Thomas Jefferson

The Versatile Founding Father

Content

- Young Jefferson
- Forming A New Country
- Roles In A New Government
- Retirement
- Conclusion

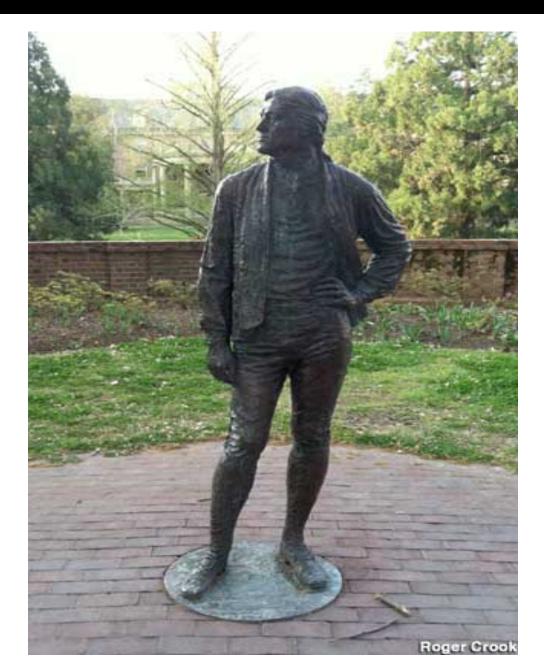
Young Jefferson

- Thomas Jefferson was born April 13, 1743 at Shadwell plantation in Virginia.
- Jefferson's parents were Peter and Jane Randolph Jefferson. He had nine brothers and sisters.
- Jefferson grew up in a privileged class of society. This allowed for him to receive a formal education.



Formal Education

- He received his early education close to home. Tutors like the Reverend James Maury were his early educators.
- After learning to read and write, he studied Latin, Greek and French.
- In 1760, at the age of 16, he attended the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.
- In 1762, Jefferson finished his studies at William and Mary. When he decided to study law under George Wythe.
- In 1767, he took and passed the exam to be a lawyer.



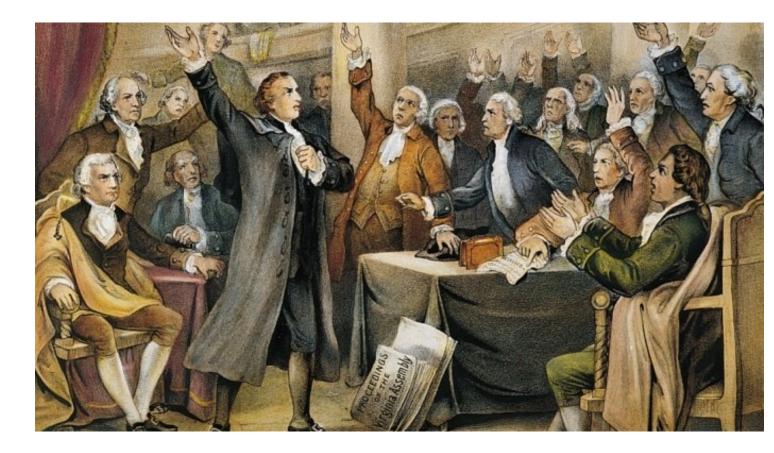
Enlightenment

- John Locke and other writers argued that people had basic human rights, these included freedom of thought, speech, and religion.
- We call this time in history The Age of Enlightenment.
- Jefferson was impressed by John Locke's writings. We can see Locke's effect on Jefferson through his writings.



Trouble Brewing

- In 1765, the British government started to impose acts (taxes) on the colonies. The colonies found these acts to be unfair.
- Sugar Act 1764, Stamp and Quartering Acts 1765, Townshend Act 1767, Tea Act 1773, Intolerable Act 1774.
- On April 19, 1775, the Battles of Lexington and Concord are fought, beginning the American Revolutionary War.



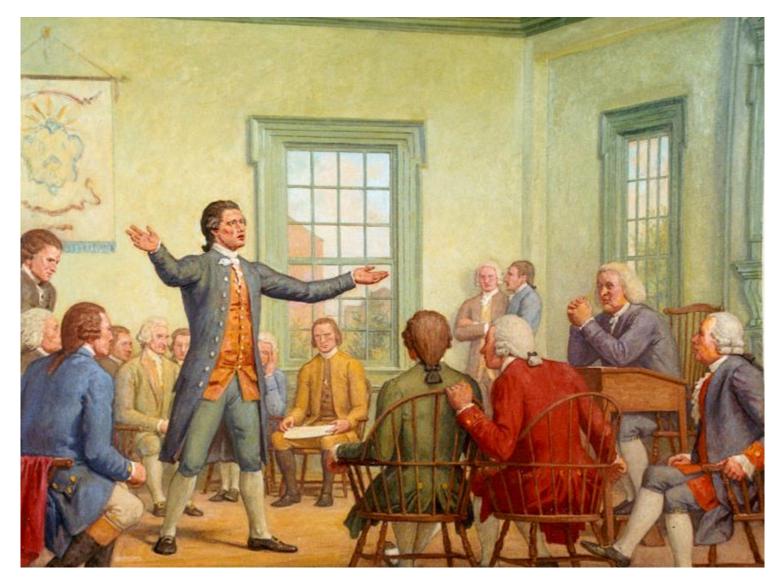
Jefferson During Turbulent Times

- In 1769, Jefferson begins building Monticello.
- On January 1, 1772 Jefferson married Martha Wayles Skelton. They spent their first night at Monticello in the small cottage pictured here because the main house was still being built.
- Jefferson is selected as a representative to attend the First Continental Congress in 1774.



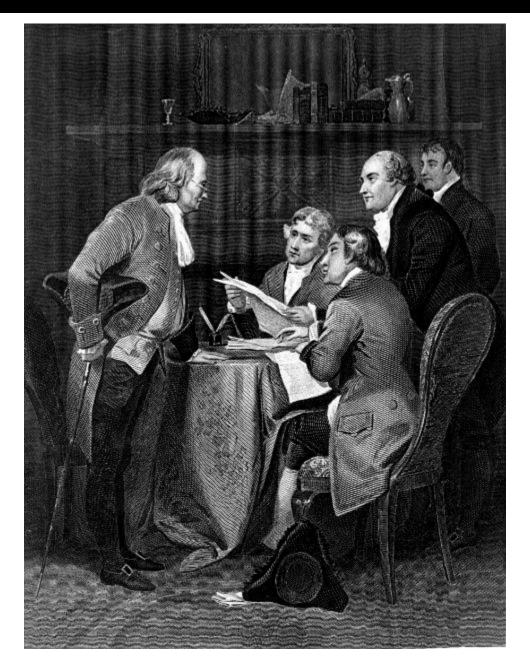
Thirteen Colonies Come Together

- The First Continental Congress meet in Philadelphia in September 1774.
- This was the first meeting between all thirteen colonies.
- King George III does not like what the colonies have to say, he declares the colonies in open rebellion and prepares to destroy them.



Forming A New Country

- Spring of 1776, the Second Continental Congress meets.
- Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman are chosen for a committee to draft a document declaring the colonies independence.
- The committee picks Jefferson for his writing talent to prepare the draft.
- Between June 12 and 28, 1776
 Jefferson writes the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.



A Document Like No Other

- Jefferson drew on the ideals of John Locke and other Enlightenment writers when drafting the Declaration of Independence.
- Franklin and Adams were the first to review the draft, after a couple of minor changes it was reviewed by the whole committee.
- The committee presented it to the Congress on June 28th for approval.
- On July 4, 1776, the Congress approved and signed the Declaration of Independence.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776. A DECLARATION BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

HEN in the Courfe of human Events, it becomes neceffary for one People to diffolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to affume among the Powers of the Earth, the feparate 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 caufes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold thefe Truths to be felf-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain tendienable Right, that among thefe are Life, Liberty, and the Purfuit of Happinels--That to fecure their Right, Governments are inflituited among Men, deriving their jult Powers from the Confent of the Government, laying its Foundation on fuch Principles, and organizing in flutted among Men, deriving their jult Powers from the Confent of the Government, laying its Foundation on fuch Principles, and organizing in Powers in fach Form, as to them fhall feem most likely to effect their Sufety and Happinels. Prustence, indeed, will dichate that Governments long eltabilited fhould not be charged for light and tranfient Caufes; and accordingly all Experience hath flown, that Mankind are more disposed to fuffer, while Evid see fafferable, than to nght themfelves by abolithing the Forms to which they are accultomed. But when a long Train of Abufes and Ufurpations, parfuing invariably the fame Object, evinces a Deign to reduce them under abiolyte Despatim, it is their Right, it is their Daty, to throw off fach Government, and to provide new Gauds for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of thefe Colonies and fach is now the Neceting which countrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The Hildsoy of the prefent King of Great-Brituin is a Hildry of repeated Injuries and Ufurpations, all having in dirad Object the Elablifiament of an abfolute Tyranny over thele States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World. He has refuired his Affent to Laws, the most wholeform and necetfary for the public Good.

His has forbidden his Governors to pail Laws of immediate and prefing Importance, unless faspended in their Operation till his Affant thould be obtained ; and when in furgended, He has utterly neglected to attend to them.

The has refuided to pair other Laws for the Accommodation of large Diffricts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in , the Legislature, a Right inclument to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

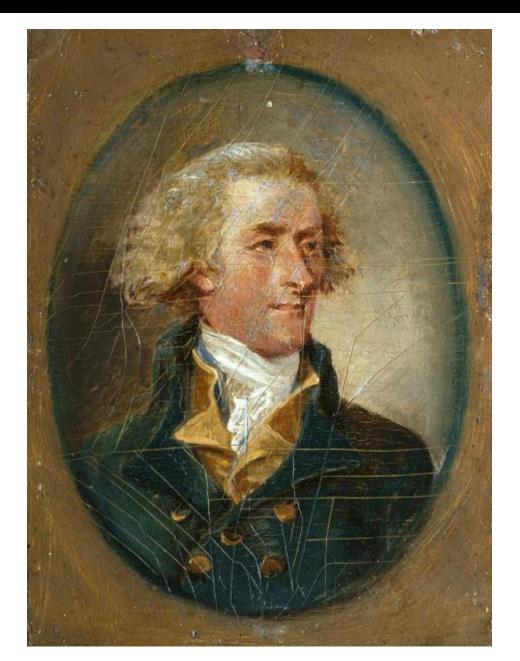
He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unufuel, uncomfortable, and diftant from the Depolitory of their public Records, for the fole Purpole of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Meafures.

Ha has diffolved Reprefentative Houles repeatedly, for oppoling with muly Firmpers his Invalions on the Rights of the People.

He has tefuled for a long Time, after fach Diffolutions, to caule 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 Invation from without, and Convultions within. He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpase obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pails others to encourage their Migrations hither, and railing the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

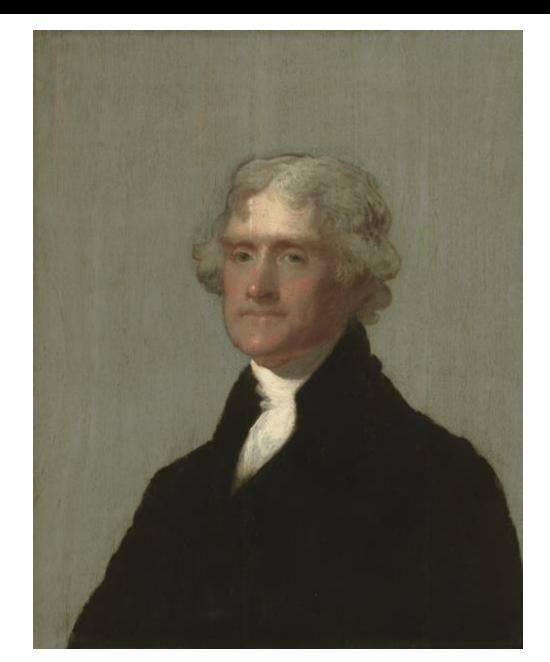
Work To Be Done In Virginia

- Jefferson returned to Virginia after the Second Continental Congress and took his place in the House of Delegates.
- During this time he tried to pass laws to separate church and state, provide public education, and end slavery. None of the laws were passed.
- Jefferson wrote: "Above all things I hope the education of the common people will be attended to; convinced that on their good sense we may rely with the most security for the preservation of a due degree of liberty."



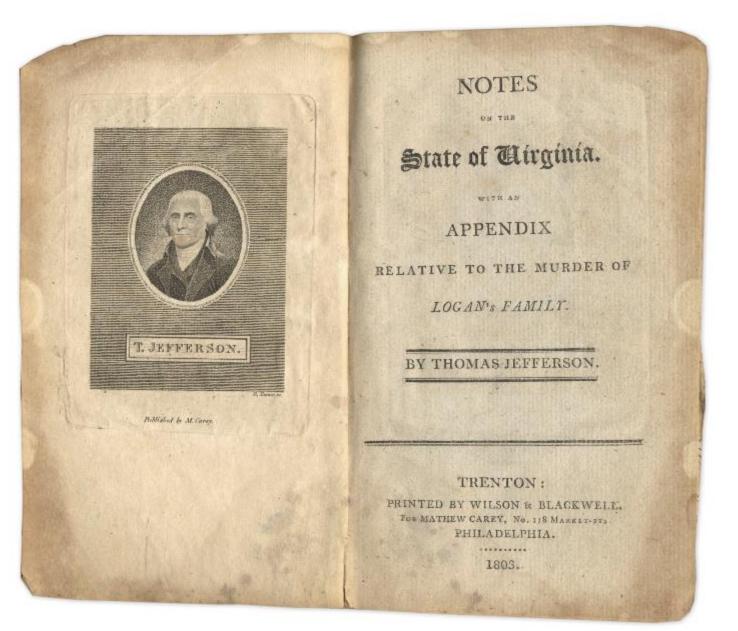
Governor

- In 1779, the legislature elected Jefferson Governor of Virginia, he served two 1 year terms
- Jefferson spent much of his time recruiting new troops to help with the war effort.
- In January 1781, British forces captured and burned Richmond.



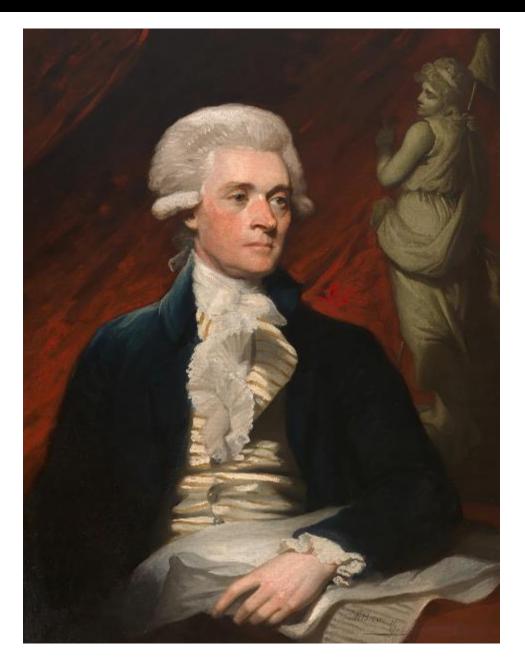
Between Governor and Congressman

- Lord Cornwallis, Commander of British forces sent soldiers to capture Jefferson, he escaped only minutes before the soldiers arrived.
- Cornwallis surrendered to General Washington in October 1781 at Yorktown.
- Jefferson writes Notes on the State of Virginia.
- On September 6, 1782, Jefferson's wife Martha died after a long illness.



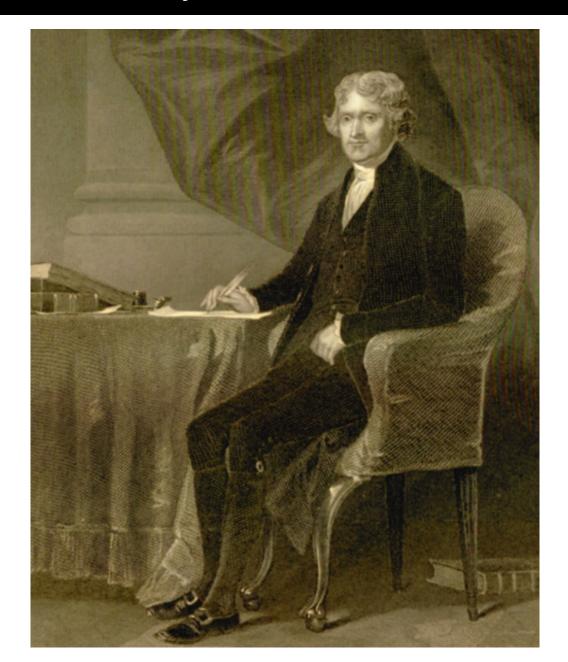
Roles In A New Government

- In June, 1783, Jefferson is appointed to the national Congress, he served in this role until May, 1784.
- Jefferson created a new currency (money) system that we still use today.
- In May, 1784, Congress asked Jefferson to represent the United States in Europe, a year later he was made minister to France.



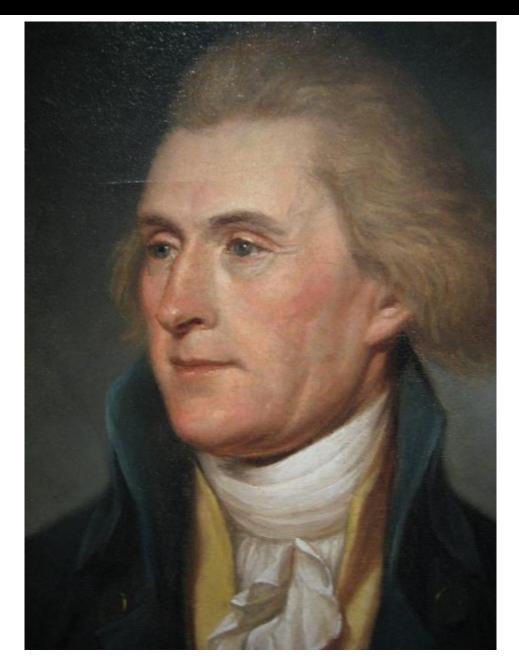
Minister and Secretary of State

- He served as minister of France for five years, were he saw the opening of the French Revolution.
- Jefferson returned to the U.S. in late 1789.
- Washington as the new President asked Jefferson to be Secretary of State.



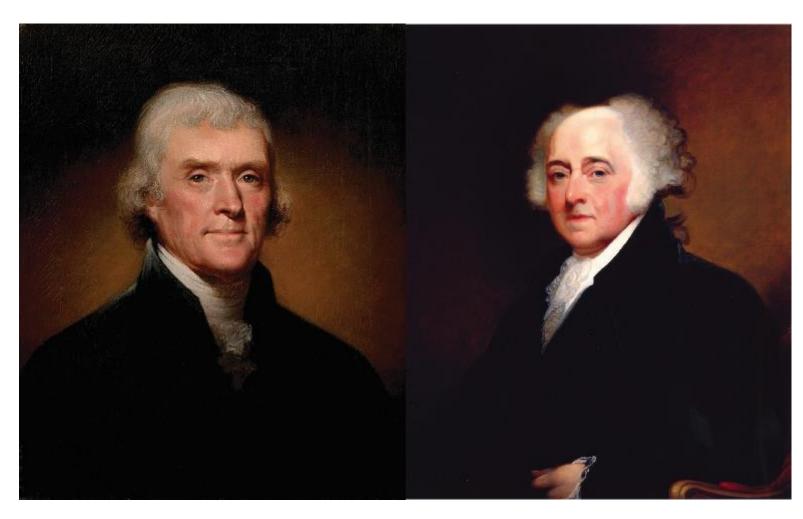
Democratic-Republicans/Federalists

- During his time as Secretary of State, Jefferson became a leader of a group who supported the French Revolution.
- Jefferson's group would become the Democratic-Republicans and Hamilton's the Federalists.
- In 1794, both Jefferson and Hamilton gave up their positions on Washington's staff because of their differences.



Vice President

- In 1796, Jefferson's supporters talked him into running for President.
- This election would be the first time two political parties would square off.
- Jefferson's friend John Adams would be his opponent.
- Adams won the election, Jefferson received the second amount of votes, making him the Vice President.
- This put Jefferson in a very difficult position, Jefferson and Adams were of different political parties.



Jefferson Makes A Choice

- The Federalists passed the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798.
- These acts restricted the activities of foreign residents in the country and limited freedom of speech and of the press.
- Jefferson was against these acts, he felt they went against the Constitution. Jefferson decided to run for President again.

FIFTH CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

At the Second Selsion,

Begun and held at the city of *Philadelphia*, in the flate of PENNSYLVANIA, on *Monday*, the thirteenth of *November*, one thousand feven hundred and ninety-feven.

An ACT concerning aliens.

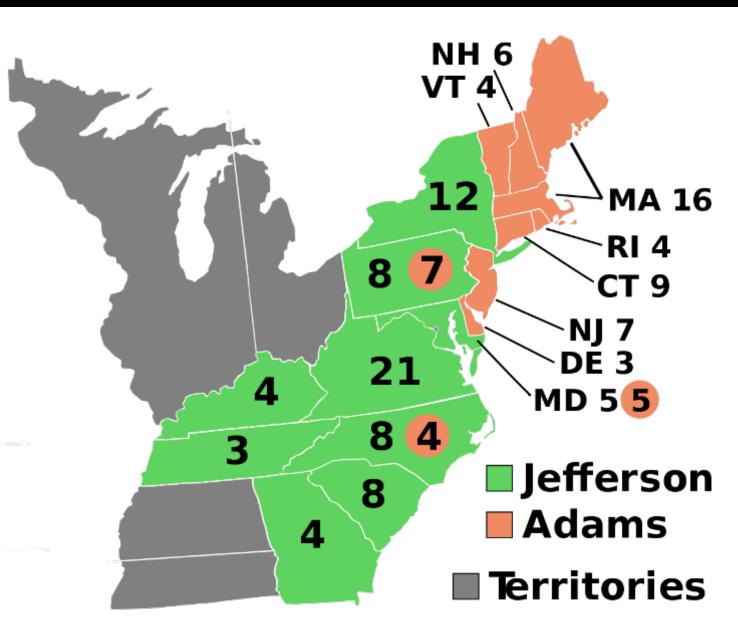
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Election of 1800

- The election of 1800 was an ugly affair, with both sides attacking each other.
- The Democratic-Republicans would win the election, but with one problem.
- The electors had two votes, the Democratic-Republican electors cast one vote for Jefferson and one for Aaron Burr, creating a tie.
- The House of Representatives would have to break the tie in a vote. It took 36 tries before Jefferson was elected
 President.



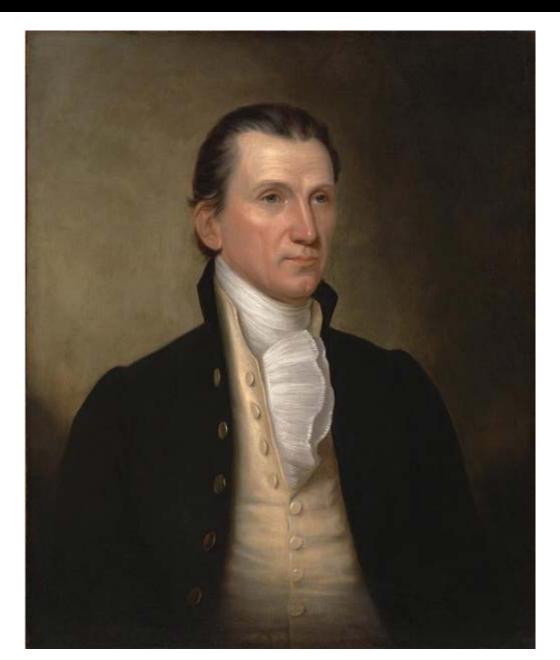
President

- Jefferson became the Third President of the United States on March 4, 1801.
- Jefferson would serve two terms as President, March 4, 1801 – March 4, 1809.
- Jefferson's greatest achievement as President was the Louisiana Purchase.



Louisiana Purchase

- In the spring of 1803, Jefferson sent James Monroe to France to offer to buy the ports of New Orleans.
- Napoleon surprised Monroe when he offered to sell not only the ports but, the entire Louisiana Territory.
- In October, <u>1803</u>, the U.S. Senate approved the Louisiana Purchase for about 15 million dollars.



Lewis and Clark

- Soon after the purchase Jefferson asked Meriwether Lewis to organize an expedition.
- On May 14, 1804, Lewis and Clark left St. Louis. Their mission was to search for water routes to the Pacific Ocean and note information on animals, plants, and weather.
- On September 23, 1806, Lewis and Clark arrived back in St. Louis.



Retirement

- Jefferson returned to Monticello in March 1809.
- In 1815, he sold his library to Congress for \$24,000, this collection would become the heart of the Library of Congress, which is the largest library in the world.
- Education was still very important to Jefferson, he helped raise funds, designed the buildings and helped plan the courses for the University of Virginia which opened in 1825.



Friends Come Back Together

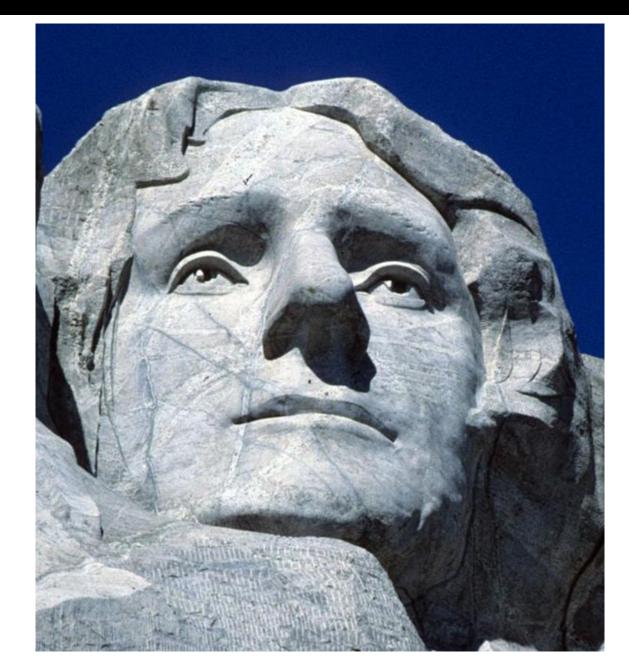
- John Adams and Thomas Jefferson had worked on the Declaration of Independence together, became very close friends when both were in France in the 1780's.
- Their political differences and the ugliness of the 1800 election drove a wedge between these two friends.
- In 1810, Adams reached out to Jefferson, 14 years and more than 150 letters later, these two friends were able to mend old wounds.
- On July 4, 1826, at the age of 83, Thomas Jefferson died. What he did not know was his friend John Adams died earlier that same day.



Conclusion

Thomas Jefferson was the most versatile of our founding fathers, because of the education he received. Education allowed Jefferson to be the author of The Declaration of Independence, a statesman and politician.

He was known throughout the world as a man with a brilliant mind. His strong support of education for everyone is the reason we have public education. Jefferson knew education was the key for a strong America.



Word Bank

JEFFERSON LOUISIANA PRESIDENT LEWIS AND CLARK PURCHASE THIRD ADAMS DECLARATION VIRGINIA **EDUCATION** 1803