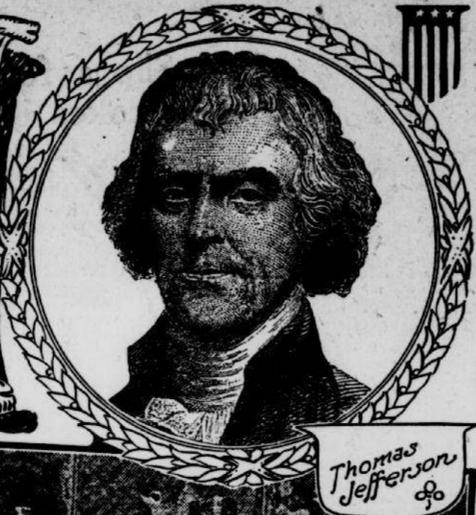


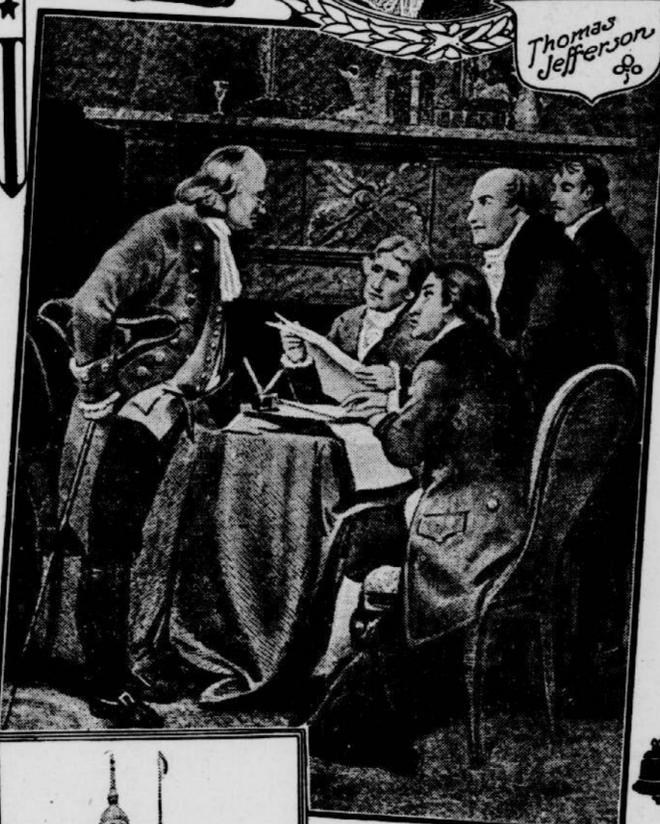
# OUR CHARTER OF FREEDOM

### The interesting story of the writing and signing of the Declaration of Independence—July 2 or August 2 better entitled to celebration than July 4.



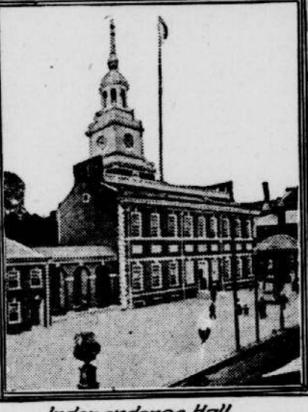
Thomas Jefferson

**P**OPULAR history has fastened upon our impressionable minds a poetic picture of the signing of the Declaration of Independence as a graceful and formal function, taking place July 4, 1776, in a large, handsomely furnished chamber in Independence hall, Philadelphia. To give the necessary touch of vivacity to the picture there is the scene of the small boy darting from the door as the last signer sets his autograph to the precious parchment and dashing down the street, calling to his grandfather, to "Ring! Oh, ring for liberty!"



Drafting the Declaration of Independence

Our ideal proclamation of the charter of American freedom must be shattered in the cause of truth. The Declaration of Independence was signed behind locked doors, and was not generally signed upon the Fourth of July at all. The city was not breathlessly awaiting the event outside, nor did the Liberty bell peal forth on that day the triumphal note of freedom.



Independence Hall

The accredited historian of the United States department of state is Galliard Hunt, Litt. D., LL. D., now chief of the division of manuscripts in the Library of Congress.

"There is really no reason for our celebrating the Fourth of July more than July 2 or August 2," said Doctor Hunt recently to an inquirer. "It was not until the latter date that the document was generally signed."

"The Virginia bill of rights, of which George Mason was also the author, was drawn up and adopted in the last colonial assembly in Virginia prior to the Revolution. The bill of rights is in effect a part of every constitution in the land today. It is beyond doubt that this famous document, of which his elderly friend was author, was largely drawn upon by Thomas Jefferson when he wrote the Declaration of Independence."

"The fundamental principles of government set forth in Mason's bill of rights were the same as those in the English petitions to the king, the acts of the long parliament and magna charta."

was read to the people July 8, when the Liberty bell was rung and the first public celebration was made in honor of the event."

**Signed August 2.**  
"July 19 congress ordered that the Declaration passed the 4th be fairly engrossed. It was very beautifully done on parchment. This is the document which received the signatures of all the members of the Continental congress present in Independence hall, August 2, 1776. By this time, however, the membership had changed slightly, so that the 'signers' were not identical with the body of delegates who had declared for independence a month before. Presumably it was at this time that Hancock, making his great familiar signature, jestingly remarked that John Bull could see it without his spectacles. One or two of the signatures were not actually affixed until a later date than August 2."

"This is the treasured Declaration of Independence now in possession of the department of state," said Doctor Hunt. "It is kept in a hermetically sealed case, which is opened only by special order for very special reasons. It is faded, and it would have been better if this engrossed copy had been made on paper rather than parchment. It is so faded that few of the signatures are recognizable. Nothing can now be done which will permanently benefit it."

"I believe the main cause of the fading was the impression taken in 1823, by order of President Monroe. Two hundred facsimiles were then made to give a copy to each of the then living signers and others. Taking the impression removed the ink."

history let all true Americans today highly resolve on a new birth within their own souls of the faiths of those men 140 years ago, of faith in themselves and of faith in America.

## THEY BELIEVED IN AMERICA

One hundred and forty years ago some half-hundred men, sent by their communities to concert measures for securing their "rights as Englishmen," became convinced that these could not be obtained save by ceasing to be "British subjects" and declaring themselves "American citizens."

Let us look behind the formal phrases of the immortal Declaration to the faith of these men and of the people for whom they spoke. What was the faith that made vital their appeal for the justice of their cause and the righteousness of their undertaking?

They believed in themselves; in their ability to do right and justice. They believed in the competence of stalwart manhood to govern itself and to provide for the common welfare. They believed they could make better arrangements in government than men had made before them. They believed in themselves, in their people, in America.

Americans of late have done a great deal of fault-finding with America. There is not so much now as a year or two ago. The spectacle across the Atlantic tends to hush it, and to give new point to the saying that "other countries" are what make Americans so proud of their own.

"Yesterday the greatest question which was ever debated in America was decided, and a greater perhaps never was nor will be decided among men."

**Great Day Was July 2.**  
"In a second letter, written the same day, he said: 'The day is past. July 2 will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty.'"

"There is little doubt but that the participants in the event considered July 2 as the true date of independence for the colonies, but popular fancy seized upon the 4th, the date of acceptance of Jefferson's formal and detailed setting-forth as the proper date of celebration."

"John Trumbull's famous painting of the scene, hanging in the rotunda of the capitol, is a poetical piece of work and gives many of the portraits of the signers with faithfulness, but it is somewhat fanciful. No stilet hangings draped the windows of that stifling room on July 4, 1776, and the beautiful order in which the men are ranged up for signing the immortal document is also fictional."

**SIGNERS LIVED TO OLD AGE**  
Five of Them Had Passed Ninety-Year Mark When Death Claimed Them.

ninety-three, John Adams died in 1826 at the age of ninety-one, and James Lewis, the Welsh-born signer, died in 1803 at the age of ninety-one. Those signers who lived to be eighty years old were Samuel Adams, eighty-one; William Floyd, eighty-seven; Benjamin Franklin, eighty-five; Thomas Jefferson, eighty-three; Thomas McKean, eighty-four; Robert Treat Paine, eighty-four; Matthew Thornton, eighty-nine; William Williams, eighty-one, and George Wythe, eighty.

1777: George Ross, 1779; Richard Stockton, 1781, and George Taylor 1781.

**Most Widely Read Document.**  
One hundred and forty years have passed since the Fourth of July, 1776 when the Declaration was signed, but that epochal document is still read and reread with fresh glow. Many schoolboys has committed it to memory, and all intelligent men are familiar with its style and with its statement of grievances against the British king

## OVEREATING CAUSE OF ILLS

Intemperance in Consumption of Food Declared Responsible for Much Suffering for Humanity.

Someone has rather aptly said that "one-third of what we eat enables us to live and the other two-thirds provides a living for the doctors."

Intemperance in food is a prolific source of colds, obesity, gout, rheumatism, Bright's disease, constipation and other ills. High living, overeating and too much protein food is also said to be conducive to the development of cancer—for this disease, as a rule, does not attack the moderate liver or the underfed. True, different individuals require varying amounts of food, according to occupation and size of body, though this difference is not so great as many think.

## PROPER DIVISION OF TIME

Sleep and Work and Pleasure Should All Be Given Their Proportions in Order.

Generally speaking, a man sixty years old has slept twenty years, played twenty years and worked twenty years. That is to say, he has divided each day of his life as follows: Eight hours for sleep, eight hours for pleasure and recreation and eight hours for work.

Of course, there are exceptions to this rule, but the man who violates this division of his day for any considerable length of time in the end likely will pay the piper. If he sleeps too much, he vegetates and disqualifies himself for work. If he works too much he breaks down.

Only a third of one's life seems a small proportion to devote to work. It would seem that a man could not accomplish much who devotes two-thirds of his life to sleep and recreation, and some men do not accomplish much, but that is because they do not make the most of their working hours.

The secret of successful accomplishment in the day's work—the secret of success in your life's work, lies in industry. While you are working, work.—Boston Post.

**A Stumped Detective.**  
Erza Haskins, constable of a New England village, had an exalted opinion of his ability as a detective. He also read everything he could find on the career of Sherlock Holmes, until he had imagined that he had thereby acquired wonderful deductive ability.

"Now, gentlemen," said Erza on one occasion to his assistants in a particular case, "we have traced these clues—the footprints of the horse and the footprints of the man right up here to this stump. From the stump on there's only the footprints of the horse. Now, gentlemen, the question is what has become of the man?"

**Not Very Rich.**  
"Germany's fatless days," said Dr. August Breitenbach, German socialist writer, in an address in New York, "give rise to some strange happenings."

"A waiter in a Berlin restaurant spilled a plate of soup over the pink silk bodice of a lady's evening gown. 'You'll have to pay the damage for that,' said the lady, angrily. 'Oh, it's all right, ma'am. There won't be any damage,' said the waiter. 'Today is one of our fatless days, you know, and on fatless days our soup doesn't stain.'"

**Rebuked.**  
The persevering landscape painter knew that he had an observer looking over his shoulder at the easel. He knew from the rustle of skirts that the observer was a woman; yet he worked steadily on. Presently the observer spoke:

"A charming landscape," she said. "Ah, you flatter me," said the artist, modestly. "Compared with the original landscape it is very poor stuff."

"I meant the original," said the observer.

**A Cancellation.**  
A telegraph clerk in an outlying district of the Sudan found the desolation getting the better of his nerves and telegraphed to headquarters: "Can't stay here; am in danger of life; surrounded by lions, elephants and wolves."

The hard-hearted clerk at headquarters wired back: "There are no wolves in the Sudan."

The next day the desolate one replied: "Referring to my wire of the 16th, cancel wolves."

**His Duty.**  
Jones—I suppose, merely as a matter of parental duty, I shall have to take that boy to the circus.

Mrs. Jones—But I don't want him to go this year.

Jones—Then I shall have to go alone.

## Magic Washing Stick

This is something new to housewives—something they have wanted all their lives, but never could get before. It makes it possible to do the heaviest, hardest washing in less than one-half the time it took by old methods, and it eliminates all rubbing and mangle effort. No washing machine is needed. Nothing but this simple little preparation, which is absolutely harmless to the skin—white, colored or woolen. It makes the hardest task of the week a pleasant pastime—lightened at the clean, spotless, snow-white clothes that come out of the rinsing water; and all without any effort on your part. The Magic Washing Stick does it—and remember, without injury to the most delicate goods, colored or white, woolsens, blankets, lace curtains, etc. Contains no acids, no alkalies, no poisonous ingredients to make its use dangerous. 15 washings 25 cents.

Sold by all Druggists and Grocers everywhere. If yours doesn't handle it, show him this ad—he'll get it for you. Or send 25c in stamps to A. H. RICHARDS CO., Shreve, La.

**Worth Knowing.**  
If vegetables have been burned in the kettle put in soda and a little water; boil a while and the kettle is easily cleaned.

Sprinkle soda on the grease spots on the floor, then wash in lukewarm water and the result is fine.

Soda is good to clean the bowls and tubs in the bathroom.

Wash day is smile day if you use Red Cross Ball Blue, American made, therefore the best made. Adv.

There are over 3,000,000 widows in this country working for a living.

One liar never attempts to correct another; he tries to outlie him.

The mind only is true wealth.

## A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY

For thousands of years consumption has been considered as incurable. Yet, in the past few years there has been discovered a treatment, which if we are to believe the statements of one lady, Mrs. J. A. Rippey, 703 North 18th Ave., Nashville, Tenn., is what one lady, Mrs. J. A. Rippey, 703 North 18th Ave., Nashville, Tenn., has had a terrible cough and suffered with tuberculosis, hemorrhages, and had tried all kinds of remedies with very poor results. Since taking the first dose of Lung-Vita I have had a single hemorrhage, and I am able to do my own work, eat and sleep well better than I have in many years." Lung-Vita is proving equally as effective in cases of asthma. Try Lung-Vita now. Send \$1.75 for thirty-day treatment. Nashville Medicine Co., No. 10 Steger Bldg., Nashville, Tenn. Adv.

**Little Nonsense Now and Then.**  
"I think it's very unkind the way some of those politicians make fun of the 'favorite sons,'" remarked Mrs. Twobble.

"Oh, I don't know about that," answered Mr. Twobble. "The average political convention is a nerve-racking affair and I presume the delegates feel that they are entitled to a certain amount of relaxation."

**NO MALARIA—NO CHILLS.**  
"Plantation" Chill Tonic is guaranteed to drive away Chills and Fever or your money refunded. Price 50c.—Adv.

Every man has his strain of usefulness. Some fellows make first-class pullbearers.

There is a limit to everyone's capability, but few have reached their limit.

## The Effects of Opiates.

**T**HAT INFANTS are peculiarly susceptible to opium and its various preparations, all of which are narcotic, is well known. Even in the smallest doses, if continued, these opiates cause changes in the functions and growth of the cells which are likely to become permanent, causing feebleness, mental perversion, a craving for alcohol or narcotics in later life. Nervous diseases, such as intractable nervous dyspepsia and lack of staying powers are a result of dosing with opiates or narcotics to keep children quiet in their infancy. The rule among physicians is that children should never receive opiates in the smallest doses for more than a day at a time, and only then if unavoidable.

The administration of Anodynes, Drops, Cordials, Soothing Syrups and other narcotics to children by any but a physician cannot be too strongly decried, and the druggist should not be a party to it. Children who are ill need the attention of a physician, and it is nothing less than a crime to dose them willfully with narcotics.

Castoria contains no narcotics if it bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. Genuine Castoria always bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

## WINTERSMITH'S CHILL TONIC

Sold for 47 years. For Malaria, Chills and Fever. Also a First General Strengthening Tonic. 50c and \$1.00 at all Drug Stores.

**Shipping Fever**  
Influenza, Pink Eye, Erysipelas, Diphtheria and all nose and throat diseases cured, and all others, no matter how long standing, cured, by having any of these diseases with SPOHN'S DIPHTHERIA COMPOUND. Three to six doses often cure a case. One 50-cent bottle guaranteed to do so. Best shipping fever remedy sets on the blood. See a bottle, 15 dozen bottles. Druggists and harness shops or manufacturers sell it. Agents wanted.

SPOHN MEDICAL CO., Chemists, Goshen, Ind. U. S. A.

## NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN

**Chauffeur Had Overlooked a Matter That Really Was of the Gravest Importance.**

As he buttoned up his overcoat before setting off on a motor tour, Jones asked his chauffeur a few questions. "Car all ready? Have you put the spare inner tubes in the tonneau?" "Yes, sir."

"Are the repair tools in the box, and plenty of petrol in the tank?" "Yes, sir," replied the man again, patiently.

"Oiled it thoroughly?" "Yes, sir." And this time he reeled off a list of places to which he had applied the oil can.

The motorist's face grew black when he finished.

"Why, you fool," he broke in, "you have forgotten the most important place of all!" The chauffeur stared at him in surprise.

"You've forgotten the number plate at the back," snapped Jones. "Take the can and squirt some oil on it. Then the dust will stick to it. Never forget to oil the number plate!"

**Her "Dot."**  
Mrs. Youngs (a doctor's daughter)—Did papa say he would do anything for you?

Youngs—Yes; he said he would operate upon me at any time free of charge.—Pickings.

## DON'T GAMBLE

that your heart's all right. Make sure. Take "Renovine"—a heart and nerve tonic. Price 50c and \$1.00.—Adv.

**Oh, Mar!**  
"Have you read the Rublyat?" "Not yet."

Sometimes an eye is not as black as it is pasted.

## It's a Picnic Getting Ready for a Picnic

If you choose Spanish Olives Pickles Sweet Relish Ham Loaf Veal Loaf Chicken Loaf Fruit Preserves Jellies Apple Butter Luncheon Meats Pork and Beans

Libby's Ready to Serve Food Products

Libby, McNeill & Libby Chicago