massachusetts, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

AT THE SIGNING: You are the first to sign the Declaration and after signing your name very large you say: *I wrote so large so the King could read my name without his glasses!!!*

A large, stylized cursive signature of John Hancock in green ink. The signature is written in a fluid, elegant script with a prominent 'J' and a large, sweeping 'H'. The name 'John Hancock' is clearly legible in the cursive style.

BENJAMIN HARRISON



STATE - Virginia

AGE - 50 (Born: 4/7/1726)

HOME - Berkeley Planation, Virginia

EDUCATION - College of William & Mary

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 7 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Planter, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Conservative, Fun Lover, Loves Food and Drink, Patriot

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Partying with John Hancock

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Benjamin Harrison grew up on the family plantation which he took over when his father died. He expanded the family business into ship building and shipping. Like his father, Benjamin became a legislator. He opposed the Stamp Act and became a leader of the Independence Movement in Virginia.

AT THE CONGRESS Benjamin Harrison was elected to the Continental Congress in 1774 and made many contributions. He was Chairman of the Committee that debated the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 4/24/1791, (65 Years Old)

BENJAMIN HARRISON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. After John Hancock calls Congress in session you stand and say: *I turn over today's proceedings to John Adams of Massachusetts.* You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you have friends in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you proceed to the voting board to keep the official record of the vote. When it is your turn to vote you stand and say: *I, Benjamin Harrison of Virginia vote aye, for the Declaration of Independence.*

After all votes are cast you stand and say: *The Declaration of Independence has passed with a unanimous consent!*

Benjamin Harrison

JOHN HART

STATE - New Jersey

AGE - 65 (Born: 1711)

HOME - Hopewell, New Jersey

EDUCATION - None

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 13 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Farmer, Judge

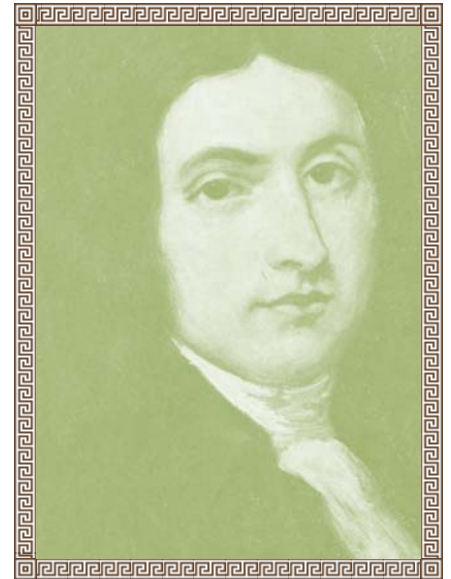
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Honest, Hard Worker, Patriotic

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Talking to the Common Man

BEFORE THE CONGRESS John Hart grew up in Hopewell, New Jersey where he was a good farmer. He became a member of the state legislature. Because he never told a lie he earned the nickname "Honest John."

AT THE CONGRESS John Hart was chosen as a delegate to the Continental Congress in June of 1776. He arrived in Philadelphia just in time to vote for Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 5/11/1779, (68 Years Old)



JOHN HART

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, John Hart of New Jersey vote aye, for the Declaration of Independence.*

John Hart

JOSEPH HEWES



STATE - North Carolina

AGE - 46 (Born: 1/23/1730)

HOME - Edenton, North Carolina

EDUCATION - Local Grammar School

FAMILY - Never Married, No Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Planter, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Conservative, Wealthy, Loved Dancing and Parties

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Out Dancing

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Joseph Hewes grew up on his family's estate near Princeton, New Jersey. His father made Joseph strictly follow the rules of the Quaker Church to which the family belonged. When Joseph got older, he moved to North Carolina to seek his fortune as a businessman. He became a leader of the opposition to the British in North Carolina even though by doing so it hurt his business.

AT THE CONGRESS Joseph Hewes was elected to the Continental Congress in 1774, and was at first opposed to declaring independence. However, during a debate about the Declaration of Independence, Joseph stood up and lifted both hands up in the air as if he was in a trance and shouted "It is done! And I will abide by it."

DATE OF DEATH 10/10/1779, (49 Years Old)

JOSEPH HEWES

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence *you stand and shout: It is done and I abide by it!! I, Joseph Hewes of North Carolina, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Joseph Hewes

THOMAS HEYWARD, JR.



STATE - South Carolina

AGE - 30 (Born: 7/28/1746)

HOME - White Hall Plantation, South Carolina

EDUCATION - Universities in England

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 8 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Planter, Lawyer, Song-Writer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Conservative, Wealthy, Loved to Sing

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Out Singing with a Choir

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Thomas Heyward, Jr. grew up in South Carolina, the son of one of the wealthiest planters in the colony. He studied in London, England for several years before he became a lawyer. He served in the colonial legislature. In 1774, he joined the Revolutionaries.

AT THE CONGRESS Thomas Heyward, Jr. was elected to the Continental Congress in 1776. He signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 3/6/1809, (62 Years Old)

THOMAS HEYWARD, JR.

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you have friends in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Thomas Heyward, Jr. of South Carolina, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Tho^{rs} Heyward Jun^r.

WILLIAM HOOPER



STATE - North Carolina

AGE - 34 (Born: 6/17/1742)

HOME - Wilmington, North Carolina

EDUCATION - Boston Latin, Harvard College

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriotic, Self-Assured, Talkative

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - In your room making up your mind whether to vote for independence

BEFORE THE CONGRESS William Hooper grew up in Boston, but moved to North Carolina to seek his fortune. His father was a Tory and didn't understand how William could disagree with the policies of the King. Hooper himself had a hard time trying to decide whether to support independence or oppose it. Despite his difficulty making up his mind, William predicted that the colonies would break away from England and earned the nickname "The Prophet of Independence."

AT THE CONGRESS William Hooper was elected to the Continental Congress in 1774. He finally made up his mind and signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 10/14/1790, (48 Years Old)

WILLIAM HOOPER

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you have friends in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, William Hooper of North Carolina, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Wm Hooper". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first letters of "Wm" and "Hooper" being capitalized and prominent. The ink is a vibrant green color.

STEPHEN HOPKINS



STATE - Rhode Island

AGE - 69 (Born: 3/7/1707)

HOME - Providence, Rhode Island

EDUCATION - Self-Taught

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 7 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Farmer, Surveyor, Businessman

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Kind, Smart, Loves Science

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Talking about Science with Ben Franklin

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Stephen Hopkins grew up in Rhode Island and entered politics early on. He was Governor of Rhode Island ten times. In addition he set up a library like his friend Ben Franklin with whom he shared an interest in science and education. Stephen strongly opposed slavery and wrote one of the earliest antislavery laws in the United States. He wrote an important document supporting independence and became known as one of the great Patriot leaders.

AT THE CONGRESS Stephen Hopkins was elected to the Continental Congress in 1774. An old man when he signed the Declaration of Independence, his hand was shaking and he said "My hand trembles, but my heart does not!"

DATE OF DEATH 4/13/1785, (78 Years Old)

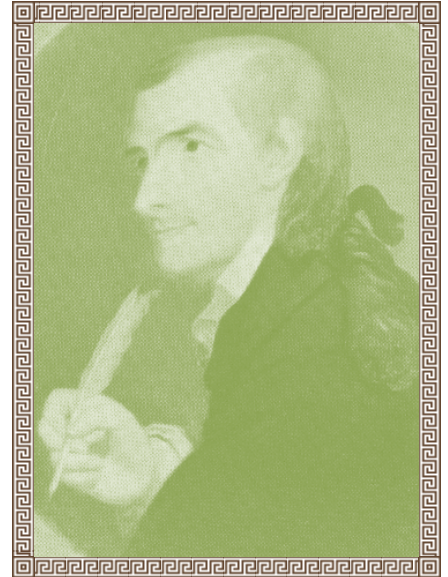
STEPHEN HOPKINS

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Stephen Hopkins of Rhode Island, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.* After signing the document you say: my hand trembles but my heart does not!

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Stephen Hopkins". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Stephen" and last name "Hopkins" clearly legible.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON



STATE - New Jersey

AGE - 38 (Born: 10/2/1737)

HOME - Salem, New Jersey

EDUCATION - University of Pennsylvania

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 5 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Musician

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Well-Read, Artistic, Musical

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - At the theater or symphony with Ben Franklin

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Francis Hopkinson grew up in Philadelphia, but moved to New Jersey. He was a tax collector and a lawyer. He went to England to get a better job and met Benjamin Franklin there. He returned to America and wrote many poems and essays supporting the Patriot cause.

AT THE CONGRESS Francis Hopkinson was elected to the Continental Congress in 1776. When he was bored during the Congress he drew pictures of other delegates. He signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 5/9/1791, (53 Years Old)

FRANCIS HOPKINSON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration. During the debate, you draw pictures of all the other delegates.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Francis Hopkinson of New Jersey, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Fra. Hopkinson

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON

STATE - Connecticut

AGE - 45 (Born: 7/3/1731)

HOME - Norwich, Connecticut

EDUCATION - Self-Taught

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 2 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Justice-of-the-Peace

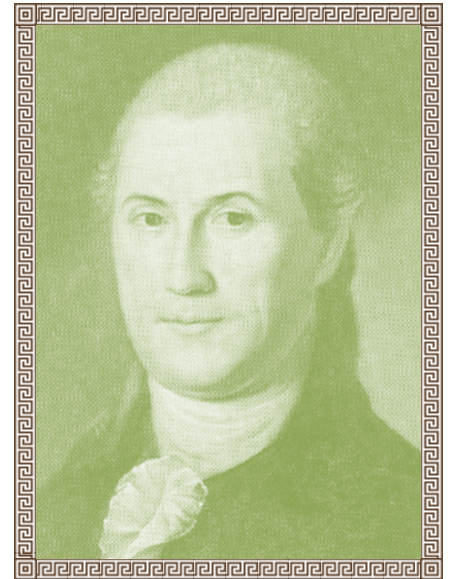
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Hard Worker, Patriot, Smart

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - At the Doctor's Office

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Samuel Huntington grew up in Connecticut and first worked as a barrel maker. Later he studied law on his own and became a judge. Samuel joined the Patriots in 1774 and became one of the leaders of the movement in his home state.

AT THE CONGRESS He was elected to the Continental Congress and despite being sick he was very active and took part in many committees. After signing the Declaration of Independence, he had to return home because of his ill health.

DATE OF DEATH 1/5/1796, (64 Years Old)



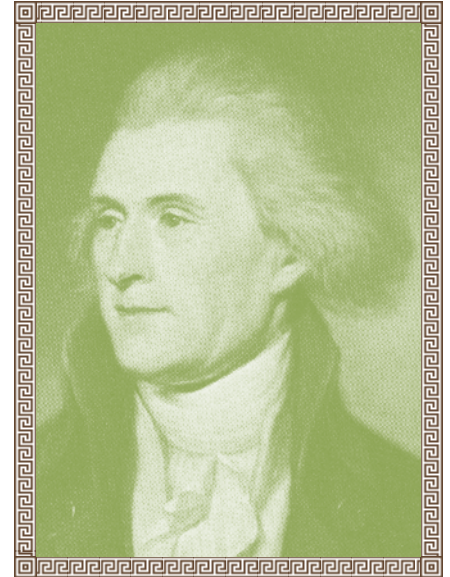
SAMUEL HUNTINGTON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Samuel Huntington of Connecticut, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Sam^a Huntington

THOMAS JEFFERSON



STATE - Virginia

AGE - 33 (Born: 4/13/1743)

HOME - Monticello, Albemarle County, Virginia

EDUCATION - College of William & Mary

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 6 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Planter, Architect, Legislator, You name it, he did it!

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Conservative, Fun Lover, Loves Food and Drink, Patriot

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - In his room writing and reading

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Thomas Jefferson grew up in Virginia where he attended school and college. When his father died, Thomas inherited the family farm called Shadwell. Thomas was not satisfied just being a lawyer. He loved science, math, music, philosophy - just about everything under the sun. One of his favorite things to do was to build. Jefferson designed several buildings including the Virginia State Capitol and his new home, "Monticello." Meanwhile, he became a legislator and a strong Patriot. Jefferson entered national politics when he became a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1775.

AT THE CONGRESS Thomas Jefferson was assigned to the five-man committee chosen to write the Declaration of Independence and the other committee members asked him to draft it for he was thought to have a "masterly pen." Jefferson wrote the first draft of the Declaration and presented it to Congress. On July 4th, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was adopted.

DATE OF DEATH 7/4/1826, (83 Years Old)

THOMAS JEFFERSON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are very proud of your Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you are upset. But, finally you are pleased when the Declaration of Independence is passed by Congress.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature of Thomas Jefferson in green ink, written in a cursive style. The signature is slanted to the right and features a large, stylized 'T' and 'J' at the beginning.

FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE



STATE - Virginia

AGE - 41 (Born: 10/14/1734)

HOME - Mount Pleasant (Leesburg), Virginia

EDUCATION - Private Tutors

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, No Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Planter, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Quiet, Shy, Patriot

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - In the peace and quiet of his own room

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Francis Lightfoot Lee was born and raised at Stratford Hall, his family's home in Virginia. For many years he was active in Virginia politics but he was very shy and his older brother, Richard Henry Lee, was more well known than Francis. Francis was a great Patriot however and took part in Revolutionary protests against British taxes.

AT THE CONGRESS Francis was sent to the Continental Congress in 1775. Francis' shyness and the fact that he usually disagreed with his brother kept him from debating very much at the Congress but he did serve on a number of committees and signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 1/11/1797, (62 Years Old)

FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, Francis Lightfoot Lee of Virginia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

Francis Lightfoot Lee

RICHARD HENRY LEE

STATE - Virginia

AGE - 44 (Born: 1/20/1732)

HOME - Chantilly, Virginia

EDUCATION - Private Tutor at Home, English Academy

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 6 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Planter, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Brilliant Speaker, Patriot

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Nowhere to be found!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Richard Henry Lee was born and raised at Stratford Hall, his family's home in Virginia. Like his brother Francis Lightfoot Lee, Richard Henry was active in Virginia politics. But, unlike his brother, Richard Henry was not shy and met with other Patriots at Raleigh's Tavern in Virginia where he wrote a letter to the King protesting British taxes. He also proposed that the colonies set up committees to correspond with each other to stay informed about the progress of the Revolution.

AT THE CONGRESS On June 7, 1776 while a member of the Continental Congress, Lee introduced the resolution for independence from Britain, and John Adams seconded the motion.

DATE OF DEATH 6/19/1794, (62 Years Old)



RICHARD HENRY LEE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Richard Henry Lee

FRANCIS LEWIS

STATE - New York

AGE - 63 (Born: 3/21/1713)

HOME - Long Island, New York

EDUCATION - Westminster School in England

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 7 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Successful businessman and supplier of American troops

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Hard working, Patriot member of the New York Sons of Liberty

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Shopping for supplies.

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Francis Lewis was born in England, went to school there, and got a job in a company there. When he was 25, he decided to open his own business and moved to America where he opened shops in New York and Philadelphia. While supplying British troops with clothes during the French & Indian War, he was captured by the French and was a prisoner of war. Afterwards, he supported the Revolution and joined the Sons of Liberty.

AT THE CONGRESS In 1775, he was sent to the Continental Congress. While at the Continental Congress, Lewis helped to get supplies to George Washington's troops. Even though he was a great Patriot, the Tories were very strong in New York and Lewis and the other New York delegates were instructed not to vote for independence, although Lewis did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 12/30/1802, (89 Years Old)



FRANCIS LEWIS

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Francis Lewis of New York, can not vote for the Declaration of Independence until told to by the New York Congress. I abstain, COURTEOUSLY!*

Francis Lewis

PHILIP LIVINGSTON

STATE - New York

AGE - 60 (Born: 1/15/1716)

HOME - Albany, New York

EDUCATION - Yale

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 9 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Successful businessman, trader-privateer

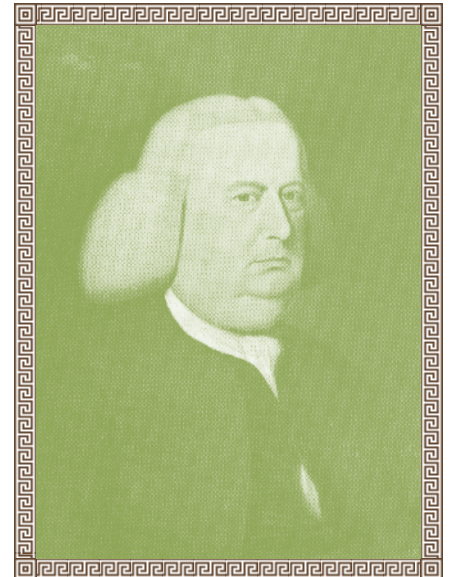
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy businessman, Conservative, Charitable

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Nowhere to be found!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Philip Livingston was born in upstate New York to a wealthy family. After graduating from Yale, he became a prosperous businessman in New York City and lived on a great estate overlooking New York Harbor. He contributed lots of money to his favorite charities and helped to start schools and libraries in New York. He believed in political and religious freedom for everyone and joined the independence movement.

AT THE CONGRESS Philip Livingston was active on committees in the Continental Congress. Even though he was a great Patriot, the Tories were very strong in New York and Livingston and the other New York delegates were instructed not to vote for independence, although Livingston did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 6/12/1778, (62 Years Old)



PHILIP LIVINGSTON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Philip Livingston of New York, can not vote for the Declaration of Independence until told to by the New York Congress. I abstain, COURTEOUSLY!*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Philip Livingston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "P" and a long, sweeping "L".

THOMAS LYNCH, JR.

STATE - South Carolina

AGE - 26 (Born: 8/5/1749)

HOME - Peach Tree Plantation, South Carolina

EDUCATION - Eton, Cambridge University (England)

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, No Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Plantation Owner, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Revolutionary, Unlucky

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Taking care of his sick father.

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Thomas Lynch, Jr. was born in South Carolina to a wealthy family that owned a large rice plantation. After attending school and college in England, he returned home and became active in politics. Like his father he was a member of the Independence Movement in South Carolina. When his father went to Philadelphia to serve at the Continental Congress, Thomas stayed at home and served in the South Carolina legislature.

AT THE CONGRESS Thomas Lynch, Jr. came to Philadelphia to take care of his father who had suffered a stroke while at the Continental Congress. Thomas attended the Congress for his father and voted for him. They were the only father and son team to serve in the Continental Congress. However, because the older Lynch was too sick to take part in the ceremony, only the younger Lynch signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH Late in 1779, (30 Years Old)



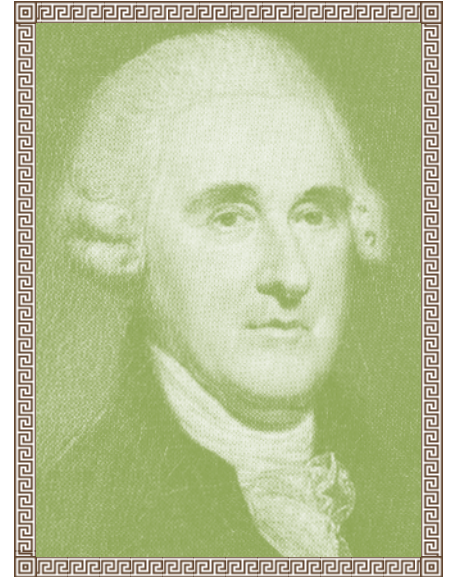
THOMAS LYNCH, JR.

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Thomas Lynch, Jr. of South Carolina, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Thomas Lynch Jr.

THOMAS MCKEAN



STATE - Delaware

AGE - 42 (Born: 3/19/1735)

HOME - New Castle, Delaware

EDUCATION - Reverend Alison's Academy, Law School

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 11 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Legislator, Sheriff, Captain in Militia

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Revolutionary, Nice to his Friends, Tall and Thin, Smart

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Looking for Caesar Rodney!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Thomas McKean grew up in Pennsylvania near the New Jersey and Delaware boundaries. His cousin taught him the subject of law and Thomas became a lawyer. McKean also like to serve the public and he worked in number of jobs to help others. Thomas was an early supporter of the Independence Movement and attended the Stamp Act Congress in New York in 1765. He believed so strongly in the opposition to the King that he challenged another delegate at the Stamp Act Congress to a duel for not supporting the cause.

AT THE CONGRESS Thomas McKean joined the Continental Congress in 1774 and was a leading voice for independence. However, the other delegate from Delaware opposed independence. So McKean sent an urgent message to the third delegate who was at home on military matters to rush to Philadelphia to cast the deciding vote for independence. He was the last to sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 6/24/1817, (83 Years Old)

THOMAS MCKEAN

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Thomas McKean of Delaware, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

When George Read votes against the Declaration of Independence and ties Delaware's vote, you shout: *Caesar Rodney where are you?*

Tho M. Kean

ARTHUR MIDDLETON

STATE - South Carolina

AGE - 34 (Born: 6/26/1735)

HOME - Charleston, South Carolina

EDUCATION - Hackney School, Cambridge University (England)

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 9 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Plantation Owner, Legislator

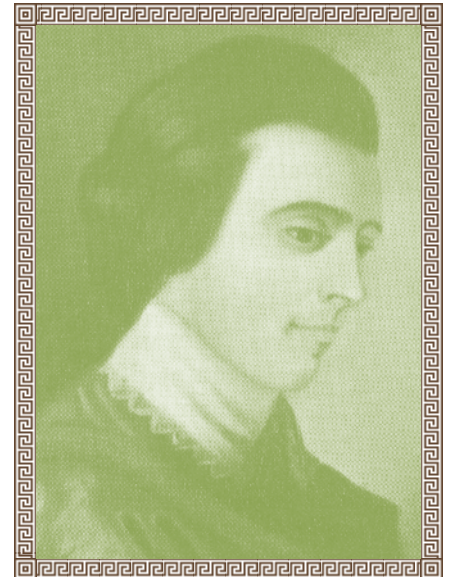
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Very Wealthy, Revolutionary, Slave Owner, Tough, Quiet

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Fund-raising for the Continental Army

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Arthur Middleton grew up in South Carolina. He attended school and college in England where he studied law. He returned to South Carolina to manage his large plantation and serve in the colonial legislature. Arthur was a strong revolutionary and played a large part in arming the Patriot militia. He organized a night raid on a British ammunition storehouse and raised money to buy weapons for the Patriot army.

AT THE CONGRESS Arthur Middleton was chosen to replace his more conservative father at the Continental Congress in 1776. He voted for independence and signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 1/1/1787, (44 Years Old)



ARTHUR MIDDLETON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Arthur Middleton, Jr. of South Carolina, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A large, stylized handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Arthur Middleton". The script is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final "y".

LEWIS MORRIS

STATE - New York

AGE - 50 (Born: 4/8/1726)

HOME - West Chester County, New York

EDUCATION - Yale College

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 10 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Legislator, Estate Owner

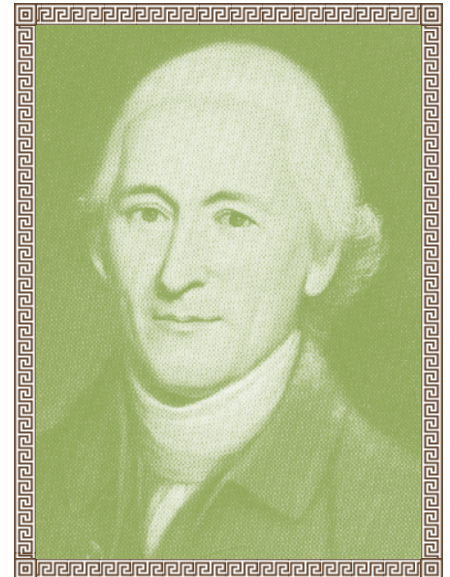
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Patriot, Friendly

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Out looking for Native Americans to get help to fight the British!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Lewis Morris was born in New York on a vast estate which he later managed. When he got older, Lewis gained an interest in local politics. Soon he became critical of the British even though all of his neighbors were Tories.

AT THE CONGRESS Lewis Morris was chosen as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1775. He specialized in military and Indian affairs while serving in congress. Even though he was a great Patriot, the Tories were very strong in New York and Lewis and the other New York delegates were instructed not to vote for independence, although Lewis did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 1/22/1798, (71 Years Old)



LEWIS MORRIS

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Lewis Morris of New York, can not vote for the Declaration of Independence until told to by the New York Congress. I abstain, COURTEOUSLY!*

A large, elegant cursive signature of "Lewis Morris" in a dark green color, with a long, sweeping underline.

ROBERT MORRIS

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 42 (Born: 1/31/1734)

HOME - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - Local Schools

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 7 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Businessman, Shipper

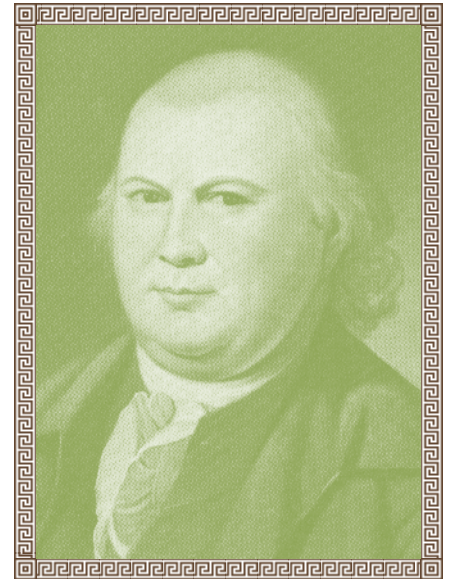
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Patriot, Generous, Conservative

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Trying to make up his mind.

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Robert Morris was born in Liverpool, England but later moved to Maryland to help his father in the tobacco business. After he went to school he got a job with a big shipping company. He did very well in this job and later became one of the directors of the company. Robert did not support the Independence Movement until the war began. After the war broke out, his company supplied the Continental Army with guns and ammunition.

AT THE CONGRESS Robert Morris was chosen as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1775. He was a key member of Congress and he dealt with money matters and military affairs. Sometimes he spent his own money to buy weapons for the army. Even though Robert was a great Patriot, he thought America could still make peace with the British and did not vote for independence. When the critical vote was made, he stayed away from Congress so that Pennsylvania could support independence.

DATE OF DEATH 5/8/1806, (72 Years Old)



ROBERT MORRIS

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you have friends in England. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say:
Although I, Robert Morris of Pennsylvania, can not vote aye, I will abstain so I do not stand in the way of my colony passing the Declaration of Independence.

A stylized, handwritten signature of Robert Morris in green ink. The signature is written in a cursive script, with the first letters of 'R' and 'M' being large and ornate. The rest of the letters are more fluid and connected.

JOHN MORTON

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 52 (Born: 1724)

HOME - Ridley Township (Chester), Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - Taught by Stepfather

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 8 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Surveryor, Farmer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Family Man, Home Town Boy, Slave owner

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Talking with Benjamin Franklin

BEFORE THE CONGRESS John Morton grew up in Pennsylvania and learned surveying from his stepfather. When he was 30, John entered politics and this became his major work from then on. He became an important judge in Pennsylvania. Despite his rise within Pennsylvania politics, John Morton was very loyal to the people in his home town.

AT THE CONGRESS John Morton was sent to the Continental Congress in 1774. At the congress he was one of a group of moderate delegates, men who had not yet decided to vote for independence or against it. However, on July 1, 1776, on the advice of his friend Benjamin Franklin, John Morton suddenly decided to vote for independence.

DATE OF DEATH 1777, (53 Years Old)



JOHN MORTON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, John Morton of Pennsylvania, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

John Morton

THOMAS NELSON, JR.

STATE - Virginia

AGE - 37 (Born: 12/26/1738)

HOME - Yorktown, Virginia

EDUCATION - Hackney School, Cambridge University

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 13 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Merchant, Planter

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Slave Owner, Outspoken, Lively, Patriot

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Talking with Benjamin Franklin

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Thomas Nelson, Jr. grew up in Virginia. He started his education at home but later completed it in England. When he returned to Virginia, he helped his father manage the family's plantation. He became a judge and then later a legislator. He was one of the most active of the Virginia Patriots.

AT THE CONGRESS Thomas Nelson was sent to the Continental Congress in 1776. While still a delegate in Congress, he traveled to a convention in Williamsburg and won approval from the Virginia Legislature of a bill that called for national independence. Nelson returned to Philadelphia and presented the bill to Richard Henry Lee, who rewrote it and presented it to the Continental Congress on June 7, 1776.

DATE OF DEATH 1/4/1789, (50 Years Old)



THOMAS NELSON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, Thomas Nelson, Jr. of Virginia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

Tho Nelson Jr.

WILLIAM PACA

STATE - Maryland

AGE - 35 (Born: 10/31/1740)

HOME - Wye Plantation (Abington), Maryland

EDUCATION - Private Tutors, University of Pennsylvania

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 5 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Planter, Legislator

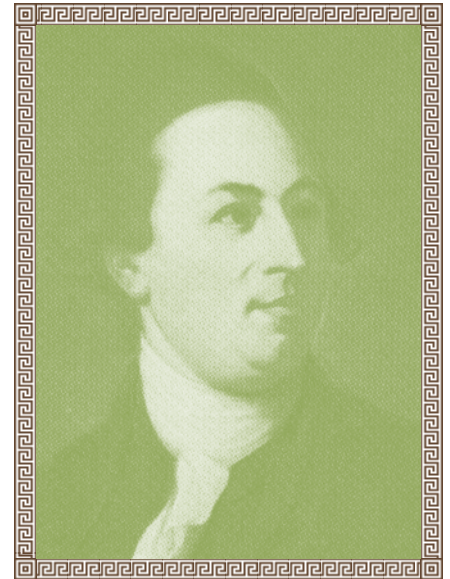
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Slave Owner, Outspoken, Lively, Patriot

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Buying guns for the army and clothes for himself

BEFORE THE CONGRESS William Paca grew up in Maryland. He went to college in Philadelphia, but later completed his education in England where he studied law. When he returned to Maryland he worked as a lawyer in Annapolis. Later, William became a member of the Maryland legislature where he became a leader of the Patriots in the colony.

AT THE CONGRESS William Paca was sent to the Continental Congress in 1774. When the Maryland Legislature refused to allow its delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence, William Paca and the other two delegates from Maryland got them to change their minds. He signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 10/13/1799, (58 Years Old)



WILLIAM PACA

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, William Paca of Maryland, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A large, stylized handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Wm Paca". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Wm" and "Paca" being capitalized and prominent.

ROBERT TREAT PAINE

STATE - Massachusetts

AGE - 45 (Born: 3/11/1731)

HOME - Boston, Massachusetts

EDUCATION - Boston Latin School, Harvard College

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 8 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Minister, Lawyer

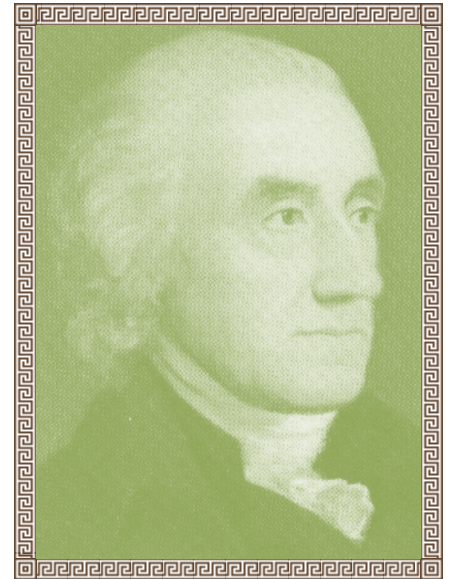
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Artistic, Scientific, Patriot, Firm

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Dining with John Adams and John Hancock

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Robert Treat Paine grew up in Massachusetts. He studied to become a Minister in the church and was a Chaplin during the French and Indian War. Later, Robert decided to become a lawyer. In 1770, he was one of the lawyers for the prosecution of the British soldiers accused of the Boston Massacre. He became famous throughout the colonies. He was elected as one of the delegates from Massachusetts to the Continental Congress.

AT THE CONGRESS Robert Treat Paine was sent to the Continental Congress in 1774. He earned the nickname "Objection Maker" because he opposed so many proposals. He signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 5/12/1814 (83 Years Old)



ROBERT TREAT PAINE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are called the "Objection Maker" by your fellow delegates because you object to everything! During the Congress when ever anyone asks for an objection, you stand and shout: ***I Object!*** You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you do not object to taking the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, Robert Treat Paine of Massachusetts and, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

Rob Treat Paine

JOHN PENN

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 36 (Born: 5/6/1740)

HOME - Stovall, North Carolina

EDUCATION - Local Schools, Law School

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Funny, Likeable, Could Keep a Secret, Likes A Good Joke

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Making friends every where he goes by making them laugh!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS John Penn grew up in Virginia where his father owned a farm. When his father died, John could have taken over the farm, but decided that he would rather become a lawyer. A relative who owned a large library let John use it to continue his education. Penn became a very successful lawyer in Virginia, but later decided to move to North Carolina. Penn became one of the leaders of the Independence Movement in North Carolina.

AT THE CONGRESS John Penn was sent to the Continental Congress in 1775. He did not talk a lot in Congress, but when he did people liked what he said because John had a good sense of humor. John Penn signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 9/14/1788, (48 Years Old)



JOHN PENN

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, John Penn of North Carolina, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

Robt Heat Paule

GEORGE READ

STATE - Delaware

AGE - 42 (Born: 9/18/1733)

HOME - New Castle, Delaware

EDUCATION - Local Schools, Law School

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 5 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer

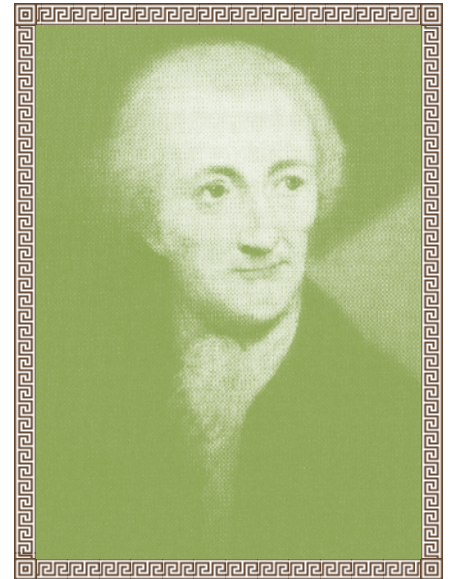
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Conservative, Cautious, Undecided, Patriot, Dignified

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Stradling the fence!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS George Read grew up in Delaware where his father was a wealthy land owner. He attended local schools and then studied law with a Philadelphia lawyer. Once he became a lawyer, he built a successful practice and had clients coming to his office from as far away as Maryland. George was elected to the colony's legislature where he opposed the Stamp Act. However, George was conservative about his opposition to England.

AT THE CONGRESS George Read arrived at the Continental Congress in 1774. While at the Congress, George did not favor independence because he thought there was still a chance that America and Great Britain could make up. He was the only signer who voted against independence.

DATE OF DEATH 9/21/1798, (65 Years Old)



GEORGE READ

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You think it is too soon to declare independence. You will not vote for the Declaration of Independence but do not oppose the Congress passing the document. You are the only delegate who voted against the Declaration to sign it!

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, George Read of Delaware, vote nay against the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Geo. Read". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end.

CAESAR RODNEY

STATE - Delaware

AGE - 47 (Born: 10/7/1728)

HOME - Dover, Delaware

EDUCATION - Local Schools

FAMILY - Never Married, No Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Judge, Sheriff, Militia Captain, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Tough, Good Horse Rider, Man of the Hour

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Resting in his room from his ride!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Caesar Rodney grew up in Delaware where his father owned an 800 acre plantation. Despite a lack of formal schooling, Caesar used his great abilities to have a successful career in serving the public. He worked as a sheriff, captain in the militia, judge, and a legislator. Caesar was a great Patriot and was one of the leaders in Delaware of the opposition to the British.

AT THE CONGRESS Although Caesar was a delegate at the Congress from 1774 on, he was often away in Delaware helping the colony's government and militia. The day before the Continental Congress had to vote one way or another for or against independence, Rodney received an urgent message from Thomas McKean, his friend and fellow delegate from Delaware. The message told Rodney that the other delegate from Delaware, George Read, had voted against independence and only Caesar's vote would break the tie. Caesar rode his horse all night through a terrible storm to cast the deciding vote for independence.

DATE OF DEATH 6/29/1784, (55 Years Old)



CAESAR RODNEY

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: *****Important*****(When the final vote begins you slip quietly to the back of the room near the door. When it comes time for Delaware to vote at the last minute as your name is called, you rush into the Assembly Room exhausted from a long ride on your horse).

When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I am tired, but I would travel anywhere, anytime and through any weather to answer the call of my country! I, Caesar Rodney of Delaware, vote AYE for the Declaration of Independence.*

Caesar Rodney

GEORGE ROSS

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 46 (Born: 5/10/1730)

HOME - Lancaster, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - Private Schools, Law School

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Conservative, Good Speaker, Funny, Party Animal

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Arriving late!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS George Ross grew up in Pennsylvania. He studied Latin and Greek in school. Later, George studied law with his stepbrother in Philadelphia. Ross became a lawyer and a legislator. At first George agreed with the Tories about a lot of things. Despite these beliefs he was sent to the Continental Congress anyway.

AT THE CONGRESS George Ross arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. His arrival at congress came after the vote for independence but before the signing of the document.

DATE OF DEATH 7/14/1779, (49 Years Old)



GEORGE ROSS

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, George Ross of Pennsylvania, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Geo. Ross". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath the name.

BENJAMIN RUSH

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 30 (Born: 1/4/1746)

HOME - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - Private School, Princeton, Medical School

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 13 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Doctor, Teacher, Legislator

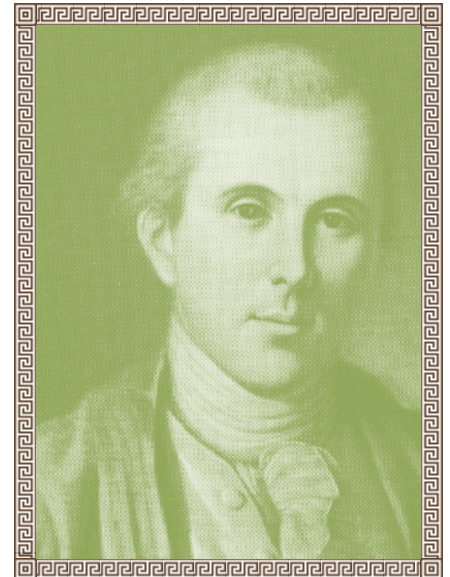
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Smart, Good Looking, Loved to travel, Loved Chemistry

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Talking with Thomas Jefferson and John Adams!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Benjamin Rush grew up in Pennsylvania and was educated in New Jersey, Maryland and Scotland. He studied medicine and chemistry. Rush worked as a Doctor but also used his knowledge of chemistry to write the first textbook in America on the subject. Benjamin became good friends with Benjamin Franklin, who shared his love of science and independence.

AT THE CONGRESS Benjamin Rush arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. Although Benjamin Rush arrived too late to vote for independence, he was a great Patriot and did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 4/19/1813, (67 Years Old)



BENJAMIN RUSH

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Benjamin Rush of Pennsylvania, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Benjamin Rush

EDWARD RUTLEDGE

STATE - South Carolina

AGE - 26 (Born: 11/23/1749)

HOME - Charleston, South Carolina

EDUCATION - Private School, Law School in England

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Legislator

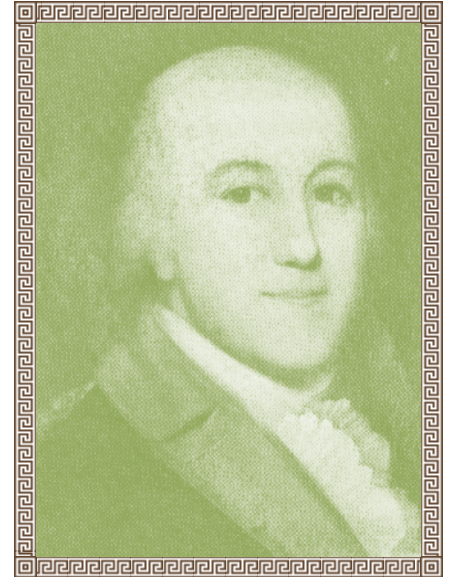
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Moderate, Bold, Fancy Dresser, Liked to Talk

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Dining at the best place in town!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Edward Rutledge grew up in South Carolina. He went to local schools then went to England to attend law school. When he returned to South Carolina, he soon became a successful lawyer and made a lot of money.

AT THE CONGRESS Edward Rutledge arrived at the Continental Congress in 1774. At first Edward Rutledge was opposed to independence but when he realized that most other colonies were going to vote for independence he changed his mind and convinced others from South Carolina to do the same. Edward was the youngest signer of the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 1/23/1800, (50 Years Old)



EDWARD RUTLEDGE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you have friends in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Edward Rutledge of South Carolina, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Edward Rutledge". The script is cursive and elegant, with the first letter of "Edward" being a large capital "E" and the last letter of "Rutledge" being a capital "R".

ROGER SHERMAN

STATE - Connecticut

AGE - 55 (Born: 4/19/1721)

HOME - New Haven, Connecticut

EDUCATION - Grammar School, Self-Education

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 15 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Farmer, Cobbler, Shopkeeper, Lawyer, Legislator, Writer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Honest, Hard Working, Kind

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Meeting with Adams, Jefferson, Franklin & Livingston!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Roger Sherman grew up in Massachusetts helping his father on the farm and learning the cobbler's trade from him. When his father died he moved with his brother to Connecticut. He became a successful lawyer and judge. However, Roger gave up these jobs to open a store at Yale College and later he worked for the college. Roger was a Patriot and joined the Independence Movement.

AT THE CONGRESS Roger Sherman arrived at the Continental Congress in 1774. He was a very important member of the congress. He was a member of the Committee of Five who drafted the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 7/23/1793, (72 Years Old)



ROGER SHERMAN

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You were a member of the Committee of Five who drafted the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Roger Sherman

JAMES SMITH

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 57 (Born: 1719)

HOME - York County, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - Private School, Law School

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 5 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Surveyor, Lawyer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Lonely, Good Speaker, Funny

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Looking for someone to talk with!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS James Smith grew up in Ireland until he was ten years old when his family moved to Pennsylvania. He was educated in a private school in Pennsylvania. James studied surveying and classical languages and became a surveyor and a lawyer. There weren't very many people where he lived so he had few clients and fewer friends. He wanted to help the Patriot cause so he put together a local militia and became its captain.

AT THE CONGRESS James Smith arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. Although Smith arrived too late to vote for independence, he was a Patriot and did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 7/11/1806, (87 Years Old)



JAMES SMITH

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: James Smith grew up in Ireland until he was ten years old when his family moved to Pennsylvania. He was educated in a private school in Pennsylvania. James studied surveying and classical languages and became a surveyor and a lawyer. There weren't very many people where he lived so he had few clients and fewer friends. He wanted to help the Patriot cause so he put together a local militia and became its captain.

FINAL VOTING: James Smith arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. Although Smith arrived too late to vote for independence, he was a Patriot and did sign the Declaration of Independence.

Ja. Smith

RICHARD STOCKTON

STATE - New Jersey

AGE - 45 (Born: 10/1/1730)

HOME - Princeton, New Jersey

EDUCATION - Private School, Princeton

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 6 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Legislator

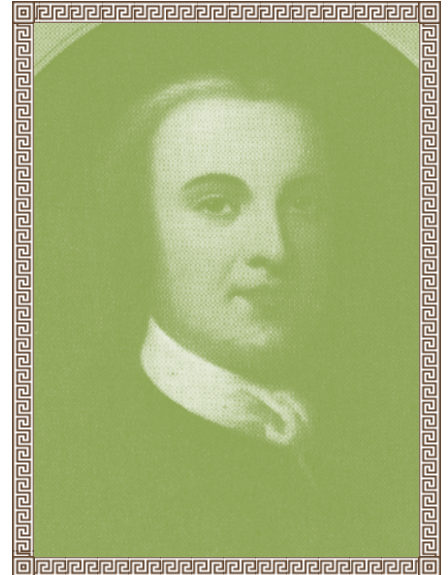
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Talented, Smart, Artistic, Patriotic

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Buying furniture and paintings

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Richard Stockton grew up in New Jersey. His father was a wealthy land owner and judge. He went to school in Maryland and then returned to New Jersey to go to Princeton College. After graduating, he became one of the best lawyers in the country. From the very beginning he was a Patriot.

AT THE CONGRESS Richard Stockton arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. He was afraid of war with England but found the strength to vote for independence and sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 2/28/1781, (50 Years Old)



RICHARD STOCKTON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Richard Stockton of New Jersey, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, reading "Rich Stockton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, ornate flourish underneath the name.

THOMAS STONE

STATE - Maryland

AGE - 33 (Born: 1743)

HOME - Charles County, Maryland

EDUCATION - Tutors, Law School

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Planter

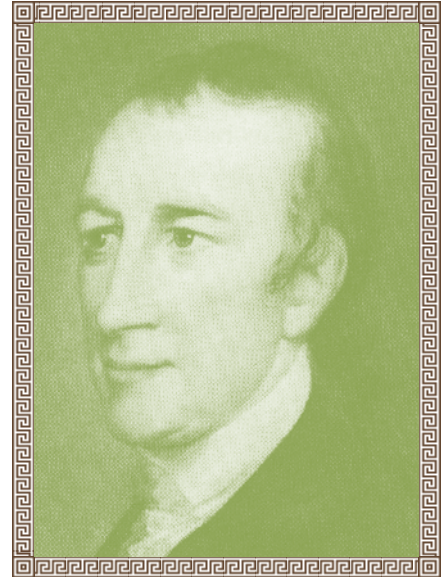
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Conservative, Shy, Peace Lover

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - In the background

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Thomas Stone was the oldest son of a wealthy plantation owner and grew up in Maryland. He was educated by tutors. He studied law with a lawyer in Annapolis, Maryland. When he returned home, Stone became a lawyer and built a large estate. He entered politics and although he agreed with the Patriots he did not want war with England and hoped that the problem would be solved peacefully.

AT THE CONGRESS Thomas Stone arrived at the Continental Congress in 1774. Stone was not a strong supporter of independence and although he signed the Declaration of Independence he still hoped for peace negotiations with the British.

DATE OF DEATH 10/5/1787, (44 Years Old)



THOMAS STONE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are undecided about Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. You do not want a war with the British, but in the end you vote for independence. When some delegates object to passages in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree that the two passages should be taken out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, had trouble making up my mind but I, Thomas Stone of Maryland, now vote for the Declaration of Independence.*

Tho: Stone

GEORGE TAYLOR

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 60 (Born: 1716)

HOME - Easton, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - Self-taught

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 2 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Iron-maker, Militia-Captain, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Hard Worker, Cleaver

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Making weapons for the Continental Army

BEFORE THE CONGRESS George Taylor grew up and lived in Ireland until he was twenty years old. He moved to Pennsylvania and became a worker in an iron-making company. George learned all there was to know about iron-making and soon took over the business. He became a Captain in the local militia and later entered the colonial legislature.

AT THE CONGRESS George Taylor arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. Although George Taylor arrived too late to vote for independence, he was a Patriot and did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 2/23/1781, (65 Years Old)



GEORGE TAYLOR

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, George Taylor of Pennsylvania, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Geo Taylor". The script is cursive and elegant, with a long, sweeping tail on the final "n".

MATTHEW THORNTON



STATE - New Hampshire

AGE - 62 (Born: 1714)

HOME - Londonberry, New Hampshire

EDUCATION - Local Schools, Medical Schools

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 5 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Doctor, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Honest, Funny, Brave

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Arriving late

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Matthew Thornton lived in Ireland until he was four years old when his parents moved to New Hampshire. Matthew was educated in local schools and later studied medicine with a doctor. Thornton became a successful doctor. He was later a surgeon in the New Hampshire Militia during the French and Indian War. He was interested in politics and joined the colonial legislature.

AT THE CONGRESS Matthew Thornton arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. He arrived too late to vote for independence, but he was a Patriot and did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 6/24/1803, (89 Years Old)

MATTHEW THORTON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Matthew Thornton of New Hampshire, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Matthew Thornton

GEORGE WALTON

STATE - Georgia

AGE - 35 (Born: 1741)

HOME - Savannah, Georgia

EDUCATION - Local Schools, Self-taught

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 2 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Carpenter, Lawyer, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Honest, Hard Worker, Romantic

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Dining with Gwinett and Hall

BEFORE THE CONGRESS George Walton grew up in Virginia. When his parents died he went to live with his uncle who got him a job as a carpenter. He had some schooling but learned more by studying on his own. He loved to read about law and later moved to Georgia to study with a lawyer. After becoming a lawyer he decided to also try politics. Walton became a leader of the Independence Movement in Georgia.

AT THE CONGRESS George Walton arrived at the Continental Congress in 1775. He took part in committees relating to national finance and Indian affairs. He voted for independence and signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 2/2/1804, (63 Years Old)



GEORGE WALTON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you were born in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, George Walton of Georgia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Geo Walton

WILLIAM WHIPPLE

STATE - New Hampshire

AGE - 46 (Born: 1/14/1730)

HOME - Portsmouth, New Hampshire

EDUCATION - Local Schools

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, No Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Slave Ship Captain, Slave Owner, Businessman

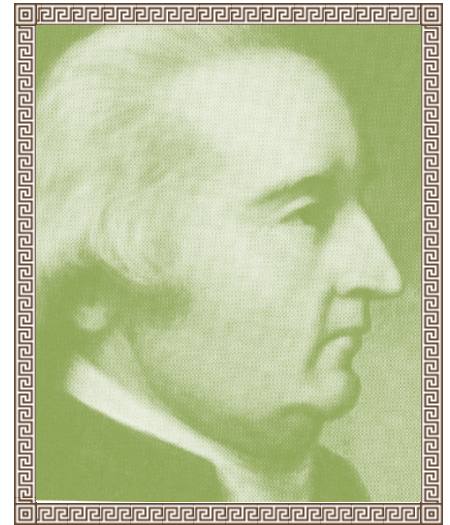
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Wealthy, Tough, Independent

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Down at the docks

BEFORE THE CONGRESS William Whipple grew up in Maine and went to sea while still a boy. He became a ship master and engaged in the slave trade. At the age of thirty he gave up the sea and opened a business in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He became one of the most important citizens of Portsmouth. Later, William gave up his business to devote all his time to public service. William became a member of the colonial legislature.

AT THE CONGRESS William Whipple arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. He concerned himself mainly with naval and military affairs in Congress. He thought the colonies should not make peace with England but should beat them on the battlefield.

DATE OF DEATH 11/28/1785, (55 Years Old)



WILLIAM WHIPPLE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you used to be a slave-ship captain. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the passage out.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, William Whipple of New Hampshire, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A large, stylized handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Wm Whipple". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop over the "W" and a long, sweeping underline.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS



STATE - Connecticut

AGE - 45 (Born: 4/18/1731)

HOME - Lebanon, Connecticut

EDUCATION - Local Schools, Harvard College

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Minister, Businessman, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Brave, Kind

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - In his room writing a newspaper article

BEFORE THE CONGRESS William Williams grew up in Connecticut, and went to local schools and later attended Harvard College. After graduating from college, William studied to be a Minister. After he took part in the French and Indian War, William returned home and became a businessman. He later became involved in politics and became a strong supporter of the Independence Movement.

AT THE CONGRESS William Williams arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. He involved himself with military matters in congress, voted for independence and signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 8/2/1811, (80 Years Old)

WILLIAM WILLIAMS

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, William Williams of Connecticut, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink. The first part of the signature is a stylized, cursive 'Wm'. The second part is the word 'William' in a similar cursive script. Below 'William' is a large, elaborate flourish consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke that ends in a small circle.

JAMES WILSON

STATE - Pennsylvania

AGE - 33 (Born: 9/14/1742)

HOME - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION - School and Colleges in Scotland

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 7 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Professor, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Smart, Wealthy, Conservative, Tall

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Lecturing at the University

BEFORE THE CONGRESS James Wilson lived in Scotland until he was twenty-five years old when he moved to Philadelphia to teach at the University of Pennsylvania. Soon he left his job as a professor to study law. He became a lawyer and then became interested in revolutionary politics. He became known as a Patriot through his writing.

AT THE CONGRESS James Wilson arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. He was a moderate and did not want independence. He thought at first that England and America could settle their differences. However, when the vote for independence came he supported breaking with England and signed the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 8/21/1798, (55 Years Old)



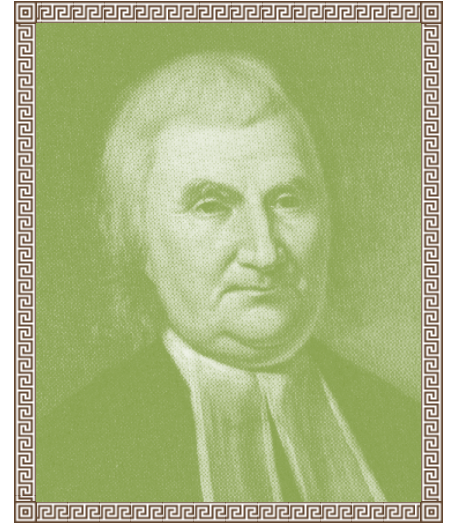
JAMES WILSON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, James Wilson of Pennsylvania, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

James Wilson

JOHN WITHERSPOON



STATE - New Jersey

AGE - 53 (Born: 2/15/1723)

HOME - Princeton, New Jersey

EDUCATION - School and Colleges in Scotland

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 12 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Minister, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Smart, Brave, Bold

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Giving a sermon at church.

BEFORE THE CONGRESS John Witherspoon grew up in Scotland where he went to school and college. After college he worked as a minister. When he was 45, John moved to America to become the President of the College of New Jersey (Princeton University). He was very good as president and helped the college to grow. John hated the British and was a leading voice against England. Witherspoon supported fighting with the British and helped get rid of the Royal Governor of New Jersey. The Patriots in New Jersey elected him to the Continental Congress.

AT THE CONGRESS John Witherspoon arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. On July 2, 1776 he made a speech before Congress in which he said the colonies were "not only ripe for independence but in danger of rotting for not having it!"

DATE OF DEATH 8/21/1798, (55 Years Old)

JOHN WITHERSPOON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *If we don't get independence now, America will rot! I, John Witherspoon of New Jersey, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A large, stylized handwritten signature in green ink that reads "John Witherspoon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

OLIVER WOLCOTT

STATE - Connecticut

AGE - 49 (Born: 11/20/1726)

HOME - Litchfield, Connecticut

EDUCATION - Local Schools and Yale College

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 4 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Army Colonel, Doctor, Lawyer, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Modest, Smart, Brave

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Looking for medicine for the troops and himself.

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Oliver Wolcott grew up in Connecticut where he went to school and college. After graduating college at the top of his class, Oliver became a Captain in the Militia and fought in the French and Indian War. After the war he studied medicine and law. Oliver was interested in politics and joined the colonial legislature. Even though he had a political career he loved the army and he rose to the rank of Colonel.

AT THE CONGRESS Oliver Wolcott arrived at the Continental Congress in 1775. In June of 1776, he became ill and had to return home to Connecticut. He was not in Philadelphia in July to vote for independence or in August to attend the formal signing of the Declaration of Independence but he signed the document later on.

DATE OF DEATH 12/1/1797, (71 Years Old)



OLIVER WOLCOTT

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Oliver Wolcott of Connecticut, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A large, elegant cursive signature of Oliver Wolcott in a dark green color, matching the header text. The signature is written in a fluid, flowing style with prominent loops and flourishes, particularly in the 'O' of 'Oliver' and the 'W' of 'Wolcott'.

GEORGE WYTHE

STATE - Virginia

AGE - 50 (Born: 1726)

HOME - Litchfield, Connecticut

EDUCATION - Local School, Self-taught

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 1 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer, Professor, Legislator

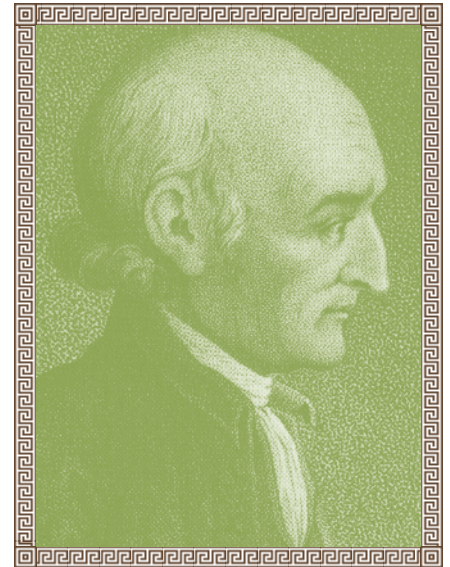
WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Smart, Great Teacher

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - With his friend Thomas Jefferson

BEFORE THE CONGRESS George Wythe grew up in Virginia. When his parents died he went to live with his older brother. George had some schooling but learned more by studying on his own. He loved to read about law and later studied with a lawyer. After becoming a lawyer he decided to also try politics. This brought Wythe to Williamsburg which was the capitol of Virginia at that time. Wythe became a member of the Independence Movement in Virginia. While he was busy working for the government, George still found time to teach his student, Thomas Jefferson, about the law. The two men were friends for the rest of their lives.

AT THE CONGRESS George Wythe arrived at the Continental Congress in 1775. During the debate over independence and the signing of the Declaration of Independence George was in Virginia drafting the Virginia State Constitution, but he did sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 6/8/1806, (80 Years Old)



GEORGE WYTHE

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: ***I, George Wythe of Virginia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.***

George Wythe

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. — We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world. — He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. — He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. — He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people; unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only. — He has called together legislative Bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. — He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the People. — He has refused, for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining the same, the danger of Invasion from without, and convulsions within. — He has endeavored to prevent the Population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. — He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers. — He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. — He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance. — He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our Legislature. — He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. — He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unauthorized by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: — For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: — For obstructing them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit in the Inhabitation of these States: — For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: — For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: — For depriving us in many cases of the benefit of Trial by jury: — For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: — For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies: — For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: — For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. — He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. — He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. — He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty & perfidy, scarcely parallelable in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. — He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executors of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands. — He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. One more stage of these Oppressions we have Borne for a while with patience and humility: but our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have we been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have urged them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of conjuncture. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends. — We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

Dutton, Guiney, &
Lymann Hall,
Geo. Wallcut.

Sam. Hooper
Joseph Hewes,
John Penn

Edw. G. Lathrop,
Thos. Heywood & Junr
Thomas Lloyd Junr
Arthur Middleton

John Hancock
Samuel Adams
Wm. Paine
Thos. Stone
Caleb Carruthers

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Th. Jefferson
Wm. Harrison
Thos. Nelson Jr.
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Gustav Braxton

Robt Morris
Benjamin Rush
Benj. Franklin
John Morton
Geo. Taylor
James Wilson
Wm. Ross
Cesar Rodney
Thos. Mifflin
Thos. Bland

Edw. B. Livingston
John Adams
Lewis Morris

Richd. Stockton
Jos. Redbank
Thos. Bland
John Hart
Mica Clark

Josh. Bartlett
M. Myrle
Sam. Adams
John Adams
Wm. Hoar

Stephen Hopkins
William Ellery
Roger Sherman
John Huntington
Thos. Mifflin
Matthew Thornton

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our Brittish brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WORKSHEET

Name:

Date:

Directions: Look closely at Thomas Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence and the final copy of the Declaration of Independence and then answer the questions below.

1. Why do you think there are so many things crossed out in Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence? Does it help you to know that he had only two weeks to write the document? Does it also help you to know that Jefferson had other people read the document before giving it to the Continental Congress?

2. Two important passages in Jefferson's draft were removed from the final Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress. One passage blamed the British people for not stopping King George from treating Americans badly. Why do you think some members refused to blame the British people for not stopping the King?

3. The other passage that was taken out of Jefferson's draft was about the unfairness of slavery. Why do you think some members of congress did not want to put an end to slavery? Does it help you to know that southern planters needed slaves to work in the fields? Does it help you to know that northern shipowners bought and sold slaves?

POST VISIT MATERIALS



Words to Know



People to Know



Biography of Abigail Adams



Biography of John Adams



What Happened to the Delegates after they Signed?

WORDS TO KNOW



Asylum	Place that provides protection and safety
Blacklist	A list of people to be watched or punished.
Continental Congress	The group of lawmakers that governed the country before the United States was formed.
Contraband	Things the British forbid the Patriots to have without paying a tax to the King for them.
Drill	Practice by soldiers, marching and using muskets.
Husbandry	The act of growing crops and raising farm animals.
Justice	Fair treatment or punishment following the law.
Lobsterbacks, Redcoats	Insulting nicknames for British soldiers based on their bright red uniforms.
Militia	A military unit that is not part of a regular army and may be called together in an emergency.
Musket	A colonial weapon similar to a rifle. Fires one shot at a time and needs to be reloaded after each shot.
Muster	A gathering of soldiers for drill or inspection
Patriot	One who loves, supports and defends one's country.
Refugee	A person who is forced to flee their home due to harsh and cruel treatment.

WORDS TO KNOW

Spouse

Husband or wife

Stockpile

Supply of things stored for the future or for emergencies.

Tory

American colonists who remained loyal to the King of England during the American Revolutionary War.

Typhoid Fever

A disease transmitted by contaminated food or water and characterized by rashes and high fever

Tyranny

A government in which a single ruler has complete power and is often cruel and unjust.



PEOPLE TO KNOW

Abigail Adams: Wife of John Adams, second First Lady of the United States, famous letter writer, mother of sixth United States President John Quincy Adams. Takes care of farm while John Adams serves his nation and writes letters to him of events around Boston.

Abigail (Nabby) Adams: Daughter of John and Abigail Adams, older sister of John Quincy Adams, loves to read and write letters.

Charles Adams: Younger brother of John Quincy Adams and Nabby, Charles likes to have letters read to him, especially those from his father.

John Adams: Husband of Abigail Adams and the second President of the United States, Delegate to Continental Congress, Diplomat during American Revolution.

John Quincy Adams: Son of John and Abigail Adams and sixth president of the United States, as oldest son he has to accept responsibility for helping his mother take care of the farm while his father is away.

Thomas Boylston Adams: Youngest child of John and Abigail Adams, likes to play with his older brothers and sister.



ABIGAIL ADAMS

1744-1818



Abigail Adams brought more intellect and ability to the position of United States First Lady than any other woman. President Harry Truman once noted that Abigail Adams "would have been a better President than her husband." Yet, she lived in an era when women were not supposed to have, or express, their opinions about government or the exciting events of the times.

Abigail Adams struggled her whole life with the limitations that society placed upon her dreams. Despite these hardships, Abigail found a way to use her talents to serve her nation by assisting and advising her husband, President John Adams, and teaching and guiding her son, President John Quincy Adams. No woman in history can share Abigail's distinction of being both the wife of one President and the mother of another. Throughout her 74 year life, this American heroine was an invaluable contributor to the founding and strengthening of the United States.

Abigail Smith (Adams) was born on November 11, 1744, in Weymouth, Massachusetts. She was the second child born to Elizabeth Quincy Smith and the Reverend William Smith. Her father was Pastor of Weymouth's North Parish Congregational Church and one of the best educated and most prosperous citizens of the community. As a religious man, he taught Abigail to respect God and to help others in any way she could. Abigail's mother, Elizabeth Smith, spent much of her time visiting sick and bringing food, clothing and firewood to needy families. From the time she was a young woman, Abigail accompanied her mother on these visits and put into practice the lessons her father taught her about helping those who were less fortunate.

New England schools of the time usually admitted only boys, and girls were instructed at home. Few people believed that woman needed much learning. Such limitations did not satisfy Abigail, and she began to educate herself by reading the books in her father's library. She read all about different subjects and was probably one of the most well-read woman in eighteenth century America. However, Abigail regretted that she did not have the opportunity to pursue a formal education that was reserved only for men.

Abigail learned a great deal during her frequent stays with her grandfather, Colonel John Quincy, who

was one of the most important citizens in the colony of Massachusetts. He served in several positions throughout his career, including being a colonel in the militia, and Speaker of the House of Representatives. Colonel Quincy's sense of public service and active concern for the community helped to shape young Abigail's values and provided her with a sense of public duty. He and his guests made the future first lady aware of the importance of freedom and America's aspirations to control their own destiny.

As a woman of the 1700's, Abigail could understand her nation's thirst for independence, because she longed for it herself. The future first lady knew that her life would be decided by her choice of a husband. Abigail wanted a husband who was her intellectual equal and one who would appreciate her accomplishments. It was not long before Abigail met such a man, John Adams, a young lawyer from nearby Braintree. During their two year courtship the young couple spent long periods apart and relied upon writing letters to keep in touch. On October 25, 1764, Abigail's father presided over the wedding of his daughter to John Adams. The young couple moved into the house John had inherited from his father in Braintree (Today a part of the National Park Service, Adams National Historic Site) and began their life together.

John and Abigail's marriage was successful from the outset. Abigail proved to be exceptionally capable of managing the family's finances and the household. Meanwhile, John's career took a dramatic turn for the better. He began to ride the court circuit (traveling from one district to another). John's frequent absences from home and family were prelude to more painful separations in the years ahead. However, the young couple were willing to endure personal hardships for the good of the family and nation.

On July 11, 1767 in the Adamses' little farmhouse, Abigail gave birth to John Quincy Adams. In the spring of the following year, John Adams moved his family to Boston, because his work was located there. The Adamses became a part of a social circle that included such patriots as John's cousin, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, James Otis and Joseph Warren. But, there was little time for socializing because dramatic events in Boston were overshadowing all other concerns. Abigail's loyalty to her husband was tested by one such event, the Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770. At the risk of his own popularity, and career, John Adams chose to defend eight British soldiers and their captain, accused of murdering five Americans.

Although John was an ardent patriot and favored independence, he felt the soldiers had acted properly and had been provoked into firing by an unruly mob. Also, he felt it was important to prove to the

world that the colonists were not under mob rule: lacking direction and principles and that all men were entitled to due process of law. Most Americans, driven by emotion, were angry with Adams for defending the hated "redcoats," but throughout the ordeal Abigail supported her husband's decision. In the end, Adams was proven correct and all nine of the men were acquitted of the murder charges. Despite diffusing of this crisis, far greater ones were destined to be part of the course of events in the colonies.

In 1774, John went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as a delegate to the First Continental Congress where America made its first legislative moves towards forming its own government independent of Great Britain. Abigail remained in Braintree to manage the farm and educate their children. Again, letter writing was the only way the Adamses could communicate with each other. Now, their correspondence took on even greater meaning, for Abigail reported to her husband about the British and American military confrontations around Boston. Abigail was aware of the importance of these events, and took her son John Quincy to the top of Penn's Hill near their farm to witness the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775.

Not all American's shared the Adamses' vision of an independent nation. To those that wavered, Abigail argued, "A people may let a king fall, yet still remain a people: but if a king lets his people slip from him, he is no longer a king. And this is most certainly our case, why not proclaim to the world in decisive terms, your own independence?" John agreed with his wife and in June of 1776 was appointed to a committee of five men to prepare a Declaration of Independence for Great Britain. Yet Abigail's vision of independence was broader than that the delegates for she believed all people, and both sexes, should be granted equal rights. In her letters to John she wrote, "I wish most sincerely that there was not a slave in the province. It always seemed to me to fight ourselves for what we are robbing the Negroes (African-Americans) of, who have as good a right to freedom as we have." Later Abigail added John and his fellow delegates should "remember the ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than you ancestors" when they enact new law codes. She was certainly justified for asking such rights, for women such as Abigail, by tending the fields and doing other jobs, made possible the U.S. military victory. Despite Abigail's best efforts to include all people in America's new system of government, her views were far too progressive for the delegates of the Continental Congress. While they did adopt the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, the document failed to guarantee the rights of blacks or women.

John soon was appointed President of the Board of War, and turned to Abigail for advice on carrying out his job. She was the one person he could turn to for advice and support in politics and govern-

ment. Throughout his career, Adams had few confidants, so Abigail advised her husband and John valued her judgement so much that he wrote his wife, "I want to hear you think or see your thoughts."

In 1778, John Adams was sent to France on a special mission to negotiate an alliance with France. John Adams was in Europe from 1778 to 1787 except for a 3 month rest at home during which time he drafted the Massachusetts Constitution. Now separated from her husband by the Atlantic Ocean, Abigail continued to keep their farm running, paid their bills and served as teacher to their children. She particularly labored to develop the great abilities of her son, John Quincy, who had joined his father in Europe. In one letter to her son, she inspired him to use his superior abilities to confront the challenges before him: "These are times in which a genius would wish to live...great necessities call out great virtues."

In 1784, with independence and peace secured from Great Britain, Abigail sailed to Europe to join her husband and son. Abigail spent four years in France and England while her husband served as United States Minister to Great Britain. As wife of a diplomat, she met and entertained many important people in Paris and London. While never at home in these unfamiliar settings, Abigail did her best to like the people and cities of both countries. Nevertheless, Abigail was pleased when the time came to return to Braintree in 1788.

The next year, John Adams was elected first Vice President of the United States. During the course of the next twelve years as John Adams served two terms as Vice President (1789-1797) and one term as President (1797-1801), he and Abigail moved back and forth between the new home they bought in Braintree (the "Old House") and the successive political capital of the United States: New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. Throughout these years, Abigail frequently made use of her writing abilities in the defense of John Adams and his policies. Time began to take its toll on Abigail, she had constant recurring bouts of rheumatism which forced her to frequently retreat to the peace of Braintree in order to recover. After 8 years of apprenticeship as vice-president, in 1799, John Adams was elected to succeed George Washington as President of the United States. While John and Abigail could be proud to reach this esteemed position, they had little time to enjoy their success, for the United States was in very dangerous condition when Adams took office. Party lines were forming. John Adams' faced dissent in his cabinet and the Vice President, Thomas Jefferson, was head of the opposition party. John Realized the problems he faced and wrote to his wife, who was in Quincy recovering from a rheumatic bout, that "I never wanted your advice and assistance more in my life." Abigail rushed to her husband's side and maintained a grueling schedule to perform all her duties as First Lady. She entertained guests and visited many people in support of her husband. The First Lady

had a limited budget to carry out her duties, but she compensated for this with her attentiveness and charm.

Meanwhile, Great Britain was at war with France and, popular opinion held that America should jump into aid Great Britain. The President felt that war would weaken the United States and decided upon the unpopular course of neutrality. During this time many of Adams' opponents used the press to criticize his policies. Abigail was often referred to as "Mrs. President" for it was widely believed that the President's decisions were influenced by his wife. In reality Abigail disagreed with her husband's stand of neutrality, but people believed she was influencing his policies and this weakened John Adams politically.

In 1798, with John Adams' approval, Congress passed the Alien and Sedition Acts which were aimed at restricting foreign influence over the U.S. and weakening the opposition press. Abigail supported these measures, because she felt they were necessary to stop the press from undermining her husband. The acts proved very unpopular and Thomas Jefferson and James Madison led the protest against them. Adams courageous yet unpopular stand on this matter led to his failure at being reelected in 1800, but he was forever proud that he prevented war.

In March of 1801, John and Abigail returned to retire Quincy. During her last years Mrs. Adams occupied herself with improving her home and entertaining the many children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews that would visit. In the company of those she loved Abigail was content with her domestic chores, visits to friends and ceaseless writing. Abigail focused much attention on the advancement of her son John Quincy's career. The proud mother watched as John Quincy Adams distinguished himself as U.S. Senator, Minister to Russia and Secretary of State. Throughout this time, Abigail constantly advised her son and worked behind the scenes to protect him from the hardships associated with a life of public service. In October of 1818 Abigail contracted typhoid fever. Surrounded by family members she died on October 28. John Adams and his wife had shared 54 years of happiness and companionship, and the Second President was so moved by Abigail's death that he said "I wish I could lay down beside her and die too."

Today, nearly two centuries after Abigail's death her legacy survives in the letters she wrote which chronicled this important period of history. The memory of Abigail Adams is still present at the Adams National Historic Site which serves as an invaluable resource for witnessing this woman's contributions to the improvement of her family and nation through public service.

JOHN ADAMS

1735-1826



John Adams was the oldest of the three sons born to Deacon John Adams and Susanna Boylston. His father served as a moderator at town meetings and inspired John to take an interest in community affairs. His mother belonged to the Boylston family, one of the most famous in Massachusetts. After finishing elementary schools, John Adams attended Harvard College and graduated in 1755. After graduation, the future United States President briefly taught school in Worcester, Massachusetts. There he was influenced by attorney, James Putnam, to pursue a career in law. John studied law under Putnam and then returned to Braintree to be presented to the Bar.

John Adams was kept busy trying to establish himself as a lawyer, but often had time to socialize. He grew more and more fond of Parson William Smith's daughter, Abigail, and became a frequent visitor to their home in nearby Weymouth, Massachusetts. Abigail was intelligent and spent much of her free time reading the books in her father's large library. The future First Lady also learned much from guests she met while staying with her grandfather Colonel John Quincy, who was one of the most famous citizens in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Abigail's intelligence, strong social skills and strength of character made her ideally suited for lifelong partnership through marriage to a man with the desire of a career in public service. John was eager to pursue his relationship with Abigail Smith but, realized the responsibility of marriage. Therefore, Adams set out to organize and improve the cottage and farmland that he inherited upon the death of his father in May of 1761. In October of 1764, with this work completed, John married Abigail and together they moved into the small farmhouse that three years later became the birthplace of their son, John Quincy Adams, the Sixth President of the United States.

John Adams' law career rose from a small practice carried out from his Braintree farmhouse to a well established firm with clients as wealthy and famous as John Hancock. Throughout this rise John traveled the court circuit and often was away from home for extended periods, a condition which forced John and Abigail to become skilled letter writers. Eventually, Adams gained fame and became one of Boston's most sought after attorneys. John built his reputation on fairness and therefore agreed to defend the British Officers accused of murder resulting from the Boston Massacre.

Although John Adams could defend British soldiers on points of law, he was a strong critic of Great Britain's policies. In June of 1774, Adams was elected as a delegate from Massachusetts to the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia. Here, representatives from the American Colonies met to discuss their opposition to England's Colonial Government. John was an active participant at this meeting and the next one called, the Second Continental Congress. While at these sessions Adams proposed George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, and helped his friend, Thomas Jefferson, to draft the Declaration of Independence. In addition, John Adams laid the cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy by drafting the "Model Treaty of 1776."

In 1777, Adams briefly retired from public service because he had been away so long from his family in Braintree. This retirement had just started when John received word that the Continental Congress appointed him as a Commissioner to negotiate for Peace with Great Britain. The assignment meant Adams had to travel to Europe and forced the Adams family to again separate for their nation's well being. At Abigail's urging, John Adams took his oldest son, John Quincy Adams, on his mission to France in order to give the boy international experience and provide for a second generation of leadership in U.S. foreign relations. During John's absence Abigail managed the farm, supervised the schooling of their children and kept her husband informed of all the events taking place at home.

Upon arrival in Paris, Adams discovered that Benjamin Franklin had already negotiated a treaty with France, but he had to stay in Europe doing many diplomatic assignments for the United States. With this job completed and no chance of peace with England in the future, Adams returned to America in time to be elected as Braintree's delegate to the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention. Although assisted by his cousin Samuel Adams and James Bowdoin, John was the framer of the Massachusetts Constitution. The Massachusetts Constitution is the oldest surviving written constitution in the world. Shortly after this success, Congress ordered Adams to return to Paris to serve as first commissioner of the delegation to negotiate Treaties. This time, John Quincy, and his brother Charles, accompanied their father on the long voyage across the Atlantic.

During the course of the rest of the Revolutionary War, the future President worked hard with other foreign countries. In 1782, Adams' efforts were rewarded when Holland formally recognized, signed a Treaty, and agreed to loan the United States five million Dutch Guilders. Within a year of his success in the Netherlands, John Adams took part in his crowning achievement as a diplomat when he negotiated and signed the Treaty of Paris, which secured recognition of the United States' independence from Great Britain.

After the war Adams remained in Europe until 1788, strengthening U.S. foreign relations by securing more loans from Holland, concluding more treaties with several European nations and serving as the first United States Minister to Great Britain. John took advantage of the opportunity that peace provided to reunite his family. Abigail and daughter Nabby sailed to Europe in 1784 and brought happiness to the remainder of John Adams' diplomatic time in Europe.

In 1788, convinced that they could do more for their nation at home than away, John and Abigail left England to return to their beloved Braintree. Weary of being away from home, they eagerly considered settling in the Vassall-Borland house (now the "Old House," Adams National Historic Site) which they asked one of their relatives to purchase for them while they were away in England. The house was spacious and warm with a beautiful garden and rich green fields for John to pursue his love of farming. Adams' contributions to the building of the nation made him a popular choice for the office of Vice-President in the election of 1788. After eight years of loyal and important service as the nation's first Vice-President John Adams was elected to succeed George Washington and became the second President of the United States. The nation's first peaceful transfer of power succeeded as the world looked on.

John Adams' term of office was one of the most difficult in U.S. History. The trouble that was happening in Europe following the French Revolution threatened to spill across the Atlantic and separate America. Some in the United States felt that the U.S. should come to the aid of America's former ally, France, in their war with England. Other Americans felt that the French had gone too far in their revolution and that we no longer owed support to that nation. The French Government was impatient for U.S. support and tried to convince the United States to see things their way through a show of force. The French Navy began attacking American ships at sea and when John Adams sent U.S. diplomats to try and solve French-American differences, the French Government refused to talk until the Americans paid them a bribe, an episode which would later be known as the XYZ Affair. Following this embarrassing event most Americans felt the U.S. should go to war with France to restore national honor. While many officials used the people's anger for their own political gain, John Adams' honesty and integrity led him to put nation before party. Adams avoided war by building up the American Navy to protect U.S. ships at sea. During his presidency John Adams founded the Department of the Navy and the U.S.S. Constitution, and several other ships, were launched.

While this maritime defense helped prevent further French attacks Adams signed into law a series of measures to restore peace and preserve the Union. These laws, which came to be known as the Alien and Sedition Acts, were pushed through Congress by the Federalist Party in order to tighten control

over immigrants and those who criticized the government. While Adams played no part in the formation of these acts, nor took steps to enforce them, he was held responsible for these unpopular measures in the public mind.

The Year 1800 was bittersweet for John Adams. The Convention of Montefontaine, signed in October, ended hostilities between France and the United States and Adams considered the positive end of this crisis as his greatest accomplishment as President. In November, John and Abigail Adams became the first occupants of the Executive Mansion in Washington D.C. (later to be known as the White House). Meanwhile, their son, John Quincy Adams, was distinguishing himself abroad as U.S. Minister to Prussia. Eleven months of relative joy was soon overshadowed by a December that brought sadness and grief to the Adams family when they suffered the death of their second son, Charles and John's loss to Thomas Jefferson in the Presidential Election of 1800.

Adams truly believed that the Republican Party's victory in 1800 meant trouble for the United States. He felt the Union the Founding Fathers had worked so hard to establish, would quickly be dissolved by those politicians who sought to give more power to the individual states. John respected the will of the people but, left a check on the Republican Party's ability to act too quickly. During the four months between Election Day and Jefferson's inauguration on March 4, 1801, the Federalist majority in the old Congress passed a new Judiciary Act, which increased the number of judges in the federal courts by 16. President Adams appointed Federalists to these positions, working until late in the evening of his last day in office signing the commissions of the new judges. The most significant appointment made by Adams was that of John Marshall of Virginia as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. In giving more than 500 opinions in 34 years of service, from 1801 to 1835, Marshall helped to mold the political and economic structure of the new nation.

Thomas Jefferson, the President-Elect, considered Adams' "Midnight Appointments" as the actions of a sore loser. The once close friendship between these two patriots had decayed to the point that Adams did not feel comfortable attending his successor's inauguration. As John returned home on March 4, 1801 he may have regretted the disagreement between him and his friend, but he believed that he had done what was in the best interest of the United States. Adams also looked forward to returning to his beloved estate in Quincy, which he had named Peacefield, and pursuing his love of farming.

Adams also took pleasure in making use of the rooms that had just been added to the "Old House" as the home was later called. Downstairs, there was a large room to entertain the constant flow of guests

that called upon the Adamses. While upstairs, there was a comfortable study where John spent many hours reading and writing. John Adams also enjoyed retirement because he could spend more time with his family. The former President especially appreciated having such a close and supportive family when his beloved Abigail died in 1818. Abigail had been more than a wife to John, she had been his partner, his advisor and his "Dearest Friend." Adams' grief was tempered by the constant love, joy and pride that his family brought him in his remaining years.

One of the most satisfying accomplishments of John Adams' final years was becoming friends again with Thomas Jefferson. In 1811, Dr. Benjamin Rush, a mutual friend of Jefferson and Adams, wrote to the former Presidents and suggested that they should start writing letters to each other. Time had allowed their arguments to end and they began writing letters to each other. In this correspondence these two men, who represented the American Revolution, put forth their different visions of America's future. The monumental role these two men played in the creation of a nation was symbolized by the coincidence of their deaths on the fourth of July 1826, the 50th anniversary of American Independence. While both men could be proud of the contributions they made to the founding and the development of the United States, Adams could be doubly pleased that his son, John Quincy Adams, as the sixth President of the U. S. was continuing the family's dedication to public service in the nation's highest office.



The birthplaces of John Adams and John Quincy Adams (viewer's right and viewer's left, respectively) are the oldest presidential birthplaces in the United States.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS AFTER THEY SIGNED?

SAMUEL ADAMS -

As a man of many talents, you are one of the authors of the Massachusetts Constitution in 1779, and a delegate to the Convention in 1780, a state senator, Lt. Governor, and Governor from 1793 to 1797. In 1803, you die at the age of 81. You are happy America attained its independence for you were one of two men that the British would not have pardoned if the Colonies had surrendered! The other was John Hancock.

JOSIAH BARTLETT -

You return to New Hampshire where you are a delegate to the New Hampshire Constitutional Convention and Governor of New Hampshire from 1790 to 1794. You die in 1795 at the age of 65. The town of Bartlett, New Hampshire is named for you.

CARTER BRAXTON -

You returned to Virginia where you serve in the Virginia Legislature. Using your wealth you help to supply the troops during the war and lose your fortune as a result of the war and due to some bad business decisions. You die of a stroke in 1797 at the age of 61.

CHARLES CARROLL -

You are considered to be the wealthiest man in America. You help to write the Maryland Constitution in 1776 and later serve as one of the first senators from Maryland. In 1832, at the age of 95 you pass away. You are the last signer to die.

SAMUEL CHASE -

Serving as a judge in Maryland you are appointed by George Washington to the U.S. Supreme Court serving in that office from 1796 until your death in 1811 at the age of 70. While serving on that court you were impeached by the House for speaking out against President Jefferson's policies but were found not guilty by the senate allowing you to retain your seat. Following that verdict it was decided that a judge could not be removed for political reasons.

ABRAHAM CLARK -

During the War your property is destroyed and your son captured by the British. The British tell you that if you renounce the cause of American independence, your son would be freed. You refuse! After the war you serve in the Congress and are one of the main designers of U.S. coins. You die at the age of 68 in 1794.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

GEORGE CLYMER -

You travel to Fort Pitt in Pennsylvania and make the first treaty between the Indians and the Continental Congress in 1777. In 1787 you sign the U.S. Constitution and are a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania helping to keep it open during a time of financial difficulty in 1797. You die in 1813 at the age of 73.

WILLIAM ELLERY -

Your home in Newport is destroyed by the British.. Until your retirement in 1785 from the Congress you fight to end slavery. Dying in your home in 1820 at the age of 92 you are one of the oldest living members of Congress.

WILLIAM FLOYD -

You are elected to the first U.S. House of Representatives, serving from 1789-1791. In 1801, you are a delegate to the New York Constitutional Convention. You retire and head west, dying in the wilderness of western New York in 1821.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN -

You travel to France to help raise money to finance the war. In 1787 you help to create and then signed the U.S. Constitution. You serve as the Governor of Pennsylvania. After the age of 70, you decide you don't want to continue to age so you start to subtract a year instead of adding one on your birthday. You died in 1790 at the age of 84 (or were you 56?)

ELBRIDGE GERRY -

In 1786, you marry at the age of 41! You serve in the Congress from 1789 to 1793. During your campaign for Governor of Massachusetts you redraw voting districts to assist you in your bid. The term "gerrymandering" is created from this event. You are elected and serve as Governor from 1810 to 1812. You serve as Vice President to 5th president James Monroe from 1812 until your death in 1814 at the age of 70.

BUTTON GWINNET -

You leave the Congress in 1777 and die that same year at the age of 42. As Speaker of the Georgia Legislature you help write the Georgia Constitution and later served as Georgia's Governor. Your death was the result of a duel with Lachlan McIntosh who had insulted you in front of the Georgia Legislature. You were the challenger and were killed. McIntosh survived his wounds.

LYMAN HALL -

You become the Governor of Georgia and help found the University of Georgia. Your home is destroyed by the British in 1778. You died at your new plantation in 1790 at the age of 66.

JOHN HANCOCK -

You serve as a member of Congress until 1780 and as Governor of Massachusetts for 11 years. In 1788, you are the chairman of the Massachusetts Constitutional Committee voting to ratify the U.S. Constitution. You suffer from gout for many years and die in 1793 at the age of 56.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

BENJAMIN HARRISON -

You leave the Congress in 1777 and serve as Governor of Virginia from 1781 to 1784. Your son is the 9th President, William Henry Harrison and your great-grandson the 23rd President Benjamin Harrison. You die in 1791 at the age of 65.

JOHN HART -

On your way home to New Jersey in 1776, the British consider you a prime target and you are forced to hide in the woods near your house for days. Your wife has urged you to hide and take the children to relatives. When you return home your house was in ruins, your wife dead and you are never reunited with your children. You die in 1779 at the age of 68 as a result of exposure to the elements during your days of hiding.

JOSEPH HEWES -

Due to illness you leave the Congress in 1779 and died within two weeks at the age of 49. Overwork is reported to be the cause of your death.

THOMAS HEYWARD, JR -

While fighting against the British in South Carolina you are wounded and later captured at the Battle of Charleston and held prisoner in Florida. After your release you serve as a judge in South Carolina. You die in 1809 at the age of 62.

WILLIAM HOOPER -

In 1779 you returned to North Carolina to find your home destroyed by the British. Your health began to fail partially due to contracting malaria yet you served in the North Carolina Legislature as your health continued to deteriorate, dying in 1790 at the age of 48.

Stephen Hopkins -

One month after the signing of the Declaration you return to Rhode Island. You serve in the Rhode Island Legislature. Retiring from the legislature in 1780 you died in 1785 at the age of 78.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON -

You are named by the Continental Congress as Head of the Navy Board. As an artist you designed the seal for the state of New Jersey and take credit for the design of the first Stars and Stripes. You serve as a Federal judge from 1789 until 1791. You die in 1791 at the age of 53.

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON -

From 1779 to 1781 you are the President of the Continental Congress. You serve as Governor of Connecticut from 1786 until your death in 1796 at the age of 64.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

THOMAS JEFFERSON -

You serve in many, capacities including Governor of Virginia, Minister to France, Secretary of State to George Washington, Vice President to second President John Adams and third President from 1801 to 1809. You found the University of Virginia. Your library is the basis for the Library of Congress. On July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence you die at your home, Monticello at the age of 83. John Adams died later that same day. It is your last request that your tomb stone reflect the things that you had given the people, not the things that the people had given to you. It is for this reason that your epitaph reads:

Here was buried Thomas Jefferson
Author of the Declaration of American Independence
Of the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom
And father of the University of Virginia

FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE -

In 1777, when your brother Richard Henry Lee doesn't receive enough votes to remain in the Continental Congress you resign in protest which results in him being reinstated. Both of you retire from the Congress in 1779. You serve for a brief time in the Virginia Legislature. At the Constitutional Convention you disagree with your brother and vote to ratify the Constitution in 1788. You retire from public life and die in 1797 at the age of 62.

RICHARD HENRY LEE -

In 1777, you do not receive enough votes to remain in the Congress but are reinstated to the Virginia delegation where you remained until 1779. Returning to the Congress you serve as President from 1784-1785 and as one of the first U.S. Senators from 1789 until your death in 1792 at the age of 62.

PHILIP LIVINGSTON -

In 1777, you return home to New York. You helped establish a new constitution for New York. Even though you are in very poor health when you are asked by your state to return to the Continental Congress, you travel to Philadelphia knowing that you will never see your home and family again. You serve in the Continental Congress until your death in 1778 at the age of 62. You do not live to see America win its independence from Great Britain!

FRANCIS LEWIS -

While you are in Philadelphia at the Continental Congress you lose everything you hold dear to the British. Your wife is taken prisoner for months, dying shortly after her release and your daughter marries a British officer and moves to England. You retire from the Congress in 1781 and return to New York. You live your last years without your family, your home or your fortune and die in 1802 at the age of 89.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

THOMAS LYNCH, JR. -

In 1776 you leave the Congress and head home to South Carolina. In 1779 you and your wife set sail on an ocean voyage but never return. The ship is lost at sea. You were 30 years old.

THOMAS MCKEAN -

You hold many offices after leaving the Congress, serving as Governor of two states, Delaware in 1777 and Pennsylvania from 1799 to 1808. Returning to the Congress in 1781 you are President of the Congress. You die in 1817 at the age of 83 leaving 34 grandchildren.

ARTHUR MIDDLETON -

You serve at the Battle of Charleston where you are taken prisoner by the British and held in Florida. After your release you work to restore your property that had been destroyed by the British. You died on New Years Day 1787 at the age of 44.

LEWIS MORRIS -

You serve in the New York State Senate from 1777-1790. Attending the New York Constitutional Convention, you help the Constitution to pass by a slim margin in 1788. You die in 1798 at the age of 71 at your home Morrisania after spending many years rebuilding it after the destruction by the British.

ROBERT MORRIS -

As a financier you start the Bank of North America in Philadelphia, the first successful bank in America. From that bank and your own pocket you obtain supplies for the war and even pay soldiers' wages! You spend more than a million dollars of your own money! At the time of your death in 1806 at the age of 72, you had served more than 3 years in debtors' prison as a result of losing your wealth due to bad land deals. You die in poverty, proud of your contributions to the cause.

JOHN MORTON -

Ill with tuberculosis you die in 1777, at the age of 53 less than one year after signing the Declaration of Independence. You are one of the first of the signers to sign the document and to give your life for the cause!

THOMAS NELSON, JR. -

At the age of 38 you suffer a stroke while serving in the Congress. Returning home to Virginia your health improves, you serve in the Virginia Legislature and later as Governor. As General Nelson you serve in the Virginia militia at the Battle of Yorktown where you fired on your own home which was being occupied by the British. Using your own money you supplied your troops. You die in 1789 at the age of 50.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

WILLIAM PACA -

From 1762 - 1785 you serve as Governor of Maryland. The Bill of Rights included in the U.S. Constitution contains many of your ideas including Freedom of Religion and Freedom of the Press. As one of the wealthiest men in America you used your own fortune to supply troops during the war. You die at your home, Wye Hall Plantation (considered the finest mansion in the United States), in 1799 at the age of 58.

ROBERT TREAT PAINE -

You are re-elected to the Congress but decide to return to Massachusetts instead, serving both at the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention and as the first Attorney General of Massachusetts. Fellow delegate John Hancock appoints you to be a judge on the Supreme Court and you serve in that position for 14 years, until you lose your hearing. In 1780 you establish the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. You die in 1814 at the age of 83.

JOHN PENN -

In 1778 as a result of a disagreement you have with fellow delegate Henry Laurens, he challenges you to fight a duel! Wisely, you are able to make peace with your colleague and avoid injury or death. In 1780, you leave Congress to serve on the North Carolina Board of War until it was abolished in 1781. After the war you serve as a lawyer in private practice. You die in 1788 at the age of 48.

GEORGE READ -

You leave the Continental Congress to serve as Governor of Delaware after Governor McKinley was captured by the British. On the trip to Delaware you and your family are stopped by the British but you conceal your identity and are allowed to pass. If the British knew your true identity you would have been imprisoned. You serve as Governor until 1778. You attend the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787, leading Delaware to become the first state to ratify the document. You become one of the first Senators and later Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court. In 1798 you die at the age of 64.

CAESAR RODNEY -

In spite of poor health you serve in the Army for a short time and recruit others to fight for the Continental Army. Like fellow delegate George Read you serve as Governor of Delaware (1778 to 1781). After a long battle with cancer, you die in 1784 at the age of 55. Your heroic ride in 1776 to help pass the Resolution for Independence is used in 1999 as Delaware's design for a United States quarter.



GEORGE ROSS -

In 1777, you resign from the Congress due to illness (severe gout). In 1779, after serving 2 years as a judge in Pennsylvania you die at the age of 49.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

BENJAMIN RUSH -

In 1777 you are appointed to be Surgeon General to the Continental Congress but resign in anger due to the horrible conditions. Returning to Philadelphia you serve at the Constitutional Convention from 1789-1790. Your medical career includes teaching at the University of Pennsylvania, on the staff of The Pennsylvania Hospital, first President of the Philadelphia Medical Society, and founder of the first free medical clinic in the country the Philadelphia Dispensary. You establish two colleges - Dickinson College and Franklin & Marshall College named for your fellow delegates (John Dickinson and Benjamin Franklin) and are active in many, many movements including antislavery and prison reform. You serve as Treasurer of the U.S. Mint from 1797 until your death at the age of 67 in 1813.

EDWARD RUTLEDGE -

Returning to South Carolina you serve in the state legislature but leave in 1779 to serve as a Captain in the militia. During the Siege of Charleston you are captured and imprisoned by the British in Florida. After your release you serve as Governor of South Carolina from 1798 -1800. Your death occurs within one month of the death of George Washington. Most people believe your death in 1800 has been caused by the sad news of the death of Washington. You are 50 years old at the time of your death.

ROGER SHERMAN -

Returning to Connecticut you serve as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1787 where you introduce the Connecticut Compromise, allowing states with larger populations to have more delegates in the House but all states to have an equal number of Senators. This had been a point of deadlock for the Convention. You go on to serve in both the House and Senate until your death at the age of 72 in 1793.

JAMES SMITH -

Returning to Pennsylvania in 1778 you serve in the Pennsylvania legislature. You serve as a judge and are in private practice until your death in 1806 at the age of 87, making you the oldest practicing lawyer in Pennsylvania.

RICHARD STOCKTON -

The Continental Congress appoints you to visit the army in New York where you are appalled by the conditions of the troops and you supply them by using your own money. Returning to New Jersey you find that the Continental Army in retreat and the British in control. You hide with your wife and children but are found, arrested, and jailed in New Jersey and in New York. In 1777, you are released. Now in failing health you attempted to return home but find it has been burned by the British. You die at the age of 53, in 1781 two years before the end of the war. Your house Morven is restored in the 1950s and serves as the official residence of the Governor of New Jersey until 1981.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

THOMAS STONE -

During your time in the Congress you serve on the committee that creates the Articles of Confederation. This document helps the nation to be governed until the U.S. Constitution is ratified in 1787. Because of the poor health of your wife you do not attend the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia although you are elected to be a delegate. In that same year you die at the age of 44, 4 months after your wife.

GEORGE TAYLOR -

In 1777, you are sent by Congress to Western Pennsylvania to make peace with the Indians. In poor health you return and retire from the Continental Congress. You die in 1781, at the age of 64, two years before the end of the war.

MATTHEW THORNTON -

After the Congress you return to New Hampshire where you serve as a judge and in the Legislature. From your farm you write articles for several newspapers. You die in 1803 at the age of 89 years old. Thornton, New Hampshire is named for you.

GEORGE WALTON -

As Colonel in the Georgia militia you are wounded and captured in Savannah in 1778 and held as a prisoner in Florida until 1779. After your release you serve as Governor of Georgia, Chief Justice in the Georgia Supreme Court and as a Georgia State Senator. You die in 1804 at the age of 63.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE -

You become a General in the Continental Army and fight in New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. You live to see the end of the war, and die in 1785 at the age of 80 of a heart condition.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS -

In January 1788 you serve as a Connecticut delegate to the Constitutional Convention, you ignore your orders and vote in favor of the Constitution. You die 35 years to the day that you sign the Declaration, August 2, 1811 at the age of 80.

JAMES WILSON -

At the convention in Philadelphia in 1787 you help to write the Constitution insisting that the government should serve the people. George Washington appoints you as one of the first justices on the Supreme Court in 1789. As a result of bad business decisions, you spend time in debtors' prison and die impoverished in 1798 at the age of 55.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS...

JOHN WITHERSPOON -

In 1782 you retire from the Continental Congress. Meanwhile your home in New Jersey was destroyed by the British, and it takes many years to rebuild it and your hometown of Princeton. Your son James is killed at the Battle of Germantown. As a member of the New Jersey delegation you help to ratify the Constitution in 1787. At the age of 68 you lose your vision and die 3 years later in 1794.

OLIVER WOLCOTT -

You serve in the Continental Army as a General and are put in charge of the Connecticut troops. At the Battle of Saratoga, N.Y. you help defeat the British in 1777. Late in your life you serve as Governor of Connecticut from 1796 until your death in 1797 at the age of 71. Your son Oliver Wolcott Jr., is appointed as Secretary to the Treasury from 1795 to 1800.

GEORGE WYTHE -

In 1779, you are appointed to the first Chair of Law at the College of William and Mary. Both Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe (third and fifth presidents) were your students. At the Virginia Constitutional Convention in Richmond you persuade some of your former students to join you in approving the Constitution. You oppose slavery. After your wife dies you free the only two slaves that your family has left and begin to treat them like they are your family.

Having no children of your own you name your great nephew as an heir in your will. Unfortunately your nephew has a gambling problem and he starts to steal money from you. Needing more money to support his gambling and fearing that you may name your former slaves in your will; your nephew poisons all three of you! Only your housekeeper survives. The great-nephew is charged with murder, but a black woman is not allowed to testify against a white man and the charges are dropped. You die at the age of 80 in the year 1806. Your home still stands in Williamsburg, Virginia.



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OTHER PLACES TO VISIT

The Adams National Historical Park Visitor Center

1250 Hancock Street, Quincy, Massachusetts

Open year round, the Visitor Center has exhibits and information about John Adams and his family. All tours of the Adams National Historical Park begin here. Visitors can ride the free trolley bus which boards at the Visitor Center and travels through Quincy to the historic homes of the Adams family: the John Adams and John Quincy Adams Birthplaces, the "Old House," and the United First Parish Church.

The Adams National Historical Park - The "Old House"

135 Adams Street, Quincy, Massachusetts

Originally built in 1731, this home was purchased by John and Abigail Adams in 1787 and was home to four generations of the Adams family. Today, National Park Service Rangers conduct tours of the home and the Stone Library and tell the story of John and Abigail Adams and their family.

The Josiah Quincy House

20 Muirhead Street Quincy, Massachusetts

This historic house built in 1770, was home to the Quincy family. Josiah Quincy, Jr., who helped John Adams defend the soldiers accused of the "Boston Massacre," spent summers here. The young lawyer may have done some of his research for the case in his father's large library at the estate. Tours are given June 1 through October 15, call 617-227-3956.

United First Parish Church

1306 Hancock Street, Quincy, Massachusetts

The "Stone Temple," was constructed to replace the wooden structure where John and Abigail Adams worshiped after their marriage. This structure contains the crypt of President John Adams and First Lady Abigail Adams and their son, President John Quincy Adams and his wife, Louisa Catherine. Tours of the crypt are conducted by the National Park Service, Adams National Historical Park, April 19 through November 10.

LOGISTICS

The Adams National Historical Park museum educators will be counting on teachers and chaperones to help ensure a safe and rewarding experience for students in the People and Places programs.

Chaperones We ask that there be one adult for every ten students in the group.

Restrooms Restrooms are located only at the Visitor Center in Quincy Center.

Bus Parking Bus parking is available directly in front of the Visitor Center.

Food & Drink Are not allowed inside the historic structures or on the grounds.

Dress Students should dress in comfortable clothes appropriate for the weather. Some People and Places program activities will take place outdoors.

Accessibility Advance notification of any special needs or physical limitations is appreciated.

Questions? Please feel free to call the Adams National Historical Park at any time. You may reach the School Program Coordinator at (617) 770-1175.



DIRECTIONS

Birthplaces of John Adams and John Quincy Adams -

133-141 Franklin Street

From Boston and Points North

Travel Route 93 South to Exit 7 (Route 3 South--a left lane exit) towards Braintree and Cape Cod. Take Exit 18 - Washington Street/Quincy Adams "T" Station/Quincy Center (this is the first exit on the right on Route 3 South). Follow signs to Washington Street. Bear left at the traffic lights on Washington Street, and travel through the next set of traffic lights on to Independence Avenue. (At the intersection, Washington Street and Independence Avenue merge.) Follow Independence Avenue to the next set of traffic lights. (At the intersection, Independence Avenue and Franklin Street merge). The Birthplaces are on the left.

From Cape Cod and Points South

Travel Route 93/Route 3 North to Exit 19 - Quincy Center/Quincy Adams "T" Station. Travel straight through two sets of traffic lights. Turn left at the third set of traffic lights. Turn right immediately on to Liberty Street. At the stop sign, turn right on to Water Street. Continue straight to the traffic lights at the bottom of the hill. Turn right at the traffic lights on to Franklin Street. The Birthplaces are on the right.

From Route 128 and Points West

Travel Route 128 South to Route 3 South. Take Exit 18 - Washington Street/Braintree/Quincy Center. Follow signs to Washington Street. Bear left at the traffic lights on Washington Street, and travel through the next set of traffic lights on to Independence Avenue. (At the intersection, Washington Street and Independence Avenue merge.) Follow Independence Avenue to the next set of traffic lights. (At the intersection, Independence Avenue and Franklin Street merge). The Birthplaces are on the left.



EVALUATION



Upon completion of your visit to Adams National Historical Park, please take a moment to fill out and return this brief evaluation of the program, "Families in the Revolution."

1. What grade level participated in the program?

2. Was the program appropriate for the age level of the students?

3. Did the students enjoy the interactive aspect of the program?

4. Did the program assist you in meeting your curriculum requirements?

5. What was your favorite part of the program?

6. Would your school be willing/able to pay a small fee to participate in Education Programs at Adams National Historical Park?

Additional Comments:

Please return to:

Education Coordinator

Adams National Historical Park

135 Adams Street

Quincy, Ma. 02169

PEN & PARCHMENT:

FROM PENN'S HILL TO PENNSYLVANIA

*A teacher affects eternity;
he can never tell where his influence stops.*

~ Henry Adams ~

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