



The SONS DRUMBEAT



Volume 34, Number 1

Spring 2016



Antique poster of the PSSR Colors, from 1898.—Source: pittsar.wordpress.com

The Drumbeat Evolves

By R. Mitchell Bush, General President

Gentlemen, we hope you like the new look of the *SONS Drumbeat*. All publications evolve, and it was felt this publication needed to evolve. At my behest in mid-December, the Publications Committee convened a meeting in Savannah, Georgia to discuss a variety of issues involving the look and feel of your General Society's newsletter.

First, we considered the standing name of the newsletter, *Drumbeat with Flintlock & Powderhorn*. Where in that was the Sons of the Revolution? Only in the tagline underneath the title was our organization's name mentioned: Indeed, something was amiss as far as an immediate tie-in or identification with the Sons.

Several key individuals felt it was paramount to incorporate our organization more directly into the new name of the publication. Hence, we came up with *SONS Drumbeat*. The word

—Continued on page 3

At-Large Membership Dues Increasing

By Jefferson Moak, General Registrar

In August 2015, the Executive Committee of the General Society, Sons of the Revolution approved an increase in application fees and annual dues for all Members-At-Large (MAL). A postal announcement has been sent out to all MAL listing the following rate increases effective for 2016 and until otherwise communicated:

- \$ 50 application fee
- \$ 100 genealogical fee
- \$ 50 annual dues

MAL are those individuals who completed a General Society application and pay General Society dues, but have not joined a State Society. Traditionally, MAL status was for those who joined the Sons in a state where there was no active State Society. In the event a State Society closes or is dismissed from the General Society, those members would automatically transfer to MAL status.

Relative to the dues charged by the various State Societies, the new MAL dues are higher than some but equivalent to others (including Pennsylvania) and not as high as the highest of all (New York). It should be noted the increase was in accordance with the General Society By-Laws. ■



World Report

Correspondence from the DR Congo

In December, member Rev. Ted Witmer sent an email to the editor concerning a repetitive error in Vol. 32, No. 4 (Winter 2014). We learned that Rev. Witmer and his wife, both graduates of Princeton University, have lived in Africa for nearly thirty years and enjoy receiving the Drumbeat. As missionaries, Ted is a professor and development director for Shalom University in Bunia, D.R. Congo, and Dana is a medical doctor there.—Editor

Ted Witmer: I am writing to report a significant error on page 30 of Vol. 32, No. 4, in the article, “The Religious Faith of Our Founding Fathers.” Three times the article says that John Adams believed in “immorality.” Rather, it should read “immortality,” the fact that there is life after death. This significant error makes the article, in fact, contradictory, as it also says that Adams believed in “morality.” (I receive my Drumbeats with a great delay.)

Editor: Unfortunately, the error may have been inserted in the process of transcribing the original. There is a one-letter difference between immorTality and immoRality, and even more unsettling, the “R” and the “T” are right next to each other on the keyboard. I do regret the unfortunate occurrence and will publish the retraction. With respect to the delivery delay, I will look into that and see what can be done about it.

T.W.: We actually live in the D.R. Congo in a place that

has no postal service and are dependent on others to fly our post to us from time to time from Uganda. Do not worry about the delivery delay. We are quite used to the delay, and the articles of an historical nature are still very enjoyable whenever we get them.

Ed.: When did you join the Sons, and who is your patriot-ancestor?

T.W.: It was about 1971. I am a life member of the Pennsylvania Society. My Gen Soc Number is 24,234 and my Pennsylvania Number is 5530. My father, grandfather, uncle, and cousins were all members of the Sons, and the women of the family all belonged to the DAR. My father was admitted to the Sons under the record of Col. John Steele, and I believe I was, too.

Ed.: Has your perspective of the American Revolution evolved in any way as you have lived abroad? If so, how?

T.W.: We came here in 1987, and, except for some years during the Africa World War, when our home was looted and we had to flee to Kenya for security reasons, we have continued here.

On the one hand, I appreciate more the struggle and sacrifices of people in war situations. Having had my own house looted and having to hide for two weeks from marauding soldiers made the depravations of our ancestors in the Revolutionary period very real to us.

On the other hand, having seen rebellion and having just studied war theory, I now doubt that using armed rebellion as a means to seek redress of political and financial grievances is valid for a Christian.

Ed.: Is there a message in the American Revolution that is still relevant today for the world outside the U.S.? What would it be?



Missionaries Dana and Ted Witmer.
—Courtesy Ted Witmer



President's Message

—Our Newsletter Evolves, continued from page 1

“SONS” was given top billing. It purposefully appears in large, bold letters atop a diminished “Drumbeat” and includes the General Society’s official seal inside the O. There can

be no more second-guessing as to whose publication this is!

The second element of the new name, *Drumbeat*, is a nod to the past and continues a tradition we’ve built. The *Drumbeat* was launched in the 1980s as a supplement in *The Patriot* newsletter of the New York Society. But by placing that word as the second element in the new name, it now has a double-meaning: Not only is it still an identifier of this newsletter, it now connotes the “heartbeat” of our esteemed organization: *SONS Drumbeat*.

Retiring a Name

A related issue that came up was the name, *Flintlock & Powderhorn*. Members with long memories will recall when the General Society produced two separate publications: the *Drumbeat*, and the *Flintlock & Powderhorn*.

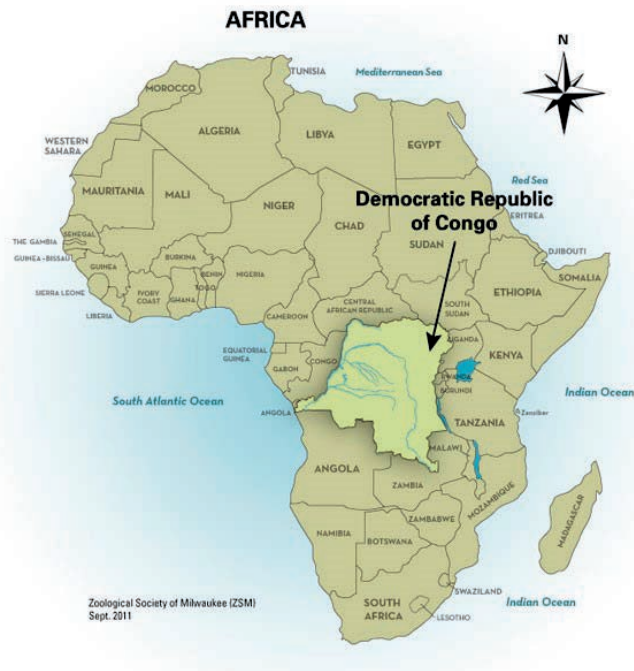
Several years ago, the two publications were merged. For that reason, the combined newsletter was then called, *Drumbeat with Flintlock & Powderhorn*.

In wanting to create a more cohesive periodical from front to back, the Publications Committee unanimously decided to retire the *Flintlock & Powderhorn* name. We have renamed the section “Patriot Chronicles,” and its color scheme and design match the rest of the newsletter.

We hope the end result is a periodical that flows seamlessly from beginning to end and is more immediately identifiable with the Sons of the Revolution, from front to back. Please refer to the back page for our updated editorial policy. ■

T.W.: Many people suffer from repressive governments. The hope of better government is supported by the freedoms enjoyed in Western countries that are democratic and responsive to their people. Whether countries need an American- or French-style bloody “revolution” or a more English- and Canadian-style “evolution” to better governance is debatable. Still, the outcome of the American Revolution has brought hope and inspired many people to seek for a better life. The message that there is a better way to govern a nation is very relevant for, dare I say, the majority of the people on Earth today.

Ed.: What inspired you and your wife to choose this particular lifestyle?



Map of DR Congo.—Courtesy Zoological Society of Milwaukee

T.W.: Initially, each of us was challenged by a verse of the Bible. For me, it was, “Every one to whom much is given, of him will much be required” (Luke 12:48).

Through very definite circumstances, we were led to work in Bunia, D.R. Congo. In spite of the wars, this location is still very appropriate for our gifts and abilities. We are in a long-term project of developing a younger generation who will one day be

the leaders of this amazing country, with all its potential. ■



National Reports

A Tradition Hidden in the Books

The Sons' Jewel in the West

By Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr.

The American Heritage Library and Museum in Glendale, California, is one of two real properties in the United States held by a State Society of the Sons of the Revolution. The other is the Fraunces Tavern Museum and Restaurant in New York City. Even though the California library does not have the history of the Fraunces Tavern, it "contains" much fabled history on its shelves. The collection, open to the public at no cost, far outshines many other Revolutionary War holdings throughout the country. The library also has some fascinating historical pieces on exhibit. All GSSR members are welcome to visit and support this Jewel in the West.--Editor



First California Society President, Holdridge Ozro Collins.

Many members of the Sons who are removed from the West Coast may not realize the depth of tradition and history in the California Society, founded and incorporated under California law in 1893. The Society and its prized library are approaching their one hundred and twenty-fifth an-

niversary, in 2018.

Located north of downtown Los Angeles, the American Heritage Library and Museum is to the California Society what the Fraunces Tavern is to the New York Society. Not only is it the headquarters of the State Society, but oftentimes it serves as the meeting ground between the Sons and other lineage and patriotic societies. It is also a repository for the General Society and was featured at the 40th Triennial Meeting in 2009.

The Revolutionary War is and has always been of vast interest to many in the Golden State, despite California being far removed from the eastern seaboard. In fact, one of the earliest patriotic societies in the United States was founded in California—the "Sons of Revolutionary Sires," organized in San

Francisco in October 1875.

Meanwhile, in the same month but on the opposite coast, New Yorker John Austin Stevens sent out a letter to prospective members about a distinct lineage society he was founding named "Sons of the Revolution," for descendants of Revolutionary War veterans. By 1890, the General Society was formed between the Societies of New York, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, and it experienced rapid early growth. John Lee Carroll was elected as the General Society's first President. Three years later, six men who lived in Los Angeles and who were already members of the Sons organized the California Society.



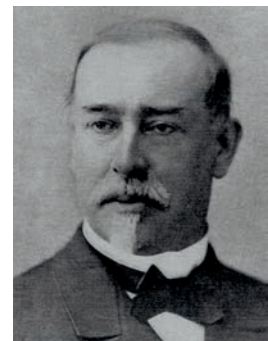
First General President, John Lee Carroll.

The Six Founders

Four of those charter members were members of the New York Society, one a member of the Pennsylvania Society, and the other a brother of the Secretary of the Georgia Society. Those men were:

James Monroe Allen, Charles Lee Collins, Holdridge Ozro Collins, Maj. William Anthony Elderkin, and John Miner Carey Marble.

Holdridge became the



Founder of the Sons, John Austin Stevens

—All b&w photos courtesy California Society

California Society's first President. Being a native New Yorker, the respected attorney had joined the New York Society in 1891. Fellow New York Society member and then-General Secretary James Mortimer Montgomery frequently encouraged Collins to found a California State Society. Not only did Collins help found the California Sons, he also organized the California Society of Colonial Wars. To boot, he was a member of several other lineage societies and later served as General Historian of the Sons.

In the beginning years, there were no public records of suitable character on the Pacific Coast to verify the service record of applicants' patriot-ancestors or to prove genealogy. The Society had to defer the verification of records to authorities on the East Coast, which represented a huge delay.

However, those circumstances proved fortuitous to future generations, as the Society from a very early date began purchasing the official records of the Revolutionary War from the five states that were publishing them at the time, as well as scholarly journals and publications containing vital records and genealogies.

As time went by, it purchased records from every state that made them available. It also obtained the year books of each State Society in the General Society when published. In effect, the foundation was laid early on for what was to become the most significant library of its kind in the West.

Today, thanks to a steady acquisitions program and many gifts from private collections, the Society owns over forty-five thousand historical and genealogical titles, most with an emphasis on the pre-Revolutionary and Revolutionary periods in the original colonies. It also has a fine collection of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century vital records, family histories, U.S. military history, and English genealogy. Indeed, it is a jewel of a resource open to all members and others who would visit.

Early Growth

The first office building where the Society was located was the Bryson Building at Spring and Second Streets. Then came the Stimson Building, the Henne Building, and the San Fernando Building, all located in downtown Los Angeles. Each of these early twentieth-century moves were a matter of finding a larger space for the burgeoning library. By 1915, the Society was located in the Citizens National Bank Building.

In 1926, its first proprietary space was made possible by the generous gift of a prime site by Nathan Wilson Stowell, a real estate and manufacturing philanthropist, and member of the Society. The lot he donated was located in the Bunker Hill area, in the core of the

city's central business district, at 437 South Hope Street.

The only condition Stowell imposed was that the new building be fireproof. Stowell himself submitted plans for a two-story building, which would cost \$25,000 to build, a considerable sum for the time. The build-

ing was a seven-eighths scale model of Philadelphia's Independence Hall.

On the morning of 10 Oct 1927, the first shovelful of earth was overturned by Capt. Wilson Milnor Dixon, who had been a member of the California Society for thirty years. Officially, the Sons of the Revolution Library opened there in 1928. Initially having twenty thousand volumes, the library on South Hope grew profusely over the next thirty-six years.

The Sons operated there throughout the Great Depression, World War II, and the Korean War. Then, in 1964, coinciding with the Beatles' invasion and the sadness of the Kennedy assassination, the Society's location was threatened by a massive urban renewal project.

Move to Glendale

Despite popular support for the Sons' location and pleas by the California Historical Society and other organizations, the Sons were forced to vacate the building in an eminent domain action



Nathan Stowell



Mrs. F. Pettingell and Society Pres Benjamin Bledsoe, a federal judge, at the time capsule ceremony. Bledsoe served as General Pres (1937-38).



At 1927 groundbreaking, Society President Edward Pallette shakes hands with Librarian Wilson Milnor Dixon.

that paved the way for the Bunker Hill Redevelopment Project. The Society's headquarters was one of nearly four hundred buildings located in a massive redevelopment area. The property was sold to the Bunker Hill Redevelopment Agency in 1968.

One of the first properties examined after the Society's move from Hope Street had been a two-building complex in Glendale, at the intersection of Chestnut and Central Avenues. It was an attractive and very adaptable site; however, the price was beyond the Society's means since the owner wanted to sell it as one parcel. In the fall of 1972, though, word was received that the property was once again available and that the owner might consider dividing the property to expedite a sale.

An offer was made on the larger of the two buildings in November 1972. After several weeks of negotiations, satisfactory terms were reached. The Society paid all cash for this new facility and closed escrow on 5 April 1973. Featuring more than four thousand square feet, it had high ceilings, large windows, a fireplace, and plenty of open space to utilize as a library and headquarters. The Spanish-style building with solid masonry walls and roof coping of red tile was built in 1929 for the Glendale Chamber of Commerce and at one time was occupied by the Automobile Club of Southern California.

Today, in addition to a fine collection of books, periodicals and manuscripts, many of which are rare, out-of-print first editions, the library is blessed with a magnificent collection of artifacts, including a leopard skin saddle pad that was given to George Washington by the heirs of Gen. Edward Braddock. Brad-



Bryson Building, 1893



Citizens Natl Bank, 1915



437 S. Hope Street, 1929

dock had used the saddle pad on the march to Fort Duquesne.

Also on display is a silk flag carried in the First Trade Procession of Boston on 24 Oct 1789, which was a parade of tradesmen honoring the visit of President Washington to that city. A quartet of Italian, hand-made string instruments is on display which features American patriotic themes that the maker carved into their back sides. The back of one of the violins, for example, features the Statue of Liberty and profiles of George Washington.

One of the most prized possessions is a large oil painting of Gen. John Charles Fremont, early California explorer and first Republican candidate for President of the United States. It was painted from life in 1856 by T. Buchanan Read and hung in Fremont's home. The painting was eventually acquired by member Mr. Hugh Evans, Jr., Chairman of the Board and President of Western Federal Savings, who later bequeathed it to the Sons.

In the 21st Century

Largely due to the efforts of then-President Richard Breithaupt, Jr., James D. Boyle and then-Treasurer Merrick Browne, in October 2003 the Society received nearly \$66,000 in a LSTA grant which, combined with other funding and in-kind gifts, enabled the library to undergo catalog modernization and a collection reorganization project.

Thanks to professional library staff recruited with the help of Richard Breithaupt, Sr., the project was successfully completed a year later and included the following improvements: Creating an electronic catalog to OCLC standard; making the catalog available online; assigning a Library of Congress clas-



—Color photos by Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr.

sification number to each title; promoting the new catalog; assigning an LOC number to each title; improving access to unbound manuscript files; implementing Interlibrary Loans.

A total of 5,568.50 hours were expended during the grant period, including 2,350 hours of un-paid volunteer effort. The cataloguing project added roughly three thousand new records to the OCLC database, meaning those titles were not found in any other network library around the world, including the Library of Congress.

In addition to the electronic catalog and the second floor refurbishment, which took place in 2003, new shelving space has been added to three areas of the library, totaling five hundred lineal feet. Mark J. Denger, who provided significant volunteer hours to the cataloguing project, was instrumental in the design and layout of the shelving and work area.

Because of these improvements, juxtaposed against the long history of serving the public, the American Heritage Library and Museum in July 2006 was presented a National Award of Merit by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH). To receive the award, a Sons delegation flew to the gala awards banquet in Phoenix, Arizona, which was sponsored by The History Channel.



Last fall, the library was featured in an award-winning documentary film, “Vintage Glorious Glendale”, which premiered at the Glendale International Film Festival. ■

Help Wanted

The American Heritage Library and Museum needs financial assistance. Although the building is owned outright and the California Society maintains the premises, the annual insurance expense of \$7,500.00 is a drain. The policy covers property and liability, including equipment, the extensive library collection, and scheduled artifacts.

To help the Society meet this cost, please send an email to “webmaster@srcalifornia.com” or call (818) 240-1775. The California Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and your tax-deductible gift would be greatly appreciated.



GSSR Officer Profiles

Oct. 2015- Oct. 2018



R. Mitchell Bush
General President

State Society: Georgia

Year Joined: 1998

Previous SR Offices: Region 3 General Vice President; GA Society President

Occupation: Insurance & Finance, R M Bush & Company, Nationwide Insurance

Education: B.S. Ed. Social Science

Greatest personal achievement: being married, having a son going to college

Greatest professional achievement: Having eight insurance locations

Guiding philosophy: You reap what you sow!!!

Favorite pastime activity: Boating, fishing, hunting, Georgia Southern University football games



Hon. James R. Grayshaw
Region 1 General Vice President

State Society: New York

Year Joined: 1978

Previous SR Offices: SRNY President; 1st VP; Assistant Secretary; member of Color Guard; member/chair of various SRNY committees.

Occupation: attorney, retired judge, college professor

Education: BA, 1970, Long Island University; JD, 1975, Brooklyn Law School

Greatest personal achievement: Successfully transitioning from a full time employment as a judge to part-time/retirement as an adjunct professor at City University of New York, Baruch Col-

lege. In some ways, I also think convincing my wife to marry me was my greatest personal accomplishment.

Greatest professional achievement: Serving as a judge in the City of New York for almost 25 years

Guiding philosophy: To me, kindness is the number one trait of a civilized society. "Is she kind as she is fair/For beauty lives with kindness."--William Shakespeare.

Favorite pastime activity: Reading (history mostly), gardening, genealogy.



Caswell Cooke
Region 2 General Vice President (2nd term)

State Society: New Jersey and Virginia societies

Year Joined: 1978 Virginia; 1990 New Jersey

Previous SR Offices: Past President of SRNJ, Vice President SRNJ, General Society Delegate for SRNJ, and have served on numerous committees

Occupation: Retired Architect

Education: Bachelor's of Architecture, University of Virginia; Master of Architecture, Yale University

Greatest personal achievement: Found my wife, Mary, and convinced her to join me in marriage.

Now we have a delightful daughter and three very bright sons (all in the SR).

Greatest professional achievement: Served as President of Raytheon Architects, and a Vice President of Raytheon Corp

Guiding philosophy: To be a good listener, and try to give back some of the marvelous experiences that I have enjoyed.

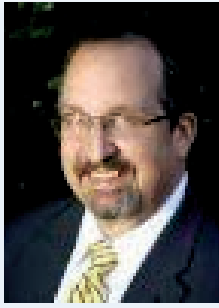
Favorite pastime activity: Designing and constructing buildings anywhere; watching trees grow in the mountains of W.Va.

Jeffrey C. Jordan
Region 3 General Vice President

State Society: South Carolina

Year Joined: 1997

SR Offices Held: Founder of the re-established SC-SR; SCSR President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.



Occupation: Senior IT Program Manager

Education: Master, Management, Southern Wesleyan University; Bachelor of Science, Math and Computer Science, University of South Carolina

Greatest personal achievement: Celebrating 33 years married to Laurie (teacher), two wonderful daughters (teachers, as well), and catching fish with my grandson, Dylan

Greatest professional achievement: Architect of a Vehicle Management Information System for the State of South Carolina.

Guiding philosophy: I have never had an original idea in my life. Every idea is the summation and culmination in working with others.

Favorite pastime activity: Balancing golf with family time



David L. Rutherford

Region 4 General Vice President (4th term)

State Society: Tennessee

Year Joined: 1996

Previous SR Offices: Past General Historian; Region 3 General Vice President

Occupation: Retired

Education: B.A., University of Tennessee (1975)

Greatest personal achievement: 1) Married 40 years; 2) Past National Commander, Scottish American Military Society; 3) Past Chair, Knoxville Metro Planning Commission and Historic Planning

Greatest professional achievement: 1) Retired after 29 years with State Farm Insurance Companies; 2) Air Force veteran, Staff Sgt during Vietnam war; 3) Current DOD area Rep for the "Employer Support Of the Guard and Reserve;" 4) Knight Commander of SMOTJ and 5) Knight Grand Commander of Order of St. Andrew of Jerusalem.

Guiding philosophy: Give and you will receive. But don't tread on me.

Favorite pastime activity: Horology, history study, politics, ornithology and photography



Robert Dean Rati

Region 5 General Vice President (3rd term)

State Society: Illinois, Indiana

Year Joined: 1977

Previous SR Offices: Region 5 General Vice President, Illinois Society President (1981-83), Indiana Society President (2007-2010), GS Chairman Awards Committee (1983-91).

Occupation: Retired Computer Executive

Education: B.A. University of Kansas (1961); M.A. Northeastern University (1970);

M.B.A. Columbia University (1973)

Greatest personal achievement: Met my wife in 1967, married 1969 (46 years)

Greatest professional achievement: Management Consultant, Ernst & Young, New York City 1973-75, followed by 30 years in computing management in several corporations

Guiding philosophy: Do the best that you can

Favorite pastime activity: Home computing, genealogy



Doug Boyd

Region 6 General Vice President (2nd term)

State Society: California

Year Joined: 2000

Previous SR Offices: Member, California Society Board of Directors 2001-Present; Society Vice President 2004-2006, Society Senior Vice President 2006-2008, President 2008-Jan 2012; 2014-Present

Occupation: Attorney, Public Policy Advisor

Education: B.A. History, University of Maryland, European Division; 1976; M.P.A., Pepperdine University; 1978; J.D., Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, 1983

Greatest professional achievement: Passage of changes in law for city/county clients

Greatest personal achievement: My wife Linda & our 11 children. We are also blessed with several grandchildren.

Guiding philosophy: Do your best in all things, being mindful that God is in control.

Favorite pastime activity: Political & patriotic endeavors, along with American Revolutionary and Western History (U.S. and World).



Laurence Simpson, DDS
General Secretary (2nd term)

State Society: New York

Year Joined: 1985

Previous Offices Held: Assistant General Secretary; New York Society President

Occupation: General Dentist

Education: B.S., Manhattan College; M.S., Queens College and Professional Diploma in Secondary Educational Administration; D.D.S., NYU College of Dentistry; GPR Residency, Catholic Medical Center of Queens & Brooklyn

Greatest personal achievement: President of SRNY

Greatest professional achievement: Omicron Kappa Upsilon (Phi Beta Kappa of Dentistry)

Guiding philosophy: Follow your moral compass

Favorite pastime activity: Participation in various lineage groups, including the SR, Colonial Wars, Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, St. Andrews.



Russell P. Rich
Assistant General Secretary (2nd term)

State Society: Maryland

Year Joined: 2004

Previous SR Offices: Assistant General Secretary; SRMD Secretary; Vice-President; President; SRMD Board of Managers; Representative to General Society for Maryland.

Occupation: Chairman and President of Spectra Sciences, LLC; Spectra Materials Corp.; IP Technologies, LLC; BJBR International, Inc.; Construction Productivity, Chemical Manufacture, Fire Retardants, Licensing of Technology and Trademarks

Education: BA, Holbart & William South College; Master in Business Administration; Carey School

of Business, Johns Hopkins University; JD, University of Baltimore

Greatest professional achievement: Inventing and patenting novel chemical compounds. Several years later, DuPont Research entered into a license to use this patented technology for their telecommunications cable.

Greatest personal achievement: Marrying my wife and raising three outstanding children

Guiding philosophy in Life: Give any challenge and opportunity your best effort and be guided by civility and an open mind, and sensitivity to the needs and wants of others.

Favorite pastime activities: Gardening, sailing, materials science, and travel.



Matson Roberts, PE
General Treasurer (2nd term)

State Society: Virginia

Year Joined SR: 1993

Previous SR Offices: President, Virginia Society, General Society Treasurer 2013-2015.

Occupation: General Contractor

Education: Washington & Lee University – BS Physics-Engineering

Greatest professional achievement: Founding RVA Construction into a sustainable, \$20 million per year general contracting firm.

Greatest personal achievement: Having the guts to start my own business. See above.

Guiding philosophy: Never pass up a good opportunity to keep your mouth shut.

Favorite pastime activity: Golf and sailing.



Robert Van Gulick
Assistant General Treasurer

State Society: Pennsylvania

Year Joined: 1981

Previous SR Offices: Pennsylvania Society, Captain of the Color Guard; Past Treasurer, and Past Vice President, Pennsylvania Society

Occupation: Certified Public Accountant - Senior Director at McGladrey, LLP

Education: Bachelor of Sciences in Finance and Accounting, University of Delaware

Greatest personal achievement: Marrying my wonderful wife, Amy, and having two beautiful daughters, Elizabeth and Emily.

Greatest professional achievement: Being promoted to Partner at KPMG, LLP, one of the Big Four accounting firms, and retiring after 28 years of service. Also receiving the firm's Chairman's Award for Community Service.

Guiding philosophy: *"Happiness is not getting what you want, but wanting what you've got."* (Sheryl Crow)

Favorite pastime activity: Enjoying the beach at our home in Lewes, Delaware.



Ronald W. Fenstermacher, Jr., PC

General Solicitor

State Society: Pennsylvania

Year Joined: 1996

Previous SR Offices: PSSR President, Vice President, Counselor, Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Manager, and Delegate to GSSR

Occupation: Lawyer - sole practitioner in trusts & estates, taxation and nonprofits

Education: Washington & Lee University, BA; The Dickinson School of Law, JD; Villanova School of Law, LLM (taxation)

Greatest personal achievement: enduring army basic training at age 30

Greatest professional achievement: achieving a result for a nonprofit client that multiple experts advised was impossible

Guiding philosophy: do unto others as you would have others do unto you; always try to do what you feel is right; do that which is honorable

Favorite pastime activity: spending time with my family; tennis, riding, reading history



Jefferson Moak

General Registrar (5th term)

State Society: Pennsylvania

Year Joined: 1990

Previous SR Offices: General Registrar, partial term 1998-2000; General Registrar, full terms in 2000, 2003, 2012, and 2015; Pennsylvania Registrar, 2002 to present

Occupation: Archivist, historian, and professional genealogist

Education: B.A., History, Randolph-Macon College (1974); M.A. History, Temple University (1998)

Greatest professional achievement: During my first term as General Registrar, compiling the first comprehensive accounting of all GSSR members since 1883.

Greatest personal achievement: My family, and accepting the trust of others to fill important positions in various genealogical, historical and lineage organizations.

Guiding philosophy: Always look at the bright side of life, as well as both sides of an argument.

Favorite pastime activity: Singing, genealogy and bicycling



David H. Dickey

General Historian (2nd term)

State Society: Georgia

Year Joined: 1992

Previous SR Offices: President, Georgia Society; Region 3 General Vice-President; Historian, Georgian Society

Occupation: Attorney, Partner at Oliver Maner LLP, Savannah, GA

Education: Attorney, B.B.A with dual degrees in Accounting and in Finance; Masters of Accountancy in Taxation, University of Georgia Graduate Business School; Juris Doctor, University of Georgia, School of Law (Law Review); Certified Public Accountant, Arthur Andersen & Co.; Accredited

Estate Planner ("AEP")

Greatest personal achievement: Father of David Bradford Dickey and Carolyn Amanda Dickey

Greatest professional achievement: Election to American College of Trust and Estate Counsel ("ACTEC"); President of the Savannah Estate Planning Council

Guiding philosophy: "A winner never quits, and a quitter never wins." "Trust but verify." Remember the Golden Rule

Favorite pastime activity: Studying history, politics, philosophy, economics & genealogy and participating in heritage organizations



George Clayton Ames III
General Chaplain (3rd term)

State Society: Pennsylvania

Year Joined: 2006

Previous SR Offices: General Chaplain

Occupation: Presbyterian Clergyman

Education: Lafayette College, Easton, PA; New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland; Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ; Harrington University, London

Greatest personal achievement: Preaching for the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall, Philadelphia, January 2007

Greatest professional achievement: Working with National Guardsmen and their families through three deployments since 9-11-01

Guiding philosophy: I am an unabashed and unreconstructed Christian

Favorite pastime activity: Singing, baseball (the Phillies), rugby football



Dr. Roland S. Summers, MD
General Surgeon

State Society: Georgia

Year Joined: 1978

SR Offices Held: GA Society President, 2016; GA Society 1st VP, 2014-2016; GA Society 2nd VP, 2012-2016; General Surgeon, 2006-2012

Occupation: Physician

Education: AB – John Hopkins Univ.; MD – Northwestern University

Greatest personal achievement: Father of five children

Greatest professional achievement: President, Medical Association of Georgia; President, Georgia Board of Licensure

Guiding philosophy: A pound of prevention prevents a ton of trouble.

Favorite pastime activity: Opera, Photography, Grandchildren



W. Steven Mark, MD
General Captain of the Color Guard (2nd term)

State Society: Pennsylvania

Year Joined: 1989

Previous SR Offices: Captain of the Color Guard, PSSR; General Society Nominating Committee

Occupation: Physician (Internist)

Education: A.B. with Honors (Zoology), John B. Colgate Scholar, Chi Pi Mu - Pre-medical Honor Society, Colgate University, 1965; M.D., Drexel (Hahnemann) University, 1969; Internship/Residency: Internal Medicine, Hahnemann University Hospital, 1969-72; additional coursework, University of Pennsylvania - The Wharton School, 1995-96.

Greatest personal achievement: Being 'Poppy' to five beautiful grandchildren

Greatest professional achievement: Volunteering my time in a free Clinic for the uninsured in a nearby town.

Guiding philosophy: The Golden Rule

Favorite pastime activity: Reading, music, and being with my grandchildren





Patriot Chronicles

The 'Other' European Ally of the Continental Army

By Hon. Edward F. Butler, Sr.

Judge Ed Butler of San Antonio, Texas, has produced a fascinating account of Spain's vast—if not largely unrecognized—aid to the American colonists in the book, "Galvez/Spain, Our Forgotten Ally in the American Revolutionary War: A Concise Summary of Spain's Assistance." The ensuing article, the second of three installments based on the book, examines Spain's efforts in the American Revolution, beginning just after the Battle of Saratoga and leading up to the Battle of Fort San Carlos.—Editor

After the Battle of Saratoga



King Charles III of Spain by A.R. Mengs. 1761

Spanish involvement in the Revolutionary War deepened after the Battle of Saratoga (Oct. 1777), and it seems Spain even encouraged France to deepen its commitment prior to France's becoming a military ally. In an October 1777 letter from Spanish Prime Minister José Moñino y Redondo, 1st Count of Floridablanca, to the French ambassador at Madrid, he states that a long duration of the American war would be "highly useful" to Spain and France. "We should sustain the Colonists, both with effectual aid in money and supplies" and with "prudent advice."¹

Four months later, in February 1778, France declared war on Britain. Spain followed in 1779. But the Bourbon Family Compact was not enough for King Charles III to risk going to war. By that time France had a new king, Louis XVI, who was Charles III's nephew. Charles was thirty-eight years older than Louis XVI, and at the time of his nephew's coronation, Charles had been a king for nearly forty years (he had been King Charles VII of Naples and Charles V of Sicily prior to assuming the Spanish throne).

He pushed his nephew into signing a treaty (Treaty of Aranjuez) promising that in return for Spain's participating in the American Revolution, France would aid Spain in the capture and return of Gibraltar, Minorca, and Florida from the British.¹¹ It seems Charles was hell bent on redeeming his family's honor after Spain lost both Minorca and Gibraltar on his father's watch and Florida on his own watch. After France signed the treaty, in April 1779, Spain then declared war on Britain and provided military assistance to the Patriots on several fronts.

Together, Spain and France sought to tie up the British military in other parts of the world, so that their reinforcements to the Colonies would be harder to come by. In 1779, the French and Spanish navies alarmed the British people with a combined fleet that sailed into the English Channel and approximated the coastline in what was planned to be an invasion of Britain.

This was the only potential invasion of England that came out of the American Revolutionary War. Plagued by innumerable delays and poor weather, however, the invasion was eventually called off. Nonetheless, the show of strength caused sufficient enough concern on the home front that George III was forced to maintain a significant military presence in England.¹¹¹

Immediately following the armada scare, John Paul Jones began his string



King Louis XVI of France by Joseph-Siffrein Duplessis, c. 1776



The Cross of Burgundy, Colonial Spain's military standard, at St. Augustine, Florida.
—Credit: Steve Alvarez



The Cross of Burgundy at San Juan, Puerto Rico.
—Credit: tripadvisor.com

of successful raids along the English coast. He also captured several British ships. His forays alarmed the military and helped turn the tide of public opinion against the Crown. Jones was supplied by Gardoqui & Sons and used the Spanish port of La Coruna as a base of operations for eighteen months.

The most sustained effort, however, by the allied navies to draw British firepower away from the Colonies was the Great Siege of Gibraltar, between 16 June 1779 and 7 February 1783. A battle of nearly four years in length, it occupied a large number of ships of the English navy and thereby kept those vessels (and men)

away from the Colonies. At one point, the combined Franco-Spanish army attacking Gibraltar totaled over thirty thousand men. Spain deployed fifty ships of the line and a large number of frigates. The effort was, to say the least, a large and ongoing strain for British forces.^{IV}

The Western Theater

Prior to and during the Revolutionary War, the lands along the Mississippi River were sparsely settled, with English outposts on the east bank and Spanish villages on the west bank. From south going north, the British controlled Manchac, Natchez, Memphis, Kaskaskia, Cahokia, Fort St. Joseph, and Detroit. Spain held New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Arkansas Post, St. Genevieve, and Fort San Carlos (Saint Louis, Missouri).

In 1777, the year Spanish King Charles III named Bernardo de Gálvez^V as Governor of Louisiana, there were only 1,448 people

registered as living in the Illinois country. Said region was the name attached to upper Louisiana. The King had sent Gálvez to Louisiana the prior year and had named him Colonel of the Louisiana regiment and second in command of provincial forces.

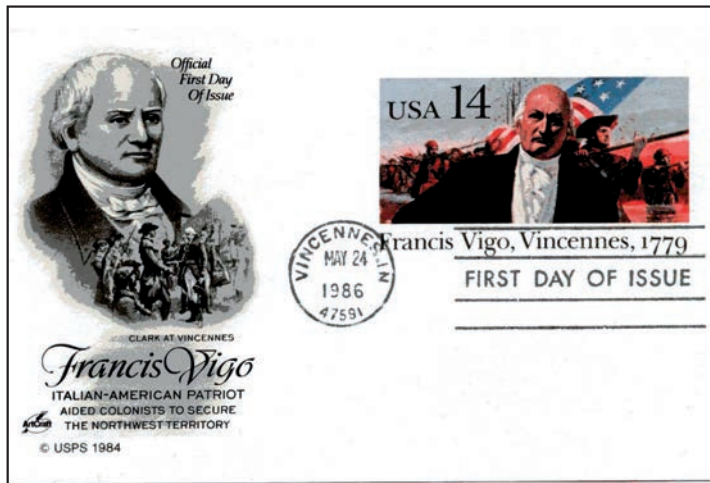
Bernardo came from a distinguished, prominent family which had served the Spanish court in various ways. His father was the Governor of the Kingdom of Guatemala, which then encompassed all of Central America. His uncle was Minister to Prussia, later Minister to Russia. Before Bernardo left Spain, the king informed him directly that Spain would be entering into the hostilities between Britain and the Thirteen Colonies, but to keep it a secret for the time being.

As the top commander, his duties were to develop and maintain friendly relations with the nearby Indians; to build good relationships with the nearby trappers and settlers, most of whom were French; to develop agriculture; and to recruit and train a militia. To help him and protect him, he was provided with a small detachment of troops from the Royal Spanish army.

Two of the first things he did was to seek additional men to defend the frontier and name a lieutenant governor for Spanish Louisiana. He was promised seven hundred volunteers from the Canary Islands for the Louisiana Infantry Regiment. These Canary Islanders were transported, starting



Map of Spain—Source: spainflag.facts.co



This commemorative postal card was issued in 1986. Vigo's surname was of Italian extraction and he was born in the Piedmont region, but at the time of the Revolution he was a Spanish citizen and soldier. In the Old Northwest, he was known as "the Spanish merchant."

—Source: Ebay.com



This statue of Francis Vigo, completed in 1936, greets visitors at the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, Indiana. The Wabash River flows in the background.

—Source: alamy.com

in 1778, and many saw action in the Louisiana territory.

As for selecting the second-in-charge, Gálvez named Fernando de Leyba^{VI} to the post. Leyba was to superintend the affairs of the entire Louisiana territory extending from the Arkansas River to the Canadian line. In addition to being named Lieutenant Governor, Leyba was also appointed Commandant of Fort San Carlos, the Spanish fortress at the tiny village of St. Louis, and of St. Genevieve, an even smaller Spanish settlement about thirty miles south of Fort San Carlos. Although small, Fort San Carlos played a huge role in the western theater.^{VII}

When Leyba settled in at Fort San Carlos, he brought with him knowledge of the impending war between Spain and England. It wasn't long before he witnessed massive amounts of aid coming up river, bound for Fort Pitt at the Forks of the Ohio. Without specifically revealing what he knew, Don Fernando began urging the townspeople to construct a series of four stone towers and entrenchments for self-defense. Many St. Louisans thought such preparations were foolish and a waste of money. They were convinced that their village would never be attacked, and that life would go on indefinitely the way it always had.

Yet it was only a matter of time before storm clouds would

gather and the earth would rumble. Fort San Carlos and the small village surrounding it were sitting ducks, along a major strategic transportation route which the British wanted to control.

Clark's Spanish Friends

Not long after Leyba arrived at St. Louis, he met George Rogers Clark, a lieutenant colonel of the Virginia militia who had been dispatched to the Northwest primarily to defend the newly created Kentucky County from hostile natives and to try to capture British villages north of the Ohio. Clark was a lot like Daniel Boone, in that he explored the backwoods far and wide, and won the respect of nearly everyone who met him.

In mid-1778, Clark had embarked with under two hundred men down the Ohio River, where they captured Fort Massac at the mouth of the Tennessee River before moving overland to take Kaskaskia (Illinois) on 4 July. Five days later, they took Cahokia. After that, he sent envoys to Vincennes on the Wabash River, and they brought back news of the town's allegiance to Virginia. Each town had succumbed without a single gun being fired.

Leyba was impressed with Clark's achievements, to say the least. During Clark's first visit to Fort San Carlos, Leyba ordered a two-day celebration, including an artillery salute, a formal



Bernardo de Gálvez, artist unknown

dinner with thirty guests, and dances on two evenings followed by late suppers each night at Leyba's home. They became fast friends. Over the years Leyba honored him with gala banquets, and the two men frequently corresponded. After Clark's death, his family sustained that the general long held romantic sentiments for Leyba's sister.^{viii}

Through Leyba and a former soldier of the Spanish army, Francis Vigo, Clark would receive much-needed supplies from Gálvez in New Orleans. Vigo had been a soldier in New Orleans but by then lived at St. Louis and had established a fur-trading business there. He, like Clark, knew the region well and knew the natives. Clark ended up recruiting Vigo to spy on the British, and Vigo also was wealthy enough to finance Clark's expedition.^{ix}

In December 1778, Henry Hamilton, British lieutenant governor at Fort Detroit, departed with five hundred men down the Wabash River and easily retook Vincennes, which he renamed Fort Sackville. Clark sent Vigo to scout out the fort and report back to him at Kaskaskia. But Indians captured Vigo once he arrived and turned him over to Hamilton.

Since Vigo was a Spanish citizen and thus, in late 1778, a non-combatant, Hamilton was obliged to let him go. Nevertheless, Hamilton was suspicious of him and told him not to "do anything injurious to the British interests on his way to St. Louis." True to his word, Vigo traveled to St. Louis before returning to Kaskaskia to inform Clark of the British hold on Fort Sackville.

Feeling uneasy, Clark marched his men for eighteen days through freezing and flooded terrain in February 1779 to retake the fort by surprise. Hamilton surrendered the next day. For those brave and trying exploits, Clark was hailed as a hero throughout Virginia. While Virginians were grateful to Clark, the Commonwealth had not supported his efforts with enough cash and supplies. Had it not been for Vigo, Leyba, and Gálvez, supplying him with materials, money, intelligence, and encouragement, it is highly doubtful that Clark would have been able to carry out his mission in the Illi-

nois country.

Britain's Grand Design

By the end of 1779 and beginning of 1780, Britain had begun seriously eyeing the Mississippi Valley as a potential second front. From the Illinois country, they planned to sweep down the Mississippi to New Orleans, targeting Spanish settlements along the western side of the river and taking control of river commerce. By cutting off the strategic flow of weapons and supplies coming up the Mississippi, the British army would have been able to shut down a crucial supply chain and, effectively, surround the Continental Army. To carry out this strategy, they

had to rely heavily on the assistance of their Indian allies.

It can be said one of Britain's greatest weaknesses (failures) in the American Revolution was their belief that Native Americans in the West and Loyalist sympathizers in the South would repeatedly risk their lives for the Crown's sake. "Upon the declaration of war against Great Britain by Spain in 1779," writes the late historian Milo Milton Quaife, "Brit-

ain proceeded to plan a comprehensive campaign which would sweep the whole western American frontier from Canada to Florida and result in destroying the power of both Spain and the colonists in the Mississippi Valley.

"From Pensacola in the South and Detroit in the Northwest, as centers of operation, the British forces were to converge upon lower Louisiana, having taken St. Louis en route."^x

The British officer in charge of the campaign was named Emanuel Hesse. He set out in early 1778 with a few British regulars and over two hundred Indians from Northwest tribes hostile toward France.

Meanwhile, Leyba appealed to the early St. Louisans to fund their village's own defense. In the end, though, he donated much of his personal money to the cause. Although he had wanted to build four stone towers, by mid-April of that year, only one had been completed. It stood forty feet tall and measured thirty feet across. Leyba named it



In February 1779, Clark recaptured Fort Sackville in Vincennes without any blood shed.—Source: wikipedia.org

Fort San Carlos in honor of Charles III. The fort was located where Fourth and Walnut streets intersect in downtown St. Louis.

In anticipation of Hesse's forces, Leyba had three four-pound cannons and two six-pounders placed atop the fort.

By this time, his health was failing. His wife had already died in the Illinois country wilderness, and all he wanted was to take his two young daughters back to Barcelona. Instead, tensions mounted in St. Louis, which was protected by only sixteen Spanish soldiers and the able-bodied men of the town who

comprised the militia.^{x1}

In upper Louisiana, George Rogers Clark, Fernando de Leyba, and Francis Vigo, along with Clark's militia, proved valiant enough to stop the Brits. Galvez' brilliant defense of lower Louisiana and along the Gulf Coast was yet to come. ■

The author is a retired judge and member of many patriotic and lineage societies, including the SOR. In 2009-2010, he was President General of the NSSAR and is the founder of the SAR's Mexico Society and Spain Society, respectively.

Footnotes to 'The "Other" European Ally', Part II

ⁱAllen W. Gardner, *A Naval History of the American Revolution*, Vol. 1 (Houghton Mifflin & Co., 1915), p. 334.

ⁱⁱCharles Edward, *Leading American Treaties* (Macmillan, 1922), pp. 24-25.

ⁱⁱⁱEdward G. Gray, Jane Kamensky, *The Oxford Handbook of the American Revolution* (OUP USA, 2013), p. 322.

^{iv}Richard Van Alstyne, *Empire and Independence: The International History of the American Revolution* (New York: Wiley, 1965), pp 248-249.

^vJohn Walton Caughey, *Bernardo de Gálvez in Louisiana, 1776-1783* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1934); Lorenzo G. LaFarelle, *Bernardo de Gálvez: Hero of the American Revolution* (Eakin Press, 1992).

^{vi}Caughey, pp. 82, 95, 165-166

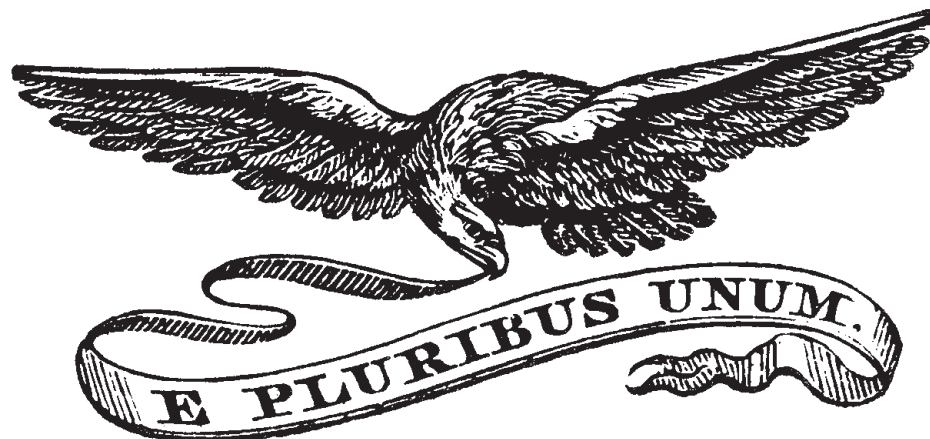
^{vii}Robert B. Roberts, *Encyclopedia of Historic Forts: "The Military, Pioneer, and Trading Posts of the United States,"* (Macmillan, 1988), pp 255, 325

^{viii} James Alexander Thorn, *Long Knife, The Story of a Great American Hero, George Rogers Clark* (Ballantine Books, 1986), pp. 198, 230, 411

^{ix}Dorothy Riker, "Francis Vigo," *Indiana Magazine of History*, Volume 26, Issue 1 (Indiana University, 1930), pp 12-24.

^xMilo Milton Quaife, *Chicago and the Old Northwest, 1673-1835: A Study of the Evolution of the Northwest Frontier* (University of Chicago Press, 1913), p. 94.

^{xi}Thomas E. Chavez, *Spain and the Independence of the United States: An Intrinsic Gift* (University of New Mexico Press, 2004); *Missouri, A Guide to the Show-Me State*, American Guide Series (Oxford University Press, New York, 1941).



Foreign Relations and the Founding of the American Republic

By H. Edward Phillips, III

The push toward independence in Britain's North American colonies was the result of a gradual change in the view that British-American colonists held toward their government in London, which coincided with merging common interests between Britain's European foes and American patriots.

The seeds of the political movement that resulted in revolution were planted as Britain reacted to the debt it had incurred in the aftermath of the French & Indian War, a.k.a. Seven Years' War, 1756 - 1763. Additionally, the desire of France and Spain to seek revenge for their military defeat against Britain in that war provided the Patriots with two potential allies should a military conflict arise against Great Britain.

Steps taken by the colonists toward independence were viewed with great interest by France and Spain and led to the establishment of diplomatic relations with France and secretive mercantile relations with the Spanish court. [See related article, *The 'Other' European Ally of the Continental Army*, page 14.]

The initial confrontation which sparked the outbreak of the French & Indian War occurred on 28 May 1754, when a young and ambitious Lt. Colonel named George Washington, along with his Virginia militiamen and a detachment of native allies, engaged a French military party on behalf of King George II. Both sides claimed the other had fired first. However, after the smoke had cleared, and the barbarity displayed by the Seneca Chief Tanaghrisson, better known as the Half-King, came to an end, thirteen French soldiers lay dead.

Among those thirteen casualties was Ensign Joseph Coulon de Villiers de Jumonville,¹ the officer charged with carrying French diplomatic correspondence to Virginia's Royal Governor Robert Dinwiddie.

The ultimate British victory in the ensuing war had a significant impact worldwide, including the ballooning of Britain's national debt by £122,000,000.¹¹ Despite the fact that the struggle was fought over three continents and across two oceans, Parliament sought to shift the burden of the war debt to the American colonies. Many in Parliament viewed the expansionist activities of

Watermark in upper left is of the first official seal of the United States, approved in 1794.

American colonists on the frontier, particularly in the Ohio Valley—which spread across modern-day western Pennsylvania, portions of West Virginia, Ohio and eastern Indiana—as the direct cause of the war.

Hostile Legislation & Unresponsive King

Based upon its desire to pay the nation's war debt, Parliament passed a number of acts aimed at raising revenue through taxation, which included taxing various goods that were either needed or wanted in the American colonies. Those acts included the Currency Act, the Sugar Act, the Stamp Act, the Navigation Acts, and the Townshend Acts. This intolerable string of legislation created a sense of outrage in the American colonists because, for the better part of seven generations, these British subjects in North America had been fairly autonomous and relatively untouched by direct legislative action from Parliament.

In addition to these new taxes, the Crown began to enforce existing laws related to navigation and trade in the Americas, which had a harsh impact on port cities, especially Boston. Further, petitions by the colonies' assemblies sent to Parliament and the King were being ignored. Worse still, government posts in the colonies, which had been established by the Crown, began to be left vacant, including open seats on the judiciary. Business affairs, legal matters, and personal endeavors were all now being affected by an unresponsive government in London.



Chief Tanaghrisson, a.k.a. Half-King.



George Washington, 1722.

Meanwhile, Patrick Henry of Virginia, a firebrand and young trial lawyer, was the first in the Thirteen Colonies to actually condemn the King publically. In 1763, Henry argued before the Hanover County court, in a trial presided over by his father, that the King was bound by law to protect his people.ⁱⁱⁱ Therefore, when the King refused to proclaim the Virginia Assembly's Two Penny Act as an approved piece of legislation, his actions equated a tyrannical abuse of authority. While the elder Henry ruled against his son, Patrick's words regarding the British Crown could not be unuttered; a spark of an argument now existed.

Founding Fathers Stand Up

Throughout the American colonies, resentment toward official British action—and inaction—took on a more confrontational tone in no small part because of men such as Virginia's Henry and Boston's Samuel Adams. Colonists and their leaders became more aware that their liberty could be quashed at any time and that they were now engaged in a fight concerning economic survival and the meeting of basic human needs.

On 23 March 1775, Patrick Henry rose once again to meet the occasion. This time he stood in the center aisle of Henrico Parrish Church (now St. John's) in Richmond, Virginia to address his colleagues of the Second Virginia Convention. He laid out what was a prophetic message related to the tensions in Boston and how the British response in that colony could easily be turned upon the other twelve.

His message carried forth the proposition that the war had already begun and that "[t]he next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the resounding clash of arms!"^{iv} Further, in an effort to allay fears, Henry bade that Virginia prepare itself for war and when pushed as to how the colonists would engage the most powerful nation in the world, he was quick to state "[b]eside sir, we shall

not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us."

The stage for rebellion was now set, and countries like France and Spain were cautiously eyeing the events. All of the Founders knew foreign powers hostile to England would consider aiding the rebels in a war if certain conditions were met. Top secrecy was one of them. A formal Declaration of Independence was another.^v

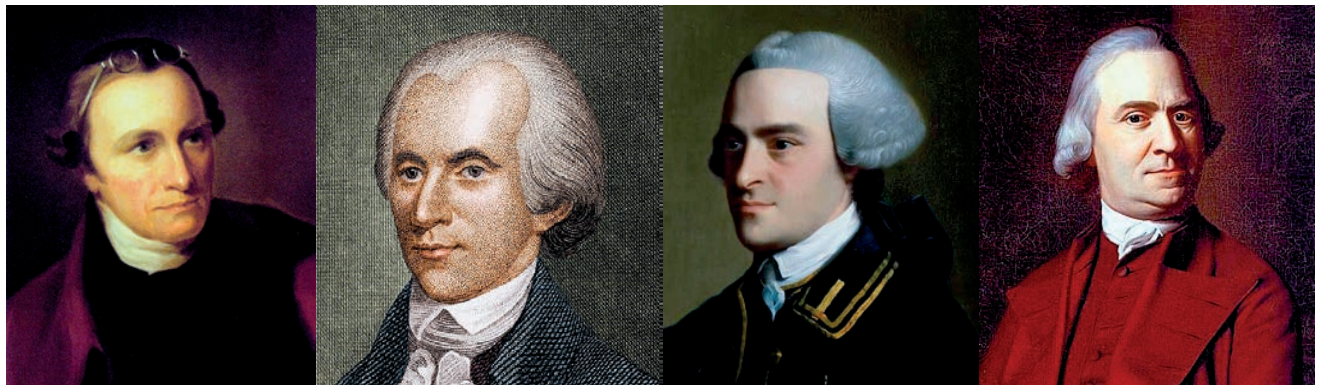
Less than a month later, Patriots engaged British Regulars in the villages of Lexington and Concord on the 19th of April. The Revolution had begun, and the move toward independence was now more palpable. Nevertheless, the risks in forming any alliances with Britain's foes were extremely high for all parties potentially involved. For the colonists, the penalty for treason was death. For potential allies supporting the rebels, they risked upsetting Old World alliances firmly in place, which would most likely have caused warfare on other fronts.

Work of the Continental Congress

Through 1775 and 1776, secrecy and security were essential. The fifty-six men meeting as part of the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia were now "wanted" men and some of the meetings and committee sessions had to be conducted behind closed doors. This was especially true of discussions Congressional representatives had with France and/or Spain.

Traditional teaching of the period suggests that the Continental Congress was ineffectual in supporting the war effort. It has long been taught that while Washington and the Continental Army were fighting for survival, a dysfunctional and weak Congress appeared to only muster ineffective requests for money. The reality, however, was that Congressional response *ensured* that the struggle for independence would be lasting and effectual.

Members of Congress were preoccupied with



Patrick Henry

Richard Henry Lee

John Hancock

Samuel Adams

how they would be viewed by the world, especially potential allies.^{vii} As a result, on 6 April 1776, Congress passed an act that made the colonial ports in America open to any and all nations seeking to establish international trade with the Americans. From that point forward, trading partners outside the sphere of British influence were welcome to begin relations with the Americans, in hopes that such relationships would yield financing and supplies for the American war effort.

While Congress had no real legal authority to raise money vis-à-vis taxation or any ability to require the thirteen independent colonies to pay for the war effort, it worked tirelessly to form military and trade alliances that would support the quest for independence. On 15 May 1776, it also passed a resolution requiring American colonies that had governments remaining loyal to the Crown be suppressed and replaced with extralegal Patriot-led assemblies. The resolution stated in part that:

“[I]t appears absolutely irreconcilable to reason and good Conscience, for the people of these colonies now to take the oaths and affirmations necessary for the support of any government under the crown of Great Britain, and it is necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under the said crown should be totally suppressed, and all the powers of government exerted, under the authority of the people of the colonies, for the preservation of internal peace, virtue, and good order, as well as for the defence of their lives, liberties, and properties, against the hostile invasions and cruel deprivations of their enemies. . . .”

As a result of this resolution, loyal governments in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania were replaced with governments supporting the move toward independence. The most dramatic was the dissolution of the colonial government of New Jersey and the arrest of Royal Governor William Franklin, the son of Benjamin Franklin. With the passage of this resolution, Congress was clearing the way for the final volley in its political assertions against the Crown.^{viii}

Diplomacy of the Declaration

Taken as a whole, Congressional action that opened American ports and dissolved unfriendly colonial governments made ripe Richard Henry Lee’s motion calling for independence on 7 June 1776. The boldest act now faced the delegates – the question of independence itself.

Most assuredly, as Congress pushed toward independence, it had the foresight to understand the necessity of developing economic and political



Independence Hall, Philadelphia.

relationships outside the traditional bonds it once shared with the British Empire. The most important step toward such relationships came from the



Ben Franklin

sessions of Congress from 28 June - 4 July 1776, when Jefferson’s original draft of the Declaration of Independence was revised and adopted.^{ix} The changes made by Congress to Jefferson’s draft were made to ensure it would be unanimously adopted by the entire body.



Thomas Jefferson

On 2 July 1776, the vote adopting the Declaration of Independence signaled to potential allies that the war being waged by the Americans was not another English civil war.^x Thus, from that point forward, France, Spain and other potential allies could discuss mat-

ters of trade, supply and military aid with the Continental Congress as they would with other foreign governments. Nevertheless, such discussions and efforts still occurred outside of the public eye.

After independence had been declared, French and Spanish efforts to supply armaments and ever-important gunpowder for the American war effort were funneled through Rodriquez Hortalez & Company, under the supervision of Caron de Beaumarchais.^{x1} This is consistent with their designs to seek retaliation against England and help drive an irreversible wedge between the colonists and their Mother Country.

In advance of the efforts taken by Rodriquez Hortalez & Company, which came after the adoption of the Declaration, a French agent by the name of Julien Achard de Bonvouloir arrived in late 1775 in the city of Philadelphia. During his visit, he met with Benjamin Franklin, who later introduced him to the Congress' Committee. Predictably, when Bonvouloir met with the members of the Committee, each member was required to take a different route to the meeting place to ensure the utmost secrecy and to avoid detection by British spies.^{x11}

It is important to note that discussions with France and Spain were within the purview of the Committee, whose members were tasked with establishing an alliance with foreign powers. The re-

sult of Congressional efforts would yield the greatest boon to the American war effort—the formal treaty of alliance between the United States and France in 1778.

The historical record supports the fact that both France and Spain supplied money and material support for the Americans. Furthermore, France's entering the struggle as an ally made the Revolutionary War winnable. After France committed her military, by separate treaty Spain also committed her military support, chiefly in the Gulf of Mexico. Our Founding Fathers knew that diplomatic relationships had to be established with these foreign powers in order to effectively wage war against the British Empire.

As such, the real story of the American Revolution is how political leaders, business leaders, and military leaders from across the Thirteen Colonies collectively used foreign relations and secret international commerce to help give birth to Lady Liberty. ■

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¹ Joseph J. Ellis, *His Excellency George Washington*, Random House (2004), pp. 12-15; Stephen Brunwell, *George Washington Gentleman Warrior*, Quercus (2012), pp. 37-38, 43, 53-55.

¹¹ American Memory Timeline, *The American Revolution 1763-1783: British Reforms and Colonial Resistance, 1763-1766*, Library of Congress website, <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/timeline/amrev/britref/>

¹¹¹ A.J. Langguth, *Patriots – The Men Who Started the American Revolution*, Simon and Schuster (1988), p. 46.

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^{vi} Ibid.

^{vii} Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*, W. & T. Bradford, Philadelphia (Feb 14, 1776), p. 86

^{viii} Phillips, pp. 440-441.

^{ix} Jon Meacham, *Thomas Jefferson – The Art of Power*, Random House (2012), pp 105-108; Langguth, pp. 358 - 361.

^x Phillips, pp. 440-445.

^{x1} Ed Butler, "Spain's Involvement in the American Revolutionary War," *The SAR Magazine*, Summer 2009, Vol. 104, No.1, pp. 20-25.

^{x11} Langguth, pp. 323 - 326.

^{x111} Ellis, pp. 221-223.

Following the Revolution . . .



Edmond Charles Genêt
in 1810

With the overthrow of the French monarchy and death of Louis XVI in 1792, European nobilities brought war upon the new revolutionary government of France. The government, in turn, wanted the United States to help protect its Caribbean islands, either as a neutral supplier or as a mili-

tary ally.

In 1793, France dispatched Edmond-Charles Genêt, an experienced diplomat, as minister to the United States. In front of the Americans, he called himself "Citizen Genêt." In addition to trying to extract war support, Genêt was also to obtain advance payments on debts that the U.S. owed to France, to negotiate a commercial treaty between the United States and France, and to implement portions of the 1778 Franco-American treaty which allowed attacks on British merchant shipping using ships based in American ports.

His argument? According to terms of the Franco-American Treaty of Alliance of 1778, the United States and France were "perpetual allies," and America was "obliged" to help France defend the West Indies. But last thing the young country could afford was to get absorbed into another costly war. Just as France and Spain had been very careful in supporting the Colonies prior to American independence, now it was America's turn to take extreme precaution with both France and Britain.

Yet Genêt was indifferent to the Washington administration's wishes. Instead of reporting immediately to Philadelphia, Genêt landed first in Charleston, South Carolina on 8 April 1793 and there began issuing privateering commissions with the consent of South Carolina Governor William Moultrie. The commissions authorized the bearers (of any country) to seize British merchant ships and their cargo for personal profit, with the approval and protection of the French government.

These actions were in flagrant opposition to the neutrality that President Washington's administration pursued. By the time Genêt made it to Philadelphia, President Washington had already issued an official proclamation of neutrality. Thomas Jefferson personally informed Genêt that he must

stop involving the U.S. in France's war.

Corresponding with the envoy's arrival in Philadelphia, Henry Knox sent a memo to President Washington advising him that the U.S. could not withhold the ships that Genêt outfitted, as doing so would be perceived by the British as showing favoritism toward France in the ongoing war. Therefore, Washington held firm to the path of neutrality: Since the French monarchy no longer existed, he asserted, the former alliance between the two countries was no longer binding.

Jefferson's admonition fell on deaf ears; Genêt continued preparing American ships for battle. The entire Cabinet agreed he should be recalled. Washington sent notification to Paris requesting his recall, but later the President relented and allowed Genêt to remain in the U.S. and become an American citizen. The radical Jacobins had come to power in Paris by then and had issued an arrest warrant for him. A compassionate Washington administration acquiesced on expelling him from the country.

In the aftermath of this crisis, the end result was that the U.S. formulated a consistent policy on the issue of neutrality. On 3 Aug 1793, Washington's administration signed a set of rules regarding policies of neutrality. The rules were formalized into law when Congress passed a neutrality bill on 4 June 1794. That legislation, according to the State Department, formed the basis for America's neutrality policy throughout the nineteenth century. As the old saying goes, "For every bad, there is a good to come from it. ■

—H. Edward Phillips, III



President Washington confronts Genêt.

—Source: Britannica.com

A Standard to Which the Wise and Honest Can Repair

By Capt. David Eastman, USA, Ret.

The following is the second and final installment of the 2015 winning essay for the GSSR scholarship award. The General Society honors the scholarship of a chosen John Jay Institute Fellow. The author, David Eastman, is a graduate of West Point and former Captain in the U.S. Army who served in Afghanistan and now lives with his wife and daughter in Wasilla, Alaska. He works as a First Responder and fire fighter. The John Jay Fellows Program is a post-undergraduate educational and professional experience for men and women aspiring to devote themselves to spiritual and secular public service. The Fellows Program is especially suited for career aspirants in the fields of religion, law, politics, public and international affairs, issue advocacy, social service, journalism, and education.—Editor

The Federalist Papers and the Men Who Wrote Them

The three authors of *The Federalist Papers* were no strangers to the debates over religious freedom at the time of the Founding. In writing to his lifelong friend William Bradford on 24 Jan 1775, James Madison confided: “That diabolical, Hell-conceived principle of persecution rages among some and to their eternal Infamy the Clergy can furnish their Quota of Imps for such business. This vexes me the most of any thing whatever.”ⁱ

Writing just one month earlier, his future collaborator on *The Federalist Papers*, Alexander Hamilton, declared: “Remember civil and religious liberty always go together: if the foundation of the one be sapped, the other will fall of course.”ⁱⁱ Likewise, John Jay would later write: “The most effectual means of securing the continuance of our civil and religious liberties is always to remember with reverence and gratitude the source from which they flow.”ⁱⁱⁱ

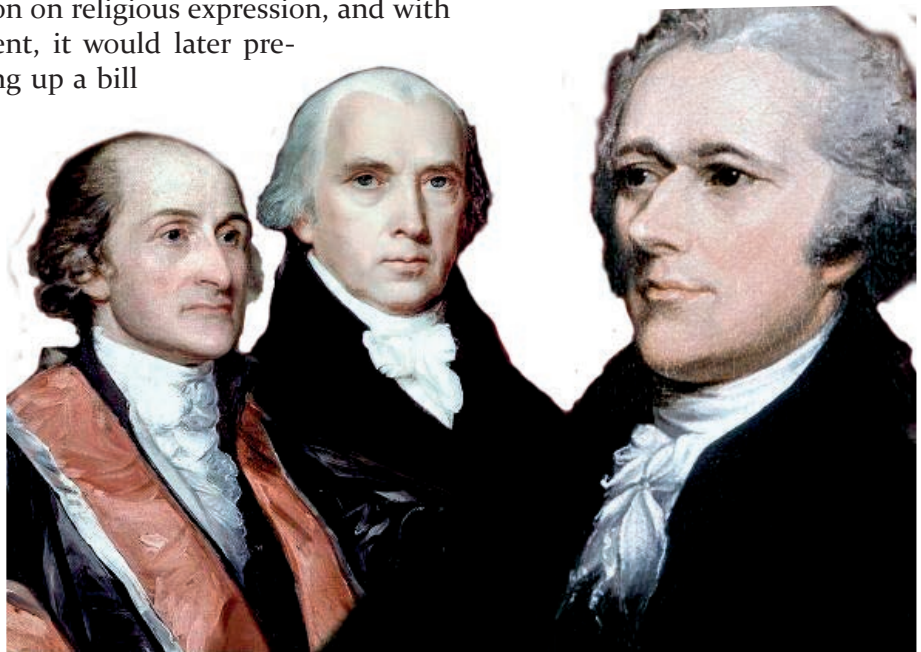
Any writer who would attempt to argue for the curtailment of religious liberty on the grounds of purported support in either the Constitution, or *The Federalist Papers*, betrays an ignorance not only of the Constitutional framework and the Founding era, but also of the authors themselves, whose support for the proposed Constitution flowed directly from their personal conviction of the necessary role that religious liberty would play in the laws of the new nation.

Rather than curtail religious expression, the Constitution stood squarely on the side of permitting expression, particularly on the part of religious minorities; expression that would have been proscribed by many of the states, not to mention foreign nations. From its first word to its last, the Constitution offered not one prohibition or limitation on religious expression, and with passage of the First Amendment, it would later pre-

clude Congress from ever taking up a bill that would either establish a national church or limit the free exercise of religion.

In Article VI, the Constitution prudently declared that “no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.”^{iv} Under the Constitution, states would be permitted to maintain their respective laws governing religious conduct; whether restrictive as in the case of Massachusetts, or permissive as in the case of Virginia.

Indeed, we are not sur-



John Jay, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton co-authored *The Federalist Papers*.

—Source: slate.com

prised to find from its very first essay, *The Federalist Papers* arguing for religious tolerance: "...in politics, as in religion, it is equally absurd to aim at making proselytes by fire and sword. Heresies in either can rarely be cured by persecution."^v Even while instances of religious persecution were taking place within the various [colonies], Publius (the pseudonym employed by all three authors of *The Federalist Papers*) argued for toleration and pointed the way forward by highlighting the absurdity of employing persecution as a tool of the state.

In his second essay, Publius draws the attention of the reader several times to the blessings of Divine Providence in preparing the land as an inheritance, and in also preparing the American people to receive it. [The writers] argued that it was not a coincidence that as a people, [Americans] all professed the same religion and

also the same principles of government. These circumstances had been orchestrated from on high.^{vi} In a later passage, it is taken for granted that self-preservation is a transcendent law of nature and of nature's God, and that governmental institutions must be sacrificed to the safety and happiness of society, rather than the safety and happiness of society being sacrificed to governmental institutions.^{vii}

Throughout *The Federalist Papers*, each author in turn speaks to a culture bathed in Biblical principles, and invites the toleration and amity that should result from the proper application of those principles, while also drawing attention to the hand of God in bringing about both the Independence of the colonies and the remarkable and unlooked for unanimity of support the Constitution had lately received from a Convention that would otherwise have devolved into faction.^{viii}

In essays 52 and 57 it is again repeated that no candidate to office shall be disqualified on account of a religious test, thereby affirming the position of the national government as neutral with regard to the competing Christian denominations in the several States.^{ix} Further, in *Federalist 57* we observe

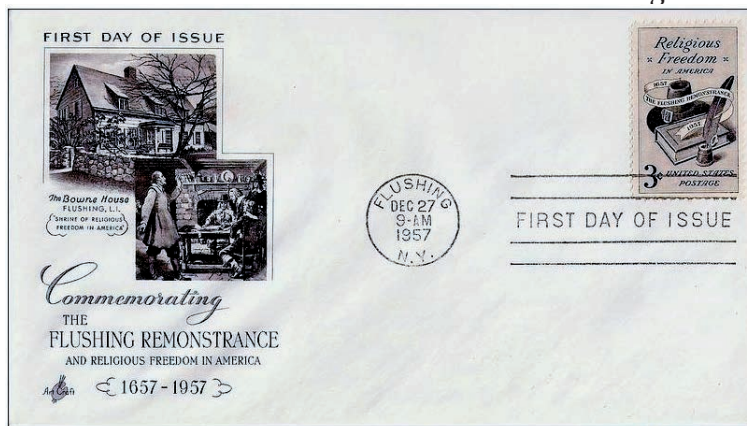
with clarity the stated purpose of the Constitution itself: The aim of every political constitution is, or ought to be, first to obtain [as] rulers men who possess most wisdom to discern, and most virtue to pursue, the common good of the society; and in the next place, to take the most effectual precautions for keeping them virtuous whilst they continue to hold their public trust.^x

It is this pursuit of virtue in public office that each of the writers of *The Federalist Papers* directly associated with religious liberty and a deliberate

and voluntary preference for Christian principle in the public square. Indeed, John Jay would later state explicitly: "Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."^{xi}

This statement was echoed by other Framers, including the sole Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence, Charles Carroll.^{xii} Again, the emphasis would rightly be placed on *voluntary* preference. Prior to passage of Virginia's Act for Establishing Religious Freedom, Madison argued forcefully that compulsory state support for a particular Christian sect did more to undermine freedom and religious principle than to strengthen it.^{xiii} Throughout *The Federalist Papers*, we find that the Framers did not for one moment entertain the idea that virtue could be compelled by the state. If virtue was to be found in government it would have to first come from the people, as the government itself would be incapable of generating it. As president, John Adams declared forcefully that the Constitution that had been adopted would only serve a moral and religious people. To any other people, it would be as inadequate as a fishing net in the hands of a whaler.^{xiv}

Finally, in *Federalist 51* we encounter the lesson that "in a free government the security for civil



The U.S. Post Office in 1957 issued a stamp commemorating 300 years of freedom of religion in America. The Flushing Remonstrance preceded *The Federalist Papers* by 130 years. —Source: worldsfaircommunity.org



rights must be the same as that for religious rights.” Not only are both rights to be appropriately safeguarded, but the method of protecting each is the same. The success and well-being of the nation lies not in unification under an established religion or a political party, but in amity between a multiplicity of Christian denominations, the large number of which, supported by a Republican form of government, dissuades any one sect or group of sects from pursuing the oppression of the others.

When the form of a government permits stronger factions to easily affect the oppression of political or religious minorities, government itself has failed. We know it has failed because we know from the Declaration that government owes its very existence to the stated purpose of securing those rights.^{xv} *Federalist 51* reminds our generation, as it did that of the Framers, that “Justice is the end of government. It is the end of civil society. It ever has been and ever will be pursued until it be obtained, or until liberty be lost in the pursuit.”^{xvi} Absent a virtuous and moral people to constrain it, liberty will inevitably be lost in that pursuit.

In the writings of Jay, Madison and Hamilton, we encounter not only a defense of the Constitution, but also numerous cautions over how that Constitution might one day be undermined and eventually dispensed with. The text of the Constitution alone would not be the means of preserving the Republic. In *Federalist 48*, Madison asks rhetorically, “Will it be sufficient to mark, with precision, the boundaries of these departments, in the constitution of the government, and to trust to these parchment barriers against the encroaching spirit of power?”

To this, he answers emphatically in the negative: “...a mere demarcation on parchment of the constitutional limits of the several departments, is not a sufficient guard against those encroachments which lead to a tyrannical concentration...”

Hamilton also echoes this conclusion in *Federalist 25*, noting dispassionately that “...nations pay little regard to rules and maxims calculated in their very nature to run counter to the necessities of society.”

Other than the continued blessings of Provi-

dence, what did the Framers then look to for the preservation of free government? In *Federalist 57*, Madison explained that hope was to be looked for first in the fit between the American society of his day and each of the component parts of the government then taking shape, and second in the vigilant and manly spirit which both nourishes freedom and in return is nourished by it. If that manly spirit should ever be sufficiently debased, the American people would be incapable of liberty no matter what form of government they chose.^{xvii}

On the final day of the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin invited his fellow delegates to sign the finished Constitution by stating: “...this is likely to be well administered for a course of years, and can only end in Despotism, as other forms have done before it, when the people shall become so corrupted as to need despotic Government, being incapable of any other.”^{xviii} At first blush we might be tempted to look upon such an invitation as a pessimistic jest. And yet, if it be a jest, it so closely reflects the thinking of so many of the Framers as to be indistinguishable from a stern warning to us today. The Framers did not expect the Constitution to endure for all time. It was designed for a particular place and time; a place particularly favorable to what was then a novel experiment in political affairs.

The success of that experiment has led us to where we are as a nation today. Unfortunately, that success has permitted many Americans to develop a false sense of security. The Constitution achieved its success not because it was magical, or was composed of just the right words to preserve freedom in any generation and in any society. It was successful due to the kindness of Providence, and because it drew upon timeless lessons of human nature that were carefully applied to the circumstances of the American colonies in 1787.

If we are to take away one message from *The Federalist Papers*, perhaps it should be that with the curtailment of religious liberties comes the inevitably curtailment of civil liberties as well. Once a government has successfully found a way over the “great Barrier” of religious liberty, it will soon trample upon civil liberties as well.^{xix} ■



Hamilton used the pseudonym Publius in honor of Publius Valerius Publicola, a Roman who was named consul of the Republic in 509, 508, 507, and 504 BC
—Source: yooniqueimages.com

Footnotes to 'A Standard to Which the Wise and Honest Can Repair'

ⁱThe Papers of James Madison Digital Edition, J. C. A. Stagg, editor. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, Rotunda, 2010. Available at: <<http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/JSMN-01-01-02-0029>> Original source: Congressional Series, Volume 1 (16 March 1751–16 December 1779).

ⁱⁱAlexander Hamilton, "A Full Vindication of the Measures of Congress," December 15, 1774. Available at: <<http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/hamilton-the-works-of-alexander-hamilton-federal-edition-vol-1/simple>>.

ⁱⁱⁱWilliam Jay, "The Life of John Jay" (New York: J. & J. Harper, 1833), Vol. I, pp. 457-458, to the Committee of the Corporation of the City of New York on June 29, 1826.

^{iv}*U.S. Constitution*. Art. VI. Available at <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_transcript.html>.

^vAlexander Hamilton, Federalist No. 1, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed01.asp>.

^{vi}John Jay, Federalist No. 2, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed02.asp>.

^{vii}James Madison, Federalist No. 43, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed43.asp>.

^{viii}James Madison, Federalist No. 37, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed37.asp>.

^{ix}James Madison, Federalist No. 52 and 57, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed52.asp> and <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed57.asp>.

^xJames Madison, Federalist No. 57, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed57.asp>.

^{xi}John Jay, *The Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay*, Henry Johnston, editor (New York: G. P. Punam's Sons, 1893), Vol. IV, pp. 391-393, letter to John Murray, October 12, 1816.

^{xii}Bernard C. Steiner, *The Life and Correspondence of James McHenry* (Cleveland: The Burrows Brothers, 1907), p. 475. In a letter from Charles Carroll to James McHenry of November 4, 1800. Available at <<http://www.wallbuilders.com/libissuesarticles.asp?id=63>>.

^{xiii}James Madison, "Memorial and Remonstrance against Religious Assessments", June 20, 1785. Available at <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/print_documents/amendI_religions43.html>.

^{xiv}John Adams, *The Works of John Adams, Second President of the United States*, Charles Francis Adams, editor (Boston: Little, Brown, and Co. 1854), Vol. IX, p. 229, October 11, 1798.

^{xv}James Madison, Federalist No. 51, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed51.asp>.

^{xvi}*id.*

^{xvii}James Madison, Federalist No. 57, *The Federalist Papers*, Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed57.asp>.

^{xviii}Speech of Benjamin Franklin. Notes on the Debates in the Federal Convention; 17 Sep 1787. Available at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/debates_917.asp>.

^{xix}James Madison, "Memorial and Remonstrance against Religious Assessments", June 20, 1785. Available at <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/print_documents/amendI_religions43.html>.

The Revolution's Last Men

The following vignette is the second in a series of six Revolutionary War veterans featured in The Revolution's Last Men, a recent book by Don N. Hagist published in early 2015 by Westholme Publishing of Yardley, Pennsylvania. These men lived to be centenarians and were photographed during the time of the Civil War. The images were published in the 1864 book, Last Men of the Revolution. Through detailed research, Mr. Hagist has distilled their service records, added to their post-war biographies, and sifted through historical inaccuracies previously published. The excerpt(s) is copyrighted and republished with permission.

Daniel Waldo

Born 1762, Windham, Connecticut; died 1864, Syracuse, New York; served in the Connecticut militia twice, first in 1779, later in 1780; taken prisoner and released; 1788, graduated Yale College with honors; married Mary Hanchett and raised five children; in 1792 became an ordained minister; in 1856-57, at ninety-six years of age, served as Chaplain of U.S. House of Representatives.

Excerpts: "It is unlikely that Daniel Waldo wore any type of uniform during either of his two stints as a soldier in the Connecticut militia. He served for one month in 1779 when he was sixteen years old, and again for most of the following year on the Connecticut coast at Horse Neck..."

His account of being captured [in March 1779 at Horse Neck] says nothing of fellow soldiers being brutally slain by sabers only yards away from him; his mention of having been a prisoner of war omits that hundreds of others perished in the same prison [New York's infamous Sugar House]; only through the depositions of comrades do we learn of overnight marches without food...

He served for one month in a company commanded by Capt. William Howard, and his activity was more that of the laborer than the soldier. With other men from Windham, he went to coastal New London and spent time building a fortification on Summit Hill [Fort Nonesuch, a.k.a., Fort Nonesense or Fort Folly]. Daniel Waldo had no involvement with Fort Nonesuch after May 1779. Released from his one-month obligation, his activities go unrecorded until he joined the militia once again in April 1780...

In 1780 the men from Windham and other



Daniel Waldo
—Photo by Nelson A. Moore

neighboring towns were organized into a company commanded by Capt. Nathaniel Wells, beginning a service obligation of eight months... In Horse Neck they joined with other militia companies and formed a regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Levi Wells... The post at Horse Neck was important for maintaining observation over British movements through the waters of Long Island Sound... it also guarded the most direct overland approach to the encampments at Redding.

On the night of December 9-10, a corps of loyalist cavalymen known as the Westchester Refugees under the command of Col. James DeLancey took

the billeted soldiers completely by surprise... Daniel Waldo stood sentry at the door of the house where Lt. Col. Wells and several other officers were quartered... Waldo laid down his weapon... then laid down himself, and the loyalists stormed the house...

A mere twenty-one days before the end of his eight-month enlistment, Waldo was taken to New York and incarcerated in the infamous Sugar House prison. Waldo gave no description of his time there in his pension deposition, and apparently the only information related to Rev. Hillard about his incarceration was that provisions were scant...

After only two months, an exchange [of prisoners] was agreed upon... He and his comrades captured at Horse Neck were released from the Sugar House and conveyed to Staten Island... then to Elizabeth Town in New Jersey... They had missed the disbanding of their regiment and... received no written discharge papers, but they were able to collect the pay that was due to them." ■

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Revised Editorial Policy

The *SOR Drumbeat* is the quarterly membership newsletter of the General Society, Sons of the Revolution. The publication is printed and distributed to members in good standing as a benefit of membership. After every January 1st, the previous year's issues are posted as non-alterable PDFs on the General Society's website.

The Editor of the *SOR Drumbeat* seeks articles for publication. Suitable topics would include all meetings, social activities, and events of SOR State Societies as well as their local chapters. Articles of a historical nature must be focused on the Revolutionary War era and be well researched. The Editor reserves the right to edit submitted articles for style and content, in cooperation with the author(s). Publication date cannot be guaranteed, but every effort is made to publish in a timely manner.

Articles should be composed using a standard word processing program, such as Microsoft Word, with one-inch margins and double-spaced. Digital photos should be saved as hi-res JPEG files. Send the article, photos, and all related correspondence to the Editor's attention at the following address: drumbeat1776@sbcglobal.net. Alternatively, contributors may send typed articles and print photos via USPS to the Williamsburg HQ, from where they will be forwarded to the Editor.

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Submission Deadline Dates

Issue	Deadline	Mailing
Spring	Feb 15	Apr 1
Summer	May 15	July 1
Fall	Aug 15	Oct 1
Winter	Nov 15	Jan 1

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