

**PRESIDENT
WHO?**



**FORGOTTEN
FOUNDERS**

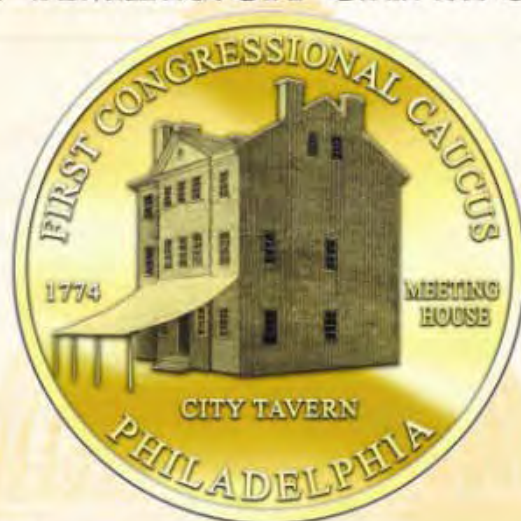
Stanley L. Klos

Presidents of the Continental Congress United Colonies of America 1774 to 1776



George III , George William Frederick, born June 4, 1738 and died January 29, 1820 was the King of Great Britain, Ireland and a colonial Empire spanning five continents.

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



CITY TAVERN

September 4, 1774

CITY TAVERN is located at Second and Walnut Streets in Philadelphia. It was commissioned by the Social Elite as the Merchants' Coffee House in 1773. This Federal brick structure was utilized as a Tavern until it was badly damaged by a fire in 1834.

FOUNDING FACTS: Although no legislation was enacted at the City Tavern the debates were significant as the decision was made to hold the First Continental Congress in a private (Carpenters Hall), rather than public hall. Other delegate discussions included: What would be the initial rules of order for conducting a Colonial Congress? Who should be the Presiding Officer of Congress? What should be the Presiding Officer's title?

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



PEYTON RANDOLPH

1st President of the Continental Congress

of the United Colonies of America

September 5, 1774 to October 22, 1774

and May 20 to May 24, 1775

www.peytonrandolph.com

BORN: September 10, 1721

DIED: October 22, 1775

SPOUSE: Susannah Beverley Randolph

STATE: Virginia

POLITICAL OFFICES: King's attorney for Virginia Colony; Virginia House of Burgesses 1764-1774 also serving as Speaker; President of the Virginia conventions of 1774 and 1775; President and Continental Congress Delegate 1774-1775.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Endorses Suffolk Resolves from Massachusetts; Joseph Galloway's plan of union to lie on the table; Resolves to halt exports to Great Britain; Ireland; and the West Indies effective September 10, 1775; enacts The Articles of Association; Resolves to ban exports to British colonies failing to join the Association and receives news of the capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



CARPENTERS HALL

September 5, 1774 to October 24, 1774

CARPENTERS HALL is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was built as a four-story Georgian Colonial brick building between 1770 and 1773 by the Carpenters' Company. Designed by architect Robert Smith (1722-1777), the structure was declared a United States National Historic Landmark in 1970. The building is still utilized as a meeting place for the Carpenters' Company.

FOUNDING FACTS: Peyton Randolph and Henry Laurens were elected as the first and second Presidents of Continental Congress in Carpenters Hall. The Articles of Association enacted here on October 20, 1774 was a compact signed by the Delegates of the North American British Colonies that formally addressed their grievances against Parliament and King George III of Great Britain.

Joseph Galloway's Plan of Union September 28, 1774

- "Plan of Union" urged the creation of Colonial parliament that would act in concert with the existing British body. On matters relating to America, each was to have veto power over the other's actions:
- *"A Plan of a proposed Union between Great Britain and the Colonies That a British and American legislature, for regulating the administration of the general affairs of America, be proposed and established in America, including all the said colonies; within, and under which government, each colony shall retain its present constitution, and powers of regulating and governing its own internal police, in all cases what[so]ever. That the said government be administered by a President General, to be appointed by the King, and a grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the people of the several colonies, in their respective assemblies, once in every three years. That the several assemblies shall choose members for the grand council in the following proportions ..."*
- **The Plan of Union** was "referred to further consideration" six colonies to five thereby defeated.

Articles of Association

The following Extracts from the Votes and Proceedings of the American Continental Congress, we are induced to publish thus early purely to ease the Impatience of our Readers.

A S S O C I A T I O N, &c.

W E his Majesty's most loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the several Colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the Three Lower Counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, deputed to represent them in a continental Congress, held in the city of Philadelphia, on the fifth day of September, 1774, avow-
ing our allegiance to his Majesty, our affection and

our loyalty to Great-Britain elsewhere, and being affected with the deepest and most alarming apprehensions at those Grievances and distresses, with which his Majesty's American subjects are oppressed, and having taken under our most serious deliberation, the state of the whole continent, find, that the present unhappy situation of our affairs, is occasioned by a ruinous system of colony-administration adopted by the British Ministry about the year 1763, evidently calculated for enslaving these Colonies, and, with them, the

indirectly, export any merchandize or commodity whatsoever, to Great Britain, Ireland or the West-Indies, except Rice to Europe.

Fifth. Such as are merchants, and use the British and Irish Trade, will give orders, as soon as possible, to their factors, agents and correspondents, in Great-Britain and Ireland, not to ship any goods to them on any pretence whatsoever, as they cannot be received in America; and if any merchant residing in Great-Britain or Ireland, shall directly or indirectly ship any goods, wares or merchandize, for America, in order to break the said non importation agreement, or in any manner contravene the laws on such unworthy conduct being well attested, it ought to be made public; and, on the same being so done, we will not from thenceforth have any commercial connexion with such merchant.

Sixth. That such as are owners of vessels will give positive orders to their captains, or masters, not to receive on board their vessels any goods prohibited by the said non-importation agreement, on pain of immediate dismissal from their service.

Seventh. We will use our utmost endeavours to improve the breed of sheep and increase their num-

Eighth. That the committee of correspondence in the respective colonies do frequently inspect the entries of their custom-houses, and inform each other from time to time of the true state thereof, and of every other material circumstance that may occur relative to this association.

Ninth. That all manufactures of this country be sold at reasonable prices, so that no undue advantage be taken of a future scarcity of goods.

Tenth. And we do further agree and resolve, that we will have no trade, commerce, dealings or intercourse whatsoever, with any colony or province, in North-America, which shall not accede to, or which shall hereafter violate this association, but will hold them as unworthy of the rights of freedom, and as inimical to the liberties of their country.

And we do solemnly bind ourselves and our constituents, under the ties aforesaid, to adhere to this association until such parts of the several Acts of parliament passed since the close of the last war, as impose or continue duties on Tea, Wine, Molasses, Syraps, Paneles, Coffee, Sugar, Piemento, Indigo, Foreign Paper, Glass, and Painters Colours, imported into America, and extend the Pow-

Originally just called Congress, the word Continental was added to the name on October 20, 1774 in the *Articles of Association* primarily to distinguish this Congress from the many Congresses being held throughout the Colonies.

"We, his majesty's most loyal subjects, the delegates of the several colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, deputed to represent them in a continental Congress, held in the city of Philadelphia, on the 5th day of September, 1774"

The *Articles of Association* were an alliance between the Colonies, later States, and not a Constitution. The Continental Congress would convene under this agreement passing laws, enacting treaties and conducting a war for seven years.

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



HENRY MIDDLETON

*2nd President of the Continental Congress
of the United Colonies of America
October 22, 1774 to October 26, 1774
henrymiddleton.com*

BORN: 1717

DIED: June 13, 1784

SPOUSE: Mary Baker Williams Middleton **STATE:** South Carolina

POLITICAL OFFICES: Member/Speaker Provincial House of Commons 1742-1755; Indian affairs Commissioner 1755; King's Provincial Council 1755-1770; Delegate South Carolina Provincial Convention 1774; President and Delegate to the Continental Congress 1774-1775; South Carolina Council of Safety 1775-1776; Provincial Congress of South Carolina in 1775-1776; and South Carolina State Senate 1778-1780

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Address to the King & Letter to the Inhabitants of Quebec.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign!

We your Majesty's faithful Subjects of the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the Counties of New-Castle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina in behalf of ourselves and the inhabitants of those colonies who have deputed us to represent them in General Congress, by this our humble petition, beg leave to lay our grievances before the throne.

A standing army has been kept in these colonies, ever since the conclusion of the late war, without the consent of our assemblies, and this army with a considerable naval armament has been employed to enforce the collection of taxes.

The Authority of the Commander in Chief and under him of the Troopiers General has in time of peace, been rendered supreme in all the civil governments in America.

The Commander in Chief of all your Majesty's forces in North-America has, in time of peace, been appointed Governor of a Colony.

The charges of usual offices have been greatly increased, and new, expensive and oppressive offices have been multiplied.

The judges of Admiralty and vice admiralty courts are empowered to receive their salaries and fees from the effects condemned by themselves. The officers of the customs are empowered to break open and enter houses without the authority of any civil Magistrate founded on legal information.

The

Address To The Inhabitants of Quebec

Address of the American Delegates to the Inhabitants of Quebec. 25

Substance of the Address of the American Delegates, in general Congress assembled, to the Inhabitants of the Province of Quebec.

Friends and Fellow-countrymen,

WE, the Delegates, &c. having taken ^{into} our most serious consideration the state of public affairs on this continent, have thought proper to address your province, as a member therein deeply interested.

When the fortune of war, after a gallant and glorious resistance, had incorporated you with the body of English subjects, we rejoiced in the truly valuable addition, both on our own and your account; expecting, as courage and generosity are naturally united, our brave enemies would become our hearty friends, and that the Divine Being would bless to you the dispensations of his over-ruling providence, by securing to you, and your latest posterity, the inalienable advantages of a

taken from them, but with their own full and free consent.

The influence of this right extends still further: if money is wanted by rulers who have in any manner oppressed the people, they may retain it until their grievances are redressed; and thus peaceably procure relief, without trusting to despised petitions, or disturbing the public tranquillity.

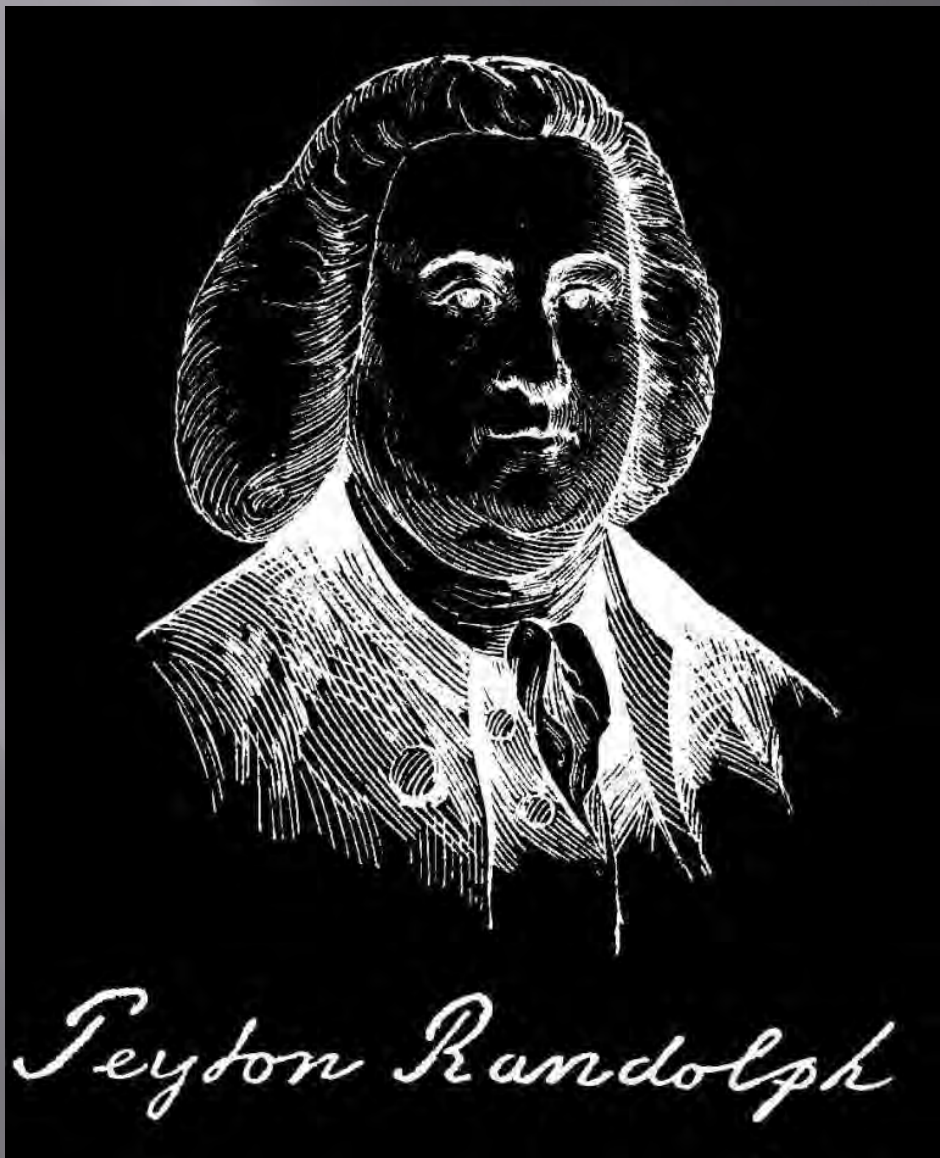
The next great right is that of trial by jury. This provides, that neither life, liberty, nor property, can be taken from the possessor until twelve of his unexceptionable countrymen and peers, of his vicinage, who from that neighbourhood may reasonably be supposed to be acquainted with his character, and the characters of the witnesses, upon a fair trial, and full enquiry, face to face, in open court, before as many of the people as chuse to attend, shall pass their sentence upon oath against him.

Substance of the Address of the American Delegates, in general Congress assembled, to the inhabitants of the province of Quebec signed Henry Middleton, President.

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The Second Continental Congress United Colonies of America May 10, 1775



UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



PENNSYLVANIA STATE HOUSE

May 10, 1775 to December 12, 1776
March 12, 1777 to September 18, 1777
July 2, 1778 to June 21, 1783

PENNSYLVANIA STATE HOUSE is located on Chestnut Street between 5th and 6th Streets in Philadelphia. Now known as Independence Hall this red brick building was built between 1732 and 1753 as the colonial seat for the Province of Pennsylvania. Edmund Woolley, the builder, designed the building with Andrew Hamilton in its distinctive Georgian style. Two smaller buildings were added in the construction with City Hall to the east and to the west is Congress Hall. Continental Congress Presidents Peyton Randolph, John Hancock, and John Jay as well as Presidents of the United States in Congress Assembled Samuel Huntington, Thomas McKean, John Hanson and Elias Boudinot all conducted the United Colonies and States of America business at Independence Hall.

FOUNDING FACTS: The July 2, 1776 resolution for Independence, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of 1787 were all debated and adopted in the Pennsylvania State House. In the summer of 1783 Continental troops from Lancaster and Philadelphia numbering over 300 mutinied and surrounded Independence Hall holding the President and United States in Congress Assembled hostage. The Confederation Congress fled to Princeton and never assembled again in Philadelphia.

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



JOHN HANCOCK

*3rd President of the Continental Congress
of the United Colonies and States of America*

May 25, 1775 to October 29, 1777

www.johnhancock.org

BORN: January 12, 1737

SPOUSE: Dolly Quincy Hancock

DIED: October 8, 1793

STATE: Massachusetts

POLITICAL OFFICES: Selectman of Boston; Provincial Legislature 1766-1772; of the Provincial Congress President 1774; President and Delegate to the Continental Congress 1775-1778 and United States in Congress Assembled 1785-1786; Signer of the Declaration of Independence; Constitution of 1777 Signer; Massachusetts Constitutional Convention 1780; Governor of Massachusetts 1780-1785 and 1787-1793.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Olive Branch Petition; Native American Commissioner Appointments; Declaration for the Necessity of Taking up Arms; Commander-in-Chief Appointment; Creates a Navy; Call for the Colonies to Adopt New Constitutions; Resolution and Declaration of Independence; Commissioners to Treaty with Foreign Nations; and Establishes a Flag of the United States.

The Continental Dollar

June 22, 1775



Continental Four Dollar Note dated November 29th, 1775
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DECLARATION

By the Representatives of the
United Colonies

OF NORTH-AMERICA, now met in

General Congress

At PHILADELPHIA,

Setting forth the CAUSES and NECESSITY
OF THEIR TAKING UP

ARMS

A View of that great and flourishing City of
BOSTON, when in its purity, and out of the
Hands of the Philistines.



If it was possible for Men, who exercise their Reason, to believe, that the Divine Author of our Existence intrusted a Part of the human Race to hold an absolute Property in, and an unbounded Power over others, marked out by his infinite Goodness & Wisdom, as the Objects of a legal Domination, never rightfully justifiable, however severe and oppressive, the Inhabitants of these Colonies might at least receive from the Parliament of Great Britain, some Evidence, that this dreadful Authority over them has been granted to that Body. But a Reverence for our Great Creator, Principles of Humanity, and the Dictates of common Sense, must convince all those who reflect upon the Subject, that Government was instituted to promote the Welfare of Mankind, and ought to be administered for the Attainment of that End. The Legislature of Great Britain, however stimulated by an insatiable Passion for a Power not only unjustifiable, but which they know to be peculiarly repugnant by the very Constitution of that Kingdom, and desperate of Success in any Mode of Council, where Regard should be had to Truth, Law, or Right, have at length, deserting those, attempted to effect their cruel and insidious Purpose of entering these Colonies by Violence, and here thereby rendered it necessary for us to close with their last Appeal from Reason to Arms.— Yet however blinded that Assembly may be, by their intemperate Rage, and unlimited Domination so to fight against the Original Rights of an unborn People, beyond the Limits of that great Charter of Liberty, to which we owe the Justice of our Cause.

Our Forefathers, Inhabitants of the Island of Great Britain, left their native Land, to seek on these Shores a Residence for civil and religious Freedom. At the Expence of their Blood, as the Hazard of their Estates, without the least Charge to the Country from which they departed, by unceasing Labour and an unconquerable Spirit, they effected Settlements in the distant & inhospitable Wilds of America, then filled with numerous and warlike Nations of Barbarians.— Societies of Government, refined such perfect Legislatures, were formed under Chartered from the Crown, and an harmonious Intercourse was established between the Colonies and the Kingdom from which they derived their Origin.— The mutual Benefits of this Union became in a short Time so extraordinary, as to excite Astonishment.— It is universally confessed, that the amazing Increase of the Wealth, Strength and Navigation of the Realm, arose from this Source; and the Minister who in wisely and successfully directed the Measures of Great Britain in the late War, publicly declared, that these Colonies enabled her to triumph over her Enemies.— Towards the Conclusion of that War, it pleased our Sovereign to make a Change in his Council.— Upon that fatal Moment, the Affairs of the British Empire began to fall into Confusion, and gradually sliding from the Summit of glorious Prosperity in which they had been supported by the Virtues and Abilities of one Man, are at length distressed by the Convulsions that now shake it to its deepest Foundations.— The new Ministry, holding the same Part of British things frequently declared, yet still countenancing, took up the unprosperous Idea of granting them a hasty Peace, and of then subduing her insatiable Enemies.

These devoted Colonies were judged to be in such a State, as to require Victories without Bloodshed, and all the easy Evolutions of a manageable Plunder.— The uninterrupted Tenor of their peaceable and respectful Behaviour from the Beginning of Colonization, their useful and useful Services during the War, though to receive and simply acknowledged in the most honorable Manner by his Majesty, by the late King, and by Parliament, could not free them from the meditated Innovations.— Parliament was influenced to change the pernicious Project, by assuming a new Power over them, have in the Course of eleven Years, given such decisive Specimens of the Spirit and Consequences attending this Power, as to leave no Doubt concerning the Effects of Acquiescence under it. They have undertaken to give and grant our Money without our Consent, that

we have ever exercised an exclusive Right to dispose of our own Property; Statutes have been passed for extending the Jurisdiction of Courts of Admiralty and Vice Admiralty beyond their ancient Limits;— For depriving us of the accustomed and justifiable Privilege of Trial by Jury in Cases affecting both Life and Property; for suspending the Legislature of one of the Colonies; for interfering all Commerce of another; and for altering fundamentally the Form of Government established by Charter, and secured by Acts of its own Legislature solemnly confirmed by the Crown; for attempting the "Murder" of Colonists from legal Trial, and in Effect, from Punishment; for erecting in a neighbouring Province acquired by the joint Arms of Great Britain and America, a Despotism dangerous to our very Existence; and for quartering Soldiers upon the Colonists in Time of profound Peace. It has also been resolved in Parliament, that Colonists charged with committing certain Offences, shall be transported to England to be tried.

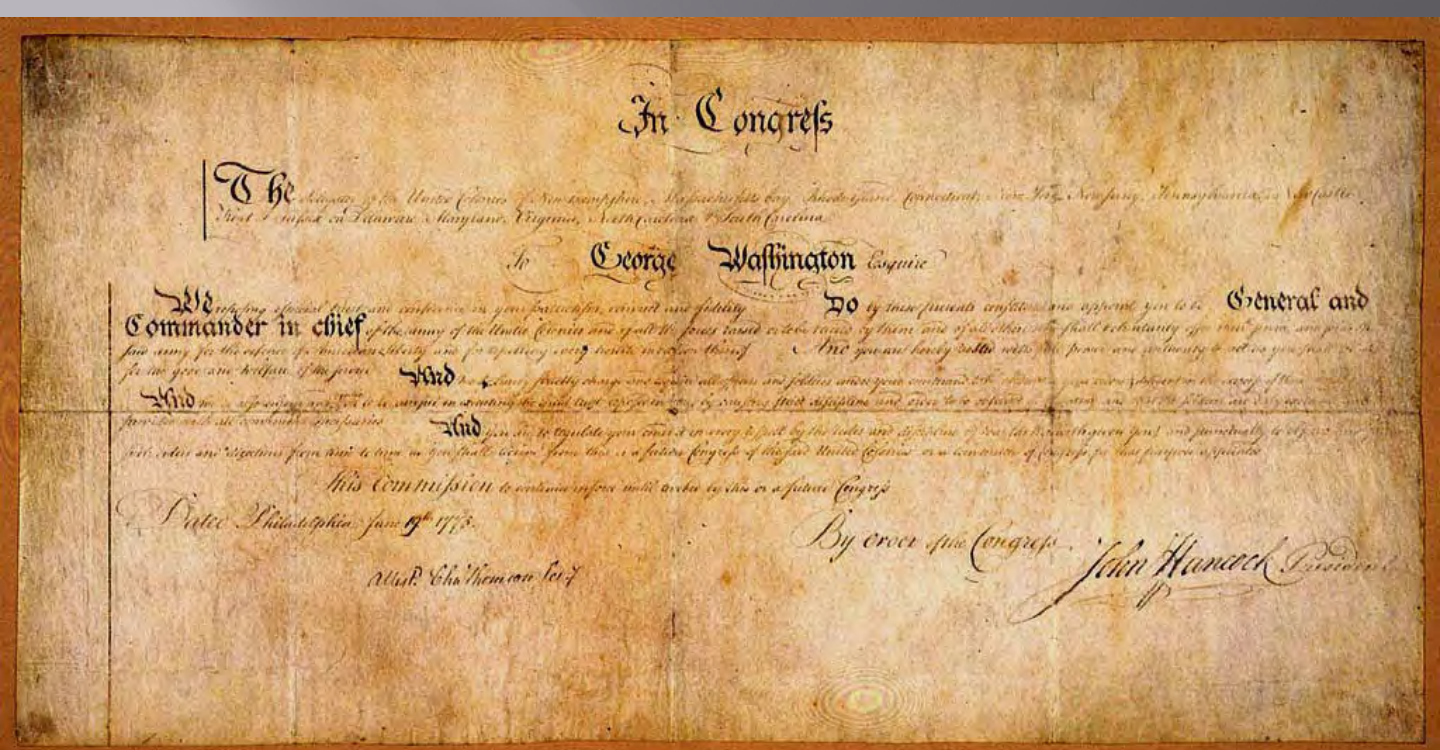
But why should we reiterate our Injuries in Detail? By one Statute it is declared, that Parliament can "of Right make Laws to bind us in ALL CASES WHATSOEVER." What is to defend us against so enormous, so unlimited a Power? Not a single Man of sense who allows it, is chosen by us; or is subject to our Control or Influence; but on the contrary, they are all of them exempt from

Operation of such Laws, and an American Revenue, if not dissolved from its intended Purpose for which it raised, would actually lighten their own Burdens in Proportion, as they increase ours. We find the Misery to which such Despotism would reduce us. We for ten Years incessantly and ineffectually beseeched the Throne in Supplication; we reasoned, we remonstrated with Parliament in the most mild and decent Language. But Administration, sensible that we should regard those oppressive Measures as Freeman ought to do, sent over Eleazar Arnolds to enforce them. The Indignation of the American was so great it is true; but it was the Indignation of a virtuous, loyal, and affectionate People. A Congress of Delegates from the united Colonies was assembled at Philadelphia, on the fifth Day of last September. We resolved again to offer an humble and respectful Petition to the King, and also addressed our Fellow Subjects of Great Britain. We have pursued every temperate, every respectful Measure, we have even proceeded to break off our commercial Intercourse with our Fellow Subjects, in the last possible Admiration; that our Attachment to no Nation upon Earth should supersede our Attachment to Liberty.— This, we believed our Duty, was the ultimate Step of the Controversy; but subsequent Events have shown, how vain was this Hope of finding Moderation in our Oppressors.

Several threatening Expressions against the Colonies were inserted in his Majesty's Speech; our Petition, though we were told it was a decent one, that his Majesty had been pleased to receive it graciously, and to peruse laying it before his Parliament, was both despised and neglected. The Lords and Commons in their Address, in the Month of February last, said, "that a Rebellion at that Time actually existed within the Province of Massachusetts Bay; and that their concern in it, had been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful Combinations and Engagements, entered into by his Majesty's Subjects in several of the other Colonies; and therefore they beseech his Majesty, that he would take the most effectual Measures to enforce due Obedience to the Laws and Authority of the Supreme Legislature."— Soon after the commercial Intercourse of whole Colonies, with foreign Countries and with each other, was cut off by an Act of Parliament; by another, several of them were entirely prohibited from the Fisheries in the Seas near their Coasts, on which they always depended for their Subsistence; and large Recforcements of Ships and Troops were immediately sent over to Goddard's Bay.

Enlisted were all the Extraneous Arguments and Eloquence of the

Commander-In-Chief



*George Washington's Commission as Commander-In-Chief
Signed By President John Hancock
- Library of Congress Special Collections*

In mid-June 1775 debate opened in Congress on the appointment of a commander-in-chief of Continental forces. John Hancock made it known to all the delegates that he wanted the high office and as President he expected to be nominated. Hancock was surprised when fellow Massachusetts Delegate, John Adams, moved to appoint George Washington who was approved unanimously.

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



GEORGE WASHINGTON

Commander-in-Chief

June 17, 1775 to December 23, 1783

www.George-Washington.org

BORN: February 22, 1732

DIED: December 14, 1799

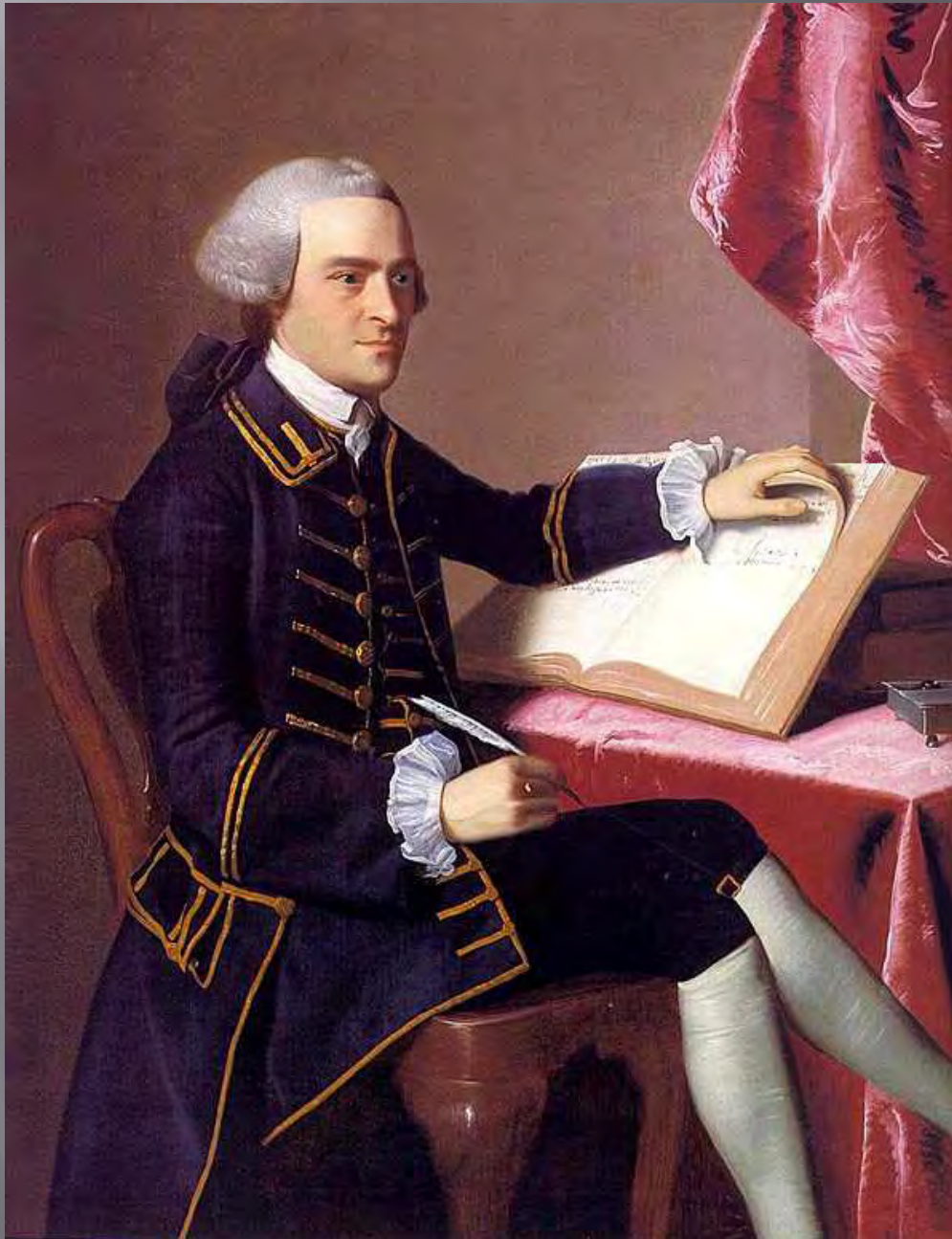
SPOUSE: Martha Dandridge Custis

STATE: Virginia

POLITICAL OFFICES: Colonial Virginia Major 1752; Lieutenant Colonel French and Indian War; Aide-de-Camp to General Braddock 1755; Commander-in-Chief of Virginia forces 1755; Justice of the Peace 1760-1774; Virginia House of Burgesses 1758-1774; Williamsburg Convention Delegate 1774; Delegate to the Continental Congresses 1774-1775; Commander-in-Chief United Colonies & States of America 1775-1783; Delegate & President to the Philadelphia Federal Convention 1787; Constitution of 1787 Signer; First President of the United States 1789-1797; and Lieutenant General & Commander of the United States 1798-1799.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Jumonville Glen; Surrender of Fort Necessity; Braddock Fort Duquesne Campaign; Forbes Fort Duquesne Campaign; Siege of Boston; Battle of Long Island; Battle of Fort Washington, Battle of White Plains, Retreat through New Jersey; Battle of Trenton, Battle of Princeton, Battle of Brandywine, The Battle of Germantown, Valley Forge, Battle of Monmouth, Battle of Stony Point; Battle of Yorktown, Resignation as Commander-in-Chief 1783, President of the United States 1789-1797 and Whiskey Rebellion Campaign.

Presidents of the Continental Congress United States of America 1776 to 1781

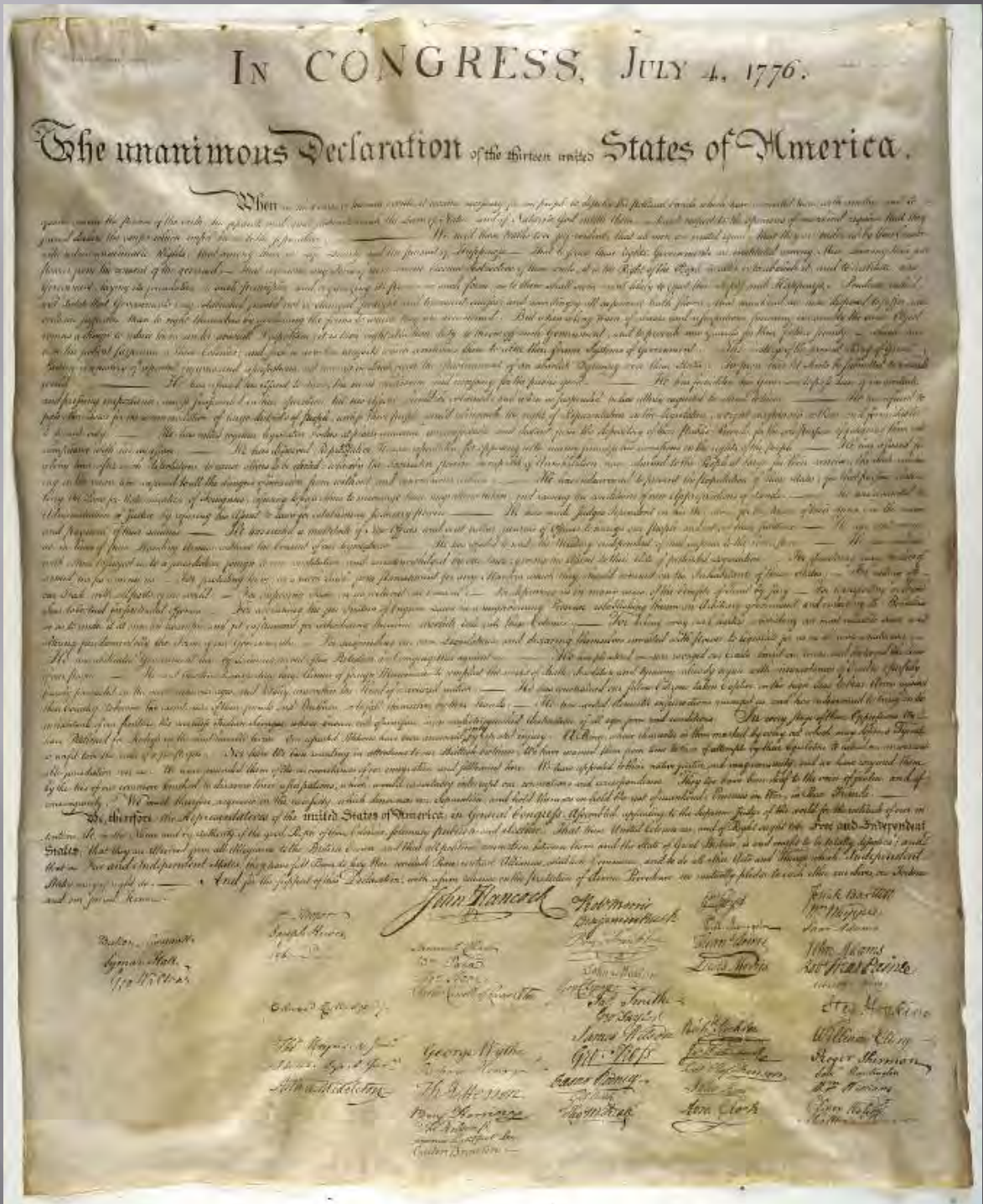


John Adams wrote Abigail Adams on July 3, 1776:

- *“Yesterday the greatest Question was decided, which ever was debated in America, and a greater perhaps, never was or will be decided among Men. A Resolution was passed without one dissenting Colony ‘that these united Colonies, are, and of right ought to be free and independent States, and as such, they have, and of Right ought to have full Power to make War, conclude Peace, establish Commerce, and to do all the other Acts and Things, which other States may rightfully do.’ ...*
- *The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America.*
- *I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more ...”*

Declaration of Independence

August 2, 1776



1823 Wet Ink Transfer of the Declaration of Independence
 Stan Klos Collection -- www.forgottenfounders.org

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



HENRY FITE HOUSE

December 20, 1776 to February 27, 1777

FITE HOUSE was built on the southeast corner of Market St. (now Baltimore St.) and Liberty Streets, by Henry Fite in 1770. The house was converted to a Tavern by Jacob Fite the youngest son of Henry. It was a "three-story and attic brick house, of about 92 feet front on Market Street, by about 50 or 55 feet depth on the side streets, with cellar under the whole; having 14 rooms, exclusive of kitchen, wash-house and other out-buildings, including a stable for 30 horses." The house was selected as a Capitol building after the Continental Congress fled Philadelphia due to British victories in New York and New Jersey and thenceforth was called Congress Hall. At the Fite House Congress received the news that George Washington crossed Delaware River and surprised the Hessian Garrison at Trenton. Most of the house was lost in the great Baltimore fire of 1904.

FOUNDING FACTS: British General Howe reacted to the Battle of Trenton by sending a large force of men to surround Washington in Trenton. Washington fled Trenton launching a surprise attack in Princeton defeating the British. This cleared most of New Jersey of enemy forces enabling the Continental Congress to return to Philadelphia.

Battles of Trenton & Princeton Congress Returns to Philadelphia



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The First Congressional Caucus was held in the City Tavern of Philadelphia adjourning to Carpenters Hall, to the Philadelphia State House, and then flight to the Henry Fite House in Baltimore With Commander-In-Chief George Washington's Victories in New Jersey, Congress returned to convene at the Pennsylvania State House on March 12, 1777. Congress would Flee again from Philadelphia on September 17, 1777 moving to eight different locations until the Confederation faded away in New York City's Franuces Tavern in 1789. *Capitol Poster by Robert Browning & Stan Klos*

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



LANCASTER COURT HOUSE

September 27, 1777

LANCASTER COURT HOUSE was a 1730 brick structure, 30' x 30', which also had a brick pavement floor. The Court House was crowned with a small spire that had a clock of two faces, one for the south and the other for the north. The structure burnt down in 1781 and was replaced with a much larger structure in 1785 that is often depicted, incorrectly, as the Continental Congress Capitol building.

FOUNDING FACTS: In September of 1777 General William Howe's victory at Brandywine insured the loss of Philadelphia to the British. The Delegates were forced to flee Philadelphia and re-convened in the Lancaster Court House on September 27, 1777. The members were unable to find ample lodging in Lancaster and the robust Court House schedule allowed little time for both Congress and the Pennsylvania Assembly to meet. The following day the Continental Congress packed up and moved the Capitol across the Susquehanna River to a small village called York-Town. The River provided a natural barrier to the British who had captured Philadelphia on September 26, 1777. Howe's decision to conquer Philadelphia and not join his Northern Army resulted in General Burgoyne's surrender in Saratoga.

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



YORK-TOWN COURT HOUSE

September 30, 1777 to June 27, 1778

YORK-TOWN COURT HOUSE was constructed by William Willis in 1756 and stood in the "Centre Square" of two 80' thoroughfares. The 45' x 45' Georgian Brick Colonial Court House stood in the Center of West Market Street until 1841. In this Court House the Delegates received notice of Washington's loss at Brandywine, Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga, Franklin's success in achieving an alliance with France and the struggles of the Continental Army in Valley Forge. A replica of the Court House was built in 1976 by the York County Bicentennial Commission that stands in a small colonial park at the intersection of West Market Street and the Codorus Creek.

FOUNDING FACTS: The first Constitution of the United States, the Articles of Confederation, was passed by the Continental Congress and sent onto the states from the York-Town Court House. The Constitution, which the Delegates believed would be approved by the States in 1778 was not ratified until March 1, 1781 when Maryland finally agreed to join the "Perpetual Union."

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



HENRY LAURENS

*4th President of the Continental Congress
of the United States of America*

November 1, 1777 to December 9, 1778

www.henrylaurens.com

BORN: March 6, 1724

DIED: December 8, 1792

SPOUSE: Eleanor Ball Laurens

STATE: South Carolina

POLITICAL OFFICES: South Carolina Commons House of Assembly in 1757-1774; First and Second Provincial Congresses President 1775; Council of Safety; Vice President of South Carolina 1776-1777; President and Delegate to the Continental Congress 1777-1780; Constitution of 1777 Signer; Minister to Holland 1779; Peace commissioner and signed the preliminary Treaty of Paris 1782.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Articles of Confederation or the Constitution of 1777; Saratoga Convention; Establishes the Board of War; Conway Cabal; Franco-American Treaty resulting in the United States Most Favored Nation Status; and the Establishment of the American Army.

Thanksgiving Day Proclamation November 1, 1777

In C O N G R E S S,
N O V E M B E R 1, 1777.

FORASMUCH as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with gratitude their obligations to Him for benefits received; and to implore such farther blessings as they stand in need of: And it having pleased Him in His abundant mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable bounties of His common providence; but also to smile upon us, in the prosecution of a just and necessary war for the defence and establishment of our unalienable rights and liberties: *Particularly* in that He hath been pleased in so great a measure, to prosper the means used for the support of our troops, and to crown our arms with most signal success:

It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive powers of these United States, to set apart THURSDAY, the eighteenth day of *December* next, for SOLEMN THANKSGIVING and PRAISE: That at one time and with one voice, the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their DIVINE BENEFACITOR: and that, together with their sincere acknowledgments and offerings, they may join the penitent confession of their sins, whereby they had forfeited every favor; and their humble and earnest supplications that it may please God through the merits of Jesus Christ, *mercifully* to forgive and blot them out of remembrance. That it may please Him graciously to afford His blessing on the Governments of these States respectively, and prosper the PUBLIC COUNCIL of the whole. To inspire our commanders both by land and sea, and all under them, with that wisdom and fortitude which may render them fit instruments, under the providence of Almighty God, to secure for these United States, the greatest of all human blessings, INDEPENDENCE and PEACE. That it may please Him, to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people, and the labour of the husbandman, that our land may yet yield its increase. To take schools and seminaries of education, so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue and piety, under His *nurturing* hand: and to prosper the means of religion, for the promotion and enlargement of that kingdom which consisteth "IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, PEACE AND JOY IN THE HOLY GHOST."

And it is further recommended, that servile labour, and such recreation as, though at other times innocent, may be unbecoming the purpose of this appointment, may be omitted on so solemn an occasion.

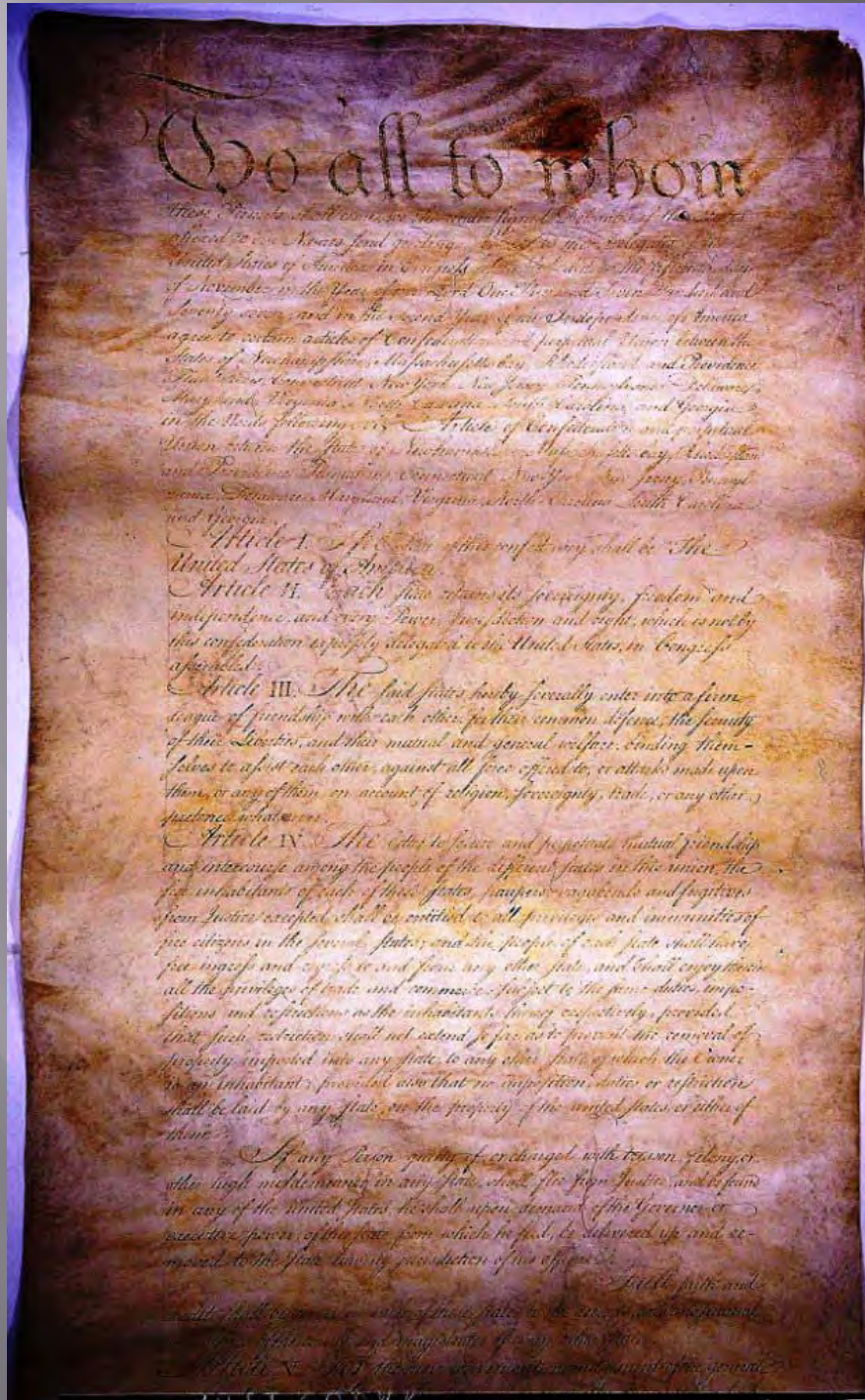
By order of C O N G R E S S,

HENRY LAURENS, President.

GOD SAVE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

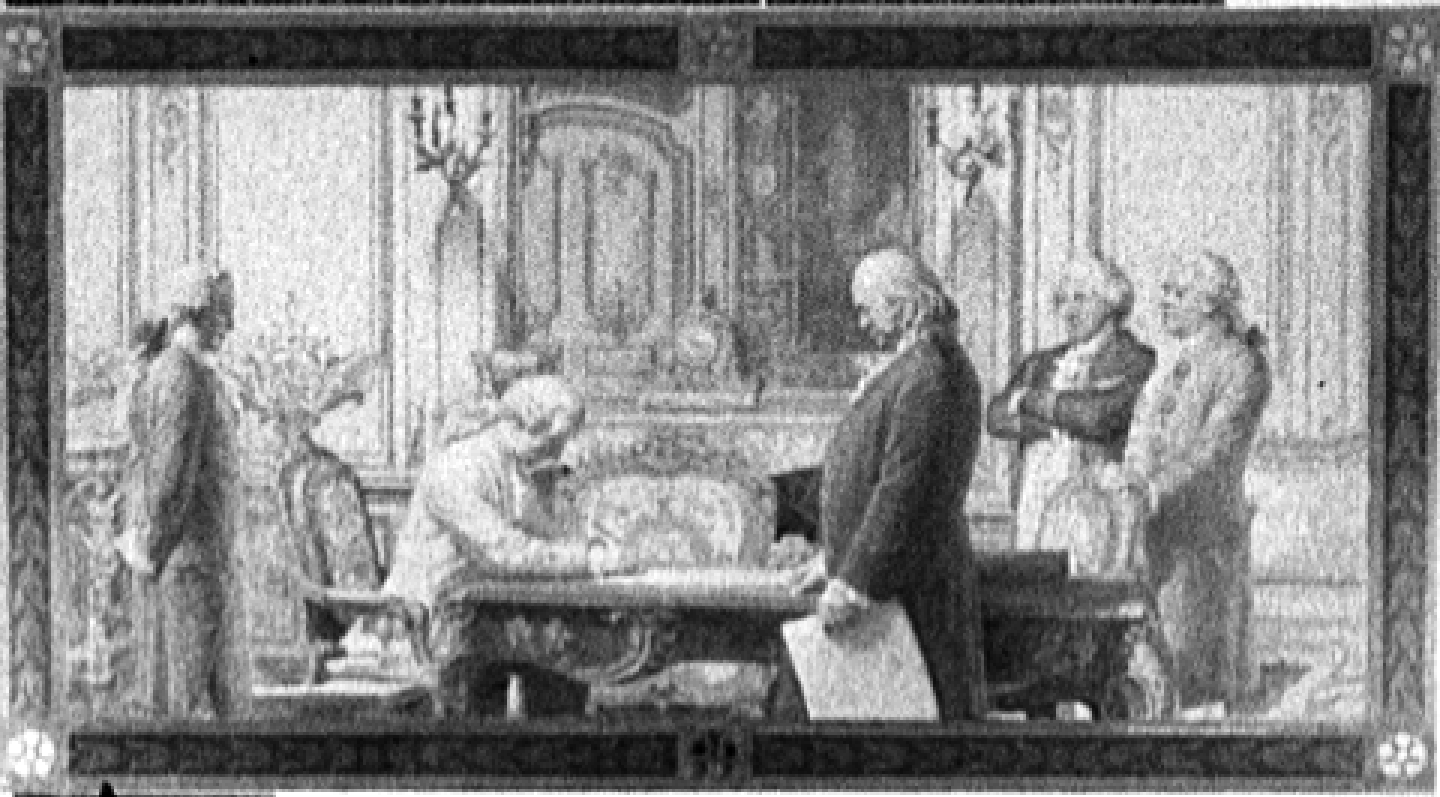
Solemn Thanksgiving and Praise Proclamation - Nov. 1, 1777
Stan Klos Collection - www.forgottenfounders.org

Articles of Confederation "Constitution of 1777" November 15, 1777



The Articles of Confederation – Perpetual Union of the United States of America – ratified March 1, 1781
Courtesy of the National Archives

Battle of Saratoga Franco-American Treaty



Signing of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and of Alliance between France and the United States, Mills, Charles E., artist. *Courtesy of the Library of Congress Special Collections.*

Treaty of Amity and Commerce and of Alliance between France and the United States Concluded February 6, 1778.:
Ratified by the Continental Congress, May 4, 1778. .
Ratifications exchanged at Paris, July 17, 1778.

FRANCO-AMERICAN ALLIANCE



LOUIS XVI RESIDENCE 1774 to 1789

CHATEAU DE VERSAILLES was the royal residence of France from 1682 until 1789, when the French Revolution began. Louis XIII built a hunting lodge at the village outside Paris in 1624. Louis XIV, the Sun King, constructed around the lodge one of the most costly and extravagant buildings in the world. About 37000 acres of land were cleared to make room for tree-lined terraces and walks and thousands of flowering plants. There were 1400 fountains and 400 pieces of new sculpture. Louis XV inherited the wonderful place but in loosing the War for Empire to Great Britain he left his successor, his grandson Louis XVI, a debt of 4000 million livres. In 1788 the French government went bankrupt.

FOUNDING FACTS: Minister Benjamin Franklin negotiated the Franco-American Alliance with King Louis XVI in 1778. The Treaty's primary purpose was to formally provide for French loans and its armed forces participation in the Revolutionary War. Ultimately, the treaty resulted in France's Navy and troops bottling up General Earl Cornwallis in Yorktown effectively ending the Revolutionary War.

Conway Cabal

Establishment of the U.S. Army

The committee on Indian affairs, to whom was referred an extract of a letter of April the 10th from colonel Morgan brought in a report, which was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the board of war.

The committee on the treasury brought in a report; whereupon

Ordered, That seven hundred dollars be advanced to Mr. J. Henry, delegate from Maryland, on his application; the said state to be accountable:

Ordered, That two hundred thousand dollars be paid to Mr. J. Nourse, paymaster to the board of war and ordnance, to be by him transmitted to William Paifrey, esquire, paymaster general, for the use of his department; who is to be accountable:

Ordered, That twenty-four thousand dollars be paid to Mr. J. Nourse, paymaster to the board of war and ordnance, on the application of the said board; it being the remainder of the sum to be advanced agreeably to a resolution of Congress of the 6th of April last, and to be by him transmitted to brigadier count Pulaski, to complete the raising and equipping his legion; the said brigadier count Pulaski to be accountable.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the arrangement of the army, which was agreed to, as follows:

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AMERICAN ARMY.

I. INFANTRY.

Resolved, That each battalion of infantry shall consist of nine companies, one of which shall be of light infantry: the light infantry to be kept compleat by drafts from the battalion, and organized during the campaign into corps of light infantry:

That the battalion of infantry consist of

		Pay per month.	
Commissioned.	1 Colonel and Captain,	75 dollars.	
	1 Lieutenant Colonel and Captain,	60	
	1 Major and Captain,	50	
	6 Captains,	each 40	
	1 Captain Lieutenant,	26 2-3ds.	
	3 Lieutenants,	each 20	
	9 Ensigns,	each	
		Paymaster,	

Paymaster,	to be taken from the line.	20 dol. } In addition to their pay as officers in the line.	
Adjutant,			13
Quart. master,			13
1 Surgeon,		60 dollars.	
1 Surgeon's Mate,		40	
1 Serjeant Major,		10	
1 Quartermaster Serjeant,		10	
27 Serjeants,	each,	10	
1 Drum Major,		9	
1 Fife Major,		9	
18 Drums and Fifes,	each,	7 1-3d.	
27 Corporals,	each,	7 1-3d.	
477 Privates,	each,	6 2-3ds.	

Each of the field officers to command a company.
The Lieutenant of the Colonel's company to have the rank of Captain Lieutenant.

II. ARTILLERY.

That a battalion of artillery consist of

		Pay per month.	
Commissioned.	1 Colonel,	100 dollars.	
	1 Lieutenant Colonel,	75	
	1 Major,	62 1-half.	
	12 Captains,	each 50	
	12 Captain Lieutenants,	each 33 1-3d.	
	12 First Lieutenants,	each 33 1-3d.	
36 Second Lieutenants,	each 33 1-3d.		
Paymaster,	to be taken from the line.	25 dol. } In addition to their pay as officers in the line.	
Adjutant,			16
Quart. master,			16
1 Surgeon,		75 dollars.	
1 Surgeon's Mate,		50	
1 Serjeant Major,		11 23-90ths.	
1 Quartermaster Serjeant,		11 23-90ths.	
1 Fife Major,		10 38-90ths.	
1 Drum Major,		10 38-90ths.	
72 Serjeants,	each	10	
72 Bombardiers,	each	9	
72 Corporals,	each	9	
72 Gunners,	each	8 2-3ds.	
24 Drums and Fifes,	each	8 2-3ds.	
336 Matrosses,	each	8 1-3d.	

Journals of The Continental Congress – 1778
Establishment of the American Army
 Stan Klos Collection – www.forgottenfounders.org

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



JOHN JAY

*5th President of the Continental Congress
of the United States of America*

December 10, 1778 to September 28, 1779

www.johnjay.net

BORN: December 12, 1745

DIED: May 17, 1829

SPOUSE: Sarah Livingston Jay

STATE: New York

POLITICAL OFFICES: NY committee of Correspondence 1773-1774; President and Delegate to the Continental Congress 1774-1776 and 1778-1779; NY State Chief Justice Minister Plenipotentiary to Spain 1779; Foreign Peace Minister 1781; Signed the Treaty of Paris; Secretary of Foreign Affairs 1784-1789; First U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice; Minister Plenipotentiary to Great Britain - 1794-1795; and Governor of New York 1795-1801.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Adopts declaration on Continental authority over admiralty appeals; Agrees not to negotiate a treaty with Great Britain without including France and renews alliance with France and issues a letter of thanks to King of France.

Day of Fasting, Humiliation & Prayer to Almighty God

PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, in just Punishment of our manifold Transgressions, it hath pleased the Supreme Disposer of all Events to visit these United States with a calamitous War, through which his Divine Providence hath hitherto in a wonderful Manner conducted us, so that we might acknowledge that the Race is not to the Swift, nor the Battle to the Strong: AND WHEREAS, notwithstanding the Chastisements received and Benefits bestowed, too few have been sufficiently awakened to a Sense of their Guilt, or warmed with Gratitude, or taught to amend their Lives and turn from their Sins, that so he might turn from his Wrath: AND WHEREAS, from a Consciousness of what we have merited at his Hands, and an Apprehension that the Malevolence of our disappointed Enemies, like the Incredulity of Pharaoh, may be used as the Scourge of Omnipotence to vindicate his slighted Majesty, there is Reason to fear that he may permit much of our Land to become the Prey of the Spoiler, our Borders to be ravaged, and our Habitations destroyed:

RESOLVED,

THAT it be recommended to the several States to appoint the First *Thursday* in *May* next to be a Day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer to Almighty God, that he will be pleased to avert those impending Calamities which we have but too well deserved: That he will grant us his Grace to repent of our Sins, and amend our Lives according to his Holy Word: That he will continue that wonderful Protection which hath led us through the Paths of Danger and Distress: That he will be a Husband to the Widow, and a Father to the fatherless Children, who weep over the Barbarities of a Savage Enemy: That he will grant us Patience in Suffering, and Fortitude in Adversity: That he will inspire us with Humility, Moderation, and Gratitude in prosperous Circumstances: That he will give Wisdom to our Councils, Firmness to our Resolutions, and Victory to our Arms: That he will bless the Labours of the Husbandman, and pour forth Abundance, so that we may enjoy the Fruits of the Earth in due Season: That he will cause Union, Harmony, and mutual Confidence to prevail throughout these States: That he will bestow on our great Ally all those Blessings which may enable him to be gloriously instrumental in protecting the Rights of Mankind, and promoting the Happiness of his Subjects: That he will bountifully continue his paternal Care to the Commander in Chief, and the Officers and Soldiers of the United States: That he will grant the Blessings of Peace to all contending Nations, Freedom to those who are in Bondage, and Comfort to the Afflicted: That he will diffuse Useful Knowledge, extend the Influence of True Religion, and give us that Peace of Mind which the World cannot give: That he will be our Shield in the Day of Battle, our Comforter in the Hour of Death, and our kind Parent and merciful Judge through Time and through Eternity.

Done in CONGRESS, this Twentieth Day of March, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-Nine, and in the Third Year of our Independence.

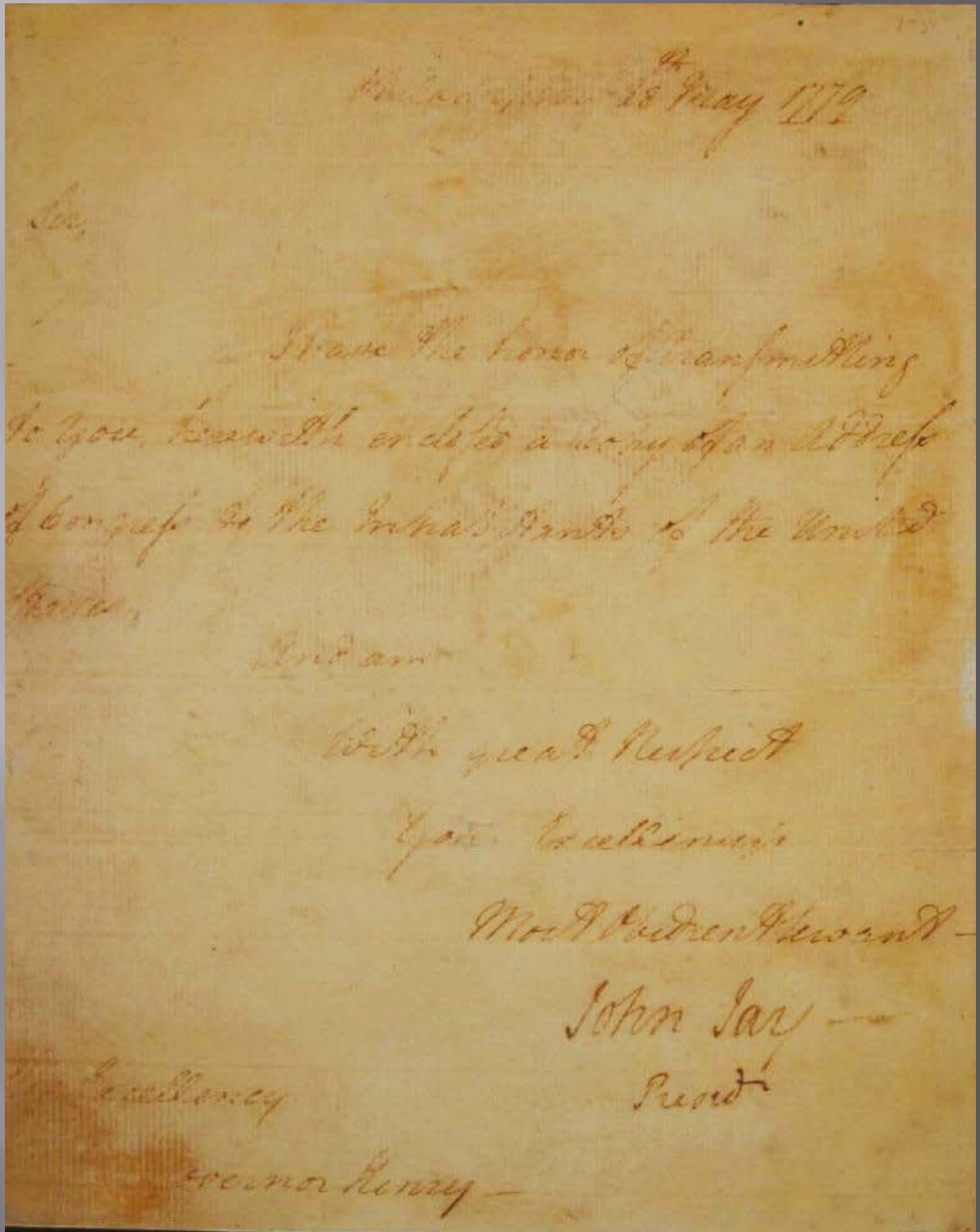
JOHN JAY, President.

Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA: PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS.

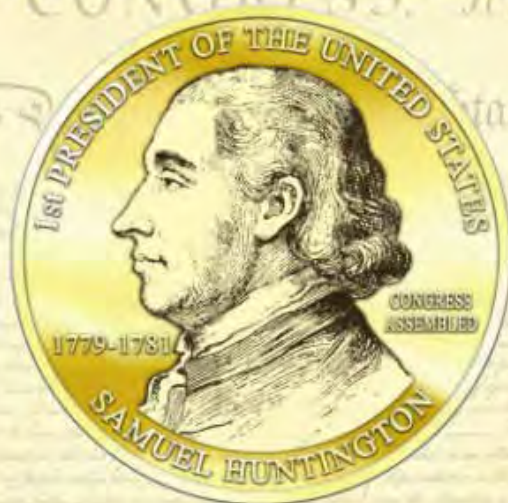


The Collapse of the U.S. Dollar



John Jay transmits to Governor Patrick Henry A Circular Letter from Congress of the United States of America, to their constituents

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



SAMUEL HUNTINGTON

1st President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

September 29, 1779* to July 6, 1781

www.samuelhuntington.org

BORN: July 16, 1731

DIED: January 5, 1796

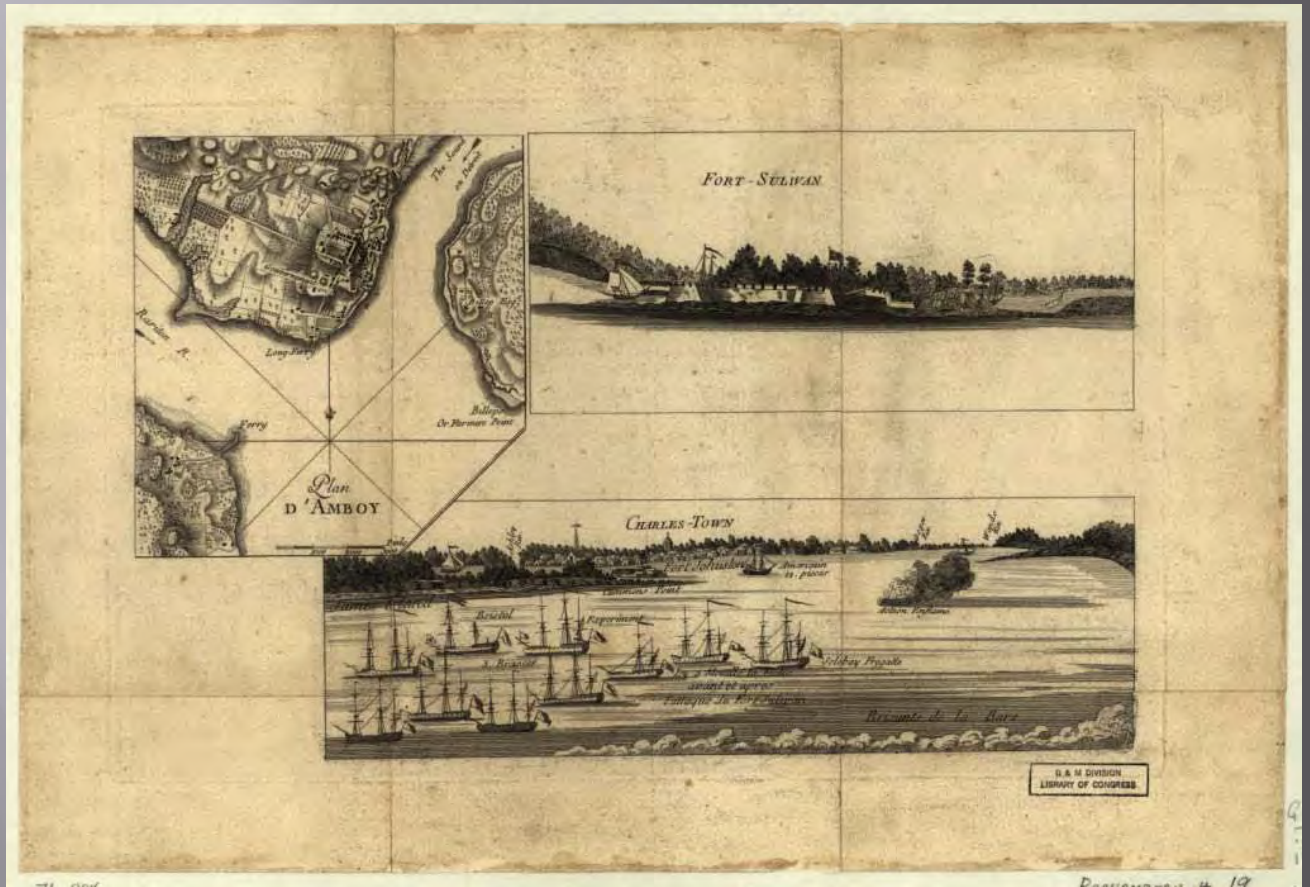
SPOUSE: Martha Devotion Huntington

STATE: Connecticut

POLITICAL OFFICES: Executive Councilor - 1763; Connecticut Colonial Assembly - 1764; Crown Attorney - 1765; Superior Court Judge - 1774 to 1784 and Chief Justice; President and Delegate to the Continental Congress in 1776; 1778-1781; President and Delegate to United States in Congress Assembled 1781; 1783 and 1788; Signer of the Declaration of Independence; Constitution of 1777 Signer; Lieutenant Governor 1785; and Governor 1786-1796.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: British Capture Charleston; Benedict Arnold attempts to Surrender West Point; Repudiates Continental dollar; adopting measures for redeeming bills in circulation at the ratio of 40 to 1; Articles of Confederation ratified; *Continental Congress Dissolved and United States in Congress Assembled convenes; Establishes new Congressional and Government rules in compliance with the new Constitution; Establishes a Court of the Admiralty; and Elects John Jay additional commissioner to negotiate peace with Great Britain.

The Fall of Charleston



Plan d'Amboy. Vues de la rade de Charles-Town et de Fort Sullivan, 1780 - Library of Congress Special Collections

Benedict Arnold Defects Burns Richmond



Major General Benedict Arnold
[www. Vituality.com](http://www.Vituality.com)

Presidents of the United States in Congress Assembled 1781 to 1788



Perpetual Union Ratified

March 1, 1781

JOURNALS OF CONGRESS.

Roger Sherman,
Samuel Huntington,
Oliver Wolcott,
Timotheus Hoffman,
Andrew Adams.

} On the part and behalf of the state of Connecticut.

James Duane,
Francis Lewis,
William Duer,
Govr. Morris.

} On the part and behalf of the state of New York.

John Witherspoon,
Nathaniel Scudder.

} On the part and behalf of the state of New-Jersey, November 26th, 1778.

Robert Morris,
Daniel Roberdeau,
Jon. Bayard Smith,
William Clingan,
Joseph Reed, 22d July, 1778.

} On the part and behalf of the state of Pennsylvania.

Thomas M'Kean, Feb. 12th 1779.
John Dickinson, May 5th 1779.
Nicholas Van Dyke,

} On the part and behalf of the state of Delaware.

John Hanson, March 1st. 1781.
Daniel Carroll, ditto.

} On the part and behalf of the state of Maryland.

Richard Henry Lee,
John Banister,
Thomas Adams,
John Harvie,
Francis Lightfoot Lee.

} On the part and behalf of the state of Virginia.

John Penn, July 21st. 1778.
Curtis Harnett,
Joa. Williams,

} On the part and behalf of the state of North-Carolina.

Henry Laurens,
William Henry Drayton,
Joa. Mathews,
Richard Hutson,
Thomas Heyward, jun.

} On the part and behalf of the state of South-Carolina.

John Walton, 21th July, 1778.
Edward Telfair,
Edward Loughworthy.

} On the part and behalf of the state of Georgia,

The

MARCH, 1781.

49

The UNITED STATES in CONGRESS Assembled,

March 2, 1781.

The ratification of the articles of confederation being yesterday completed by the accession of the state of Maryland:

The United States met in Congress, when the following members appeared:

His excellency Samuel Huntington, delegate for Connecticut, president.

New-Hampshire,
Massachusetts,

Mr. John Sullivan,
Mr. Samuel Adams,
Mr. James Lovell,
Mr. Artemas Ward.

Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations,
Connecticut,

Mr. James Mitchel Varnum,
Mr. Jesse Root,
Mr. Oliver Wolcott,

New-York,

Mr. James Duane,
Mr. William Floyd.

New-Jersey,

Mr. John Witherspoon,
Mr. Abraham Clark.

Pennsylvania,

Mr. Samuel J. Atlee,
Mr. Henry Wyakoop,

Delaware,

Mr. Thomas Smith,
Mr. Thomas Rodney,

Maryland,

Mr. Thomas M'Kean,
Mr. John Hanson,

Virginia,

Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Joseph Jones,
Mr. James Madison,

North Carolina,

Mr. Theodorick Bland,
Mr. Meriwether Smith,

South-Carolina,

Mr. Thomas Burk,
Mr. William Sharpe,
Mr. Samuel Johnston,

Mr. John Mathews,
Mr. Thomas Bee,
Mr. Isaac Motte,

Georgia.

Journals of the United States in Congress Assembled
March 1 and 2, 1781 - Stan Klos Collection
www.forgottenfounders.org

Pennsylvania Gazette

March 7, 1781

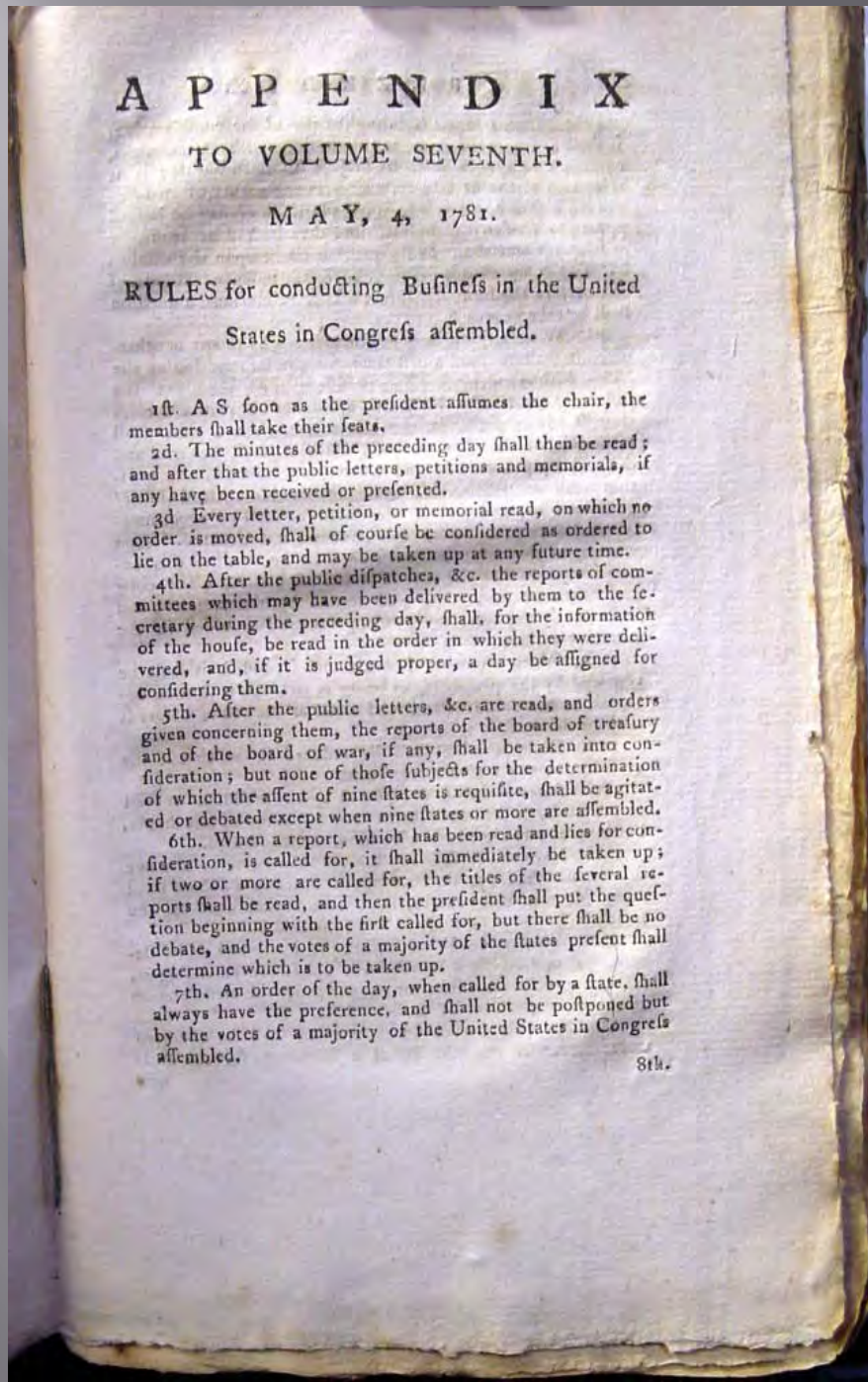
- *"IN pursuance of an Act of the Legislature of Maryland, entitled, 'An Act to empow-er the Delegates of the State in Congress to subscriber and ratify the Articles of Confederation,' the Delegates of the said State, on Thursday last, at twelve o, signed and ratified the Articles of Confederation; by which act the Confederation of THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA was completed, each and every of the Thirteen States, from New Hampshire to Georgia both included, having adopted and con-firmed, and by their Delegates in Congress ratified the same.*
- *This happy event was immediately announced to the public by the discharge of the artillery on land, and the cannon of the shipping in the river Delaware. At two his Excellency the President of Congress received on this occasion the congratulations of the Hon. Minister Plenipotentiary of France, and of the Legislative and Executive Bodies of this State, of the Civil and Military Officers, sundry strangers of distinction in town, and of many of the principal inhabitants.*
- *The evening was closed by an elegant exhibition of fireworks. The Ariel frigate, commanded by the gallant John Paul Jones, fired a feu de joye, and was beautifully decorated with a variety of streamers in the day, and ornamented with a brilliant appearance of lights in the night.*

Thus will the first of March, 1781, be a day memorable in the annals of America, for the final ratification of the Confederation and perpetual Union of the Thirteen States of America --- A Union, begun by necessity, cemented by oppression and common danger, and now finally consolidated into a perpetual confederacy of these new and rising States: And thus the United States of America, having, amidst the calamities of a destructive war, established a solid foundation of greatness, are growing up into consequence among the nations, while their haughty enemy, Britain, with all her boasted wealth and grandeur, instead of bringing them to her feet and reducing them to unconditional submission, finds her hopes blasted, her power crumbling to pieces, and the empire which, with overbearing insolence and brutality she exercised on the ocean, divided among her insulted neighbors. - Pennsylvania Gazette - March 7, 1781



U.S. Treasury Letter addressing Samuel Huntington as President of the United States in Congress Assembled March 12, 1781 - Library of Congress Special Collections

Rules Passed for United States in Congress Assembled



A P P E N D I X

TO VOLUME SEVENTH.

M A Y, 4, 1781.

RULES for conducting Business in the United States in Congress assembled.

1st. AS soon as the president assumes the chair, the members shall take their seats.

2d. The minutes of the preceding day shall then be read; and after that the public letters, petitions and memorials, if any have been received or presented.

3d. Every letter, petition, or memorial read, on which no order is moved, shall of course be considered as ordered to lie on the table, and may be taken up at any future time.

4th. After the public dispatches, &c. the reports of committees which may have been delivered by them to the secretary during the preceding day, shall, for the information of the house, be read in the order in which they were delivered, and, if it is judged proper, a day be assigned for considering them.

5th. After the public letters, &c. are read, and orders given concerning them, the reports of the board of treasury and of the board of war, if any, shall be taken into consideration; but none of those subjects for the determination of which the assent of nine states is requisite, shall be agitated or debated except when nine states or more are assembled.

6th. When a report, which has been read and lies for consideration, is called for, it shall immediately be taken up; if two or more are called for, the titles of the several reports shall be read, and then the president shall put the question beginning with the first called for, but there shall be no debate, and the votes of a majority of the states present shall determine which is to be taken up.

7th. An order of the day, when called for by a state, shall always have the preference, and shall not be postponed but by the votes of a majority of the United States in Congress assembled.

8th.

Samuel Johnson

Declines Presidency – July 10, 1781



MONDAY, July 9, 1781.

A note from Mr. Ellery, one of the commissioners of the board of admiralty, was read, informing that his family affairs pressed his return home, and therefore requested leave of absence:

Ordered. That leave be granted.

According to the order of the day, the house proceeded to the election of a president; and, the ballots being taken, The honorable Samuel Johnson was elected.

TUESDAY, July 10, 1781.

Mr. Johnson having declined to accept the office of president, and offered such reasons as were satisfactory, the house proceeded to another election; and, the ballots being taken,

The honourable Thomas M^r Kean was elected.

On motion of Mr. Mathews, seconded by Mr. T. Smith,
Ordered.

Journals of the United States in Congress Assembled
July 9 and 10, 1781 – Stan Klos Collection
www.forgottenfounders.org

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



THOMAS MCKEAN

2nd President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

July 10, 1781 to November 5, 1781

www.thomasmckean.com

BORN: March 19, 1734

DIED: June 24, 1781

SPOUSE: Mary Borden Sarah Armitage McKean

STATE: Delaware

POLITICAL OFFICES: Prothonotary of the PA court and New Castle County - 1755; Deputy Attorney General Sussex County - 1756; Delaware House of Assembly 1762-1775 and Speaker 1772; Stamp-Act Congress - 1765; justice of the peace 1766; Common Pleas and Orphans Court; Delegate to the Continental Congress 1774-1776; 1778-1781; President and Delegate to United States in Congress Assembled 1781; Signer of the Declaration of Independence; Delaware State House of Representatives 1776-1777; Delaware President - 1777; Pennsylvania Chief Justice - 1777-1799; Constitution of 1777 Signer; Constitution of 1787 Delegate; Delaware Constitutional Convention and Governor of Pennsylvania 1799-1808.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Samuel Johnston declines election to the United States' Presidency; Elects Robert R. Livingston Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Battle of Yorktown Cornwallis Captured; and Appoints General Benjamin Lincoln Secretary of War.



Secretary of Foreign Affairs Robert Livingston



Gilbert Stuart 1794 portrait of Robert R. Livingston
New-York Historical Society Museum Collection

Battle of Yorktown



Edward Percy Moran, Surrender of Cornwallis to Washington
at Yorktown. Oil on Canvas, ca. 1890 – 1910
Stan Klos Collection www.battleofyorktown.com

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



JOHN HANSON

3rd President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

November 5, 1781 to November 4, 1782

www.johnjanson.net

BORN: 1715

DIED: November 22, 1783

SPOUSE: Jane Contee Hanson

STATE: Maryland

POLITICAL OFFICES: Maryland State House of Delegates for nine terms; State Senate 1757-1773; Delegate to the General Congress at Annapolis in 1774; Treasurer of Frederick County - 1775; Member of the Maryland Convention of 1775; Delegate to the Continental Congress 1780-1781; President and Delegate to United States in Congress Assembled 1781-1782; and last signer of the Articles of Confederation of the United States.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Established the Bank of North America; Established a new United States Mint; Established the Great Seal of the United States; and Resolution to recommend the Aiken Bible to the People of the United States.

President John Hanson Thanks Thomas McKean

inability: And altho' I cannot equal the bright example that
is recently set me, yet it shall be my unremitting study
to imitate it as far as possible; and in doing this the
reflection is pleasing that I shall invariably pursue
the sacred path of Virtue, which alone ought to increase
me free from censure.

I have the honor to be, with the highest
sentiments of respect and esteem,

Sir,

Your most obedient

Philadelphia 10th Nov. 1791.

and most humble Servant

John Hanson Esq^r.

The Gentle

Thomas M. McKean, Esq. late President of Congress.

Robert Morris Bank of North America



Superintendent of Finance Robert Morris &
the Bank of North America - www.virtualology.com

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



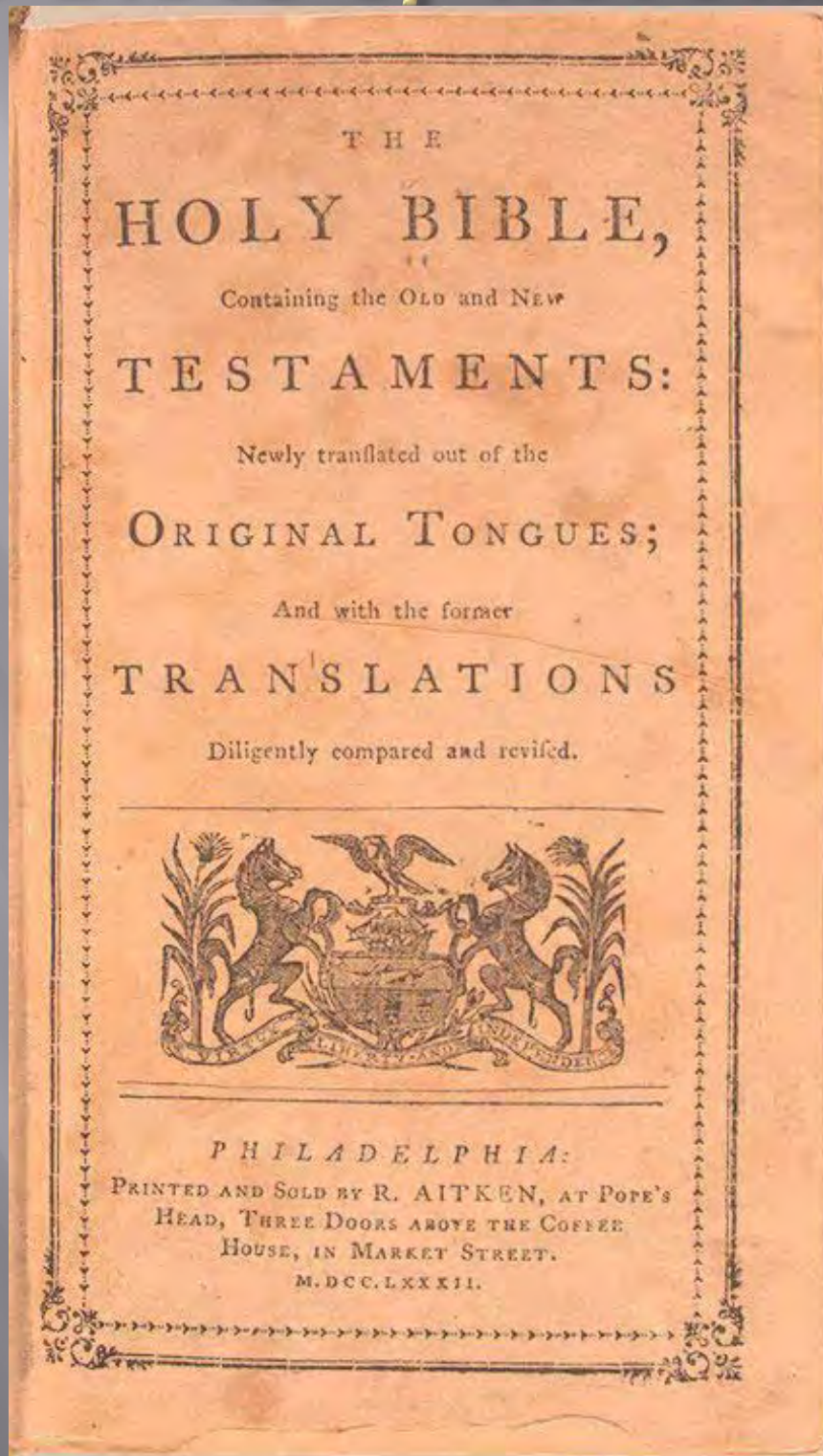
GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED June 20, 1782

GREAT SEAL: On June 20, 1782 President Hanson's Congress passed Secretary Charles Thomson's drawing representing the assemblage of three different Committee designs of the Great Seal of the United States in Congress Assembled:

The device for an armorial achievement and reverse of the great seal for the United States, in Congress Assembled is as follows: ARMS. Paleways of thirteen pieces, argent and gules; a chief, azure; the escutcheon on the breast of the American bald eagle displayed proper, holding in his dexter talon an olive branch, and in his sinister a bundle of thirteen arrows, all proper, and in his beak a scroll, inscribed with this motto, "E pluribus Unum." For the CREST. Over the head of the eagle, which appears above the escutcheon, a glory, or, breaking through a cloud, proper, and surrounding thirteen stars, forming a constellation, argent, on an azure field. REVERSE. A pyramid unfinished. In the zenith, an eye in a triangle, surrounded with a glory proper. Over the eye these words, "Annuit Coeptis." On the base of the pyramid the numerical letters MDCCLXXVI. And underneath the following motto, "Novus Ordo Seclorum."

This seal was later adopted by Congress under the Constitution of 1787 as the Great Seal of the United States of America.

The Bible of Revolution



THE HOLY BIBLE, CONTAINING THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS, NEWLY TRANSLATED OUT OF THE ORIGINAL TONGUES. Philadelphia, Robert Aitken, 1782
www.JohnHanson.net

Thanksgiving Day Proclamation

November 28, 1782

By the United States in Congress assembled.

PROCLAMATION.

IT being the indispenfable duty of all Nations, not only to offer up their fupplications to **ALMIGHTY GOD**, the giver of all good, for his gracious affiftance in a time of diftrefs, but alfo in a folemn and public manner to give him praife for his goodnefs in general, and efppecially for great and fignal interpofitions of his providence in their behalf: Therefore the United States in Congress afsembled, taking into their confideration the many inftances of divine goodnefs to thefe States, in the courfe of the important conflict in which they have been fo long engaged; the prefent happy and promifing ftate of public affairs; and the events of the war, in the courfe of the year now drawing to a clofe; particularly the harmony of the public Councils, which is fo neceffary to the fuccefs of the public caufe; the perfect union and good underftanding which has hitherto fubfifted between them and their Allies, notwithstanding the artful and unwearied attempts of the common enemy to divide them; the fuccefs of the arms of the United States, and thofe of their Allies, and the acknowledgment of their independence by another European power, whole friendship and commerce muft be of great and lafting advantage to thefe States:----- Do hereby recommend to the inhabitants of thefe States in general, to obferve, and request the feveral States to interpoze their authority in appointing and commanding the obfervation of **THURSDAY** the twenty-eighth day of **NOVEMBER** next, as a day of folemn **THANKSGIVING** to **GOD** for all his mercies: and they do further recommend to all ranks, to testify their gratitude to **GOD** for his goodnefs, by a cheerful obedience to his laws, and by promoting, each in his ftation, and by his influence, the praftice of true and undefiled religion, which is the great foundation of public profperity and national happinefs.

Done in Congress, at Philadelphia, the eleventh day of Otober, in the year of our LORD one thousand feven hundred and eighty-two, and of our Sovereignty and Independence, the feventh.

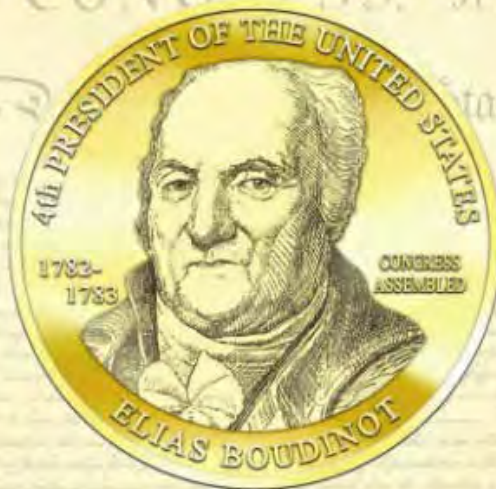
JOHN HANSON, Prefident.

Charles Thomson, Secretary.

PRINTED AT EXETER.

A Day of Solemn Thanksgiving to God. Issued October 11th, 1782
Library of Congress Manuscript Division

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



ELIAS BOUDINOT

4th President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

November 4, 1782 to November 3, 1783

www.eliasboudinot.com

BORN: May 2, 1740

DIED: October 24, 1821

SPOUSE: Annis Stockton Boudinot

STATE: New Jersey

POLITICAL OFFICES: NJ Committee of Safety 1775; commissary General of Prisoners 1776-1779; Delegate in the Continental Congress in 1778 and 1781; President and Delegate in the United States in Congress Assembled 1782 and 1783; Signed the Preliminary Treaty of Peace with England; First, Second, and Third Congresses Constitution of 1787; and Director of the U.S. Mint 1795-1805.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Ratifies Franco-American contract negotiated by Benjamin Franklin; Ratifies Dutch treaty; Orders suspension of enlistments in Continental Army; Ratifies preliminary treaty of peace; Confronts mutineers of the Pennsylvania Line; President Boudinot issues proclamation reconvening Congress at Princeton; Ratifies treaty of amity and commerce with Sweden; and Authorizes furloughing Continental troops.

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



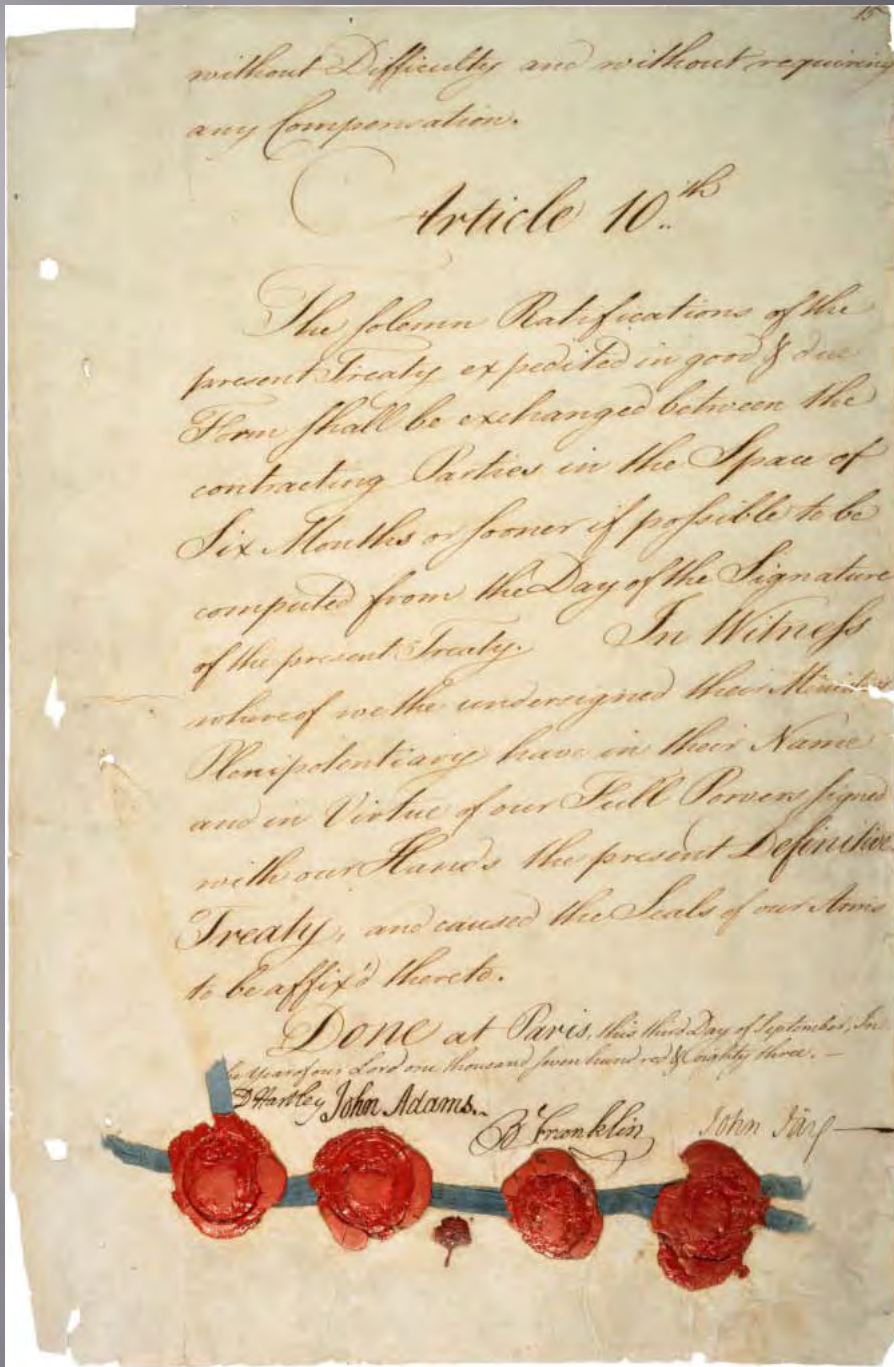
NASSAU HALL

June 30, 1783 to November 4, 1783

NASSAU HALL is located in Princeton, New Jersey and was built in 1756 at a cost of £2,900 for the College of New Jersey. Originally the brick-paved halls extended one hundred and seventy-five feet of what was the largest stone structure in the Colonies. The United States in Congress fled to Princeton after being besieged by 300 troops who demanded overdue pay. Congress met first in the Prospect House while repairs were hastily made to Nassau Hall.

FOUNDING FACTS: The British took possession of Princeton Borough and occupied Nassau Hall as a barracks and hospital in November of 1776. They were briefly ejected by George Washington during the Battle of Princeton but re-occupied the building that evening when the Continental Troops marched to the Short Hills of New Jersey. After the war Nassau Hall, was found to be in great disrepair with "mostly bare partition walls and heaps of fallen plaster."

Definitive Treaty Of Peace



Treaty of Paris: Treaty of Paris Signed by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay Commissioners of the United States in Congress Assembled on September 3, 1783 -- Courtesy of the National Archives Treaty of Paris, original Manuscript, September 3, 1783, National Archives of the United States

George Washington's Farwell to the Army



George Washington to Continental Army Farewell Orders,
November 2, 1783, Rock y Hill, New Jersey.

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



THOMAS MIFFLIN

5th President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

November 3, 1783 to November 2, 1784

www.thomasmifflin.com

BORN: January 10, 1744

DIED: January 20, 1800

SPOUSE: Sarah Morris Mifflin

STATE: Pennsylvania

POLITICAL OFFICES: Pennsylvania Colonial Legislature 1772-1774; Delegate to the Continental Congress 1774-1775; President and Delegate to the United States in Congress Assembled 1782-1784; Chief Aide-de-camp to General Washington 1775; Quartermaster General 1775-1776; Major General 1777; Board of War 1777; Speaker of the State House of Representatives 1785-1788; Constitution of 1787 Signer; President of the PA Supreme Executive 1788-1790; President of the State Constitutional Convention 1790; Governor of Pennsylvania 1790-1799; and State House of Representatives in 1799-1800.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Resignation of George Washington as Commander-in-Chief; Ratified the Treaty of Paris; Approved Ship's Papers for Empress of China; and Ordinance of 1784 defeated.

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



MARYLAND STATE HOUSE

November 26, 1783 to August 19, 1784

MARYLAND STATE HOUSE is located in Annapolis and was designed by Joseph Horatio Anderson in 1771. Construction began in 1772 but was not completed until 1779 due to the struggle for Independence. The building is Georgian and constructed in brick. The Interior of dome, from floor to ceiling is 113' with the building encompassing 120,900 square feet under roof. It is oldest American State Capitol still in continuous legislative use.

FOUNDING FACTS: In the last great Act of the Revolutionary War, George Washington surrendered his Commander-in-Chief Commission to United States President Thomas Mifflin on December 23, 1783 in Annapolis. As a Major-General and member of the Board of War, Mifflin conspired with Generals Conway and Gates to replace George Washington as Commander-in-Chief in 1777.

Washington Resigns



John Trumbull's "*Washington Resigning His Commission*," a painting in the Rotunda of the current Capitol building of the United States of America. Washington's resignation as the First Commander-in-Chief of the United States and Colonies of America occurred in Annapolis at the Maryland State House. Stan Klos Image Collection – www.forgottenfounders.org

Empress of China

U.S. trade to the Far East



Massey, Raymond, Empress of China Arrival at Whampoa in 1784, 1987 www.Virtualology.com Collection

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



RICHARD HENRY LEE

6th President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

November 30, 1784 to November 23, 1785

www.richardhenrylee.org

BORN: September 10, 1721

DIED: June 19, 1785

SPOUSE: Elizabeth Eskridge Lee

STATE: Virginia

POLITICAL OFFICES: Westmoreland County Justice of the Peace 1757; Virginia House of Burgesses 1758-1775; Delegate to the Continental Congress 1774-1779; Sponsor the July 2, 1776 Independence Resolution; a signer of the Declaration of Independence; author of the first National Thanksgiving Day proclamation issued by Congress at York, PA; October 31, 1777; State House of Delegates 1777; 1780; 1785; Colonel of the Westmoreland Militia; President and Delegate to the United States in Congress Assembled 1784-1785 as President and 1787 to 1788; Virginia Ratification Convention 1788; United States Senate 1789-1792; and U.S. Senate President Pro Tempore.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Marquis de Lafayette takes leave of the Congress; Congress overturns decision to create two capitals; Adopts Western Land Ordinance; and Adopts 1785 Requisition Act.

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



FRENCH ARMS TAVERN

September 4, 1774

FRENCH ARMS TAVERN was erected in 1730 as a private residence and stood on the southwest corner of King (now Warren) Street and 2nd (now State) Street in Trenton, New Jersey. In 1780 the house was leased to Jacob G. Bergen for conversion to a tavern. Bergen added a fourth story with a gable roof and renovated two of the main floor apartments into one "long room" that had a length of forty-three feet. In the basement Bergen established the bar room. The Tavern was named the Thirteen Stars, with the name later changed to the French Arms celebrating France's role in the defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

FOUNDING FACTS: In 1785 the United States was nearly insolvent plagued by the War debt and a depreciating currency. Richard Henry Lee turned to the enactment of a Western Land Ordinance that he believe would settle all accounts through the sale of land in the Ohio Territory.



John Jay

Capitol Moved to New York City
U. S. Foreign Secretary



FROM A CONTEMPORARY PRINT.

FEDERAL HALL, WALL STREET AND TRINITY CHURCH, NEW YORK, IN 1789.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WAS FORMED BY FEDERAL HALL IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, BUILT BY WALL AND BROWN ARCHT. AND BARRINGTON WAS ORIGINATED IN THE BUILDING IN 1789 BUILT UPON THE
RUINS OF A LARGE RESIDENCE OF TRINITY CHURCH AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WAS AS A RESULT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND CONGRESS A GREAT PARLIAMENTS OF CONGRESS FOR THE SAID.

Old New York City Hall on Wall Street
engraving 1789 - www.virtualology.com images

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



NEW YORK CITY HALL

January 11, 1785 to November 13, 1788

NEW YORK CITY HALL, its third, was started in 1699 and completed in 1702. The building stood on the corner of Nassau and Wall Streets until 1812 when it was razed. It was remodeled and enlarged in 1788 and 1789 preparing for the new tri-partite government under the direction of Pierre Charles L'Enfant. This was the first example of Federal Style architecture in the United States. It was renamed Federal Hall when it became the first Capitol of the United States under the Constitution of 1787. L'Enfant would be later selected by George Washington to design the capital city on the Potomac River in Maryland.

FOUNDING FACTS: The Northwest Ordinance under Arthur St. Clair's Presidency which Daniel Webster called: "We are accustomed to praise lawgivers of antiquity ... but I doubt whether one single law of any lawgiver, ancient or modern, has produced the effects of more distinct, marked, and lasting character than the Ordinance of 1787." The world was now put on notice that the land north and west of the Ohio River and east of the Mississippi would be settled and utilized for the creation of "... not less than three nor more than five territories." Additionally, this plan for governing the Northwest Territory included freedom of religion, right to trial by jury, the banishment of slavery, and public education as asserted rights granted to the people in the territory.

COLONIES IN REBELLION

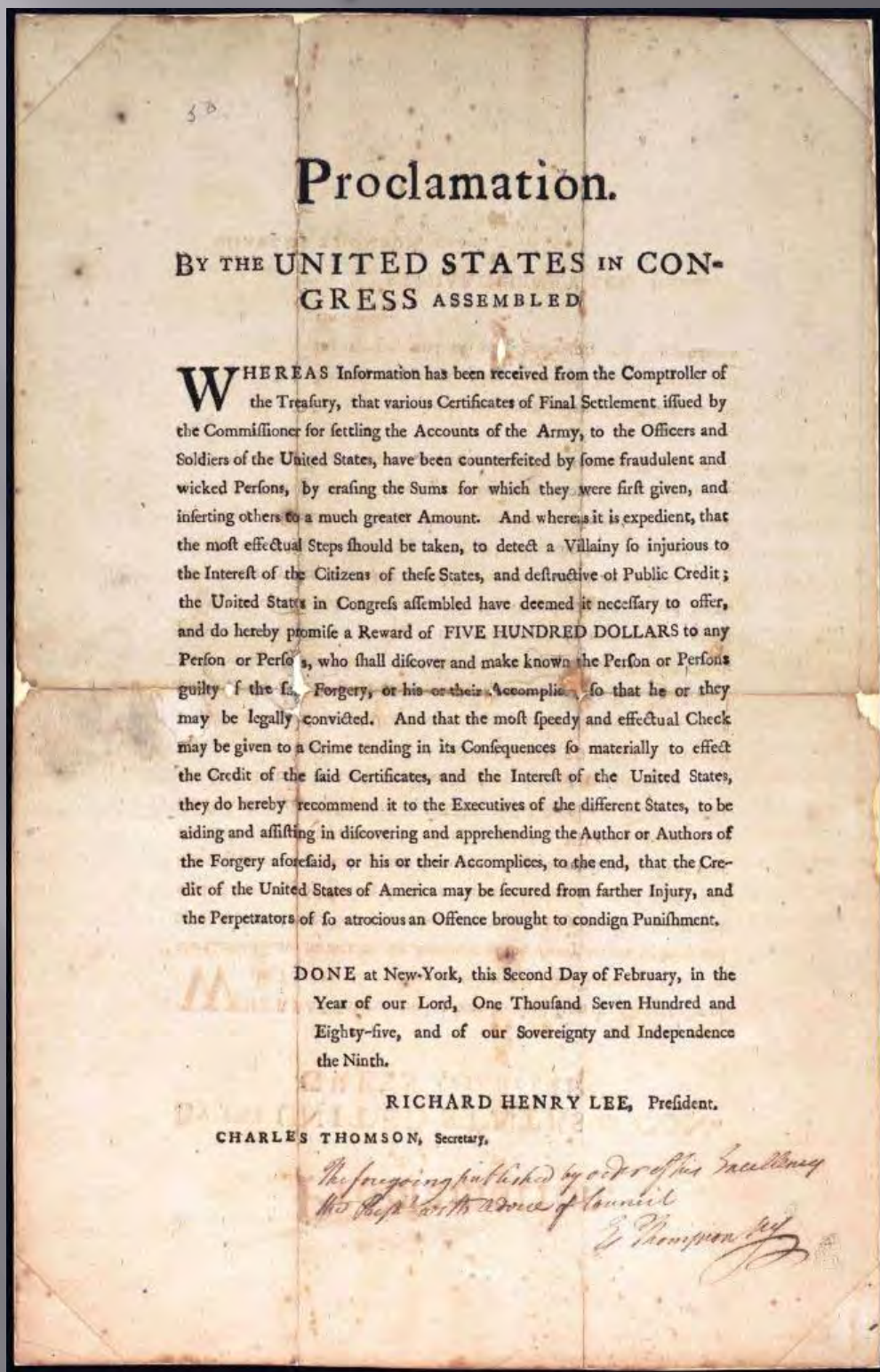


KING GEORGE III RESIDENCE 1781 - 1818

KEW PALACE is the smallest of the royal palaces. The four-story brick house was designed and built by Samuel Fortrey and completed in 1631. The Palace is constructed of red bricks in the Flemish bond design. The Palace, used by royalty since 1728, was purchased by George III in 1781 to accommodate his expanding family. It became their family home until Queen Charlotte died in 1818 and Kew Palace was closed.

FOUNDING FACTS: Beginning in 1775, as the author of the Olive Branch Petition to King George III, John Jay would outwit the seasoned monarch and his advisors in foreign relations. Jay, as a Peace Commissioner, took a hard line in negotiations with Great Britain winning what many historians consider the true gem of the Revolutionary War, the Treaty of Paris. Jay would be called on once again to negotiate with King George III. Jay's London Treaty of 1794 averted war, solved Northwest Territory issues left over from the American Revolution, and opened a decade of peaceful trade in the midst of the French Revolutionary Wars.

Certificates of Final Settlement For The Army & Counterfeiting



Proclamation. By the United States in Congress Assembled
Counterfeiting Law - Library of Congress Manuscript Division

Land Ordinance of 1785

after the sale of any part of the territory of such state, pursuant to this resolve, but by the joint consent of the United States in Congress assembled; and of the particular state within which such alteration is proposed to be made.

M A Y 20, 1785.

An ORDINANCE for ascertaining the Mode of disposing of LANDS in the WESTERN TERRITORY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the territory ceded by individual states, to the United States, which has been purchased of the Indian inhabitants, shall be disposed of in the following manner.—

A surveyor from each state shall be appointed by Congress or a Committee of the States, who shall take an oath for the faithful discharge of his duty, before the geographer of the United States, who is hereby empowered and directed to administer the same; and the like oath shall be administered to each chain carrier, by the surveyor under whom he acts.

The geographer, under whose direction the surveyors shall act, shall occasionally form such regulations for their conduct, as he shall deem necessary; and shall have authority to suspend them for misconduct in office, and shall make report of the same to Congress or to the Committee of the States; and he shall make report in case of sickness, death, or resignation of any surveyor.

The surveyors, as they are respectively qualified, shall proceed to divide the said territory into townships of six miles square, by lines running due north and south, and others crossing these at right angles, as near as may be, unless where the boundaries of the late Indian purchases may render the same impracticable, and then they shall depart from this rule no farther than such particular circumstances may require. And each surveyor shall be allowed and paid at the rate of two dollars for every mile in length he shall run, including the wages of chain carriers, markers, and every other expence attending the same.

The first line running north and south as aforesaid, shall begin on the river Ohio, at a point that shall be found to be due north from the western termination of a line which has been run as the southern boundary of the state of Pennsylvania; and the first line running east and west, shall begin at the same point, and shall extend throughout the whole territory; provided that nothing herein shall be construed, as fixing the western boundary of the state of Pennsylvania. The geographer shall designate the townships or fractional parts of townships, by numbers progressively from south to north; always beginning each range with No. 1; and the ranges shall be distinguished by their progressive numbers to the westward. The first range extending from the Ohio to the lake Erie, being marked No. 1. The geographer shall personally attend to the running of the first east and west line; and shall take the latitude of the extremes of the first north and south line; and of the mouths of the principal rivers.

The lines shall be measured with a chain; shall be plainly marked by chaps on the trees, and exactly described on a plat; whereon shall be noted by the surveyor, at their proper distances, all mines, salt springs, salt licks and mill seats, that shall come to his knowledge; and all water-courses, mountains and other remarkable and permanent things over or near which such lines shall pass, and also the quality of the lands.

The plats of the townships respectively, shall be marked by subdivisions into lots of one mile square, or 640 acres, in the same direction as the external lines, and numbered from 1 to 36; always beginning the succeeding range of the lots with the number next to that with which the preceding one concluded. And where from the causes before mentioned, only a fractional part of a township shall be surveyed, the lots protracted thereon, shall bear the same numbers, as if the township had been entire. And the surveyors in running the external lines of the townships, shall at the interval of every mile, mark corners for the lots which are adjacent, always designating the same in a different manner from those of the townships.

The geographer and surveyors, shall pay the utmost attention to the variation of the magnetic needle; and shall run and note all lines by the true meridian, certifying with every plat what was the variation at the times of running the lines thereon noted.

As soon as seven ranges of townships, and fractional parts of townships, in the direction from south to north, shall have been surveyed, the geographer shall transmit plats thereof to the board of treasury, who shall record the same with the report, in well bound books to be kept for that purpose. And the geographer shall make similar returns from time to time of every seven ranges as they may be surveyed. The secretary at war shall have recourse thereto, and shall take by lot therefrom, a number of townships and fractional parts of townships, as well from those to be sold entire, as from those to be sold in lots, as will be equal to one seventh part of the whole of such seven ranges, as nearly as may be, for the use of the late continental army; and he shall make a similar draught from time to time, until a sufficient quantity is drawn to satisfy the same, to be applied in manner hereinafter directed. The board of treasury shall from time to time, cause the remaining numbers, as well those to be sold entire, as those to be sold in lots, to be drawn for, in the name of the thirteen states respectively, according to the quotas in the last

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



HENRY FITE HOUSE

December 20, 1776 to February 27, 1777

FITE HOUSE was built on the southeast corner of Market St. (now Baltimore St.) and Liberty Streets, by Henry Fite in 1770. The house was converted to a Tavern by Jacob Fite the youngest son of Henry. It was a "three-story and attic brick house, of about 92 feet front on Market Street, by about 50 or 55 feet depth on the side streets, with cellar under the whole; having 14 rooms, exclusive of kitchen, wash-house and other out-buildings, including a stable for 30 horses." The house was selected as a Capitol building after the Continental Congress fled Philadelphia due to British victories in New York and New Jersey and thenceforth was called Congress Hall. At the Fite House Congress received the news that George Washington crossed Delaware River and surprised the Hessian Garrison at Trenton. Most of the house was lost in the great Baltimore fire of 1904.

FOUNDING FACTS: British General Howe reacted to the Battle of Trenton by sending a large force of men to surround Washington in Trenton. Washington fled Trenton launching a surprise attack in Princeton defeating the British. This cleared most of New Jersey of enemy forces enabling the Continental Congress to return to Philadelphia.



David Ramsay

Chairman of the United States in Congress Assembled



David Ramsay Engraving - www.virtualology.com

Prussian Treaty

signature.

In testimony whereof, the plenipotentiaries before mentioned, have hereto subscribed their names and affixed their seals, at the places of their respective residence, and at the dates expressed under their several signatures.

F. G. de Thulemeier, à la Hage le 10 Septembre,
1785. (L. S.)

(L. S.)
Tho. Jefferson.
Paris, July 28,
1785.

(L. S.)
B. Franklin.
Passy, July 9,
1785.

(L. S.)
John Adams.
London, August 5,
1785.

NOW KNOW YE, That we the said United States in Congress assembled, having considered and approved, do hereby ratify and confirm the said treaty, and every article and clause therein contained. In testimony whereof, we have caused our seal to be hereunto affixed. Witness the hon. Nathaniel Gorham, our chairman in the absence of his excellency John Hancock, our president, the seventeenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, and of our independence and sovereignty, the tenth.

Treaty of Amity and Commerce, between his majesty the King of Prussia and United States of America - Ratified May 17, 1786

"Witness the hon. Nathaniel Gorham, our chairman in the absence of his Excellency John Hancock our President"

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



NATHANIEL GORHAM

8th President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

June 6, 1786 to November 13, 1786

www.nathanielgorham.com

BORN: May 27, 1738

DIED: June 11, 1796

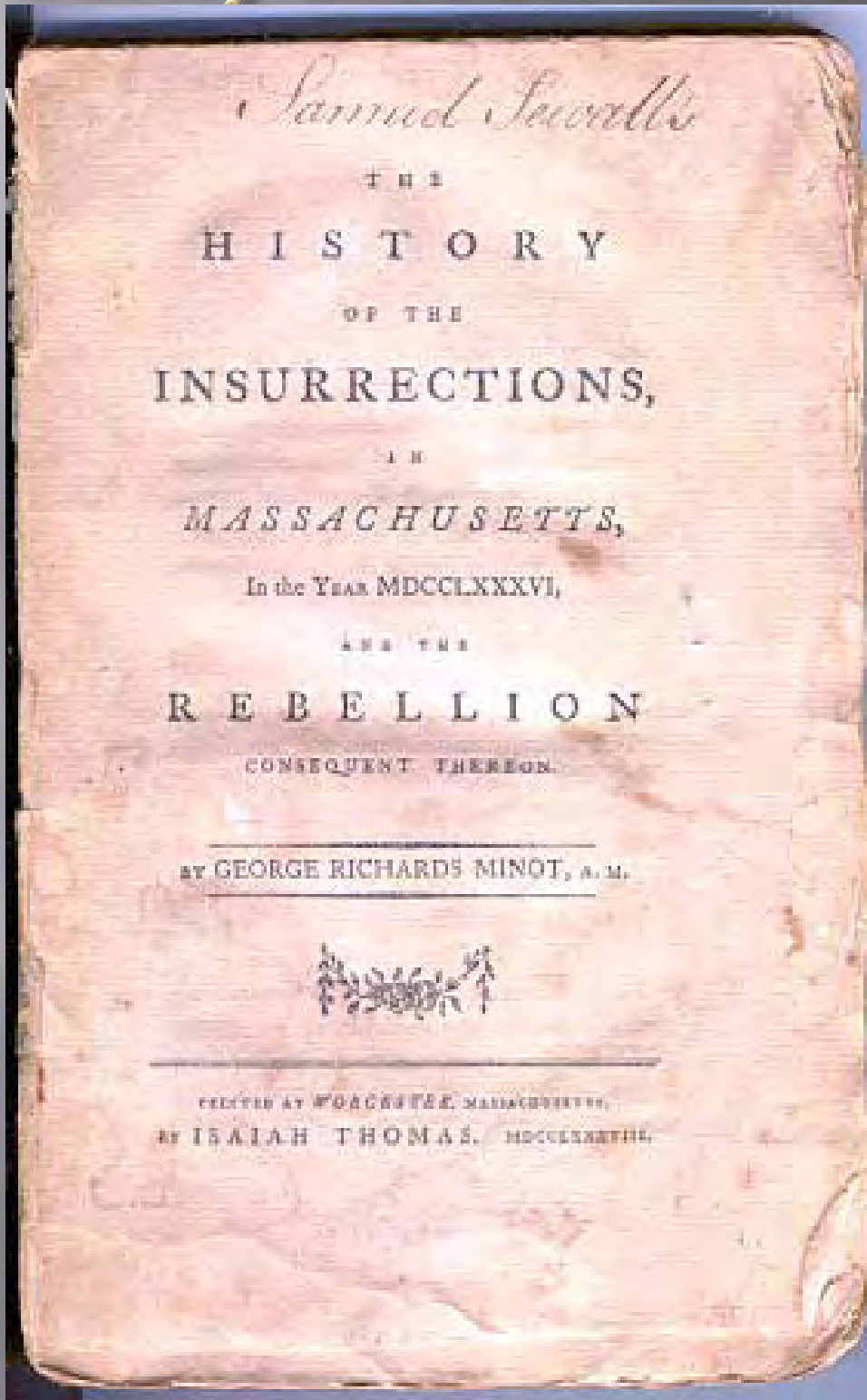
SPOUSE: Rebecca Call Gorham

STATE: Massachusetts

POLITICAL OFFICES: Massachusetts Provincial legislature 1771-1775; Provincial Congress in 1774-1774; Board of War 1778-1781; State Constitutional Convention 1779; State Senate 1780-1781; President and Delegate to the United States in Congress Assembled 1782-1783; and 1786-1787; Signer of the Constitution of 1787; State Constitutional Convention 1788; and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

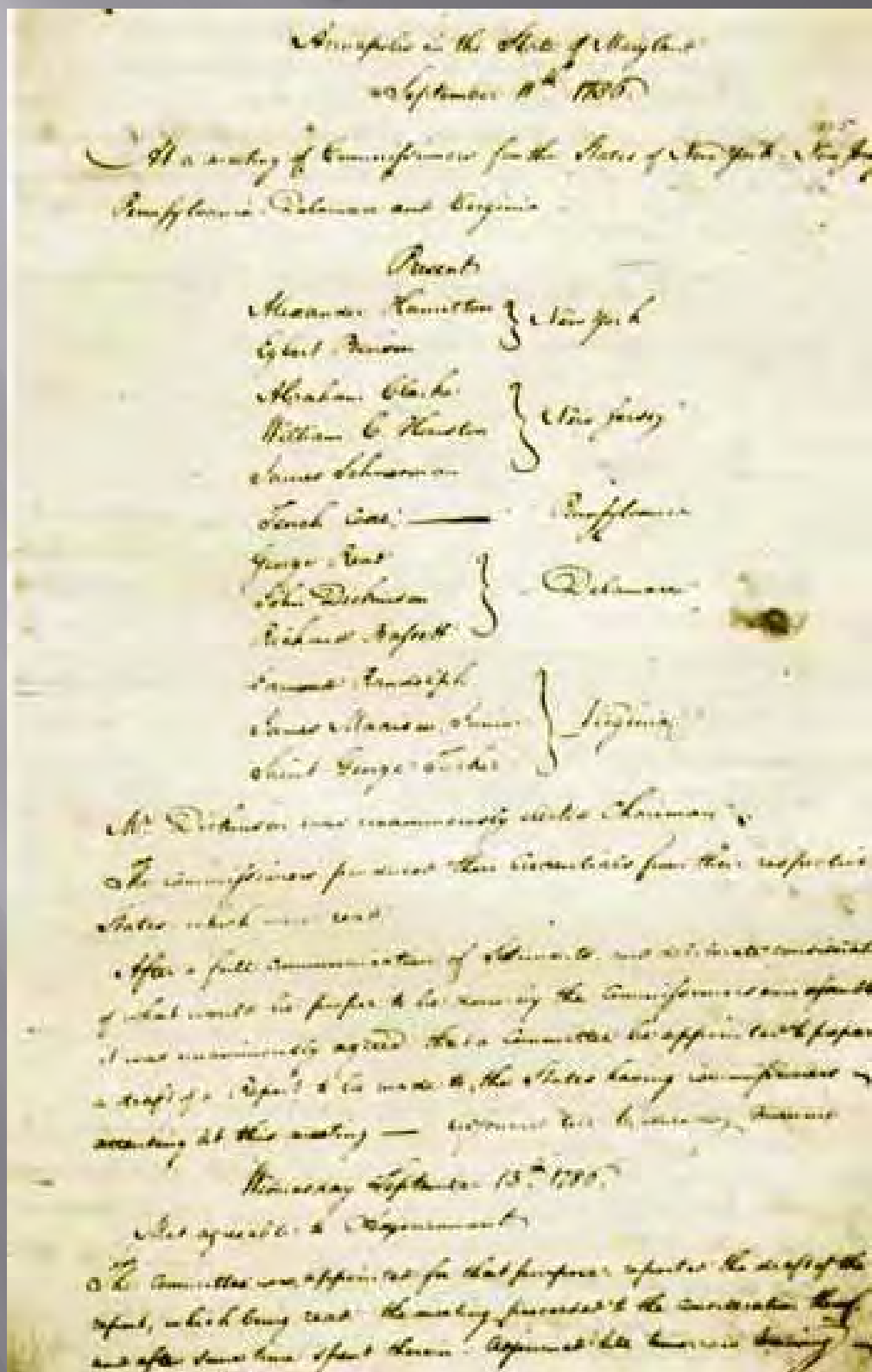
KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Directs Court of Appeals Judges to reconvene; Authorizes purchase of West Point; Adopts Indian Affairs Ordinance; Receives report on Annapolis Convention; Receives Secretary of War's report on Shays' Rebellion and Increases Military Establishment for "disorders" in Massachusetts.

Shays Rebellion



The History Of The Insurrections, In Massachusetts, In The Year Mdcclxxxvi, And The Rebellion Consequent Thereon, Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, ., 1788. 192pp

1786 Annapolis Convention



First page of the report of the Annapolis Convention, forerunner of the Constitutional Convention - National Archives)

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



ARTHUR ST. CLAIR

9th President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

February 2, 1787 to October 29, 1787

www.arthurstclair.com

BORN: March 23, 1734

DIED: August 31, 1818

SPOUSE: Phoebe Bayard St. Clair

STATE: Pennsylvania

POLITICAL OFFICES: Surveyor of the District of Cumberland - 1770; Justice of the Court; Proprietary Council; Prothonotary of Bedford and Westmoreland Counties; Major-General Revolutionary War; Pennsylvania council of censors in 1783; United States in Congress Assembled 1786-1787 and President; Governor of the Northwest Territory 1787-1802; and Commander-in-Chief of Federal Troops 1791.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Resolution calling for Philadelphia Convention; Northwest Ordinance; Ratifies commercial treaty with Morocco; Resolution transmitting the 1787 Constitution to the States; Sells a million acres of land to the Ohio Company; Appoints officers of the Northwest Territory; and Ratifies contract for Dutch loan.



The Philadelphia Convention Revise Articles of Confederation

By
The United States in Congress Assembled
February 21st 1787

Whereas there is provision in the Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union for making alterations thereof, by the consent of a Congress of the United States, and of the Legislatures of the several States; And whereas experience hath evinced that these are defects in the present Confederation and a mean to remedy which, several of the States, and particularly the State of New York by express instructions to their Delegates in Congress, have suggested a Convention for the purpose expressed in the following Resolution; and such Convention appearing to be the most probable mean of establishing in these States a firm national government

Resolved That in the opinion of Congress it is expedient that on the second Monday in May next a Convention of Delegates, who shall have been appointed by the several States, be held at Philadelphia for the sole and express purpose of revising the articles of Confederation, and reporting to Congress, and the several Legislatures such alterations and provisions therein as shall when agreed to in Congress, and confirmed by the States render the

Federal

Resolved that in the opinion of Congress it is expedient that on the second Monday in May next a Convention of delegates who shall have been appointed by the several States be held at Philadelphia for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation

The Northwest Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE for the GOVERNMENT of the TERRITORY of the UNITED STATES, North-West of the RIVER OHIO.

BE IT ORDAINED by the United States in Congress assembled, That the said territory, for the purposes of temporary government, be and it shall be subject, however, to be divided into two districts, in future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient.

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the estates both of resident and non-resident proprietors in the said territory, dying intestate, shall descend to, and be distributed among their children, and the descendants of a deceased child in equal parts; the descendants of a deceased child or grand-child, to take the share of their deceased parent in equal parts among them: And where there shall be no children or descendants, then in equal parts to the next of kin, in equal degree; and among collateral, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate, shall have in equal parts among them their deceased parent's share; and there shall in no case be a distinction between kindred of the whole and half blood; (saving in all cases to the widow of the intestate, her third part of the real estate for life, and one third part of the personal estate; and this law relative to widows and dower, shall remain in full force until altered by the legislature of the district.) — And until the governor and judges shall adopt laws as herein after mentioned, charters in the said territory may be revised or corrected by writs in writing, signed and sealed by him or her, in whom the estate may be, (being of full age) and attested by three witnesses; — and real estate may be conveyed by lease and release, or bargain and sale, lease, lease, and delivered by the person being of full age, in whom the estate may be, and attested by two witnesses, provided such will be duly proved, and such conveyances be acknowledged, or the execution thereof duly proved, and be recorded within one year after proper magistrates, courts, and regularly shall be appointed for that purpose; and personal property may be transferred by delivery, saving, however, to the French and Canadian inhabitants, and other settlers of the Kaskaskias, Saint Vincent's, and the neighbouring villages, who have heretofore professed themselves citizens of Virginia, their laws and customs now in force among them, relative to the descent and conveyance of property.

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a governor, whose commission shall continue in force for the term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress; he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in one thousand acres of land, while in the exercise of his office.

There shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a secretary, whose commission shall continue in force for five years, unless sooner revoked, he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of his office; it shall be his duty to keep and preserve the acts and laws passed by the legislature, and the public records of the district, and the proceedings of the government in his executive department; and to transmit authentic copies of such acts and proceedings, every six months, to the Secretary of Congress: There shall also be appointed a court to consist of three judges, any two of whom to form a court, who shall have a common law jurisdiction, and reside in the district, and have each therein a freehold estate in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of their offices; and their commissions shall continue in force during good behaviour.

The governor and judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish in the district, such laws of the criminal nature, criminal and civil, as may be necessary, and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress, from time to time, which laws shall be in force in the district until the organization of the general assembly therein, unless disapproved of by Congress; but afterwards the legislature shall have authority to alter them as they shall think fit.

The governor for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same, below the rank of general officers; all general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress.

Previous to the organization of the general assembly, the governor shall appoint such magistrates and other civil officers, in each county or township, as he shall find necessary for the preservation of the peace and good order in the same; After the general assembly shall be organized, the powers and duties of magistrates and other civil officers shall be regulated and defined by the said assembly; but all magistrates and other civil officers, not herein otherwise directed, shall, during the continuance of this temporary government, be appointed by the governor.

For the prevention of crimes and injuries, the laws to be adopted or made shall have force in all parts of the district, and for the execution of process, criminal and civil, the governor shall make proper divisions thereof; — and he shall proceed from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the district in which the section titles shall have been distinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alterations as may thereafter be made by the legislature.

So soon as there shall be five thousand free male inhabitants, of full age, in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the governor, they shall receive authority, with time and place, to their representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the general assembly; provided that for every five hundred free male inhabitants there shall be one representative, and so on progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of representatives shall amount to twenty-five, after which the number and proportion of representatives shall be regulated by the legislature; provided that no person be eligible or qualified to act as a representative, unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the district three years, and in either case shall likewise hold in his own right, in fee simple, two hundred acres of land within the same; — Provided also, that a freehold in fifty acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the States, and being resident in the district; or the like freehold and two years residence in the district shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative.

The representative thus elected, shall serve for the term of two years, and in case of the death of a representative, or removal from office, the governor shall issue a writ to the county or township for which he was a member, to elect another in his stead, to serve for the residue of the term.

The general assembly, or legislature, shall consist of the governor, legislative council, and a house of representatives. The legislative council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress, any three of whom to be a quorum, and the members of the council shall be nominated and appointed in the following manner, to wit: As soon as representatives shall be elected, the governor shall appoint a time and place for them to meet together, and, when met, they shall nominate ten persons, residents in the district, and each possessive of a freehold in five hundred acres of land, and return their names to Congress; five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as aforesaid; and whenever a vacancy shall happen in the council, by death or removal from office, the house of representatives shall nominate two persons, qualified as aforesaid, for each vacancy, and return their names to Congress; one of whom Congress shall appoint and commission for the residue of the term; and every five years, four months at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of council, the said house shall nominate ten persons, at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of council, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as members of the council five years, unless sooner removed. And the governor, legislative council, and house of rep-

An Ordinance for the government of the Territory of the United States northwest of the River Ohio - July 13, 1787 - Library of Congress

New Plan For The Federal Government

The United States

In CONGRESS Assembled,

FRIDAY, September 28, 1787.

PRESENT—New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, and from Maryland Mr. Ross.

Congress having received the Report of the Convention lately assembled in Philadelphia,

Resolved Unanimously,

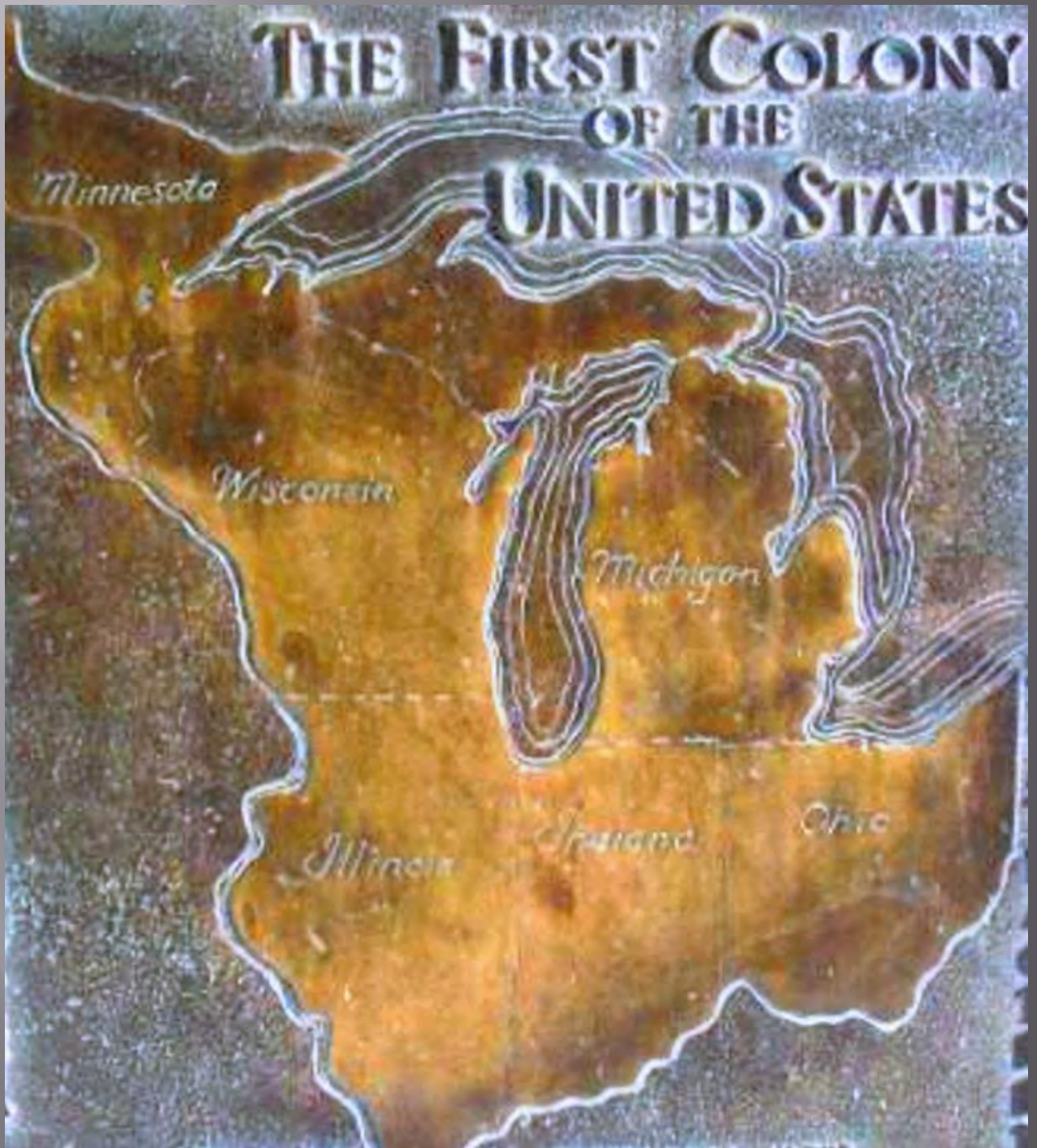
THAT the said Report, with the Resolutions and Letter accompanying the same, be transmitted to the several Legislatures, in order to be submitted to a Convention of Delegates, chosen in each State by the People thereof, in Conformity to the Resolves of the Convention, made and provided in that Case.

Charles Thomson, Secretary.

Philadelphia, Printed by Dunlap & Claypoole.

September 28, 1787 - United States in Congress Assembled
Resolution sending a new constitution for the federal government
onto the States for ratification - Library of Congress Manuscripts

Governor of The Northwest Territory



Governor Arthur St. Clair was responsible For overseeing a territory that included Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and parts of Minnesota - www.forgottenfounders.org

FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS



CYRUS GRIFFIN

10th President of the United States of America

in Congress Assembled

January 22, 1787 to March 4, 1789

www.cyrusgriffin.com

BORN: 1749

DIED: December 14, 1789

SPOUSE: Lady Christine Stewart Griffin

STATE: Virginia

POLITICAL OFFICES: State House of Delegates in 1777, 1778, 1786, and 1787; President and Delegate United States in Congress Assembled 1778-1780; 1787-1788; and President of the supreme court of Admiralty; Commissioner to the Creek Nation 1789; Judge of the United States District Court of Virginia 1789-1810.

KEY LEGISLATION AND EVENTS: Debates report on implementing the newly ratified Constitution of 1787; Issues a Native American Proclamation ordering the protection of Cherokee Lands; and Adopts Plan for implementing the Constitution of 1787.

U.S. Constitution Ratified

The Ninth PILLAR erected !

“The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution, between the States so ratifying the same.” *Art. vii.*

INCIPIENT MAGNI PROCEDERE MENSES.



The Federal Pillars were published in *The Massachusetts Centinel* over several months. This ratification Woodcut printed on August 2, 1788, showing a hand placing the North Carolina column into position next to the text "*Rise it will.*" To the right of the crumbling Rhode Island column is the notation, "*The foundation good - it may yet be SAVED.*"

Order to Vote in a New Government

By the United States in Congress
assembled,

SEPTEMBER 13, 1788.

WHEREAS the Convention assembled in Philadelphia, pursuant to the Resolution of Congress of the 21st February, 1787, did, on the 17th of September in the same year, report to the United States in Congress assembled, a Constitution for the People of the United States; whereupon Congress, on the 28th of the same September, did resolve unanimously, "That the said report; with the Resolutions and Letter accompanying the same, be transmitted to the several Legislatures, in order to be submitted to a Convention of Delegates chosen in each State by the people thereof, in conformity to the Resolves of the Convention made and provided in that case:" And whereas the Constitution so reported by the Convention, and by Congress transmitted to the several Legislatures, has been ratified in the manner therein declared to be sufficient for the establishment of the same, and such Ratifications duly authenticated have been received by Congress, and are filed in the Office of the Secretary--- therefore,

RESOLVED, That the first Wednesday in January next, be the day for appointing Electors in the several States, which before the said day shall have ratified the said Constitution; that the first Wednesday in February next, be the day for the Electors to assemble in their respective States, and vote for a President; and that the first Wednesday in March next, be the time, and the present Seat of Congress the place for commencing Proceedings under the said Constitution.

Chas. Thomson

Resolution of the Congress, of September 13, 1788, Fixing Date for Election of a President, and the Organization of the Government Under the Constitution,- Broadside from Library of Congress

Cherokee Proclamation

By the United States in Congress
Assembled,

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the United States in Congress assembled, by their Commissioners duly appointed and authorized, did on the Twenty-eighth Day of November, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five, at Hopewell, on the Keowee, conclude Articles of a Treaty with all the Cherokees, and among other things stipulated and engaged by Article fourth, "That the Boundary allotted to the Cherokees for their Hunting Grounds, between the said Indians and the Citizens of the United States, within the limits of the United States of America, is and shall be the following, viz. "Beginning at the mouth of Duck river on the Tennesee; thence running north-east to the ridge dividing the waters running into Cumberland from those running into the Tennesee; thence eastwardly along the said ridge to a north-east line to be run, which shall strike the river Cumberland, forty miles above Nashville; thence along the said line to the river; thence up the said river to the ford where the Kentucky road crosses the river; thence to Campbell's line near to Cumberland Gap; thence to the mouth of Cland's Creek on Nolichucky; thence a southerly course thence to Camp Creek, near the mouth of Big Line Stone on Nolichucky; thence a southerly course six miles to a mountain; thence south to the North-Carolina line; thence to the South-Carolina Indian Boundary, and along the same south-west over the top of the Ocoee Mountain, till it shall strike Tugalo river; thence a direct line to the top of the Currohee Mountain; thence to the head of the south fork of the Oconee river." And by Article fifth, that "If any Citizen of the United States, or other person not being an Indian, should attempt to settle on any of the lands westward or southward of the said Boundary, which is reserved to the Indians for their Hunting Grounds, or having settled previously to concluding the said Treaty, and not removing from the same within six months after the ratification of the said Treaty, such person should forfeit the protection of the United States; and that the Indians might punish him or not as they please; provided, that the said fifth Article should not extend to the People settled between the fork of French Broad and Holstein rivers, whose particular situation should be transmitted to the United States in Congress assembled for their decision thereon, which the Indians agreed to abide by." AND WHEREAS it has been represented to Congress, that several disorderly Persons settled on the Frontiers of North-Carolina, in the vicinity of Chota, have, in open violation of the said Treaty, made intrusions upon the said Indian Hunting Grounds, and committed many unprovoked outrages upon the said Cherokees, who by the said Treaty have put themselves under the protection of the United States, which proceedings are highly injurious and disrespectful to the authority of the Union, and it being the firm determination of Congress to protect the said Cherokees in their rights, according to the true intent and meaning of the said Treaty: THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, have therefore thought fit to issue, and they DO hereby issue this their PROCLAMATION, strictly forbidding all such unwarrantable intrusions, and hostile proceedings against the said Cherokees; and enjoining all those who have settled upon the said Hunting Grounds of the said Cherokees, to depart with their Families and Effects without loss of time, as they shall answer their disobedience to the injunctions and prohibitions expressed in this Resolution at their peril: Provided, that this Proclamation shall not be construed as requiring the removal of the People settled between the fork of French Broad and Holstein rivers, referred to in the said Treaty: Provided also, that nothing contained in this Proclamation shall be considered as affecting the Territorial Claims of the State of North-Carolina.

*DONE in Congress, this First Day of September, in the Year of our Lord One
Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-eight, and of our Sovereignty and
Independence the Thirtieth.*

CYRUS GRIFFIN, President.

CHARLES THOMSON, SECRETARY.

Journals of the United States in Congress Assembled, Proclamation
"That the Boundary allotted to the Cherokees for Huntings Grounds,
between said Indians and the Citizens of the United States, within the
limits of the United States of America, is and shall be the following, viz.
" September 1, 1788, - , Library of Congress Collection.

UNITED COLONIES & STATES OF AMERICA CAPITOLS



FRAUNCES TAVERN November 1788 to March 4, 1789

FRAUNCES TAVERN was built as the home of Etienne DeLancey in 1719. In 1762 Samuel Fraunces acquired the building and converted it into a Colonial Tavern. Fraunces Tavern was a meeting place for the Sons of Liberty in the pre-war years and was the site of the British/American "Board of Inquiry" meetings. In December of 1783 George Washington bade farewell to his troops before resigning his commission as Commander-in-Chief to President Mifflin. When the Capitol relocated from Trenton to NYC the tavern housed some offices of the United States in Congress Assembled. During Federal Hall's renovation, Fraunces Tavern served as the last U.S. Capitol under the Constitution of 1777. In 1789, under the Constitution of 1787, the building housed the departments of Foreign Affairs, Treasury and War.

FOUNDING FACTS: Every Wednesday, at Fraunces Tavern from April to November in 1783, the British-American Board of Inquiry met to review the paper credentials and oral history given by freed Blacks who fought against the Continental Army. The British representatives were successful insuring that thousands of Loyalist Blacks retained their freedom rather than being returned to slavery ordered by the United States in Congress Assembled. In 1789 the United States in Congress Assembled ended in Fraunces Tavern. Ironically, its processor, the Continental Congress met for the first time in Caucus in Philadelphia's City Tavern in 1774.

Inauguration of George Washington



INAUGURATION OF GEN. GEORGE WASHINGTON
AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AT FEDERAL HALL, WALL ST., NEW YORK, APRIL 30TH 1789.
PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM BLACKMAN, 14 FULTON STREET, N. Y.

"I was fortunate enough to be born in the United States of America, whose founders' deeds and laws circle above like majestic eagles. I have merely taken the time to look-up and point." — Stan Klos

PRESIDENT WHO? FORGOTTEN FOUNDERS STANLEY L. KLOS

Handwritten text in cursive script, appearing to be a transcription of a historical document. The text is dense and difficult to read due to the cursive style and overlapping lines. Some legible words include "Negotiations for", "Britain", and "the United States".

Samuel Huntington President
Chatham 1781

July 1781 letter to Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and John Adams in code instructing on treaty negotiations from President of the United States in Congress Assembled: Samuel Huntington — Courtesy of the Library of Congress.

US \$14.95
www.presidentwho.com

