

the PENNSYLVANIA

Price only Two Coppers.

Published every Tuesday, Thursday

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1776.

Vol. II.]

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

A Declaration by the Representatives

of the United States of America,

in General Congress assembled.

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That all men are

Creator, with

liberty,

# THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

*The First Newspaper Printing*

*The Second Publication in Any Form*

*The First to Closely Follow Thomas Jefferson's Style*

SALE 1046 — TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2013

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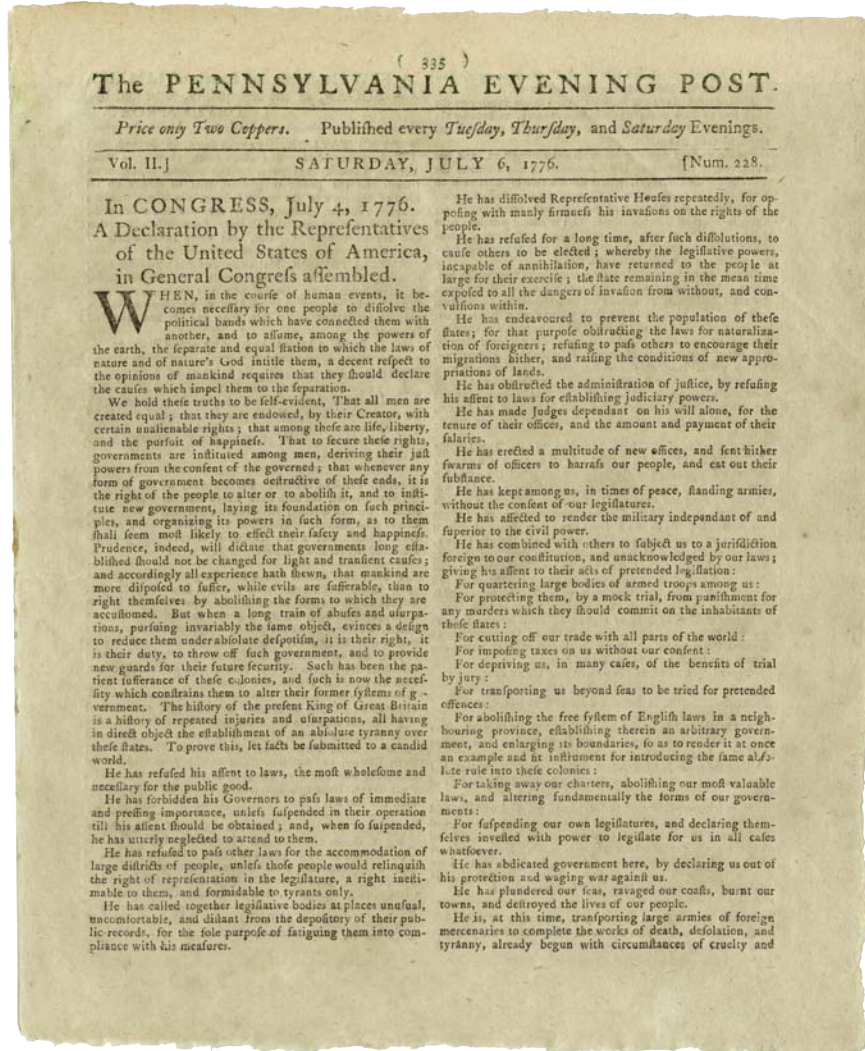
# THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

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2. The auctioneer has the right to reject any bid, to advance the bidding at his discretion and, in the event of a dispute between bidders, to determine the successful bidder, to continue the bidding or to reoffer and resell the lot in dispute. The Galleries' record of the final sale shall be conclusive.

3. All bids are per numbered lot in the catalog unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer at the time of sale. The Galleries will execute bidding instructions on behalf of clients, but will not be responsible for the failure to execute such bids or for any errors in the execution of such bids.

**4. The lots marked with the symbol ° are offered subject to a confidential minimum bid ("reserve"), below which the lot will not be sold. If the lot does not reach its reserve the auctioneer will announce "passed" and it will be excluded from the prices realized lists after the sale. The reserve will not be higher than the low end of the pre-sale estimate printed in the catalog.**

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which will be added to the total of the entire invoice (including hammer price, buyer's premium, shipping and transit insurance charges and any applicable taxes). No provision of these Conditions of Sale shall or be construed to extend the time any payment is due as set forth in this Paragraph 5 or in any extended payment plan.

6. If the purchase price has not been paid within the time limit specified above, nor lot taken up within twenty (20) days from the date of sale, the auctioneer may resell the lot by whatever means deemed appropriate and any loss incurred from resale will be charged to the defaulting buyer. Any account more than 30 days in arrears will be subject to a late payment charge of 1½% per month as long as the account remains in arrears. Any expenses incurred in securing payment from delinquent accounts will be charged to the defaulter.

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9. Agents executing bids on behalf of clients will be held responsible for all purchases made on behalf of clients unless otherwise arranged prior to the sale.

10. The lot or lots will not be released until full payment for all lots has been made in clear funds. The buyer assumes all risk for delivery of purchased lots and agrees to pay for prescribed shipping costs. Buyers outside the U.S. are responsible for all customs duties.

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## The PENNSYLVANIA EVENING POST.

*Price only Two Coppers. Published every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Evenings.*

Vol. II.]

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1776.

[Num. 228.]

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.  
A Declaration by the Representatives  
of the United States of America,  
in General Congress assembled.

**W**HEN, 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 intitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

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

He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

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

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

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

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

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

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

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independant of and superior to the civil power.

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

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

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

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighbouring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments:

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

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and



Sale to be held on Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at 1:00 p.m.

Lot 101°

## The Declaration of Independence

*The First Newspaper Printing, the Second Publication in Any Form  
and the First to Closely Follow Thomas Jefferson's Style*

[DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE]. Newspaper. *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*, Saturday, July 6, 1776, Philadelphia: Benjamin Towne, 4 pages (8½ x 10 in.)

Estimate \$500,000-750,000

Benjamin Towne's *Pennsylvania Evening Post* was the first newspaper to print the Declaration of Independence. Towne's Saturday, July 6, publication was preceded only by the broadside that went to John Dunlap's press on July 4 (published on July 5), and beat Dunlap's own newspaper, *The Pennsylvania Packet*, by two days. Towne was thus the second person to print the Declaration in any form, and, while the words are the same, his typesetting is markedly different from that of the official Dunlap version.

Because they preserve the text of the Declaration as first written and read, July 1776 printings like this are, in a way, even more original than the "original" engrossed manuscript, the prized treasure in the National Archives. When most Americans picture the Declaration, they envision the manuscript signed by John Hancock and 55 others, and titled "The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America." But this is not an image of the document that was penned and signed on July 4, 1776. The Declaration could not have been given that title when it passed: the vote was one shy of the desired unanimity because New York's delegates followed their state's specific instructions and abstained. As seen in this newspaper, on July 4 the document was titled "A Declaration by the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled" and was signed only by Continental Congress President John Hancock and Secretary Charles Thomson.

*The Pennsylvania Evening Post* was distributed far and wide, even by members of the Continental Congress. "I have this Moment folded up a Magazine, and an Evening Post," John Adams wrote to Abigail on July 7, "and sent it off, by an Express, who could not wait for me to write a single Line." As witnessed by Adams, this rare paper reflects the experience of everyday Americans as they read news of independence for the first time during that momentous July of 1776.

Declaration issues of *The Pennsylvania Evening Post* are rare. Our census (page 19) locates sixteen institutional and three privately held copies, including this lot. Our search of major auction records finds only six sales in a little over 100 years. Excluding second appearances, this is one of only four copies we have found recorded on the market.

### PROVENANCE

Sotheby's, Sale 6424, Fine Manuscripts and Printed Americana, May 21, 1993, lot 34.

### CONDITION

A strong, clear impression; untrimmed, original deckled edges. Very minor crease from old fold in upper right corner of first leaf. Apparently washed in previous conservation treatment, but otherwise as fine a copy as could be imagined.

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perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

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

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

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

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDANT STATES; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great-Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that, as FREE AND INDEPENDANT STATES, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which INDEPENDANT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

Signed by ORDER and in BEHALF of CONGRESS,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.  
Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

**T**O be SOLD, the brigantine TWO FRIENDS. She is a prime sailer, but three years old, and carries nine hundred and fifty or a thousand barrels of flour.

The schooner MARY ANN. She is a prime sailer, but four years old, and carries four hundred and fifty barrels of flour.

The schooner is loaded and ready to go, and will be sold with her cargo, or alone. She has an inventory suitable and complete. The brig may be fitted for sea with a very small expence, and the schooner requires none. Both vessels are very good, but any gentleman inclining to purchase may have them viewed by proper persons. Inquire for Mr. JOHN PARRY, on board the brig, at Vine-street wharf.

**T**O be SOLD, a Quantity of very fine TIMOTHY HAY of this year's growth. Inquire of the printer.

**A** FEW Hogheads and Barrels of JAMAICA SUGAR, of the best quality, to be sold by DAVID SPROAT.

**H**YNS TAYLOR, UPHOLSTERER, in Second-street between Market and Arch streets (late from Saint James's, London) begs leave, by this method, to inform his friends and the public in general, that he makes up all kind of furniture in the newest fashion, viz. dome, teaster; drapery, Venetian, Gothic, canopy, four-post and couch beds, also field and camp beds, all sorts of mattresses, Venetian and festoon window curtains, and every other article of household furniture, on the most reasonable terms.

AMELIA TAYLOR, MILANER and MANTUA MAKER, makes up all sorts of milinery goods, viz. childbed linen, childrens robes, jams, frocks, veils and tunics, gentlemen's shirts, stocks, gloves, and all kind of needlework, in the very neatest manner.—For sale, some fine Holland shirts full trimmed.

N. B. Part of a house to be let, with good cellars, &c.

**T**O be LET, a Lot of good Grass Ground, in Spring-garden, containing near four acres, with a commodious Brick House, two stories high, four rooms on a floor, Barns, Stables, Smoke House, Garden, and two Pumps of good Water, lately occupied by William Shipley. For farther particulars inquire of David Pancoast, in Fourth-street, between Race and Vine-streets.

**I**SAAC HAZLEHURST has for sale, at his store in Water-street, the fifth door above Market-street, COFFEE of the best quality, Muscovado SUGARS in hogheads, tierces and barrels, MOLASSES, CINNAMON, POWDER BLUE, and a few hogheads of exceeding good Jamaica SPIRITS five years old. June 15, 1776.

**A** SILVER FACED WATCH, larger than the common size, maker's name James Gerrard, London, No. 1919, was LOST out of the subscriber's house on the ninth inst. It is supposed to be stolen by a person in company with two others, who were known to pass by early that morning. Any person who shall have it offered to him for sale, is desired to stop it, and on delivering it to Joseph Steward in Hanover township, Burlington county, New-Jersey, or to the printer, shall have FOUR DOLLARS reward.

**T**O be SOLD, by Attmore and Hellings, at their store on the wharf, a few doors below Chestnut-street, Bar Iron, American blister, spring, and square Steel, sheet and rod Iron, Bake Plates, Iron Tea Kettles, Dutch Ovens, Pots, Kettles, and Skellets. Tea at the price limited by Congress, loaf and brown Sugars, Molasses, French Brandy, Fyal Wine, Nutmegs, Spermaceti and Whale Oil, Mackarel, &c. &c. &c.

**M**USCOVADO SUGAR and COFFEE in hogheads, excellent HYSOON TEA in quarter chests, PIMENTO, CHOCOLATE and PEPPER, Madeira WINE, in pipes and quarter casks, and a few quarter casks of choice French BRANDY, to be sold by Samuel Garrigues, jun. and Co. in Market-street, near the London Coffee-house.

**A** QUANTITY of INDIGO to be sold by James Gallagher, in Front-street, the corner of Spruce-street.



### Resolution and Declaration

On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee, a Virginia delegate to the Second Continental Congress, proposed a resolution calling for American independence. The Congress appointed a Committee of Five—John Adams, Roger Sherman, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Livingston, and Thomas Jefferson—to draft an appropriate message. Written by Jefferson, with minor edits by Franklin and Adams, the draft was submitted to Congress on June 28.

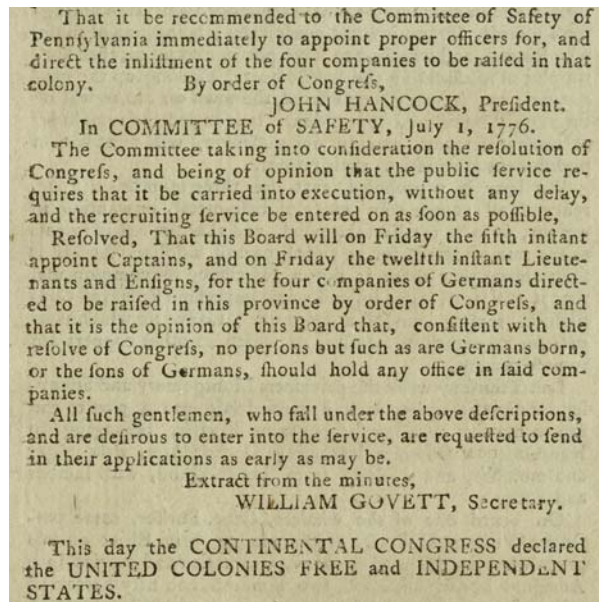
Not all in Congress favored independence. George Read of Delaware voted against Lee's resolution. Thomas McKean, another Delaware delegate, sent a message to Caesar Rodney (the third member of the Delaware delegation) to come quickly to Philadelphia to break their state's tie. The 47-year-old Rodney received the dispatch on July 1 and proceeded to ride 80 miles non-stop from his home near Dover, Delaware, to Philadelphia. He arrived just in time to make the vote on Tuesday, July 2, 1776, when the Continental Congress took a decisive step by passing Lee's resolution "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." With this brief resolution, the 13 colonies severed their imperial bond with Great Britain. That evening, Towne's newspaper was among the very few, and quite possibly the first, to report the news with the summary: "This day the Continental Congress declared the United Colonies Free and Independent States."

The importance of the Congressional action was trumpeted by John Adams when, on Wednesday, July 3, he wrote to his wife Abigail that he considered July 2 the date of independence:

The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.

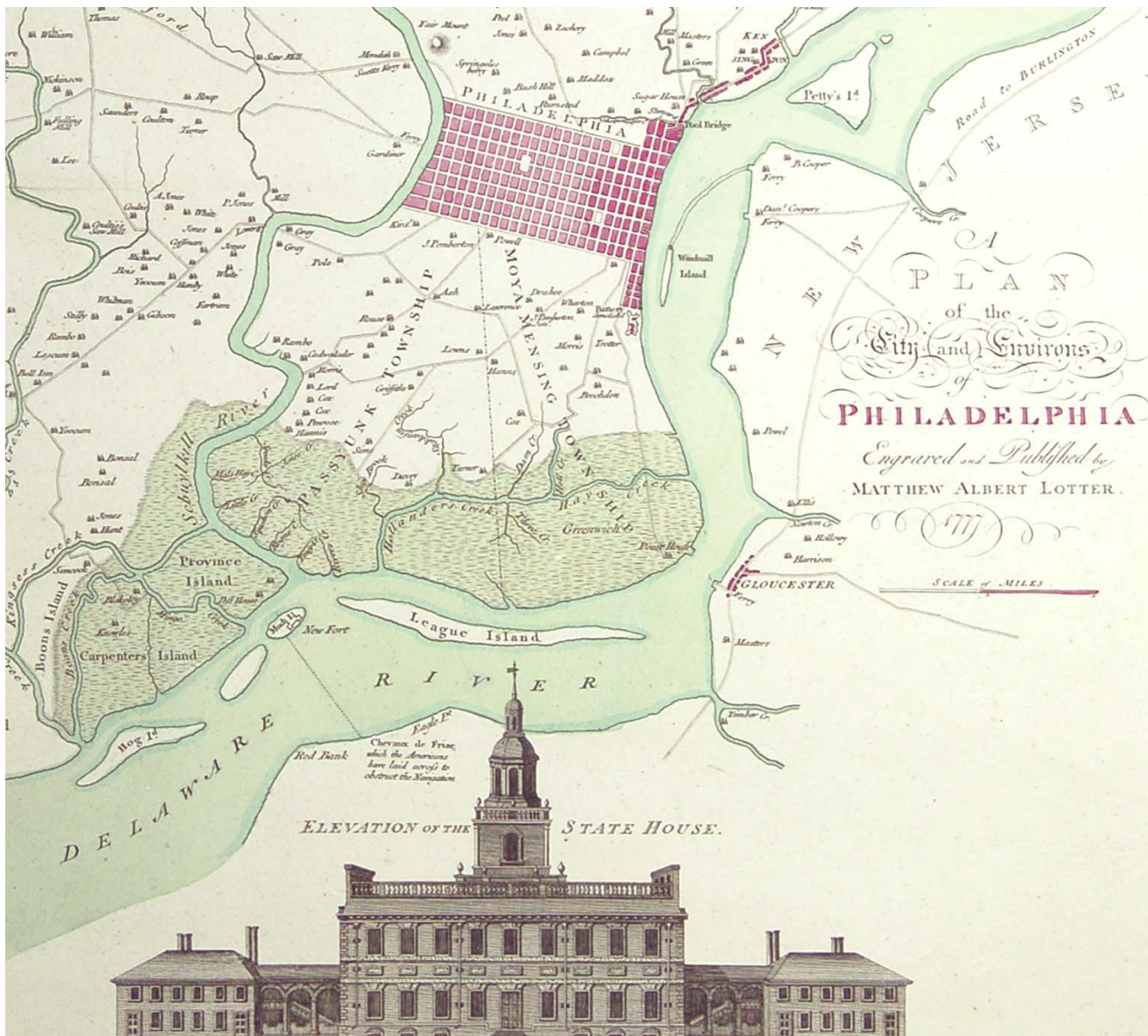
In another letter of the same date, Adams again reported news of Congressional proceedings to his wife:

Yesterday the greatest Question was decided, which ever was debated in America, and a greater perhaps, never was or will be decided among Men. A Resolution was passed... You will see in a few days a Declaration setting forth the Causes, which have impell'd Us to this mighty Revolution.



First notice of independence,  
in *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*, July 2, 1776  
Seth Kaller, Inc.

In the two days following the resolution of independence, Congress continued to struggle with the wording of the final Declaration. Though some revisions were made (in particular, striking the provision calling for abolition of the slave trade), it remained essentially Jefferson's prose. On Thursday, July 4, the delegates of 12 of the 13 states agreed to the final text of the Declaration, pledging "to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor" to uphold its principles. The approved manuscript, now lost, was signed by Continental Congress President John Hancock and Secretary Charles Thomson. It was then taken to printer John Dunlap, presumably by a member of the Committee of Five that had been ordered to supervise its publication.



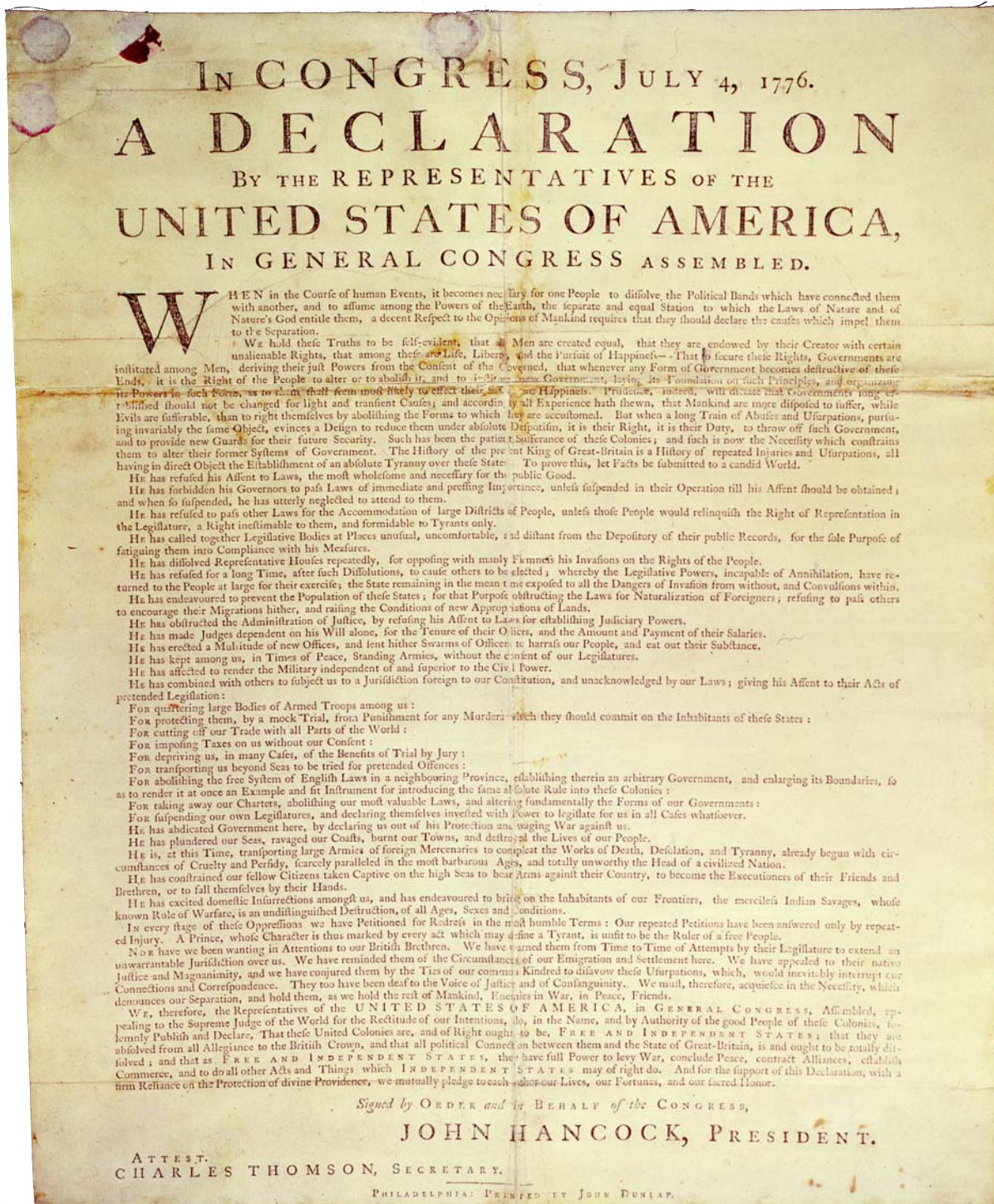
Philadelphia, with a view of the Pennsylvania State House (Independence Hall), 1777

Seth Kaller, Inc.



## Dissemination

Dunlap delivered the freshly-printed copies of his official broadsides to Congress on the morning of July 5. Over the next few days, Hancock sent them to the thirteen former colonies—now states—to General George Washington and other military commanders, as well as to the British government.



Broadside printed for Congress by John Dunlap on July 4-5, 1776

National Archives and Records Administration

### The Publisher

Benjamin Towne (ca. 1740-1793) of Lincolnshire, England, arrived in Philadelphia in 1769. He joined *The Pennsylvania Chronicle*, a loyal Whig newspaper, but quit after his backers pulled out upon his publication of patriot John Dickinson's *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania*. On January 24, 1775, he began publishing *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*, the fourth English newspaper in the city, its first tri-weekly paper, and the only evening newspaper.

Politically, Towne was clearly a pragmatist. He espoused patriot ideals when he opened his Philadelphia print shop, but when the British occupied the city on September 26, 1776, he became a Royalist in time for his next publication. When the British evacuated the city seven months later, Towne reverted to the patriot banner. In 1778, when the city's military fortunes again shifted, Towne began publishing *The Royal Pennsylvania Gazette*, lasting only 25 issues. As the other newspapers either evacuated or suspended publication, Towne's fluid sense of loyalty allowed him to remain the sole newspaper publisher in Philadelphia. Nonetheless, his opportunism marked him as disloyal, and he was "attainted" for treason in 1778, although the charges were later dropped.

Towne, in addition to printing America's founding document, was intimately involved in publishing other important Revolutionary-era documents, and generated controversy in doing so. Towne's *Pennsylvania Evening Post* was the first newspaper to print the Virginia Declaration of Rights on June 6, 1776. His newspaper also printed Thomas Paine's *American Crisis* that December. Towne was at the center of Paine's disagreement with original *Common Sense* publisher Robert Bell. After Bell reprinted an unauthorized edition of *Common Sense*, Paine jettisoned his original publisher and instead engaged William and Thomas Bradford to re-publish the pamphlet. The Bradfords contracted with Styner & Cist (publishers of *The Pennsylvania Journal*) and with Towne to each print 3,000 copies. Moreover, the acrimony between Bell and the Bradford brothers is well documented in the dueling advertisements and editorial comments found in Towne's newspaper.

On May 30, 1783, Towne turned the *Pennsylvania Evening Post* into the first daily newspaper in the United States. However, with Towne branded a traitor and forced to hawk his own papers on the street, the newspaper collapsed the following year. John Dunlap and David Claypoole then made their *Pennsylvania Packet* the first successful daily on September 21, 1784.

### Towne's Typesetting

In our research into the publication of all of the July 1776 Declaration broadsides and newspapers, we have discovered something significant about the first two printings. A close comparison of *The Pennsylvania Evening Post* to John Dunlap's broadside (a single-page, printed document created to disseminate news by being read, shared, and posted) reveals a series of typesetting differences, particularly in the use of capitalization, too numerous to be coincidental. Both versions capitalize the beginning of sentences, proper names, and words such as "God," "King," "Prince," etc., but excluding those, Dunlap capitalizes an additional 291 internal words (within sentences). However, Towne capitalizes only *two* internal words.

This observation led us to compare two June 1776 working drafts of the Declaration, one in Thomas Jefferson's hand, and one copied from Jefferson's draft by John Adams. The Adams copy follows the same pattern, with Adams capitalizing many words that Jefferson has in lower case.



We have seen hundreds of Jefferson letters and manuscripts, many of which show his distinctive habit of lower-casing words, even at the beginning of sentences. John Adams's letters and documents reveal the opposite tendency; many of Adams's lower-case letters look like capitals, and he often used capitalization for effect beyond grammatical necessity.

From these comparisons, we observe that *The Pennsylvania Evening Post* printing of the Declaration follows Jefferson's handwriting and capitalization style, and that the Dunlap broadside conforms to Adams's style. A comparison of these documents is provided on pages 12 and 13.

We looked for *any* meaningful differences in phrasing, spelling or punctuation. We did find a few spelling anomalies and capitalization inconsistencies.

In the entire text of the Declaration, as published in *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*, Towne spells three words (and one plural form) differently than Jefferson, Adams and Dunlap: "intitle," "connexion" (and "connexions"), and "Independant." Performing a key word search of every other 1776 issue of the *Post* available on the Early American Newspapers database, we see that Towne spells "intitle" 4 times and "entitle" 3 times; "connexion" and "connexions" 21 times, and "connection" and "connections" 2 times; "Independant" is found 30 times, and "independent" 8 times. It is reasonable to conclude that spelling differences between the *Post* and the other versions can be explained by Towne's preferences, or at least a normal degree of variation in spelling those words.

We also noted the only two instances of Towne capitalizing a word that Dunlap does not capitalize. The first, "That," is likely unintentional. The second, "Divine," could have been significant, so we investigated further. Performing a similar search of Dunlap's paper, *The Pennsylvania Packet*, we found inconsistency in capitalization: "divine providence" (March 11, 1778), "divine Providence" (July 8, 1776—Dunlap's Declaration newspaper), and "Divine Providence" (April 22 and February 11, 1778). He also prints "propitious Providence" (June 10, 1778), "eternal Providence" (Dec. 10, 1777), "a superintending Providence" (April 22 and June 10, 1778), and "divine goodness" (May 13, 1778). Neither newspaper consistently capitalized modifiers like the word "divine."

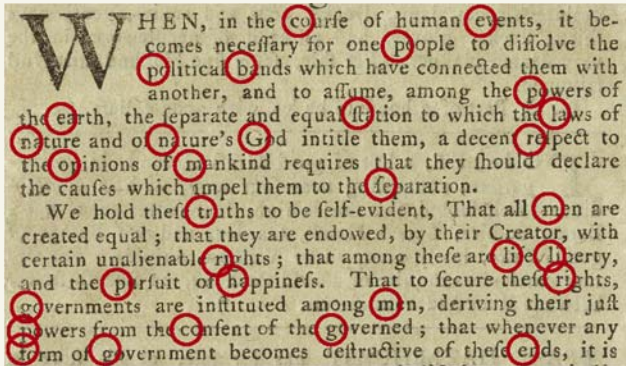
These typesetting differences allow us to track the Declaration's dissemination throughout the states. From this, we see that Towne's newspaper was sometimes the first to arrive with the momentous news—spreading the word of independence to places far beyond his Philadelphia locale.

For example, Ezekiel Russell's four-column Salem broadside (shown here) was the first publication of the Declaration in Massachusetts. It closely follows the *Post's* style. But soon after, Russell was given a Dunlap with the order to publish the Official Massachusetts printing. His slightly later official version closely follows the style found in the Dunlap broadside.

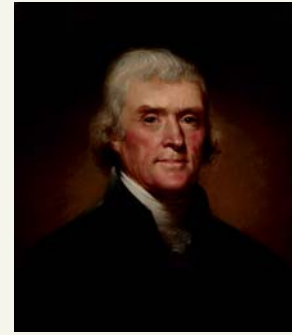


Ezekiel Russell's Salem broadside, ca. July 14-16  
Seth Kaller, Inc.

## The Declaration in Thomas Jefferson's Style (*The Pennsylvania Evening Post*)

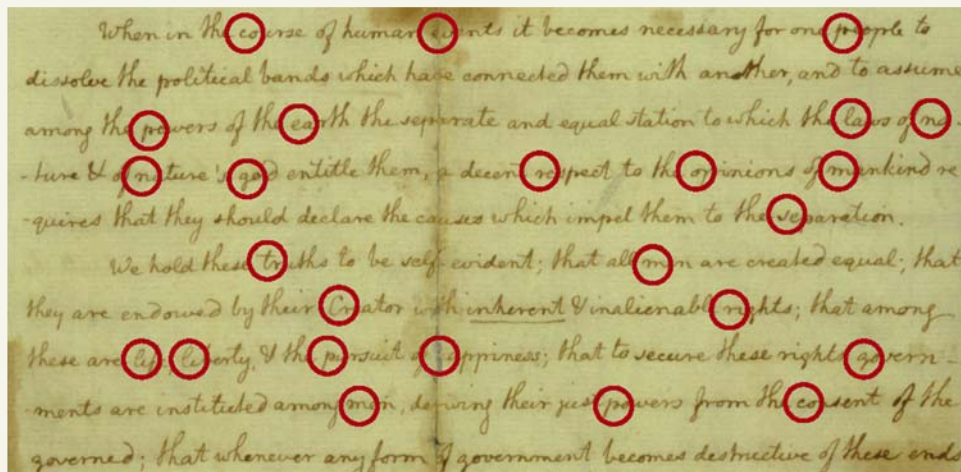


*The Pennsylvania Evening Post* (lot 101 detail)



Thomas Jefferson by Rembrandt Peale, 1800

The White House Historical Association



The Thomas Jefferson Draft

Courtesy of the Emmet Collection, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs, The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations

### *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*

“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 intitle 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;...”

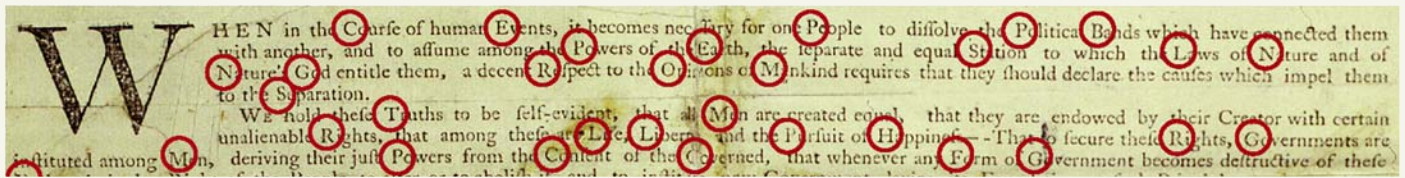
### The Jefferson Manuscript

“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.

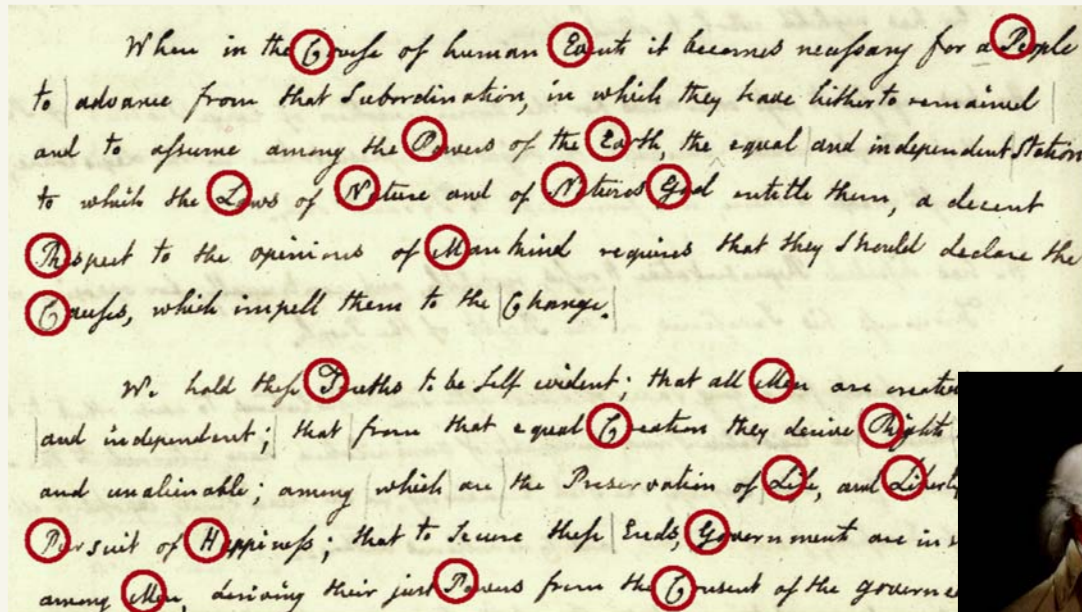
We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with inherent and inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed;...”



## The Declaration in John Adams's Style (The Dunlap Broadside)

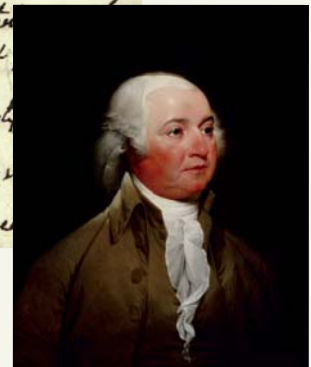


The Dunlap Broadside  
National Archives and Records Administration



The John Adams Draft  
The Adams Family Papers  
Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society

John Adams by John Trumbull,  
ca. 1792-1793  
The White House Historical Association



### The Dunlap Broadside

“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...”

### The Adams Manuscript

“When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for a People to advance from that Subordination, in which they have hitherto remained and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the equal and independent Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle [intitle?] them, a decent Respect to the opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the Causes, which impel them to the Change.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident; that all Men are created equal and independent; that from that equal Creation they derive 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;...”

### Reaction to the Declaration

As news of the Declaration swept throughout the former colonies and officials held public readings of the document, Americans celebrated with “huzzahs,” 13-gun salutes, toasts, parades, and sometimes boisterous mobs that tore down and burned local symbols of British authority. In Boston, jubilant crowds toppled the lion and unicorn carvings that graced the gabled ends of the Massachusetts Town House (now known as the Old State House), the seat of the Royal government. In Philadelphia, the militia tore down and burned George III’s coat of arms. The most famous scene occurred in New York City: After George Washington had the Declaration read to the American Army on July 9, a mob toppled the lead statue of George III in Bowling Green. The King and his horse were then transported to Connecticut, melted down, and cast into 42,088 musket balls for the Patriots’ cause.



“Reading the Declaration before Washington’s Army, New York, July 9, 1776” by Howard Pyle (1892)

Seth Kaller, Inc.



A fanciful depiction of the toppling of the King’s statue following the July 9 reading of the Declaration in New York City

Seth Kaller, Inc.





U.S. Capitol Collection

The signing of the Declaration as imagined by John Trumbull in 1817-1818

### The Signing Ceremony

On August 2, 1776, members of Congress met and signed the engrossed copy of the Declaration. According to the National Archives, a few of the signers added their names at later dates: George Wythe on August 27; Richard Henry Lee, Elbridge Gerry, and Oliver Wolcott on September 4; Matthew Thornton on November 19; and Thomas McKean, the last signer, in 1781. Of the 56 signers, only 39 had actually voted for independence. Eight were newly-elected members who joined Congress after July 4. George Read of Delaware had opposed independence, but signed the Declaration anyway. And some members who voted for independence never had an opportunity to sign the actual Declaration—Henry Wisner, for instance, who returned instead to New York's assembly, and New Jersey's Robert R. Livingston, one of the Committee of Five appointed to draft the document.

The names of the men who had risked their lives by signing were first revealed in January of 1777, when, by order of Congress, Mary Goddard printed a new broadside of the Declaration to be sent to all the states.

The engrossed Declaration manuscript did not become a familiar image until patriotic fervor following the War of 1812 led to renewed interest in America's founding. At the time of independence, most Americans received their news in printed newspapers or broadsides, and the first newspaper to publish the Declaration was Towne's July 6th *Post*.

## Lot 101—Page 3

## PHILADELPHIA, July 6.

Extract of a letter from the Camp at Sorrel, 13th June, 1776.

"On the eighth instant a detachment of about sixteen hundred men, under the command of General Thompson, left the mouth of Nicolette, in order to surprise the enemy at Three Rivers. The design was to have attacked the town before day, but some unforeseen accidents retarded him, so that it was quite light before he got near the town. An advanced boat discovered the party on their march, gave the alarm, and was fired upon by the riflemen, who drove her off into the stream. This happened a little before sunrise; and as all prospect of succeeding by surprise was then over, the General, determined to make the attack, ordered the drums to beat, to put the best face upon the matter, and intimidate the enemy. In this manner the march continued till they came within the reach of the vessels, some of which were anchored along the shore for about a mile, or a mile and a half above the town, when a brisk cannonade began from them, but without effect, or occasioning the least disorder among the troops, who bore it with as good a countenance as the best veterans in the world could have done. Colonel Maxwell who led the first division, seeing, however, that in proceeding by the road he would be exposed to a very galling fire from all the vessels, seventeen in number, turned a little to the left, in order to cross what appeared to be a point of woods, and by which it seemed as if we could gain the height of the town, where the firing from the vessels would be ineffectual. This point turned out to be a very thick swamp of great extent, and which took up three hours or more to get through; every step to the knee, and very often a great deal higher. This was very unfavourable to us, for it was impossible for men to march through it without being broken, and a good deal of confusion. And as the enemy were ready for us at the farther side, there was neither time nor ground to form them properly. The consequence was, as you may judge, that we had the worst of it.

"The General's original plan was to have attacked before day at four separate places; two attacks by the opposite ends of the main street, and two attacks by the cross street; each division consisting of three hundred men. A reserve of two hundred and fifty was to remain ready for the support of any of the others. I am almost persuaded, that had we arrived in time to have put this in execution, it would have succeeded, notwithstanding the great superiority of the enemy in point of numbers; but the morning and the swamp, as I told you before, broke in upon this plan. No new one was formed, nor indeed had the General it in his power to form one, for one of the divisions was separated from the rest in passing the swamp, nor did the Gen. know where they were till the firing began from them. All he could then do, was to order them to be supported. This was done for some time with effect, the enemy having broke and given way for some distance; but being supported in their turn, they drove our people back, who bore, in a soldier like manner, a very heavy fire from the musquetry, and two pieces of field artillery, sometimes loaded with grape and sometimes with round shot. We were, however, after repeated attacks, obliged to give way, the enemy scarcely pursuing us.

"Our loss is considerable as to numbers. But, alas, not so as to men, General Thompson being among the prisoners. Though we had the worst of it, I hope we have made some impression on the minds of our enemies. They allow we behaved well; and it will not tell amiss that twelve hundred Americans attacked, under every disadvantage, four thousand British troops, obliged them at first to give way, and, when beat back, made a retreat of forty-five miles with the loss of about one hundred and fifty men."

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Last Thursday the Committee of Officers and Privates of the Associates of this province met at Lancaster, when Col. Roberdeau of this city, and Col. Ewing of York county, were elected Brigadier Generals.

At a Board of Officers from seven companies in the fifth district of the county of Philadelphia, held at Captain Jacob Wert's, for forming a fifth battalion, the following gentlemen were chosen, viz. John Bull, Esq; Colonel; Robert Currie, Lieutenant-Colonel; George Wright and Thomas Rees, Majors; Dr. Abel Morgan, Surgeon, and John Baker, Standard-Bearer.

\* \* All persons indebted to the printer, are requested to settle immediately, also to advance one half of the subscription towards the second year.—If proper regard be not paid to this advertisement, he will soon be under the disagreeable necessity of DROPPING the Pennsylvania Evening Post, the price of paper and other articles being so greatly advanced.

At a Conference of the Delegates in Congress for the States of New-York, New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, of the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, and the Field Officers of the five battalions of the said city, &c. at the State-House in Philadelphia, on the fifth day of July, 1776, in pursuance of the following resolution of Congress, to wit.

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

Resolved, That the Delegates of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania be a Committee to confer with the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, and the Field Officers of the battalions of the said city and liberties, on the best means of defending the colonies of New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, and that they be empowered to send express where necessary.

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

THOMAS M'KEAN in the chair.

Resolved, That it appears to the Congress, that all the associated militia of Pennsylvania (excepting the counties of Westmoreland, Bedford and Northumberland) who can be furnished with arms and accoutrements, should be forthwith requisited to march with the utmost expedition to Trenton (except the militia for Northampton county, who are to march directly for New-Brunswick) in New-Jersey; and that the said militia continue in service until the flying camp of ten thousand men can be collected to relieve them, unless they shall be sooner discharged by Congress.

Resolved, That the militia march by companies to the place of rendezvous.

Resolved, That the said militia be taken into Continental pay, and receive the same pay, allowances and rations with the Continental troops, from the time they begin their march until they return to their respective homes.

Resolved, That those of the three battalions of the Pennsylvania troops, now remaining in the province, be ordered to march immediately for New-Brunswick, in New-Jersey.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of this colony provide as many tents as they can for the said militia.

Resolved that the Committees of Inspection, &c. in the several counties furnish a good kettle to every six men, and give all the assistance in their power that the said militia be well armed and equipped, and march with the greatest expedition.

THOMAS M'KEAN, Chairman.

In CONGRESS, July 5, 1776.

Resolved, That the Committees of Inspection, for the several counties in the colony of Pennsylvania, be directed to order such troops as they may raise for the flying camp to be marched to Trenton, the resolve of yesterday to march them to Philadelphia notwithstanding.

Page 3 leads with an "Extract of a letter from the Camp at Sorrel," Canada, regarding General Thompson's disastrous defeat and capture at the Battle at Three Rivers; followed by a report of the election of officers at Lancaster, Pennsylvania; notice of the July 4 Congressional resolve for a meeting between delegates from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and Pennsylvania's Committees of Safety and Inspection pertaining to the defense of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.



## Lot 101—Page 4

( 338 )

Resolved, That this Congress highly approve of the foregoing resolutions, and recommend it to the good people of Pennsylvania to carry the same into execution, with the same laudable readiness, which they have hitherto manifested in supporting the injured rights of their country.

By order of Congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

It was agreed in the Conference at the State-House on Friday morning last, that the five battalions of militia of this city and liberties should be requested to meet on Monday afternoon precisely at five o'clock, in order to have read to them the Resolutions of the Conference between the Delegates of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania, the Committee of Safety of this province, the Committee of Inspection, &c. for this city and liberties, and the Field Officers of the five battalions, on the most expeditious mode of marching the militia of this province to New-Jersey; and it is hoped that every Associator will attend at that hour.

By the New-York Post, which arrived this day, we have the following intelligence, viz.

B O S T O N, June 27.

Monday last came from Newbury port a young man belonging to this town, who informs us that he left Halifax thirty days ago, that the troops were all embarked on board the transports said to be destined for New-York or Boston, but it was generally believed for the former; that they had at that time no reinforcements, except about three hundred from the West Indies, who were blown off this coast last fall; that provisions were very scarce; that he saw Master James L. velle, who was cruelly confined here in jail, by order of Gen. Gage, for ten months, and from thence taken with the Bunker's-hill prisoners and carried to Halifax, and committed to prison, where he remained when our informant came away, that he kept up his spirits with surprising firmness amidst the accumulated insults and injuries he had received, and had petitioned General Howe for trial or to be liberated, or sent to England for trial. That Gen. Brattle and Simon Tufis messed together in a little chamber over a grog-shop; and that Sir Francis Green was busy in distributing the arms treacherously detained from the inhabitants of this town to the refugees and others of that corps, in case of being called upon to assist in the diabolical purpose of butchering and enslaving the good people of these colonies.

Sunday morning were discovered, standing in for this harbour, twelve or thirteen sail of vessels, which have been plying on and off in a strange manner ever since. We hope in our next to be able to give a good account of them.

The Eastern Post inform us, that another fleet was seen off Cape Ann yesterday.

Mr. Ebenezer Hancock of this town [brother to the President of the Grand Congress] is appointed Deputy Paymaster to the Continental troops in the northern district.

W O R C E S T E R, June 28.

The Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize, and General Jail Delivery, sat last week at Ipswich, in and for the county of Essex, and transacted business both of a criminal and civil nature, to the great joy and satisfaction of every true friend to his country, order, and civil society, it being the first under the auspices of our new government.

N E W - L O N D O N, June 28.

Since our last the brig Cabot, Capt. Hinman, the brig Andreas Doria, Capt. Biddle, and the Fly tender, part of the Continental fleet, have arrived here.

A considerable number of vessels, bound to different foreign ports, are now lying in this harbor, waiting a favorable opportunity to put to sea.

N E W - Y O R K, July 4.

On Monday about one thousand of the ministerial troops landed on the west end of Long-island, but soon embarked again, and seeing a party of riflemen, said to be about one thousand, gave them three huzzas, which they returned with the Indian war whoop. On Tuesday morning some of them appeared coming up, and before night about forty-five sail came above the Narrows, and anchored at and near the Watering place, where they fired about fifty cannon shot, of which we have not heard the occasion, and landed many of their men, whom we could plainly see exercising and parading. It was apprehended they intended to penetrate into the interior parts of the island, or to some of the neighbouring towns, but it does not appear that they have yet attempted it, or done any thing on shore, except taking up a little bridge on the causeway between the Landing and the Highlands, at the Ferry. We hear General Mercer, with a detachment, was yesterday despatched to watch their motions, and act as occasion might require.

Philadelphia, June 27, 1776.

WHEREAS, agreeable to an Act of Assembly of this province, four pence per gallon duty is laid on spirituous liquors, for the support of the government of the same, the retailers whereof, and likewise those that are indebted for the duty on the liquors aforesaid for their private use, are hereby desired speedily to discharge the same.

Those whose accounts have stood beyond the customary time of payment, will please to take notice, that unless they are speedily discharged, I shall sue for the same.

WILLIAM CRISPIN, Collector.

T W O D O L L A R S Reward.

STRAYED from the pasture of the subscriber, in North Wales, on the second instant, a brown HORSE, five years old, about fifteen hands high, has a large star in his forehead, paces, trots, and canters well, and is shod all round. Whoever takes up said Horse, and brings him to the subscriber, or to Benjamin David's, at the sign of the George in Second-street, Philadelphia, shall have the above reward and reasonable charges.

July 6.

CALEB FOULKE.

A COACHMAN, white or black, of a good character, may have immediate and constant employ by inquiring of the printer. July 6.

WHEREAS the Wife of Joseph Cartwright having eloped from him sundry times, he requests all persons not to trust her, as he will not pay any debts she may contract. July 6, 1776. JOSEPH CARTWRIGHT.

A Quantity of RYE SPIRITS to be sold at Mr. David Rees's, hatter, at the corner of Church-alley, in Third-street.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by BENJAMIN TOWNE, in Front-street, near the London Coffee-House.

Page 4 reports military news from Boston regarding British troops in Halifax embarking for Boston or New York; the arrival of vessels for the Continental Navy in New London; New York news of 45 British vessels landing a large body of troops to occupy Long Island; a Pennsylvania tax on spirits; and advertisements for a coachman, rye whiskey, and a lost horse; and an abandoned husband advertising his refusal to pay his eloped wife's future debts.







**Census of Known Copies of *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*, July 6, 1776**

The census maintained by Seth Kaller, Inc. lists 19 copies. Of those, only two or three can be considered to be in private hands.

Our search of the last 50 years of major auctions and published dealer records shows only six sales representing just four copies that have changed hands (noted below). Looking further back, the next sale record we find is from 1906.

- 1 American Antiquarian Society
- 2 American Philosophical Society
- 3 Clements Library, University of Michigan
- 4 Cornell University
- 5 Harlan Crow Library (previously sold at Christie's, June 19, 2007, lot 239; Parke-Bernet Streeter Collection auction, April 19, 1967, lot 785; Goodspeeds, 1951)
- 6 Gloucester County Historical Society, Woodbury, N.J.
- 7 Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- 8 Library Company of Philadelphia
- 9 Library of Congress
- 10 Lilly Library, Indiana University
- 11 Museum of the American Revolution (to open in 2015)
- 12 The New-York Historical Society
- 13 The New York Public Library
- 14 State Library of Pennsylvania
- 15 University of Oxford—Bodleian Library
- 16 University of Virginia, Albert H. Small Declaration of Independence Collection (previously sold at Christie's London, March 15, 1995, lot 350)
- 17 Virginia Historical Society
- 18 Private collection (previously sold at Sotheby's, December 14, 2012, lot 152)
- 19 The copy offered in this sale (previously sold at Sotheby's, May 21, 1993, lot 34)

Please contact us at [info@sethkaller.com](mailto:info@sethkaller.com) if you have any additional information. With your help, we can continue to update our census on [www.sethkaller.com](http://www.sethkaller.com).

### Appendix: July 1776 Printings of the Declaration of Independence

Michael J. Walsh (W), in a 1949 *Harvard Library Bulletin* article, first catalogued the broadside editions of the Declaration. Sotheby's updated the list in their May 21, 1993, catalog for a Dunlap broadside (S), and again in their June 17, 2010, catalogue for the sale of a Salem broadside. For reference, the numbers assigned by Sotheby's and Walsh are included here. We have added new information and have combined the broadside information with a list of July 1776 newspaper printings of the Declaration to show how news of independence was spread.

4-5 July	Broadside. Philadelphia: John Dunlap (S1/W1). One copy, found recently in the British Archives, bears the Dunlap imprint but with Baltimore as the place. It may well have been printed in Philadelphia to be sold by Dunlap's Baltimore office.
6 July	Newspaper. Philadelphia: Benjamin Towne, <i>The Pennsylvania Evening Post</i>
8 July	Newspaper. Philadelphia: John Dunlap, <i>Dunlap's Pennsylvania Packet or the General Advertiser</i>
9 July ca.	Broadside. Philadelphia: Steiner & Cist, German language printing (S2/W-). It has previously been assumed that this broadside was published before the July 9 German language newspaper printing, but further research is necessary to determine the order of printing.
9 July	Newspaper. Philadelphia: John Henry Miller, <i>Henrich Miller's Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote</i>
9 July	Newspaper. Baltimore: John Dunlap, <i>Dunlap's Maryland Gazette, or the Baltimore General Advertiser</i>
9-11 July ca.	Broadside. New York: John Holt (S3/W3) With July 9 resolution of the assembly in White Plains at top, joining their support to the Declaration (New York's delegates had abstained in Philadelphia) and ordering it published on July 11.
9-20 July ca.	Broadside. [New York: Samuel Loudon (?)]. No imprint (S6/W6)
10 July	Newspaper. Philadelphia: William and David Hall, and William Sellers, <i>The Pennsylvania Gazette</i>
10 July	Newspaper. Philadelphia: William and Thomas Bradford, <i>The Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser</i>
10 July	Newspaper. Baltimore: Mary Katherine Goddard, <i>The Maryland Journal, and Baltimore Advertiser</i>
10 July	Newspaper. New York: John Anderson, <i>The Constitutional Gazette</i>
10-15 July ca.	Broadside. New York: Hugh Gaine (S4/W4) Gaine published his <i>New-York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury</i> newspaper on July 15.
? July	Broadside. No imprint. Sole copy at The New-York Historical Society (S5/W5)
? July	Broadside. No imprint. Sole copy at Boston Public Library (S9/W11)
11 July	Newspaper. New York: Samuel Loudon, <i>The New York Packet and American Advertiser</i>
11 July	Newspaper. New York: John Holt, <i>The New-York Journal, or the General Advertiser</i>
11 July	Newspaper. Annapolis: Frederick Green, <i>The Maryland Gazette</i>
12 July	Newspaper. New London: Timothy Green, <i>Connecticut Gazette and the Universal Intelligencer</i>
13 July	Broadside. Newport: Solomon Southwick. Official Rhode Island printing. First Newport issue, incorrectly dated "June 13." (S7a/W7)
13 July ca.	Broadside. Newport: Solomon Southwick. Second issue, date corrected (S7b/W8) These official Rhode Island imprints, with resolution of General Assembly below the Declaration, were signed by Henry Ward.
13 July	Newspaper. Philadelphia: James Humphreys, Jr., <i>The Pennsylvania Ledger, or the Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New-Jersey Weekly Advertiser</i>
13 July	Newspaper. Providence: John Carter, <i>The Providence Gazette and Country Journal</i>



14-16 July ca.	Broadside. [No imprint, but Salem: Ezekiel Russell, or John Rogers at Ezekiel Russell's shop]. (S10/W12). Text based on <i>The Pennsylvania Evening Post</i> printing, not the Dunlap broadside. Date range and publisher based on time it took for the Declaration to arrive in Salem, and on Russell's re-use of type blocks, with very minor changes, for his July 16 newspaper printing.
14-18 July ca.	Broadside. [Boston: Gill, Powars & Willis] No imprint (S8a/W9). Date range for this and the next entry based on the first known arrival of the Declaration in Boston (July 13) and the date it was publicly read in Boston and printed by Gill, and Powars & Willis in their newspapers (July 18).
14-18 July ca.	Broadside. Boston: Gill, Powars & Willis (S8b/W10)
15 July	Newspaper. New York: Hugh Gainé, <i>The New-York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury</i>
15 July	Newspaper. Hartford: Ebenezer Watson, <i>The Connecticut Courant and Hartford Weekly Intelligencer</i>
15 July	Newspaper. Norwich, Ct.: John Trumbull, <i>The Norwich Packet and the Connecticut, Massachusetts, New-Hampshire, &amp; Rhode-Island Weekly Advertiser</i>
16 July	Broadside/Newspaper Extra. Exeter, N.H.: Robert Luist Fowle, "Extraordinary," <i>New Hampshire Gazette, or Exeter Morning Chronicle</i> (S-/W-)
16 July	Newspaper. Salem, Mass.: Printed by John Rogers, at Ezekiel Russell's printing office, <i>The American Gazette or the Constitutional Journal</i>
16-19 July ca.	Broadside. [Exeter, N.H. (?): previously attributed to Fowle. but other printers in the area of Southern New Hampshire are also possible] No imprint, 1st state: "Hacock" (S12a/W14). Date range for this and the next entry based on the arrival of the Dunlap broadside in Exeter (July 15-16) and Fowle's, Mycall's and Dearborn's newspaper printings of the Declaration (July 16, 19, and 20, respectively).
16-19 July ca.	Broadside. [Exeter, N.H. (?): previously attributed to Fowle] No imprint, 2nd state: "Hancock" & last 3 lines reset (S12b/W15)
17 July	Newspaper. Worcester: William Stearns and Daniel Bigelow, <i>The Massachusetts Spy or American Oracle of Liberty</i>
17 July	Newspaper. New Haven: Thomas and Samuel Green, <i>The Connecticut Journal</i>
18 July	Newspaper. Boston: John Gill, <i>Continental Journal and Weekly Advertiser</i>
18 July	Newspaper. Boston: Powars & Willis, <i>The New-England Chronicle</i>
18 July	Newspaper. Newport: Solomon Southwick, "Extraordinary," <i>The Newport Mercury</i>
19 July	Newspaper. Newburyport: John Mycall, <i>The Essex Journal and New-Hampshire Packet</i>
20 July ca.	Broadside. Salem: Ezekiel Russell. Official Massachusetts printing, with July 17 printed Massachusetts resolution at bottom (S11a/W13). The publisher ran a note in the Tuesday, July 23 issue of his newspaper, the <i>American Gazette</i> , apologizing for the fact that he was "giving the Public but Half a Sheet this Week; at the same Time he doubts not they will cheerfully excuse him as some Work of Importance to the State was doing in the Office on Saturday Last," which was the 20th.
20 July	Newspaper. Williamsburg: John Dixon & William Hunter, <i>The Virginia Gazette</i>
20 July	Newspaper. Portsmouth, N.H.: Benjamin Dearborn, <i>The Freeman's Journal or New Hampshire Gazette</i>
22 July	Newspaper. Watertown: Benjamin Edes, <i>The Boston-Gazette and Country Journal</i>
26 July	Newspaper. Williamsburg: Alexander Purdie, <i>The Virginia Gazette</i>

Our Declaration research and census files are often updated. See [www.sethkaller.com](http://www.sethkaller.com) for our most current version.

JUNE 25, 2013



Lot 102°

## The Stone-Force Facsimile Printing of The Declaration of Independence

[DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE]. Copperplate engraving printed on thin wove paper. Imprint at bottom left, “W. J. STONE SC WASHn” [William J. Stone for Peter Force, Washington, D.C. ca. 1833]. Printed for Peter Force’s *American Archives*. (25 x 30 in.)

Estimate \$15,000-20,000

By 1820 the original Declaration of Independence, now housed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., already showed signs of age and wear from handling. John Quincy Adams, then Secretary of State, commissioned William J. Stone to engrave a facsimile—an exact copy—on a copper plate. Many still believe Stone used some sort of wet or chemical process to transfer the ink to create such a perfect reproduction, thus hastening the destruction of the original manuscript. In fact, he left minute clues to distinguish the original from the copies, also providing evidence of his painstaking engraving process. In 1823 Congress ordered 200 official copies printed on vellum.

All subsequent exact facsimiles of the Declaration descend from the Stone plate. One of the ways to distinguish the first edition is Stone’s original imprint, top left: “ENGRAVED by W.J. STONE for the Dept. of State by order,” and continued top right: “of J. Q. Adams, Sec of State July 4, 1823.” Sometime after Stone completed his printing, his imprint at top was removed, and replaced with a shorter imprint at bottom left, “W. J. STONE SC WASHn,” as seen on this document, just below George Walton’s printed signature. The shorter imprint was copied on subsequent plates.

Most descriptions date the “Force” printing to 1848, consistent with the publication of Peter Force’s *American Archives: A Documentary History of the United States of America*, Series V, Volume I, which included the Declaration facsimile. But Force had already procured the Declaration facsimiles 15 years earlier, when Congress authorized the *American Archives* project, and the State Department signed a contract for 1,500 copies. On July 21, 1833 the original engraver, William Stone, invoiced Force for 4,000 imprints of the Declaration. Perhaps Force thought he would sell as many as 2,500 additional copies of *American Archives* by subscription. After mounting expenses and increasing delays in producing Series IV, by 1843, when Force received Congressional re-authorization, he had scaled back his subscription plan to 500 copies.

This Force printing, the second edition of the first exact facsimile, remains one of the best representations of the Declaration as the manuscript looked over 150 years ago, prior to its nearly complete deterioration—very little of the original is legible today.

### CONDITION

Fine. Folded for placement in *American Archives*. A few unobtrusive mends as would be expected.

**Selected Sources**

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- Christian Y. Dupont and Peter Onuf, eds., *Declaring Independence: The Origin and Influence of America's Founding Document* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Library, 2008)
- Seth Kaller, "The Declaration of Independence: Rare Copies of America's Founding Document," *Autographs Magazine*, July 2009.
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- Michael J. Walsh, "Contemporary Broadside Editions of the Declaration of Independence." *Harvard Library Bulletin* 3 (1949): 33-34.

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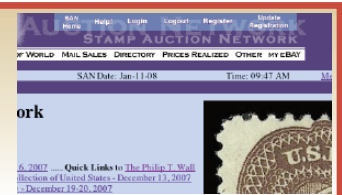
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( 335 )  
The PENNSYLVANIA EVENING POST.

Price only Two Coppers. Published every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Evenings.

Vol. II.]

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1776.

[Num. 228.]

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.  
A Declaration by the Representatives  
of the United States of America,  
in General Congress assembled.

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

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

He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

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

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

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

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

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

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

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independant of and superior to the civil power.

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

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States:

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

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighbouring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments:

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

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and

RARITIES OF THE WORLD



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