

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political Bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of Nature, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that the Declaration which they pronounce, shall be plain and unambiguously understood, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, to secure these Rights...

...the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that the Declaration which they pronounce, shall be plain and unambiguously understood, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, to secure these Rights...

Can you match Caesar Rodney, who dashed eighty miles by horse, To cast his "Aye" for liberty and end of rule by force?
Can you face Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, or the rest, Who buried bitter rivalries when freedom faced a test?
Can you meet Franklin, Sherman, Paine, defenders of the right, Who asked for death in preference to unmitigated might?
Can you snub Livingston, or Wythe, or Read (who changed his mind When fifty-five had voted "Aye", withdrew his "Nay", and signed?)
What will you say to Witherspoon, to Hopkinson, or Hall?
Who held These Truths Self-Evident, for benefit of all?
Can you explain to Gwinnett, Chase, or Hooper, Howes or Penn, Pursuit of Happiness was lost through bickerings of men?
Will you tell Paca, Walton, Stone, we don't know what they meant, When they decreed just-government got power by consent?
Can you do less than Rutledge, Heyward, Lynch, or Clark, or Hart, Who pledged their lives and fortunes to give Liberty her start?
Would you dare tell a Middleton, a Bartlett, Whipple, Floyd, That all their views on Equal Rights are now found null and void?
To Thornton, Gerry, Hopkins, Williams; Wolcott, Morris, Smith,
Can you say Nature's God and Laws of Nature are a myth?
What of Lewis, Stockton, Ellery; of Morton, Clymer, Rush,
Can you tell them their voices have been throttled to a hush?
To Braxton, Nelson, Harrison; to Pennsylvania's Ross,
Can you confess their efforts must be crossed off as a loss?
How about McKean and Taylor; Hancock, Wilson, Carroll, Lee,
Will you, their heirs, admit you've no desire to be free?
They didn't quit, those fifty-six, in Sacred Honor bound,
And foes of Liberty, beware! Their sons are just as sound!
Though we debate each issue with a rivalry intense,
We're one when it's a matter of our national defense.—L.S.S.

...more disposed to puff up, and swell, the same, the hearty — ... the present King of ... let facts be submitted: more to puff Laws of imm ... He has ... made to them and for ... purpose of putting ... He has ... their service; the ... states; for that purpose ... He has ... of their offices, in ... He has ... — He ... the Quarters ... states: — For ... For transpor ... and enlarging ... our most valua ... in all cases a ... and dis ... circumstances of ... high class to be ... and his endeavours ... any stage of these ... which may ... legislature to ... proximity, and we have ... deaf to the voice of ... in this, in Dear ... of the world, for these ... and ought to be total ... and things which ... to reach other our

*Dutton, Gwinnett,
Lynch, Hall,
Geo. Walton.*

*Gen Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn*

*Edmund Rutledge
John Jay
Thomas Lynch
Arthur Middleton*

*John Adams
Samuel Chase
Wm. Rouse
Tho. Stone
Caleb C. Smith*

*George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Th. Jefferson
Wm. Harrison
Th. Wilson
Custer Braxton*

*John Hancock
Benjamin Rush
Phy. Franklin*

*John Morton
Geo. Taylor
James Madison
Caesar Rodney
Th. Mifflin*

*Gen. Mifflin
Sam. Adams
Lewis Morris*

*Rich. B. Smith
Geo. Washington
John Hart
Abra. Clark*

*Joshua B. ...
Saml. Adams
John Adams
Robt. B. ...
Steph ...
William ...
Roger ...
John ...
Oliver ...
Mather ...*