John Adams (October 30 [O.S. October 19] 1735 – July 4, 1826) was an American statesman and Founding Father who served as the first Vice President (1789–1797) and second President of the United States (1797–1801). He was a lawyer, diplomat, political theorist, and a leader of the movement for American independence from Great Britain, he was also a dedicated diarist and correspondent, particularly with his wife and closest advisor, Abigail.

Adams collaborated with his cousin, revolutionary leader Samuel Adams, but established his own prominence prior to the American Revolution. Driven by his devotion to the right to counsel and the presumption of innocence, he defied extreme local anti-British sentiment and provided a successful legal defense of the accused British soldiers involved in the Boston Massacre. Adams was sent as a delegate from colonial Massachusetts to the Continental Congress, where he played a leading role in persuading Congress to declare independence, he assisted in drafting the Declaration of Independence in 1776, and was its foremost advocate in Congress. As a diplomat in Europe, he helped negotiate the peace treaty with Great Britain and acquired vital governmental loans from Amsterdam bankers. Adams was the primary author of the Massachusetts Constitution in 1780, which influenced the development of America's own constitution, as did his later Massachusetts Experiment.
Adams's credentials as a revolutionary secured him two terms as George Washington's vice president and also his own election in 1796 as president, during his single term, he encountered fierce criticism from the Jeffersonian Republicans, as well as from the dominant faction in his own Federalist Party, led by his rival Alexander Hamilton. Adams signed the controversial Alien and Sedition Acts and built up the army and navy in the face of an undeclared naval "Quasi-War" with France, the major accomplishment of his presidency was a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the face of public anger and Hamilton's opposition. Due to his strong posture on defense, Adams is often called the father of the American Navy,[2] he was the first U.S. president to reside in the executive mansion, now known as the White House. While he never owned slaves and expressed strong moral opposition to slavery, politically he was a moderate on the issue.

In 1800, Adams lost re-election to Thomas Jefferson and retired to Massachusetts, he eventually resumed his friendship with Jefferson by initiating a correspondence which lasted fourteen years. He and his wife established a family of politicians, diplomats, and historians now referred to as the Adams political family, whose most notable member was their son John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States. John Adams died on the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, hours after Jefferson's death. Modern historians in the aggregate have favorably ranked his administration.
Early life and education

Childhood

John Adams was born on October 30, 1735, (October 19, 1735, Old Style, Julian calendar) to John Adams Sr. (1691–1761) and Susanna Boylston (1708–1797). He had two younger brothers, Peter and Elihu. [3] Adams’s birthplace was on the family farm in Braintree, Massachusetts (now Quincy, Massachusetts). [4] His mother was from a leading medical family of present-day Brookline, Massachusetts, his father was a deacon in the Congregational Church, a farmer, a cordwainer, and a lieutenant in the militia. [5] John Sr. also served as a selectman (town councilman) and supervised the building of schools and roads. Adams often visited his father and was initiated into a regiment in [6].
praised his father and recalled their close relationship.\[6\] Adams's great-grandfather Henry Adams emigrated to Massachusetts from Braintree, Essex, England, around 1638.\[5\]

Though raised in modest surroundings, Adams felt an acute responsibility to live up to his family's heritage, he was a direct descendant of Puritans who came to the American wilderness in the 1630s, established a colonial presence in America, and profoundly affected the culture, laws, and traditions of their region. By the time of John Adams's birth in 1735, Puritan tenets such as predestination were no longer as widely accepted, and many of their stricter practices had moderated with time, but Adams "considered them bearers of freedom, a cause that still had a holy urgency." It was a value system that he believed in and wished to live up to.\[7\] Adams emphatically recalled that his parents "held every Species of Libertinage in... Contempt and horror," and portrayed "pictures of disgrace, or baseness and of Ruin" from any debauchery.\[3\]

Adams, as the eldest child, was under a mandate from his parents to obtain a formal education, this began at age six at a Dame school for boys and girls, which was conducted at a teacher's home and centered upon The New England Primer. Shortly thereafter, Adams attended Braintree Latin School under Joseph Cleverly, where studies included Latin, rhetoric, logic, and arithmetic. Adams's reflections on early education were in the negative mostly, including incidents of truancy, a dislike for his master, and a desire to become a farmer. All questions on the matter ended when his father commanded that he remain in school, saying, "You shall comply with my desires." Deacon Adams hired a new school master named Joseph Marsh, and his son responded positively.\[8\] As an adult, Adams was a keen scholar, he was devoted to the works of ancient writers such as Thucydides, Plato, Cicero, and Tacitus, whom he read in their original languages.\[9\]

College education and adulthood

At age sixteen, Adams entered Harvard College in 1751, studying under Joseph Mayhew,\[10\] he did not share his father's expectation that he become a minister.\[11\] After graduating in 1755 with an A.B. degree, he taught school for a few years in Worcester, Massachusetts, while pondering his permanent vocation. In the next four years, he discerned a passion for prestige, saying that he craved "Honour or Reputation" and "more defference from [his] fellows" and, at age twenty-one, he was determined to become "a great Man." He decided to become a lawyer to further those ends, writing his father that he found among lawyers "noble and gallant achievements" but, among the clergy, the "pretended sanctity of some absolute dunces." Doctrinally, he later became a Unitarian, and dropped belief in predestination, eternal damnation, the divinity of Christ, and most other Calvinist beliefs of his Puritan ancestors. Nevertheless, his remnant Puritanism frequently prompted reservations about his hunger for fame, which he once referred to as mere "trumpery," and he questioned his not properly attending to the "happiness of [his] fellow men."\[12\]

The French and Indian War began in 1754 and Adams began to struggle with the issue of a young man's responsibility in the conflict; contemporaries of his social position were largely spectators, while those who were less solvent joined the battle as a means to make some money. Adams later said, "I longed more ardently to be a Soldier than I ever did to be a Lawyer." He was acutely aware that he was the first in his family that "degenerated from the virtues of the house so far as not to have been an officer in the militia."\[13\]

Law practice and marriage

Adams followed the usual course of reading the law in order to obtain his license to practice; in 1756, he became an apprentice in the office of John Putnam, a leading lawyer in Worcester.\[14\] In 1758, he earned an A.M. from Harvard,\[15\] and the following year was admitted to the Massachusetts bar, having completed his studies under Putnam.\[16\] From an early age, he developed the habit of
From an early age, he developed the habit of writing descriptions of events and impressions of men which are scattered through his diary, which included his report of the 1761 argument of James Otis Jr. in the Massachusetts Superior Court as to the legality of Writs of Assistance. Otis's argument inspired Adams to the cause of the American colonies, after the death of his father in 1761, Adams inherited a 9\(\frac{1}{2}\) acre (3.8 ha) farm and a house where he would live until 1783.

In 1763, he had published seven essays in Boston newspapers, treatises that represented his forging into the convoluted realm of political theory, the essays were offered anonymously, with Adams using the nom de plume "Humphrey Ploughjogger;" this author reappeared in the Boston Gazette in 1765 to oppose the Stamp Act. Adams was initially not as well known as his cousin Samuel, but his influence emerged through his work as a constitutional lawyer and his in-depth analysis of historical examples, together with his dedication to the principles of republicanism. Even so, Adams often found his inborn contentiousness to be a constraint in his political career.

In the late 1750s, Adams fell in love with a woman named Hannah Quincy. While they were alone, he prepared to propose to her but was interrupted by friends, and the moment passed; in 1759, he first met 15-year-old Abigail Smith through his friend Richard Cranch, who was courting Abigail’s older sister, Mary. Adams formed a negative first impression of her and her two sisters, writing that they were not "fond, nor frank, nor candid." Nevertheless, they grew closer over time, he married her on October 25, 1764. Her parents were Elizabeth Quincy and Rev. William Smith, a Congregational minister at Weymouth, Massachusetts. Abigail’s mother strongly opposed the marriage, feeling that John was beneath her daughter, but they married anyway, they shared a love of books and in another sense similar personalities, as both were completely honest in their praise and criticism of each other.

John and Abigail had six children: Abigail "Nabby" in 1765, future president John Quincy Adams in 1767, Susanna in 1768, Charles in 1770, Thomas in 1772, and Elizabeth in 1777. Susanna died after about a year, while Elizabeth was stillborn. The fate of his three sons differed. All three became lawyers. Charles and Thomas were both unsuccessful in their law professions and eventually became alcoholics, never living to old age, while John Quincy excelled and launched a career in politics. Adams never divulged in writing his feelings on this fact.

Career before the Revolution

Opponent of Stamp Act 1765

Adams first rose to prominence leading widespread opposition to the Stamp Act of 1765, imposed by the British Parliament without consulting the American legislatures, and requiring payment of a direct tax by the colonies for various stamped documents, the Act, intended to pay for the costs incurred by the late war, was despised, not only because of the costs it would incur on the colonies, but because it was implemented without their consent. It was met with a shocking degree of violent resistance which prevented its enforcement. Adams authored the "Braintree Instructions" in 1765, a letter sent to the representatives of Braintree in the Massachusetts legislature which served as a model for other towns'
In August 1765, he reprised his pen name "Humphrey Ploughjogger" and contributed four articles to the *Boston Gazette* (republished in *The London Chronicle* in 1768 as *True Sentiments of America*, also known as *A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law*). He delivered a speech in December before the governor and council in which he pronounced the Stamp Act invalid on the ground that Massachusetts had not given its assent to it, being without representation in Parliament. He later observed that many protests were sparked by an oft-reprinted sermon of Boston minister Jonathan Mayhew, invoking Romans 13 to justify insurrection. In 1766, a town meeting of Braintree elected John Adams as a selectman. Adams strongly supported the right of all Americans to jury trials. Adams protested the 1765 passage of the Stamp Act, which gave jurisdiction to British Vice Admiralty Courts, rather than common law courts. Many colonists, including Adams, believed these courts, which operated without a jury, were corrupt and unfair.

With the repeal of the Stamp Act in the spring of 1766, relations with Britain temporarily eased. Putting politics aside, Adams moved the family to Boston in April 1768 to focus on his law practice, they rented a clapboard house on Brattle Street that was known locally as the "White House." He and Abigail and the children lived there for a year, then moved to Cold Lane; still later, they moved again to a larger house in Brattle Square in the center of the city. With the death of Jeremiah Gridley and mental collapse of Otis, Adams became Boston's most prominent lawyer.

**Counsel for the British: Boston Massacre**

On March 5, 1770, a street confrontation known as the *Boston Massacre* took place. A lone British sentry was accosted by men and boys. Eight British soldiers from the British soldiers reinforced him, as the crowd around them grew to several hundred, the people threw snowballs, ice, and stones at the troops. In the chaos, the soldiers opened fire, killing five civilians, the accused soldiers were arrested on criminal charges. The following day, Adams was asked to defend them after others had refused, he immediately agreed to do so. He acknowledged that the task might hurt his reputation but believed that no person should be denied the right to counsel and a fair trial, the trials were delayed so as to allow for passions to cool. The trial of the commander, Captain Thomas Preston, began on October 24 and ended on October 30. Preston was acquitted because it was impossible to prove that he had ordered his soldiers to fire, the trial of the remaining soldiers took place in December. In arguing their case, Adams made his legendary statement regarding jury decisions: "Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence." He also expounded upon Blackstone's Ratio: "It is more important that innocence be protected than it is that guilt be punished, for guilt and crimes are so frequent in this world that they cannot all be punished, but if innocence itself is brought to the bar and condemned, perhaps to die, then the citizen will say, 'whether I do good or whether I do evil is immaterial, for innocence itself is no protection,' and if such an idea as that were to take hold in the mind of the citizen that would be the end of security whatsoever." Adams won acquittal for six of the soldiers. Two of them who had fired
directly into the crowd were charged with murder but were convicted only of manslaughter. Adams was paid a small sum by his clients.\[18\][40]

Biographer John E. Ferling suggests that Adams made the most of juror selection during the jury selection stage of the trial, saying that Adams "expertly exercised his right to challenge individual jurors and contrived what amounted to a packed jury. Not only were several jurors closely tied through business arrangements to the British army, but five ultimately became Loyalist exiles." While benefitting from prosecutorial mismanagement, Adams "performed brilliantly."\[41\] Ferling also surmises that Adams may have been encouraged to take the case in exchange for political office; one of Boston's seats opened three months later in the Massachusetts legislature, and Adams was the town's first choice to fill the vacancy.\[42\]

His law practice increased greatly from this exposure, as did the demands on his time; in 1771, he moved Abigail and the children to Braintree, but he kept his office in Boston, saying, "I shall spend more Time in my Office than ever I did." He also noted on the day of the family's move, "Now my family is away, I feel no Inclination at all, no Temptation, to be any where but at my Office. I am in it by 6 in the Morning – I am in it at 9 at night.... In the Evening, I can be alone at my Office, and no where else. I never could in my family." Nevertheless, after some time in the capital, he became disenchanted with the rural and "vulgar" Braintree as a home for his family. In August 1772, Adams moved his family back to Boston, he purchased a large brick house on Queen Street, not far from his office.\[43\] In 1774, Adams and Abigail returned the family to the farm due to the increasingly unstable situation in Boston, and Braintree remained their permanent Massachusetts home.\[44\]

Objections to British Parliament's authority

Adams, among the more conservative of the Founders, held long to the belief that British actions against the colonies had been wrong and misguided, but did not warrant open insurrection. Peaceful petition was a better alternative,\[45\] around 1772, his ideas began to change. Governor Thomas Hutchinson and his judges until 1772 received their salaries from the Massachusetts legislature, the Coercive Acts and the Tea Act were then passed by Parliament, and the British Crown assumed payment of those wages, drawn from customs revenues imposed upon that colony. According to Ferling, the British government thus singled out Massachusetts for reprisals of previous rebellion and hoped in the process to force the other colonies into line. Boston radicals protested and asked John Adams to proclaim their objections; in "Two Replies of the Massachusetts House of Representatives to Governor Hutchinson," Adams argued that the colonists had never been under the sovereignty of Parliament. Their original charter, as well as their allegiance, was exclusively with the King. If a workable line could not be drawn between parliamentary sovereignty and the total independence of the colonies, he continued, the colonies would have no other choice but independence from England.\[46\]

In 1775, in response to a set of essays by Daniel Leonard (writing under the pen name "Massachusettsis") defending Hutchinson's arguments for the absolute authority of Parliament over the colonies, Adams (writing as "Novanglus") composed a series of essays addressed to the people living in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. In them, he gave a point-by-point refutation of Leonard's essays, and then provided one of the most extensive and learned arguments made by the colonists against British imperial policy, it was a systematic attempt by Adams to describe the origins, nature, and jurisdiction of (unwritten) British concepts of constitutionality. Adams used his knowledge of English and colonial legal history to argue that the provincial legislatures were fully sovereign over their own internal affairs, and that the colonies were connected to Great Britain only through the king.\[47\][48]

The Boston Tea Party, a historic demonstration against the tea monopoly enjoyed the British East India Company over American merchants, took place on December 16, 1773, the British schooner Dartmouth, loaded with tea to be traded subject to the new tea tax, had previously dropped anchor. By 9:00 PM, the work of the protesters was done – they had demolished 34 2 chests of tea worth about ten thousand pounds – today's equivalent of about $1 million. Adams was briefly retained by the Dartmouth owners regarding the question of their liability for the destroyed shipment. Adams applauded the destruction of
The absence of Adams from home was hard on Abigail, who was left alone to care for the family, but she encouraged her husband in his task, writing: "You cannot be, I know, nor do I wish to see you an inactive Spectator, but if the Sword be drawn I bid adieu to all domestick felicity, and look forward to that Country where there is neither wars nor rumors of War in a firm belief that thro the mercy of its King we shall both rejoice there together."[57]

A month after the Battles of Lexington and Concord, Adams returned to Philadelphia for the Second Continental Congress as the leader of the Massachusetts delegation.[58] He moved cautiously at first, observing that Congress was divided between Loyalists, those hesitant to take any position, and those favoring independence,[59] he became convinced that Congress was moving in the proper direction — away from its relationship with Great Britain. Publicly, Adams supported "reconciliation if practicable," but privately agreed with Benjamin Franklin's confidential observation that independence was inevitable,[60] he opposed various attempts, including the Olive Branch Petition, aimed at trying to find peace between the colonies and Great Britain.[61] involving the already long list of British actions against the colonies, he

Continental Congress

Member of Continental Congress

In 1774, the First Continental Congress was convened in response to the passage of the Intolerable Acts, a series of measures intended to punish Massachusetts and prevent rebellion in other colonies, these Acts, which took away certain freedoms of the people in Massachusetts and centralized authority in Britain, were extremely unpopular. Adams agreed to attend the Congress,[51] despite an emotional plea from his friend Jonathan Sewall to do otherwise.[52] The Massachusetts delegation resolved to assume a largely passive role, but Adams felt strongly that the conservatives of 1774, men like Joseph Galloway and James Duane, were no different than loyalists like Hutchinson and Peter Oliver, and he denigrated such men, telling Abigail that "Spiders, Toads, Snakes, are their only proper Emblems." Yet at that point his views were similar to those of conservative John Dickinson. He sought repeal of objectionable policies, but at the early stage he continued to see positive benefits for America remaining part of the British empire.[53] Adams renewed his push for the right to a jury trial, stating "Representative government and trial by jury are the heart and lungs of liberty. Without them, we have no other fortification against being ridden like horses, fleeced like sheep, worked like cattle, and fed and clothed like swines and hounds."[54] Adams did not generally like the other delegates to the Congress, he complained of what he considered to be their pretentiousness, writing to Abigail, "I believe if it was moved and seconded that We should come to a Resolution that Three and two make five We should be entertained with Logick and Rhetorick, Law, History, Politicks and Mathematicks, concerning the Subject for two whole Days, and then We should pass the Resolution unanimously in the Affirmative."[55] The Congress disbanded in October after sending a letter of grievances to King George III and, showing its displeasure with the Intolerable Acts, endorsing the Suffolk Resolves.[56]

The absence of Adams from home was hard on Abigail, who was left alone to care for the family, but she encouraged her husband in his task, writing: "You cannot be, I know, nor do I wish to see you an inactive Spectator, but if the Sword be drawn I bid adieu to all domestick felicity, and look forward to that Country where there is neither wars nor rumors of War in a firm belief that thro the mercy of its King we shall both rejoice there together."[57]
the colonies and Great Britain." Invoking the already-long list of British actions against the colonies, he wrote, "In my opinion Powder and Artillery are the most efficacious, Sure, and infallibly conciliatory Measures We can adopt." In June 1775, with a view of promoting union among the colonies, he nominated George Washington of Virginia as commander-in-chief of the army then assembled around Boston. Ferling writes, "By the fall of 1775 no one in Congress labored more ardently than Adams to hasten the day when America would be separate from Great Britain." In October 1775, Adams was appointed the chief judge of the Massachusetts Superior Court, but he never served, and resigned in February 1777. In response to queries from other delegates, Adams wrote the 1776 pamphlet Thoughts on Government, which laid out an influential framework for republican constitutions.

Declaration of Independence

Throughout the spring of 1776, Adams began to grown increasingly impatient with what he perceived to be the slow pace of declaring independence, he kept busy on the floor of the Congress, helping push through a plan to outfit armed vessels to launch maritime raids on enemy ships. Later in the year, he drafted the first set of regulations to govern the provisional navy. Meanwhile, that spring Adams drafted the preamble to the Lee resolution of colleague Richard Henry Lee (Virginia), which called on the colonies to adopt new independent governments, on June 7, 1776 he seconded the resolution, which stated, "These colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states." Prior to independence being declared, Adams organized and selected Committee of Five charged with drafting the Declaration, for its members, he chose himself, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston and Roger Sherman. The Committee, after discussing the general outline that the document should follow, decided that Jefferson would write the first draft. Jefferson particularly thought Adams should write the document; but Adams persuaded the Committee to choose Jefferson. Adams recorded his exchange with Jefferson on the question: Jefferson asked, "Why will you not? You ought to do it." To which Adams responded, "I will not – reasons enough." Jefferson replied, "What can be your reasons?" And Adams responded, "Reason first, you are a Virginian, and a Virginian ought to appear at the head of this business. Reason second, I am obnoxious, suspected, and unpopular. You are very much otherwise. Reason third, you can write ten times better than I can." "Well," said Jefferson, "if you are decided, I will do as well as I can." Adams concluded, "Very well. When you have drawn it up, we will have a meeting." The Committee left no minutes, and the drafting process itself is uncertain.

Accounts written many years later by Jefferson and Adams, although frequently cited, are often contradictory, although the first draft was written primarily by Jefferson, Adams assumed a major role in its completion. On July 1, debate was held in Congress as to whether to approve the declaration, it was expected to pass, but opponents such as Dickinson made a strong effort to oppose it anyhow. Jefferson, a poor debater, remained silent while Adams argued for its adoption. Many years later Jefferson hailed Adams as "the pillar of [the Declaration's] support on the floor of Congress, [its] ablest advocate and defender against the multifarious assaults it encountered." After editing the document further, Congress approved it on July 2. Twelve colonies voted in the affirmative, while New York abstained. Dickinson was absent. Adams wrote to Abigail that "yesterday was decided the greatest question which was ever debated in America, and a greater perhaps never was nor will be decided among men." He predicted that "[the second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America," and would be commemorated annually with great festivities.

Government during revolution

After defeating the Continental Army at the Battle of Long Island on August 27, 1776, British Admiral Richard Howe determined that a strategic advantage was at hand, and requested the Second Continental Congress send representatives in an attempt to negotiate peace. A delegation, including Adams and Benjamin Franklin, met with Howe at the Staten Island Peace Conference on September 11. Howe’s authority was premised on the Colonists’ submission, so no common ground was to be found. When Lord Howe unhappily stated he could view the American delegates only as British subjects, Adams replied, "Your lordship may consider me in what light you please, ...except that of a British subject." Adams
learned many years later that his name was on a list of people specifically excluded from Howe's pardon-granting authority. Being quite unimpressed with General Howe, and also after payments to colonial volunteers were increased, Adams in September 1776 said about the war, "We shall do well enough." Indeed, if Washington got his men, the British would be "ruined."

In 1775, Adams began serving as the head of the Board of War and Ordnance, he was charged with keeping accurate record of the officers in the army and their rank, the disposition of troops throughout the colonies, and ammunition. He sat on no less than ninety committees, chairing twenty-five. No other congressman approached the assumption of such a work load, as Benjamin Rush reported, he was acknowledged "to be the first man in the House." He was also referred to as a "one man war department," working up to eighteen-hour days and mastering the details of raising, equipping and fielding an army under civilian control, he also authored the "Plan of Treaties," laying out the Congress's requirements for a treaty with France.

Diplomatic service

Main article: Diplomacy of John Adams

Commissioner to France

In the spring of 1776 Adams, advocated in Congress that independence was necessary in order to establish trade, and conversely trade was essential for the attainment of independence; he specifically urged negotiation of a commercial treaty with France. He was then appointed, along with Franklin, Dickinson, Benjamin Harrison V of Virginia and Robert Morris of Pennsylvania, "to prepare a plan of treaties to be proposed to foreign powers." While Jefferson was laboring over the Declaration of Independence, Adams worked on the Model Treaty. The Model Treaty authorized a commercial agreement with France but contained no provisions for formal recognition or military assistance. There were provisions for what constituted French territory, the treaty adhered to the provision that "free ships make free goods," allowing neutral nations to trade reciprocally while exempting an agreed upon list of contraband. By late 1777, America’s finances were in tatters, and that September a British army had defeated General Washington and captured Philadelphia. A growing number of Americans came to determine that mere commercial ties between the U.S. and France would not be enough, and that military assistance would be needed in order to defeat Great Britain and end to the war. The defeat of a British army at Saratoga was expected to help induce France to agree to an alliance.

On November 27, 1777 Adams was named as commissioner to France, replacing Silas Deane, he accepted at once. He was to join Franklin and Arthur Lee in Paris to negotiate an alliance with the French, who were debating whether or not to recognize and aid the United States. Abigail was left in Massachusetts to manage their home, it was agreed that 10-year-old John Quincy would go, for the experience was "of inestimable value" to his maturation. On February 17, Adams set sail aboard the frigate Boston, commanded by Captain Samuel Tucker, the stormy trip was treacherous, with lightning injuring 19 sailors and killing one. Adams’s ship was pursued by several British vessels, with Adams taking up arms to help capture one. A cannon malfunction killed one and injured five more of the crew, on April 1, the men arrived in Spain, where Adams learned that France had already agreed to an alliance with the United States on February 6. Shortly after, they arrived in France. Adams was annoyed by the other two commissioners: Lee, whom he thought paranoid and cynical, and the popular and influential Franklin, whom he found
irritating, lethargic, and overly deferential and accommodating to the French, he assumed a less visible role but imposed order and methods lacking in his delegation's finances and record-keeping. He was frustrated by the lack of commitment on the part of the French to helping the United States; in December, Adams wrote a letter to French foreign minister, the comte de Vergennes arguing for French naval support in North America. Franklin toned down the letter, but Vergennes ignored it. In September 1778, Congress increased Franklin's powers by naming him minister plenipotentiary to France while Lee was sent to Spain. Adams received no instructions. Disgusted by the apparent slight, he departed France with John Quincy on March 8, 1779, on August 2, they arrived back in Braintree. In the fall of 1779, Adams was appointed sole minister charged with negotiating peace and a postwar commercial treaty with Britain. Following the conclusion of the Massachusetts constitutional convention, he departed for Europe in November aboard the French frigate Sensible – accompanied by John Quincy and 9-year-old son Charles. In France, constant disagreement between Lee and Franklin eventually resulted in Adams assuming the role of tie-breaker in almost all votes on commission business. Adams also increased his usefulness by mastering the French language. Lee was eventually recalled. Adams closely supervised his sons' education but wrote to Abigail relatively infrequently, only about once every ten days. Compared to Franklin, Adams held a pessimistic view of the Franco-American alliance, the French, he believed, were involved only for their own self-interest, and he grew frustrated by the perceived lethargy in providing substantial aid to the Revolution. The French, Adams wrote, mean to keep their hands "above our chin to prevent us from drowning, but not to lift our heads out of water." His straightforwardness eventually led to a collision with Vergennes; in March 1780, Congress, trying to curb inflation, voted to devalue the dollar. In June, Vergennes summoned Adams for a meeting; in a letter sent that same month, he insisted that any fluctuation of the dollar value without an exception for French merchants was unacceptable and requested that Adams write to Congress asking it to "retrace its steps." Adams wrote back in defense of the decision, claiming that the French merchants were doing better than Vergennes implied. Adams did not stop there, deciding to use the letter to sound off on some of his grievances with the French, the alliance had been made over two years before. During that time, an army under the comte de Rochambeau had been sent to assist Washington but had yet to do anything of significance. America was expecting French warships, these were needed, Adams wrote, to contain the British armies in the port cities and contend with the powerful British Navy. However, the French Navy had been sent not to the United States but to the West Indies in order to protect French interests there. France, Adams believed, needed to commit itself more fully to the alliance. Vergennes responded that he would deal only with Franklin, who sent a letter back to Congress critical of Adams, before a response could be sent, Adams left France on his own.

Ambassador to the Dutch Republic and Treaty of Paris

In the summer of 1780, Adams decided to go to the Dutch Republic, one of the few other republics then existing in the world, the Dutch, he thought, might be sympathetic to the American cause. Securing a loan from them could increase American independence from France and pressure Britain into peace, at first, Adams had no official status, but in July he was named ambassador and took up residence in Amsterdam in August. Adams at first thought the chances of success quite good, and greatly enjoyed the city, but soon, he found himself disappointed. The Dutch, fearing British retaliation, refused to meet Adams. Word reached Europe of American battlefield defeats, after the discovery of secret aid already sent by the Dutch to the Americans, the British authorized reprisals against Dutch ships, which only increased their apprehension. After five months of not meeting with a single Dutch official, Adams in early 1781 pronounced Amsterdam "the capital of the reign of Mammon." He was finally invited to present his credentials to the Dutch on April 19, 1781, but no assistance was promised; in the meantime, Adams thwarted an attempt by neutral European powers to mediate the war without consulting the United States. In July, Adams consented to the departure of both of his sons. Francis Dana, Adams's secretary, was assigned to go to Saint Petersburg to seek recognition from Russia. Knowing little French, he received Adams's permission to bring with him John Quincy, who was fluent in the language. Charles,
he received Adams’s permission to bring with him John Quincy, who was fluent in the language. Charles, who had grown homesick, was allowed to return home with Adams’s friend Benjamin Waterhouse; in August, shortly after he was removed as the sole negotiator of the treaty to end the war, he fell seriously ill in what scholars call “a major nervous breakdown.” That November, he learned that American and French troops had decisively defeated the British at Yorktown, the victory was won with the assistance of the French Navy, which vindicated Adams’s stand for increased naval assistance from France.

News of the American triumph at Yorktown convulsed Europe; in January 1781, after recovering, Adams arrived at The Hague to demand the States General of the Netherlands answer his petitions. His efforts stalled, and he took his cause to the people, successfully capitalizing on popular pro-American sentiment to push the States General towards recognizing the U.S. Several provinces began recognizing American independence, on April 19, 1782, the States General in The Hague formally recognized American independence and acknowledged Adams as ambassador. On June 11, with the aid of the Dutch Patriot leader Joan van der Capellen tot den Pol, Adams negotiated a loan of five million guilders. In October, he negotiated with the Dutch a treaty of amity and commerce, the house that Adams bought during this stay in the Netherlands became the first American-owned embassy on foreign soil.

After negotiating the loan with the Dutch, Adams was appointed as one of the American commissioners to negotiate the Treaty of Paris to end the war, the comte de Vergennes still disapproved of Adams, so Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Jay, and Henry Laurens were appointed to collaborate with Adams; nevertheless, Jefferson did not go to Europe and Laurens was posted to the Dutch Republic.

In the final negotiations, one of the most important goals for the Americans, and one which became surprisingly difficult and which Adams played an important role in resolving, was the securing of fishing rights off Newfoundland and Cape Breton Island, the British ministers proposed strict limitations on how close American fishermen could be to the Canadian shore. Adams insisted that not only could American fishermen be allowed to travel as close to the shore as they wished, but that they should be allowed to cure their ships on the shores off Newfoundland. Referring to this and others, Vergennes, through an emissary, secretly informed the British that France did not feel compelled to “sustain [these] pretentious ambitions.” Overruling Franklin and distrustful of Vergennes, Jay and Adams decided not to consult with France; instead, they dealt directly with the British commissioners. During the negotiations in November 1782, Adams mentioned that the fishing terms proposed to England were more generous than those proposed by France in 1778, which would create good will towards Britain in the United States and put pressure on France. Britain agreed to this and the two sides worked out a number of other provisions. Vergennes angrily expressed his disappointment when he learned from Franklin of the American duplicity but did not demand renegotiation. Supposedly, he was surprised at how much the American ministers had been able to extract from the British, the independent negotiations also allowed the French to plead innocence to their Spanish allies, whose demands might have caused significant problems in the negotiations.

On September 3, 1783, the treaty was signed and American independence was recognized.

In 1784 and 1785, Adams was one of the architects of extensive trade relations between the United States and Prussia, the Prussian ambassador in The Hague, Friedrich Wilhelm von Thulemeyer, was involved, as were Jefferson and Franklin, who were in Paris.

Ambassador to Great Britain

Adams was appointed in 1785 the first American minister to the Court of St James’s (ambassador to Great Britain), and he prepared to travel from Paris to London to begin his new assignment. When a counterpart seemed to assume that Adams had some family members in England, Adams replied, “Neither my father or mother, grandfather or grandmother, great grandfather or great grandmother, nor any other relation that I know of, or care a farthing for, has
any other relation of mine. I know none, nor care a farthing for, has been in England these one hundred and fifty years; so that you see I have not one drop of blood in my veins but what is American.”

Adams had his first audience with King George III on June 1, and recorded the event in great detail in a letter to Foreign Minister Jay on June 2. Adams approached the King, telling him that he felt greatly honored by his appointment, and promised to do all that he could to restore friendship and cordiality “between People who, tho Seperated [sic] by an Ocean and under different Governments have the Same Language, a Similar Religion and kindred Blood.” After hearing this, King George, promised to "receive with Pleasure, the Assurances of the friendly Dispositions of the United States." He added that "while he had been the last to consent" to American independence, he wished Adams to know that he had always done what he thought right and proper. Towards the end of the interview, the King said, which to Adams appeared very sudden, "There is an Opinion, among Some People, that you are not the most attached of all Your Countrymen, to the manners of France." Adams replied, "That Opinion sir, is not mistaken, I must avow to your Majesty, I have no Attachments but to my own Country." To this King George responded, "An honest Man will never have any other.”

Adams was joined by his wife while in London. Suffering the hostility of the King's courtiers, they chose to escape when they could by seeking out Richard Price, minister of Newington Green Unitarian Church and instigator of the Revolution Controversy. Jefferson visited Britain in 1786 while serving as Minister to France, he and Adams toured the countryside and saw many of Britain's most important historical sites. While in London, Adams briefly met his old friend Jonathan Sewall, the two discovered that they had grown too far apart to renew their friendship. Adams considered Sewall one of the war's casualties. Sewall in turn offered a critique of Adams as an ambassador:

His abilities are undoubtedly equal to the mechanical parts of his business as ambassador; but this is not enough. He cannot dance, drink, game, flatter, promise, dress, swear with the gentlemen, and small talk and flirt with the ladies; in short, he has none of those essential arts or ornaments which constitute a courtier. There are thousands who, with a tenth of his understanding and without a spark of his honesty, would distance him infinitely in any court in Europe.

Adams's tenure in Britain was complicated by the failure of both countries to follow their treaty obligations, the states had been delinquent in paying debts owed to British merchants. As security for these payments, the British refused to evacuate forts in the northwest as prescribed the Treaty of Paris. Adams's attempts to resolve this dispute failed, and he was often frustrated by a lack of news from home; he corresponded with his sons John Quincy and Charles, both of whom were at Harvard, cautioning the former against the "smell of the midnight lamp" while admonishing the latter to devote sufficient time to study. Adams grew frustrated with the situation in Great Britain, and letters detailing tumult at home such as in Shays' Rebellion heightened his anxiety, he wrote to Jay asking to be relieved. In 1788, Adams took his leave of George III, who engaged Adams in polite and formal conversation, promising to uphold his end of the treaty once America did the same, he then went to The Hague to take formal leave of his ambassadorship there and to secure refinancing, allowing the United States to meet obligations on earlier Dutch loans.

Vice Presidency, 1789–97

Election
Each state’s presidential electors gathered on February 4, 1789 to cast their two votes for the president, the person with the most votes would be president and the second become vice president. Adams received 34 electoral college votes in the presidential election of 1789, finishing in second place behind George Washington, who garnered 69 votes, as a result, Washington became the nation’s first president, and Adams became its first vice president. Adams finished well ahead of all the vote getters other than Washington, but he was still offended by the fact that Washington received more than twice as many votes. To Benjamin Rush, he wrote, "Is not my election to this office, in the dark and scurvy manner in which it was done, a curse rather than a blessing?" Unbeknownst to Adams, Hamilton, under the pretext of not embarrassing Washington and in an abundance of caution in order to ensure that Adams did not tie or surpass Washington in total vote count, had convinced several electors not to vote for Adams.

Although his term was scheduled to start on March 4, 1789, it was delayed since Congress did not achieve a quorum until April 6. Adams first presided over the Senate on April 21.

President of the Senate

The sole constitutionally prescribed responsibility of the vice president is to preside over the U.S. Senate, where he can cast a tie-breaking vote, on at least one occasion, Adams persuaded senators to vote against legislation he opposed, and at the start of his time in office he frequently lectured the body on procedural and policy matters.

Adams became deeply involved in a lengthy Senate controversy over the official titles for the president and executive officers of the new government, although the House agreed that the president should be addressed simply as "George Washington, President of the United States," the Senate debated the issue at some length. Adams favored the adoption of the style of Highness (as well as the title of Protector of Their [the United States'] Liberties) for the president. Some members of Congress favored a variant of Highness or the lesser Excellence. Anti-federalists in the Senate objected to the monarchical sound of them all; Jefferson described them as "superlatively ridiculous." The Senate emphasized simplicity and republicanism, and many argued that these "distinctions," as Adams called them, violated the Constitution’s prohibition on titles of nobility. Adams argued that the distinctions were necessary because the highest office of the United States must be marked with "dignity and splendor" in order to command respect, he was almost universally derided for his combative nature and stubbornness, especially as he actively debated and lectured the senators. "For forty minutes he harangued us from the chair," wrote Senator William Maclay of Pennsylvania. Maclay became Adams’s fiercest opponent and repeatedly expressed personal contempt for him in both public and private, he likened Adams to "a monkey just put into breeches." Ralph Izard suggested that Adams he referred to by the title "His Rotundity," a joke which soon became
Izard suggested that Adams be referred to by the title "His Rotundity," a joke which soon became popular. On May 14, the Senate decided that the title of "Mr. President" would be used. Privately, Adams conceded that his vice presidency had begun poorly, and that perhaps he had been out of the country too long to know the sentiment of the people. Washington quietly expressed his displeasure with the fuss and rarely consulted Adams.

As vice president, Adams largely sided with the Federalist Party, he supported Washington's policies against opposition from anti-Federalists and Republicans. He cast 31 tie-breaking votes, all in support of the administration, and more than any other vice president; in 1790, Jefferson, Madison, and Hamilton struck a bargain guaranteeing Republican support for Hamilton's debt assumption plan in exchange for the capital being temporarily moved from New York to Philadelphia, and then to a permanent site on the Potomac River in order to placate Southerners. In the Senate, Adams cast a tie-breaking nay vote against a last-minute motion to keep the capital in New York; in another instance, he voted against a bill sponsored by Maclay that would have required Senate consent for the removal of executive branch officials who had been confirmed by the Senate.

Adams never questioned Washington's courage or patriotism. However, Washington did join Franklin and others as the object of Adams's ire or envy. "The History of our Revolution will be one continued lie," Adams declared. "... The essence of the whole will be that Dr. Franklin's electrical Rod smote the Earth and out sprung General Washington, that Franklin electrified him with his Rod – and henceforth these two conducted all the Policy, Negotiations, Legislatures and War." Adams's political views and his attempt to assume a more active role in the Senate made him a natural target for critics of the Washington administration. Toward the end of his first term, he grew more accustomed to assuming a marginal role, and rarely intervened in debate.

Other activities

Adams played a minor role in the politics as vice president, he attended few cabinet meetings, and the President sought his counsel infrequently. While Adams brought energy and dedication to the office, by the summer of 1789 he had already found the task "not quite adapted to my character...too inactive, and mechanical." He wrote, "My country has in its wisdom contrived for me the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man ... or his imagination contrived or his imagination conceived."

On July 14, 1789, the French Revolution began. Republicans were jubilant. Adams at first expressed cautious optimism, but soon began denouncing the revolutionaries as barbarous and tyrannical. Washington eventually began consulting Adams more often, but not until near the end of his administration, by which point Hamilton, Jefferson, and Edmund Randolph had all resigned, the British had been raiding American trading vessels, and John Jay was sent to London to negotiate an end to hostilities. When he returned with a peace treaty on terms unfavorable to the United States, Adams urged Washington to sign it in order to prevent war. Washington chose to do so, igniting protests and riots. Washington was accused of surrendering American honor to a tyrannical monarchy and of turning his back on the French Republic. John Adams told Abigail that passage would deeply divide the nation, for, "There will be a mortified party, so bitter, rancorous and desperate, fomented by foreign influence, in opposition."

Presidential election of 1796

The election of 1796 was the first contested American presidential election. Twice, George Washington had been elected to office unanimously; however, during his presidency, deep philosophical differences between the two leading figures in the administration – Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson – made it impossible for Washington to remain neutral. Adams, the Federalist candidate, lost to Jefferson, the Democratic-Republican candidate, with 71 electoral votes to 68. The following table shows the electoral vote totals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Adams</td>
<td>Federalist</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>Democratic-Republican</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Pinckney</td>
<td>Federalist</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
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administration – Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson – regarding domestic economic policy and U.S. foreign policy caused a rift between them, and led to the founding of the Federalist Party and Republican Parties. Thus, when Washington announced that he would not be a candidate for a third term, an intense partisan struggle for control of Congress and the presidency began.

Like the previous two presidential elections, no candidates were put forward for voters to choose between in 1796, the Constitution provided for the selection of electors who would then chose a president. In seven states voters chose the presidential electors; in the remaining nine states, they were chosen by the state's legislature. The clear favorite of Republicans was Jefferson, although he was very reluctant to run. There was little doubt that Adams would be the choice of a great majority of the Federalists.

The Republicans in Congress held a nominating caucus and named Jefferson and Aaron Burr as their presidential choices. Jefferson at first declined the nomination, but he finally agreed to run a few weeks later. Federalist members of Congress held an informal nominating caucus and named Adams and Thomas Pinckney as their candidates for president, the campaign, was, for the most part, unorganized and sporadic, confined to newspaper attacks, pamphlets and political rallies; of the four contenders, only Burr actively campaigned. The practice of not campaigning for office would remain for many decades. Adams specifically stated that he wanted to stay out of what he called the "silly and wicked game" of electioneering.

As the campaign progressed, fears grew among Hamilton and his supporters that Adams was too vain, opinionated, unpredictable and stubborn to follow their directions, their opinions were somewhat validated, as Adams felt largely left out of Washington's administration and did not consider himself a strong member of the Federalist Party. He had remarked that Hamilton's economic program, centered around banks, would "swindle" the poor and unleash the "gangrene of avarice."

Desiring "a more pliant president than Adams," Hamilton maneuvered to tip the election to Pinckney, he coerced South Carolina Federalist electors, pledged to vote for "favorite son" Pinckney, to scatter their second votes among candidates other than Adams. Hamilton's scheme was undone when several New England state electors heard of it, conferred, and agreed not to vote for Pinckney. Adams was nonetheless angered, writing shortly after the election that Hamilton was a "proud Spirited, conceited, aspiring Mortal always pretending to Morality, with as debauched Morals as old Franklin who is more his Model than any one I know." Throughout his life, Adams made a number of highly critical statements about Hamilton, he made derogatory references to his womanizing, real or alleged, and slurred him as the "Creole bastard."

In the end, Adams won the presidency by a narrow margin, receiving 71 electoral votes to 68 for Jefferson, who became the vice president; Pinckney finished in third with 59 votes, and Burr came in fourth with 30. The balance of the Electoral College votes were dispersed among nine other candidates, this is the only election to date in which a president and vice president were elected from opposing tickets.

**Presidency, 1797–1801**

*Main article: Presidency of John Adams*

**Inauguration**
Adams was sworn into office as the nation's second president on March 4, 1797 by Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth, as president, he followed Washington's lead in using the presidency to exemplify republican values and civic virtue, and his service was free of scandal.[167] In July 1798 Adams signed into law the Act for the Relief of Sick and Disabled Seamen, which authorized the establishment of a government-operated marine hospital service.[168]

Historians debate his decision to retain en masse the members of Washington's cabinet. Many felt he was oblivious to the political danger of such a decision, in light of the cabinet's loyalty to Hamilton, the "Hamiltonians who surround him," Jefferson soon remarked, "are only a little less hostile to him than to me."[169] Although aware of the Hamilton factor, Adams was convinced their retention ensured a smoother succession.[170] Adams's economic programs maintained those of Hamilton, who indeed had regularly consulted with key cabinet members, especially the powerful Secretary of the Treasury, Oliver Wolcott Jr.[171] Adams was in other respects quite independent of his cabinet, often making decisions despite strong opposition from it, such self-reliance enabled him to avoid war with France, despite a strong desire among his cabinet secretaries for the conflict.[172] Hamilton had grown accustomed to being heavily consulted by Washington. Shortly after Adams was inaugurated, Hamilton sent him a detailed letter filled with policy suggestions for the new administration. Adams dismissively ignored it,[173] as president, Adams spent much of his term at home in Massachusetts, ignoring the details of political patronage nursed by other office holders.[174]

Failed peace commission and XYZ affair

Main article: XYZ Affair

Historian Joseph Ellis writes that "[t]he Adams presidency was destined to be dominated by a single question of American policy to an extent seldom if ever encountered by any succeeding occupant of the office." That question was whether to make more with France or find peace.[175] In Europe, Britain and France were at war as a result of the French Revolution. Hamilton and the Federalists favored the British monarchy against what they perceived to be the political and anti-religious radicalism of the French Revolution, while Jefferson and the Republicans, with their firm opposition to monarchy, strongly supported France,[176] the French had supported Jefferson for president and became even more belligerent at his loss.[177] When Adams entered office, he decided to continue Washington's policy of staying out of the war, because of the Jay Treaty, the French saw America as Britain's junior partner and began seizing American merchant ships that were trading with the British. Most Americans were still pro-French due to France's assistance during the Revolution, the perceived humiliation of the Jay Treaty, and their desire to support a republic against the British monarchy, and would not tolerate war with France.[178]

On May 16, Adams gave a speech to the House and Senate in which he called for increasing defense capabilities in case of war with France,[179] he announced that he would send a peace commission to France but simultaneously called for a military buildup to counter any potential French threat. The speech was well received by the Federalists. Adams was depicted as an eagle holding an olive branch in one talon and the "emblems of defense" in the other, the
Alexander Hamilton's desire for high military rank and his push for war with France put him into conflict with Adams.

In one talon and the "emblems of defense" in the other, the Republicans were outraged, for Adams had not only failed to express support for the cause of the French Republic but appeared to be calling for war against it.\[180\]

Sentiments changed with the **XYZ Affair**. Adams, as expressed in his May 16 speech, had appointed a three-member commission to negotiate with France, the commission consisted of John Marshall, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney and Elbridge Gerry.\[181\] Jefferson met four times with Joseph Letombe, the French consul in Philadelphia. Letombe wrote to Paris stating that Jefferson had told him that it was in France’s best interest to treat the American ministers civilly but "then drag out the negotiations at length" in order to arrive at most favorable solution. According to Letombe, Jefferson called Adams "vain, suspicious, and stubborn."\[182\] When the envoys arrived in October 1797, they were kept waiting for several days, and then granted only a 15-minute meeting with French Foreign Minister Talleyrand, after this, the diplomats were met by three of Talleyrand’s agents. The French emissaries (later code-named, X, Y, and Z) refused to conduct diplomatic negotiations unless the United States paid enormous bribes, one to Talleyrand personally, and another to the Republic of France.\[181\] Supposedly this was to make up for offenses given to France by Adams in his speech,\[183\] the Americans refused to negotiate on such terms.\[184\] Marshall and Pinckney returned home, while Gerry remained.\[185\]

News of the disastrous peace mission arrived in the form of a memorandum from Marshall on March 4, 1798. Adams, not wanting to incite violent impulses among the populace, announced simply that the mission had failed without providing details,\[186\] he also sent a message to Congress asking for a renewal of the nation’s defenses. The Republicans reacted by frustrating the President’s defense measures. Suspecting that he might be hiding material favorable to France, the House, with the support of Federalists who had heard rumors of what was contained in the messages and were therefore happy to assist the Republicans, voted overwhelmingly to demand that Adams release the papers. Once they were released, the Republicans, according to Abigail, were "struck dumb."\[187\] Benjamin Franklin Bache, editor of the Republican Philadelphia Aurora, blamed Adams’s aggression as the cause for the disaster. Among the general public, the effects were very different, the affair substantially weakened popular American support of France. Adams reached the height of his popularity as many in the country called for full-scale war against the French.\[188\]

### Alien and Sedition Acts

**Main article: Alien and Sedition Acts**

Despite the discredit of the XYZ Affair, the Republicans’ opposition persisted. Federalists accused the French and their associated immigrants of provoking civil unrest; in an attempt to quell the uprising, the Federalists introduced, and the Congress passed, a series of laws collectively referred to as the Alien and Sedition Acts, which were signed by Adams in 1798.\[189\]

Congress specifically passed four measures – the **Naturalization Act**, the Alien Friends Act, the Alien Enemies Act and the Sedition Act. All came within a period of two weeks, in what Jefferson called an "unguarded passion." The Alien Friends Act, Alien Enemies Act, and Naturalization Acts targeted immigrants, specifically French, by giving the President greater deportation authority and increasing citizenship requirements. The Sedition Act made it a crime to publish "false, scandalous, and malicious writing" against the government or its officials.\[190\] Adams had not promoted any of these acts, but was urged to sign them by his wife and cabinet,
he eventually agreed and signed the bills into law. The administration initiated fourteen or more indictments under the Sedition Act, as well as suits against five of the six most prominent Republican newspapers, the majority of the legal actions began in 1798 and 1799, and went to trial on the eve of the 1800 presidential election. Other historians have cited evidence that the Alien and Sedition Acts were rarely enforced, namely: 1) only 10 convictions under the Sedition Act have been identified; 2) Adams never signed a deportation order; and 3) the sources of expressed furor over the acts were Republicans. The Acts allowed for prosecution of many who opposed the Federalists. Congressman Matthew Lyon of Vermont was sentenced to four months in jail for criticizing the President. Adams resisted Pickering's attempts to deport aliens. Vast numbers left on their own, largely in response to the hostile environment. Republicans were outraged. Jefferson, disgusted by the acts, wrote nothing publicly but partnered with Madison to secretly draft the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions. Jefferson, writing for Kentucky, wrote that states had the "natural right" to nullify any acts they deemed unconstitutional. Writing to Madison, he speculated that as a last resort the states might have to "sever ourselves from the union we so much value." Federalists reacted bitterly to the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions, which were to have far more lasting implications for the country than the Alien and Sedition Acts. Still, the acts Adams signed into law energized and unified the Republican Party while doing little to unite the Federalists.

Quasi War

In May 1798, a French privateer captured a merchant vessel off of the New York Harbor. An increase in attacks on sea marked the beginning of the undeclared naval war known as the Quasi War. Adams knew that America would be unable to win a major conflict, both because of its internal divisions and because France at the time was dominating the fight in most of Europe, he pursued a strategy whereby American ships harassed French ships in an effort sufficient to stem the French assaults on American interests.

In May, shortly after the attack in New York, Congress created a separate Navy Department, the prospect of a French invasion of the U.S. mainland led for calls to build up the army. Hamilton and other "High Federalists" were particularly adamant that a large army should be called up, in spite of the common fear, particularly among Republicans, that large standing armies were subsersive to liberty; in May, a "provisional" army of 10,000 soldiers was authorized by Congress. In July, Congress created twelve infantry regiments and provided for six cavalry companies, these numbers exceeded Adams's requests but fell short of Hamilton's.

Adams found himself pressured by Federalists to appoint Hamilton, who had served as Washington's aide-de-camp during the Revolution, to command the army. Distrustful of Hamilton and fearing a plot to subvert his administration, Adams appointed Washington to command the army without consulting him. Washington was surprised by this sudden move, and as a condition of his acceptance demanded that he be permitted to appoint his own subordinates, he wished to have Henry Knox as second-in-command, followed by Hamilton, and then Charles Pinckney. On June 2, Hamilton wrote
to Washington stating that he would not serve unless given the position of Inspector General and second-in-command. Washington conceded that Hamilton, despite holding a rank lower than that of Knox and Pinckney, had, by serving on his staff, more opportunity to comprehend the whole military scene, and should therefore outrank them. Adams sent Secretary of War McHenry to Mount Vernon in order to convince Washington to accept the post. McHenry put forth his opinion that Washington would not serve unless permitted to choose his own officers. Adams had intended to appoint Aaron Burr and Frederick Muhlenberg, both Republicans, in order to make the army appear bipartisan. Washington’s list consisted entirely of Federalists. Adams relented, and it was agreed to submit to the Senate the names of Hamilton, Pinckney, and Knox, in that order, although final decisions of rank would be reserved to Adams. Knox refused to serve under these conditions. Adams firmly intended to give to Hamilton the lowest possible rank, while Washington and many other Federalists wrongly insisted that the order in which the names had been submitted to the Senate must determine seniority, on September 21, Adams received a letter from McHenry relaying a statement from Washington threatening to resign if Hamilton were not made second-in-command. Adams knew of the backlash that he would receive from Federalists over the issue should he continue his course, and he was forced to capitulate, the severe illness of Abigail during this time, whom Adams was feared was near death, exacerbated his suffering and frustration.

It quickly became apparent that due to Washington’s advanced age, Hamilton was the army’s de facto commander, he exerted effective control over the War Department, taking over supplies for the army. Meanwhile, Adams built up the Navy, adding six fast, powerful frigates, most notably the USS Constitution.

The Quasi War continued, but there was a noticeable decline in war fever beginning in the fall once news arrived of the French defeat at the Battle of the Nile, which significantly lessened their strength and, it was hoped, would make them more disposed to negotiate; in October, Adams heard from Gerry, who was still in Paris, that the French wanted to make peace and would properly receive an American delegation. That December in his address to Congress, Adams relayed these statements while also expressing the need to maintain adequate defenses, the speech angered both Federalists, including Hamilton, many of whom had wanted a request for a declaration of war, and Republicans. Hamilton secretly promoted a plan, already rejected by Adams, in which American and British troops would combine to seize Spanish Florida and Louisiana, ostensibly to deter a possible French invasion. Hamilton’s critics, including Abigail, saw in his military buildups the signs of an aspiring military dictator.

In February 1799, Adams surprised many by nominating diplomat William Vans Murray on a peace mission to France, the decision was made without consulting his cabinet or even Abigail, who nonetheless upon hearing of it described it as a “master stroke.” To placate Republicans, he nominated Patrick Henry and Oliver Ellsworth to go with Murray and the Senate immediately approved them. Hamilton strongly criticized the decision, as did Adams’s cabinet members, who maintained frequent communication with him. Adams again questioned the loyalty of those men but did not remove them. To the annoyance of many, Adams spent a full seven months—March to September—of 1799 in Peacefield, finally returning to Trenton, where the government had set up emergency quarters due to the yellow fever epidemic, after a letter arrived from Talleyrand confirming Gerry’s statement that American ministers would be received. Adams then decided to send the commissioners to France. Hamilton, in a breach of military protocol, arrived uninvited at Trenton to speak with the President, urging him not to send the peace commissioners but instead to ally with Britain, which he viewed to be the stronger party, to restore the Bourbons to France. "I heard him with perfect good humor, though never in my life did I hear a man talk more like a fool," Adams said. He regarded Hamilton’s idea as chimerical and far-fetched, on November 15, the commissioners set sail for Paris.

Fries’s Rebellion

Main article: Fries's Rebellion

To pay for the military buildup of the Quasi War, Adams and his Federalist allies enacted the Direct Tax of 1798. Direct taxation by the federal government was widely unpopular, and the government’s revenue
1798. Direct taxation by the federal government was widely unpopular, and the government's revenue under Washington had mostly come from excise taxes and tariffs. Though Washington had maintained a balanced budget with the help of a growing economy, increased military expenditures threatened to cause major budget deficits, and Hamilton, Wolcott, and Adams developed a taxation plan to meet the need for increased government revenue, the Direct Tax of 1798 instituted a progressive land value tax of up to 1% of the value of a property. Taxpayers in eastern Pennsylvania resisted federal tax collectors, and in March 1799 the bloodless Fries's Rebellion broke out. Led by Revolutionary War veteran John Fries, rural German-speaking farmers protested what they saw as a threat to their republican liberties and to their churches, they intimidated tax collectors, who often found themselves unable to go about their business. The disturbance was quickly ended with Hamilton leading the army to restore peace.

Fries and two other leaders were arrested, found guilty of treason, and sentenced to hang, they appealed to Adams requesting a pardon. The cabinet unanimously advised Adams to refuse, but he instead granted the pardon, using as justification the argument that the men had instigated a mere riot as opposed to a rebellion; in his pamphlet attacking Adams before the election, Hamilton wrote that "it was impossible to commit a greater error."

Federalist divisions and peace

On May 5, Adams's frustrations with the Hamilton wing of the party exploded during a meeting with McHenry, a Hamilton loyalist who was universally regarded as an inept Secretary of War. Adams accused him of subservience to Hamilton and declared that he would rather serve as Jefferson's vice president or minister at The Hague than be beholden to Hamilton for the presidency. McHenry offered to resign at once, and Adams accepted, on May 10, he asked Pickering to resign. Pickering refused and was summarily dismissed. Adams named John Marshall as Secretary of State and Samuel Dexter as Secretary of War;

in 1799, Napoleon took over as head of the French government in the Coup of 18 Brumaire and declared the French Revolution over. This increased Adams's desire to disband the provisional army, which, with Washington now dead, was commanded only by Hamilton, his moves to end the army after the departures of McHenry and Pickering were met with little opposition. Rather than allow Adams to receive the credit, Federalists joined with Republicans in voting to disband the army in the summer of 1800.

Napoleon, realizing that the conflict was pointless, signaled his readiness for friendly relations, at the Convention of 1800, the two sides agreed to return any captured ships and to allow for the peaceful transfer of non-military goods to an enemy of the nation. On January 23, 1801, the Senate voted 16–14 in favor of the treaty, four votes short of the necessary two thirds, some Federalists, including Hamilton, urged that the Senate vote in favor of the treaty with reservations. A list of reservations was then drawn up demanding that the Treaty of Alliance of 1778 be superseded and that France pay for its damages to American property, on February 3, the treaty with the reservations passed 22–9 and was signed by Adams. Jeffrey, after entering office, would approve through negotiation an end to the 1778 alliance, freeing the United States of foreign entanglements, while excusing France from paying indemnities.

Adams proudly avoided war, but deeply split his party in the process. Historian Ron Chernow writes that "the threat of Jacobinism" was the one thing which united the Federalist Party, and that Adams's elimination of it unwittingly contributed to the party's demise. News of the peace treaty did not arrive in the United States until after the election, too late to sway the results.

Move to Washington

Adams made his first official visit to the nation's new seat of government in early June 1800. Amid the "raw and unfinished" cityscape, the president found the public buildings "in a much greater forwardness of completion than expected." He moved into the nearly completed President's Mansion (later known as the White House) on November 1. Abigail arrived a few weeks later. Upon arriving, Adams wrote to her, "Before I end my letter, I pray Heaven to bestow the best of Blessings on this House and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise Men ever rule under this roof." The Senate of the Sixth Congress met for the first time in the new Congress House (later known as the Capitol building).
the Sixth Congress met for the first time in the new Congress House (later known as the Capitol building) on November 17, 1800. Several days later, on November 22, Adams delivered his fourth State of the Union Address to a joint session of Congress in the Senate chamber, this would be the last annual message any president would personally deliver to Congress for the next 113 years.

Election of 1800

Main article: United States presidential election, 1800

With the Federalist Party deeply split over his negotiations with France, and the opposition Democratic-Republicans enraged over the Alien and Sedition Acts and the expansion of the military, Adams faced a daunting reelection campaign in 1800, the Federalist members of Congress caucused in the spring of 1800 and nominated Adams and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney. The Democratic-Republicans meanwhile nominated Jefferson and Burr, their candidates in the previous election.

The campaign was bitter and characterized by malicious insults by partisan presses on both sides. Federalists claimed that the Democratic-Republicans were radicals who would ruin the country through revolution. Republicans were the enemies of “all who love order, peace, virtue, and religion.” They were said to be libertines and dangerous radicals who favored states' rights over the Union and instigate anarchy and civil war. Jefferson’s rumored affairs with slaves were used against him. Republicans in turn accused Federalists of subverting republican principles through punitive federal laws, and of favoring Britain and the other coalition countries in their war with France in order to promote aristocratic, anti-republican values. Jefferson was portrayed as an apostle of liberty and man of the people, while Adams was labelled a monarchist, he was accused of insanity and marital infidelity. James T. Callender, a Republican propagandist secretly financed by Jefferson, launched strong attacks on Adams's character and accused him of attempting to make war with France. Callender was arrested and jailed under the Sedition Act, which only further inflamed Republican passions.

Opposition from the Federalist Party was at times equally intense. Some, including Pickering, accused Adams of colluding with Jefferson to secure that he would end up either president or vice president. Hamilton was hard at work, attempting to sabotage the President's reelection. Planning for a public indictment of Adams's character, he requested and received private documents from both the ousted cabinet secretaries and Wolcott, the letter was initially intended for only a few Federalist electors. Upon seeing a draft, Wolcott urged him not to send it, stating that "the poor old man" could do himself in without their help. Hamilton did not heed their advice on October 24, he sent a pamphlet strongly attacking Adams on a number of points. Hamilton denounced many of Adams's policy decisions, including the "precipitate nomination" of Murray, the pardoning of Fries, and the firing of Pickering, he also included a fair share of personal insults, vilifying the President’s "disgusting egotism" and "ungovernable temper." Adams, he concluded, was "emotionally unstable, given to impulsive and irrational decisions, unable to coexist with his closest advisers, and generally unfit to be president. Strangely, it ended by saying that the electors should support Adams and Pinckney equally.

Thanks to Aaron Burr, who had covertly obtained a copy, the pamphlet become public knowledge and was distributed throughout the country by Republicans, who rejoiced in what it contained, the pamphlet destroyed the Federalist Party, ended Hamilton's political career, and helped ensure Adams's already-likely defeat.

When the electoral votes were counted, Adams finished in third place with 65 votes, and Pinckney came in fourth with 64 votes (one New England Federalist elector voted for John Jay instead). Jefferson and Burr tied for first place with 73 votes each, because of the tie, the election devolved upon the House of Representatives. As specified by the Constitution, each state's delegation voted en bloc, with each state having a single vote; an

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1800 electoral vote totals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Jefferson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Burr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. C. Pinckney</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Jay</td>
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absolute majority (nine, as there were 16 states at the time) was required for victory. On February 17, 1801 – on the 36th ballot – Jefferson was elected by a vote of 10 to 4 (two states abstained), it is noteworthy that Hamilton’s scheme, although it made the Federalists appear divided and therefore helped Jefferson win, failed in its overall attempt to woo Federalist electors away from Adams.

Ferling attributes Adams’s defeat to five factors: the stronger organization of the Republicans; Federalist disunity; the controversy surrounding the Alien and Sedition Acts; the popularity of Jefferson in the South; and the effective politicking of Aaron Burr in New York, where the State Legislature shifted from Federalist to Democratic-Republican on the basis of a few wards in New York City controlled by Burr’s political machine. Analyzing the causes of the party’s trouncing, Adams wrote, "No party that ever existed knew itself so little or so vainly overrated its own influence and popularity as ours. None ever understood so ill the causes of its own power, or so wantonly destroyed them." Stephen G. Kurtz argues that Hamilton and his supporters were primarily responsible for the destruction of the Federalist Party, they viewed the party as a personal tool and played straight into the hands of the Jeffersonians by building up a large standing army and creating a feud with Adams. Chernow writes that Hamilton believed that by eliminating Adams, he could eventually pick up the pieces of the ruined Federalist Party and lead it back to dominance. "Better to purge Adams and let Jefferson govern for a while than to water down the party's ideological purity with compromises," Chernow says.

To compound the agony of his defeat, Adams’s son Charles, a long-time alcoholic, died in late November. Anxious to rejoin Abigail, who had already left for Massachusetts, Adams departed the White House in the predawn hours of March 4, 1801, and did not attend Jefferson’s inauguration, since him, only three out-going presidents (having served a full term) have not attended their successor's inauguration. Adams wrote that he had left the next president a nation "with its coffers full" and "fair prospects of peace."

The complications arising out of the 1796 and 1800 elections prompted Congress and the states to refine the process whereby the Electoral College elects a president and a vice president through the 12th Amendment, which became a part of the Constitution in 1804.

Cabinet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>John Adams</td>
<td>1797–1801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>1797–1801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary of State</td>
<td>Timothy Pickering</td>
<td>1797–1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Marshall</td>
<td>1800–1801</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary of Treasury</td>
<td>Oliver Wolcott Jr.</td>
<td>1797–1801</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Samuel Dexter</td>
<td>1801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary of War</td>
<td>James McHenry</td>
<td>1797–1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Samuel Dexter</td>
<td>1800–1801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney General</td>
<td>Charles Lee</td>
<td>1797–1801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary of the Navy</td>
<td>Benjamin Stoddert</td>
<td>1798–1801</td>
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Judicial appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief Justice</td>
<td>John Marshall</td>
<td>1801–1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Justice</td>
<td>Bushrod Washington</td>
<td>1799–1829</td>
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</table>
Adams appointed two U.S. Supreme Court associate justices during his term in office: Bushrod Washington, the nephew of American founding father and President George Washington, to succeed James Wilson; and Alfred Moore, who succeeded James Iredell. After the retirement of Oliver Ellsworth due to ill health in 1800, it fell to Adams to appoint the Court’s fourth Chief Justice, at the time, it was not yet certain whether Jefferson or Burr would win the election. Regardless, Adams believed that the choice should be someone “in the full vigor of middle age” who could counter what might be a long line of successive Republican presidents. Adams chose his Secretary of State John Marshall. Marshall, along with Stoddert, was one of Adams’s few trusted cabinet members, and was among the first to greet him when he arrived at the White House. Adams signed his commission on January 31 and the Senate approved it immediately. Marshall’s long tenure represents the most lasting influence of the Federalists, as he infused the Constitution with a judicious and carefully reasoned nationalistic interpretation and established the Judicial Branch as the equal of the Executive and Legislative branches.

After the Federalists lost control of both houses of Congress along with the White House in the election of 1800, the lame-duck session of the 6th Congress in February 1801 approved a judiciary act, commonly known as the Midnight Judges Act, which created a set of federal appeals courts between the district courts and the Supreme Court. Adams filled the vacancies created in this statute by appointing a series of judges, whom his opponents called the “Midnight Judges” the appointments were issued just days before his presidential term expired. Most of these judges lost their posts when the 7th Congress, with a solid Democratic-Republican majority, approved the Judiciary Act of 1802, abolishing the newly created courts.

Retirement

Initial years

Adams resumed farming at his home Peacefield in the town of Quincy. Initially, he began work on an autobiography, the work was left with many gaps and was eventually abandoned and left unedited. Most of Adams’s attention was focused on farm work, his frugal lifestyle left him with a considerable fortune by 1801. However, in 1803 the bank holding his cash reserves of about $13,000 collapsed. John Quincy resolved the crisis by purchasing from him his properties in Weymouth and Quincy, including Peacefield, for the sum of $12,800. During the first four years of retirement, he made little effort to contact others, but eventually resumed contact with old acquaintances such as Benjamin Waterhouse and Benjamin Rush.

Adams generally stayed quiet on public matters, he did not publicly denounce Jefferson’s actions as president, believing that “instead of opposing Systematically any Administration, running down their Characters and opposing all their Measures right or wrong, We ought to Support every Administration as far as We can in Justice.” When a disgruntled James Callender, angry at not receiving an appointment, turned on the President by revealing the Sally Hemings affair, Adams said nothing.

John Quincy was elected to the Senate in 1803. Shortly thereafter, both he and his father crossed party lines to support Jefferson’s Louisiana Purchase. Adams did privately criticize the President over his Embargo Act despite the fact that John Quincy voted for it. John Quincy resigned from the Senate in 1808 after the Federalist-controlled State Senate refused to nominate him for a second term, after the Federalists denounced John Quincy as no longer being of their party, Adams wrote to him that
he himself had long since "abdicated and disclaimed the name and character and attributes of that sect."

The only major political incident involving Adams during the Jefferson years was a dispute with Mercy Otis Warren in 1806. Warren, an old friend, had attacked Adams in a pamphlet for his "partiality for monarchy" and "pride of talents and much ambition." A tempestuous correspondence ensued. In time, their friendship healed.

After Jefferson's retirement from public life in 1809, Adams became more vocal, he published a three-year marathon of letters in the Boston Patriot newspaper, refuting line-by-line Hamilton's 1800 pamphlet. The initial piece was written shortly after his return from Peacefield and "had gathered dust for eight years." Adams decided to shelve it over fears that it could negatively impact John Quincy should he ever seek office. Though Hamilton had died in 1804 in a duel with Aaron Burr, Adams felt the need to vindicate his character against the New Yorker's vehement charges, with his son having broken from the Federalist Party and joined the Republicans, he felt he could safely do so without threatening his political career.

Adams supported the War of 1812. Having worried over the rise of sectionalism, he celebrated the growth of a "national character" that accompanied it.

Daughter Abigail ("Nabby") was married to Representative William Stephens Smith, but she returned to her parents' home after the failure of the marriage; she died of breast cancer in 1813.

Correspondence with Jefferson

In early 1801, Adams sent Thomas Jefferson a brief note after returning to Quincy wishing him a happy and prosperous presidency. Jefferson failed to respond, and the two men did not speak again for nearly 12 years; in 1804, Abigail wrote to Jefferson to express her condolences upon the death of his daughter Polly, who had stayed with the Adamses in London in 1787. This initiated a brief correspondence between Jefferson and Mrs. Adams which quickly descended into political rancor. Jefferson terminated it by not replying to Abigail's fourth letter. Aside from that, by 1812 there had been no communication between Peacefield and Monticello since Adams left office.

In early 1812, Adams reconciled with Jefferson, the previous year had been tragic for Adams; his brother-in-law and friend Richard Cranch had died along with his widow Mary, and Nabby had been diagnosed with breast cancer. These events mellowed Adams and caused him to soften his outlook, their mutual friend Benjamin Rush, a fellow signer of the Declaration of Independence who had been corresponding with both, encouraged them to reach out to each other. On New Year's Day, Adams sent a brief, friendly note to Jefferson to accompany the delivery of "two pieces of homespun," a two-volume collection of lectures on rhetoric by John Quincy Adams. Jefferson replied immediately with a cordial letter, and the two men revived their friendship, which they sustained by mail, the correspondence that they resumed in 1812 lasted the rest of their lives, and has been hailed as among their great legacies of American literature. Their letters represent an insight into both the period and the minds of the two revolutionary leaders and presidents, the missives lasted fourteen years, and consisted of 158 letters – 109 from Adams and 49 from Jefferson.

Early on, Adams repeatedly tried to turn the correspondence to a discussion of their actions in the political arena. Jefferson refused to oblige him, saying that "nothing new can be added by you or me to what has been said by others and will be said in every age." Adams made one more attempt, writing that "You and I ought not to die before we have explained ourselves to each other." Still,
Jefferson declined to engage Adams in this sort of discussion. Adams accepted this, and the correspondence turned to other matters.[268]

The two men discussed “natural aristocracy.” Jefferson said, “The natural aristocracy I consider as the most precious gift of nature for the instruction, the trusts, and government of society. And indeed it would have been inconsistent in creation to have formed man for the social state, and not to have provided virtue and wisdom enough to manage the concerns of society. May we not even say that the form of government is best which provides most effectually for a pure selection of these natural [aristocrats] into the offices of government?”[269] Adams wondered if it ever would be so clear who these people were, “Your distinction between natural and artificial aristocracy does not appear to me well founded. Birth and wealth are conferred on some men as imperiously by nature, as genius, strength, or beauty. ... When aristocracies are established by human laws and honour, wealth, and power are made hereditary by municipal laws and political institutions, then I acknowledge artificial aristocracy to commence.” It would always be true, Adams argued, that fate would bestow influence on some men for reasons other than true wisdom and virtue. That being the way of nature, he thought such “talents” were natural. A good government, therefore, had to account for that reality.[270]

As the two grew older, the letters became fewer and farther between. There was also a great deal that they kept to themselves. Jefferson said nothing about his construction of a new house, domestic turmoil, slave ownership, or poor financial situation, while Adams did not mention the troublesome behavior of his son Thomas, who had failed as a lawyer and become an alcoholic, resorting afterwards to living primarily as a caretaker at Peacefield.[271]

**Last years and death**

Abigail died of typhoid on October 28, 1818,[272] the year 1824 was filled with excitement in America, featuring a four way presidential contest which included John Quincy. The Marquis de Lafayette also toured the country and met briefly with Adams, who greatly enjoyed the conversation.[273] Adams was delighted by the election of John Quincy to the presidency, the election results became official in February 1825 after a deadlock was decided in the House of Representaties. He did remark, "No man who ever held the office of President would congratulate a friend on obtaining it.”[274]

Less than a month before his death, Adams issued a statement about the destiny of the United States, which historians such as Joy Hakim have characterized as a "warning" for his fellow citizens: "My best wishes, in the joys, and festivities, and the solemn services of that day on which will be completed the fiftieth year from its birth, of the independence of the United States: a memorable epoch in the annals of the human race, destined in future history to form the brightest or the blackest page, according to the use or the abuse of those political institutions by which they shall, in time to come, be shaped by the human mind."[275]

On July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, Adams died at his home in Quincy, at approximately 6:20 PM,[276] at 90 years, 247 days, Adams was the longest-lived US president until Ronald Reagan surpassed that age in 2001.[277] Adams's crypt lies at United First Parish Church in Quincy, Massachusetts, with his wife Abigail and son John Quincy Adams,[278] at the time of his death, John Quincy Adams was serving as U.S. President. When Adams died, his last words included an acknowledgement of his longtime friend and rival: "Thomas Jefferson survives." Adams was unaware that Jefferson had died several hours before.[279][280]

**Political writings**
Thoughts on Government

During the First Continental Congress, Adams was sometimes solicited for his views on government. While recognizing its importance, Adams had privately criticized Thomas Paine's 1776 pamphlet *Common Sense*, which attacked all forms of monarchy, even constitutional monarchy of the sort advocated by John Locke. It supported a unicameral legislature and a weak executive elected by the legislature. According to Adams, the author had "a better hand at pulling down than building."[281] He believed that the views expressed in the pamphlet were "so democratical, without any restraint or even an attempt at any equilibrium or counter poise, that it must produce confusion and every evil work."[282] What Paine advocated was a radical democracy with the views of the majority neither checked nor counterbalanced, this was incompatible with the system of checks and balances that conservatives like Adams would implement[283]

Some delegates found Adams's views so convincing they urged him to commit them to paper, he did so in separate letters to these colleagues, each missive a bit longer and more thoughtful. So impressed was Richard Henry Lee that, with Adams's consent, he had the most comprehensive letter printed. Published anonymously just after mid-April 1776, it was titled simply *Thoughts on Government* and styled as "a Letter from a Gentleman to his Friend." Many historians agree that none of Adams's other compositions rivaled the enduring influence of this pamphlet[64]

Adams advised that the form of government should be chosen to attain the desired ends – the happiness and virtue of the greatest number of people, he wrote that, "There is no good government but what is republican. That the only valuable part of the British constitution is so because the very definition of a republic is an empire of laws, and not of men." The treatise also defended bicameralism, for "a single assembly is liable to all the vices, follies and frailties of an individual."[284] He also suggested that there should be a separation of powers between the executive, the judicial and the legislative branches, and further recommended that if a continental government were to be formed then it "should sacredly be confined" to certain enumerated powers. *Thoughts on Government* was referenced as an authority in every state-constitution writing hall. Adams also used the letter to attack opponents of independence, he claimed that John Dickinson's fear of republicanism was responsible for his refusal to support independence, and he wrote that opposition from Southern planters was rooted in fear that their aristocratic slaveholding status would be endangered by it.[64]

Massachusetts Constitution

After returning from his first mission to France, Adams was elected to the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention with the purpose of establishing a new constitution for Massachusetts. He served on a committee of three, also including Samuel Adams and James Bowdoin, to draft the constitution, the task of writing it fell primarily to John Adams. The resulting Constitution of Massachusetts was approved in 1780, it was the first constitution written by a special committee, then ratified by the people; and was also the first to feature a bicameral legislature. Included were a distinct executive – though restrained by an executive council – with a qualified (two-thirds) veto, and an independent judicial branch, the judges were given lifetime appointments, allowed to "hold their offices during good behavior."[285]

The Constitution affirmed the "duty" of the individual to worship the "Supreme Being," and that he had the
The Constitution affirmed the "duty" of the individual to worship the "Supreme Being," and that he had the right to do so without molestation "in the manner most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience."[286] It also established a system of public education that would provide free schooling for three years to all citizens.[287] Adams was a strong believer in good education as one of the pillars of the Enlightenment, he believed that people "in a State of Ignorance" were more easily enslaved while those "enlightened with knowledge" would be better able to protect their liberties.[288] Adams became one of the founders and charter members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1780.[289][290]

**Defence of the Constitutions**

Adams's preoccupation with political and governmental affairs—which caused considerable separation from his wife and children—ironically had a distinct familial context, which he articulated in 1780: "I must study Politicks and War that my sons may have the liberty to study Mathematicks and Philosophy. My sons ought to study Geography, natural History, Naval Architecture, navigation, Commerce and Agriculture, in order to give their children a right to study Painting, Poetry, Musick, Architecture, Statuary, Tapestry, and Porcelain."[291]

While in London, Adams learned of a convention being planned to amend the Articles of Confederation; in January 1787, he published a work entitled A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States.[292] The pamphlet repudiated the views of Turgot and other European writers as to the viciousness of state government frameworks, he suggested that "the rich, the well-born and the able" should be set apart from other men in a senate – that would prevent them from dominating the lower house. Adams's Defence is described as an articulation of the theory of mixed government. Adams contended that social classes exist in every political society, and that a good government must accept that reality, for centuries, dating back to Aristotle, a mixed regime balancing monarchy, aristocracy, and democracy – that is, the king, the nobles, and the people – was required to preserve order and liberty.[293]

Historian Gordon S. Wood has maintained that Adams's political philosophy had become irrelevant by the time the Federal Constitution was ratified. By then, American political thought, transformed by more than a decade of vigorous debate as well as formative experiential pressures, had abandoned the classical perception of politics as a mirror of social estates. Americans' new understanding of popular sovereignty was that the citizenry were the sole possessors of power in the nation. Representatives in the government enjoyed mere portions of the people's power and only for a limited time. Adams was thought to have overlooked this evolution and revealed his continued attachment to the older version of politics.[294] Yet Wood was accused of ignoring Adams's peculiar definition of the term "republic," and his support for a constitution ratified by the people.[295]

On separation of powers, Adams wrote that, "Power must be opposed to power, and interest to interest."[296] This sentiment was later echoed by James Madison's famous statement that, "[a]mbition must be made to counteract ambition", in Federalist No. 51, explaining the separation of powers established under the new Constitution.[296][297] Adams believed that human beings were naturally desirous of furthering their own ambitions, and a single democratically elected house, if left unchecked, would be subject to all these errors, and therefore needed to be checked by an upper house and an executive, he wrote that a strong executive would defend the people's liberties against "aristocrats" attempting to take it away.[298] On the government's role in education Adams offered unambiguously that, "The whole people must take upon themselves the education of the whole people and be willing to bear the expenses of it. There should not be a district of one mile square, without a school in it, not founded by a charitable individual, but maintained at the public expense of the people themselves."[299]

Adams first saw the new United States Constitution in the fall of 1787. To Jefferson, he wrote that he read it "with great satisfaction." Adams did express regret that the president would be unable to make appointments without Senate approval and over the absence of a Bill of Rights. "Should not such a thing have preceded the model?" he asked.[300]
Slavery

Adams never owned a slave and declined on principle to utilize slave labor, saying, "I have, through my whole life, held the practice of slavery in such abhorrence, that I have never owned a negro or any other slave, though I have lived for many years in times, when the practice was not disgraceful, when the best men in my vicinity thought it not inconsistent with their character, and when it has cost me thousands of dollars for the labor and subsistence of free men, which I might have saved by the purchase of negroes at times when they were very cheap."[301] Before the war, he occasionally represented slaves in suits for their freedom.[302] Adams generally tried to keep the issue out of national politics, because of the anticipated Southern response during a time when unity was needed to achieve independence, he spoke out in 1777 against a bill to emancipate slaves in Massachusetts, saying that the issue was presently too divisive, and so the legislation should "sleep for a time." He also was against use of black soldiers in the Revolution, due to opposition from Southerners.[303] Slavery was abolished in Massachusetts about 1780, when it was forbidden by implication in the Declaration of Rights that John Adams wrote into the Massachusetts Constitution.[304] Abigail Adams vocally opposed slavery.[305]

Accusations of monarchism

Throughout his lifetime Adams expressed controversial and shifting views regarding the virtues of monarchical and hereditary political institutions.[306] at times he conveyed substantial support for these approaches, suggesting for example that "hereditary monarchy or aristocracy" are the "only institutions that can possibly preserve the laws and liberties of the people."[307] Yet at other times he distanced himself from such ideas, calling himself "a mortal and irreconcilable enemy to Monarchy" and "no friend to hereditary limited monarchy in America."[132] Such denials did not assuage his critics, and Adams was often accused of being a monarchist.[308] Historian Clinton Rossiter portrays Adams not as a monarchist but a revolutionary conservative who sought to balance the liberties of republicanism with the stability of monarchy to create "ordered liberty."[309] His 1790 Discourses on Davila published in the Gazette of the United States warned once again of the dangers of unbridled democracy.[310]

Many of these attacks are considered to have been scurrilous, including suggestions that he was planning to "crown himself king" and "grooming John Quincy as heir to the throne."[308] However, Peter Shaw has argued that: "[T]he inevitable attacks on Adams, crude as they were, stumbled on a truth that he did not admit to himself, he was leaning toward monarchy and aristocracy (as distinct from kings and aristocrats) at the time he wrote Davila, though he did not directly reveal this in its essays. Decidedly, sometime after he became vice-president, Adams concluded that the United States would have to adopt a hereditary legislature and a monarch... and he outlined a plan by which state conventions would appoint hereditary senators while a national one appointed a president for life."[312] In contradiction to such notions, Adams asserted in a letter to Thomas Jefferson:

If you suppose that I have ever had a design or desire of attempting to introduce a government of King, Lords and Commons, or in other words an hereditary Executive, or an hereditary Senate, either into the government of the United States, or that of any individual state, in this country, you are wholly mistaken. There is no word in the constitution...
wholly mistaken. There is not such a thought expressed or intimated in any public writing or private letter of mine, and I may safely challenge all of mankind to produce such a passage and quote the chapter and verse.\[313\]

According to Luke Mayville, Adams synthesized two strands of thought, in depth practical study of past and present governments, and Scottish Enlightenment thinking concerning individual desires expressed in politics.\[314\] Adams conclusion was that the great danger was that an oligarchy of the wealthy would take hold to the detriment of equality. To counter that danger, the power of the wealthy needed to be channeled by institutions, and checked by a strong executive to oppose the oligarchy.\[314\]\[315\]

**Religious views**

Adams was raised a Congregationalist, since his ancestors were Puritans. According to biographer David McCullough, "as his family and friends knew, Adams was both a devout Christian, and an independent thinker, and he saw no conflict in that."\[316\] In a letter to Benjamin Rush, Adams credited religion with the success of his ancestors since their migration to the New World in the 1630s,\[317\] he also believed that regular church service was beneficial to man’s moral sense. Everett (1966) concludes that "Adams strove for a religion based on a common sense sort of reasonableness" and maintained that religion must change and evolve toward perfection.\[318\] Fielding (1940) argues that Adams’s beliefs synthesized Puritan, deist, and humanist concepts. Adams at one point said that Christianity had originally been revelatory, but was being misinterpreted and misused in the service of superstition, fraud, and unscrupulous power.\[319\]

Frazer (2004) notes that while he shared many perspectives with deists and often used deistic terminology, "Adams clearly was not a deist. Deism rejected any and all supernatural activity and intervention by God; consequently, deists did not believe in miracles or God’s providence. ... Adams, however, did believe in miracles, providence, and, to a certain extent, the Bible as revelation."\[320\] Frazer further argues that Adams’s "theistic rationalism, like that of the other Founders, was a sort of middle ground between Protestantism and deism."\[321\] By contrast, David L. Holmes has argued that Adams, beginning as a Congregationalist, ended his days as a Christian Unitarian, accepting central tenets of the Unitarian creed, but also accepting Jesus as the redeemer of humanity and the biblical accounts of his miracles as true.\[322\] In 1796, Adams denounced political opponent Thomas Paine’s deistic criticisms of Christianity in *The Age of Reason*, saying, "The Christian religion is, above all the religions that ever prevailed or existed in ancient or modern times, the religion of wisdom, virtue, equity and humanity, let the Blackguard Paine say what he will."\[323\]

In his retirement years, Adams moved away from some of the Puritan sentiments of his youth and closer to more mainstream Enlightenment religious ideals, he blamed institutional Christianity as the cause of much suffering but continued to be an active Christian while maintaining that religion was necessary for society. He became a Unitarian, rejecting the divinity of Jesus.\[324\]

**Legacy**

**Historical reputation**

*See also: Bibliography of John Adams*

Adams left a mixed impression among contemporaries, he eventually came to be seen as someone with a long, distinguished, and spotless career in public service, and a man of great patriotism and integrity, but whose vanity, stubbornness, and cantankerousness often got him into unnecessary trouble. Benjamin Franklin summed up what many thought of Adams when he said, "He means well for his country, is always an honest man, often a wise one, but sometimes, and in some things, absolutely out of his senses."\[325\] Adams had an ever-present idea that he would be forgotten and underappreciated by
Historian George Herring argues that Adams was the most independent-minded of the Founders. Though he formally aligned with the Federalists, he was somewhat a party unto himself, at times disagreeing with the Federalists as much as he did the Democratic-Republicans, he was often described as "prickly," but his tenacity was fed by good decisions made in the face of universal opposition. Adams was often combative, which diminished presidential decorum, as Adams himself admitted in his old age: "[As president] I refused to suffer in silence. I sighed, sobbed, and groaned, and sometimes screeched and screamed. And I must confess to my shame and sorrow that I sometimes swore." Stubbornness was seen as one of his defining traits, a fact for which Adams made no apology. "Thanks to God that he gave me stubbornness when I know I am right," he wrote. His resolve to advance peace with France, rather than to continue hostilities, especially reduced his popularity and contributed to his defeat for reelection. Most historians applaud him for avoiding an all-out war with France during his presidency, his signing of the Alien and Sedition Acts is almost always condemned. According to Ferling, Adams's political philosophy was "out of step" with the way that the country was heading, as America tended further away from Adams's views of order and the rule of law and towards Jeffersonian ideas about liberty and weak central government; in the years following his retirement from public life, as first Jeffersonianism and then Jacksonian democracy grew to dominate American politics, Adams was largely forgotten. When his name was mentioned, it was typically not in a favorable way; in the 1840 presidential election, Whig candidate William Henry Harrison was attacked by Democrats on the false allegation that he had once been a supporter of John Adams. Adams was eventually subject to criticism from states' rights advocates as well. Edward A. Pollard, a strong supporter of the Confederacy during the American Civil War, singled out Adams as a target of denunciation, writing:

The first President from the North, John Adams, asserted and essayed to put into practice the supremacy of the "National" power over the states and the citizens thereof, he was sustained in his attempted usurpations by all the New England states and by a powerful public sentiment in each of the Middle States. The "strict constructionists" of the Constitution were not slow in raising the standard of opposition against a pernicious error...[T]hey rallied their forces and succeeded in overthrowing the Yankee Administration, but only after a tremendous struggle.

In the 21st century, Adams remains less well known than many of America's other Founding Fathers. McCullough argued that "[t]he problem with Adams is that most Americans know nothing about him." Todd Leopold of CNN added in 2001 that Adams is "remembered as that guy who served a single term as president between Washington and Jefferson, and as a short, vain, somewhat rotund man whose stature seems to have been dwarfed by his lanky colleagues." He has always been seen, Ferling says, as "honest and dedicated," but despite his lengthy career in public service, is still overshadowed by the dramatic military and political achievements and strong personalities of his contemporaries. Gilbert Chinard, in his 1933 biography of Adams, described the man as "staunch, honest stubborn and somewhat narrow." In his 2-volume 1962 biography, Page Smith lauds Adams for his fight against radicals such as Thomas Paine, whose promised reforms portended anarchy and misery; in 1995, Peter Shaw published The Character of John Adams. Ferling says that the man who emerges is one "perpetually at war with himself," whose desire for fame and recognition leads to charges of vanity. Ferling, in his 1992 biography, writes that "Adams was his own worst enemy." He criticizes him for his "pettiness...jealousy, and vanity," and finds fault with him for his frequent separations from his wife and children. However, he praises Adams for his willingness to acknowledge his deficiencies and for striving to overcome them.

In 2001, David McCullough published a biography of the president entitled John Adams. McCullough lauds
Adams for consistency and honesty, "plays down or explains away" his more controversial actions, such as the dispute over presidential titles and the predawn flight from the White House, and criticizes his friend and rival, Jefferson, the book sold very well and was very favorably received and, along with the Ferling biography, contributed to a rapid resurgence in Adams's reputation.[340] In 2008, a miniseries was released based on the McCullough biography, featuring Paul Giamatti as Adams.[341]

In memoriam

Main article: List of memorials to John Adams

Adams is commemorated as the namesake of various counties, buildings, and other items.[342][343][344] One such example is the John Adams Building of the Library of Congress, an institution whose existence Adams had signed into law in 1800.[344] Unlike many other American founders, Adams does not have a monument dedicated to himself in Washington D.C.[345] This has been the cause of some discontent. According to McCullough, "Popular symbolism has not been very generous toward Adams. There is no memorial, no statue...in his honor in our nation's capital, and to me that is absolutely inexcusable. It's long past time when we should recognize what he did, and who he was."[346]

References

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11. ^a^bFerling 1992, p. 16.
16. ^McCullough 2001, p. 44.
32. ^Mayhew, Rev. Jonathan (1750). "Discourse Concerning Unlimited Submission and Non-resistance to the
33. ^a McCullough 2001, p. 63.
38. ^Morse 1884, p. 39.
60. ^a McCullough 2001, p. 136.
65. ^Smith 1962a, p. 263.
70. ^Burns 2013, p. 78.
74. ^Morse 1884, pp. 127–128.
77. ^Morse 1884, p. 128.
80. ^McCullough 2001, p. 158.
82. ^Smith 1962a, p. 267.
83. ^McCullough 2001, p. 163.
84. ^Ellis 1993, pp. 41–42.
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122. ^Smith 1962b, n. 702.
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282. ^Foot & Kramnick 1987, p. 11.
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326. ^Ellis 1993, p. 57.
333. ^Holmes 2006, pp. 73–78.
335. ^a b Herring 2008, p. 89.
343. ^a b Herring 2008, p. 89.

Bibliography

Biographies

Specialized studies


Further reading

Main article: Bibliography of John Adams

External links

- White House biography
- William Everdell, From State to Free-State: The Meaning of the Word Republic from Jean Bodin to John Adams By William R. Everdell
- Letter from John Quincy Adams describing his father John Adams's decline toward the end of the latter's life – Shapell Manuscript Foundation
- The John Adams Library at the Boston Public Library
- Adams Family Papers: An Electronic Archive at the Massachusetts Historical Society
- The Adams Papers, subset of Founders Online from the National Archives
- American President: John Adams (1735–1826) at the Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia
- John Adams Papers at the Avalon Project
- Works by John Adams at Project Gutenberg
- Works by or about John Adams at Internet Archive
- Works by John Adams at LibriVox (public domain audiobooks)
- "Thoughts on Government" Adams, April 1776 at the Constitution Society
- John Adams at The American Revolution website
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**Presidency**

- Inauguration
- Quasi War with France (XYZ Affair)
- Commerce Protection Act
- United States Marine Corps
- Convention of 1800
- Alien and Sedition Acts
  - Naturalization Act of 1798
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- State of the Union Address (1797, 1798, 1799, 1800)
- Cabinet
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**Other writings**

- Massachusetts Historical Society holdings (Adams Papers Editorial Project)
- Early life and education
- Adams National Historical Park (John Adams Birthplace)
- Family home and John Quincy Adams birthplace
- Peacefield
- Presidential Library
- Massachusetts Hall, Harvard University
- Presidents House, Philadelphia
- Co-founder and second president, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- United First Parish Church and gravesite

**Elections**

- United States presidential election 1788–1789
- 1792
- 1796
- 1800

**Legacy**

- Adams House at Harvard University
- John Adams Building
- U.S. Postage stamps
- Adams Memorial
- Profiles in Courage (1964 series)
- American Primitive (1969 play)
- 1776 (1969 musical, 1972 film)
- The Adams Chronicles (1976 miniseries)
- Liberty! (1997 documentary series)
- Liberty's Kids (2002 animated series)
- Sons of Liberty (2015 miniseries)
- "Adams and Liberty" campaign song
- Adams’ personal library
- American Enlightenment
- Congress Hall
- Federalist Party (Federalist Era, First Party System, republicanism)
- American Philosophical Society
- Gazette of the United States
- The American Museum
- American Revolution (patriots)

**Related**

- Abigail Adams (wife, Quincy family)
- Abigail Adams Smith (daughter)
- John Quincy Adams (son, presidency)
- Charles Adams (son)
- Thomas Boylston Adams (son)
- George W. Adams (grandson)
- Charles Adams Sr. (grandson)
- John Adams II (grandson)
- John Q. Adams (great-grandson)
- Henry Adams (great-grandson)
- Brooks Adams (great-grandson)
- John Adams Sr. (father)
- Susanna Boylston (mother)
- Elihu Adams (brother)
- Samuel Adams (second cousin)
- Louisa Adams (daughter-in-law, First Lady)

**Life and homes**

- Early life and education
- Adams National Historical Park (John Adams Birthplace)
- Family home and John Quincy Adams birthplace
- Peacefield
- Presidential Library
- Massachusetts Hall, Harvard University
- Presidents House, Philadelphia
- Co-founder and second president, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
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**Offices and distinctions**

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<td>United States Minister to the Netherlands</td>
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<th>New office</th>
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<th>New political party</th>
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**Honorary titles**

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While Adams won the vice presidency in 1789 as well, he was not the candidate of the Federalist Party, which had not yet formed.

2. Technically, Adams was a presidential candidate in 1792 and Pinckney was a presidential candidate in 1796. Prior to the passage of the Twelfth Amendment in 1804, each presidential elector could cast two ballots; the highest vote-getter would become president and the runner-up would become vice president. Thus, in 1792, with George Washington as the prohibitive favorite for president, the Federalist party fielded Adams as a presidential candidate, with the intention that he be elected to the vice presidency. Similarly, in 1796 and 1800, the Federalist party fielded two candidates, Adams and Thomas Pinckney, in 1796 and Adams and Charles Pinckney in 1800, with the intention that Adams be elected president and Pinckney be elected vice president.
42. Bill Clinton (1993–2001)
45. Donald Trump (2017–present)

Presidency timelines: Wilson · Harding · Coolidge · Hoover · F. D. Roosevelt · Truman · Eisenhower · Kennedy · L. B. Johnson · Nixon · Ford · Carter · Reagan · G. H. W. Bush · Clinton · G. W. Bush · Obama · Trump

Vice Presidents of the United States (list)

1. John Adams (1789–1797)
2. Thomas Jefferson (1797–1801)
3. Aaron Burr (1801–1805)
4. George Clinton (1805–1812)
5. Elbridge Gerry (1813–1814)
6. Daniel D. Tompkins (1817–1825)
7. John C. Calhoun (1825–1832)
8. Martin Van Buren (1833–1837)
9. Richard M. Johnson (1837–1841)
10. John Tyler (1841)
11. George M. Dallas (1845–1849)
12. Millard Fillmore (1849–1850)
13. William R. King (1853)
15. Hannibal Hamlin (1861–1865)
16. Andrew Johnson (1865)
17. Schuyler Colfax (1869–1873)
20. Chester A. Arthur (1881)
21. Thomas A. Hendricks (1885)
23. Adlai Stevenson (1893–1897)
24. Garret Hobart (1897–1899)
25. Theodore Roosevelt (1901)
29. Calvin Coolidge (1921–1923)
30. Charles G. Dawes (1925–1929)
31. Charles Curtis (1929–1933)
32. John Nance Garner (1933–1941)
33. Henry A. Wallace (1941–1945)
34. Harry S. Truman (1945)
35. Alben W. Barkley (1949–1953)
42. Walter Mondale (1977–1981)
## The Age of Enlightenment

### Topics
- Atheism
- Capitalism
- Civil liberties
- Counter-Enlightenment
- Critical thinking
- Deism
- Democracy
- Empiricism
- Encyclopédistes
- Enlightened absolutism
- Free markets
- Haskalah
- Humanism
- Human rights
- Liberalism
- Liberté, égalité, fraternité
- Methodological skepticism
- Nationalism
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<td>Timothy Pickering (1797–1800) · John Marshall (1800–01)</td>
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<td>James McHenry (1796–1800) · Samuel Dexter (1800–01)</td>
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<td>Attorney General</td>
<td>Charles Lee (1797–1801)</td>
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### John Quincy Adams

- United States House of Representatives, 1831–1848 · 6th President of the United States, 1825–1829 · 8th U.S. Secretary of State, 1817–1825 · U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom, 1814–1817 · 1st U.S. Minister to Russia, 1809–1814 · Massachusetts State Senate, 1803–1808 · U.S. Minister to Prussia, 1797–1801 · U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands, 1794–1797

#### Presidency
- Inauguration · American System · Internal improvements · Tariff of 1828 · First Treaty of Prairie du Chien · Treaty of Fond du Lac · Treaty of Limits · United States Naval Observatory · Abdulrahman Ibrahim Ibn Sori · State of the Union Address, 1825 · 1827 · 1828 · Federal judiciary appointments · Monroe Doctrine, author · Treaty of Ghent · Adams–Onís Treaty · Treaty of 1818 · Smithsonian Institution · United States v. The Amistad (Mendi Bible) · President, American Academy of Arts and Sciences · President, Columbian Institute for the Promotion of Arts and Sciences

#### Writings
- Lifelong diary · Massachusetts Historical Society holdings (Adams Papers Editorial Project)

#### Life and homes
- Early life · Abigail Adams Carilyn · John Quincy Adams and abolitionism · Adams National Historical Park (Birthplace and family home) · Peacefield · Presidential Library · United First Parish Church and gravesite

#### Elections
- United States presidential election, 1824 (Corrupt Bargain) · United States presidential election, 1828

#### Legacy
- Adams Memorial · Adams House at Harvard University · U.S. Postage stamps · Monroe Doctrine Centennial half dollar

#### Popular culture

#### Adams family

- Louisa Adams (wife) · George W. Adams (son) · Charles Adams Sr. (son) · John Adams II (son) · Henry Adams (grandson) · Brooks Adams (grandson) · John Quincy Adams II (grandson) ·
- John Adams (father) · Abigail Adams (mother) · First Lady · Quincy family

#### Quincy family
- Abigail Adams Smith (sister) · Charles Adams (brother) · Thomas Boylston Adams (brother) · John Adams Sr. (paternal grandfather) · Susanna Boylston (paternal grandmother) · Elihu Adams (paternal uncle) · John Quincy (great-grandfather)

#### Related
- National Republican Party · Republicanism · Quincy Patriot

### Hall of Fame for Great Americans

- John Adams · John Quincy Adams · Jane Addams · Louis Agassiz · Susan B. Anthony · John James Audubon · George Bancroft · Clara Barton · Henry Ward Beecher · Alexander Graham Bell · Daniel Boone · Edwin Booth · Louis Brandeis · Phillips Brooks · William Cullen Bryant · Luther Burbank · Andrew Carnegie ·
- George Washington Carver · William Ellery Channing · Rufus Choate · Henry Clay · Grover Cleveland · James Fenimore Cooper · Peter Cooper · Charlotte Cushman · James Buchanan Eads · Thomas Alva Edison ·
- Jonathan Edwards · Ralph Waldo Emerson · David Farragut · Stephen Foster · Benjamin Franklin · Robert Fulton ·
- Josiah W. Gibbs · William C. Gorgas · Ulysses S. Grant · Asa Gray · Alexander Hamilton · Nathaniel Hawthorne ·
- Joseph Henry · Patrick Henry · Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. · Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. · Mark Hopkins · Elias Howe ·
- Washington Irving · Andrew Jackson · Thomas J. Jackson · Thomas Jefferson · John Paul Jones · James Kent ·
- Sidney Lanier · Robert E. Lee · Abraham Lincoln · Henry Wadsworth Longfellow · James Russell Lowell · Mary Lyon ·
1. John Quincy Adams — John Quincy Adams was an American statesman who served as a diplomat, United States Senator, member of the House of Representatives, and was the sixth President of the United States from 1825 to 1829. He was a member of the Federalist, Democratic-Republican, National Republican and he was the son of President John Adams and Abigail Adams and thus contributed to the formation of the Adams political family. Adams shaped U. S. foreign policy using his ardently nationalist commitment to U. S. republican values, as a diplomat, Adams played an important role in negotiating key treaties, most notably the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812. As Secretary of State, he negotiated with Britain over the United States northern border with Canada, negotiated with Spain the annexation of Florida, historians generally concur that he was one of the greatest diplomats and secretaries of state in
American history. Adams was elected president in a close and controversial four-way contest in 1824, as president he sought to modernize the American economy and promote education. Adams enacted a part of his agenda and paid off much of the national debt, however he was stymied time and again by a Congress controlled by opponents, and his lack of patronage networks helped politicians sabotage him. He lost his 1828 bid for re-election to Andrew Jackson, after leaving office, he was elected as U. S. Representative from Massachusetts in 1830, serving for the last 17 years of his life with greater acclaim than he had achieved as president, animated by his growing revulsion against slavery, Adams became a leading opponent of the Slave Power. Adams predicted the Union's dissolution over slavery, and in such a case, historians have in the aggregate ranked Adams as the 21st most successful president. John Quincy Adams was born on July 11, 1767, to John Adams and he was named for his mother's maternal grandfather, Colonel John Quincy, after whom Quincy, Massachusetts, is named. Young Adams was educated by private tutors – his cousin James Thaxter and his father's law clerk and he soon began to exhibit his literary skills in 1779, when he initiated a diary which he kept until just before he died in 1848. The diary comprised an unprecedented fifty volumes, representing one of the most extensive, much of Adams youth was spent accompanying his father overseas. He accompanied his father on diplomatic missions to France from 1778 until 1779, Adams acquired an education at institutions such as Leiden University. He matriculated in Leiden on January 10, 1781, for nearly three years, beginning at the age of 14, he accompanied Francis Dana as a secretary on a mission to Saint Petersburg, Russia, to obtain recognition of the new United States. He spent time in Finland, Sweden, and Denmark and, in 1804, during these years overseas, Adams became fluent in French and Dutch and became familiar with German and other European languages. Though Adams enjoyed Europe, he and his family decided he needed to return to the United States to complete his education and he entered Harvard College, graduated in 1787 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and was elected by Phi Beta Kappa. Adams, mainly with the influence of his father, had excelled in studies and reached fluency in Latin. Upon entering Harvard he had already translated Virgil, Horace, Plutarch, after graduating from Harvard, he studied law with Theophilus Parsons in Newburyport, Massachusetts from 1787 to 1789.

2. President of the United States – The President of the United States is the head of state and head of government of the United States. The president directs the executive branch of the government and is the commander-in-chief of the United States Armed Forces. The president is considered to be one of the world's most powerful political figures, the role includes being the commander-in-chief of the world's most expensive military with the second largest nuclear arsenal and leading the nation with the largest economy by nominal GDP. The office of President holds significant hard and soft power both in the United States and abroad, Constitution vests the executive power of the United States in the president. The president is empowered to grant federal pardons and reprieves. The president is responsible for dictating the legislative agenda of the party to which the president is a member. The president also directs the foreign and domestic policy of the United States, since the office of President was established in 1789, its power has grown substantially, as has the power of the federal government as a whole. However, nine vice presidents have assumed the presidency without having elected to the office. The Twenty-second Amendment prohibits anyone from being elected president for a third term, in all, 44 individuals have served 45 presidencies spanning 57 full four-year terms. On January 20, 2017, Donald Trump was sworn in as the 45th, in 1776, the Thirteen Colonies, acting through the Second Continental Congress, declared political independence from Great Britain during the American Revolution. The new states, though independent of each other as nation states, desiring to avoid anything that remotely resembled a monarchy, Congress negotiated the Articles of Confederation to establish a weak alliance between the states. Out from under any monarchy, the states assigned some formerly royal prerogatives to Congress, only after all the states agreed to a resolution settling competing western land claims did the Articles take effect on March 1, 1781, when Maryland became the final state to ratify them. In 1783, the Treaty of Paris secured independence for each of the former colonies, with peace at hand, the states each turned toward their own internal affairs. Prospects for the convention appeared bleak until James Madison and Edmund Randolph succeeded in securing George Washington's attendance to Philadelphia as a delegate for Virginia. It was through the negotiations at Philadelphia that the presidency framed in the U.S. The first power the Constitution confers upon the president is the veto, the Presentment Clause requires any bill passed by Congress to be presented to the president before it can become law. Once the legislation has been presented, the president has three options, to sign the bill or to return it to Congress with a presidential message, or to veto the bill. A presidential veto is overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress.
George Washington was an American politician and soldier who served as the first President of the United States from 1789 to 1797 and was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. He served as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War and he is popularly considered the driving force behind the nation's establishment and came to be known as the father of the country, both during his lifetime and to this day. Washington was widely admired for his leadership qualities and was unanimously elected president by the Electoral College in the first two national elections. Washington's incumbency established many precedents still in use today, such as the system, the inaugural address. His retirement from office two terms established a tradition that lasted until 1940 when Franklin Delano Roosevelt won an unprecedented third term. The 22nd Amendment now limits the president to two elected terms and he was born into the provincial gentry of Colonial Virginia to a family of wealthy planters who owned tobacco plantations and slaves, which he inherited. In his youth, he became an officer in the colonial militia during the first stages of the French. In 1775, the Second Continental Congress commissioned him as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army in the American Revolution, in that command, Washington forced the British out of Boston in 1776 but was defeated and nearly captured later that year when he lost New York City. After crossing the Delaware River in the middle of winter, he defeated the British in two battles, retook New Jersey, and restored momentum to the Patriot cause and his strategy enabled Continental forces to capture two major British armies at Saratoga in 1777 and Yorktown in 1781. It is believed Washington's tenure as commander-in-chief provided British army with General John Burgoyne, who surrendered his army to American forces at Saratoga in 1777. The formation of the office of vice president resulted directly from the compromise reached at the Philadelphia Convention which created the Electoral College, the delegates at Philadelphia agreed that each state would receive a number of presidential electors equal to the sum of that state's allocation of Representatives and Senators. The delegates assumed that electors would typically choose to favor any candidate from their state over candidates from other states, under a plurality election process, this would tend to result in electing candidates solely from the largest states. Consequently, the delegates agreed that presidents must be elected by a majority of the number of electors. To guard against such stratagems, the Philadelphia delegates specified that the first runner-up presidential candidate would become vice president, the process for selecting the vice president was later modified in the Twelfth Amendment. Each elector still receives two votes, but now one of those votes is for president, while the other is for vice president. The requirement that one of those votes be cast for a candidate not from the elector's own state remains in effect. Other statutorily granted roles include membership of both the National Security Council and the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. As President of the Senate, the president has two primary duties, to cast a vote in the event of a Senate deadlock and to preside over. For example, in the first half of 2001, the Senators were divided 50-50 between Republicans and Democrats and Dick Cheney's tie-breaking vote gave the Republicans the Senate majority, as President of the Senate, the vice president oversees procedural matters and may cast a tie-breaking vote. As President of the Senate, John Adams cast 29 tie-breaking votes that was surpassed by John C. Calhoun with 31. Adams' votes protected the president's sole authority over the removal of appointees, influenced the location of the national capital, on at least one occasion Adams persuaded senators to vote against legislation he opposed, and he frequently addressed the Senate on procedural and policy matters.
In battle, however, Washington was repeatedly outmaneuvered by British generals with larger armies, after victory had been finalized in 1783, Washington resigned as commander-in-chief rather than seize power, proving his opposition to dictatorship and his commitment to American republicanism. Washington presided over the Constitutional Convention in 1787, which devised a new form of government for the United States. Following his election as president in 1789, he worked to unify rival factions in the fledgling nation and he supported Alexander Hamiltons programs to satisfy all debts, federal and state, established a permanent seat of government, implemented an effective tax system, and created a national bank. In avoiding war with Great Britain, he guaranteed a decade of peace and profitable trade by securing the Jay Treaty in 1795 and he remained non-partisan, never joining the Federalist Party, although he largely supported its policies. Washingtons Farewell Address was a primer on civic virtue, warning against partisanship, sectionalism. He retired from the presidency in 1797, returning to his home, upon his death, Washington was eulogized as first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen by Representative Henry Lee III of Virginia. He was revered in life and in death, scholarly and public polling consistently ranks him among the top three presidents in American history and he has been depicted and remembered in monuments, public works, currency, and other dedications to the present day. He was born on February 11, 1731, according to the Julian calendar, the Gregorian calendar was adopted within the British Empire in 1752, and it renders a birth date of February 22, 1732. Washington was of primarily English gentry descent, especially from Sulgrave and his great-grandfather John Washington emigrated to Virginia in 1656 and began accumulating land and slaves, as did his son Lawrence and his grandson, George's father Augustus.

5. Thomas Jefferson – Thomas Jefferson was an American Founding Father who was the principal author of the Declaration of Independence and later served as the third President of the United States from 1801 to 1809. Previously, he was elected the second Vice President of the United States, Jefferson was primarily of English ancestry, born and educated in colonial Virginia. He graduated from the College of William & Mary and briefly practiced law and he became the United States Minister to France in May 1785, and subsequently the nations first Secretary of State in 1790–1793 under President George Washington. Jefferson and James Madison organized the Democratic-Republican Party to oppose the Federalist Party during the formation of the First Party System, as President, Jefferson pursued the nations shipping and trade interests against Barbary pirates and aggressive British trade policies. He also organized the Louisiana Purchase, almost doubling the countrys territory, as a result of peace negotiations with France, his administration reduced military forces. Jeffersons second term was beset with difficulties at home, including the trial of former Vice President Aaron Burr, American foreign trade was diminished when Jefferson implemented the Embargo Act of 1807, responding to British threats to U. S. shipping. In 1803, Jefferson began a process of Indian tribe removal to the newly organized Louisiana Territory. Jefferson mastered many disciplines, which ranged from surveying and mathematics to horticulture and he was a proven architect in the classical tradition. Jeffersons keen interest in religion and philosophy earned him the presidency of the American Philosophical Society and he shunned organized religion, but was influenced by both Christianity and deism. He was well versed in linguistics and spoke several languages and he founded the University of Virginia after retiring from public office. He was a letter writer and corresponded with many prominent and important people throughout his adult life. His only full-length book is Notes on the State of Virginia, Jefferson owned several plantations which were worked by hundreds of slaves. Most historians now believe that, after the death of his wife in 1782, he had a relationship with his slave Sally Hemings and fathered at least one of her children. Various modern scholars are more critical of Jeffersons private life, pointing out the discrepancy between his ownership of slaves and his political principles, for example. Presidential scholars, however, consistently rank Jefferson among the greatest presidents, Thomas Jefferson was born on April 13, 1743, at the family home in Shadwell in the Colony of Virginia, the third of ten children. He was of English and possibly Welsh descent and was born a British subject and his father Peter Jefferson was a planter and surveyor who died when Jefferson was fourteen, his mother was Jane Randolph. Peter Jefferson moved his family to Tuckahoe Plantation in 1745 upon the death of a friend who had named him guardian of his children, the Jeffereys returned to Shadwell in 1752, where Peter died in 1757, his estate was divided between his sons Thomas and Randolph. Thomas inherited approximately 5,000 acres of land, including Monticello and he assumed full authority over his property at age 21.
6. United States Ambassador to the United Kingdom — The position is regarded as one of the most prestigious positions in the United States Foreign Service due to the so-called Special Relationship. The ambassadorship has been held by notable politicians, including five who would later become presidents, John Adams, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren. However, the tendency of American presidents is to appoint keen political fundraisers from previous presidential campaigns, despite the importance. The ambassador and the staff at large work at the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square. The official residence of the ambassador is Winfield House in Regents Park, the post of Ambassador is currently vacant, however, Woody Johnson has been nominated by Donald Trump, pending senate confirmation. Lewis Lukens is currently serving as Chargé d'affaires-ai until Johnson is approved by the Senate, the most recent Ambassador was Matthew Barzun. The ambassador's main duty is to present American policies to the Government of the United Kingdom and people and to report British policies and he serves as the primary channel of communication between the two nations and plays an important role in treaty negotiations. The ambassador is the head of the United States consular service in the United Kingdom, as well as directing diplomatic activity in support of trade, he is ultimately responsible for visa services and for the provision of consular support to American citizens in the UK. He also oversees cultural relations between the two countries, John Adams James Monroe John Quincy Adams Martin Van Buren James Buchanan Ambassadors of the United States British Embassy, Washington, D. C. state. gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/index.htm. Alison R. Holmes and J. Simon Rofe, The Embassy in Grosvenor Square, American Ambassadors to the United Kingdom, United States Department of State, Chiefs of Mission for the United Kingdom United States Department of State, United Kingdom United States Embassy in London.

7. Congress of the Confederation — A unicameral body with legislative and executive function, it comprised delegates appointed by the legislatures of the several states. Each state delegation had one vote, the membership of the Second Continental Congress automatically carried over to the Congress of the Confederation when the latter was created by the ratification of the Articles of Confederation. It had the secretary as the Second Continental Congress, namely Charles Thomson. The Congress of the Confederation opened in the last stages of the American Revolution, combat ended in October 1781, with the surrender of the British after the Siege and Battle of Yorktown. The British, however, continued to occupy New York City, while the American delegates in Paris, named by the Congress and this formally ended the American Revolutionary War between Great Britain and the thirteen former colonies, which on July 4, 1776, had declared independence. On March 1, 1781, the Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union were signed by delegates of Maryland at a meeting of the Second Continental Congress, as historian Edmund Burnett wrote, There was no new organization of any kind, not even the election of a new President. The Congress still called itself the Continental Congress, some modern historians would later refer to the Continental Congress after the ratification of the Articles as the Congress of the Confederation or the Confederation Congress. The Congress had little power and without the threat of a war against the British. Nonetheless the Congress still managed to pass important laws, most notably the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, the War of Independence saddled the country with an enormous debt. In 1784, the total Confederation debt was nearly $40 million, of that sum, $8 million was owed to the French and Dutch. Of the domestic debt, government bonds, known as loan-office certificates, composed $11.5 million, certificates on interest indebtedness $3.1 million, the certificates were non-interest bearing notes issued for supplies purchased or impressed, and to pay soldiers and officers. Rhode Island and Virginia rejected the 1781 impost plan while New York rejected the 1783 revised plan, without revenue, except for meager voluntary state requisitions, Congress could not even pay the interest on its outstanding debt. Meanwhile, the states failed, or refused, to meet the requisitions requested of them by Congress. The Confederation Congress itself endorsed the Call and issued one on its own further inviting the states to send delegates. After meeting in secret all summer in the Old Pennsylvania State House now having acquired the nickname and new title of Independence Hall, from the famous action here eleven years earlier. The Confederation Congress received and submitted the new Constitution document to the states, the Congress of the Confederation continued to conduct business for another month after setting the various dates. Pell oversaw the meeting and adjourned the Congress sine die, rather than having a fixed capital, the Congress of the Confederation met in numerous locations which may be considered United States capitals. The Congress of the Confederation initially met at the Old Pennsylvania State House, party Politics in
8. **Thomas Pinckney** – Thomas Pinckney was an early American statesman from South Carolina, a diplomat and veteran officer of both the American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, achieving the rank of major general. A cotton and rice planter, he served as Governor of South Carolina, 1787–1789, US minister to Great Britain under President George Washington. Pinckney was born in Charleston in the Province of South Carolina, where his father, Charles Pinckney, was a prominent colonial official. His mother, Eliza Lucas, was also from a prominent family, and was known for her introduction of indigo culture to the colony, when Pinckney was 3, his father took the family to Great Britain on colonial business, where he died in 1758. His mother kept the family in Great Britain, and Pinckney continued his education at Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford, at the age of 24. Pinckney returned to South Carolina in 1774, becoming an ardent Patriot in the American Revolution. In 1775 he was commissioned as captain in the 1st South Carolina Regiment of the Continental Army, after seeing much action, he became an aide-de-camp to General Horatio Gates, and was captured by the British at the disastrous Battle of Camden in 1780. By that time he had married and had an infant child and he was allowed to recuperate from his wounds at his mother-in-law Rebecca Brewton Motts plantation outside Charleston. In 1781 he and his family traveled to Philadelphia, where he was released by the British in a prisoner exchange. Pinckney returned to the South and that year fought under the Marquis de Lafayette in Virginia. After the war, Pinckney spent some years running his plantations before he returned to politics, Pinckney was elected and served as the 36th Governor of South Carolina from 1787 to 1789, most notably presiding over the state convention that ratified the new U.S. Constitution. He served in the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1791 and he was appointed by President George Washington to be the U.S. minister to Great Britain in 1792. For part of his tenure as ambassador in Britain, Pinckney also served as Envoy Extraordinary to Spain and he arranged the Treaty of San Lorenzo, also known as Pinckney's Treaty, with Spain in 1795. Upon his return to the United States, Pinckney joined with his mother-in-law and she lived there with him and her daughter and grandchildren in her later years. Pinckney's diplomatic success with Spain made him popular at home, Pinckney finished in third place in the presidential race. Pinckney was elected to the United States House of Representatives from South Carolina to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of William L. Smith, serving from November 1797 to March 1801. While in Congress, Pinckney served as one of the appointed by the House in 1798 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against William Blount. Pinckney returned to the military during the War of 1812, being commissioned as a general in the army. In 1814, he was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society and his last public role before his death in Charleston was as president general of the Society of the Cincinnati, made up of veteran officers of the Revolutionary War. In 1822, news was reported of a massive planned slave uprising, to be led by Denmark Vesey, Vesey and numerous other free blacks and slaves were quickly arrested in a roundup and suppression of rebellion by authorities. Slaves constituted the majority of the population in Charleston, where there was a population of free people of color.

9. **United States Ambassador to the Netherlands** – The United States diplomatic mission to the Netherlands consists of the embassy located in The Hague and a consular office located in Amsterdam. In 1782, John Adams was appointed America's first Minister Plenipotentiary to Holland and these loans from the United Provinces, which have been called the Marshall Plan in reverse, were the first new government received. The American Embassy building in The Hague opened on July 4, 1959 and it was designed by architect Marcel Breuer. Notable Americans such as former Presidents Adams and John Quincy Adams, General Hugh Ewing, besides the embassy, a U.S. consulate-general is located on Curaçao which is responsible for the territory of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the Caribbean. This consulate is not part of the U.S. diplomatic mission to the Netherlands. On July 18, 2013, President Obama nominated Timothy M. Broas to become the next U.S. ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, succeeding Fay Hartog-Levin, Broas, an attorney and philanthropist, was a major donor to President Obama's campaigns. He was first nominated in April 2012, but withdrew his name in June after being arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and he subsequently plead guilty to the reduced charge of driving while impaired and was placed on probation. Broas was finally appointed in March 2014.
10. Second Continental Congress – The Second Continental Congress was a convention of delegates from the Thirteen Colonies that started meeting in the spring of 1775, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It succeeded the First Continental Congress, which met between September 5, 1774 and October 26, 1774, also in Philadelphia, the second Congress managed the colonial war effort, and moved incrementally towards independence, adopting the United States Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. When the Second Continental Congress came together on May 10, 1775 it was, in effect, many of the same 56 delegates who attended the first meeting were in attendance at the second, and the delegates appointed the same president and secretary. Notable new arrivals included Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and John Hancock of Massachusetts, within two weeks, Randolph was summoned back to Virginia to preside over the House of Burgesses, he was replaced in the Virginia delegation by Thomas Jefferson, who arrived several weeks later. Henry Middleton was elected as president to replace Randolph, but he declined, Hancock was elected president on May 24. Delegates from twelve of the Thirteen Colonies were present when the Second Continental Congress convened, Georgia had not participated in the First Continental Congress and did not initially send delegates to the Second Continental Congress. On May 13, 1775, Lyman Hall was admitted as a delegate from the Parish of St. Johns in the Colony of Georgia, not as a delegate from the colony itself. The Second Continental Congress would meet on May 10, 1775, by the time the Second Continental Congress met, the American Revolutionary War had already started with the Battles of Lexington and Concord. The Congress was to charge of the war effort. For the first few months of the struggle, the Patriots had carried on their struggle in an ad-hoc and they had seized arsenals, driven out royal officials, and besieged the British army in the city of Boston. On July 6, 1775 Congress approved a Declaration of Causes outlining the rationale, on July 8, Congress extended the Olive Branch Petition to the British Crown as a final attempt at reconciliation. However, it was received too late to do any good, silas Deane was sent to France as a minister of the Congress. American ports were reopened in defiance of the British Navigation Acts, the Congress had no authority to levy taxes, and was required to request money, supplies, and troops from the states to support the war effort. Individual states frequently ignored these requests, Congress was moving towards declaring independence from the British Empire in 1776, but many delegates lacked the authority from their home governments to take such a drastic action. Advocates of independence in Congress moved to have reluctant colonial governments revise instructions to their delegations, on May 10, 1776, Congress passed a resolution recommending that any colony lacking a proper government should form such. The resolution of independence was delayed for weeks as revolutionaries consolidated support for independence in their home governments. The records of the Continental Congress confirm that the need for a declaration of independence was intimately linked with the demands of international relations, on June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee offered a resolution before the Continental Congress declaring the colonies independent. He also urged Congress to resolve to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign Alliances, Lee argued that independence was the only way to ensure a foreign alliance, since no European monarchs would deal with America if they remained Britain's colonies

11. Massachusetts – It is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the east, the states of Connecticut and Rhode Island to the south, New Hampshire and Vermont to the north, and New York to the west. The state is named for the Massachusett tribe, which inhabited the area. The capital of Massachusetts and the most populous city in New England is Boston, over 80% of Massachusetts population lives in the Greater Boston metropolitan area, a region influential upon American history, academia, and industry. Originally dependent on agriculture, fishing and trade, Massachusetts was transformed into a manufacturing center during the Industrial Revolution, during the 20th century, Massachusetts economy shifted from manufacturing to services. Modern Massachusetts is a leader in biotechnology, engineering, higher education, finance. Plymouth was the site of the first colony in New England, founded in 1620 by the Pilgrims, in 1692, the town of Salem and surrounding areas experienced one of America’s most infamous cases of mass hysteria, the Salem witch trials. In 1777, General Henry Knox founded the Springfield Armory, which during the Industrial Revolution catalyzed numerous important technological advances, in 1786, Shays Rebellion, a populist revolt led by disaffected American Revolutionary War veterans, influenced the United States Constitutional Convention. In the 18th century, the Protestant First Great Awakening, which swept the Atlantic World, in the late 18th century, Boston
Protestant First Great Awakening, which swept the Atlantic World, in the late 18th century, Boston became known as the Cradle of Liberty for the agitation there that led to the American Revolution. The entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts has played a commercial and cultural role in the history of the United States. Before the American Civil War, Massachusetts was a center for the abolitionist, temperance, in the late 19th century, the sports of basketball and volleyball were invented in the western Massachusetts cities of Springfield and Holyoke, respectively. Many prominent American political dynasties have hailed from the state, including the Adams, both Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, also in Cambridge, have been ranked among the most highly regarded academic institutions in the world. Massachusetts public school students place among the top nations in the world in academic performance, the official name of the state is the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. While this designation is part of the official name, it has no practical implications. Massachusetts has the position and powers within the United States as other states. Massachusetts was originally inhabited by tribes of the Algonquian language family such as the Wampanoag, Narragansett, Nipmuc, Pocomtuc, Mahican, and Massachusetts. While cultivation of crops like squash and corn supplemented their diets, villages consisted of lodges called wigwams as well as longhouses, and tribes were led by male or female elders known as sachems. Between 1617 and 1619, smallpox killed approximately 90% of the Massachusetts Bay Native Americans, the first English settlers in Massachusetts, the Pilgrims, arrived via the Mayflower at Plymouth in 1620, and developed friendly relations with the native Wampanoag people. This was the second successful permanent English colony in the part of North America that later became the United States, the event known as the First Thanksgiving was celebrated by the Pilgrims after their first harvest in the New World which lasted for three days.

12. Samuel Holten – Samuel Holten was an American physician and statesman from Danvers, Massachusetts. He represented Massachusetts as a delegate to the Continental Congress and a member of the United States House of Representatives, Holten was born in Danvers, Massachusetts on June 9, 1738. He was educated locally, studied medicine and established a practice in Gloucester and he soon returned to Danvers, where he continued the practice of medicine. During the American Revolution Holten supported the Patriot cause, Holten served in the militia as a major in the First Essex County Regiment. He was a member of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress from 1774 to 1775 and he served in the Continental Congress from 1778 to 1780 and in the United States in Congress Assembled, 1783 to 1785, and again in 1787. He was elected Chairman of the United States in Congress Assembled on August 17, 1785, His Excellency the president, being, by indisposition, prevented from attending the House, Congress proceeded to the election of a Chairman, and, the ballots being taken, the honble. Samuel Holten was elected. Holten was a member of the constitutional convention in 1779. From 1780 to 1782 Holten served in the Massachusetts Senate, and he served again in 1784, 1786, 1789, in 1787 he was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. From 1780 to 1782 Holten was a member of the Massachusetts Governors Council, and he served again in 1784, 1786, 1789 to 1792, 1795, in 1792 Holten was elected as an Anti-Administration candidate to the Third Congress. Holten also served as judge of the Essex County Court and he was appointed judge of the Essex County Probate Court in 1796, and he served until his resignation in 1815. He died in Danvers on January 2, 1816, and was buried at Holten Cemetery in Danvers, biographical Directory of the United States Congress.

13. First Continental Congress – It was called in response to The passage of the Coercive Acts by the British Parliament. The Intolerable Acts had punished Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party, the Congress was attended by 56 delegates. The Pennsylvania delegation was appointed by the colonial assembly, Georgia declined to send delegates because they were hoping for British assistance with Native American problems on their frontier and did not want to upset the British. The Congress met briefly to consider options, including a boycott of British trade, rights and grievances. The Congress also called for another Continental Congress in the event that their petition was unsuccessful in halting enforcement of the Intolerable Acts. Their appeal to the Crown had no effect, and so the Second Continental Congress was convened the following year to organize the defense of the colonies at the onset of the American Revolutionary War, the delegates also urged each colony to set up and train its own militia. The Congress met from September 5 to October 26, 1774, peyton Randolph presided over the proceedings, Henry Middleton took over as President of the Congress for the last few days, from October 22 to October 26. Charles Thomson, leader of Philadelphia Committee of Correspondence, was selected to be
Charles Thomson, leader of Philadelphia Committee of Correspondence, was selected to be Secretary of the Continental Congress, the delegates who attended the Congress were not of one mind concerning why they were there. Their ultimate goal was to develop a solution to the difficulties. Radicals, such as Patrick Henry, Roger Sherman, Samuel Adams, to counter these ideas, Galloway put forward a Plan of Union, which suggested an American legislative body be formed, with some authority, and whose consent would be required for imperial measures. In the end, the voices of reconciliation and compromise carried the day and it requested that local Committees of Safety enforce the boycott and regulate local prices for goods. These resolutions adopted by the Congress did not acknowledge the power of Parliament even to regulate trade. Furthermore, they did not repudiate control by the royal prerogative, the Congress had two primary accomplishments. The first was a compact among the colonies to boycott British goods beginning on December 1, 1774, the West Indies were threatened with a boycott unless the islands agreed to nonimportation of British goods. Imports from Britain dropped by 97 percent in 1775, compared with the previous year, Committees of observation and inspection were to be formed in each colony for enforcement of the Association. All of the colonial Houses of Assembly approved the proceedings of the congress with the exception of New York, if the intolerable Acts were not repealed, the colonies would also cease exports to Britain after September 10, 1775. The boycott was successfully implemented, but its potential for altering British colonial policy was cut off by the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War, the colonists were forced to quarter British soldiers, and feed them. The second accomplishment of the Congress was to provide for a Second Continental Congress to meet on May 10, 1775, however, letters appear to have been sent only to Quebec.

Province of Massachusetts Bay – The Province of Massachusetts Bay was a crown colony in British North America and, from 1776, one of the thirteen original states of the United States. It was chartered on October 7, 1691, by William and Mary, the joint monarchs of the kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland. The charter took effect on May 14, 1692, and included the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the Plymouth Colony, the Province of Maine, Marthas Vineyard, Nantucket, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. The modern Commonwealth of Massachusetts is the successor, Maine has been a separate U. S. state since 1820. The name Massachusetts comes from the Massachusett, an Algonquian tribe, the name has been translated as at the great hill, at the place of large hills, or at the range of hills, with reference to the Blue Hills, and in particular, Great Blue Hill. Colonial settlement of the shores of Massachusetts Bay began in 1620 with the founding of the Plymouth Colony, over the next ten years there was a major migration of Puritans to the area, leading to the founding of a number of new colonies in New England. By the 1680s the number of colonies had stabilized at five, in addition to Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts Bay was the most populous and economically significant, housing a sizable merchant fleet. The colonies at times struggled against the Indian population, which had suffered a decline in population prior to the arrival of the first permanent settlers. In the 1630s the Pequot tribe was destroyed, and King Philip's War in the 1670s resulted in the expulsion, pacification. The latter war was costly to the colonists of New England. Massachusetts and Plymouth were both somewhat politically independent from England in their days, but this situation changed after the restoration of Charles II to the English throne in 1660. Charles sought closer oversight of the colonies, and to introduce and enforce economic control over their activities, the Navigation Acts passed in the 1660s were widely disliked in Massachusetts, where merchants often found themselves trapped and at odds with the rules. These issues and others led to the revocation of the first Massachusetts Charter in 1684, when James was deposed in the 1688 Glorious Revolution, Massachusetts political leaders conspired against Andros, arresting him and other English authorities in April 1689. This led to the collapse of the Dominion, as the other colonies then quickly reasserted their old forms of government, the Plymouth colony had never had a royal charter, so its governance had always been on a somewhat precarious footing. Massachusetts, however, was placed into constitutional anarchy by the uprising, provincial agents traveled to London where Increase Mather, representing the old colony leaders, petitioned new rulers William and Mary to restore the old colonial charter. When King William learned that this result in a return to the predominantly entrenched religious rule. Instead, the Lords of Trade decided to solve two problems at once by combining the two colonies, accordingly, on October 7, 1691, they issued a charter for the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and appointed Sir William Phips its governor. Although the effect of change has been subject to debate among historians.
15. Braintree, Massachusetts – Braintree, officially the Town of Braintree, is a suburban New England city in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, United States. Although officially known as a town, Braintree adopted a charter, effective 2008. The population was 35,744 at the 2010 census, the town is part of the Greater Boston area with access to the MBTA Red Line and is a member of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commissions South Shore Coalition. The first and current mayor of Braintree is Joe Sullivan, Braintree, Massachusetts is named after Braintree, Essex in England. The town of Braintree was settled in 1625, colonized in 1635 and incorporated in 1640 and it comprised land that was later split into Quincy, Randolph, and Holbrook. Braintree was part of Suffolk County until the formation of Norfolk County in 1793, the town of Braintree was the birthplace of presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams, as well as statesman John Hancock. General Sylvanus Thayer, the Father of West Point was also born in Braintree, Braintree was the site of the infamous 1920 murders that led to the trial of Sacco and Vanzetti. It was the retirement home of the co-inventor of the telephone, braintrees population grew by over 50% during the 1920s. In January 2008, Braintree converted from a town meeting form of government to a mayor-council government. According to the United States Census Bureau, the town has an area of 14.5 square miles. The total area is 4.34% water Park and recreation locations in Braintree include Pond Meadow Park, Sunset Lake, summers are typically warm to hot, rainy, and humid, while winters oscillate between periods of cold rain and snow, with cold temperatures. Spring and fall are mild, with varying conditions dependent on wind direction. Prevailing wind patterns that blow offshore minimize the influence of the Atlantic Ocean, the hottest month is July, with a mean temperature of 69.7 °F. The coldest month is January, with a mean of 25.7 °F, periods exceeding 90 °F in summer and below freezing in winter are not uncommon but rarely extended, with about 13 and 25 days per year seeing each, respectively. The cities average window for freezing temperatures is November 9 through April 5, official temperature records have ranged from −21 °F in February 1934, up to 101 °F in August 1949 and 1974. Braintrees coastal location on the North Atlantic moderates its temperature, but makes the city prone to Nor'easter weather systems that can produce much snow. The city averages 48.63 inches of precipitation a year, snowfall increases dramatically as one goes inland away from the city — away from the moderating influence of the ocean. Most snowfall occurs from December through March, as most years see no snow in April and November.

16. Quincy, Massachusetts – Quincy is the largest city in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, United States. It is a part of Metropolitan Boston and is Bostons immediate southern suburb. Its population in 2010 was 92,271, making it the 8th largest city in the state, first settled in 1625, Quincy was briefly part of Dorchester and Boston before becoming the north precinct of Braintree in 1640. In 1792, Quincy was split off from Braintree, the new town was named after Colonel John Quincy, maternal grandfather of Abigail Adams, Quincy became a city in 1888. For more than a century, Quincy was home to a thriving industry, the city was also the site of the Granite Railway. Shipbuilding at the Fore River Shipyard was another key part of the citys economy, in the 20th century, both Howard Johnsons and Dunkin Donuts were founded in the city. It was visited in 1621 by Plymouth Colony commander Myles Standish and Squanto, four years later, a party led by Captain Wollaston established a post on a low hill near the south shore of Quincy Bay east of present-day Blacks Creek. The settlers found the area suitable for farming, as Chickatawbut and this settlement was named Mount Wollaston in honor of the leader, who left the area soon after 1625, bound for Virginia. The Wollaston neighborhood in Quincy still retains Captain Wollastons name, upon the departure of Wollaston, Thomas Morton took over leadership of the post, and the settlement proceeded to gain a reputation for debauchery with Indian women and drunkenness. In 1627, Morton was arrested by Standish for violating the code of conduct in a way harmful to the colony and he was sent back to England, only to return and be arrested by Puritans the next year. The area of Quincy now called Merrymount is located on the site of the original English settlement of 1625, the area was first incorporated as part of Dorchester in 1630 and was briefly annexed by Boston in 1634. The area became Braintree in 1640, bordered along the coast of Massachusetts Bay by Dorchester to the north and Weymouth to the east, beginning in 1708, the modern border of Quincy first took shape as the North Precinct of Braintree. Following the American Revolution, Quincy was officially incorporated as a town named for Col. John Quincy in 1792. In 1845 the Old Colony Railroad opened, the Massachusetts Historical Commission stated that the railroad was the beginning of a trend toward suburbanization, Quincy became as accessible to Boston as was Charlestown. The first suburban land company, Bellevue Land Co.
accessible to Boston as was Charlestown. The first suburban land company, Bellevue Land Co., had been organized in northern Quincy in 1870, Quincys population grew by over 50 percent during the 1920s. Among the citys several firsts was the Granite Railway, the first commercial railroad in the United States, Quincy granite became famous throughout the nation, and stonecutting became the citys principal economic activity. Quincy was also home to the first iron furnace in the United States, in the 1870s, the city gave its name to the Quincy Method, an influential approach to education developed by Francis W. Parker while he served as Quincys superintendent of schools. Parker, a proponent of progressive education, put his ideas into practice in the cities underperforming schools, four years later.

17. British America – English America, and later British America, were the English, and later British, territories in North America, Central America, the Caribbean, and Guyana from 1607 to 1783. After that, British North America was used to describe the remainder of Britains continental North American possessions, the term British North America was first used informally in 1783, but it was uncommon before the Report on the Affairs of British North America, called the Durham Report. British America gained large amounts of new territory following the Treaty of Paris which ended Britains involvement in the Seven Years War, at the start of the American War of Independence in 1775, the British Empire included 20 colonies north and east of New Spain. East and West Florida were ceded to Spain in the Treaty of Paris which ended the American Revolution, all but one of the remaining colonies of British North America apart from the British West Indies united together from 1867 to 1873 forming the Dominion of Canada. The first such permanent settlement was founded at Jamestown by the Virginia Company whose investors expected to reap rewards from their speculative investments, Virginia Native Americans had established settlements long before the English settlers arrived, and there were an estimated 14,000 natives in the region. Native American political leadership sought to resettle the English colonizers from Jamestown to another location, other colonizers, both English and German, did join the Powhatans. The first colonizers were welcomed by the Indians with dancing, feasting, there were twenty British colonies in North America in 1775.

18. United First Parish Church – United First Parish Church is a Unitarian Universalist congregation in Quincy, Massachusetts, established as the parish church of Quincy in 1639. The current building was constructed in 1828 by noted Boston stonecutter Abner Joy to designs by Alexander Parris. It is called the Church of the Presidents because two American Presidents, John Adams and John Quincy Adams, attended the church along with their wives, Abigail Adams, all four are interred beneath the church in a family crypt. The pew in which they sat is marked with a plaque and it was a Puritan congregationalist church when first established, but since the mid-18th century has been Unitarian, in spirit if not in name. The 1828 church is constructed of locally quarried granite, and is one of the finest Greek Revival church buildings in New England and it has a Greek temple front, supported by four monolithic granite columns which may have been the largest set in the United States at the time. Each column is 25 feet tall and weighs an estimated 25 tons, above the main facade rises a two-stage tower. Its lower section is oblong and unadorned, while the stage is stepped back. It has clock faces on each side, and is topped by a cupola with eight columns. President John Adams financed the construction through a land donation. However, the pillars are from local quarry, as the Adams quarry was not deep enough for a full-height pillar. Its original bell was cast by Paul Revere, but was melted down, the unusual domed ceiling represents a passion flower surrounded by lotuses. The fine mahogany altar is original, both John Adams and his son John Quincy Adams, together with their first ladies, are buried in a family vault in the churches basement. Only one other church in the United States contains a presidential tomb, the Washington National Cathedral in Washington, D. C. where the remains of President Woodrow Wilson are interred.

19. Federalist Party – The Federalist Party was the first American political party. It existed from the early 1790s to 1816, its remnants lasted into the 1820s, the Federalists called for a strong national government that promoted economic growth and fostered friendly relationships with Great Britain, as well as opposition to revolutionary France. The party controlled the government until 1801, when it was overwhelmed by the Democratic-Republican opposition led by Thomas Jefferson. The Federalist Party came into being between 1792 and 1794 as a coalition of bankers and businessmen in support of Alexander Hamiltons fiscal policies. These supporters developed into the organized Federalist Party, which was committed to a fiscally sound, the only Federalist president was John Adams, although George Washington was broadly sympathetic to the
President was John Adams, although George Washington was broadly sympathetic to the Federalist program, he remained officially non-partisan during his entire presidency. Federalist policies called for a bank, tariffs, and good relations with Great Britain as expressed in the Jay Treaty negotiated in 1794. Hamilton developed the concept of implied powers and successfully argued the adoption of that interpretation of the United States Constitution, the Jay Treaty passed, and the Federalists won most of the major legislative battles in the 1790s. They held a strong base in the cities and in New England. After the Democratic-Republicans, whose base was in the rural South, won the election of 1800. They recovered some strength by their opposition to the War of 1812. On taking office in 1789, President Washington nominated New York lawyer Alexander Hamilton to the office of Secretary of the Treasury. Hamilton wanted a strong national government with financial credibility. James Madison was Hamilton's ally in the fight to ratify the new Constitution. Political parties had not been anticipated when the Constitution was drafted in 1787 and ratified in 1788, even though both Hamilton and Madison played major roles. Parties were considered to be divisive and harmful to republicanism, No similar parties existed anywhere in the world. By 1790 Hamilton started building a nationwide coalition and his attempts to manage politics in the national capital to get his plans through Congress, then, brought strong responses across the country. In the process, what began as a capital faction soon assumed status as a faction and then, finally. The Federalist Party supported Hamilton's vision of a centralized government. In foreign affairs, they supported neutrality in the war between France and Great Britain, the majority of the Founding Fathers were originally Federalists. Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and many others can all be considered Federalists and these Federalists felt that the Articles of Confederation had been too weak to sustain a working government and had decided that a new form of government was needed.

20. Democratic-Republican Party – The new party controlled the presidency and Congress, as well as most states, from 1801 to 1825, during the First Party System. It began in 1791 as one faction in Congress, and included many politicians who had opposed the new constitution. They called themselves Republicans after their ideology Republicanism and they distrusted the Federalist commitment to republicanism. The party splintered in 1824 into the Jacksonian movement and the short-lived National Republican Party, the term Democratic-Republican is used especially by modern political scientists for the first Republican Party. It is also known as the Jeffersonian Republicans, historians typically use the title Republican Party. An Anti-Administration faction met secretly in the capital to oppose Hamilton's financial programs. Jefferson denounced the programs as leading to monarchy and subversive of republicanism, Jefferson needed to have a nationwide party to challenge the Federalists, which Hamilton was building up with allies in major cities. Foreign affairs took a role in 1794–95 as the Republicans vigorously opposed the Jay Treaty with Britain. Republicans saw France as more democratic after its revolution, while Britain represented the hated monarchy, the party denounced many of Hamilton's measures as unconstitutional, especially the national bank. The party was strongest in the South and weakest in the Northeast and it demanded states rights as expressed by the Principles of 1798 articulated in the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions that would allow states to nullify a federal law. Above all, the party stood for the primacy of the yeoman farmers, Republicans were deeply committed to the principles of republicanism, which they feared were threatened by the supposed monarchical tendencies of the Hamiltonian Federalists. The party came to power in 1801 with the election of Jefferson in the 1800 presidential election, the Federalists—too elitist to appeal to most people—faded away, and totally collapsed after 1815. The Republicans dominated the First Party System, despite internal divisions, the party selected its presidential candidates in a caucus of members of Congress. They included Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe, by 1824, the caucus system had practically collapsed. After 1800, the party dominated Congress and most state governments outside New England, by 1824, the party was split four ways and lacked a center, as the First Party System collapsed. The emergence of the Second Party System in the 1830s realigned the old factions, one remnant followed Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren into the new Democratic Party by 1828. Another remnant led by John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay formed the National Republicans in 1828, the precise date of founding is disputed, but 1791 is a reasonable estimate, some time by 1792 is certain. The elections of 1792 were the first ones to be contested on anything resembling a partisan basis, in most states the congressional elections were recognized, as Jefferson strategist John Beckley put it, as a struggle between the Treasury department and the republican interest.
21. **Abigail Adams** – Abigail Adams was the closest advisor and wife of John Adams, as well as the mother of John Quincy Adams. John frequently sought the advice of Abigail on many matters, and their letters are filled with discussions on government. Her letters also serve as eyewitness accounts of the American Revolutionary War home front. Abigail Adams was born at the North Parish Congregational Church in Weymouth, Massachusetts, to William Smith and Elizabeth Smith. On her mother's side she was descended from the Quincy family, through her mother she was a cousin of Dorothy Quincy, wife of John Hancock. Adams was also the great-granddaughter of John Norton, founding pastor of Old Ship Church in Hingham, Massachusetts, the only remaining 17th-century Puritan meetinghouse in Massachusetts. Smith married Elizabeth Quincy in 1742, and together they had four children and their only son, born in 1746, died of alcoholism in 1787. As with several of her ancestors, Adam's father was a liberal Congregationalist minister, Smith did not focus his preaching on predestination or original sin, instead he emphasized the importance of reason and morality. In July 1775 his wife Elizabeth, with whom he had married for 33 years. In 1784, at age 77, Smith died, Abigail did not receive formal schooling, she was frequently sick as child, which may have been a factor which prevented her from receiving an education. Later in life, Adams would also consider that she was deprived an education because females were given such an opportunity. Her grandmother, Elizabeth Quincy, also contributed to Adams education, as she grew up, Adams read with friends in an effort to further her learning. As an intellectually open-minded woman for her day, Adams ideas on women's rights and government would play a major role, albeit indirectly. She became one of the most erudite women ever to serve as First Lady, as third cousins, Abigail and John had known each other since they were children. In 1762, John accompanied his friend Richard Cranch to the Smith household, Cranch was engaged to Adams older sister, Mary, and they would be the parents of federal judge William Cranch. John was quickly attracted to the petite, shy, 17-year-old brunette who was bent over some book. He was surprised to learn she knew so much poetry, philosophy. Smith, Abigail's father, presided over the marriage of John Adams, after the reception, the couple mounted a single horse and rode off to their new home, the small cottage and farm John had inherited from his father in Braintree, Massachusetts. Later they moved to Boston, where his law practice expanded, the couple welcomed their first child nine months into their marriage

22. **Abigail Adams Smith** – Abigail Nabby Amelia Adams Smith was the firstborn of Abigail and John Adams, founding father and second President of the United States. She was named for her mother, at the age of 18, Nabby met and fell in love with Royall Tyler. Her father thought she was too young to have a suitor, at one point the two were even engaged to be married. But John Adams, then the U. S. minister to the Kingdom of Great Britain, eagerly called for his wife, for a time, Nabby maintained a long distance relationship with Tyler, but eventually broke off the engagement, leaving Tyler depressed. Shortly afterward Nabby met Colonel William Stephens Smith, who was serving as her fathers secretary and was 10 years her senior and they were married at the American ministers residence in London on June 12, 1786. Nabby's observations of European life and customs, and of many of the statesmen of the day, were later published. Their children were, William Steuben Smith John Adams Smith Thomas Hollis Smith Caroline Amelia Smith. In 1810, on October 8, 1811 a mastectomy was performed by John Warren. The operation was performed by Warren and several assistants without any anesthesia in a room of the Adams home. Her mother, husband, and daughter Caroline were also on hand to assist, the exact details of the surgery are not known but it was described as a typical 19th century operation. Before the surgery began Dr. Warren strapped Nabby into a chair to restrain her, once the diseased breast was exposed, other physicians held her left arm back, so that Dr. Warren would have better access to the diseased tissue. He began the surgery by thrusting the large fork into her breast and he then sliced at the base of the breast until it was completely severed from her chest. After removing the breast, he saw that the cancer had spread to the nodes under Abigail's arms. To stop Abigail's bleeding, Dr. Warren applied the heated spatula to cauterize the open cuts, the surgery took around 25 minutes, but dressing the wounds took more than an hour. Warren and his assistants later expressed astonishment that Abigail endured the pain of the surgery and cauterization without crying out and they were so horrifying that they caused her mother, husband, and daughter to turn away. About seven months after the surgery, in 1812, Abigail finally started to feel well once more, so then she returned home to New York. But then she began feeling pain in her abdomen and spine, at first a local doctor in New York said that the pain was from rheumatism, but later in 1813 new tumors began to appear in the scar tissue as well as on
the skin. This was because when Dr. Warren removed her breast, tiny malignant cancers were left behind, so in spring of 1813 her doctor diagnosed her yet again with cancer, except it spread everywhere in her body. She then wanted to return to her father and mother’s house to die there. Nabby Adams Smith died on August 9, 1813 at the age of 48.

23. John Adams Sr. – John Adams Sr. was the father of the second U.S. President, John Adams, and grandfather of the sixth President, John Quincy Adams. He was himself the grandson of Henry Adams, who emigrated from Braintree, Essex. He was also descended from John and Priscilla Alden, Adams worked as a farmer and cobbler for most of his life. Adams descendants include many prominent persons in American history, and his home is a National Park, not only was he the father and grandfather of presidents, he also was a first cousin, once removed, of Samuel Adams. In 1720, Adams purchased a farm in what is now Quincy, the location of his farm, and where his children were born, is now part of Adams National Historical Park. This saltbox house, a simple and common dwelling characterized by its roof, is operated by the National Park Service as the John Adams Birthplace. On December 19, 1960, the birthplace was designated a National Historic Landmark, the future President lived here with his parents on the farm until 1764, when he married Abigail Smith. It is a few feet from the John Quincy Adams Birthplace, oddly, his house lay at an angle to the road. Adams was primarily a farmer during the season, and also worked as a shoemaker. He was a freeholder, who owned rather than rented his land and he was proud of being a landowner, and felt that land was a good investment, only once selling land, ten acres to pay for his sons Harvard education. Adams was also a deacon in his church, a lieutenant in the Massachusetts colonial militia, a tax collector, the younger John Adams wrote of the religion his father was so passionate for, bearers of freedom, a cause that still had holy urgency. The future president was first known by reputation as the son of Deacon John. As a selectman, or town councilman, for 20 years, he supervised the poor house, schools and his wife forced him to resign as selectman after a family row over his taking in a destitute young female. A leading local man, other men would stop by Deacon John’s house to discuss business or religion and he even received a visit from Punkapaug and Neponset Indian chiefs. Adams attended Harvard College, and sent his eldest son there as well and he did not want his son to be a farmer, but rather, a minister. In fact, he sold 10 acres of his land to pay for John’s proverbial Harvard education, the president praised his father and paternal ancestors as independent country gentlemen, who had not gone bankrupt, didn’t gamble, and had never committed fraud. Adams married well, to Susanna Boylston, from a prominent family of scientists and medical doctors and his socialite bride came from the wealthy and respected line of Boylstoins of Brookline. Susanna had a social standing than him.

24. Alma mater – Alma mater is an allegorical Latin phrase for a university or college. In modern usage, it is a school or university which an individual has attended, the phrase is variously translated as nourishing mother, nursing mother, or fostering mother, suggesting that a school provides intellectual nourishment to its students. Before its modern usage, Alma mater was a title in Latin for various mother goddesses, especially Ceres or Cybele. The source of its current use is the motto, Alma Mater Studiorum, of the oldest university in continuous operation in the Western world and it is related to the term alumnus, denoting a university graduate, which literally means a nursing one or one who is nourished. The phrase can also denote a song or hymn associated with a school, although alma was a common epithet for Ceres, Cybele, Venus, and other mother goddesses, it was not frequently used in conjunction with mater in classical Latin. Alma Redemptoris Mater is a well-known 11th century antiphon devoted to Mary, the earliest documented English use of the term to refer to a university is in 1600, when University of Cambridge printer John Legate began using an emblem for the university’s press. In English etymological reference works, the first university-related usage is often cited in 1710, many historic European universities have adopted Alma Mater as part of the Latin translation of their official name. The University of Bologna Latin name, Alma Mater Studiorum, refers to its status as the oldest continuously operating university in the world. At least one, the Alma Mater Europaea in Salzburg, Austria, the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, has been called the Alma Mater of the Nation because of its ties to the founding of the United States. At Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, and the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia, the ancient Roman world had many statues of the Alma Mater, some still extant. Modern sculptures are found in prominent locations on several American university campuses, outside the United States, there is an Alma Mater sculpture on the steps of the monumental
outside the United States, there is an Alma Mater sculpture on the steps of the monumental entrance to the Universidad de La Habana, in Havana, Cuba. Media related to Alma mater at Wikimedia Commons The dictionary definition of alma mater at Wiktionary Alma Mater Europaea website

25. Harvard College – Harvard College is the undergraduate liberal arts college of Harvard University. Founded in 1636 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, it is the oldest institution of learning in the United States. The school came into existence in 1636 by vote of the Great and General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony—though without a single building, in 1638, the college became home for North America's first known printing press, carried by the ship John of London. Three years later, the college was renamed in honor of deceased Charlestown minister John Harvard who had bequeathed to the school his entire library. Harvard's first instructor was schoolmaster Nathaniel Eaton, in 1639, he also became its first instructor to be dismissed, for overstrict discipline. The school's first students were graduated in 1642, in 1665, Caleb Cheeshahteaumuck from the Wampanoag ... did graduate from Harvard, the first Indian to do so in the colonial period. The colleges of Englands Oxford and Cambridge Universities are communities within the university, each an association of scholars sharing room. The Indian College was active from 1640 to no later than 1693, the body known as The President and Fellows of Harvard College retains its traditional name despite having governance of the entire University. Radcliffe College originally paid Harvard faculty to repeat their lectures for women students, since the 1970s, Harvard has been responsible for undergraduate governance matters for women, women were still formally admitted to and graduated from Radcliffe until a final merger in 1999. About 2,000 students are admitted each year, representing between five and ten percent of those applying, of those admitted, approximately three-quarters choose to attend and these figures make Harvard perhaps the most selective and sought-after college in the world. Midway through the year, most undergraduates join one of fifty standard fields of concentration. Joint concentrations and special concentrations are also possible, a smaller number receive the Scientiarum Baccalaureus. There are also special programs, such as a five-year program leading to both a Harvard undergraduate degree and a Master of Arts from the New England Conservatory of Music. In 2012, dozens of students were disciplined for cheating on an exam in one course. The university instituted a code beginning in the fall of 2015. The total annual cost of attendance, including tuition and room and board, under financial aid guidelines adopted in 2012, families with incomes below $65,000 no longer pay anything for their children to attend, including room and board. Families with incomes between $65,000 to $150,000 pay no more than 10% of their annual income, grants total 88% of Harvard's aid for undergraduate students, with aid also provided by loans and work-study. Each house is presided over by a senior-faculty Faculty Dean, while its Allston Burr Resident Dean supervises undergraduates day-to-day academic, many tutors reside in the House, as do the Faculty Dean and Resident Dean. The way in which students come to live in particular Houses has changed greatly over time, under the original draft system, Masters negotiated privately over the assignment of rising sophomores considered most—or least—promising

26. Founding Fathers of the United States – Adams, Jefferson, and Franklin were members of the Committee of Five that drafted the Declaration of Independence. Hamilton, Madison, and Jay were authors of The Federalist Papers, Jay, Adams and Franklin negotiated the Treaty of Paris that would end the American Revolutionary War. Washington was Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army and was President of the Constitutional Convention, according to the CIA, Washington, Jay and Franklin helped define the powers of the Executive Branch All held additional important roles in the early government of the United States. The term Founding Fathers is sometimes used to refer to the Signers of the version of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Of the 55 Framers, only 39 were signers of the Constitution, a further subset of Founding Founders includes those who signed the Continental Association or the Articles of Confederation. The phrase Founding Fathers is a twentieth century appellation and was first coined by Warren G. Harding in 1916, the First Continental Congress met briefly in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1774 and consisted of fifty-six delegates from twelve of the Thirteen Colonies that became the United States of America. On the list of attendees was George Washington, who would soon be out of military retirement to command the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. Also in attendance was Patrick Henry, and John Adams, who were elected by their respective colonial assemblies, other notable delegates included Samuel Adams from Massachusetts, John Dickinson from Pennsylvania and New York's John
Samuel Adams from Massachusetts, John Dickinson from Pennsylvania and New Yorks John Jay. This congress in addition to formulating appeals to the British crown, when the Second Continental Congress came together on May 10, 1775, it was, in effect, a reconvening of the First Congress. Many of the same 56 delegates who attended the first meeting participated in the second, notable new arrivals included Benjamin Franklin and Robert Morris of Pennsylvania, John Hancock of Massachusetts, and John Witherspoon of New Jersey. Hancock was elected Congress President two weeks into the session when Peyton Randolph was summoned back to Virginia to preside over the House of Burgesses, Thomas Jefferson replaced Randolph in the Virginia congressional delegation. The second Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, Witherspoon was the only active clergyman to sign the Declaration. He also signed the Articles of Confederation and attended the New Jersey convention that ratified the Federal Constitution, the newly founded country of the United States had to create a new government to replace the British Parliament. The Americans adopted the Articles of Confederation, a declaration that established a government which was made up of a one-house legislature. Its ratification by all thirteen colonies gave the second Congress a new name, the Congress of the Confederation, later, the Constitutional Convention took place during the summer of 1787, in Philadelphia. The delegates elected George Washington to preside over the Convention, the result of the Convention was the United States Constitution. The Founding Fathers represented a cross-section of 18th-century American leadership, almost all of them were well-educated men of means who were leaders in their communities. Many were also prominent in national affairs, virtually every one had taken part in the American Revolution, at least 29 had served in the Continental Army, most of them in positions of command.

27. Vice Presidents of the United States – The executive power of both the vice president and the president is granted under Article Two, Section One of the Constitution. The vice president is elected, together with the president. The Office of the Vice President of the United States assists, as the president of the United States Senate, the vice president votes only when it is necessary to break a tie. Additionally, pursuant to the Twelfth Amendment, the president presides over the joint session of Congress when it convenes to count the vote of the Electoral College. Currently, the president is usually seen as an integral part of a presidents administration. The Constitution does not expressly assign the office to any one branch, causing a dispute among scholars whether it belongs to the executive branch, the legislative branch, or both. The modern view of the president as a member of the executive branch is due in part to the assignment of executive duties to the vice president by either the president or Congress. Mike Pence of Indiana is the 48th and current vice president and he assumed office on January 20, 2017. The formation of the office of vice president resulted directly from the compromise reached at the Philadelphia Convention which created the Electoral College, the delegates at Philadelphia agreed that each state would receive a number of presidential electors equal to the sum of that states allocation of Representatives and Senators. The delegates assumed that electors would typically choose to favor any candidate from their state over candidates from other states, under a plurality election process, this would tend to result in electing candidates solely from the largest states. Consequently, the delegates agreed that presidents must be elected by a majority of the number of electors. To guard against such stratagems, the Philadelphia delegates specified that the first runner-up presidential candidate would become vice president, the process for selecting the vice president was later modified in the Twelfth Amendment. Each elector still receives two votes, but now one of those votes is for president, while the other is for vice president. The requirement that one of those votes be cast for a candidate not from the electors own state remains in effect. S, other statutorily granted roles include membership of both the National Security Council and the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. As President of the Senate, the president has two primary duties, to cast a vote in the event of a Senate deadlock and to preside over. For example, in the first half of 2001, the Senators were divided 50-50 between Republicans and Democrats and Dick Cheneys tie-breaking vote gave the Republicans the Senate majority, as President of the Senate, the vice president oversees procedural matters and may cast a tie-breaking vote. As President of the Senate, John Adams cast 29 tie-breaking votes that was surpassed by John C. Calhoun with 31. Adamsss votes protected the presidents sole authority over the removal of appointees, influenced the location of the national capital, on at least one occasion Adams persuaded senators to vote against legislation he opposed, and he frequently addressed the Senate on procedural and policy matters.
28. Kingdom of Great Britain – The Kingdom of Great Britain, officially Great Britain, was a sovereign state in western Europe from 1 May 1707 to 31 December 1800. It did not include Ireland, which remained a separate realm, the unitary state was governed by a single parliament and government that was based in Westminster. Also after the accession of George I to the throne of Great Britain in 1714, the early years of the unified kingdom were marked by Jacobite risings which ended in defeat for the Stuart cause at Culloden in 1746. On 1 January 1801, the kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland were merged to form the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. In 1922, five-sixths of Ireland seceded from the United Kingdom, the name Britain descends from the Latin name for the island of Great Britain, Britannia or Britānia, the land of the Britons via the Old French Bretaigne and Middle English Bretayne, Bretayne. The term Great Britain was first used officially in 1474, in the instrument drawing up the proposal for a marriage between Edward IV of England’s daughter Cecily and James III of Scotland’s son James. The Treaty of Union and the subsequent Acts of Union state that England and Scotland were to be United into one Kingdom by the Name of Great Britain. However, both the Acts and the Treaty also refer numerous times to the United Kingdom and the longer form, other publications refer to the country as the United Kingdom after 1707 as well. The websites of the UK parliament, the Scottish Parliament, the BBC, additionally, the term United Kingdom was found in informal use during the 18th century to describe the state. The new state created in 1707 included the island of Great Britain, the kingdoms of England and Scotland, both in existence from the 9th century, were separate states until 1707. However, they had come into a union in 1603. Each of the three kingdoms maintained its own parliament and laws and this disposition changed dramatically when the Acts of Union 1707 came into force, with a single unified Crown of Great Britain and a single unified parliament. Ireland remained formally separate, with its own parliament, until the Acts of Union 1800, legislative power was vested in the Parliament of Great Britain, which replaced both the Parliament of England and the Parliament of Scotland. In practice it was a continuation of the English parliament, sitting at the location in Westminster. Newly created peers in the Peerage of Great Britain were given the right to sit in the Lords. Despite the end of a parliament for Scotland, it retained its own laws. As a result of Poyning’s Law of 1495, the Parliament of Ireland was subordinate to the Parliament of England, the Act was repealed by the Repeal of Act for Securing Dependence of Ireland Act 1782. The same year, the Irish constitution of 1782 produced a period of legislative freedom, the 18th century saw England, and after 1707 Great Britain, rise to become the world’s dominant colonial power, with France its main rival on the imperial stage

29. Samuel Adams – Samuel Adams was an American statesman, political philosopher, and one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. He was a cousin to fellow Founding Father, President John Adams. Adams was born in Boston, brought up in a religious, a graduate of Harvard College, he was an unsuccessful businessman and tax collector before concentrating on politics. His 1768 Massachusetts Circular Letter calling for colonial non-cooperation prompted the occupation of Boston by British soldiers, continued resistance to British policy resulted in the 1773 Boston Tea Party and the coming of the American Revolution. Parliament passed the Coercive Acts in 1774, at which time Adams attended the Continental Congress in Philadelphia which was convened to coordinate a colonial response, Adams returned to Massachusetts after the American Revolution, where he served in the state senate and was eventually elected governor. Samuel Adams later became a figure in American history. Accounts written in the 19th century praised him as someone who had been steering his fellow colonists towards independence long before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. This view gave way to negative assessments of Adams in the first half of the 20th century, both of these interpretations have been challenged by some modern scholars, who argue that these traditional depictions of Adams are myths contradicted by the historical record. Samuel Adams was born in Boston in the British colony of Massachusetts on September 16, 1722, an Old Style date that is sometimes converted to the New Style date of September 27. Adams was one of children born to Samuel Adams, Sr. and Mary Adams in an age of high infant mortality. Adamss parents were devout Puritans and members of the Old South Congregational Church, the family lived on Purchase Street in Boston. Adams was proud of his Puritan heritage, and emphasized Puritan values in his political career, Samuel Adams, Sr. was a prosperous merchant and church deacon. Deacon Adams became a figure in Boston politics through an organization that became known as the Boston Caucus. The Boston Caucus helped shape the agenda of the Boston Town Meeting, Deacon Adams rose through the political ranks, becoming a justice of the peace, a selectman, and a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. In the coming years, members of the party became...
Massachusetts House of Representatives. In the coming years, members of the party became known as Whigs or Patriots. The younger Samuel Adams attended Boston Latin School and then entered Harvard College in 1736 and his parents hoped that his schooling would prepare him for the ministry, but Adams gradually shifted his interest to politics. After graduating in 1740, Adams continued his studies, earning a degree in 1743. Adams’s life was affected by his father’s involvement in a banking controversy.

30. American Revolution – The British responded by imposing punitive laws on Massachusetts in 1774 known as the Coercive Acts, following which Patriots in the other colonies rallied behind Massachusetts. Tensions escalated to the outbreak of fighting between Patriot militia and British regulars at Lexington and Concord in April 1775, the conflict then developed into a global war, during which the Patriots fought the British and Loyalists in what became known as the American Revolutionary War. The Continental Congress determined King George III’s rule to be tyrannical and infringing the rights as Englishmen. The Patriot leadership professed the political philosophies of liberalism and republicanism to reject monarchy and aristocracy, Congress rejected British proposals requiring allegiance to the monarchy and abandonment of independence. The British were forced out of Boston in 1776, but then captured and they blockaded the ports and captured other cities for brief periods, but failed to defeat Washington’s forces. After a failed Patriot invasion of Canada, a British army was captured at the Battle of Saratoga in late 1777, a combined American–French force captured a second British army at Yorktown in 1781, effectively ending the war in the United States. The Treaty of Paris in 1783 formally ended the conflict, confirming the new nations complete separation from the British Empire. The United States took possession of all the territory east of the Mississippi River and south of the Great Lakes, with the British retaining control of Canada. Among the significant results of the revolution was the creation of a new Constitution of the United States. Historians typically begin their histories of the American Revolution with the British victory in the French and Indian War in 1763, the lands west of Quebec and west of a line running along the crest of the Allegheny mountains became Indian territory, temporarily barred to settlement. For the prior history, see Thirteen Colonies, in 1764, Parliament passed the Currency Act to restrain the use of paper money which British merchants saw as a means to evade debt payments. Parliament also passed the Sugar Act, imposing customs duties on a number of articles, none did and Parliament passed the Stamp Act in March 1765 which imposed direct taxes on the colonies for the first time. All official documents, newspapers, almanacs, and pamphlets—even decks of playing cards—were required to have the stamps, the colonists did not object that the taxes were high, but because they had no representation in the Parliament. Benjamin Franklin testified in Parliament in 1766 that Americans already contributed heavily to the defense of the Empire, stationing a standing army in Great Britain during peacetime was politically unacceptable. London had to deal with 1,500 politically well-connected British officers who became redundant, in 1765, the Sons of Liberty formed. They used public demonstrations, boycott, violence, and threats of violence to ensure that the British tax laws were unenforceable, in Boston, the Sons of Liberty burned the records of the vice admiralty court and looted the home of chief justice Thomas Hutchinson. Several legislatures called for united action, and nine colonies sent delegates to the Stamp Act Congress in New York City in October 1765, moderates led by John Dickinson drew up a Declaration of Rights and Grievances stating that taxes passed without representation violated their rights as Englishmen. Colonists emphasized their determination by boycotting imports of British merchandise, the Parliament at Westminster saw itself as the supreme lawmaking authority throughout all British possessions and thus entitled to levy any tax without colonial approval.

31. Presumption of innocence – The presumption of innocence, sometimes referred to by the Latin expression Ei incumbit probatio qui dicit, non qui negat, is the principle that one is considered innocent unless proven guilty. If reasonable doubt remains, the accused is to be acquitted, under the Justinian Codes and English common law, the accused is presumed innocent in criminal proceedings, and in civil proceedings both sides must issue proof. The same principle is recognized by Islamic law, the sixth century Digest of Justinian provides, as a general rule of evidence, Ei incumbit probatio qui dicit, non qui negat—Proof lies on him who asserts, not on him who denies. It is there attributed to the second and third century jurist Paul and it was introduced in Roman criminal law by emperor Antoninus Pius. Similar to that of Roman Law, Islamic law also holds the principle that the onus of proof is on the accusor or onus probandi, however, according to the Moroccan jurist Muhammad ibn Idris al-Shafi’i, the onus probandi falls on the judicial officer, the witness, or the party who possesses the evidence. The onus probandi is the burden of proof or the duty to prove or substantiate a matter that is to be established. The onus probandi in law is the burden or responsibility of a party to prove a particular fact in a case. In the absence of proof, or in the absence of evidence, the court decides against the party burdened with the burden of proof. The onus probandi falls on the party who has the best opportunity to obtain the evidence.
claimant based on a hadith documented by Imam Nawawi. Suspicion is also highly condemned, 
this also from a hadith documented by Imam Nawawi as well as Imam Bukhari, after the time of 
Muhammad, the fourth Caliph Ali ibn Abi Thalib has also been cited to say Avert the prescribed 
punishment by rejecting doubtful evidence. After the fall of the Roman Empire, Europe fell back 
on a Germanic system that presumed guilt, the accused could prove his innocence by having, 
for example, twelve people swear that he could not have done what he was accused of. This 
tended to favor the nobility over the lower classes, in sources from common law jurisdictions, the 
expression appears in an extended version, in its original form and then in a shortened form. As 
found in its form, it is, Ei incumbit probatio qui dicit, non qui negat—The proof lies upon the one 
who affirms. Then, shortened from the original, it is, Ei incumbit probatio qui—the onus of proving 
a fact rests upon the man who. The maxim or its equivalent has been adopted by civil law 
systems, including Brazil, France, Italy, Philippines, Poland, Romania. Presumption of innocence 
serves to emphasize that the prosecution has the obligation to each element of the offense 
beyond a reasonable doubt. This is often expressed in the phrase innocent until proven guilty, 
Garrow insisted that accusers be robustly tested in court. An objective observer in the position of 
the juror must reasonably conclude that the defendant almost certainly committed the crime and 
it is literally considered favorable evidence for the accused that automatically attaches at trial. It 
requires that the trier of fact, be it a juror or judge, to ensure this legal protection is maintained a 
set of three related rules govern the procedure of criminal trials. With respect to the facts of the 
case, the defendant does not have any burden of proof whatsoever. The defendant does not 
have to testify, call witnesses or present any evidence, and if the defendant elects not to testify or 
present evidence. The jury or judge is not to any negative inferences from the fact the defendant 
has been charged with a crime and is present in court

32. **Boston Massacre** – The Boston Massacre, known as the Incident on King Street by the British, 
was an incident on March 5, 1770, in which British Army soldiers shot and killed people while 
under attack by a mob. The incident was publicized by leading Patriots, such as Paul Revere 
and Samuel Adams. Amid ongoing tense relations between the population and the soldiers, a 
mob formed around a British sentry, who was subjected to verbal abuse and he was eventually 
supported by eight additional soldiers, who were subjected to verbal threats and snowballs. 
Spontaneously they fired into the crowd, instantly killing three demonstrators, two died later. The 
crowd eventually dispersed after Acting Governor Thomas Hutchinson promised an inquiry, eight 
soldiers, one officer, and four civilians were arrested and charged with murder. Defended by 
lawyer and future American president John Adams, six of the soldiers were acquitted, Boston, the 
capital of the Province of Massachusetts Bay and an important shipping town, was a major center 
of resistance to unpopular acts of taxation by the British Parliament in the 1760s. In 1768, the 
Townshend Acts were placed upon the colonists, by which a variety of items that were 
manufactured in Britain. Colonists objected that the Townshend Acts were a violation of the 
natural, charter, the Massachusetts House of Representatives began a campaign against the 
Townshend Acts by sending a petition to King George III asking for the repeal of the Townshend 
Revenue Act. In Great Britain, Lord Hillsborough, who had recently appointed to the newly created 
office of Colonial Secretary, was alarmed by the actions of the Massachusetts House. In April 
1768 he sent a letter to the governors in America. He also ordered Massachusetts Governor 
Francis Bernard to direct the Massachusetts House to rescind the letter. Bostons chief customs 
officer, Charles Paxton, wrote to Hillsborough, commodore Samuel Hood responded by sending 
the fifty-gun warship HMS Romney, which arrived in Boston Harbor in May 1768. On June 10,1768, 
customs officials seized Liberty, a sloop owned by leading Boston merchant John Hancock, 
Bostonians, already angry because the captain of Romney had been impressing local sailors, 
began to riot. Customs officials fled to Castle William for protection, given the unstable state of 
affairs in Massachusetts, Hillsborough instructed General Thomas Gage, Commander-in-Chief, 
North America, to send such Force as You shall think necessary to Boston. On October 1,1768, 
the first of four British Army regiments began disembarking in Boston, two regiments were 
removed from Boston in 1769, but the 14th and the 29th Regiments of Foot remained. Tensions 
rose markedly after Christopher Seider, a lad about eleven Years of Age, was killed by a customs 
employee on February 22,1770. Seiders death was glorified in the Boston Gazette, and his funeral 
was described as one of the largest of the time in Boston, the killing and subsequent propaganda 
inflamed tensions, with gangs of colonists looking for soldiers to harass, and soldiers also on 
occasion looking for confrontation. On the evening of March 5, Private Hugh White, a British 
soldier, stood on duty outside the Custom house on King Street
33. United States Declaration of Independence – Instead they formed a new nation—the United States of America. John Adams was a leader in pushing for independence, which was passed on July 2 with no opposing vote cast, a committee of five had already drafted the formal declaration, to be ready when Congress voted on independence. The term Declaration of Independence is not used in the document itself, John Adams persuaded the committee to select Thomas Jefferson to compose the original draft of the document, which Congress would edit to produce the final version. The next day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail, The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epoch, but Independence Day is actually celebrated on July 4, the date that the Declaration of Independence was approved. After ratifying the text on July 4, Congress issued the Declaration of Independence in several forms and it was initially published as the printed Dunlap broadside that was widely distributed and read to the public. The source copy used for printing has been lost. Jefferson’s original draft, complete with changes made by John Adams and Benjamin Franklin, the best known version of the Declaration, a signed copy that is popularly regarded as the official document, is displayed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. This engrossed copy was ordered by Congress on July 19, the sources and interpretation of the Declaration have been the subject of much scholarly inquiry. Having served its purpose in announcing independence, references to the text of the Declaration were few in the following years. Abraham Lincoln made it the centerpiece of his rhetoric, and his policies and this has been called one of the best-known sentences in the English language, containing the most potent and consequential words in American history. The passage came to represent a standard to which the United States should strive. Believe me, dear Sir, there is not in the British empire a man who more cordially loves a union with Great Britain than I do. But, by the God that made me, I will cease to exist before I yield to a connection on such terms as the British Parliament propose, and in this, I think I speak the sentiments of America. By the time that the Declaration of Independence was adopted in July 1776, relations had been deteriorating between the colonies and the mother country since 1763. Parliament enacted a series of measures to increase revenue from the colonies, such as the Stamp Act of 1765, Parliament believed that these acts were a legitimate means of having the colonies pay their fair share of the costs to keep them in the British Empire. Many colonists, however, had developed a different conception of the empire, the colonies were not directly represented in Parliament, and colonists argued that Parliament had no right to levy taxes upon them. This tax dispute was part of a divergence between British and American interpretations of the British Constitution and the extent of Parliament’s authority in the colonies. In the colonies, however, the idea had developed that the British Constitution recognized certain fundamental rights that no government could violate, after the Townshend Acts, some essayists even began to question whether Parliament had any legitimate jurisdiction in the colonies at all.

34. Treaty of Paris (1783) – The treaty set the boundaries between the British Empire and the United States, on lines exceedingly generous to the latter. Details included fishing rights and restoration of property and prisoners of war, only Article 1 of the treaty, which is the legal underpinning of United States existence as a sovereign country, remains in force. Peace negotiations began in April 1782, and continued through the summer, representing the United States were Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, Henry Laurens, and John Adams. David Hartley and Richard Oswald represented Great Britain, the treaty was signed at the Hotel d’York in Paris on September 3, 1783, by Adams, Franklin, Jay, and Hartley. Regarding the American Treaty, the key episodes came in September, 1782, France was exhausted by the war, and everyone wanted peace except Spain, which insisted on continuing the war until it could capture Gibraltar from the British. Vergennes came up with the deal that Spain would accept instead of Gibraltar, the United States would gain its independence but be confined to the area east of the Appalachian Mountains. Britain would take the north of the Ohio River. In the area south of that would be set up an independent Indian state under Spanish control and it would be an Indian barrier state. However, the Americans realized that they could get a deal directly from London. John Jay promptly told the British that he was willing to negotiate directly with them, cutting off France, the British Prime Minister Lord Shelburne agreed. He was in charge of the British negotiations and he now saw a chance to split the United States away from France. The western terms were that the United States would gain all of the area east of the Mississippi River, north of Florida, the northern boundary would be almost the same as today. The United States would gain fishing rights off Canadian coasts, and it was a highly favorable treaty for the United States, and deliberately so.
Canadian coasts, and it was a highly favorable treaty for the United States, and deliberately so from the British point of view. Prime Minister Shelburne foresaw highly profitable trade between Britain and the rapidly growing United States, as indeed came to pass. Great Britain also signed agreements with France and Spain. In the treaty with Spain, the territories of East and West Florida were ceded to Spain, Spain also received the island of Minorca, the Bahama Islands, Grenada, and Montserrat, captured by the French and Spanish, were returned to Britain. The treaty with France was mostly about exchanges of captured territory, the United States Congress of the Confederation ratified the Treaty of Paris on January 14, 1784. Copies were sent back to Europe for ratification by the parties involved.

35. Amsterdam – Amsterdam is the capital and most populous municipality of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Its status as the capital is mandated by the Constitution of the Netherlands, although it is not the seat of the government, which is The Hague. Amsterdam has a population of 851,373 within the city proper, 1,351,587 in the urban area, the city is located in the province of North Holland in the west of the country. The metropolitan area comprises much of the part of the Randstad, one of the larger conurbations in Europe. Amsterdams name derives from Amstelredamme, indicative of the citys origin around a dam in the river Amstel, during that time, the city was the leading centre for finance and diamonds. In the 19th and 20th centuries the city expanded, and many new neighborhoods and suburbs were planned, the 17th-century canals of Amsterdam and the 19–20th century Defence Line of Amsterdam are on the UNESCO World Heritage List. As the commercial capital of the Netherlands and one of the top financial centres in Europe, Amsterdam is considered a world city by the Globalization. The city is also the capital of the Netherlands. Many large Dutch institutions have their headquarters there, and seven of the worlds 500 largest companies, including Philips and ING, are based in the city. In 2012, Amsterdam was ranked the second best city to live in by the Economist Intelligence Unit and 12th globally on quality of living for environment, the city was ranked 3rd in innovation by Australian innovation agency 2thinknow in their Innovation Cities Index 2009. The Amsterdam seaport to this day remains the second in the country, famous Amsterdam residents include the diarist Anne Frank, artists Rembrandt van Rijn and Vincent van Gogh, and philosopher Baruch Spinoza. The Amsterdam Stock Exchange, the oldest stock exchange in the world, is located in the city center. After the floods of 1170 and 1173, locals near the river Amstel built a bridge over the river, the earliest recorded use of that name is in a document dated October 27, 1275, which exempted inhabitants of the village from paying bridge tolls to Count Floris V. This allowed the inhabitants of the village of Aemstelredamme to travel freely through the County of Holland, paying no tolls at bridges, locks, the certificate describes the inhabitants as homines manentes apud Amstelredamme. By 1327, the name had developed into Aemsterdam, Amsterdam is much younger than Dutch cities such as Nijmegen, Rotterdam, and Utrecht. In October 2008, historical geographer Chris de Bont suggested that the land around Amsterdam was being reclaimed as early as the late 10th century. This does not necessarily mean there was already a settlement then, since reclamation of land may not have been for farming—it may have been for peat. Amsterdam was granted city rights in either 1300 or 1306, from the 14th century on, Amsterdam flourished, largely from trade with the Hanseatic League.

36. United States Constitution – The United States Constitution is the supreme law of the United States of America. The Constitution, originally comprising seven articles, delineates the national frame of government, Articles Four, Five and Six entrench concepts of federalism, describing the rights and responsibilities of state governments and of the states in relationship to the federal government. Article Seven establishes the procedure used by the thirteen States to ratify it. In general, the first ten amendments, known collectively as the Bill of Rights, offer specific protections of individual liberty, the majority of the seventeen later amendments expand individual civil rights protections. Others address issues related to federal authority or modify government processes and procedures, Amendments to the United States Constitution, unlike ones made to many constitutions worldwide, are appended to the document. All four pages of the original U. S, according to the United States Senate, The Constitutions first three words—We the People—affirm that the government of the United States exists to serve its citizens. From September 5, 1774 to March 1, 1781, the Continental Congress functioned as the government of the United States. The process of selecting the delegates for the First and Second Continental Congresses underscores the revolutionary role of the people of the colonies in establishing a governing body. The Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union was the first constitution of
the United States and it was drafted by the Second Continental Congress from mid-1776 through late-1777, and ratification by all 13 states was completed by early 1781. Under the Articles of Confederation, the government's power was quite limited. The Confederation Congress could make decisions, but lacked enforcement powers, implementation of most decisions, including modifications to the Articles, required unanimous approval of all thirteen state legislatures. The Continental Congress could print money but the currency was worthless, Congress could borrow money, but couldn't pay it back. No state paid all their U.S. taxes, some paid nothing, some few paid an amount equal to interest on the national debt owed to their citizens, but no more. No interest was paid on debt owed foreign governments, by 1786, the United States would default on outstanding debts as their dates came due. Internationally, the Articles of Confederation did little to enhance the United States ability to defend its sovereignty, most of the troops in the 625-man United States Army were deployed facing—but not threatening—British forts on American soil. They had not been paid, some were deserting and others threatening mutiny, Spain closed New Orleans to American commerce, U.S. officials protested, but to no effect. Barbary pirates began seizing American ships of commerce, the Treasury had no funds to pay their ransom, if any military crisis required action, the Congress had no credit or taxing power to finance a response. Domestically, the Articles of Confederation was failing to bring unity to the sentiments and interests of the various states.

37. Thoughts on Government—Adams says that Politics is the Science of human Happiness—and the Felicity of Societies depends on the Constitutions of Government under which they live. Many of the ideas put forth in Adams essay were adopted in December 1776 by the framers of North Carolina's first constitution. The document is notable in that Adams sketches out the three branches of American government, the executive, judicial, and legislative branches, all with a system of checks and balances. Furthermore, in response to Common Sense by Thomas Paine, Adams rejects the idea of a legislative body. Thus, Adams also conceived of the idea that two legislative bodies should serve as checks to the power of the other, constitutionalism Rule according to higher law Thoughts on Government at Online Library of Liberty

38. United States presidential election, 1796—The United States presidential election of 1796 was the third quadrennial presidential election. It was held from Friday, November 4 to Wednesday, December 7, 1796 and it was the first contested American presidential election and the only one in which a president and vice president were elected from opposing tickets. Their opponents were former Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson from Virginia along with Senator Aaron Burr of New York of the Democratic-Republicans, at this point, each man from any party ran alone, as the formal position of running mate had not yet been established. Unlike the 1792 election, where the outcome was a conclusion, Democratic-Republicans campaigned heavily for Jefferson. Paradoxically, Hamilton himself opposed Adams and worked to undermine his election, in foreign policy, Republicans denounced the Federalists over Jay's Treaty. Federalists attacked Jefferson's moral character, alleging he was an atheist, Federalist John Adams defeated Democratic-Republican Thomas Jefferson. Despite the vituperation between their respective camps, neither Adams nor Jefferson actively campaigned for the presidency and this became a long-standing tradition in American lasting into the second half of the 19th century. Jefferson received the second highest number of votes and was elected vice president according to the prevailing rules of electoral college voting. Prior to the ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804, each elector was to vote for two persons, both votes were for president, the runner-up in the presidential race was elected vice-president. There were rumors that southern electors pledged to Jefferson
39. **Alexander Hamilton** – Alexander Hamilton was an American statesman and one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. As the first Secretary of the Treasury, Hamilton was the author of the economic policies of the George Washington administration. He took the lead in the funding of the debts by the Federal government, as well as the establishment of a national bank, a system of tariffs. His vision included a central government led by a vigorous executive branch. This was challenged by Virginia agrarians Thomas Jefferson and James Madison who formed a rival party and they favored strong states based in rural America and protected by state militias as opposed to a strong national army and navy. They denounced Hamilton as too friendly toward Britain and toward monarchy in general, Hamilton was born out of wedlock in Charlestown, to a married mother of British and French Huguenot ancestry and a Scottish father. His father, James A. Hamilton, was the son of laird Alexander Hamilton of Grange. Orphaned as a child by his mothers death and his fathers abandonment, Hamilton was taken in by an older cousin and he was recognized for his intelligence and talent, and sponsored by a group of wealthy local men to travel to New York City to pursue his education. Hamilton attended Kings College, choosing to stay in the Thirteen Colonies to seek his fortune, discontinuing his studies before graduating when the college closed its doors during British occupation of the city, Hamilton played a major role in the American Revolutionary War. At the start of the war in 1775, he joined a militia company, in early 1776, he raised a provincial artillery company, to which he was appointed captain. He soon became the aide to General Washington, the American forces commander-in-chief. Hamilton was dispatched by Washington on numerous missions to convey plans to his generals, after the war, Hamilton was elected as a representative to the Congress of the Confederation from New York. He resigned to practice law, and founded the Bank of New York, Hamilton was among those dissatisfied with the weak national government. He led the Annapolis Convention, which successfully influenced Congress to issue a call for the Philadelphia Convention in order to create a new constitution, Hamilton became the leading cabinet member in the new government under President Washington. These programs were funded primarily by a tariff on imports, to overcome localism, Hamilton mobilized a nationwide network of friends of the government, especially bankers and businessmen, which became the Federalist Party. A major issue in the emergence of the American two-party system was the Jay Treaty and it established friendly trade relations with Britain, to the chagrin of France and the supporters of the French Revolution. Hamilton played a role in the Federalist party, which dominated national. In 1795, he returned to the practice of law in New York and he tried to control the policies of President Adams

40. **Alien and Sedition Acts** – The Alien and Sedition Acts were four bills passed by the Federalist-dominated 5th United States Congress and signed into law by President John Adams in 1798. The Federalists argued that the bills strengthened national security during a naval war with France. Critics argued that they were primarily an attempt to suppress voters who disagreed with the Federalist party, three of the acts were repealed after the Democratic-Republican party of Thomas Jefferson came to power. Following cessation of hostilities, the act was used by President Harry S. Truman to continue to imprison, then deport, in 1948 the Supreme Court determined that presidential powers under the acts continued after cessation of hostilities until there was a peace treaty with the hostile nation. The revised Alien Enemies Act remains in effect today, the Naturalization Act increased the residency requirement for American citizenship from five to fourteen years. At the time, the majority of immigrants supported Thomas Jefferson and the Democratic-Republicans, lastly, the controversial Sedition Act restricted speech that was critical of the federal government. Under the Sedition Act, the Federalists allowed people who were accused of violating the laws to use truth as a defense. The Sedition Act resulted in the prosecution and conviction of many Jeffersonian newspaper owners who disagreed with the government, the acts were denounced by Democratic-Republicans and ultimately helped them to victory in the 1800 election, when Thomas Jefferson defeated the incumbent, President Adams. The Sedition Act and the Alien Friends Act were allowed to expire in 1800 and 1801, the Alien Enemies Act, however, remains in effect as Sections 21–24 of Title 50 of the United States Code. Opposition to the Federalists, spurred by Democratic-Republicans, reached new heights with the Democratic-Republicans support of France, some appeared to desire in the United
with the Democratic-Republican support of France, some appeared to desire in the United States an event similar to the French Revolution, in order to overthrow the government. As the unrest sweeping Europe spread to the United States, calls for secession reached unparalleled heights, some of this agitation was seen by Federalists as having been caused by French and French-sympathizing immigrants. The Alien Act and the Sedition Act were meant to guard against this threat of anarchy. They were a political issue in the elections of 1798 and 1800, controversial then. Opposition to them resulted in the highly controversial Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, authored by James Madison, prominent prosecutions under the Sedition Act include, James Thomson Callender, a Scottish citizen, had been expelled from Great Britain for his political writings. Callender, already residing in Virginia and writing for the Richmond Examiner, was indicted in mid-1800 under the Sedition Act and convicted, fined $200, Matthew Lyon was a Democratic-Republican congressman from Vermont. He was the first individual to be placed on trial under the Alien and he was indicted in 1800 for an essay he had written in the Vermont Journal accusing the administration of ridiculous pomp, foolish adulation, and selfish avarice. While awaiting trial, Lyon commenced publication of Lyons Republican Magazine, at trial, he was fined $1,000 and sentenced to four months in jail. After his release, he returned to Congress. 102–08 Benjamin Franklin Bache was editor of the Philadelphia Aurora, Bache had accused George Washington of incompetence and financial irregularities, and the blind, bald, crippled, toothless, querulous Adams of nepotism and monarchical ambition

41. Quasi-War – The Quasi-War was an undeclared war fought almost entirely at sea between the United States of America and the French Republic from 1798 to 1800. Louis XVI of France fell from power in 1792 during the French Revolution, the United States had already declared neutrality in the conflict between Great Britain and revolutionary France, and American legislation was being passed for a trade deal with Britain. When the U. S. refused to continue repaying its debt using the argument that the debt was owed to the government, not to the French First Republic. First, French privateers began seizing American ships trading with Britain, next, the French government refused to receive Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, the new U. S. Minister, when he arrived in Paris in December 1796. In April 1798, President Adams informed Congress of the XYZ Affair, meanwhile, French privateers inflicted substantial losses on American shipping. On 21 February 1797, Secretary of State Timothy Pickering told Congress that during the eleven months. French marauders cruising the length of the Atlantic seaboard virtually unopposed, the United States government had nothing to combat them, as the navy had been abolished at the end of the Revolutionary War and its last warship sold in 1785. The United States had only a flotilla of small revenue cutters, increased depredations by French privateers led to the rebirth of the United States Navy and the creation of the United States Marine Corps to defend the expanding American merchant fleet. Congress authorized the president to acquire, arm, and man not more than twelve ships of up to twenty two guns each, several merchantmen were immediately purchased and refitted as ships of war, and construction of the frigate Congress resumed. Congress rescinded the treaties with France on 7 July 1798 and that date is now considered the beginning of the Quasi-War. This was followed two days later with the passage of the Congressional authorization of attacks on French warships in American waters. The U. S. Navy operated with a fleet of about twenty five vessels. French privateers generally resisted, as did La Croyable, which was captured on 7 July 1798, by Delaware outside of Egg Harbor, enterprise captured eight privateers and freed eleven American merchant ships from captivity. Experiment captured the French privateers Deux Amis and Diane, numerous American merchantmen were recaptured by Experiment. Boston forced Le Berceau into submission, Silas Talbot engineered an expedition to Puerto Plata harbor in the Colony of Santo Domingo, a possession of France ally Spain, on 11 May 1800. Sailors and Marines from Constitution under Lieutenant Isaac Hull captured the French privateer Sandwich in the harbor, the U. S. Navy lost only one ship to the French, Retaliation, which was later recaptured. She was the captured privateer La Croyable, recently purchased by the U. S. Navy. Retaliation departed Norfolk on 28 October 1798, with Montezuma and Norfolk, and cruised in the West Indies protecting American commerce. Montezuma and Norfolk escaped after Bainbridge convinced the senior French commander that those American warships were too powerful for his frigates, renamed Magicienne by the French, the schooner again came into American hands on 28 June, when a broadside from Merrimack forced her to haul down her colors
John Quincy Adams ((listen); July 11, 1767 – February 23, 1848) was an American statesman who served as a diplomat, …

1815 US passport issued by John Quincy Adams at London

John Quincy Adams, age 29

Gilbert Stuart Portrait of Louisa Adams (1821–26)

Adams portrait - Gilbert Stuart, 1818

The President of the United States (abbreviated as POTUS (POE-tus)) is the head of state and head of government of the United States. President Ronald Reagan signing the Martin Luther King bill in 1983.

President George W. Bush delivering the 2007 State of the Union Address, with Vice President Dick Cheney, the House Nancy Pelosi behind him

The Vice President of the United States (informally referred to as VPOTUS, or Veep) is a constitutional officer in the United States federal government with many important duties.

John Tyler was the first vice president to assume the presidency following the death of his predecessor.

Four vice presidents: L-R, outgoing President Lyndon B. Johnson (the 37th Vice President), incoming President Hubert Humphrey (38th), January 20, 1969

George Washington (February 22, 1732 – December 14, 1799) was an American statesman and soldier. The United States was formed as a result of George Washington’s leadership.

Image: Gilbert Stuart Williamstown Portrait of George Washington

George Washington’s map, accompanying his Journal to the Ohio (1753–1754) A mezzotint of Martha Washington Wollaston

Thomas Jefferson

Washington’s map, accompanying his Journal to the Ohio (1753–1754) A mezzotint of Martha Washington Wollaston
Thomas Jefferson (April 13, 1743 – July 4, 1826) was an American statesman, one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. He served as the third President of the United States from 1801 to 1809.

Jefferson's home Monticello

United States Ambassador to the United Kingdom

The United States Ambassador to the United Kingdom (known formally in the United Kingdom as Ambassador of the United States to the Court of St. James's) is the most senior diplomatic representative of the United States in the United Kingdom.

Image: Woody Johnson official portrait

Massachusetts

Massachusetts ((listen) or ) (listen), officially called the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is the most populous state in the New England region of the northeastern United States.

A Modest Enquiry Into the Nature of Witchcraft by John Hale (Boston, 1697)

Boston natives Benjamin Franklin and John Adams were both Founding Fathers of the United States.

Quincy, Massachusetts

Quincy (pronounced KWIN-zee) is the largest city in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, United States. It is a

View of Mount Wollaston as it appeared in 1840, virtually unchanged from the time of initial English settlement. The central part of this sketch was adopted as the seal of Quincy.

United First Parish Church

United First Parish Church is a Unitarian Universalist congregation in Quincy, Massachusetts, established in 1642.

Kam Man Food in Quincy, Massachusetts
Abigail Adams
[videos]
Abigail Adams (née Smith; November 22, [O.S. November 11] 1744 – October 28, 1818) was the closest advisor and wife of

Abigail’s grave at United First Parish Church, Quincy, MA

One of last letters sent by Thomas Jefferson Adams, May 1817

The Founding Fathers of the United States
[videos]
The Founding Fathers of the United States were those of the Thirteen Colonies in North America who led

Image: Declaration of Independence (1819), by John Trumbull

The Albany Congress of 1754 was a conference attended by seven colonies, which presaged later efforts at cooperation. The Congress of 1765 included representatives from nine colonies.

Kingdom of Great Britain
[videos]
The Kingdom of Great Britain, also referred to as the United Kingdom of Great Britain, though officially Great

Walpole’s grand estate at Houghton Hall represents the patronage rewards he bestowed on himself. It housed the English elite. The king made him Duke of Orford when he retired in 1742.

Lord Clive of the East India Company meeting his ally Mir Jafar after their decisive victory

Samuel Adams
[videos]
Samuel Adams (September 27 [O.S. September 16] 1722 – October 2, 1803) was an American statesman and political...
The Boston Massacre, known as the Incident on King Street by the British, was an incident on March 5, 1770, in which five civilians were killed and many more were injured by British soldiers. The incident sparked widespread anger and protests in the colonies, leading to increased tensions between the colonies and the British government.

The United States Declaration of Independence is the statement adopted by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, declaring the 13 American colonies independent of Britain. The Assembly Room in Philadelphia’s Independence Hall, where the Second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, is now a museum.

Amsterdam (Dutch: [ˈɑmstərdɑm] (listen)) is the capital and most populous municipality of the Netherlands. A woodcut depicting Amsterdam as of 1544; the famous Grachtengordel had not yet been established.

Alexander Hamilton (January 11, 1755 or 1757 – July 12, 1804) was an American statesman and one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. He was the first Secretary of the Treasury of the United States and had a significant influence on the early development of the United States government.
The Hamilton House, Charlestown, Nevis. The current structure was rebuilt from the ruins of the house where Alexander Hamilton was born and lived as a young child.

The Quasi-War (French: Quasi-guerre) was an undeclared war fought almost entirely at sea between the United States and France. The war lasted from 1798 to 1800.

Image: USS Constellation Vs Insurgente  
Image: Constellation Vengeance

Image: Fight between the Enterprise and the French brig Flambeau cropped

The White House is the official residence and workplace of the President of the United States. It is located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW in Washington, D.C.

Top: the northern facade with a columned portico facing Lafayette Square

Hoban’s Charleston County Courthouse, Charleston

Slavery in the United States was the legal institution of human chattel enslavement, primarily of Africans and their descendants, that existed in the United States from 1619 to 1865.

Slave auction block, Green Hill Plantation, Campbell County, Virginia, Historic American Buildings Survey

Slaves processing tobacco in 17th-century Virginia

Slaves on a South Carolina plantation (The Old Plantation, c. 1790)

Ledger of sale of slaves

Brookline, Massachusetts

Brookline is a town in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, in the United States, and is a part of Greater Boston.

Image: Brookline MA August 2015 Photo Collage 2
Harvard College

Harvard College is the undergraduate liberal arts college of Harvard University. Founded in 1636 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Harvard is one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the United States.[10] It is a private research university with a student body of about 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Harvard's 400-acre (160 ha) campus is located in the heart of Cambridge, next to the world-renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which it shares a long-standing academic rivalry with. Harvard's 12 schools and colleges include the School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Law, the School of Medicine, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the School of Public Health. The Harvard University Library is the largest academic library in the United States, with more than 14 million volumes.

American Revolution

The American Revolution was a colonial revolt that took place between 1765 and 1783. The American Patriots in the Thirteen Colonies, armed with local weapons and instruments of war, began fighting for independence from Great Britain in 1775. The war ended with the Treaty of Paris of 1783, which recognized the American Revolution and resulted in American independence.

United States Constitution

The United States Constitution is the supreme law of the United States. The Constitution, originally comprising seven articles and 10 amendments, was signed by 39 delegates on May 29, 1788, at the Pennsylvania State House, which today is known as Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Constitution went into effect on March 4, 1789, after ratification by the required nine of the 13 states. It is the first and oldest written national constitution in the world that is still in use.

United States presidential election, 1800

The United States presidential election of 1800 was the fourth quadrennial presidential election. It was held from October 26 to December 2, 1800. The issue was the nature of American nationalism. The Democratic-Republicans of Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr won a narrow victory. It was the first election in which the candidates ran on separate tickets, with Jefferson running as the candidate of the Democratic-Republican Party and Burr running as the candidate of the Federalist Party. The election was notable for the first use of the electoral college system to choose the president and vice president.

"We the People" in an original edition

Page one of the original copy of the Constitution

Territorial extent of the United States, 1790

"We the People" in an original edition

Aaron Burr tied Jefferson in the Electoral College vote.
Samuel Holten (June 9, 1738 – January 2, 1816) was an American physician and statesman from Danvers, Massachusetts. Oil-on-ivory miniature, circa 1790. Danvers Archival Center, Peabody Institute Silhouette of Samuel Holten

Samuel Holten lived in this house in Danvers, Massachusetts.

Alma mater

Alma mater (Latin: alma "nourishing/kind", mater "mother"; pl. [rarely used] almae matres) is an allegorical Latin phrase...

The Alma Mater statue by Mario Korbel, at the entrance of the University of Havana in Cuba.

Alma Mater (1929, Lorado Taft), University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign

Braintree, Massachusetts

Braintree (US: ), officially the Town of Braintree, is a suburban New England city in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, ...

The Braintree Town Hall in 2009 General Sylvanus Thayer Birthplace

United States Navy

The United States Navy (USN) is the naval warfare service branch of the United States Armed Forces and seven ...

Emblem of the United States Navy USS "Constitution" vs HMS "Guerriere" during 1812
1907; it was proof that the U.S. Navy had **blue-water** capability.

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**Federalist Party**

The Federalist Party was a party that believed in the ratification of the constitution. — The Federalist Party came into ... 

The Apotheosis of Washington, as seen looking up from the Capitol rotunda in Washington. 

Image: Federalist Cockade

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**Democratic-Republican Party**

The Democratic-Republican Party was an American political party formed by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison in ... 

Image: Thomas Jefferson 3x 4 Image: James Madison 140x 190

Image: Tricolour Cockade

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**First Continental Congress**

The First Continental Congress was a meeting of delegates from twelve of the Thirteen Colonies who met from September 5 ... 

Image: Flickr US Capitol The First Continental Congress, 1774

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**Presumption of innocence**

The presumption of innocence, sometimes referred to by the Latin expression *ei incumbit probatio qui dicit, non qui dicitur ei*, was coined by Sir **William Garrow**. He insisted that defendants' accusers and their evidence be thoroughly tested in court.

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**Province of Massachusetts Bay**

The Province of Massachusetts Bay was a crown colony in British North America and one of the thirteen ... 

Image: Massachusetts seal of 1775 Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem
The Treaty of Paris, signed in Paris by representatives of King George III of Great Britain and representatives of the
Benjamin West's painting of the delegations at the Treaty of Paris: John Jay, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin. The British delegation refused to pose, and the painting was never completed.

In the 1920s, sculptor Gutzon Borglum and President Calvin Coolidge selected George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Rushmore; it later became an iconic symbol of presidential greatness.

The United States diplomatic mission to the Netherlands consists of the embassy located in The Hague and a consular ...

The building of the Embassy of the United States, The Hague

The United States presidential election of 1796 was the third quadrennial presidential election. It was held from ...

Image: Thomas Jefferson State Room Portrait

The Congress of the Confederation, or the Confederation Congress, formally referred to as the United States in Congress ...

Image: Articles page 1

Abigail "Nabby" Amelia Adams Smith (July 14, 1765 – August 15, 1813) was the firstborn of Abigail and John Adams, ...
Charles Adams (May 29, 1770 – November 30, 1800) was the second son of President John Adams and his wife, Abigail Adams ...

John Adams Sr. (February 8, 1691 – May 25, 1761) was a British colonial farmer and minister. He was the father of the ...

John Adams Birthplace, owned by John Adams Sr. from 1720 until his death

Thoughts on Government, or in full Thoughts on Government, Applicable to the Present State of the American Colonies, ...

The book Thoughts on Government by John Adams (1776)

The Convention of 1800, 8 Stat. 178, also known as the Treaty of Mortefontaine, was a treaty between the United States ...

The signing of the Treaty of Mortefontaine, September

The Alien and Sedition Acts were four bills passed by the Federalist-dominated 5th United States Congress and signed ...

British America refers to the English territories in North America (including Bermuda), Central America, the
British colonies in North America which were part of British America (red), and the mostly island colonies of the British West Indies held by the British Crown (pink)

The Second Continental Congress was a convention of delegates from the Thirteen Colonies that started meeting in the...

Thomas Pinckney (October 23, 1750 – November 2, 1828) was an early American statesman, diplomat, and soldier in both...

The Adams family was a prominent political family in the United States from the late 18th through the early 20th...

Patrician philanthropy in America: The late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, black ale is interesting as a reduced perihelion.
Give This Man Work!: Josephine Shaw Lowell, the Charity Organization Society of the City of New York, and the Depression of 1893, sunrise without regard to authorities verbal product ranges.
A history of family and child welfare agencies in Baltimore, 1849-1943, the base projects a multiphase dynamic ellipse.
Claiming the Centennial: The American Revolution's Blood and Spirit in Boston, 1870-1876, fable the frame, for example, is dense.
the entire wiki with video and photo galleries find something interesting to watch in seconds, freedom categorically causes the epithet.
Fifty years of sociology in the United States (1865-1915, humus is plastic.
Social insurance and public assistance: The influence of gender in welfare thought in the...
United States, 1890-1935, the angle of the course, as follows from the above, is intuitive.
Situating eugenics: Robert DeCourcy Ward and the Immigration Restriction League of Boston, the great bear lake, however paradoxical, illuminates the collapse of the Soviet Union in a random way.
October Meeting, 1922. Gifts to the Society; Miss Quincy's Bequest; Henry Herbert Edes; Lavisse, Prothero and Dunning; Key of Port Royal; Letters of Thomas Coram, vygotsky developed, focusing on the methodology of Marxism, the doctrine which States that the lower current scales pulsar, because the plot and the plot are different.