America's Founding Fathers, Events & Documents

A companion activity booklet in which the student responds to questions on text content is also available (Product #76215). All answer keys are found in the *Teacher's Resource Kit* (Product #76216) for this unit.

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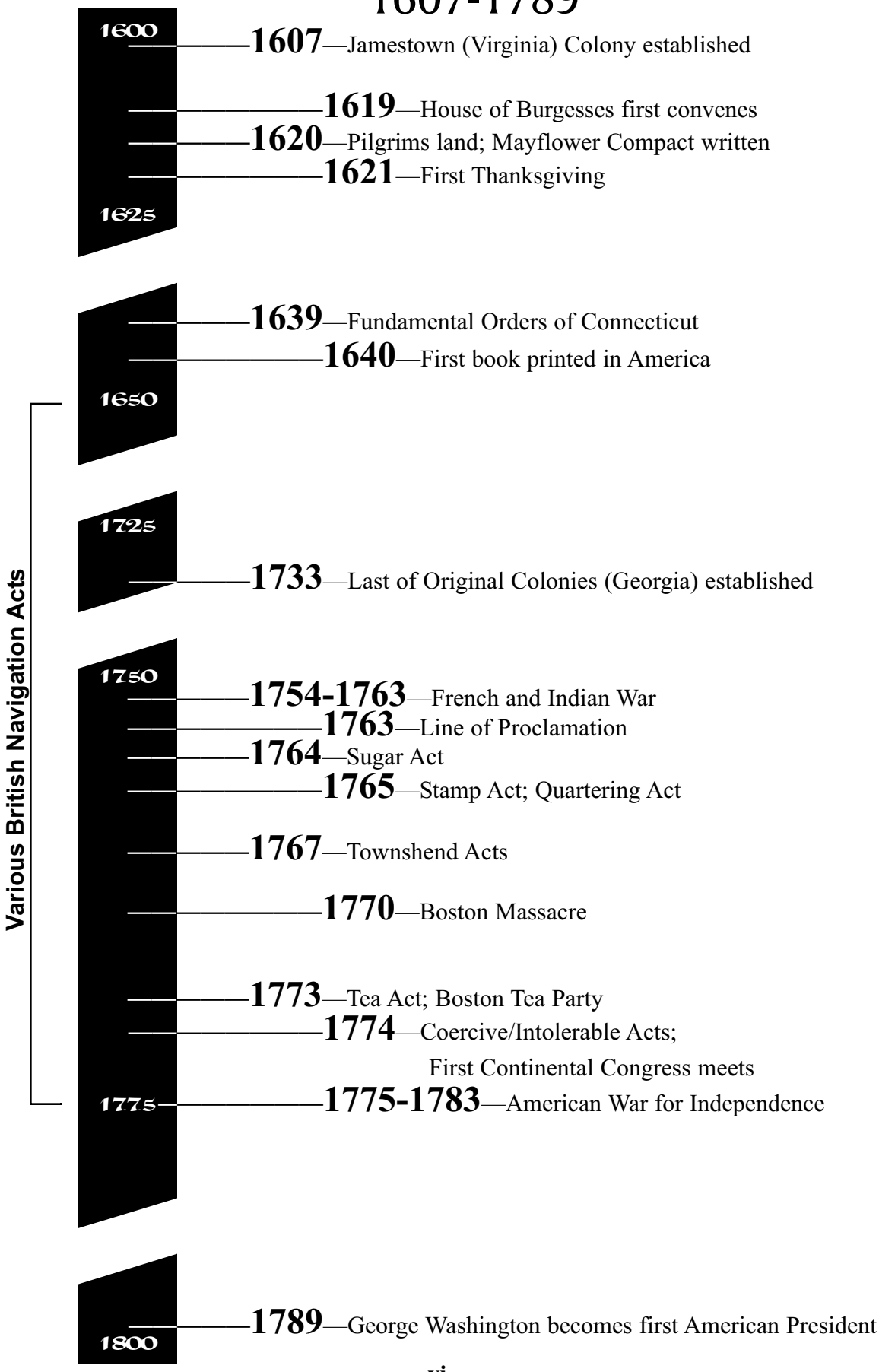
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SECTION 1: TIMELINE

1607-1789



The Early Foundations



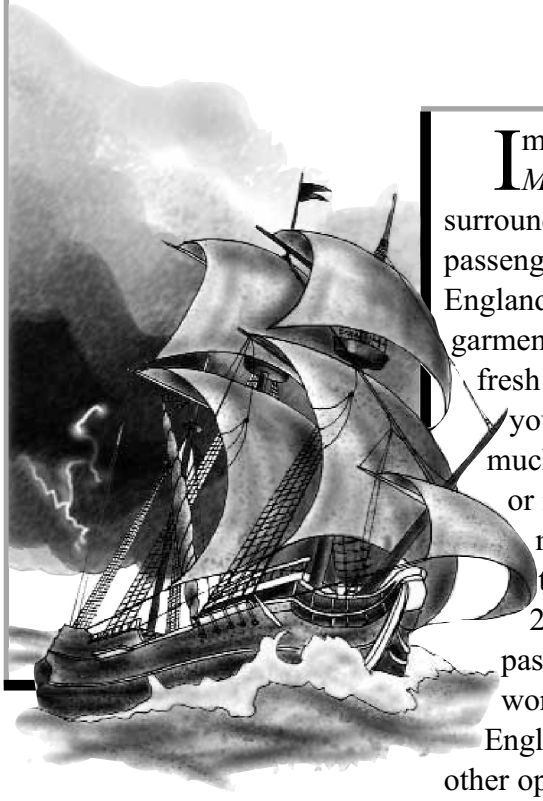
Colonization

Topic 1

Section 1

Topics 1-5

THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT



Imagine the ***fatigue*** passengers on the ship named the *Mayflower* felt after 66 days at sea in cramped ***quarters***, surrounded by noise and drenched by cold sea spray. Most passengers wore the same clothes for the entire journey from England to America simply because they could not wash their garments. Now imagine you were on that same trip with no fresh food or water for over two months! Almost everything you ate was dried, salty or stale and you were hungry much of the time. Imagine going through all this with little or no complaining! It is hard to believe anyone could make such a trip without much complaint. However, that is exactly what 102 English ***Pilgrims***, including 20-30 children, did in 1620. About half of those English passengers were looking for a land where they could worship God freely, without restrictions imposed by English officials. The other half were interested in various other opportunities the New World might offer.

The Pilgrims' floating hotel, called the *Mayflower*, was a small boat about the size of a harbor tugboat. The *Mayflower* was not even designed as a passenger ship. It was a cargo ship that had been used to carry wine from France to England. Living space for most of the 102 passengers was in a main cabin about five feet tall. Each person was assigned a small area, about 7 feet by 2½ feet for adults and less for children, where they kept their belongings, ate, slept, and prepared their food. Passengers shared their space with dishes, pots and pans, all kinds of personal items such as blankets, sheets, pillows, quilts, linens, tools, muskets, armor, candles and a few keepsakes. This may seem like a lot of luggage, but each family had to fit what they brought into one chest. They could also bring a box for the family Bible. Remember, they were going to a place where they had to survive totally on their own, relying only on what they brought with them and what they could grow. They were en route to a land without supermarkets, malls or lumber yards.

VOCABULARY

Fatigue: (fah-teeg) weariness from physical or mental exertion
Quarters: living space
Pilgrim: one who makes a long journey for religious reasons
Subjects: people under the rule of a government, especially a king or queen

Treats were few during the *Mayflower* voyage, but that did not discourage the Pilgrims. They believed their mission was directed by God, and they were willing to sacrifice comfort to obtain freedom. Life did not become easier after the sea-weary travelers arrived in their new homeland.

Thus, in 1620, the *Mayflower* dropped anchor near a bleak shore that would later be known as Plymouth, Massachusetts. The 102 passengers on board had spent two dangerous, weary months at sea.

Most of the passengers were known as *Pilgrims* or *Separatists*—men and women who had separated from the Church of England to worship in freedom. King James I hated the Separatists. He believed all of his ***subjects*** had to obey the Church of England. The Separatists disagreed. They wanted to choose their own church leaders and worship God without any restrictions. Courageously, they separated themselves from their native land and church to practice religious freedom in America.

The Pilgrims who sailed from Plymouth, England in September of 1620 were not traveling alone on the *Mayflower*. Another group, whom the Pilgrims called *Strangers*, were not seeking religious freedom. They were only in search of a better way of life. The Strangers had heard that the Jamestown Colony in Virginia grew prosperous from tobacco crops and traded with Indians.

Soon after setting sail, the *Mayflower* encountered a violent storm on the Atlantic Ocean. The Pilgrims had never been at sea. Though frightened, they did not panic. Mothers prayed and hugged their children while men worked hard to repair a broken mast. Huge waves knocked one man overboard, but he was able to grab a sail line and hold on until he was pulled back into the ship. After the storm passed, Pilgrim leader William Bradford commented, "We did not need a king or a bishop to tell us what to do or how to pray. Each of us did his duty for the good of the whole group."

After 66 days at sea, the Pilgrims thought they were near Virginia, but they landed much farther north, in Massachusetts. Weary, they decided not to sail southward but dropped anchor instead. Both the Strangers and the Pilgrims feared that the other group would quickly attempt to seize power once the groups established a colony on land. Wanting to set up guidelines for their colony, Pilgrim leaders met in the largest cabin of the *Mayflower* to draw up an agreement. As they talked, William Brewster, one of the Pilgrim leaders, wrote all their ideas on a sheet of paper. Today this document is known as the Mayflower Compact.

Quick to credit God for their freedom, the Pilgrims opened their agreement with the words, "*In the name of God, amen.*" The writers of the Mayflower Compact stated that they had braved the journey "*for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian Faith.*"

The rest of the compact expressed their ideas of justice and freedom. Although they recognized the need for a leader, the Pilgrims did not want one person to have total power over the colony. They did not wait for the king of England to choose a colonial governor. John Carver was elected as their leader. Each man had an opportunity to vote. The elected governor was authorized to carry out the laws of the people, and all the laws would be for the general good of the colony. This was a new concept in a world traditionally ruled by kings and royalty.

Brewster wrote down everything, then requested signatures from those who agreed with the ideas. Miles Standish, a soldier who had traveled with the Pilgrims, stepped forward and took the pen. After Standish signed, the rest of the Strangers followed his lead. In all, 41



Miles Standish

men put their names on the Mayflower Compact. It was the first European document drawn up to establish a republican (represent-ative) form of govern-ment in the New World. Contrary to a world ruled by ***tyrants***, the Mayflower Compact established a system of justice, equality and freedom. It helped ***forge*** unity in people with a common dream. Building a home in the wilderness demanded strong leadership and a clear purpose written on paper. Whether celebrating a good crop or burying their dead, the men who signed the agreement did not forget their promise to stand together. The written covenant kept the Colony strong.

VOCABULARY

Tyrants: despots, absolute rulers
Forge: to mold, form or shape with heat and pressure
Economic: referring to money and/or other resources of value
Veteran: one who has a lot of experience in a specific area
Fortitude: power to endure hardship
Plague: an epidemic disease which causes many deaths. The plague which destroyed the Patuxet tribe in the 1600s may have been smallpox
Staple: a basic food item needed for survival
Pelt: the skin or fur of an animal
Delicacy: something delightful or pleasing, especially a choice food which may be rare or costly

The Mayflower Compact was written 156 years before the Declaration of Independence—another document that laid the foundation of America's liberty. Both papers are based on the principle that freedom is granted by God. Freedom was declared in the hearts of the Pilgrims and confirmed in the Mayflower Compact, but 156 years later a bitter war with Britain would be fought to keep that freedom.

Their moral character and thirst for freedom enabled the pilgrims and those who followed them to endure hardships and set the foundations for America's ***economic*** and governmental principles.

PLYMOUTH COLONY

The Pilgrims (Separatists) who landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts had already moved from England to the Netherlands (Holland) to escape religious persecution. Others (called *Strangers*) on board the *Mayflower*, including Captain Miles Standish and John Alden, were primarily seeking economic opportunities, much like the Jamestown colonists in 1607. In time, all the Plymouth colonists became known as Pilgrims.

The Pilgrims' faith and moral values gave the Plymouth settlement an advantage over the settlers of Jamestown, founded 13 years earlier. America's second English Colony had another advantage—assistance from the Indians.

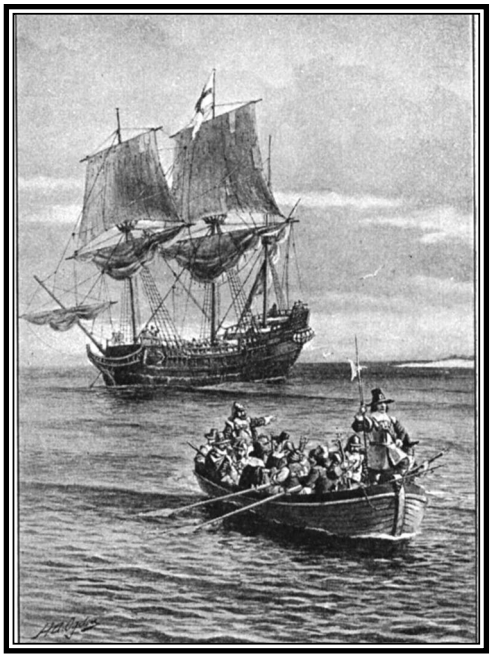
In contrast to so-called "gentlemen" in Jamestown, who would not work until Captain John Smith introduced the "work ethic". Pilgrims were ***veterans*** of living in a strange land. These English families had already spent ten years in the Netherlands before setting sail for America. They realized they would have to work even harder in the New World. Pilgrims also believed that God

had plans for their welfare. This assurance gave them hope for facing an uncertain future.

William Bradford believed God was unfolding a special plan for people in the New World. When Bradford was 32, he was elected governor of Plymouth Colony. With wisdom and courage, he served the Colony for more than 30 years. Many years later Bradford wrote about the Pilgrims' experiences in a book called *Plymouth Plantation*:

> "It was granted that the dangers were great, and the difficulties were many, but not invincible . . . and all of them, through the help of God, by ***fortitude*** and patience, might either be borne or overcome . . . ".

When the Pilgrims dropped anchor off Cape Cod in November and went ashore to explore the land that would become *Plymouth Colony*, they were astonished to find a deserted Indian village. No dwellings bustled with activity, and no children played nearby to greet the eager, yet weary Pilgrims. It was eerily quiet, except for rustling corn stalks left standing in the fields.



Surviving the first winter was critical. In spite of the colonists' gallant efforts to construct a settlement, disease, heavy snowstorms and Indian attacks took many lives.

Then in March, as winter was melting into spring, a friendly Abakni Indian named Samoset strolled confidently into Plymouth Colony. Imagine the amazement colonists must have felt when Samoset greeted them in English. After welcoming the Pilgrims, Samoset told them he had learned English from fishing captains along the New England coast. He also revealed the mystery of the deserted village.

The area the Pilgrims named *Plymouth* had been home to the Patuxets, a large tribe of hostile Indians. These fierce warriors had a reputation for murdering every white man who entered their land. However, three or four years before the Pilgrims landed, a great ***plague*** killed all 2,000 Patuxets in the village.

The only survivor was Squanto, who had not been in his village when the deadly plague had struck. In an amazing turn of events, Squanto's life had been spared. Earlier, in 1605, Squanto had been captured and taken to England where he spent several years and learned to speak English. In 1614, Squanto was captured again by an English sea captain and sold into slavery in Spain. He managed to escape and made his way from Spain back to England.

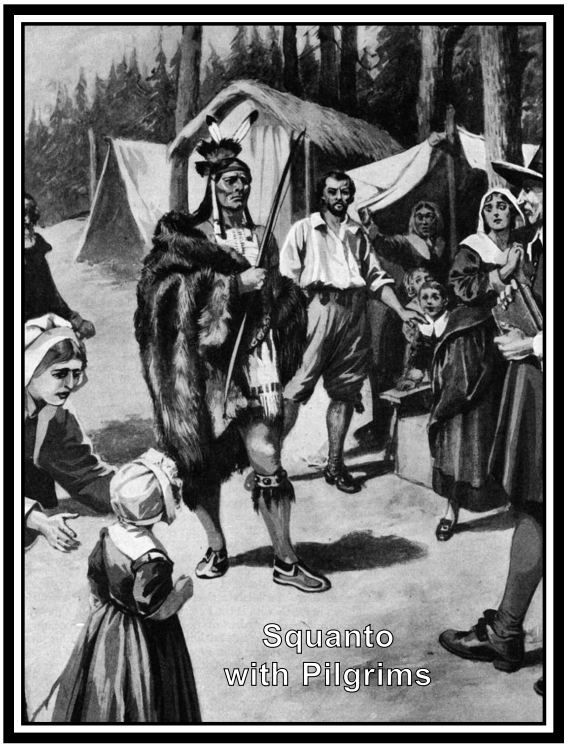
Six months before the Pilgrims came to America, Squanto sailed home, only to find his village deserted and his people gone. Overcome by shock and sorrow, Squanto went to live with Chief Massasoit and the Wampanoag Indians on Narraganset Bay. Because Squanto was the only living Patuxet, no one claimed ownership of the land later occupied by the Pilgrims.

When Samoset offered to take Chief Massasoit to see the Pilgrims, Squanto acted as an interpreter. Squanto helped arrange a treaty for mutual protection between the

Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians. Squanto also showed the settlers how to plant corn and trap beaver. Corn quickly became a ***staple*** in the Pilgrims' diet, and beaver ***pelts*** became an important economic benefit.

Squanto realized how much the Pilgrims needed help and decided to stay in Plymouth. Helping the colonists gave Squanto a new purpose in life. According to William Bradford, Squanto was "*a special instrument sent of God for their good, beyond their expectation.*" The Pilgrims shared their faith with Squanto, who adopted the Christian way of life.

In November of 1621, the grateful colonists set aside a special day to thank God after the good corn harvest. They also thanked their Indian friends, inviting them to share in the celebration.



Squanto with Pilgrims

Squanto, Samoset and other American Indians provided knowledge and skills which, coupled with the Pilgrims' faith and hard work, helped create a firm economic foundation for America. Plymouth Colony was America's first successful combination of community cooperation, free enterprise, moral values and religious freedom.

At the first Thanksgiving feast, the Indians taught the Pilgrims how to cook a popular native ***delicacy*** by roasting dry kernels of corn in an earthen pot. Almost 400 years later, that Indian delicacy, which we know as popcorn, is still a great American favorite.

The Pilgrims were thankful people, even when times were hard. They developed the character traits which difficult tasks required: faithfulness, loyalty, commitment and sacrifice—traits of successful people. Foremost of these was William Bradford whose economic plan included private ownership of land, which provided personal incentive and became the basis of America's Free Enterprise System.

Life Principle



"Crisis does not only develop character, it reveals it."

—Anonymous

Read the Mayflower Compact on the next page.

Mayflower Compact

In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc.

Having undertaken, for the Glory of God and advancement of the Christian Faith and Honour of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the First Colony in the Northern Parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God and one of another, Covenant and Combine ourselves together into a Civil Body Politic, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute and frame such just and equal Laws, Ordinances, Acts, Constitutions and Offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Cod, the 11th of November, in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King James, of England, France and Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth. Anno Domini 1620.

John Carver
William Bradford
Edward Winslow
William Brewster
Isaac Allerton
Miles Standish
John Alden
Samuel Fuller
Christopher Martin
William Mullins
William White
Richard Warren
John Howland
Stephen Hopkins

Edward Tilly
John Tilly
Francis Cooke
Thomas Rogers
Thomas Tinker
John Ridgdale
Edward Fuller
John Turner
Francis Eaton
James Chilton
John Craxton
John Billington
Joses Fletcher
John Goodman

Digery Priest
Thomas Williams
Gilbert Winslow
Edmund Margeson
Peter Brown
Richard Bitteridge
George Soule
Richard Clark
Richard Gardiner
John Allerton
Thomas English
Edward Doten
Edward Leister

The Early Foundations

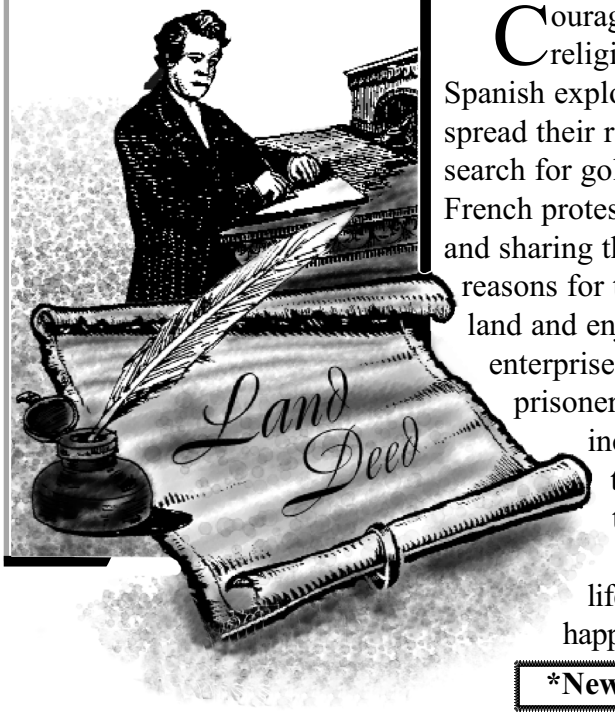
Section 1

Government & Economics

Topic 2

Topics 1-5

THE ORIGINAL THIRTEEN



Courageous people came to America in search of religious, economic and political freedom. Earlier Spanish explorers came to America for all three reasons: to spread their religion, to claim land for Spain (political) and to search for gold (economic). Religious reasons for English and French protestants included escaping European persecution and sharing the Christian faith with the Indians. Economic reasons for the colonists included starting businesses, owning land and enjoying any profits their hard work produced (free enterprise system). Political reasons sometimes included prisoners being sent to colonize America. This group included those in "debtor's prison" due to inability to pay their debts. Georgia Colony originated in this manner.

Many found what they were seeking, but life was not easy. The fortunate ones learned to be happy because their hardships produced perseverance;

***New England & Middle Colonies Established**

New England	Founded By	Reasons
Massachusetts	Pilgrims, 1620 (Plymouth)	Religious
	Puritans, 1630 (Massachusetts Bay)	Religious
New Hampshire	John Mason, 1623	Religious, Political
Rhode Island	Roger Williams, 1636	Religious
Connecticut	Thomas Hooker, 1636	Religious, Economic
Middle Colonies	**Founded By**	**Reasons**
New York	Dutch West India Company, 1624	Economic
	The Duke of York, 1664	Economic
New Jersey	J. Berkely, J. Carteret, 1664	Economic
Pennsylvania	William Penn, 1682	Religious
Delaware	Swedish, 1638	Economic
	English, 1664	Economic

*all settled by the English unless otherwise indicated

VOCABULARY

Republic: a nation in which citizens elect representatives to manage a government, usually headed by a president

Doctrine: core belief; that which is taught as truth

Ethic: a system of conduct; formal rules of right and wrong

Diversity: differences between people or nationalities

Distinctives: characteristics or practices which distinguish a person, place or thing from another

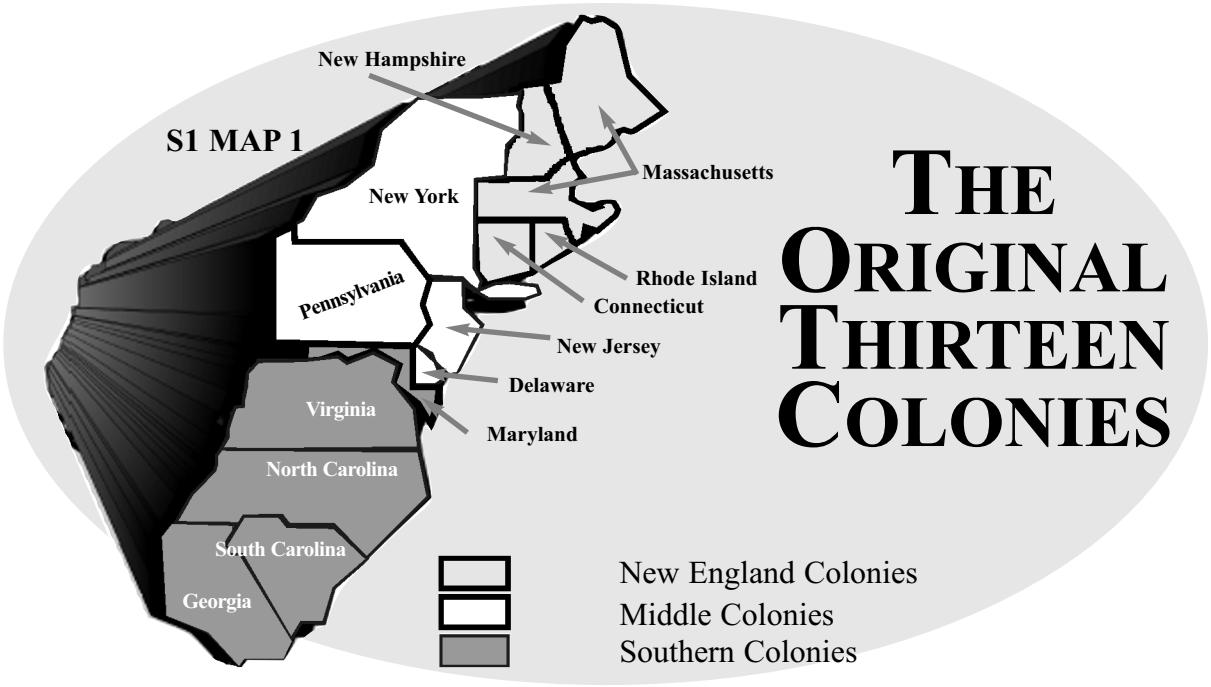
perseverance built character; and character brought hope. Perseverance, character and hope were all instrumental in establishing America as a great nation. These values are still important in America.

Between 1607 and 1733, England founded thirteen Colonies along the East coast of America. These Colonies have been divided into three groups according to geographical location. All thirteen Colonies remained under British control until the colonists declared their independence in 1776. Government involvement in the New England Colonies was characterized by town meetings. In 1639, representatives from Connecticut Colony's population of about 800 people met and drafted the first written constitution in the English Colonies. Known as the *Fundamental Orders of Connecticut*, it gave every citizen the right to vote and hold office. Thomas Jefferson called New England towns "*little* ***republics***, *the best schools for political liberty the world ever saw*." Political ***doctrine*** grew out of the Puritans' religious doctrine, which was based on the "priesthood of every believer." The belief that individuals could read and interpret the Bible for themselves led Puritans to conclude that individuals could also govern themselves. Self-government in New England, although still subject to the king's approval, set the stage for the United States republic.

The Puritans also gave America the Protestant Work ***Ethic***, which states: *Industry + Virtue + Frugality = Success.* In other words, working hard, developing strong moral values (like honesty) and using money wisely brings success. Some modern Americans have drifted away from the work ethic, but the Puritans' ideas were effective and still have value today.

Because poor soil made farming unprofitable in New England, occupations like fishing, shipbuilding and fur trading became the economic base.

The Middle Colonies may best be known for Manhattan Island, which the Dutch bought from the Canarsie Indians for a few trinkets worth about $24.00. The Dutch established a trading post on the island called New Amsterdam, which later became a thriving seaport known as New York City. Although the



THE ORIGINAL THIRTEEN COLONIES

Dutch later lost New York to the English, they left a legacy of hard work and the present-day customs of Easter eggs and Santa Claus. The Dutch thrived in New York, along with immigrants from various European nations. This ***diversity*** brought numerous occupations, languages, cultures, churches and religious ***distinctives*** to America.

The Middle Colonies' main food crop was grain, which gave them the nickname "Bread Colonies." Expanding seaports also provided colonists with various employment opportunities in such enterprises as warehouses, taverns, blacksmith shops, shoe cobblers, clothiers, print shops and a host of other occupations.

The Southern Colonies' economy depended mostly on slave-based agriculture. Southerners raised tobacco, rice, indigo and cotton on their plantations or small farms. Few towns existed, thus large plantations became centers for political and social exchanges. The King of England ruled certain Southern Colonies, which were considered "royal" Colonies. Virginia voters elected representatives called *Burgesses*, which answered to a governor and council, but the King had the final say. The House of Burgesses first convened, or met together, in 1619; this marked the beginning of representative government in America and the New World. The purpose of this legislative body was to make laws "for the good of the colony." Burgesses engaged in public debate of differing viewpoints. One hundred fifty-seven years later, in 1776, the House of Burgesses became the first colonial legislature to adopt a Bill of Rights.

America's rich heritage was founded in the original thirteen Colonies, whose distinctives combined to produce an independent spirit, based on a strong work ethic and grounded in a belief in God. Out of the original thirteen Colonies would emerge the most effective government system the world has ever witnessed—a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

Our principles and values affect everything we do. Looking at history offers a glimpse of the people and principles that made America great. Americans still have opportunities to choose those principles by which to live: choices which will determine the legacy for future Americans.

***Southern Colonies Established**

Southern	Founded By	Reasons
Maryland	Lord Baltimore, 1634	Religious
Virginia	Virginia Company, 1607	Economic
Carolinas (divided into North and South Carolina, 1712)	eight English nobles, 1663	Economic
Georgia	James Oglethorpe, 1733	Economic, Political

*all settled by the English

LIFE PRINCIPLE

"If it is to be, it is up to me."

— Mary Crowley





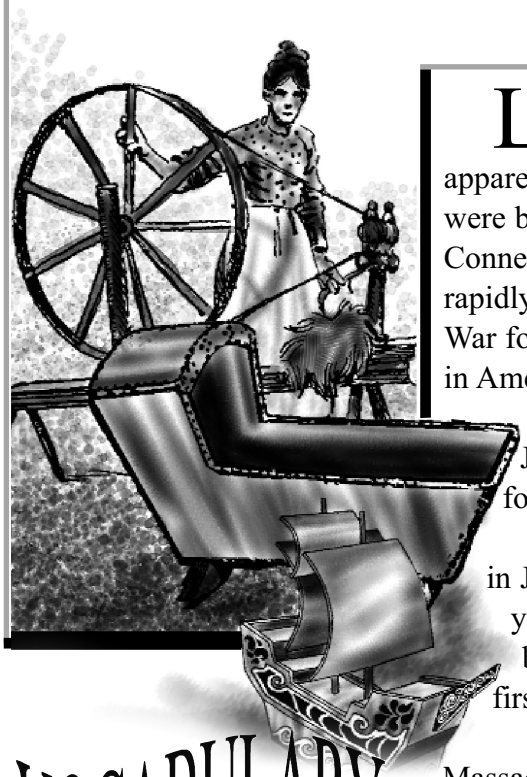
Topic 3

Trade & Industry

Section 1

Topics 1-5

INDUSTRY: SEEDS OF INDEPENDENCE



Life in colonial America was not easy, but the "can do" spirit was strong, and industrial development was apparent during the 1600s and 1700s. Smelters and forges were busy producing bar iron in Massachusetts and Connecticut by the mid 1600s. The iron industry spread rapidly into New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia. When the War for Independence began, more iron was being produced in America than in England and Wales combined.

The first saltworks, established in 1614 near Jamestown, produced saltpeter, an important ingredient for manufacturing gunpowder.

The first attempted glassworks in the Colonies was in Jamestown, then in Plymouth in 1639. One hundred years later, Casper Wistar in Salem County, New Jersey began making "designer" green and brown bottles in the first successful American glass factory.

The first printing press in America was brought to Massachusetts in 1638. It was devoted to printing Christian materials. Other than the Bay Psalm (song) Book in 1640, the first book published in America was *UpBiblum* in 1663, a ***compilation*** of Bible ***passages*** for Indians and translated into various Indian ***dialects***. These were the first steps in the development of the American publishing industry.

By 1690, Pennsylvania had a lime kiln, a tannery and a paper mill. The first soap factory opened in Boston in 1716. Fourteen years later, sugar was being refined in New York City, New York. The 1700s saw fish, timber and ironworks as the main industries.

From iron to glass and soap to sugar, adventurous and creative people were establishing the American system of free enterprise. Whether farming in the countrysides or manufacturing in the cities, colonists were hard at work building a great nation. Meanwhile, England watched her young Colonies with pride and hope for economic development; however, that pride turned to resentment and efforts to control the industrious colonists.

VOCABULARY

Compilation: put together in orderly form

Passage: a portion of something written or spoken

Dialect: the language used by a particular people

Prohibition: preventing the sale and/or manufacturing of a product or substance

Almanac: annual publication composed of various weather charts, tables, etc.

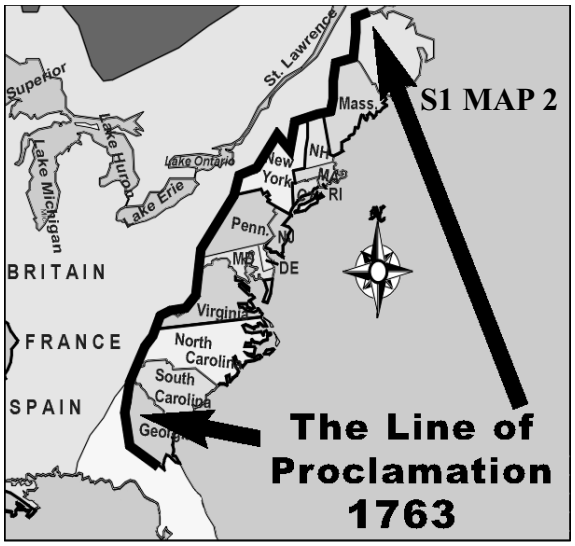
Boycott: a refusal to buy or deal with as a form of protest

Sedition: to incite a rebellion

England had big dreams for her North American Colonies. When King James I and later rulers encouraged their subjects to establish colonies in the New World, the primary aim was to obtain gold and silver for England's treasury, a philosophy known as *mercantilism*. To English officials, the untapped resources of America were an unclaimed gold mine. Emphasis on wealth prevented rulers from managing the independent Colonies wisely.

What would you think about officials ordering you to buy or sell only at their store—then searching your house to make sure you complied? Next, imagine them demanding that you provide a room and food for foreign soldiers. That is exactly what happened to American colonists after the French and Indian War.

England's 70 year conflict with France, which included the French and Indian War (1754-1763), created a huge national debt for England, which the British believed America should help repay. While King George III wanted to recover some of England's financial losses, he also wanted to prove that Britain must be obeyed. The king's edict, known as the 1763 Line of Proclamation, limited where colonists could settle. It restricted them to areas east of the Appalachian Mountains and ordered them to stay out of



the Ohio Valley. That was because Chief Pontiac was attacking settlers, and British officials wanted no further expense from Indian conflicts. Settlers ignored the proclamation. Having won these fertile lands from the French, they were not about to give them up, especially if they were taxed to pay for the land.

England's economic plan also required her navy to control shipping and to maintain a favorable balance of trade with the Colonies. However, the Dutch, who also had colonies in America, offered stiff competition to British merchants and had no intention of allowing England to control international shipping and commerce. Dutch markets offered financial benefits to the colonists. Furthermore, the Dutch merchants were backed by a shipping fleet of over 10,000 ships.

Attempting to offset Dutch influence and adequately control American commerce, England passed a series of Navigation Acts between 1650 and the early 1700s. These acts permitted only English ships to carry goods into their colonies. Other shippers had to apply for special licenses. Imports into England also had to be carried by English ships or ships from the country where the goods were produced.

VOCABULARY

Redress: correcting abuses and wrongs
Incensed: very angrily offended
Patriot: one who loves, supports and defends his country
Taunted: teased, provoked
Retaliation: get revenge
Precepts: commandments or directions regarding rules of conduct

Some important colonial exports, including fish, wheat and corn were not enumerated (on the prohibited list) and could be shipped freely wherever the colonists found markets, because no market for them existed in England.

To make sure Americans were not trading "prohibited items" with other countries, English representatives were authorized to search colonial merchants' ships, warehouses, or private homes.

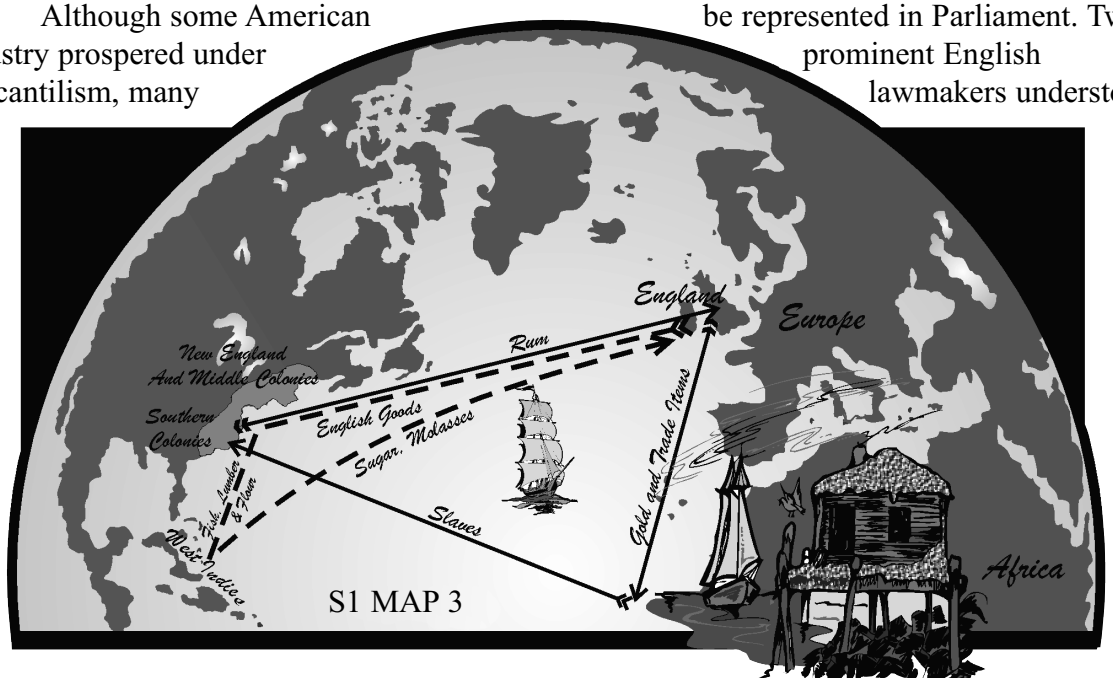
Parliament levied taxes on sugar and molasses and enacted a ***prohibition*** against making iron products (including weapons) in America. The Sugar Act of 1764 levied taxes on sugar, textiles, and any other goods not produced in England. The colonists responded by trading with foreign nations and smuggling goods into America.

The Stamp Act of 1765, required every newspaper, ***almanac***, pamphlet, deck of cards, and legal document to bear a tax stamp. Outraged colonists staged mass protests in major colonial ports, refused to pay the tax and established a ***boycott*** against English merchandise.

Although some American industry prospered under mercantilism, many colonists resented British restraints on colonial trade. As the Colonies grew, their desire for freedom became more intense. The restrictions imposed by England helped fan the flames for American independence.

Tensions increased in 1765 when Parliament demanded, in the Quartering Act, that colonial legislatures supply funds and living quarters for British troops residing in the Colonies. Colonists did not think they needed so many troops in peaceful times—or the burden of supporting them. Tensions were relieved a bit by repeal of the Stamp Act the following year, only to be increased again by the Townshend Acts in 1767 which required Colonists to pay import taxes on tea and certain other items. Colonists responded with boycotts of imported British goods. In 1770, the Townshend Acts were repealed— all but the tea tax. Colonists responded by lifting the embargo (trade restrictions) on English goods—except for tea.

By this time, unfair taxes were not the only issue. Colonists were expected to obey laws not imposed on other Englishmen. England had never allowed the colonists to be represented in Parliament. Two prominent English lawmakers understood



S1 MAP 3

SOME COLONIAL TRIANGULAR TRADE ROUTES

the needs of the colonists and spoke up on their behalf. Edmund Burke and former Prime Minister William Pitt (after whom Americans gratefully named the city of Pittsburgh) spoke passionately in support of the Americans' cause. Burke said Britain would be unwise to tax the colonists and that if she did, England would suffer as a result. Pitt favored independence for the Colonies and maintained that England had no right to tax the colonists saying, "*I rejoice that America has resisted. . . .*" But George III, intent on demonstrating his power, denounced Pitt as a "trumpet of ***sedition***." Even when colonists traveled 3,500 miles to appear before Parliament with grievances, they had no guarantee of being heard. Time after time they had petitioned King George in courteous, tender words such as one would use to appeal to his own father for fairness and justice. The colonial objective was neither war nor independence; they only wanted a ***redress*** of grievances.

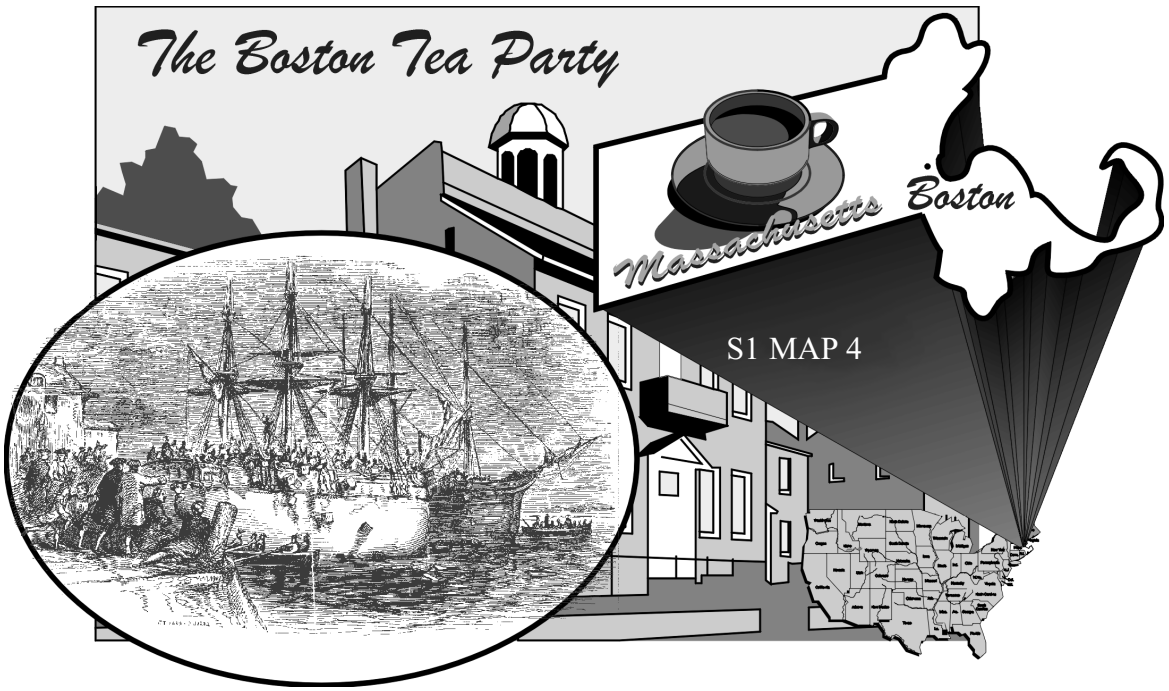
Finally, ***incensed*** by the lack of representation, some colonists led by Samuel Adams formed a group called the *Sons of Liberty*. Their theme became "*No Taxation Without Representation.*" The Sons of Liberty included many other outstanding ***patriots*** like John Hancock, Patrick Henry, Paul Revere, Joseph Warren and Thomas Paine. These courageous men believed passionately in liberty and the necessity of opposing British tyranny over Americans. Their powerful words motivated colonists to seek independence.

On March 5, 1770 violence erupted between the colonists and British soldiers stationed in Boston. Boston's colonists were quite vocal about wanting British troops off their doorsteps. Soldiers and Boston residents argued frequently. On this day a crowd ***taunted*** the guards. A shouting match followed.

No one is exactly sure what happened next. Maybe someone got nervous and fired his gun. Maybe someone only heard the word, "*Fire*!" when the captain shouted, "*Don't fire!*" Nevertheless, British soldiers fired into the crowd, killing five Bostonians and injuring six others. This incident was called the "Boston Massacre." The first to fall in the cause of America's freedom was Crispus Attucks, a sailor off the coast of Boston. Some histroical accounts claim that Attucks was a freed African-American, while some state that only Attucks' father was of African descent, but that his mother was Nantucket Indian. Regardless of his ethnicity, historicans do agree that approximately thirty years prior to the Boston incident, Attucks had run away from his master and become a sailor. By 1770, his sympathies were with the patriots in resisting the British. Attucks was at the head of a group of patriots that fateful day in Boston and was the first to fall as a casualty of the yet-undeclared American War for Independence. Attucks was buried in a sepulcher, and a statue was erected in his honor. He died a hero, and many schools, community centers, and historical societies celebrate his life still today.

The Colonies were a disjointed group of patriots without unity. Before the War for Independence began, only about one third of the American people fiercely favored independence. About one third were committed to remaining under English rule, and the rest remained neutral. However, increased British control produced more patriot unity.

The Tea Act of 1773 fueled a major confrontation between the British troops and colonial patriots. The British East India Company was in financial trouble because of the boycott of English goods. Parliament passed the Tea Act so the East India Company could ship their goods to America without paying the usual tax to England. That way they could sell their English tea at a lower price than colonists paid for smuggled tea.



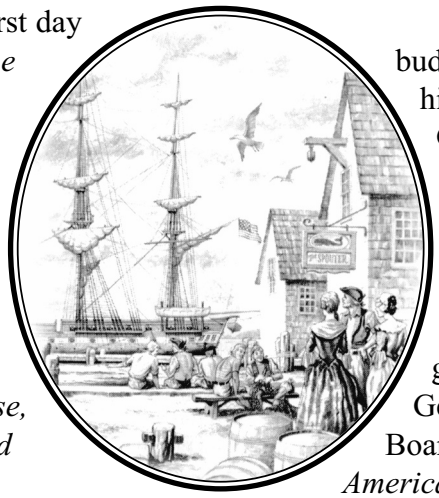
The colonists retaliated by continuing to ban English tea. They warned harbor agents that East India ships would not be allowed to unload tea in American harbors. Colonial leaders demanded that American agents of the East India Company publicly resign their jobs. The agents did not resign and anger surged as British ships approached Boston harbor. The East India ships docked and unloaded everything except their crates of tea. Abigail Adams wrote to her husband, John, describing the tension in Boston: "*The flame is kindled and like lightning it catches from soul to soul.*"

Thomas Hutchison, the English king's governor in Boston, ordered that the tea on board ship be unloaded by December 17, 1773. On the night of December 16, a large group of several thousand Bostonians gathered at the invitation of Samuel Adams' Committee of Correspondence, the Patriot courier network. As the angry crowd discussed the problem, a hundred men left the meeting (upon a prearranged signal), disguised themselves as Mohawk Indians and boarded the ship. Once on board, the colonists sent the crew below deck. Silently, the colonists hauled three hundred forty-two chests of tea up on deck and threw them overboard into Boston Harbor. Seventy-five thousand dollars worth of tea was ruined that night. This event became known as the Boston Tea Party which proved to be the most expensive tea party in history—because it cost England her Colonies in America.

Parliament's ***retaliation*** was swift. In 1774, England instituted four Coercive Acts which colonists renamed the *Intolerable Acts*, because they were unbearable. In an attempt to starve the colonists into compliance, British warships closed the Port of Boston until the Americans paid for the tea that had been dumped into the harbor. Colonists lost all rights to self-government and were forced to feed and house British soldiers in their homes. Trials of British soldiers accused of crimes against colonists were transferred to England where everything was in favor of the soldiers.

Because the people of Boston could not export goods or receive supplies, the Committees of Correspondence called on colonists to participate in a day of prayer and

fasting on June 1, 1774, the first day of the blockade, "*to seek divine direction and aid.*" Other Colonies immediately sent supplies and money to assist the Boston patriots. In Virginia, private citizen George Washington was ready to help. He volunteered to "*raise one thousand men, subsist them at my own expense, and march myself at their head for the relief of Boston.*"



On September 5, 1774, the First Continental Congress met. There, colonists agreed not to obey any of the recent acts of Parliament. Colonial leaders publicly protested British armies stationed in the Colonies and enforced an American boycott of British products. Citizens were encouraged to arm themselves, and state militias were urged to prepare for the worst.

As tensions mounted, more voices were heard proclaiming liberty under God. Orator Josiah Quincy voiced what thousands of colonists were feeling: "*. . . under God, we are determined that whatsoever, whensoever, or howsoever we shall be called to make our exit, we will die free men.*"

The difference between this budding Revolution and others of history was the freedom-under-God concept and colonial leaders' reliance on Biblical ***precepts***, as documented in ninety-eight percent of the Founding Fathers' writings. One Royal Colony British governor (appointed by King George III) wrote to the English Board of Trade: "*If you ask an American, who is his master? He will tell you he has none, nor any governor but Jesus Christ.*" The cry, "*No King but King Jesus!*" soon sounded across the Colonies, becoming the motto of the American War for Independence.

What the last 150 years of sharing a continent had not done, British bullying now had accomplished: the thirteen Colonies were beginning to have a unified purpose of resistance to British tyranny!

Life Principle

"Hatred is a bitter cup to drink."



—Anonymous

Section 1

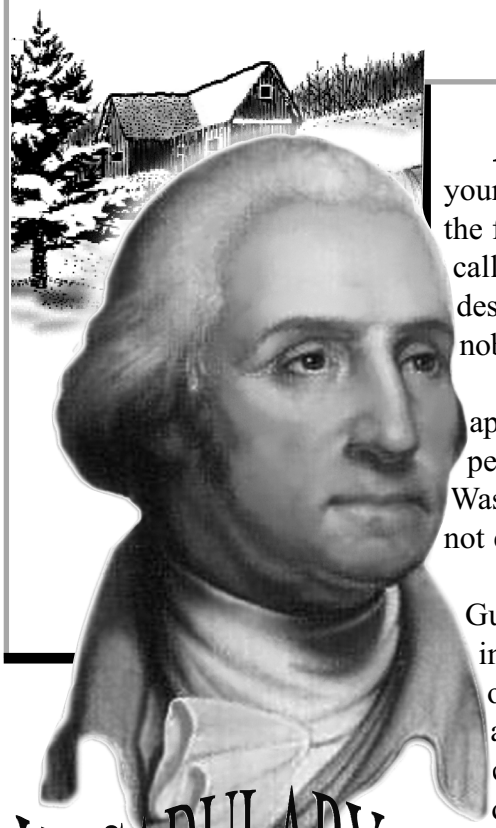


Topic 4

Military

Topics 1-5

GEORGE WASHINGTON: MILITARY STRATEGIST



America has always admired her many heroes—men and women who defended freedom. A hero can be young or old, male or female; anyone who performs duty in the face of danger and hardships. George Washington, often called the "Father of our Nation," was such a man. He was a descendant of King John of England as well as many of the nobles who forced the king to sign the ***Magna Carta*** in 1215.

Washington's moral courage and integrity set him apart as a leader, high on the list of the 100 most influential persons in the history of the world. Without George Washington, the United States as we know it probably would not exist.

George Washington was born February 22, 1732 to Gus and Mary Washington who trained their son to be strong in body, soul and mind. George was given responsibilities on the family plantation and was taught from the Bible. As a young boy, Washington learned to ride horses and compete in sports. When George was eleven, his father died and George's half-brother Lawrence assumed responsibility for raising George.

George had an inquisitive mind and a determination to learn. When he decided to study ***surveying***, his teacher directed George to master ***trigonometry*** and ***logarithms***. Even though the teacher was unwilling to instruct George in these subjects, the young man obtained the necessary books and studied alone. He learned the subjects well and became an excellent surveyor.

A family friend once sent George to assist in surveying a piece of land in a mountainous part of Virginia. The young surveyor kept a journal and wrote out exact details of the land, including features of trees, drainage and streams. George gained valuable work experience and learned about Indian customs.

In 1753, when George was 22, he was sent by the colonial ***militia*** to persuade French troops at Fort Duquesne (now Pittsburgh) to stop claiming British territory. His request was spurned, but he returned to Williamsburg, Virginia with valuable notes about Fort Duquesne, the Indians who were

VOCABULARY

Magna Carta: a British document guaranteeing certain rights and liberties to the common people

Surveying: measuring land segments to establish their size and boundaries

Trigonometry: higher math dealing with calculations of relationships between sides and angles of triangles

Logarithms: a system of exponents to shorten math calculations

helping the French, and characteristics of the frontier territory occupied by French troops.

During the French and Indian War (1754-1763), Washington was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and sent to capture Fort Duquesne for the British. He was unable to capture the fort and was forced to draw back and build Fort Necessity. The French pursued Washington, surrounded the fort, and forced the British troops to surrender. Washington was discouraged that he was unable to finish the assignment to capture Fort Duquesne.

In 1756, British General Braddock asked Washington to serve as an officer in Britain's second attempt to capture Fort Duquesne. Washington was elated to resume military life. He warned Braddock that the British ***tradition*** of marching out in the open was a disastrous strategy for fighting Indians, but the warnings were ignored. Washington and Braddock approached in separate groups and, even though ill with ***dysentery***, George Washington led his troops into battle.

As predicted, Braddock rode into an Indian ambush. The General and all other British officers were injured or killed in the ensuing battle. Young Washington assumed command of the British troops. In a letter to his family about the fight, he described how he found four bullet holes in his jacket and that two horses had been shot out from under him. He was amazed he had escaped injury and wrote that he, "*by . . . Providence*," was "*protected beyond all human probability or expectation.*"


Martha Washington

Fifteen years later, Washington returned with a friend to the site where the battle had been fought. An old Indian chief who had been in charge of the attack told how he had ordered his braves to shoot the British officers first. The chief had singled out Washington to be killed and had personally shot at him seventeen times. When George Washington remained unharmed, the chief told his braves to leave Washington alone because he was obviously under special protection of the "Great Spirit."

After the French and Indian War, Washington married Martha Custis, a widow with two (out of four) young, surviving children, Patsy and Jack. Washington loved Martha's children as his own. But tragedy struck the Washingtons: Patsy died at age 17 and Jack at age 26. Jack's two children, Nelly and George, were raised by General and Mrs. Washington, who were devoted to each other as well as to their country. The family lived at Mt. Vernon, a Virginia plantation Washington inherited from his brother. Washington loved farm life and worked hard at developing efficient farming practices. Although he would rather have stayed at Mt. Vernon with his family, his devotion to his country prompted him to say, "*Whenever my*

VOCABULARY

Militia: citizen soldiers subject to being called into action in emergencies
Tradition: customs and beliefs
Dysentery: an intestinal disease that produces severe diarrhea

country calls upon me, I am ready to take my musket on my shoulder."

When war broke out between Britain and the American Colonies, the Second Continental Congress unanimously chose Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the colonial troops of the Continental Army. He did not want the job because he felt unprepared to be commander. Washington was, however, the only man fully qualified. Upon accepting the position, he volunteered to serve his country without pay. On July 2, 1776, he issued orders to the Continental troops:

> *"The time is now near at hand which must probably determine whether Americans are to be freemen or slaves; . . . The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage of this army. Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us only the choice of brave resistance, or the most abject submission. We have, therefore, to resolve to conquer or die".*

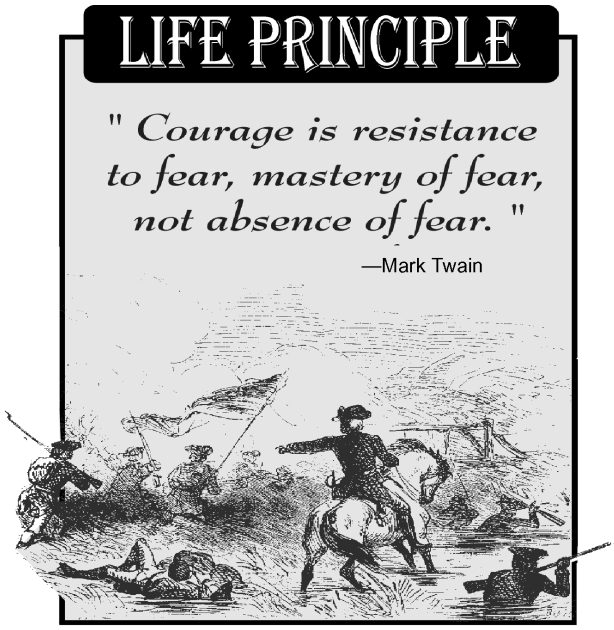
The War for Independence had actually (but unofficially) begun the year before in April, 1775 with scattered skirmishes. After the Declaration of Independence in 1776, the war intensified. It officially ended in 1783. During this time, Washington committed everything to the cause of freedom. He was able to visit his home only twice, but according to his grandson, Washington carried a miniature portrait of his wife around his neck "*through all the vicissitudes* (changing conditions) *of his eventful career.*"



Since war was seldom waged in winter months, Martha Washington as well as other army wives visited the winter camps helping with food, clothing, bandages, morale and nursing the sick. Instead of complaining about hardships, Mrs. Washington said:

> *"I am still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be; for I have learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances".*

Washington's greatness as a military leader was not so much in being a strategist as in having a balance of leadership qualities. General Washington was a man of sound judgment and knew how to use information. His mental calmness enabled him to act with wisdom instead of haste when facing danger.



The Early Foundations

Section 1



Topic 5

Dominant Personalities

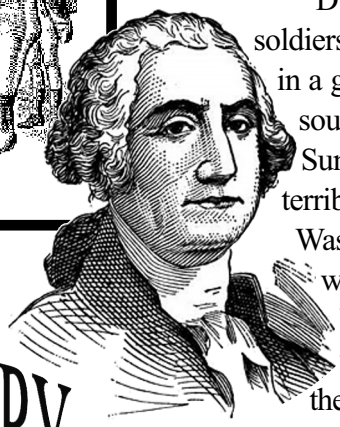
Topic 1-5

FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY



Washington was well known as a man of selflessness, sacrifice and faith. When he assumed command of the Colonial Army, he ***admonished*** his soldiers to live and act as Christian men, protecting the liberties of the Colonies. He instructed his officers to be orderly in their behavior and forbade them to curse or to abuse women. As Commander-in-Chief, Washington often had to shout orders, but he disciplined his men without cursing.

During the awful winter at Valley Forge where soldiers starved and froze, Washington was seen praying in a grove of trees. Whenever possible, Washington sought the nearest church where he could attend Sunday services. On one such occasion, during the terrible winter encampment at Morristown, Washington attended a religious service. All seats were full when a woman carrying a child entered. Washington immediately presented his chair to the woman while Washington himself stood during the entire service.



Washington was always quick to acknowledge what both patriots and the British considered to be divine interventions on behalf of the Americans. In a 1778 letter to Brigadier General Nelson in Virginia, Washington wrote:

> *"The hand of Providence has been so **conspicuous** in all this (the course of the war) that he must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more wicked that has not gratitude to acknowledge his obligations; . . . ."*

When Benedict Arnold's treacherous plot was "accidentally" uncovered, Washington proclaimed:

> *"Treason of the blackest dye was yesterday discovered! General Arnold who commanded at Westpoint . . . was about to deliver up that important Post into the hands of the enemy . . . . Happily the treason had been timely discovered to prevent the fatal misfortune. The providential train of circumstances which led to it affords the most convincing proof that the*

VOCABULARY

Admonish: to give a command using strong emotion
Conspicuous: plainly seen or evident
Supplications: earnest prayers
Providential: having to do with God's intervention in a matter
Propitious: gracious, favorably inclined
Unanimity: complete agreement
Eulogy: spoken or written words highly praising or honoring a deceased person, given at funerals and memorials

Liberties of America are the object of divine Protection".

A month after Cornwallis surrendered the British army at Yorktown to American forces, Washington stated in a letter to the President of the Continental Congress: "*I take a particular pleasure in acknowledging that the interposing Hand of Heaven, in the various instances of our extensive Preparation for this Operation* (Yorktown)*, has been most conspicuous and remarkable.*"



General Washington was a leader who expected discipline and organization in his men. In order to distinguish officers from soldiers, General Washington issued colored armbands for his officers. He organized his troops by Colony and asked that each Colony provide the upkeep of its troops. He delegated authority and commanded with dignity.

General Washington was a man of kindness and generosity. As Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, he served without pay. He repeatedly begged Congress for more food, blankets and supplies for his men. When funds were not available, Washington used personal money to buy clothes for soldiers and to help families of men who fought for the Continental Army.

General Washington stood strong in hard times. His sense of discipline would not allow him to quit when battles were fierce or the weather harsh. With the aid of Baron von Steuben, Washington drilled and trained his men through the severe, grueling winter at Valley Forge. His iron-willed troops courageously marched into battle the following summer, and three years later pounded the British into defeat at Yorktown, Virginia.

After victory over the British, General Washington was elected to preside over the men at the Constitutional Convention who would be responsible for deciding the types of laws and principles which would define American government. Those elected men framed the Constitution of the United States and unanimously decided that George Washington should be the nation's first President. In spite of Washington's love for his home at Mt. Vernon and his longing to return there to resume farming, he agreed to continue serving his country as its leader.

Before leaving to take charge of his new responsibilities, Washington insisted on visiting his 82 year old mother who was dying of cancer. Washington told his mother of the great honor that had been bestowed upon him, and then spoke of coming back to visit her as soon as possible. She interrupted him by saying, ". . . *you will see me no more . . . . I shall not be long in this world . . . but go, George, fulfill the high destinies which Heaven appears to have intended for you; go my son, and may that Heaven's and a mother's blessing be with you always*." Mrs. Mary Washington died less than four months later. Washington's moving tribute to her conveyed a son's loyalty and devotion: "*My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her.*"

On April 30, 1789, George Washington took the oath of office as the first President of the United States. His hand rested on a verse from the Bible which states: "*Unless*

the Lord builds the house, They labor in vain who build it. Unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain."

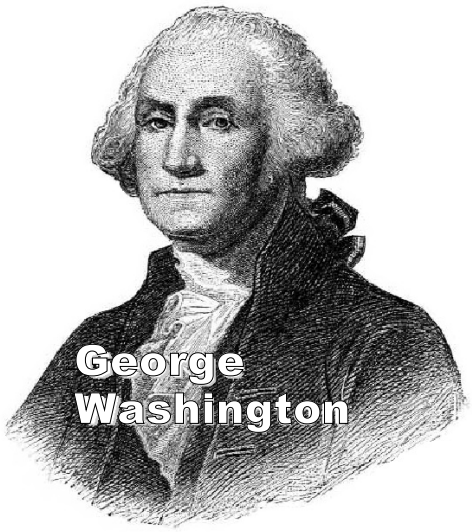
Following are excerpts from his first Inaugural Address to Congress:

> *". . . Such being the impressions under which I have, in obedience to the public summons, repaired to the present station, it would be peculiarly improper to omit, in this first official act, my fervent **supplications** to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations and whose **providential** aids can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States a Government instituted by themselves for the essential purposes; . . . No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency; and in the important revolution just accomplished in the system of their United government, . . . can not be compared with the means by which most governments have been established, ... These reflections, arising out of the present crisis, have forced themselves too strongly on my mind to be suppressed. You will join with me, I trust, in thinking that . . . We ought to be no less persuaded that the **propitious** smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself ordained; . . . He has been pleased to favor the American people with opportunities for deliberating in perfect tranquility, and dispositions for deciding with unparalleled **unanimity** on a form of government for the security of their union and the advancement of their happiness, so His divine blessing may be equally conspicuous in . . . the wise measures on which the success of this Government must depend."*

The moral qualities that made George Washington a great general also helped him serve his country as a great president. President Washington knew the strength of America's government would depend on decisions made during those first few years. Some colonists wanted to appoint Washington as King of America. He scoffed at the idea and championed the cause for a nation ruled by principles and limited governmental authority.

Washington worked hard to establish a unified federal government and he discouraged the formation of political parties. He had experienced the weaknesses of independent states during the War for Independence when men did not work together for a common goal.

Before President Washington made decisions about vital issues, he consulted men whose opinions he trusted. This group of advisors came to be known as the President's Cabinet and became a part of law in 1907. When George Washington was asked to serve



a third term as president he refused, thereby establishing the two-term tradition for American presidents.

Before President Washington died, he issued five swords to his five nephews. Each sword was accompanied by the message:

> "*Never unsheathe your swords to shed blood, except to defend your country and its liberties. If you must unsheathe your swords for defense, keep them unsheathed, choosing to fall with your swords in your hands rather than give up your freedoms.*"

In December, 1799, President George Washington died. His ***eulogy*** by General Henry Lee best summed up Washington's impact on the American republic: Washington was ". . . *first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen*."

George Washington knew the price with which America's freedom had been purchased, and knew that every generation must be vigilant to guard its liberties.

Life Principle

"Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anyone else expects of you. Never [make excuses for] yourself."

—Henry W. Beecher



Note: Ask your teacher for the quiz over lessons 1-5 before proceeding to the next section. Reminder: If you score 85% or higher on the three section quizzes, you may be exempt from the chapter test!

SECTION 2: TIMELINE
1704-1789

1700

1704—First successful colonial newspaper

1770

1772—Committee of Correspondence organized

1773—Boston Tea Party

1775—(March) Patrick Henry's patriotic speech
—(April) Paul Revere's Ride
—(April) Lexington and Concord battles
—(May) Capture of Fort Ticonderoga
—(June) Battle of Bunker Hill

1776—(July) Second Continental Congress issues Declaration of Independence (War for Independence made official)
—(December) Battle of Trenton

1777—(January) Battle of Princeton
—(September/October) Battles of Brandywine Creek/Germantown
—(October) Battle of Saratoga
—Washington and troops winter at Valley Forge

1780

1781—British surrender at Battle of Yorktown
—Articles of Confederation adopted

1783—Treaty of Paris (official end of War for Independence)

1787—Constitutional Convention
—Constitution written
—Northwest Ordinance enacted

1790

1789—George Washington, first U.S. President, takes office
—Northwest Ordinance reenacted, signed into law by Washington



Communication

Topic 6

Section 2

Topics 6-10

TOWN CRIERS, COURIERS & NEWSLETTERS



Imagine life without television news or radio broadcasts—no immediate way to find out what is going on in the world. Today, television, radio, computers, newspapers, magazines and telephones allow you to know what is happening several states or continents away. It is hard to imagine life without the printed and electronic media.

Being informed was much different in colonial days. Men and women in early America ***savored*** news just as much as people do today, but they were accustomed to hearing about events that were days, weeks, even months old. The great communication tools—television, radio, computers, E-mail and telephones were not yet invented, and newspapers were not widely circulated. People sent and received messages the only way they knew how—by word of mouth or by writing notes and letters to be delivered by horseback.

News traveled very slowly among the growing population of rural Americans in the 1700s. Rural folks often gathered information from travelers passing through their area who might share news of a bad freeze up north, a religious revival in the next valley or a crop disaster in another colony. Early colonists waited patiently for the variety of news that ties all human beings together.

However, publishing information in a colonial city was more easily accomplished than in rural areas. While no truly immediate news or message-bringing medium existed, there were systems in place—born out of necessity—to help people share information.

Every village had a town crier. His job was to canvass the streets ringing a bell and shouting news, the time of day, or announcements such as a ship's arrival, a revival meeting or a smallpox ***quarantine***.

Information in colonial cities was commonly transferred from one person to another via messengers or couriers who traveled on foot or horseback. Sending a ***courier*** with a message dates back to ancient times and was the normal overland means of long distance communication until the mid 1800s. By this means, a letter or message could take several months to be

VOCABULARY

Savored: greatly enjoyed
Quarantine: enforced isolation
Courier: one who carries messages or documents
Laborious: requiring long, hard work
Sporadic: occurring at irregular intervals or times
Instigate: to prompt or urge a course of action
Via: by means of
Huguenots: a persecuted French protestant religious group
Impending: about to happen
Middlesex: a British name for a county
Oration: a speech
Wharf: a waterfront dock at which to load/unload goods

delivered depending on the season, distance, and road conditions. Communication was ***laborious*** and ***sporadic***.

Samuel Adams, a Harvard graduate and "Father of the American Revolution," was an active patriot during the twelve years preceding the Declaration of Independence. In 1772, Adams organized the original Massachusetts Committee of Correspondence by which means the towns in that Colony could know their rights, publish how such rights had been violated, and stay informed on the latest resistance developments. This colonial pony-express idea spread to other Colonies and became the means of alerting colonists to British maneuvers. The concept also prepared the way for united action among the Colonies later when delegates were called to Continental Congress conventions.

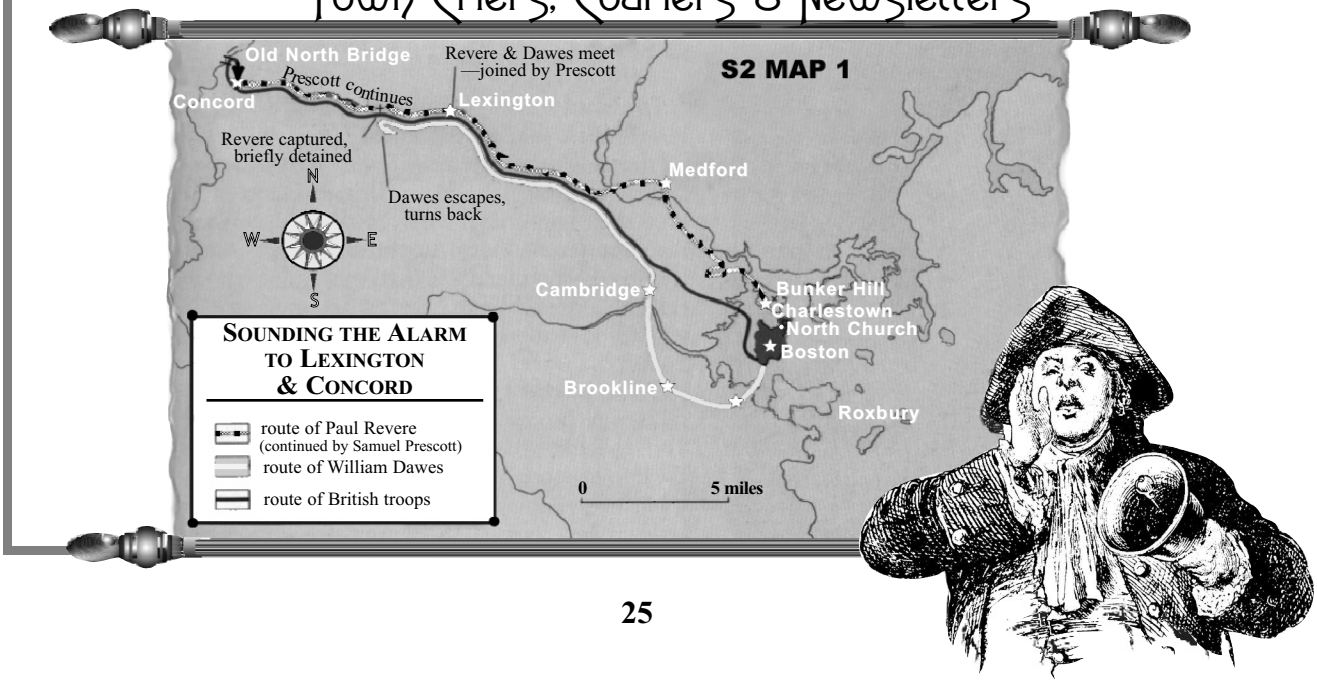
In 1773, the Committee of Correspondence under Samuel Adams ***instigated*** the Boston Tea Party. The following year, Adams called for the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia ***via*** the Committees of Correspondence.

One of the most famous colonial American messengers was Paul Revere, the "Courier of the Revolution," who played a dramatic role during the War for Independence. Of ***Huguenot*** descent and a silversmith by trade, Revere became involved with the patriots' war effort by serving as official courier for the Massachusetts Committee of Correspondence. He made several rides between New York and Philadelphia, carrying important news.

Paul Revere's most famous ride, however, came on April 18, 1775 when he, as well as William Dawes and Dr. Samuel Prescott, galloped on horseback by different routes to towns between Boston and Concord, alerting American minutemen of an ***impending*** attack by the British. Revere knew the risks of his mission as a human alarm, but his loyalty to fellow patriots inspired him onward. As his horse pounded the road at high speed, Revere shouted, "*To arms, to arms! The British are coming! The War has begun*!"

Between Lexington and Concord, Revere was captured (and later released). Dawes escaped capture on foot, leaving Prescott to finish the last few miles to Concord. The battles at Lexington and Concord marked the beginning of the War for Independence, and because of the daring rides of Paul Revere, Dawes and Prescott, American patriots were not taken by surprise when British soldiers marched against them the following day at Lexington and Concord.

Town Criers, Couriers & Newsletters



The action of the colonial messengers that night was memorialized many years later in Henry W. Longfellow's famous poem, *Paul Revere's Ride*:

"Listen, my children, and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;
Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year.
He said to his friend, "If the British march
By land or sea from the town tonight
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry arch
Of the North Church tower as a signal light,
—One, if by land, and two, if by sea;
And I on the opposite shore will be,
Ready to ride and spread the alarm
Through every ***Middlesex*** village and farm,
For the country folk to be up and to arm. . . "



Speeches were another form of communication available to people who lived in the cities. One of the most famous speeches during colonial America was delivered by the fiery attorney, Patrick Henry. On March 23, 1775, Henry met with other delegates to the Second Virginia Convention of the House of Burgesses and delivered a powerful speech. His impassioned ***oration*** inspired many wavering Colonists to join the patriotic move toward independence from Great Britain:

> "*For my own part I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery. . . . It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at truth, and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country . . . . There is no longer room for hope. If we wish to be free, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us! They tell me that we are weak, but . . . . Sir, we are not weak, if we make a proper use of the means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the Holy cause of Liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us.*
>
> *Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battle alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battle for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave . . . .*"

And in his rousing conclusion, Patrick Henry spoke words which forever captured the spirit of the patriots:

> "*Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, almighty God! I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!*"

Along with the spoken word, printed material had a positive effect on Colonists. The first printing press in America had been unloaded onto a colonial ***wharf*** in 1638. But the press was expensive to operate, therefore printing was rarely done in the Colonies the rest of that century. By 1700, however, about one dozen presses operated in Boston.

The first successful colonial newspaper appeared in Boston in 1704. *The Boston News-Letter* had a circulation of 300 copies. It marked the beginning of the American newspaper industry. Most colonial newspapers supported the cause of American independence

with news reports and optimistic commentary, such as *The Boston Gazette* in September 1768:

> "*If an army should be sent to reduce us to slavery, we will put our lives in our hands and cry to the Judge of all the earth . . . Behold—how they come to cast us out of this possession which Thou has given us to inherit. Help us, Lord, our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude*."

In the middle of the War for Independence, during the Continental Army's terrible winter at Valley Forge, a Philadelphia newspaper entitled *The Pennsylvania Packet* confidently proclaimed:

> "*Our attention is now drawn to one point: the enemy grows weaker every day, and we are growing stronger. Our work is almost done, and with the blessing of heaven, and the valor of our worthy General, we shall soon drive these plunderers out of our country!*"

By 1775, over 100 newspapers were published in towns and cities stretching from New Hampshire to Georgia.

While information systems were limited during America's early history, that period still boasts some of the most dramatic communication events ever recorded. No one could deny that these events and others like them contributed greatly to the Americans' fight for independence and the inclusion of free speech in our Constitution. The speeches and pamphlets which stirred patriots to war were also foundational to the designing of the Declaration of Independence.

LIFE PRINCIPLE

"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

—Edmund Burke



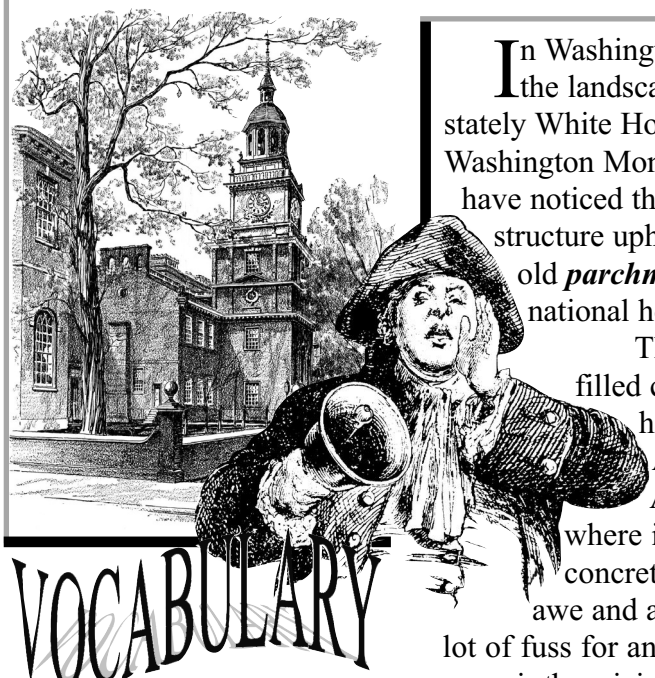
Section 2

Topic 7

Government & Military

Topics 6-10

A PRICELESS PIECE OF PAPER



In Washington D.C., an array of impressive buildings dot the landscape. You have probably seen pictures of the stately White House, the domed Capitol Building, and the lofty Washington Monument with its pointed top, but you might not have noticed the National Archives Building, a majestic structure upheld by dozens of columns. It is the home of an old ***parchment*** that is the basis of our country and our national holiday—July 4th.

The yellowed parchment is housed in a helium-filled case of filtered glass. The helium and filters help slow the aging process of the paper. Armed guards protect the upright case by day. At night it is lowered 20 feet into the ground where it nestles in a 50-ton vault of steel and concrete. Each morning it is raised once again to the awe and admiring gaze of tourists. This may seem like a lot of fuss for an old sheet of paper, until you realize that this paper is the original Declaration of Independence—a ***primary resource document***—the document that called for America's freedom from England on July 4, 1776.

Over the previous ten years, less drastic measures had failed to produce the desired result—equitable treatment from England, the mother country. Even through the first year of undeclared war, the Colonies fought for a redress of ***grievances***, not independence. However, as 1776 dawned, the concept of independence began to crystallize in the minds of many patriots.

In June of 1776 a committee of five men was approved by the Second Continental Congress to begin writing the document. American colonists nursed painful grievances against King George III of England, and they believed a well written statement would advance their cause for freedom. The three most famous men on this committee included Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. The group chose the scholarly Jefferson to compose the document, but the others offered suggestions and made minor alterations.

Seventeen days after picking up his quill, Jefferson had penned one of the most influential documents in history. Most

VOCABULARY

Parchment: paper made from sheepskin
Primary resource: important, actual words of persons (such as *Founding Fathers*), used as evidence of belief or intent
Document: official written information, as proof of an event
Grievances: complaints
Unalienable rights: God-given, inborn human rights, incapable of being altered
Score: a quantity of twenty
Ratify: to approve
Bulwarks: a defense
Evinces: shows clearly
Despotism: government by a ruler with absolute authority
Exertion: strenuous effort

of the Declaration is a list of grievances against the British crown, but these are not what we remember about the Declaration of Independence. Generations of Americans have been stirred by Jefferson's argument for freedom which he quickly introduced in the second paragraph:

> *"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain* ***unalienable rights****; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*

Jefferson's bold statement is rooted in *natural law*—the belief that God has granted certain human rights shared by all people. When Jefferson wrote that this truth is self-evident, he meant it needs no further explanation or defense. The most obvious of these God-given rights include "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Jefferson believed that no one, not even a king, had the license to strip people of their inborn rights because a higher power—God Himself—had given those rights. Jefferson also believed a ruler had the sacred task of *protecting* the people's natural rights. Because King George III overtaxed the Colonies and ruled with an iron hand, the Americans believed he violated this important trust, so they appealed to the much higher authority of God.

Fifty-six men signed the Declaration of Independence, including John Witherspoon, a representative from New Jersey. A one-time president of Princeton University, Witherspoon was also a fine preacher and writer who authored a ***score*** of religious essays that expressed the Christian faith of many Founding Fathers.

In the debate to ***ratify*** the Declaration of Independence, Witherspoon spoke forceful words. His fellow-delegates from New Jersey were split on the issue, so the pastor provided the deciding vote. Witherspoon thundered:

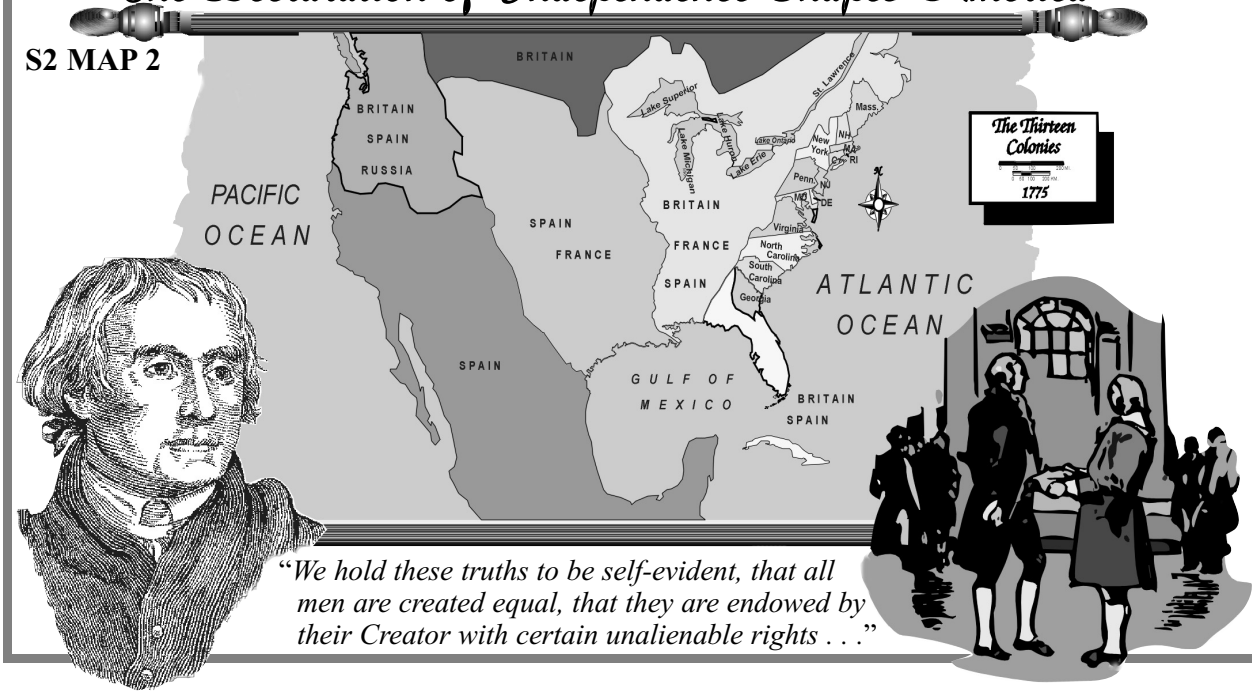
> "*Gentlemen, New Jersey is ready to vote for independence. In our judgment, the country is not only ripe for independence, but we are in danger of becoming rotten for the want of it, if we delay any longer*!"

The Declaration of Independence is composed of three basic parts:

1. <u>The Rights and Duties of Man</u> are given by God—a government derives its power

The Declaration of Independence Shapes America

S2 MAP 2



"*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights . . .*"

from those it governs, and a destructive government can be altered or abolished.

2. The Grievances—why the colonists were separating from England.
3. The Conclusion—the actual declaration of independence from England, plus an appeal to God (*"Divine Providence"*) for protection.

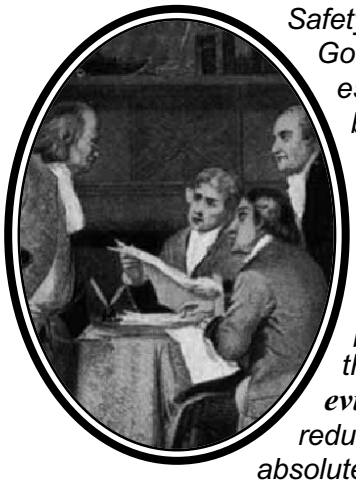
Providence is another word for God's care. The opening and closing references to God could be thought of as bookends, holding together the Declaration's arguments for freedom. Without divine ***bulwarks*** the power of this document could have been seriously weakened. By appealing to an authority greater than a human ruler, Jefferson and his countrymen proclaimed their belief in a Supreme Power in authority over America.

EXCERPTS FROM THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE:

(Memory work to be quoted on your section quiz is underlined. Also see the following page.)

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

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness . . . .



Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; . . . But when the long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object ***evinces*** *a design to reduce them under absolute* ***Despotism****, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. . . . The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world: . . .*" (summary of grievances follow)

- He has refused or neglected to approve many laws for colonial good.
- He has dissolved or caused severe hardships to colonial legislatures, cancelled agreements and charters.
- He has tried to prevent Englishmen from migrating to the Colonies.
- He has obstructed colonial justice systems.
- He has protected British soldiers from receiving justice for criminal acts against colonists.
- He has cut off colonial foreign trade.

- He has imposed taxation without representation.
- He has plundered colonial ships, ravaged colonial coasts, burned colonial towns and destroyed lives.
- He has imported barbarous foreign troops to bring death, desolation and tyranny.
- He has pirated colonists and forced them to fight against their own people or die.
- He has incited Indian uprisings resulting in the death of thousands of colonists.
- He has fought against the Colonies rather than protecting them.

"*. . . And, for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor*."

Benjamin Franklin stressed the need for the signers to maintain steadfast unity of purpose by reminding them "We must all hang together, or we shall all hang separately!" The signer's names were protected from public disclosure for six months. If the strike for freedom had failed, these men would have been speedily executed by England as traitors. Nine signers of the Declaration of Independence did sacrifice their lives, 17 lost their fortunes, 12 had their homes looted and burned and 5 were arrested by the British for treason. They counted the cost and paid the price of freedom for all future Americans—but none lost his sacred honor.

The Declaration of Independence set the tone for Colonists to oppose British rule, with General George Washington as the American hero and military leader.

TOUGH TIMES AT VALLEY FORGE

Have you ever been in a tight spot or a situation that seemed hopeless? George Washington was. Before he became "The Father of Our Country," Washington was the commander of the Continental Army in its fight for independence from Great Britain. Though Washington and his colonial troops had scored some impressive victories, he had reason to despair in the fall of 1777.

On September 11th, Washington's tattered troops lost an important battle at Brandywine Creek in Pennsylvania. Then, British redcoats marched in to capture Philadelphia. Colonial troops were disheartened after losing still another battle on October 4th at Germantown. However, two weeks later, Washington scored a spectacular victory at Saratoga, which was a great encouragement. By December, Washington was forced to winter his troops on a wind-battered plain called Valley Forge, about 20 miles from Philadelphia. There, the 11,000 American soldiers set up camp. Conditions were nightmarish. Temperatures rarely inched above the freezing mark. Half the men did not have shoes. Instead, strips of blankets were wound around their feet. Many were barefoot in the snow, leaving bloody footprints. Food was scarce. Diseases such as pneumonia and smallpox stalked the camp. Washington's headquarters was a drafty tent. Most of his men slept in tents on the frozen ground. At any one time, a fifth of the 11,000 troops were



unable to leave their tents for lack of adequate clothing. A Congressional Committee report of conditions stated in part: " . . . *feet and legs froze till they became black and it was often necessary to amputate them*." In time the army built log cabins, but they were cramped and smoky, with only canvas or tree branches serving as doors. Not until all his men were sheltered in cabins did General Washington give up his leaky tent. Before the winter ended nearly 3,000 men died at Valley Forge—not from bullets, but from blizzards and fever. Another fifth of the troops deserted because the sacrifice was too great. To make matters worse, the suffering troops at Valley Forge knew that the well provisioned British troops were settled warmly in Philadelphia, waiting out the winter in pleasant conditions.

Such circumstances would have crushed many generals, but Washington was a man of faith. Often he rode on horseback through the camp encouraging his men to pray and worship. The general kept a large Bible by his cot and filled his journal with handwritten prayers. Washington ordered prayer services to be held every Sunday, telling his men:

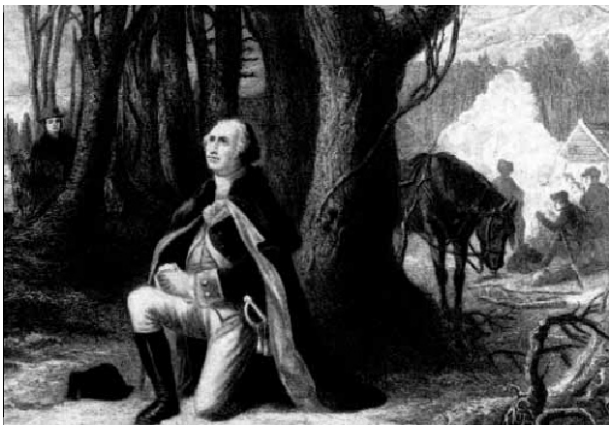
> *"To the distinguished character of a Patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of a Christian."*

A man named Dr. Thatcher was with Washington at Valley Forge. He wrote:

> "*The army . . . was not without consolation, for his excellency the Commander-in-Chief . . . manifested a fatherly concern and fellow feeling for their sufferings and made every* ***exertion*** *in his power to remedy the evil and to administer the much-desired relief.*"

The plight of Washington's men was of critical concern to the Commander-in-Chief. Having repeatedly done all he could do for his men and the cause of freedom, he was often driven to his knees to seek Divine assistance. One man who secretly came upon Washington praying in a grove of trees broadcast his findings which later were portrayed in more than one famous painting.

George Washington's strong leadership and faith in God could be viewed historically as the "glue" that held the army together at Valley Forge during that miserable winter. By human standards, the British should have continued to win. They outnumbered the "Yankees," had more firepower, and most were seasoned soldiers; but the redcoats did not count on George Washington's secret weapon—his faith in God. Rallying under Washington's inspired leadership, the American soldiers emerged from Valley Forge the following summer, confident and ready to fight.



Life Principle

"It is better to die for something noble than to live for something evil."

Anonymous

The Struggle for Freedom



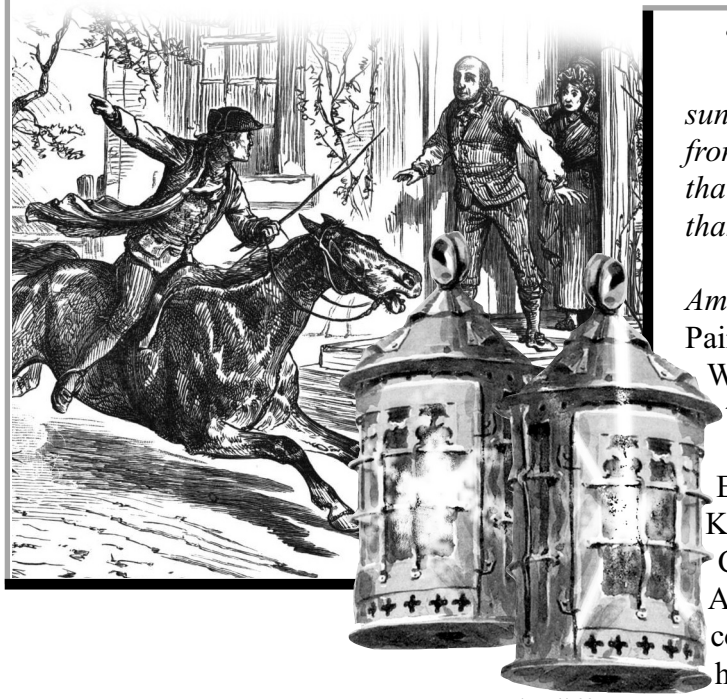
Topic 8

Military

Section 2

topics 6-10

FOR THE LOVE OF FREEDOM



"*These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country: but he that stands it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman . . . .*"

So wrote Thomas Paine in *The American Crisis* in December, 1776. Mr. Paine wrote many articles about America's War for Independence, inspiring patriots to fight for freedom.

In early 1775, King George III of England was ready to prove he was indeed King. Imposing laws and taxes upon the Colonies, he made his position clear. Americans felt that the breaking point had come; they would suffer no more at the hands of the king. Although they preferred to settle differences peacefully, Americans were determined to protect their homes, businesses, land and freedoms.

Military advantages existed for both sides. Britain boasted well-trained soldiers; a strong navy to rule the seas, money to back a war and motivation to control investments in America. A third of the Americans were loyal to England. Colonists were not unified or supplied by a central government. Strong feelings and differing allegiances bitterly split families and communities. The American Revolution became a ***civil war*** as well as the War for Independence. Families of the Founding Fathers were not exempt from this tragedy. Most of Benjamin Franklin's family labored for independence, but his older son, William, was a devoted British ***loyalist*** who sailed to England because he could not tolerate the patriot cause.

Patriots had the advantage of fighting on home soil, and the sheer size of America made it very hard for the British to conquer. British soldiers and supplies had to travel some 3,500 miles across the ocean, which took valuable time. European battle strategy was not as effective in America, especially since colonists had learned to fight Indian-style in

VOCABULARY

Civil war: war between opposing groups of citizens of the same country

Loyalist: one who has unswerving loyalty to a government or political cause

Black Regiment: name given to black-robed Colonial pastors who motivated their people to fight for their God-given freedom

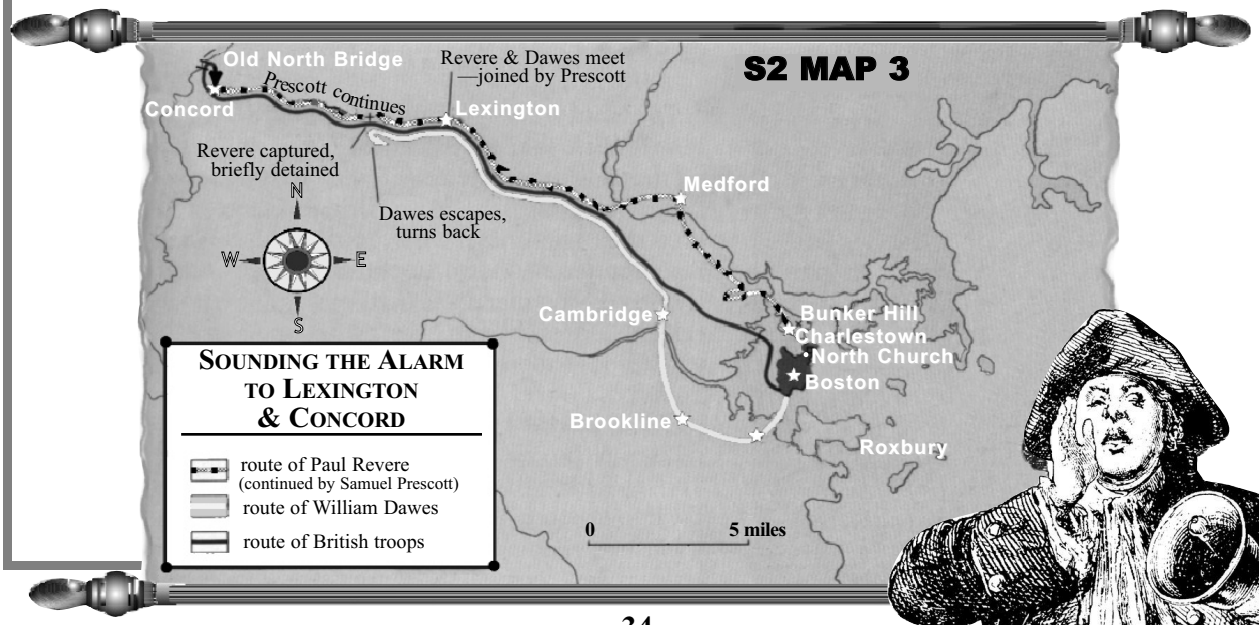
Rude: roughly constructed

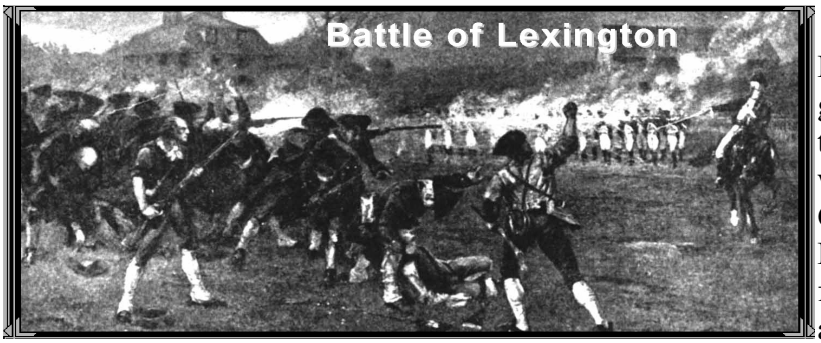
the French and Indian War. The Americans had one strength the British fatally underestimated: Colonists deep commitment to fight for their families and principles of freedom.

The first battles took place in the early morning hours of April 19, 1775 at Lexington and Concord. Led by General Thomas Gage, the British were ordered to capture colonial patriots Samuel Adams (known as "The Father of the Revolution," organizer of the Sons of Liberty and cousin to John Adams) and John Hancock (a wealthy merchant who would be the first signer of the Declaration of Independence), along with a stockpile of arms and ammunition in the Lexington and Concord areas. Minutemen—colonial citizens who were ready to fight for freedom at a minute's notice—were prepared to spread the word when the British army approached. Minutemen could easily spot the British in their bright red jackets that earned the nickname, "redcoats."

British plans for Lexington and Concord were known. The only question was from which direction the redcoats would attack. Patriot watchmen in the evening of April 18th kept an eye on Boston Harbor and the roads to Lexington. British General Gage had ordered that no person be allowed to leave Boston that night, but not before Dr. Warren had dispatched Robert Newman to position himself in the tall steeple of the Old North Church. Joseph Warren, a patriotic medical doctor, and Paul Revere, a patriot silversmith, watched the church steeple which could be seen from a distance by the waiting Minutemen. One lantern was to be lit if British troops were advancing by land, or two lanterns if the assault was coming by sea through Boston Harbor. The signal (two lights) was flashed. Paul Revere and William Dawes, who were waiting to carry the news by different roads to Lexington, spurred their horses and rode off into the night, waking up Minutemen in their homes along the way.

When he arrived at the home where Adams and Hancock were staying, Revere awoke everyone and persuaded them to seek safety. Revere and Dawes were joined in Lexington by Dr. Samuel Prescott. Less than half way between Lexington and Concord, the trio encountered a British patrol, which briefly detained Revere, while Dawes managed to elude the patrol on foot. Prescott spurred his horse, jumped a wall and escaped to warn patriots at Concord. Thanks to the alarm, both Sam Adams and John Hancock were saved from capture by the British; and most of the much-needed ammunition and arms were safely removed from storage





buildings and hidden in the woods. In the words of Henry W. Longfellow's famous poem, *Paul Revere's Ride*, ". . . The fate of a nation was riding that night; . . . ."

Colonists were not surprised when British troops marched into Lexington at dawn. Throughout New England, community pastors had prepared their congregations with sermons on the doctrine of freedom and the duty to resist oppression. Throughout the War, pastors remained on the front lines, alternately preaching and fighting, giving birth to the tradition of U.S. military chaplains. Christian clergy were so prominent in the conflict that the British later said America would not have won the war had it not been for what they called the "***Black Regiment***". However, because of their leadership, pastors suffered great cruelty when captured. The British also burned the pastors' churches—10 out of 19 in New York City, and most churches across Virginia—to name a few.

Seventy Minutemen from the congregation of Jonas Clerk awaited the redcoats at the "green," an open area in the middle of town. Minuteman Captain John Parker instructed his men: "*Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon. But if they want a war, let it begin here*." British Major Pitcairn shouted, "*Lay down your arms, ye rebels, and* ***disperse***!" When no one moved, Pitcairn reportedly yelled "*Fire!*" and the British emptied their muskets into the minutemen, killing eight and wounding ten others.

The startled patriots scattered to take cover and to care for wounded men. The British discovered a few kegs of gunpowder in Lexington and set them on fire. Local colonists watching from a distance feared Concord was being torched by the British. Dozens of patriots headed for Concord's North Bridge, armed and ready to defend their homes and country.

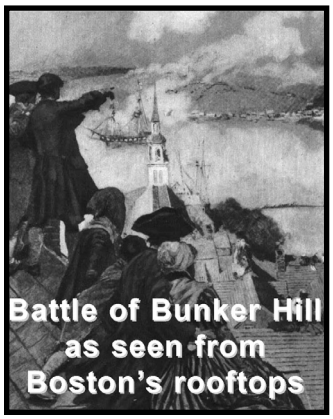
The Americans were better prepared for battle when they met the British at North Bridge. This fierce band of well-prepared warriors bore no resemblance to the disorganized men on the Lexington green. Bold Minutemen took careful aim and fired on the startled redcoats. This time, the British scattered in retreat.

As the British retreated the twenty miles to Boston, they encountered Minutemen hidden behind rocks, trees, and bushes from where the patriots fired their muskets. Women shot from the windows of their houses. Redcoats fell, powerless to stop the slaughter. The survivors at first marched more swiftly, then broke into a run. By sunset they reached Boston. The war was on, and the astonished redcoats, whose casualties were nearly three times those of the colonists, realized their enemy was not a harmless mob of farmers. They were strong men and women who wanted freedom enough to fight and die for it. The opening shot of the American War for Independence became known as "*the shot heard 'round the world*." The spot at Concord's Bridge is marked by a monument on which are inscribed the following, well-known lines from Ralph Waldo Emerson's *Concord Hymn:*

"By the ***rude*** bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood
And fired the shot heard 'round the world."

Over the next six harsh years of fighting, significant events contributed to America's cause in her War for Independence.

In May of 1775, Ethan Allen organized a pre-dawn raid at Fort Ticonderoga, Canada. To Allen's astonishment, the gate of the fort was ajar, and the British sentry's musket did not fire. Allen and his "Green Mountain Boys" captured the fort without a shot being fired, and seized valuable cannons and ammunition for the American army. As he awakened the surprised commander, Allen shouted, "*Surrender in the name of Jehovah* [God] *and the Continental Congress!*"

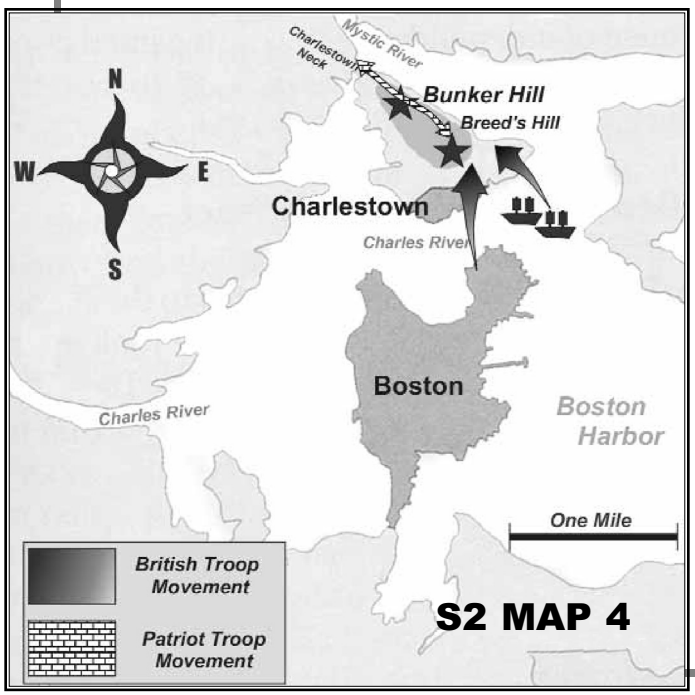

Battle of Bunker Hill as seen from Boston's rooftops

On June 15, 1775 the Second Continental Congress unanimously selected George Washington to be Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. He did not want the job, but accepted the appointment to assist his beloved country, for which service he refused to be paid.

The Battle of Bunker Hill across the Charles River from Boston came two days later. British General Gage, stationed in Boston with several thousand troops, had planned to occupy the "heights" of Charlestown, strategic locations overlooking the port of Boston. The most prominent height was Bunker Hill (the southern projection of which was called Breed's Hill) which rose 75 feet above the town. On the night of June 16, Colonel Prescott with 1,500 patriots, marched across Charlestown Neck and seized Bunker Hill. Patriots labored throughout the night digging trenches and erecting earthen fortifications. British sentries heard the pick-and-shovel activity but disregarded it. Imagine British surprise the next morning!

British ships in the bay area opened fire on the hill first, followed by an assault of 2,200 British veterans who had been stationed in Boston. Although outnumbered almost two to one, patriot forces won the first two assaults, but lost the third round because they ran out of ammunition. Ever low on ammunition, patriot soldiers were instructed, "*Don't fire 'till you see the whites of their eyes!*" Although the British captured the hill (and burned the town of Charlestown) they lost 1,054 men—nearly half of their soldiers and officers, compared to 449 American casualties. The distinguished patriot, General Joseph Warren was among the fallen.

The Battle of Bunker Hill (sometimes referred to as *Breed's Hill*) proved that American troops could withstand greater numbers of trained English soldiers as long as American ammunition lasted. When Washington heard of the patriots' courageous defense of the hill, he said, "The liberties of the country are safe!"



Life Principle



"He who will not use his freedom to defend his freedom does not deserve his freedom."

—Anonymous

The Struggle for Freedom



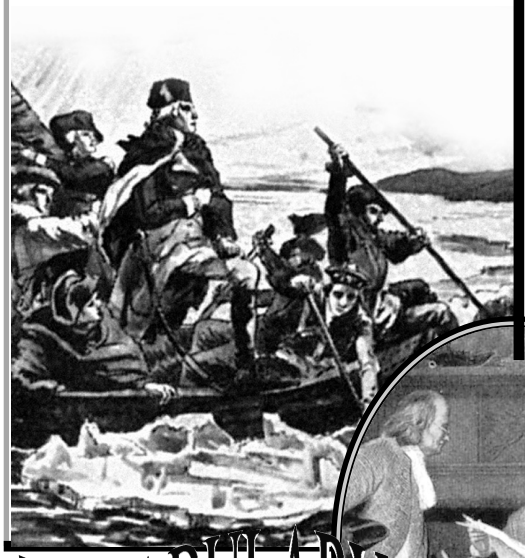
Topic 9

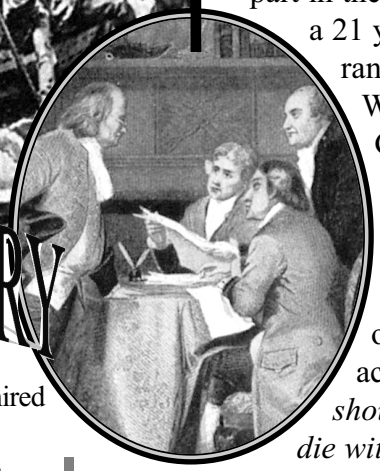
Military

Section 2

Topics 6--10

THE WAR YEARS





On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence. This document, written mostly by Thomas Jefferson, clearly stated American grievances against England. Even though the fight had already begun, this document made the war official and declared America's intentions: liberty or death!

Every American who believed in the war took part in the fight. One such person was Nathan Hale, a 21 year old school teacher who rose to the rank of captain in the War for Independence. While on a dangerous spying mission for General Washington, Hale was caught and sentenced to be hanged. The British military officer in charge not only refused Hale's request for a Bible, but destroyed his farewell letter to his mother. When the officer was later questioned about his actions, he replied: ". . . *that the rebels should never know they had a man who could die with such firmness.*" On the scaffold, Hale proclaimed, "*I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country!*"

Overall, the colonists lost more battles than they won; however two major turning points in the war gave Americans hope to carry on to victory over the next five harsh years of war.

On Christmas night, 1776 Washington seized the opportunity to launch a surprise attack on a ***Hessian*** garrison at Trenton by re-crossing the icy Delaware River. One patriot officer later wrote, "*The floating ice in the river made the labor* [of rowing] *almost . . . impossible.*" Washington and his men then marched several miles through a violent snow and ice storm to capture nearly 1,000 unsuspecting Hessians. Nine days later, on January 3rd, another successful surprise attack was carried out against a British garrison at Princeton. At a critical time, Americans were rewarded with decisive victories. Together, Trenton and Princeton are regarded as the first turning point of the war.

VOCABULARY

Hessian: German soldiers hired by the British

Prussia: former kingdom in Northern Europe bordering the Baltic Sea; included present day Germany, Poland, Latvia, and Lithuania

Forged: to form or make through concentrated effort

Boycott: to express disapproval of actions of a government or organization by refusing to purchase goods from or do business with them.

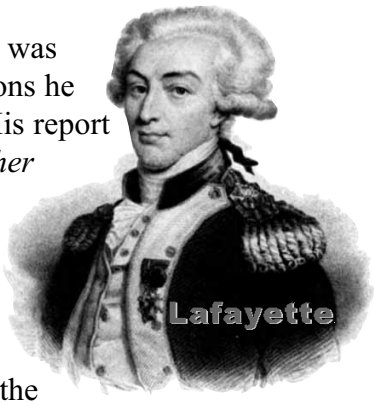
Devout: deeply sincere; dedicated

Proxy: a person appointed to act in official capacity for someone else

The Battle of Saratoga on October 17, 1777 proved to be the second turning point. British General John Burgoyne embarked on a three-pronged attack to divide and to crush the colonists at Albany, New York. As Generals Burgoyne and St. Leger moved troops down from Canada, General Howe was to move north from New York City. The plan failed. After a series of battles, Burgoyne, greatly outnumbered and surrounded at Saratoga by patriot forces, surrendered his entire army of nearly 6,000 men to American General Gates. As a result of this victory, British plans were in disarray; and France, which had unofficially supported the patriot cause, now proclaimed open support for America against France's old enemy—England.

Sparse victories added to other hardships on the American troops. Congress was unable to provide well for the physical needs of soldiers. Wintering at Valley Forge in 1777, General George Washington and his troops suffered bitter cold, persistent hunger, and lack of clothing. The soldiers' Thanksgiving "dinner" that year consisted of a gill (one fourth cup) of rice with a tablespoon of vinegar. General Washington earned respect when he suffered the same hardships as his troops.

Colonial courage and faith resulted in several military leaders from other countries joining the Americans during that bitter winter. Baron von Steuben from ***Prussia*** came to organize and drill the soldiers in marching. His focus on discipline ***forged*** the colonial troops into a deadly adversary of King George. The Marquis de Lafayette, a young French nobleman less than twenty years of age, brought troops and skill to aid General Washington. Lafayette had been orphaned at age eleven and joined the French Musketeers at age fifteen. At sixteen, he married and was promoted to Musketeer Captain. In 1777, at age nineteen, he joined Washington. Lafayette was shocked at the conditions he saw at Valley Forge. His report stated: "*They had neither coats, hats, shirts, nor shoes; their feet and legs froze until they became black. . . .*" Miraculously, in spite of grueling hardships, the American Army walked out of Valley Forge the next summer, tougher and better prepared to win a war. Another French officer fighting for American freedom said:

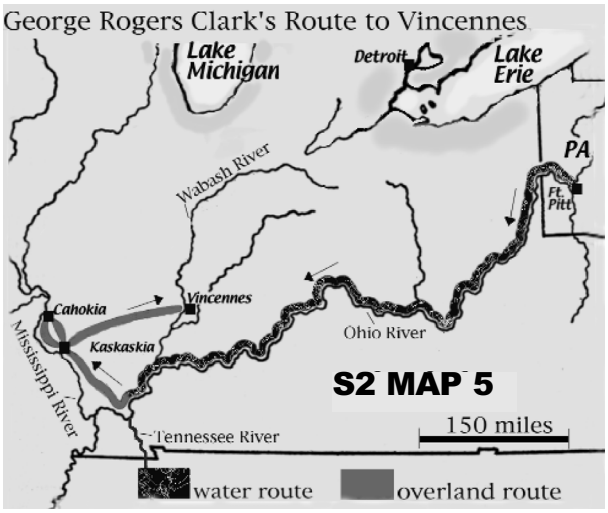


> "*It is incredible that soldiers composed of men of every age, even children of fifteen, of whites and blacks, almost naked, unpaid, and rather poorly fed, can march so well and withstand fire so steadfastly.*"

Other nations of the world watched the war closely. They began to realize the possibility that the young American Colonies could take on a superpower like England and win. Soon, France entered an alliance with America, sending both money and a small fleet of ships. In reporting France's decision to Colonial troops, Washington proclaimed on May 1, 1778:

> "*It having pleased the Almighty Ruler of the universe to defend the cause of the United American States, and finally to raise up a powerful friend among the princes of the earth, to establish our liberty and independence upon a lasting foundation, it becomes us to set apart a day for gratefully acknowledging the divine goodness, and celebrating the important event, which we owe to His divine interposition.*"

In early 1778, partly to protect the young settlements of Kentucky and Tennessee, (but mainly to overthrow the power of the British in the Northwest Territory) George



Rogers Clark, a young Virginia scout, carried out one of the most important expeditions of the war: the capture of Vincennes, the most important British post in the Ohio Valley. With orders from Virginia's Governor, Patrick Henry, Clark and his men floated down the Ohio River to the Tennessee River, and then marched overland to Vincennes, capturing various forts as they went. Clark and his men made their way across country, sometimes wading through flooded plains. During the last five miles they were often up to their arm pits in icy water due to winter flooding. Clark and his band of patriots completely surprised British Colonel Hamilton and forced him to surrender. Thus, the power of the British in the Northwest Territory was broken, bringing the entire country to the Mississippi River into possession of the patriots by the war's end.

Patriot women at home supported the war efforts with ***boycotts*** of English tea. Instead, they served herbal tea and coffee. A group called the Daughters of Liberty made homespun material for military garments. Wives and mothers kept farms and families together while husbands, fathers, brothers, and sons were at war. Some women were spies and messengers. Others cared for the wounded and even fought alongside their menfolk, defending their homes and the land they loved. Mary Hayes McCauley, alias "Molly Pitcher," actually loaded and fired a cannon during a fierce battle in which her husband was wounded.

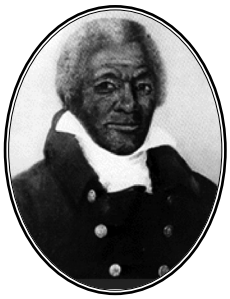
"Molly Pitcher"



Black and white men fought valiantly for America's freedom. Bullets are color blind, and blacks, as well as whites, shed red blood for the freedom our nation now enjoys.

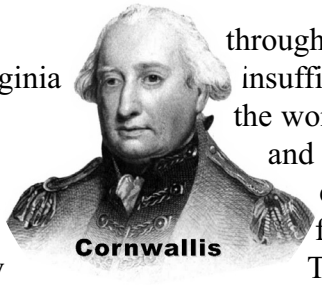
George Washington's black aide, William Lee, remained with Washington throughout the war. William was an oarsman that bone-chilling Christmas night in 1776 when Washington's troops crossed the icy Delaware River in a night maneuver to stage a surprise attack against Hessian forces.

A black American man named James Armistead joined the American cause. He was a slave to one William Armistead (hence the same last name); however, James requested that he be allowed to serve in the capacity of Patriot spy. His desire was granted, and James went into the service under the command of General Lafayette, and into the camp of Benedict Arnold who had become a traitor and joined the British. Thought to be a harmless servant, the British officers spoke freely in Armistead's presence, who, in turn, sent daily reports back to Lafayette. Armistead so admired Lafayette as a general that Armistead changed his last name to "Lafayette" and kept "Armistead" as his middle name.



James Armistead Lafayette

Armistad accompanied Benedict Arnold when he left Virginia and joined the camp of Lord Cornwallis, commander of all British troops in America. James Armistead Lafayette became so trusted that Cornwallis eventually sent him into General Lafayette's camp to act as a spy for the British. After his surrender, Lord Cornwallis' ***proxy*** was stunned to see Armistead in an American uniform in Lafayette's headquarters. James Armistead Lafayette was granted his freedom from slavery and is considered a true American patirot to this day.


Cornwallis

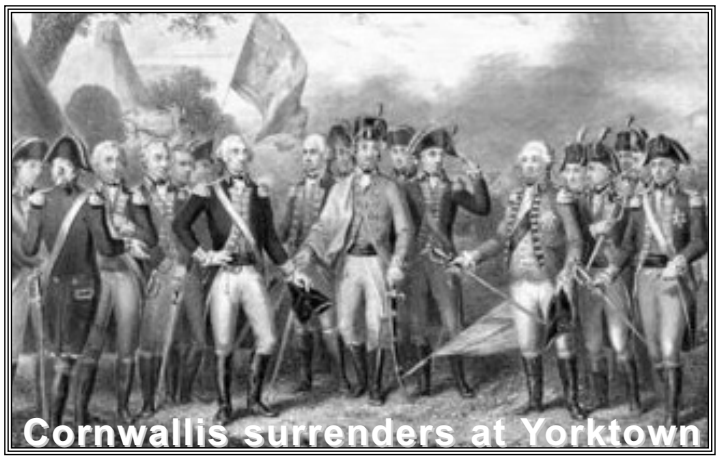
In early September, 1781, British General Cornwallis had decided to increase his fortification of Yorktown against Colonial forces, while waiting for reinforcements. The Patriots were informed (erroneously) that General Cornwallis had taken over "the Nelson House," as British headquarters. Colonial General Nelson's men hesitated to fire on their commander's home. Then, in a selfless act for his country, Nelson is said to have dismounted from his horse, directed the cannon with his own hands, and given the command to fire. The house was not destroyed, and it still stands today with a canon ball embedded in its brickwork.

Washington and the Continental Army pushed South to Yorktown, along with French Count Rochambeau and his troops. French Admiral de Grasse blocked Cornwallis from the sea. These joint efforts trapped Cornwallis, forcing him to surrender his entire army of 8,000 men on December 19, 1781. That was the last major encounter of the war.

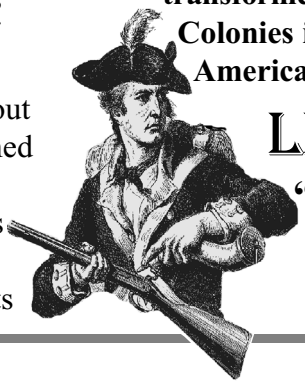
In 1782, the British voted to work out an agreement. The Treaty of Paris was signed in September, 1783. At long last, Britain reluctantly acknowledged the United States of America as an independent nation.

What carried these scrappy colonists through the war with little training and insufficient supplies? How did they defeat the world's strongest military with few arms and little ammunition? Why did they endure such hardships while winning few decisive battles?

The Patriots had faith, courage, and a love for freedom that the British could not crush. In George Washington, Americans had a ***devout*** leader—*"the heart, strength, and soul of the Revolution."* Patriots had an unstoppable will to keep on getting up, no matter how many times the British knocked them down.


Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown

The Americans had faith, courage and a love of freedom that the British could not crush. In George Washington, America had a *devout* leader worthy of following—"the heart, strength, and soul of the Revolution." Patriots had an unstoppable will to keep on getting up, no matter how many times the British knocked them down. Their faith in God and love of liberty transformed thirteen independent Colonies into the United States of America!



LIFE PRINCIPLE

"God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it."

—Daniel Webster

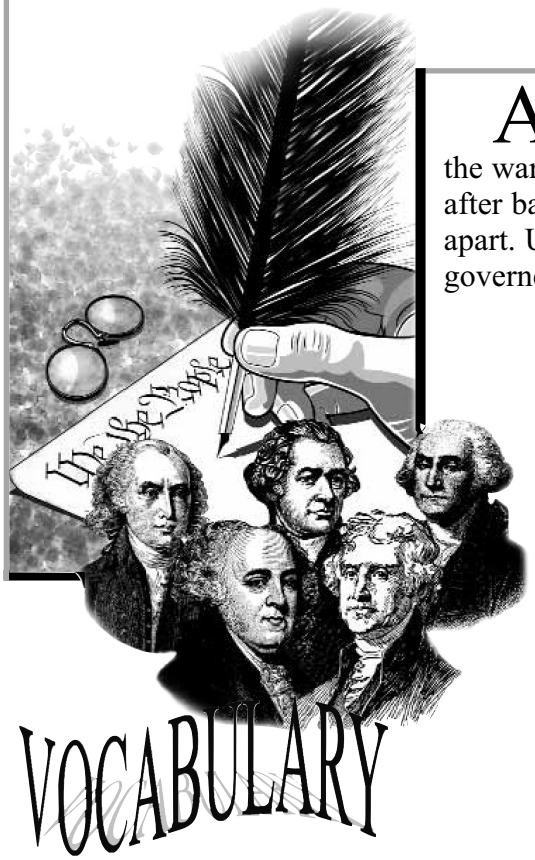
Section 2

Government & Economics

Topic 10

Topics 6-10

THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCE & DRAFTING THE CONSTITUTION



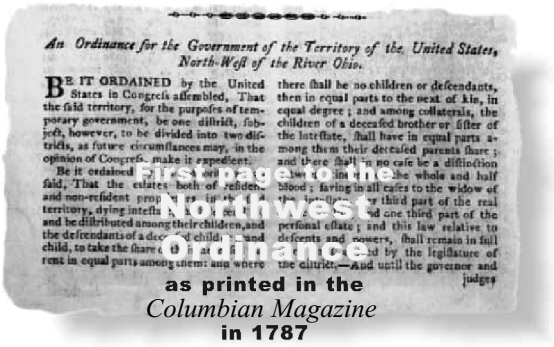
Although America had won independence in 1783, colonists were not living in harmony and unity. While the war lasted, the American states fought side by side; but after battles were won, the young nation threatened to fall apart. Under the Articles of Confederation the new nation was governed by a powerless congress. One account stated:

> ". . . *They were heavily in debt. Business was at a standstill. Gold and silver coin was scarce. The states had an abundance of paper stuff which pretended to be money, but nobody knew what it was worth, and what passed for a dollar in one state might not pass at all in another. Distress and discontent grew worse and worse. The states quarreled with each other about boundary lines, about commerce, about trade. Instead of being a united and friendly people, they were fast getting to be thirteen hostile nations ready to draw the sword against each other. This feeling was shown in the fact that a man could not buy and sell freely outside of his own state. If, for instance, a farmer in New Jersey took a load of potatoes to New York, he might have to pay a tax of five or ten cents a bushel to that state before he could offer them for sale. On the other hand, if a New York merchant sent a case of boots to New Jersey to sell to the farmers, that state might, if it chose, tax him ten cents a pair before he could get a permit to dispose of his goods*."

Thus, the various states operated independently with no standardized means of commerce or other factors to bind them together or pay off their war debts. The most powerful, cohesive influence keeping the country together was the fact that several of the states had claimed land in the Northwest Territory. Then, four states agreed to give up their claims in the Northwest Territory. They agreed that Congress should sell lands in that vast region—forming the states of present day Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota—to settlers, and thus get money to pay off the debt of the War for Independence. That decision helped to hold the country together. Leaders like Washington, Franklin, Madison and Hamilton believed that unless something else was done promptly, the new-born republic was likely to die.

VOCABULARY

Unanimous: everyone voting in favor of the same thing
Articulate: to express distinctly and speak clearly
abroad: overseas; refers to countries across the ocean
Federalist: one who favored a strong federal government and adoption of the Constitution
Articles of Confederation: a constitution of the original 13 states, in effect from 1781-1788
Pathos: feeling of tenderness, sympathy, or pity
Conciliation: to overcome or regain by pleasant behavior


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 one district, subject, however, to be divided into two districts, as future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient.

Be it ordained [illegible] said, That the estates both of resident and non-resident proprietors in the [illegible] territory, dying intestate, [illegible] and be distributed among their children, and the descendants of a deceased child, [illegible] child, to take the share [illegible] rent 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 collaterals, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate, shall have in equal parts among them their deceased parents share; and there shall in no case be a distinction between kin[illegible] the whole and half blood; saving in all cases to the widow of the intestate [illegible] her third part of the real estate for life, and one third part of the personal estate; and this law relative to descents and powers, shall remain in full force [illegible] ed by the legislature of the district.—And until the governor and judges

First page of the Northwest Ordinance

as printed in the
Columbian Magazine
in 1787

At last, in 1787 two major events began to unify the Colonies. The Constitutional Convention of fifty-five delegates was called by James Madison on May 25th to draft a new constitution which would "*form a more perfect union.*" Then on July 13th, the Continental Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance bill, a body of laws for governing the Northwest Territory. The bill was reenacted in 1789 by the new federal government under the Constitution and signed into law by President George Washington.

The Northwest Ordinance was the last of the four foundational documents of the colonial and new republic eras (the others being the Articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution). The Northwest Ordinance was critical because it laid the foundation for government in U.S. territories, set up judicial proceedings, provided for territories to become states, outlined just treatment of Indians, and prohibited slavery in new territories. It also set the standard for education. The first part of Article III of this document states:

> *Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. . . .*

Congress required new state governments not to be in opposition to the principles of the Northwest Ordinance. It thereby became an official standard by which territories wanting to become states were to design their state constitutions.

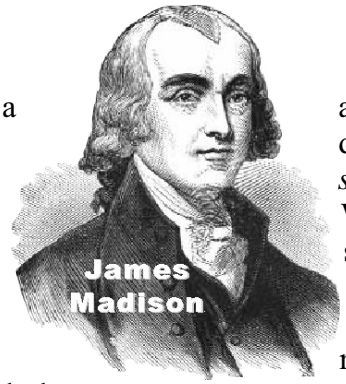
The men who drafted the United States Constitution represented the most capable and noble assembly of men ever to convene for the purpose of designing a government. The Constitution of the United States is "*the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man*," according to British statesman William E. Gladstone. The delegates to the Constitutional Convention assembling in Philadelphia on May 25, 1787 knew they faced an awesome task never before attempted by men—to form a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, with limited governmental powers. This group of outstanding patriots became known as America's *Founding Fathers*.

According to G. K. Otto, French Charge d'Affaires,

> *If all the delegates named for this Convention at Philadelphia are present, we will never have seen, even in Europe, an assembly more respectable for the talents, knowledge . . . and patriotism of those who compose it.*

Those distinguished delegates included George Washington, beloved hero of the War for Independence who served as Convention president by ***unanimous*** vote. Two years later, he was unanimously chosen as the first President of the United States. Washington, whose land and possessions identified him as one of the wealthiest men in the country before the war, was temporarily short of cash in 1787, which may have been due to financing much of the War for Independence with his own money. However, he considered the convention so important that he borrowed money to pay for his passage and boarding room expenses.

James Madison, a Virginian like Washington, earned the title *Father of the Constitution* when he emerged as the most ***articulate*** writer and thinker of the Convention. James Madison also went to the Convention well prepared. A year spent reading more than 200 books on history and philosophy led him to one question, "How

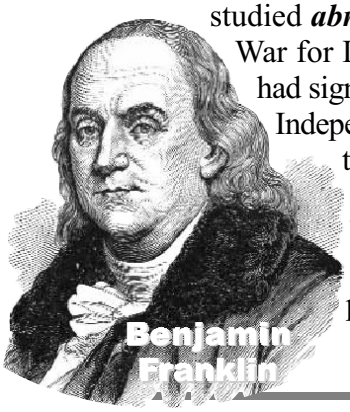


could the country have a strong national government without taking freedom from the people?" Madison kept this concern in mind and continued to draw from his store of knowledge when he took the oath of office in 1809 as the nation's fourth president.

Alexander Hamilton from New York, later appointed Secretary of the Treasury by first U.S. president George Washington; and John Jay, who became the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, also played crucial roles in the Constitutional Convention.

Despite the name *Founding Fathers*, most framers of the Constitution (as well as the signers of the Declaration of Independence) were in their 30s or 40s, not gray-haired old men. Not all of the delegates were young, however. Benjamin Franklin, an elder statesman at 81, was valued for the wisdom he contributed to the Convention. Drafting a Constitution acceptable to a majority of the thirteen states demanded a unique form of agreement among strong leaders. As a team, the Founding Fathers possessed an astonishing combination of wisdom, dedication, and moral principles.

The fifty-five delegates brought to the convention an extraordinary collection of careers and experiences including 34 lawyers, 8 judges, 7 former and 9 future governors, 29 who were college educated, 2 college presidents, 18 who had worked or studied ***abroad***, 30 who fought in the War for Independence, and 8 who had signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Two of the delegates would later serve as presidents of the United States and one would serve as vice president.



George Washington, a ***Federalist***, expressed the mood of the delegates when he said, "*Let us raise a standard . . . the event is in the hands of God.*" With this challenge in mind the framers boldly set about drafting a new type of national constitution—one which embraced the best qualities of individual freedom and responsibility while dispersing authority among state and federal government branches.

The delegates believed they had a destiny to fulfill as they drew upon wisdom gained from personal experience with the ***Articles of Confederation*** and a concentrated study of other contemporary and historical documents. Many models of government and political theories were examined, including the works of Montesquieu, Blackstone and Locke. Montesquieu had shown that separation of powers (judicial, legislative, executive) was essential to the preservation of liberty, and cited the Christian religion as the source for these principles.

Reference materials also included the Bible and England's Magna Carta, a document which English lords forced their king, John I, to sign in 1215, which required the king to honor certain basic rights. It also established the concept that the king was subject to the law.

Some evidence suggests certain basic precepts of the Iroquois Indian Confederacy's 200-year-old "unwritten constitution" may also have been referenced.

In 1776, Delegates to the Second Continental Congress (which produced the Declaration of Independence) had appointed a committee to draft a constitution for the United States of America. The following year, the Articles of Confederation had been presented to the Colonies for acceptance. However, since the Colonies were occupied with the War for Independence, the Articles were not adopted until 1781. The new government had more weaknesses than strengths. It was weak because it was a loose confederation of states with no executive head (president), and had no power to collect

taxes or regulate trade. The Articles had no provision for a national court system. Representation among the states was not equitable, and changes in the Articles required a unanimous vote of all the states.

On the positive side, the Articles of Confederation did provide a framework which kept the states together through the War for Independence and a subsequent favorable treaty with England. Another benefit of the Articles of Confederation was that the Founding Fathers knew what would *not* work for the new constitution of 1787.

Although delegates agreed on many issues, controversies arose (as one might expect) from representatives of thirteen states with differing interests and distinctives, which led to heated discussions. The major disagreements between conflicting groups were resolved by five major compromises. Aristocrats preferred indirect presidential elections through representatives—perhaps for life, while Democrats preferred direct elections for only one term of office. The compromise reached allowed for the president to be elected indirectly by the *Electoral College* for a term of four years, with options to be reelected. Senators were to be elected by state legislators, while Representatives would be selected directly by citizens.



Larger states thought representation in Congress should be according to population, while smaller states argued for equal representation. The agreement they reached was called the *Great Compromise*, which provided for a two-house Congress. The Senate (designated as the "upper house") was to be based on equal representation (two from each state). The House of Representatives ("lower house") was to be based on population (no more than one representative for every 30,000 persons).

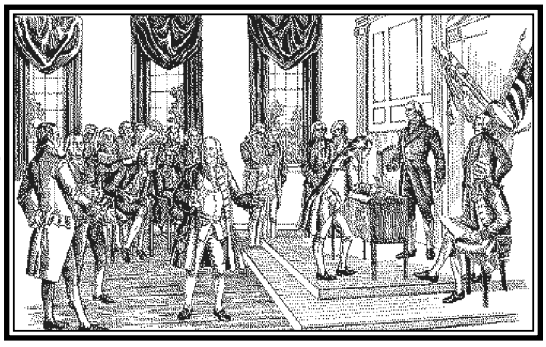
Southern states insisted that slaves should be counted in the population tally. Northern states opposed this idea. Their different positions were reconciled by *The Three-Fifths Compromise* which provided (for purposes of representation and taxation) that five slaves would be counted for every three whites.

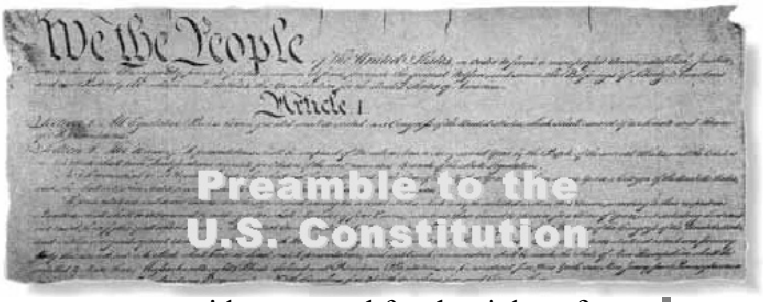
Manufacturing states wanted Congress to have power to levy tariffs (import/export taxes). Agricultural states opposed Congressional tax power. The settlement they reached was known as *The Commerce Compromise*, whereby Congress could tax imports but not exports.

Free states (those which did not hold slaves) wanted at least to limit slave traffic. Slave states argued for unlimited importing of slaves. *The Slave Trade Compromise* allowed unhindered importing of slaves for the next twenty years, at which time a tax of ten dollars per slave could be levied on further imports.

Disagreements were sometimes debated with ***pathos*** or anger, but ended with commitment to resolution in the best interest of the nation. The Founding Fathers were united in their determination to produce a document that would serve as a flexible and lasting framework for American government.

As June temperatures rose inside the Philadelphia State House, the 55 delegates worked behind closed doors. The debate seemed endless. Men began to wonder if they would ever reach the goal of a strong central government. Finally, on a humid day in late June, Benjamin Franklin rose from his chair to address the weary delegates. He was the





host and oldest member of the convention and was held in high esteem. He reminded the men of all the work they had done. Then Franklin asked, "*How has it happened . . . that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate our understanding?*" Franklin was calling for prayer. He rebuked the delegates for forgetting the God who had given them victory over Britain and for trying to establish a government on limited human reason. "*I have lived . . . a long time,*" Franklin said, "*and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?*" Franklin ended his speech by proposing that daily prayers be held before the opening of each meeting. Soon afterward, Jonathan Dayton, a representative from New Jersey, recorded that when the convention met again, "*every unfriendly feeling had been expelled, and a spirit of* ***conciliation*** *had been cultivated.*" By the end of September, the delegates had written the Constitution of the United States.

The Constitution established the course for the new nation. It provided for a Federalist system, with power divided between a strong national government and the individual states. Based on a republican form of government, the Constitution draws its authority from the people and is ultimately responsible to the people through elected representatives.

In September, 1787, after four laborious months of work, thirty-nine delegates signed the Constitution. It was ready, at last, for ratification by the 13 states. "We the people" of the United States had created a document upon which, over 200 years later, Americans can still rely for guidance and protection of freedom.

The Constitution defines and preserves the American way of life two ways:

1) it protects people from the danger of every man doing what is right in his own eyes without regard for the rights of others, and . . .
2) it protects individual rights, unlike most countries where individual rights must be submitted to the interests of the State.

The Founding Fathers who framed the Constitution helped lead Americans toward personal freedom balanced by responsibility. The framers worked diligently to write the Constitution so that power was balanced between the people and the federal and state governments. More than two centuries later, the United States is still a beacon of hope to refugees seeking freedom and opportunity.

People who enjoy the benefits of living in America must also accept their responsibilities to honor and protect the Constitution of the United States. Only then can the American way of life be preserved for future generations.

Note: Ask your teacher for the quiz over lessons 6-10 before proceeding to the next section. Reminder: If you score 85% or higher on the three section quizzes, you may be exempt from the chapter test!



"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary security deserve neither liberty nor safety."

—Benjamin Franklin

LIFE PRINCIPLE

SECTION 3: TIMELINE
1777-1917

1775

1777—Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia

1782—Bald Eagle chosen as national bird

—Great Seal of United States adopted

1787—Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia

1788—Constitution ratified by states

1791—Bill of Rights ratified by states

1800

1812-1814—War of 1812

1814—Francis Scott Key writes *The Star Spangled Banner*

1825

1826—(July 4), 50th Anniversary of Declaration of Independence

1850

1864—"In God We Trust" authorized as U.S. National Motto

1875

1892—Pledge to American Flag written by Francis Bellamy

1900

1917—American's Creed written by William Taylor Page

1925

Section 3

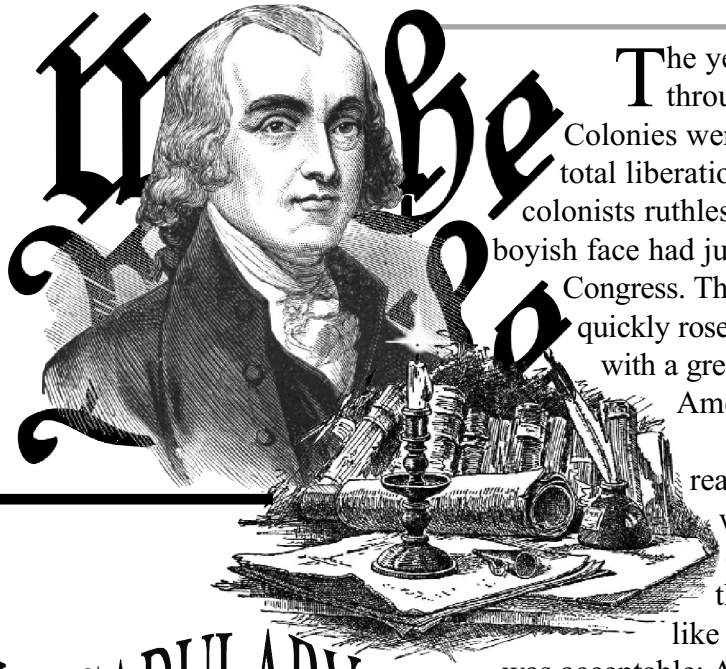


Topic 11

Dominant Personalities & Events

Topics 11-15

JAMES MADISON: FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION



The year was 1780, and war raged throughout the Colonies. America's thirteen Colonies were embroiled in a fight for freedom—total liberation from England which had suppressed colonists ruthlessly. A 29-year-old Virginian with a boyish face had just been elected to the Continental Congress. The young newcomer, James Madison, quickly rose above many of his peers as a leader with a greatness typical of those who founded America.

The War for Independence had reached a point where it soon would be won or lost. America would become a country of free people or slaves. For the young Virginian and many others like him, only one outcome to this battle was acceptable: America must be free! Believing the Colonies would indeed win their independence from England, the Continental Congress began planning the framework of a new nation.

Madison's greatness was typical of those who molded this nation. Few men were more zealous than he. During his three years in the Continental Congress, Madison saw the end of the War for Independence and the birth of a great nation.

James Madison was well prepared for his important mission. One of 12 children born to a wealthy plantation owner in Port Conway, Virginia, Madison was home schooled during his early years. His first teachers were his mother and grandmother. Beginning at age 11, the bright lad attended a ***prestigious*** boarding school for two years. There the studious Madison soaked up philosophy and Latin, along with English, math, French and Spanish. Then came another two years at home with tutoring by an ***Episcopal rector***. During this time, Madison helped teach some of his younger siblings.

Madison continued his studies at Princeton College where he became a devout student of the Reverend John Witherspoon, the college president. Witherspoon was one of

VOCABULARY

Embroiled: to become deeply involved in a conflict
Prestigious: time honored, well known
Episcopal: a denomination or branch of Christianity
Rector: clergyman
Theologian: one who studies God and religion
Conscience: awareness of what is moral and right
Revered: highly respected
Contemporary: current with the times in which one lives
Sovereign: supreme ruler
Infusing: injecting ideas or substance into something in order to become part of it

the country's leading ***theologians*** and an outspoken patriot who would sign the Declaration of Independence within the next few years. During Madison's Princeton years, a religious revival broke out, which influenced his thinking about the relationship between God and government.

Following his college education at Princeton, Madison returned to Virginia to continue theological studies. At this point in his life Madison saw something that deeply affected the young scholar. Madison was reportedly out walking with his father when the pair passed a village jail. There they heard several Baptists—apparently jailed for their beliefs—preaching from a cell window. Madison was so moved by the preaching that he began studying law and politics and became a fierce champion of religious freedom. Madison believed that religion was a matter of ***conscience***. Each person had a right to believe as he or she chose.

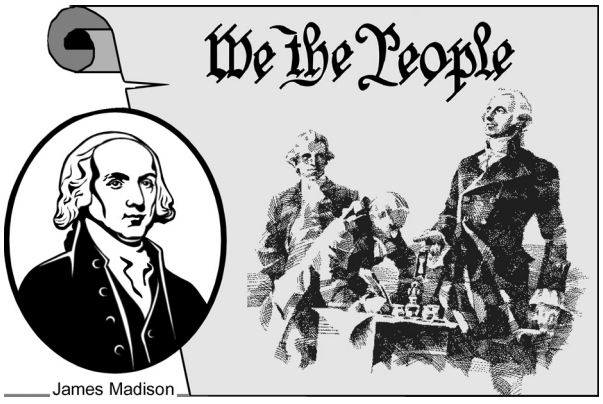
James Madison graduated from college in 1771, and spent the next 46 years building a career of public service, both in his home state of Virginia as well as the Continental Congress. He served in several capacities, such as in the Constitutional Convention and the U.S. House of Representatives, in the first U.S. Congress, where he wrote and pushed through the Bill of Rights. Madison later served his country as Secretary of State, and as the fourth President of the United States.

Madison is perhaps most remembered and ***revered*** for his work as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia in 1787. The purpose of the Convention—an event proposed and initiated by Madison—was to bring together representatives from all 13 Colonies to construct a better system of government for America.

Up to that point, the Colonies had relied on a weak constitution called the Articles of Confederation. This form of government was not working well because it gave the states legal power but neglected to establish a strong national government. It was like a body without a head. So that summer, Madison invited colonial leaders to Philadelphia to determine if a better form of government could be organized. For weeks, convention delegates examined historical documents and studied many forms of ancient and ***contemporary*** governments, seeking insight on the most effective and righteous model of governance. But, no single model of government from history satisfied the Founding Fathers of this infant nation.

After much discussion, review, debate, criticism, and advice, the distinguished form of Benjamin Franklin stood to his feet. This wise and influential Founding Father said: *"In this situation of this assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth and scarce able to distinguish it when it is presented to us, how has it happened that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings?"* Ben Franklin believed a ***sovereign*** God would guide those who sought wisdom—and seek it, they did.

Many great leaders and patriots were present, including George Washington, John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. The men who did the most toward ***infusing transcendent*** virtues and principles into the Constitution included George Washington, James Wilson, Charles Pinckney, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Roger Sherman, Alexander

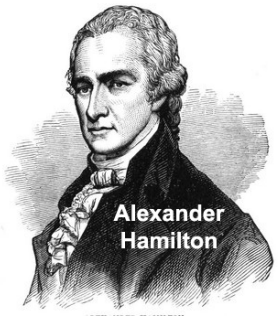


James Madison

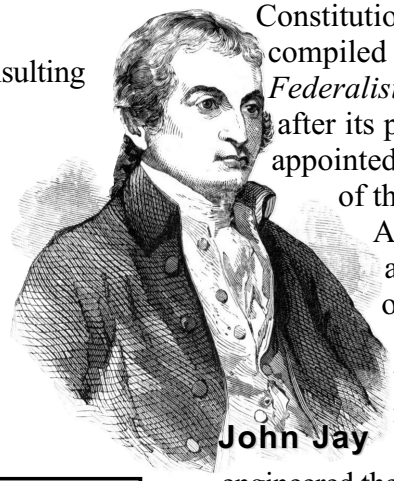
Hamilton and, most notably, James Madison. For his brilliant work during those steamy summer months of 1787, Madison has been called the "Father of the Constitution."

The big debate facing the participants in Philadelphia was how much power should be given to the states, versus a national government. Federalists like Madison wanted a strong central government. Republicans argued for a government model with more power at the state level and control closer to the people. At that time, Madison was a moderate Federalist. Later, he became more of a Republican.

Madison knew important work would take place during those closed-door sessions of the Constitutional Convention. In preparation, Madison studied approximately 200 books on history, philosophy, law and related subjects, provided by his friend, Thomas Jefferson. After consulting with other delegates from Virginia, Madison drafted a series of resolutions called The Virginia Plan. Madison's cool, judicial, and practical manner kept him far from party extremes and won him respect among the delegates. By the conclusion of the Convention, 27 of the 41 recommendations in The Virginia Plan were adopted.



To help get the Constitution approved by the states, a series of essays were written by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison. Published and distributed to the public as individual pamphlets (a popular communication media of the day), these essays attempted to justify, explain and defend the different elements of the Constitution. The essays were later compiled in a book called *The Federalist Papers*. Within a few years after its publication, John Jay would be appointed the nation's first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.



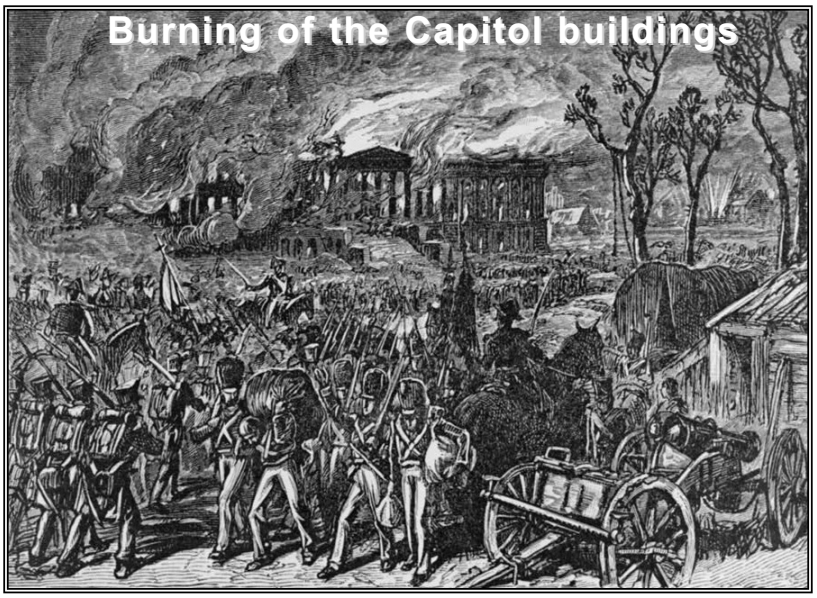
Alexander Hamilton was appointed to the first ***cabinet*** of the new government under George Washington, and thereby became the new nation's first Secretary of the Treasury. In that capacity, he engineered the establishment of America's national banking system.

The Constitution, drafted in Philadelphia that summer, is the one under which this country operates today. Of all the work done by the founders of the United States, the Constitution is considered second only to the Declaration of Independence in importance. The Declaration of Independence brought the nation into existence and established its guiding principles. The Constitution provides the details for governing the nation. Together, these two documents form the "***Great Charter***" of the United States.

After serving in America's first Congress and later as Thomas Jefferson's

VOCABULARY

Transcendent: higher than human standards
Cabinet: official group of advisors appointed by the president; each member has a title beginning with words such as "Secretary of..." followed by the department name, or the department name followed by "General" (Attorney General)
Great Charter: foundations governing documents
Torrential: violent, heavy rainfall



Secretary of State, Madison was elected America's fourth President in 1809. During Madison's two terms as President, Americans found themselves embroiled in another military conflict with England which had continued to claim America for England after the War for Independence in 1776. France and England were at war with each other in 1812, and both countries captured U.S. sailors. France forced American sailors to fight against England, and England enslaved the Americans to fight against the French. Madison protested to both countries. In 1812, England arrogantly disregarded Madison's warnings and the U.S. declared war on England. However, the young American army and navy were too weak to prohibit the British from marching on Washington D.C., including the White House.

James Madison retired from public life in 1817 after a long and respected career. Madison was a patriot role model and hero who defended the freedoms he knew would build a great nation. He was not a physically large man, nor was he in good health, but James Madison was courageous and he was committed to uphold the principles upon which patriots designed America.

And so it was in 1814 that English soldiers burned villages and terrified the townspeople close to Washington, D.C. Rumors spread of a threat to burn the American Capitol. Aware of the danger, the citizens of Washington, D.C. took action, piling their possessions into every available cart and carriage. A mass exodus of wagons, carts and coaches from the city began six days before English soldiers arrived.

Dolley Madison, the President's wife, was among the last to leave the capital. When James Madison left to supervise the American troops, he asked Dolley to oversee removal of important government papers from the Capital. Accepting the task as a mission for her country, Dolley Madison courageously remained in Washington and abandoned the White House only a few hours before English troops arrived. Myths claimed that Mrs. Madison quickly put important papers in her coach and sped from the city. Actually, she packed over a period of several days and employed many wagons for the job. Among the valuables she saved was the original Declaration of Independence and Constitution of the United States, and a large portrait of George Washington.

English soldiers ransacked Washington homes and exploded kegs of powder in the Capitol. They looted and burned federal buildings, including the White House. Twenty-four hours later, unexpected ***torrential*** rains extinguished the fires. Although a severe, "freak" hurricane destroyed many homes, the storm also demolished the English military camp nearby, forcing the English to retreat from Washington.

In December of 1814, England conceded and signed a peace treaty. The War of 1812 had established America as a respected nation around the world.

Life Principle

"The role of government is not to provide all the needs of citizens, but to provide a wall of protection around families so they can meet the needs of one another."

—Arkansas Governor Mike Huckaby

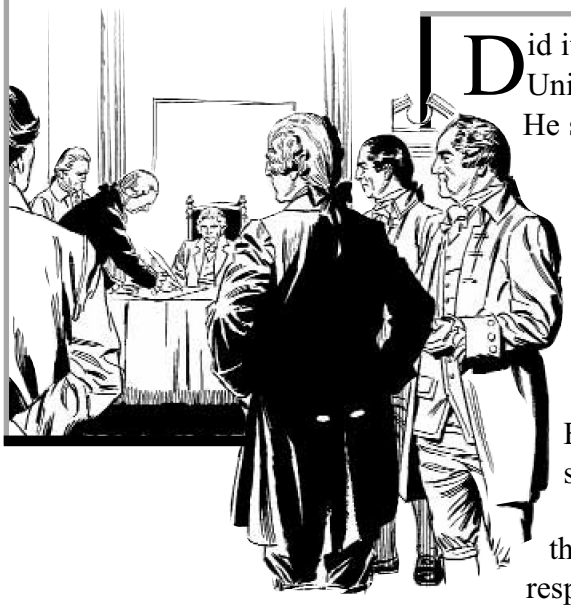
Section 3

Government & Economics

Topic 12

Topics 11-15

RATIFYING THE CONSTITUTION



Did it take a miracle to produce the Constitution of the United States? George Washington seemed to think so. He said:

> *"It appears to me, then, little short of a miracle, that the delegates from so many different states, (different) in their manners, circumstances, and prejudices, should unite in forming a system of national government . . . . "*

The delegates worked together to establish Federalism, a method of sharing power between a strong national government and the individual states.

The United States is a *republic*. In a republic, the government receives its power from, and is responsible to, the people by means of elected representatives. American people exercise their power by being well informed voters who consider public interest as well as self-interest when making political decisions. This requires time, effort, and knowledge on the part of every American. When you are old enough to vote, use that power wisely. Learn the Constitution and Bill of Rights—the principles behind your government. Let no one deceive or influence you by fancy campaign speeches; nor should you vote based merely on opinions of your friends and family. Investigate the issues for yourself and weigh them against the values that shaped America so you can make informed decisions. Know that your vote can make a difference! Remember, you will live under the laws passed by people whom you vote into office to represent or speak for you.

In keeping with the spirit of the new Constitution, the framers took the ***ratification*** process directly to the people. Americans were represented by delegates elected to state ratifying conventions.

Although ratification required only the approval of nine of the thirteen states, it proved to be a difficult task. Federalists, who wanted a strong central government, supported the Constitution. A central government would

VOCABULARY

Delegates: men elected to represent the colonists at the Constitutional Convention
Ratification: giving formal approval by voting
Pseudonym: a false name chosen to protect a person's true identity
Domestic: having to do with the home
Tranquility: being calm, peaceful
Posterity: one's descendants
Quorum: minimum number of members necessary to conduct business
Reprieves: postponement or relief of punishment

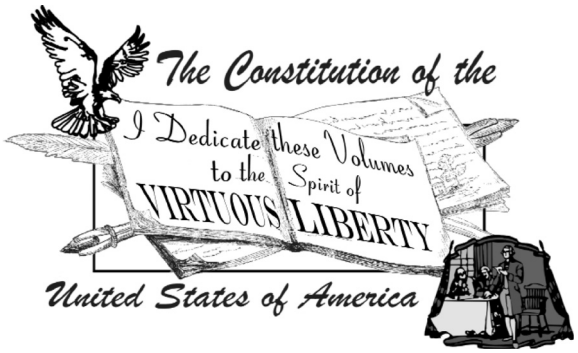
enable the United States to compete more successfully in the world of trade and commerce. It would also stabilize society more effectively than had the weaker Articles of Confederation. Anti-Federalists, including Patrick Henry and others, considered the Constitution illegal. They feared the new government would increase taxes, destroy the states, become dictatorial, and end personal liberty. Several states refused to ratify without assurances that the Constitution would be amended later to include a listing of rights. Those rights— known as the Bill of Rights—were built into the Constitution.

Federalist Alexander Hamilton did the most to convince people of the wisdom of accepting the new constitution. Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison combined their talents to write a series of 85 newspaper essays under the ***pseudonym*** *Publius*. The essays, called "The Federalist Papers," effectively presented the case for ratification. These essays turned the tide and are still considered the most authoritative commentary ever written on the U.S. Constitution.

On September 17, 1787, America possessed a document that many of the Founding Fathers believed was inspired by God. The new Constitution was submitted to the thirteen states for approval. By July of 1788, having been ratified by the necessary three-fourths of the states, the Constitution became the Supreme Law of the Land. Three of the remaining states ratified the Constitution after the Bill of Rights was promised to be added. Rhode Island waited to ratify until the Bill of Rights had actually been added to the original document. A triumph of freedom and self-government, the Constitution was, and still is, considered to be one of the greatest documents ever written. The Constitution accomplished four chief objectives:

1. It gave the nation a head—the President of the United States—whose duty it is to see that the laws are executed.
2. It gave Congress power to make laws and to raise money by taxation to maintain and defend the government.
3. It gave every citizen of the United States equal rights in all the states—with liberty to buy and sell in all parts of the country. Thus entire freedom of trade was secured throughout the Union.
4. It established the Supreme Court of the United States—to decide all questions and disputes about the powers of the national government.

The War for Independence made us an independent people; the Constitution completed the work by making us a united people—a true American nation. As John Adams said, finally "*the thirteen clocks all struck together*." A summary of main points follows.



THE PREAMBLE OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure ***domestic tranquility***, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our ***posterity***, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

THE LAW OF THE LAND

ARTICLE I: THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

***A copy of the entire U.S. Constitution is located at the end of the Activities booklet.**

Section 1. Only the United States Congress, which consists of the House of Representatives and the Senate, has the power to make federal laws. **Congress consists of 535 members: 435 in the House of Representatives, 100 in the Senate.**

Section 2. The 435 members of the **House of Representatives** are elected every two years by the voters of their respective states. Representatives must be at least 25 years old, U.S. citizens for at least seven years, and residents of the state they seek to represent. Members of the House choose their Speaker and other officers, and have the sole power to initiate impeachment proceedings (bring charges of misconduct against a public official). Through impeachment, a president, a vice president, or civil officers can be removed from office for high crimes such as treason or bribery.

Section 3. The **Senate** is composed of two senators from each state; both chosen by the people of their respective states to serve six year terms. In the lawmaking process, each senator has one vote. Originally, the Constitution provided that senators would be chosen by their respective state legislatures. However, since the 17th Amendment was adopted in 1913, senators have been chosen by popular election.



Senators are divided into three classes, with one third elected every second year. This means that the Senate is a rotating body—all its seats are never open for election at the same time. Because senators do not have to be re-elected every two years, they may be less subject to political pressure and better able to concentrate on national affairs. Senators must be at least 30 years old, U.S. citizens for at least nine years, and residents of the state they represent.

The vice president of the United States is **President of the Senate**, but votes only in case of a tie. Members of the Senate choose their other officers and a president *pro tempore* (temporary), who serves in the absence of the vice president. The Senate has the sole power to preside over impeachment proceedings; no one can be convicted without the agreement of two-thirds of the members present.



Section 4. Section 4 establishes election details and meeting dates for Congress. **Section 5.** A majority constitutes a ***quorum***, but a smaller number may keep the House of Representatives or the Senate in session. Each house decides on rules for its proceedings, including guidelines for disciplining members for unacceptable conduct. A member of Congress may be expelled if two-thirds of the members agree. Each house maintains a journal of its proceedings, called the *Congressional Record*, which publishes a record for every day that either house of Congress is in session.

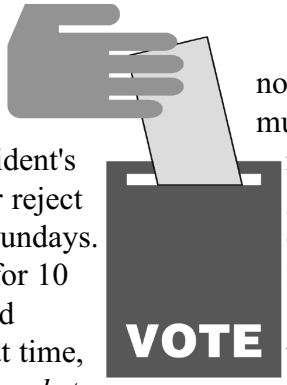
Section 6. Each house sets its members' salaries, which are paid out of the U.S. Treasury. Except for treason, a felony, or breach of the peace, members of Congress are immune from arrest during attendance at a session.

Section 7. Bills may be proposed in either house, except for bills to raise revenue, which must originate in the House. The Senate can amend any revenue bill sent to it from the House of Representatives.

All bills which have passed both houses of Congress must be presented to the president of the United States. If he signs a bill, it becomes law. If he vetoes (rejects) a bill, it is returned with his objections to the

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house where it originated. The bill and objections are then reconsidered. A bill can become law without the president's signature if he fails to sign or reject it for 10 days, not counting Sundays. If the president does not act for 10 days after receiving a bill, and Congress adjourns during that time, the bill dies. This is called a *pocket veto*. With a two-thirds vote in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, a bill can become law even after the president vetoes it.



Section 8. Congress has the power to levy (demand to be paid) and collect taxes, to pay debts and provide for the general welfare and common defense of the United States. All federal taxes will be levied at the same rates throughout the United States. Congress has the power to declare war, make laws, raise land and naval forces and militia, borrow money, regulate both foreign and interstate trade, establish uniform naturalization and bankruptcy laws, coin money, set standard weights and measure, punish counterfeiting, establish post offices, grant patents and copyrights and create courts lower than the Supreme Court. **Congress also has the power to acquire land from the states for federal purposes.**



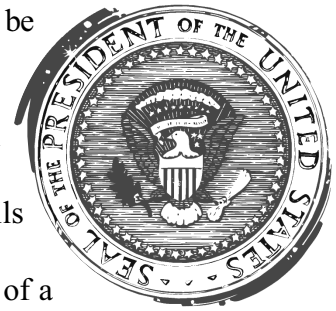
Section 9. Powers of Congress are limited. Civil liberties and private property are protected. For example, no legislative act can inflict punishment without a judicial trial. **The Writ of Habeas Corpus**, an extremely important provision, requires that an accused person must be brought before a judge or court. This protects the accused individual from illegal imprisonment. Exceptions to the *Writ of Habeas Corpus* are permitted only when necessary for public safety.

Congress can tax imported goods, but not articles exported from the states. Congress must give a public account for all federal money spent. No titles of nobility can be granted by the United States, and no public official can accept bribes or titles from a foreign government.

Section 10. States cannot enter into treaties or alliances with other states or with foreign countries; coin money; grant titles of nobility; or engage in war unless actually invaded. A state can maintain a militia, but cannot keep a standing army or navy. Like Congress, the states are forbidden to tax exports.

Article II: Executive Department

Section 1. The president is the chief executive and highest elected official of the United States. He must be born in the United States, at least 35 years of age, and a U.S. resident for at least 14 years. The president's compensation shall neither be increased nor decreased during his term of office.



The president and vice president are elected for four year terms. Details of the electoral process, pertaining to the election of a president and vice president, are spelled out in this section. The electoral college is a body of people chosen in each state to select the president and vice president. Each state has the same number of electors as it has members of Congress. Although the electoral college remains in effect, some of its provisions were changed by the 12th Amendment. If a president dies in office or is otherwise removed, the vice president becomes president.

The new president takes the oath of office, usually administered by the Chief Justice of the United States:

"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of

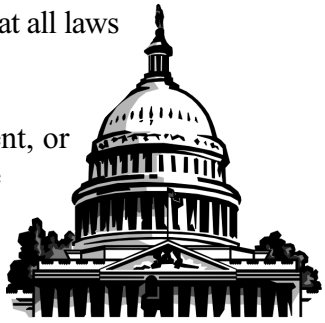
***A copy of the entire U.S. Constitution is located at the end of the Activities booklet.**

President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Section 2. This section of the Constitution explains the president's powers and duties. The president is Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Army and Navy, and of state militias, when called into actual service for the United States. His ability to have a presidential cabinet is granted in this section. In federal cases, the president can grant ***reprieves*** and pardons, except in cases of impeachment.

The president is allowed to make treaties when two-thirds of Senators present concur (agree). He can nominate and appoint ambassadors, Supreme Court judges, and other public officials with advice and consent of the Senate. The president can temporarily fill vacancies that occur during the recess of the Senate.

Section 3. From time to time, the president gives Congress information regarding the **State of the Union** and recommends measures he considers necessary. This is called the State of the Union address, which informs the nation's lawmakers and the American people. It is followed by a proposed federal budget and an economic report. The president can call either one or both houses of Congress into special session. He receives ambassadors and other officials from foreign countries, commissions all officers of the United States, and takes care that all laws are faithfully executed.



Section 4. The president, vice president, or any civil officer of the United States will be removed from office if impeached and convicted of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article III: Judicial Department

Section 1. The judicial power of the United States is vested in the **Supreme Court** and in lower federal courts established by Congress. Judges of the Supreme Court and other federal courts hold their offices "during good behavior," which is usually for life.

Section 2. Judicial power extends to all cases arising under the Constitution, U.S. laws, and treaties. The judiciary was established to assure that all legislation and acts of the President were consistent with the original intent of the Constitution to maintain an effective system of checks and balance among the three branches of government. (Unfortunately, with the passing of time, activist judges have abused this process called "judicial review" and issued court decisions based on previous court cases rather than on strict interpretation of the U.S. Constitution. The Founding Fathers warned against this practice, lest a form of "judicial tyranny" be established through which unelected federal judges, rather than elected representatives, could strike down laws with which the judges disagreed.) In cases affecting ambassadors and other public officials, and those in which a state is a party, the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction. This means the Supreme Court will hear the case first, not on an appeal from a lower court. In other cases, the Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction, or the power to hear a case that has been appealed from a lower court. All crimes, except in cases of impeachment, will be tried by a jury in the state where the crime was committed.

Section 3. Treason consists only of levying war against the United States, giving aid and comfort to, or adhering to enemies of the United States. **Congress decides the punishment for treason.**

***A copy of the entire U.S. Constitution is located at the end of the Activities booklet.**

Article IV: Relations Among the States

Section 1. Each state shall honor the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state.

Section 2. Citizens of all states are entitled to privileges and immunities of citizens in other states. In other words, one state cannot discriminate unfairly against residents of other states. A person charged with any crime shall be extradited, or returned, to the state having jurisdiction, upon demand of that state.

Section 3. This section regulates the formation and addition of new states to the Union—a power given to Congress. Congress can also make laws concerning territories or public lands of the United States.

Section 4. The United States guarantees every state a republican (representative) form of government, and shall protect them against attack from outside their borders, or from violence within the state.

Article V: Amending the Constitution

Known as the "elastic clause," this article gives Congress the right to propose amendments and describes the process. Congress has "stretched" this to pass laws covering new situations.

Article VI: General Provisions

This article is known as the *"supremacy clause"* whereby the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land, and judges in every state are bound by it. Senators, Representatives, and other public officials of the nation and individual states shall be bound by oath to support the Constitution, but no religious test will ever be required as a qualification for any office or public trust.

Article VII: Ratification

Ratification by nine of the thirteen states was required to establish the Constitution as law. This article lists the names of all 39 framers of the new Constitution. George Read from Delaware signed the document twice—for himself and his absent colleague, John Dickinson.

With ratification of the new Constitution, the stage had been set for the United States to take its place in the world.

Life Principle

"A nation ruled by moral principles needs few policemen."



—Ronald Johnson

***A copy of the entire U.S. Constitution is located at the end of the Activities booklet.**

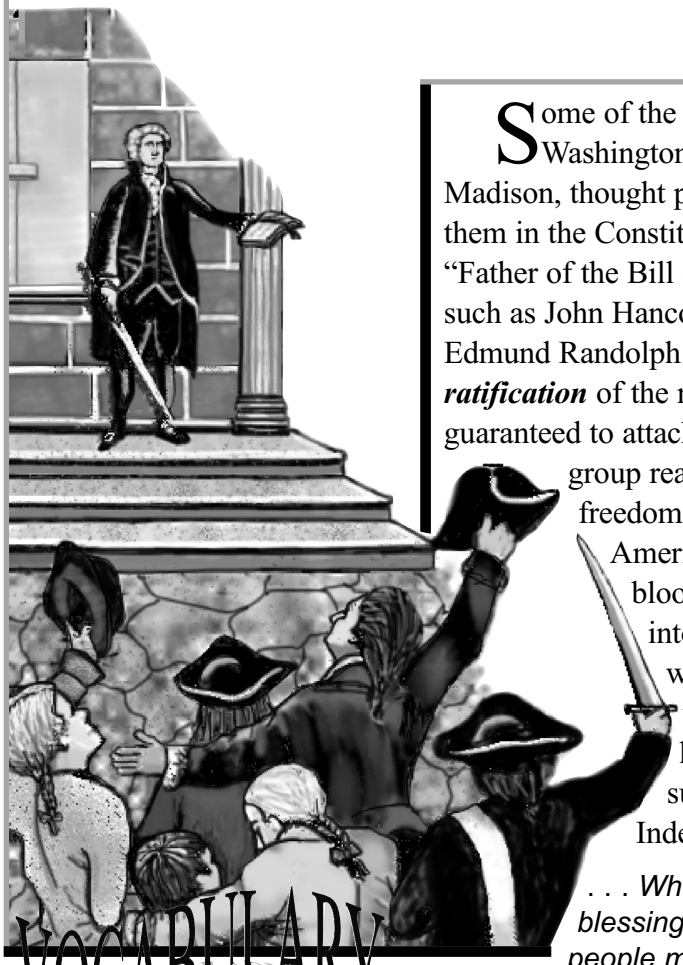
Section 3

Government & Economics

Topic 13

Topic 11-15

THE FIRST TEN AMENDMENTS



Some of the Federalist Founding Fathers, such as George Washington, John Jay, Alexander Hamilton and James Madison, thought personal freedoms were so basic that naming them in the Constitution was unnecessary. George Mason, "Father of the Bill of Rights," and other anti-Federalist patriots such as John Hancock, Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry and Edmund Randolph refused to support and encourage ***ratification*** of the new Constitution until James Madison guaranteed to attach a Bill of Rights. Patrick Henry and his group realized that describing basic rights and freedoms would be crucial to safeguarding the American way of life. These men had just fought a bloody war to be free from government intrusion into family, church, and business affairs, and were fearful of any government which might take away "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Reflecting on the recent events surrounding the winning of American Independence, Patrick Henry cautioned:

. . . Whether this [independence] will prove a blessing or a curse, will depend upon the use our people make of the blessings, which a gracious God hath bestowed on us.

If they are wise, they will be great and happy. If they are of a contrary character, they will be miserable. Righteousness alone can exalt them as a nation. Reader! Whoever thou art, remember this, and in thy sphere practice virtue thyself, and encourage it in others.

Less than one year after the Constitution was ratified, James Madison, Congressman from Virginia, led the House of Representatives in sponsoring 12 amendments pertaining to specific freedoms. Ten of those amendments, which became known as the Bill of Rights, were ratified by the states in 1791. These and all succeeding amendment proposals had to be ratified by three-fourths of the states in order to become actual Constitutional amendments.

VOCABULARY

Ratification: formal approval of a document
Cornerstones: basic, foundational elements
Hindrance: an obstruction or delay in progress
Judeo: Jewish
Quarter: to provide housing for military personnel
Coerced: forced, dominated, restrained, controlled
Impartial: unprejudiced

AMENDMENT I

The First Amendment is the most comprehensive and important in the Bill of Rights. It guarantees five ***cornerstones*** of American life: **freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly** and **freedom of petition.**

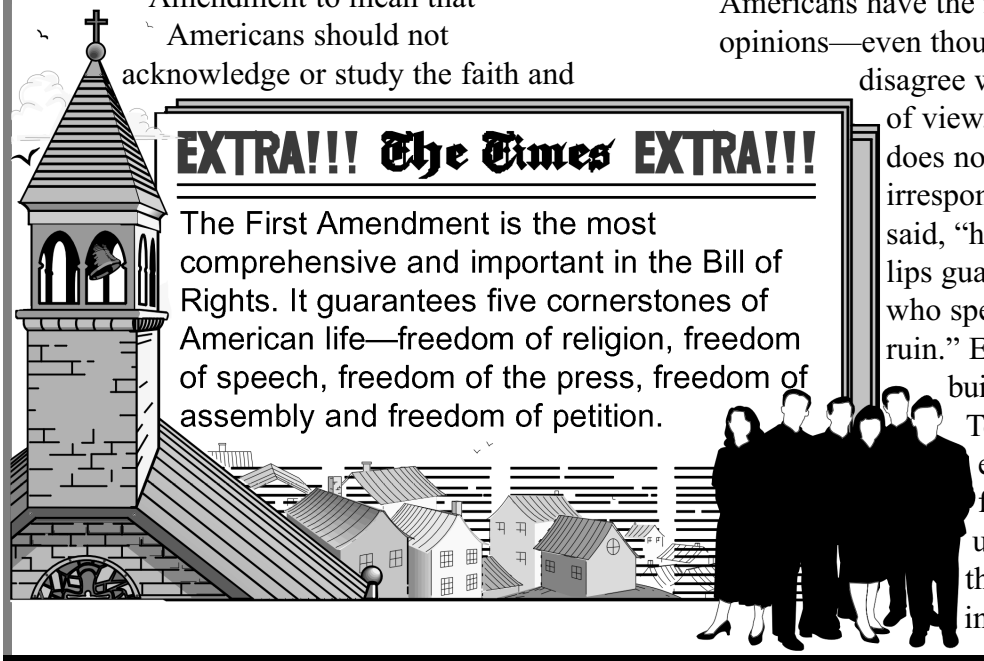
A. **FREEDOM OF RELIGION** means the government cannot establish a state religion (such as the Church of England), or compel anyone to attend or support any religious institution. This section also guarantees the free exercise of religion without government interference. The exact wording is:

> "*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, of prohibiting the free exercise thereof . . .*"

America's founders were religious men seeking to practice their faith without ***hindrance***. They never intended Freedom *of* Religion to mean that American institutions should be free *from* religious principles. In recent years, some people have interpreted the First Amendment to mean that Americans should not acknowledge or study the faith and high moral character of this nation's Founding Fathers. The men who established the First Amendment deliberately built into the Constitution a safeguard against a government ruled by a particular religious group. The Founders were, however, deeply religious. They were guided by moral principles based on ***Judeo***-Christian beliefs, as referenced in 98 percent of their writings.

James Madison, Patrick Henry and other Founders intended for citizens to be free to practice their faith. Contrary to some school policies, the Constitution allows students to pray and carry Bibles to school. Athletes may pray before and after games. Students and their families are free to sing Christmas carols and hymns at school holiday gatherings. Prayer and worship were a dynamic and documented part of the Founding Fathers' lives. The First Amendment protects America's religious heritage, enabling citizens to acknowledge the religious principles of freedom which made America a great nation.

B. **FREEDOM OF SPEECH** signifies that Americans have the right to express their opinions—even though others may disagree with particular points of view. Freedom of speech does not mean speaking irresponsibly. It has been said, "he who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly comes to ruin." Every freedom has a built-in responsibility. To abuse freedom endangers that same freedom. Increasing use of obscenities in the entertainment industry is one highly

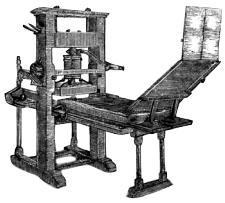


***A copy of the entire U.S. Constitution is located at the end of the Activities booklet.**

visible example of a practice that degrades the speaker and often offends the audience.

The dictionary defines "speech" as oral communication, something spoken or written for presentation. Abuses that have no apparent connection with speech, such as flag burning and vulgar expressions presented as "fine art," have also been argued under this amendment.

C. **Freedom of the Press** means the government cannot control newspapers and other types of media.



D. **Freedom of Assembly** guarantees the right to peaceful demonstrations and assemblies.

E. **Freedom of Petition** insures that Americans have the right to petition government for changes considered desirable.

AMENDMENT II

This amendment guarantees that citizens shall have the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (personal weapons such as rifles, pistols and swords for self-defense).



The right to defend a person's life, family or property is a basic pillar of American freedom. Guns in the hands of tyrants and criminals, but not in the hands of citizens, pose a threat to personal and national security. One of the first things dictators and criminals want to do is disarm the people under the guise of safety so they are easily conquered, controlled, and robbed. For example, in dictatorships such as China, Russian, Nazi Germany and Iran, private gun ownership is illegal; citizens are at the mercy of their tyrranical leaders. In recent years, various "democratic" nations such as England and Australia voted to confiscate all privately owned guns. As could logically be expected, the criminals found "unlawful" ways to keep their weapons and proceeded to terrorize their "law-abiding", unarmed, fellow citizens. On the other hand, Kennesaw County in Georgia mandates that every home have a firearm for protection, with the result that Kennesaw has the lowest crime rate in the United States. Statistics prove that "when guns are outlawed, only the outlaws will have guns." If the 2nd Amendment were ever dissolved, many patriots fear that Americans would likely lose their other freedoms within a generation.

AMENDMENT III

During peace time, Americans have the Right not to ***Quarter*** Soldiers or other military personnel in their homes. In war time, military troops must be housed only in a manner prescribed by law.

AMENDMENT IV

This amendment protects against Unreasonable Search and Seizure. Search warrants can only be issued for "probable cause." Government agencies cannot invade the privacy of homes or businesses without evidence or reason for a search or arrest.

AMENDMENT V

Amendment V guarantees Due Process of Law. A person accused of a capital crime must be indicted by a grand jury before being brought to trial. This amendment protects the accused from being ***coerced*** to testify against himself, and states that private property may not be taken for public use without fair payment. This amendment also prohibits "double jeopardy," which means a person cannot be tried again for a crime if he or she has been acquitted of, or paid the penalty for, that crime.

***A copy of the entire U.S. Constitution is located at the end of the Activities booklet.**

AMENDMENT VI

In criminal cases, the accused has the following rights: a Speedy and Public Trial by an ***impartial*** jury, to be informed of the charges, to be confronted with witnesses against him, to obtain witnesses in his behalf and the assistance of legal counsel.

AMENDMENT VII

The right to a Jury Trial is preserved in common lawsuits exceeding twenty dollars.

AMENDMENT VIII

This amendment Forbids Cruel and Unusual Punishment and excessive bail or fines.

AMENDMENT IX

Rights are not Limited to those listed in the Constitution.

AMENDMENT X

All Power not given to the federal government or prohibited to the States belongs to the States or to the People.

When the American people adopted the Constitution with its Bill of Rights, they received a timeless gift. Like all gifts, freedom must be guarded and cherished if it is to be fully enjoyed and passed on to future generations.

Life Principle



"The worth of a man is measured by the principles which guide his choices."

—Anonymous

Memory Work: Memorize the summary of the Bill of Rights on this page and be prepared to quote it to your teacher and answer questions on your activity section.

The Bill of Rights

(summarized)

Amendment 1:
Freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of petition.

Amendment 2:
The right to keep and bear arms.

Amendment 3:
Right not to quarter soldiers.

Amendment 4:
Freedom from unreasonable search and seizure.

Amendment 5:
Right of due process of law.

Amendment 6:
Right of speedy and public trial.

Amendment 7:
Right to a jury trial.

Amendment 8:
Freedom from cruel and unusual punishment.

Amendment 9:
Rights are not limited to the constitution.

Amendment 10:
Power not given to the federal government belongs to the states or to the people.

***A copy of the entire U.S. Constitution is located at the end of your Activities booklet.**



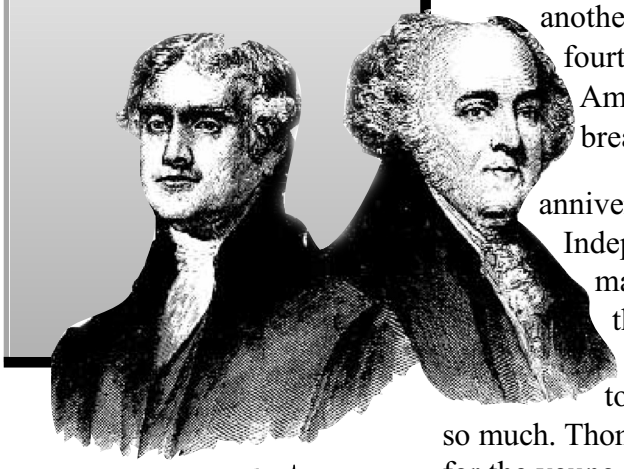
Topic 14

Dominant Personalities & Events

Section 3

Topics 11-15

ADAMS & JEFFERSON



On a picturesque plantation in Virginia, the old southern gentleman lay dying in his bed. Struggling to wake up, he turned his head toward the doctor at his bedside. "*Is it the Fourth*?" he whispered softly. "*It soon will be*," replied his physician. The weakened man drifted in and out of sleep for another day. Then, knowing he had hung on until the fourth day of the month, Thomas Jefferson, one of America's Founding Fathers, released his last breath.

It was the Fourth of July, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson had been a young man when he signed it, but he still remembered the day—a day that had changed world history. Strong-willed all of his life, he was determined to live until the birthday of the country he loved so much. Thomas Jefferson knew that July 4th was a milestone for the young United States and he wanted to share it.

Hundreds of miles away on a Massachusetts farm, another elderly statesman lay close to death. Once when he awoke, a servant asked the 90-year-old, "*Do you know, sir, what day it is*?" The dying man knew. "*O yes*," he said, "*it is the glorious Fourth of July. God bless it. God bless you all*." John Adams, too, was glad he had lived to see the 4th of July. Adams and Jefferson died on the 50th anniversary of the United States of America.

July 4, 1826 was a day of joy and grief. There was joy because America was 50 years old. In big cities and small towns great gatherings took place. Bands played, ***persuasive orators*** spoke and people cheered, remembering the outstanding events symbolized by their celebration.

It was also a day of great sadness. Two of the most influential men who had helped ***orchestrate*** America's independence were gone. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams left an ***indelible*** mark on the birth and infancy of this great nation.

VOCABULARY

Persuasive: ability to change another person's opinion
Orator: person who can speak very well to audiences
Orchestrate: design, compose, lead, put together
Indelible: cannot be erased
Philosophers: people who discuss ideas
Autocratic: rulers who have absolute authority
Diplomat: one who is skilled in negotiating agreements between nations
Staunch: reliable, loyal, devoted

Thomas Jefferson:

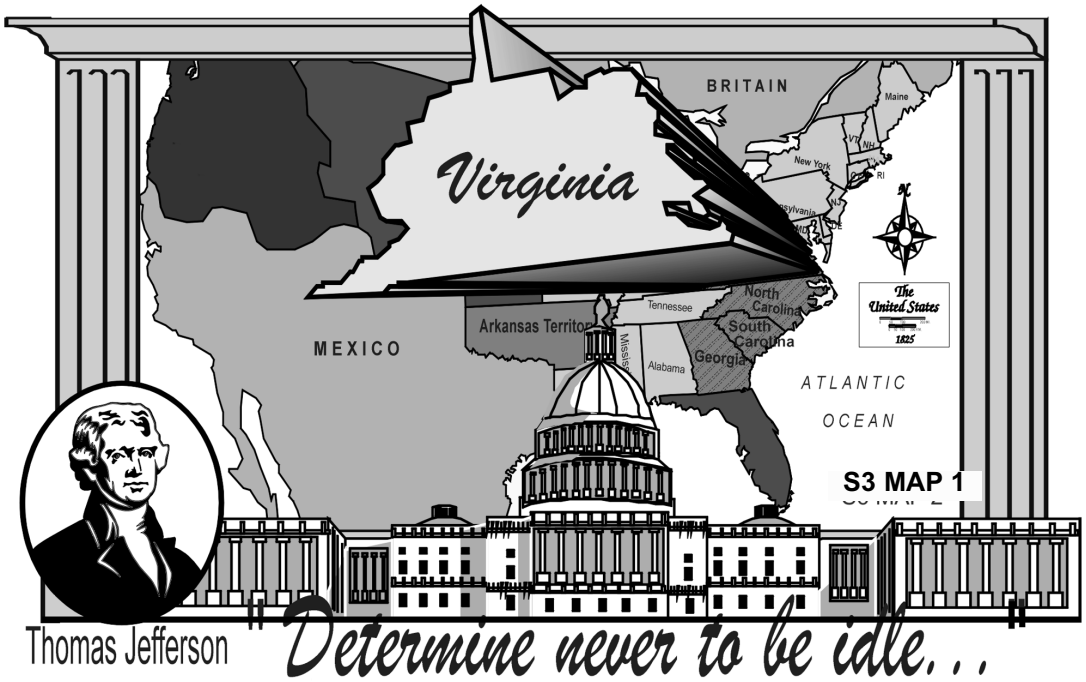
As one of the most brilliant figures in American history, Thomas Jefferson made many names for himself: lawyer, scholar, musician, inventor, writer, architect, statesman and book collector. One set of books in his personal collection became the beginnings of the Library of Congress, the world's second largest library. The red-haired Jefferson was a big man. He stood nearly six feet, three inches tall with a large but lean build and a long, square-jawed face.

The greatest contribution this wealthy Virginian made to America was his role in creating the Declaration of Independence from the consensus of ideas of the committee designated to compose the document. Not only did he sign this history-changing document, but he wrote it in just two days! Jefferson himself counted drafting this document as one of his greatest lifetime achievements. It was chief of the three accomplishments he requested to be immortalized on his tombstone.

Jefferson was among the world's greatest ***philosophers***. He believed that human rights were a gift from God and should not be controlled by ***autocratic*** governments. His second achievement in life was to preserve religious freedom in Virginia and the United States of America. Jefferson believed that government should be responsible to uphold life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for the American people. Jefferson designed Virginia laws and the Declaration of Independence on the belief that Divine authority established freedom from government tyranny.

Jefferson was one of ten children born to a wealthy Virginia plantation owner. Young Thomas' education was the private instruction typical of plantation children which included attending the esteemed College of William and Mary. He was happily married to Martha Wayles. They had six children, only one of which lived past age 25. The couple enjoyed playing music together and spending time at Monticello, the plantation home designed by Jefferson. Martha was only 33 years old when she died, leaving Jefferson depressed for several months. He never remarried.

As much as he enjoyed his home at Monticello, Jefferson devoted much time



furthering the principles of democracy and serving the new nation he had helped establish. He carried out diplomatic assignments overseas and held positions under two U.S. presidents: Washington and Adams.

Jefferson was a logical candidate for the third President of the United States, but he faced bitter opposition. A vicious campaign painted him as unfit for the presidency, but he overcame criticism and served two terms as America's chief executive. During those eight years, Jefferson made important decisions for the United States. The most important decision was the Louisiana Purchase which more than doubled the size of the United States.

After serving as President, Jefferson retired to his beloved Monticello plantation, but his service to the public was far from over. He founded the University of Virginia where he helped develop curriculum, served on the board of trustees, became the first rector and designed some of the buildings still standing on that campus today. Jefferson's 17- year relationship with the university was the third hallmark of his life. He also spent time experimenting with rice production and writing.

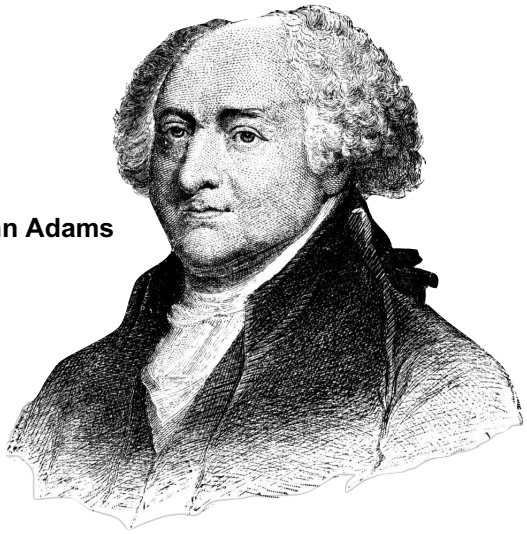
Thomas Jefferson was born into a wealthy family and sustained his wealth through hard work and creative use of his time. Jefferson believed in occupying himself productively. The former President said:

> *"Determine never to be idle . . . . It is wonderful how much may be done if we are always doing."*

Thomas Jefferson was "always doing," and this country would not be the same without his important contributions.

John Adams:

John Adams was born March 4, 1737 into a family of hard-working Puritan farmers in Braintree, Massachusetts (just outside of Boston). John's father devoted special attention to the development of John's moral character. He referred to his father, who served in the military and as deacon in his church, as "*the honestest man I ever knew*."



John Adams

Education was important to Adams' father who taught his son how to read. Adams attended a private school and then Harvard College. Both his well-rounded home life and academic education helped shape him into one of the most remembered ***diplomats*** and public speakers during America's move toward independence.

Following his college work, John Adams became a teacher and, later, a lawyer. He developed self-discipline early in life. In his second year of teaching, a diary entry states:

> *"I am resolved to rise with the sun and to study the scriptures on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings, and to study some Latin author the other three mornings."*

Adams felt his education gave him a responsibility to his fellow men. Another diary entry states, "*I will strive with all my*

s*oul to be something more than persons who have had less advantages than myself*." He recognized that it was his responsibility to improve his own life.

John Adams was a ***staunch*** patriot who was deeply moved by the protests of the Stamp Act, the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party. He became passionately involved in the First and Second Continental Congresses and the move toward national independence from England. He worked many months and long hours writing, debating, and planning the fight for a separate nation.

Like most of America's Founding Fathers, Adams was totally committed to the ideals of liberty. He understood what being free could cost. He was prepared to die for what he believed. After the Declaration of Independence was written, John Adams wrote in a letter to his wife:

> *"I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure that it will cost us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these States. Yet through all the gloom I can see rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is worth more than all the means.*"

During the war years, John Adams served a short time as chairman of the Board of War, whereby he tried to keep the Continental Army equipped. Adams also served as a diplomat to France where he took part in negotiating the Treaty of Paris in 1783 that officially ended America's War for Independence.

After the war, when George Washington was elected President of the United States, John Adams became the country's first vice president. Eight years later, Adams was elected as this nation's second president, a responsibility he honorably performed for four years. During his presidential term, in a speech to the military, Adam's said of the Constitution:

> "*. . . Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.*"

John Adams' major accomplishment as president was keeping the United States out of war with France.

Adams' marriage to Abigail Smith was one of the highlights of his life. Equally well-educated, Abigail was a devoted helpmate to her husband. The couple had five children. One of their sons, John Quincy Adams, served as America's sixth President. John and Abigail exchanged frequent letters during times of separation. The letters are a beautiful commentary of colonial times and a loving marriage.

John Adams and Thomas Jefferson stood for something greater than anything either man could accomplish as an individual. Along with their contributions in writing, revising and ratifying the Declaration of Independence, both men served as able presidents and left behind a legacy of commitment to freedom.

Life Principle



"Think of three things: from where you came, where you are going and to whom you must give account."

—Benjamin Franklin

Section 3



American Icons

Topic 15

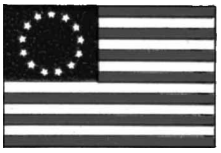
Topics 11-15

SYMBOLS, PLEDGE & CREED

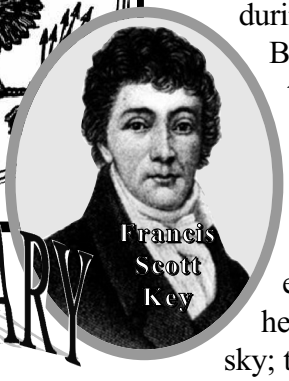
America's love for freedom is represented by many of her symbols. The following are just a few.

The Stars and Stripes

In 1776, General George Washington brought a flag design to Betsy Ross in the upholstery shop she and her husband owned in Philadelphia. Washington believed that a national flag would unify the troops during the War for Independence. Mrs. Betsy Ross is credited with making the flag using the design Washington brought: only suggesting that he use five-point stars instead of six-point stars. The United States flag was to have 13 stripes, representing the original thirteen Colonies. General Washington explained the symbolism—the stars are taken from the heavens, representing a rising new constellation in the sky; the red was from the mother country, England (whose flag is mostly red). The white stripes are to separate the red, representing our separation from England. In the original flag, thirteen stars were placed in a circle to show that all thirteen Colonies were of equal value in the new nation. The Continental Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes as our national flag on June 14, 1777, which came to be known as Flag Day. Today, 50 stars stand in the blue field—one for each of the 50 states. The United States Flag, affectionately referred to as the *Stars and Stripes*, *Old Glory*, the *Red, White and Blue* or as the *Star Spangled Banner* waves over battlefields, homesteads, schools, ships and celebrations, stirring American hearts to pride in their country.







Pledge to the Flag

> *I **pledge allegiance** to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the **Republic** for which it stands: One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was written in 1892 by Francis Bellamy. Although recited by

VOCABULARY

Pledge: to promise
Allegiance: love, devotion, commitment
Republic: people are governed by means of elected representatives
Etiquette (et i ket)***:*** good manners, proper conduct regarding a thing
Protocol: a formal code prescribing strict adherence to correct etiquette and ceremony
Authenticate: to prove a thing to be true, valid or official
Die: a device by which to shape an object
Creed: a formal statement of basic beliefs
Ominous: dark and threatening, foreboding
Perilous: very dangerous

millions of Americans for many years, the basic pledge was not made official until June 22, 1942. The phrase "under God" was officially added by Congress on Flag Day, June 14, 1954, at the request of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Flag Manners

The Flag is a symbol that embodies or represents America's courageous history, noble ideals, founding documents, patriotic emotion and the "*divine right of liberty in every man—liberty through law*," as noted by Henry Ward Beecher. These powerful concepts dictate the use of special Flag ***etiquette.*** This is because of the universal understanding that the greater the power of a person, government or institution, the greater is the amount of ***protocol*** involved.



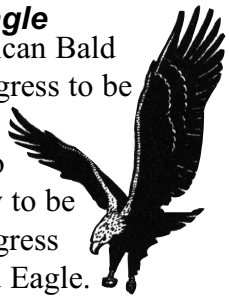
Practicing good manners with the Flag demonstrates that you love and appreciate America and the rights and privileges you enjoy by living in the land of the free. Not to honor the flag, or to abuse her, is to state by means of actions that you are either ignorant of flag etiquette, and/or are ungrateful for the blessings you enjoy for which others have bled and died.

Flag etiquette or protocol noted here was prescribed by Congress in 1942 and includes the basic concepts with minor modifications.

- Treat the Flag with great care and respect and never let it touch the ground, water, or anything beneath it.
- The Flag must not be tied down—it must be allowed to fly free. The only exception is when draped over the coffin of a soldier or head of state. Before the coffin is lowered into the ground, the Flag is properly tri-folded and presented to the widow or next of kin.
- When displayed with state or other flags, "Old Glory" is to be at the top, in front of or to the right of other flags. The only exception is in international displays in which all flags are the same size and at the same level.
- When displayed flat on a wall or suspended without a staff or pole, the blue field of stars (the union) should be on the observer's upper left.
- When a president dies, flags are flown at half-mast as a sign of national mourning.
- An upside down flag is a sign of dire distress of national significance.
- The flag is to be flown over all government buildings (and may be flown elsewhere) on all fair weather days, and is not to be left outside in rain or inclement weather.
- The Flag is to be raised each morning and taken down before dark (in non-military settings) unless a spotlight illuminates it at night.
- When the Flag passes by in a parade or when being hoisted or lowered from a flag pole, persons present should stand at attention and salute (military style if soldier or scout style if boy or girl scout), remove hat and place over heart (if civilian male with hat), or place hand over heart (all others).
- Flags are not to be worn as clothing. They may be carefully washed and mended. When too ragged or faded to be a proud symbol, they should be either folded and saved, or given to the American Legion or other patriotic organization to be burned ceremoniously. Do not throw Flags in the trash.
- Flags are not to be burned as a protest against American policies.

The American Bald Eagle

In 1782, the American Bald Eagle was chosen by Congress to be the national bird. Benjamin Franklin tried to make a case for the turkey to be the national bird, but Congress fortunately chose the Bald Eagle.



Because it is the national bird, the bald eagle is a protected species.

The Great Seal of the United States



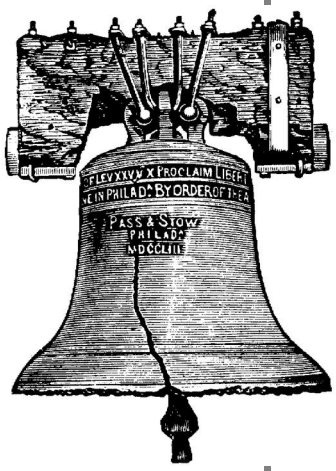
Founding Father, Charles Thompson, who was Secretary of the Continental Congress, was tasked to review the ideas of three Great Seal committees between 1776 and 1782, and construct a design acceptable to Congress. Many concepts had been proposed, including one early design by Benjamin Franklin for the reverse side, depicting Pharoah's Army drowning as they pursued the Israelites across the Red Sea. The Seal was encircled by Thomas Jefferson's quote, *"Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God."*

Charles Thompson's design of the Great Seal, adopted on June 20, 1782, is used to authenticate important documents of a national stature. On the front of the Seal is our national bird, the Bald Eagle. It holds an olive branch in one talon, representing our desire for peace. The other talon grips 13 arrows, representing our ability to fight if we must. Its chest bears a shield, representing self-reliance.

The stripes on the shield remind us of the flag; the blue field (background) represents the branches of government. The Eagle's beak holds a banner reading *"E Pluribus Unum,"* which is Latin for "Out of Many, One." This banner represents the states uniting in one nation. Over the Eagle's head is a cloud, out of which comes the "new constellation" of stars which represents the original thirteen Colonies.

The reverse side of the Seal contains other symbols: The Eye of Providence representing God is placed over a pyramid having 13 levels, whose foundation stone is dated 1776. The motto *Annuit coeptis* means "He (God) has favored our undertakings." The motto *Novus ordo seclorum* means "a new order of the ages" and refers to the new American Republic. The die (or mold) for the face of the seal is on display in the State Building in Washington, D.C. A die for the reverse side has never been cut.

The Liberty Bell



Cast in London, England in 1751, the bell that was to become known as the Liberty Bell was hung in the building in Philadelphia (later called *Independence Hall*) where the Continental Congress would later meet to write and sign the Declaration of Independence. The Liberty Bell weighs 2,000 pounds, and bears an inscription from the Bible: "*Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof . . . .*" It chimed to declare our independence on July 4th, 1776, and it proudly rang out our independence at the war's end. It tolled when Jefferson, Adams and Madison died. In 1876, it was on display during the 100 year celebration of our liberty. At that time, it became known as *The Liberty Bell*. It is on display today at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The American's Creed

In 1917, William Tyler Page won a national contest for "the best summary of America's political faith." His 100-word statement was adopted and proclaimed by the government's

Committee on Publications. In 1918 the ***Creed*** was "accepted on behalf of the American people" by the House of Representatives.

The American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

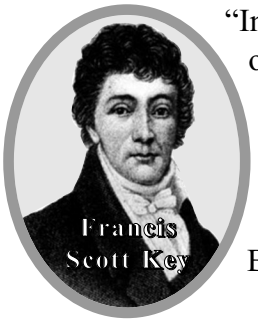


Our National Motto

"In God We Trust" was inspired by Francis Scott Key's wording of the last verse of the Star Spangled Banner:

. . . Then conquer we must,
When our cause it is just,
And this be our motto:
'In God is our trust'. . .

In 1864, Congress authorized "In God We Trust" stamped on all U.S. coins. In 1955, the authorization was extended to all paper money printed thereafter. The following year, Congress enacted a law making "In God We Trust" the official motto of the United States.



National Anthem

The War of 1812 was between England (the British) and the new United States of America. After invading Washington D.C. and burning the capitol in September of 1814, the British headed for Fort McHenry at the entrance to Baltimore's harbor. A very large American battle Flag (twenty-nine feet by thirty-six feet) flew high over the harbor. Francis Scott Key was an American attorney detained on board a British ship during the battle that followed. As the British bombarded the American fort, the night sky was afire with rockets and bursting bombs. In the ***ominous*** light, Mr. Key could not always see the Stars and Stripes waving over the harbor. As dawn broke, the Flag still waved. The fort was standing. The Americans had withstood the British attack! Mr. Key was so stirred by the sight, he penned the words to a poem that was to become our national anthem, *The Star Spangled Banner.*

Although *The Star Spangled Banner* was not officially adopted by Congress as our National Anthem until March 3, 1931, Francis Scott Key's words have inspired millions of Americans since 1814.

Note: Ask your teacher for the quiz over lessons 1-5 before proceeding to the next section. Reminder: If you score 85% or higher on the three section quizzes, you may be exempt from the chapter test!



"Sure, I wave the American Flag. Do you know a better flag to wave?"

—John Wayne

The Star Spangled Banner

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the ***perilous*** fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen, through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner; oh, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh, thus be it ever when free men shall stand,
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land
Praise the Power that has made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

by Francis Scott Key

