

Historic American Views on Gun Ownership

The Second Amendment to the US Constitution

*“A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state,
the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.”*

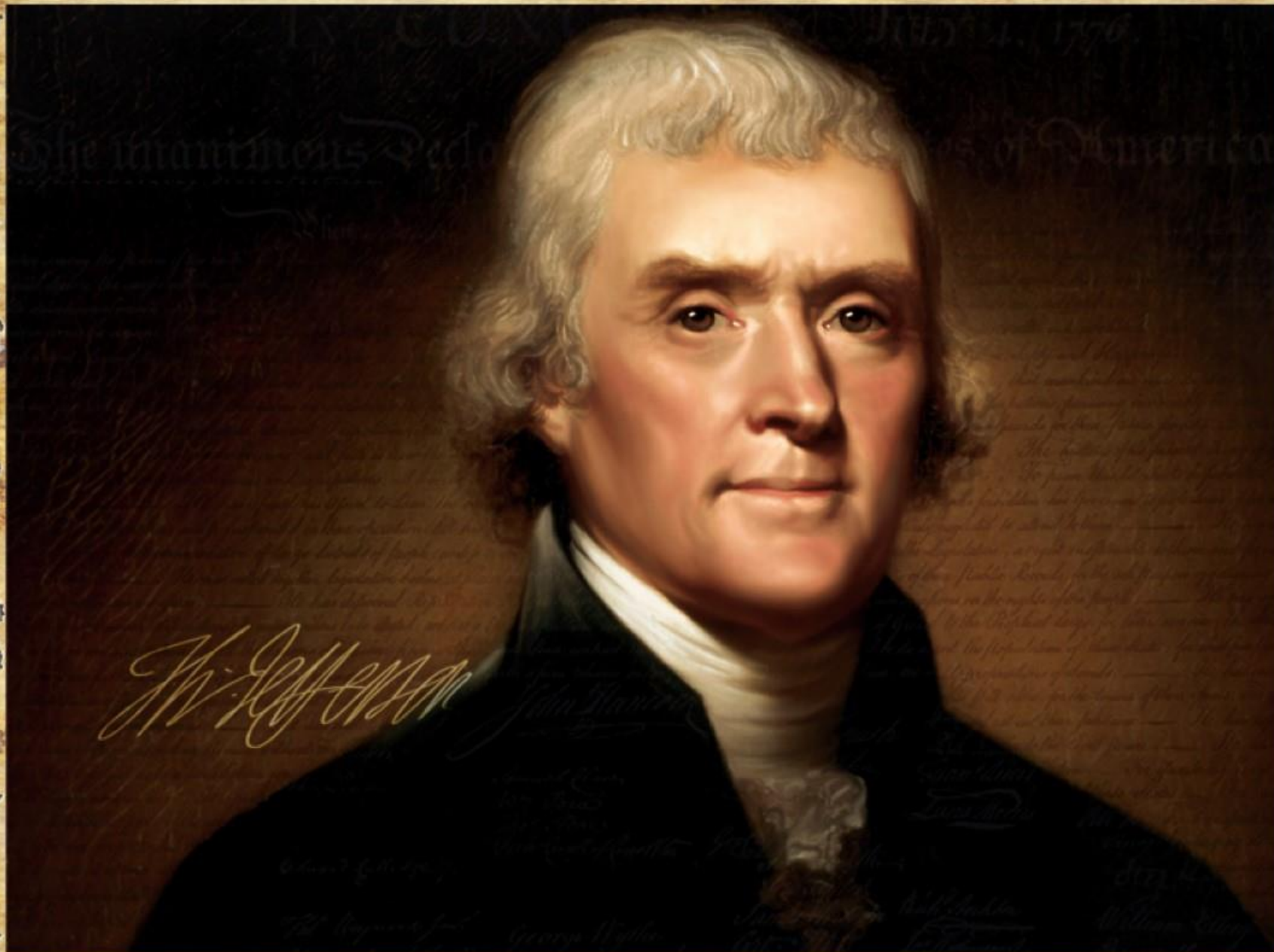
Adopted December 15, 1791



"I ask who are the militia?
They consist now of the
whole people, except a few
public officers."

-- George Mason

G Mason




"No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms."



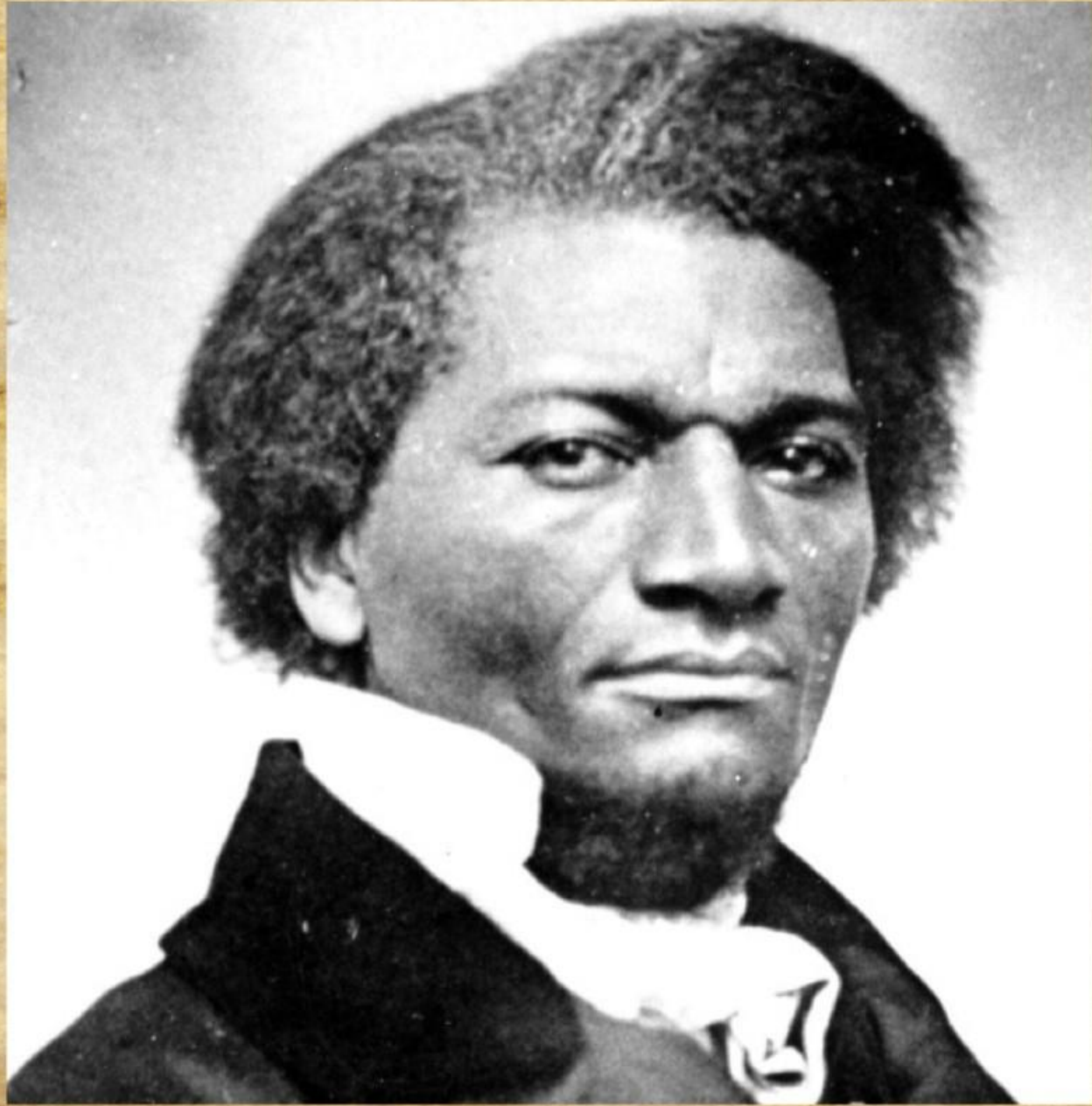
"Those who hammer their guns into plows, plow for those who do not."

– Thomas Jefferson

A black and white engraving of Alexander Hamilton, shown from the chest up, wearing a dark coat and a white cravat. He is looking slightly to the right of the viewer.

*"The best we can
hope for concerning
the people at large
is that they be
properly armed."*

— Alexander Hamilton

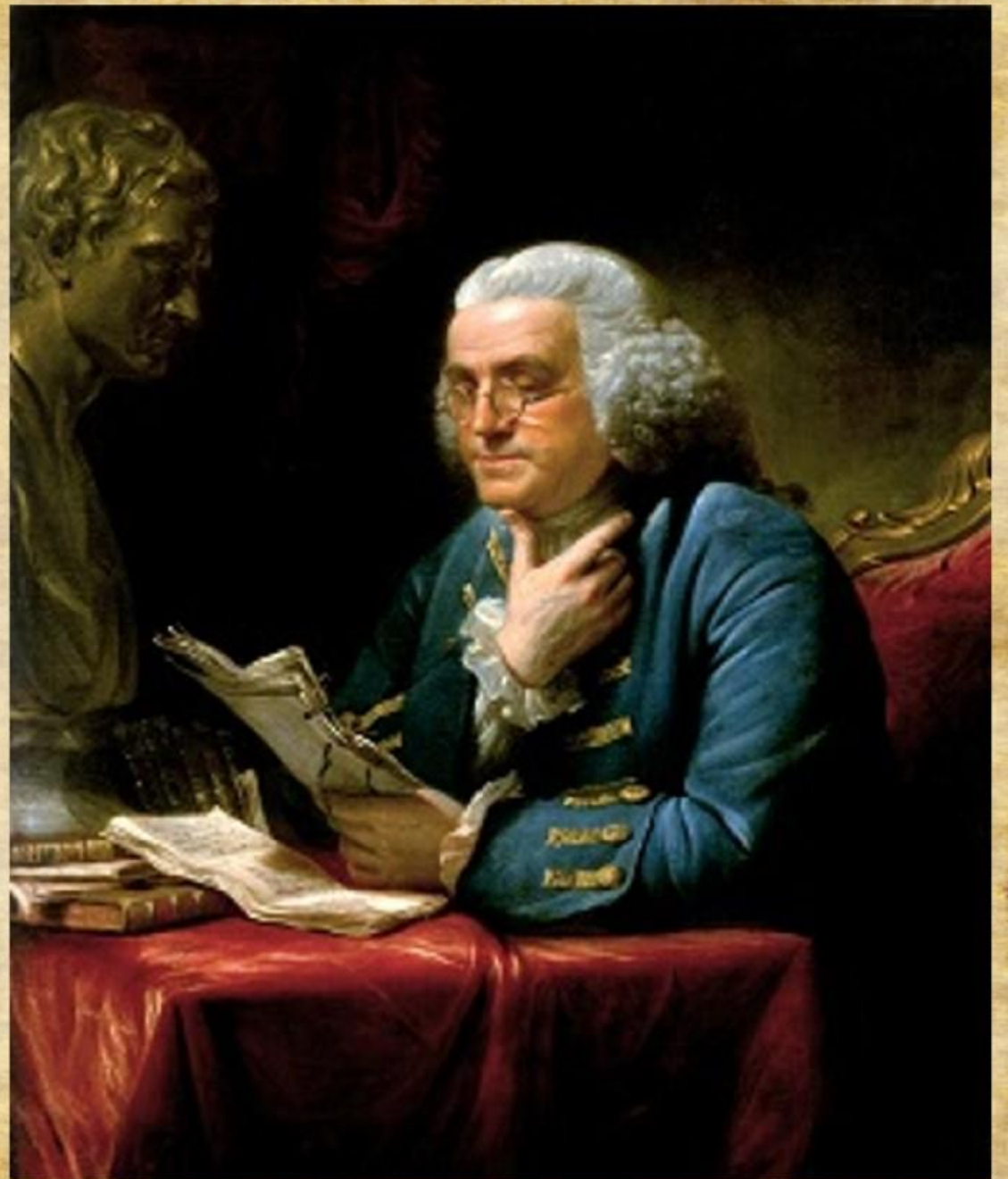


"A man's rights rest in three boxes: the ballot box, the jury box, and the cartridge box."

- Frederick Douglass

“They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.”

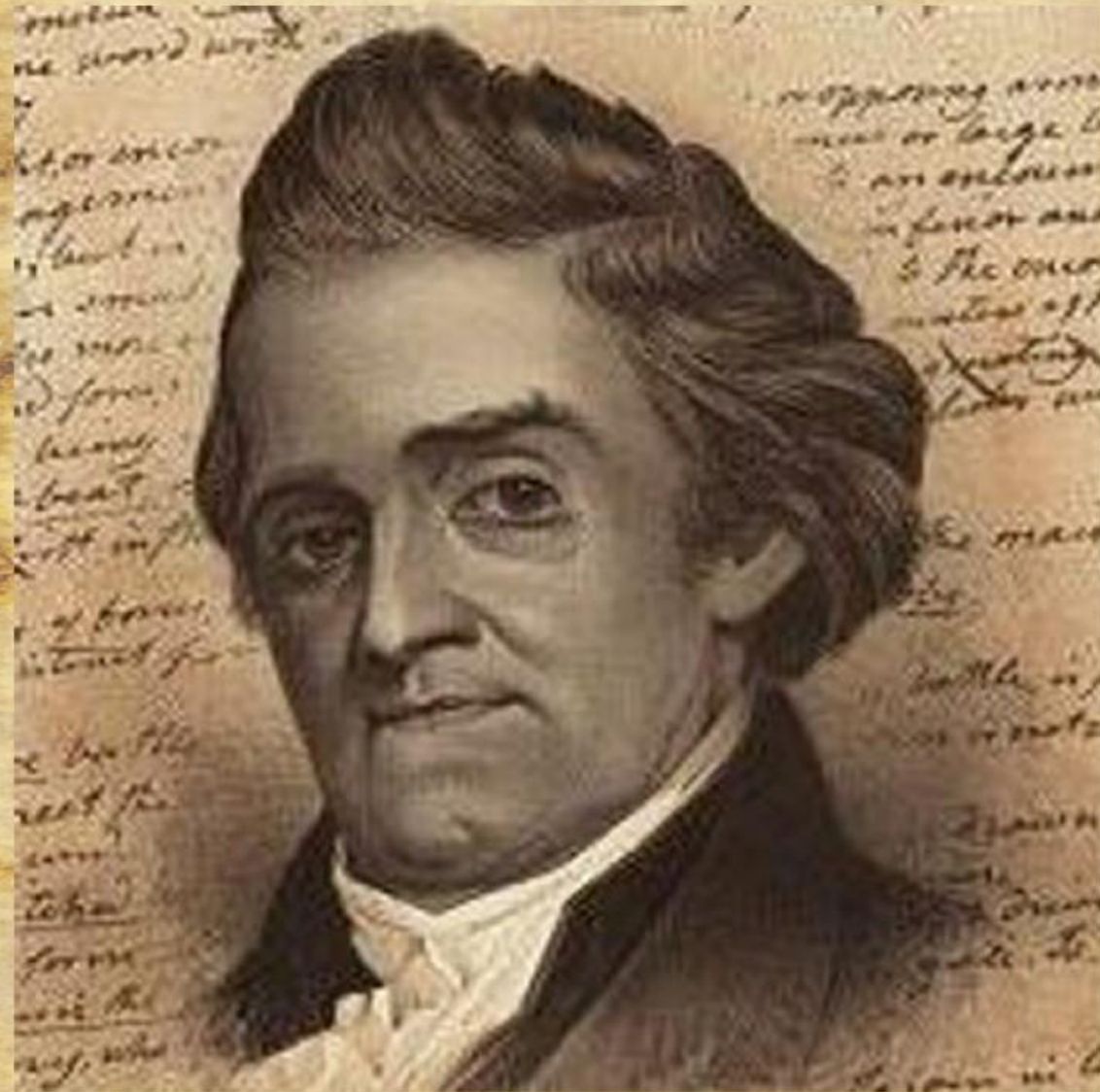
– Benjamin Franklin, *Historical Review of Pennsylvania*, 1759



"Laws that forbid the carrying of arms ... disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes. Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed one."

Cesare Beccaria, Italian Jurist, "Essay on crimes and punishments", 1764



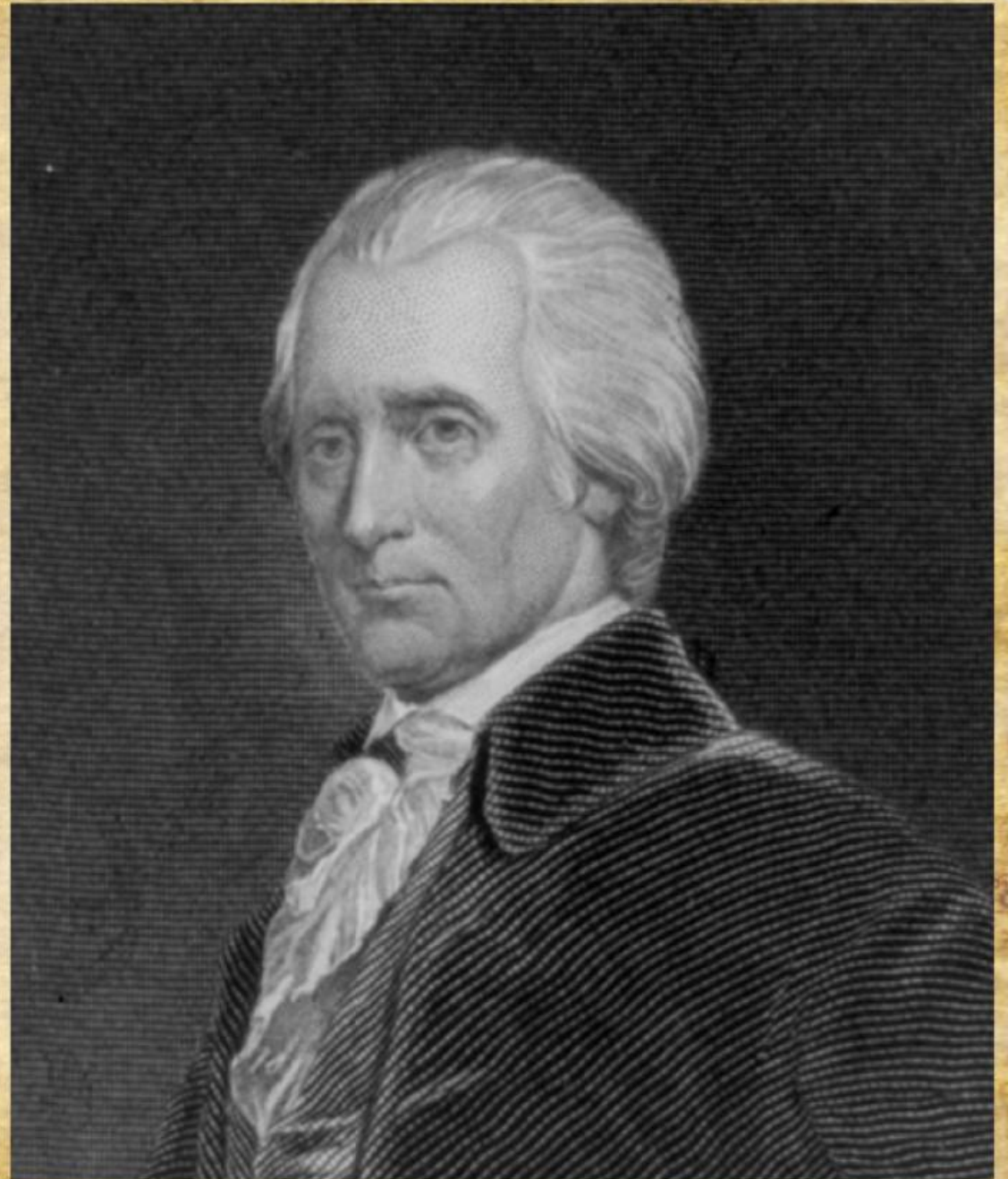


“Before a standing army can rule, the people must be disarmed, as they are in almost every country in Europe. The supreme power in America cannot enforce unjust laws by the sword; because the whole body of the people are armed, and constitute a force superior to any band of regular troops.”

– Noah Webster, 1787

"A militia when properly formed are in fact the people themselves...and include, according to the past and general usage of the states, all men capable of bearing arms... To preserve liberty, it is essential that the whole body of the people always possess arms, and be taught alike, especially when young, how to use them."

— *Richard Henry Lee, 1788*

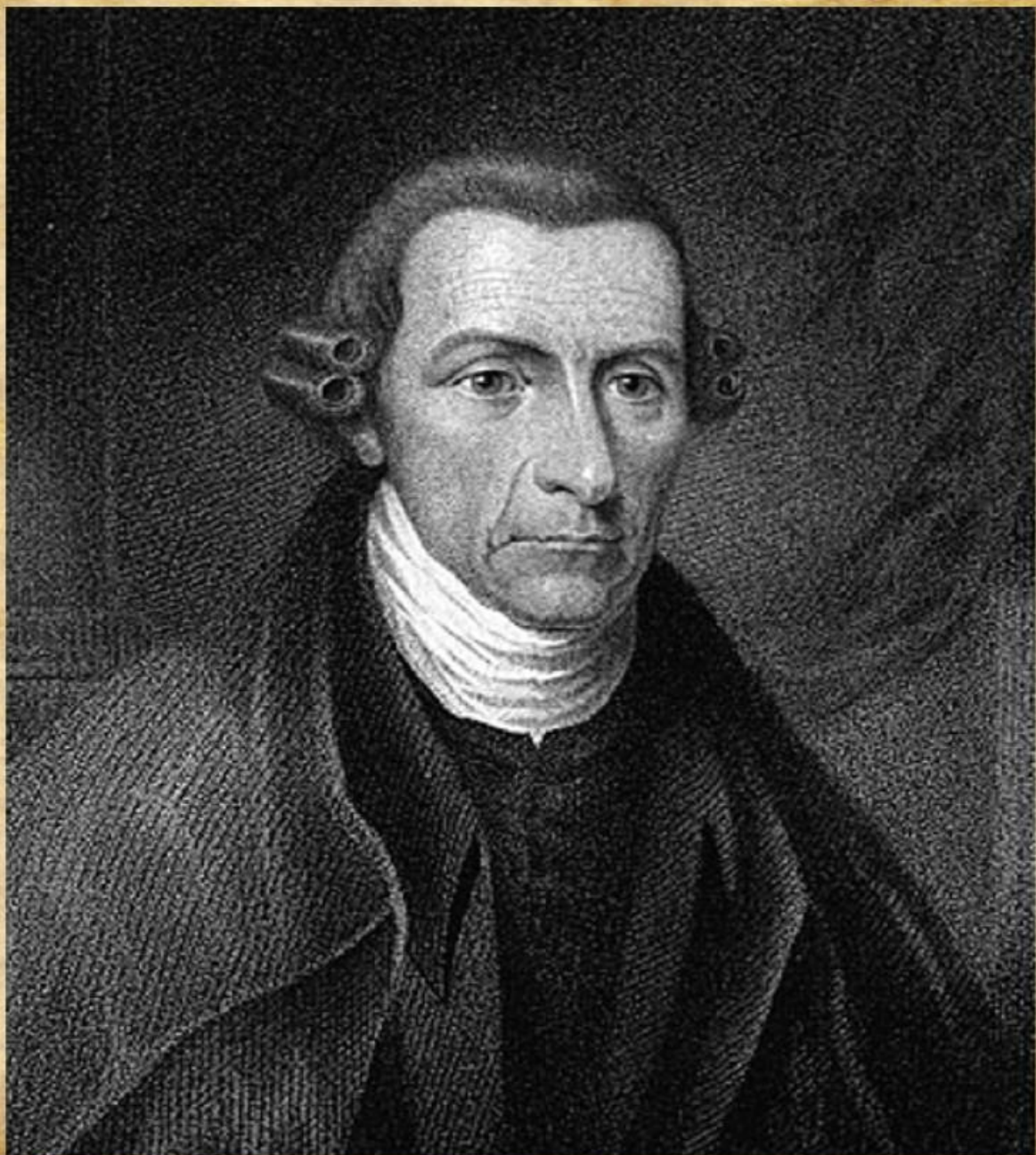


THE TWO ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE



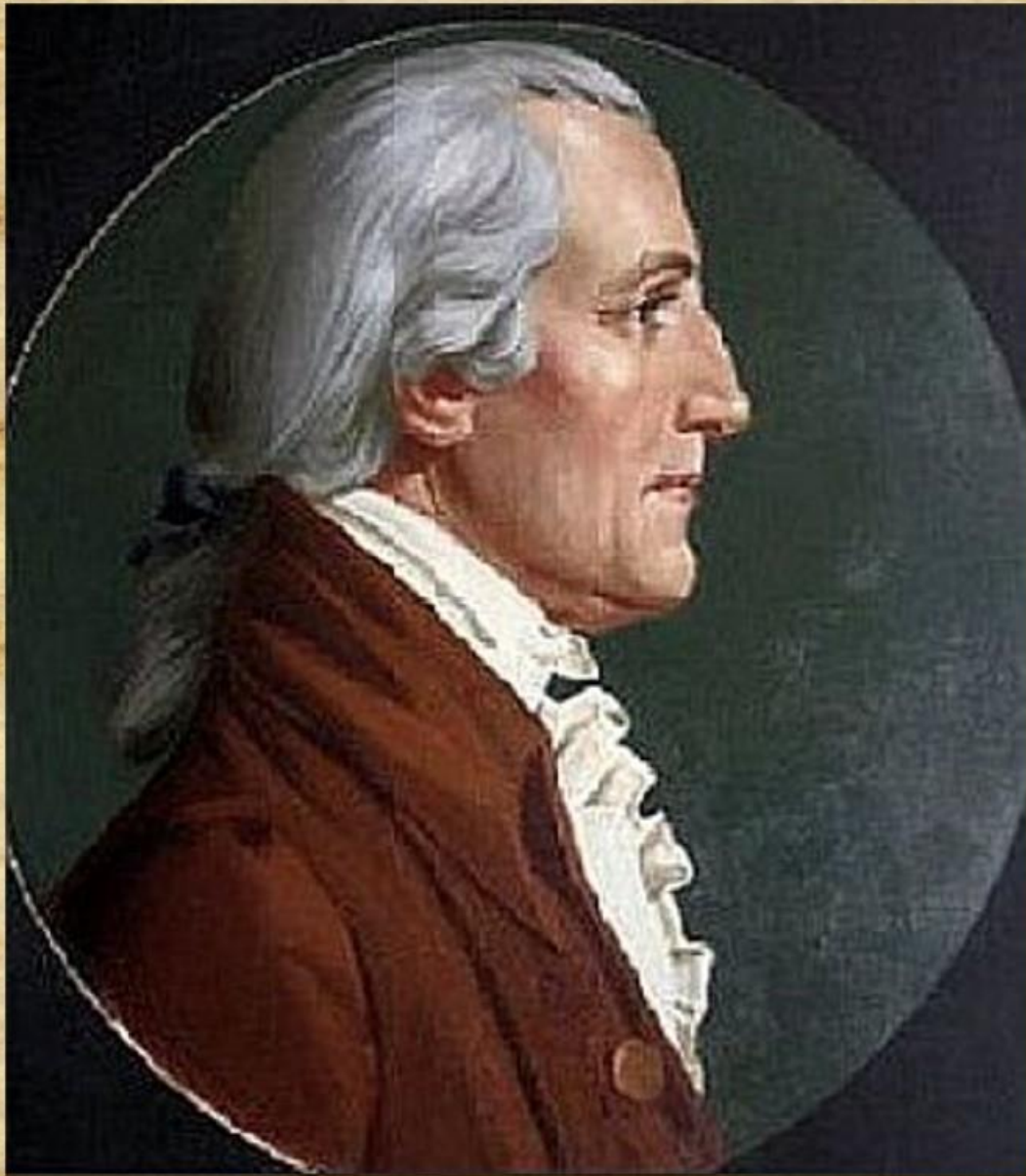
ARE **CRIMINALS** AND
GOVERNMENT, SO LET
US TIE THE SECOND
DOWN WITH THE
CHAINS OF THE
CONSTITUTION SO
THE SECOND WILL
NOT BECOME THE
LEGALIZED VERSION
OF THE FIRST.

~ *Thomas Jefferson*



“Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches that jewel. Unfortunately, nothing will preserve it but downright force. Whenever you give up that force, you are ruined.... The great object is that every man be armed. Everyone who is able might have a gun.”

– Patrick Henry, 1778



"This may be considered as the true palladium of liberty.... The right of self defense is the first law of nature: in most governments it has been the study of rulers to confine this right within the narrowest limits possible. Wherever standing armies are kept up, and the right of the people to keep and bear arms is, under any color or pretext whatsoever, prohibited, liberty, if not already annihilated, is on the brink of destruction."

– *William Blackstone St. George Tucker, 1803*
Judge, Militiaman

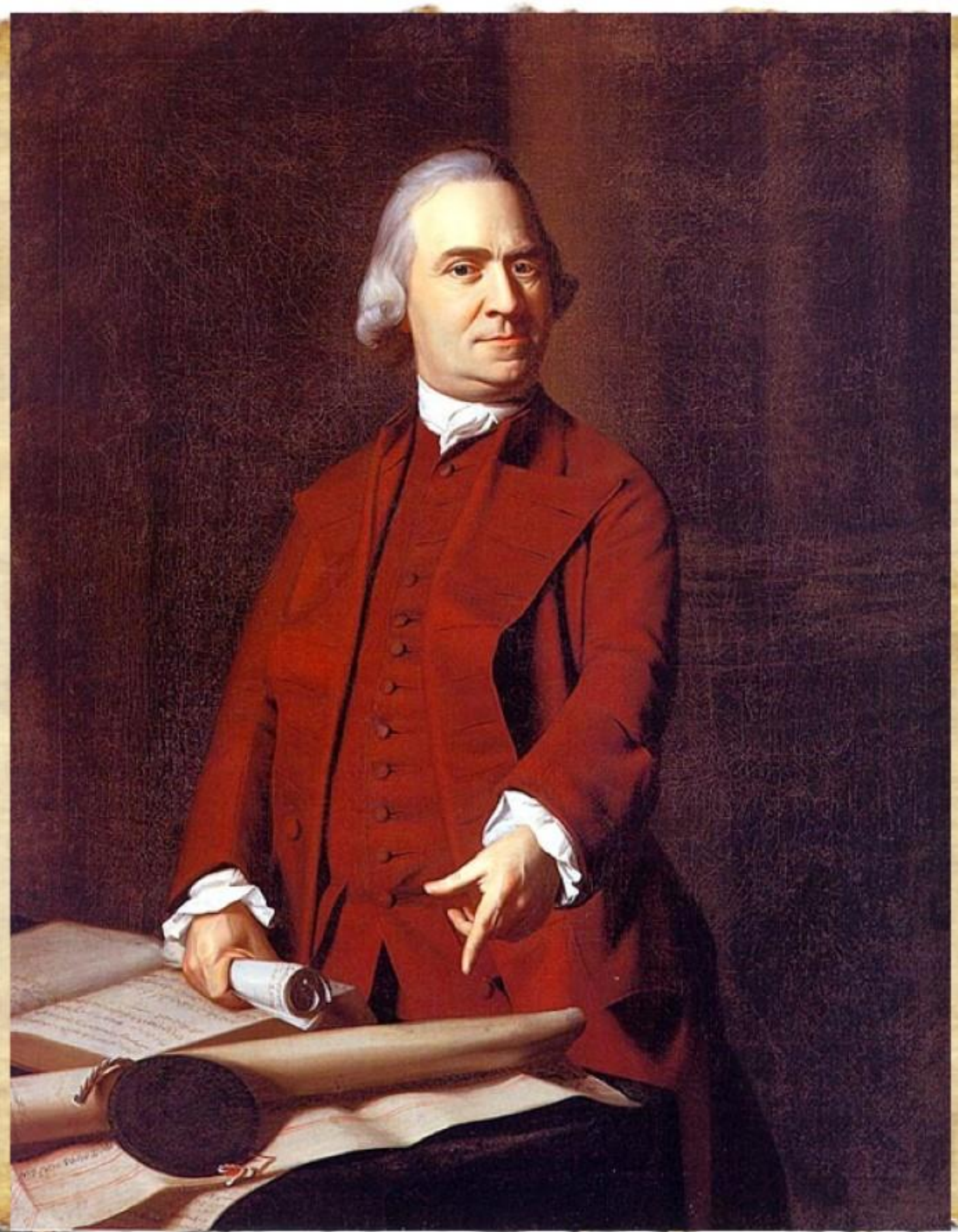


"The supposed quietude of a good man allures the ruffian; while on the other hand, arms, like law, discourage and keep the invader and the plunderer in awe, and preserve order in the world as well as property. The balance of power is the scale of peace. The same balance would be preserved were all the world destitute of arms, for all would be alike; but since some will not, others dare not lay them aside. ... Horrid mischief would ensue were one-half the world deprived of the use of them; for while avarice and ambition have a place in the heart of man, the weak will become a prey to the strong. The history of every age and nation establishes these truths, and facts need but little arguments when they prove themselves."

– Thomas Paine, 1775

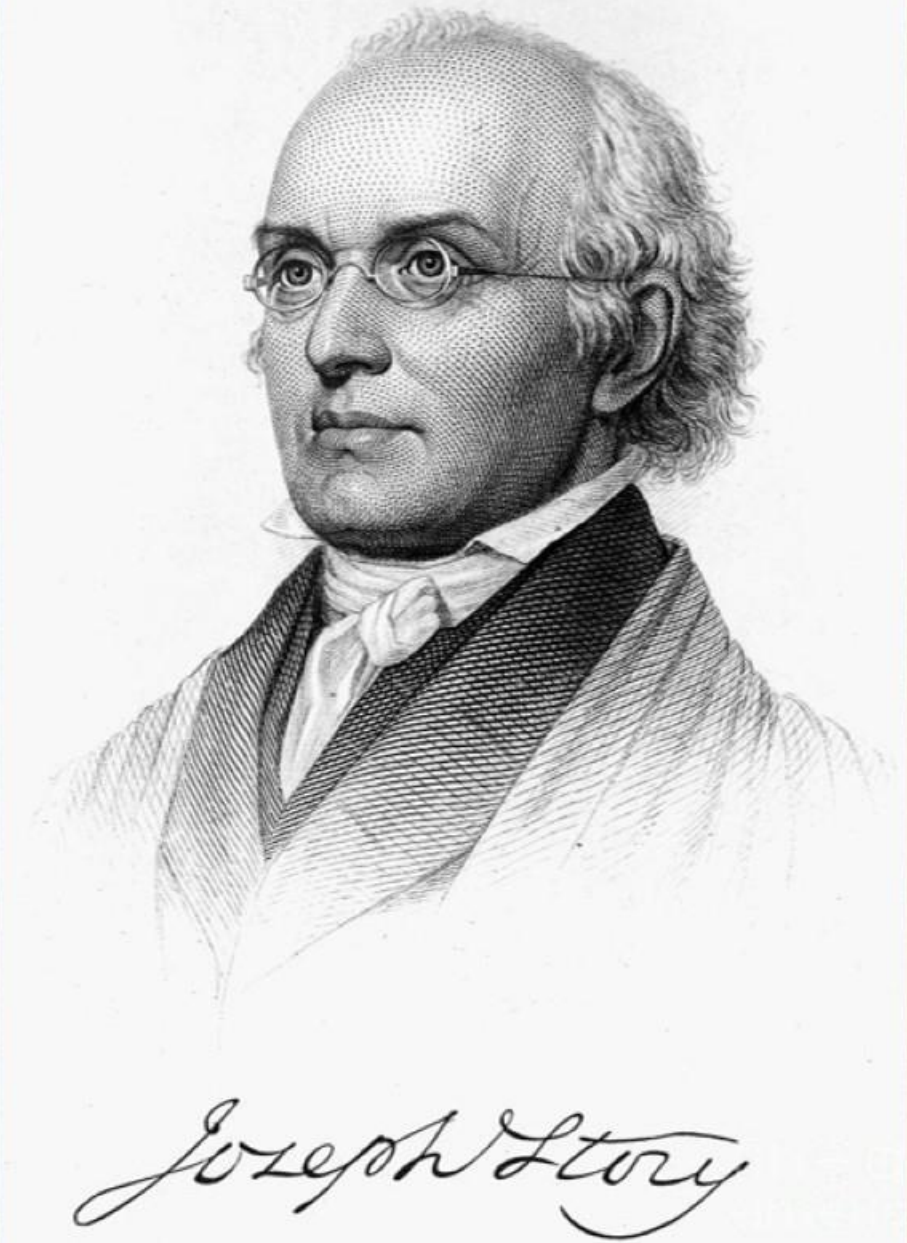
"The Constitution shall never be construed to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms."

– *Samuel Adams, 1788*



"The right of the citizens to keep and bear arms has justly been considered, as the palladium of the liberties of a republic; since it offers a strong moral check against the usurpation and arbitrary power of rulers; and will generally, even if these are successful in the first instance, enable the people to resist and triumph over them."

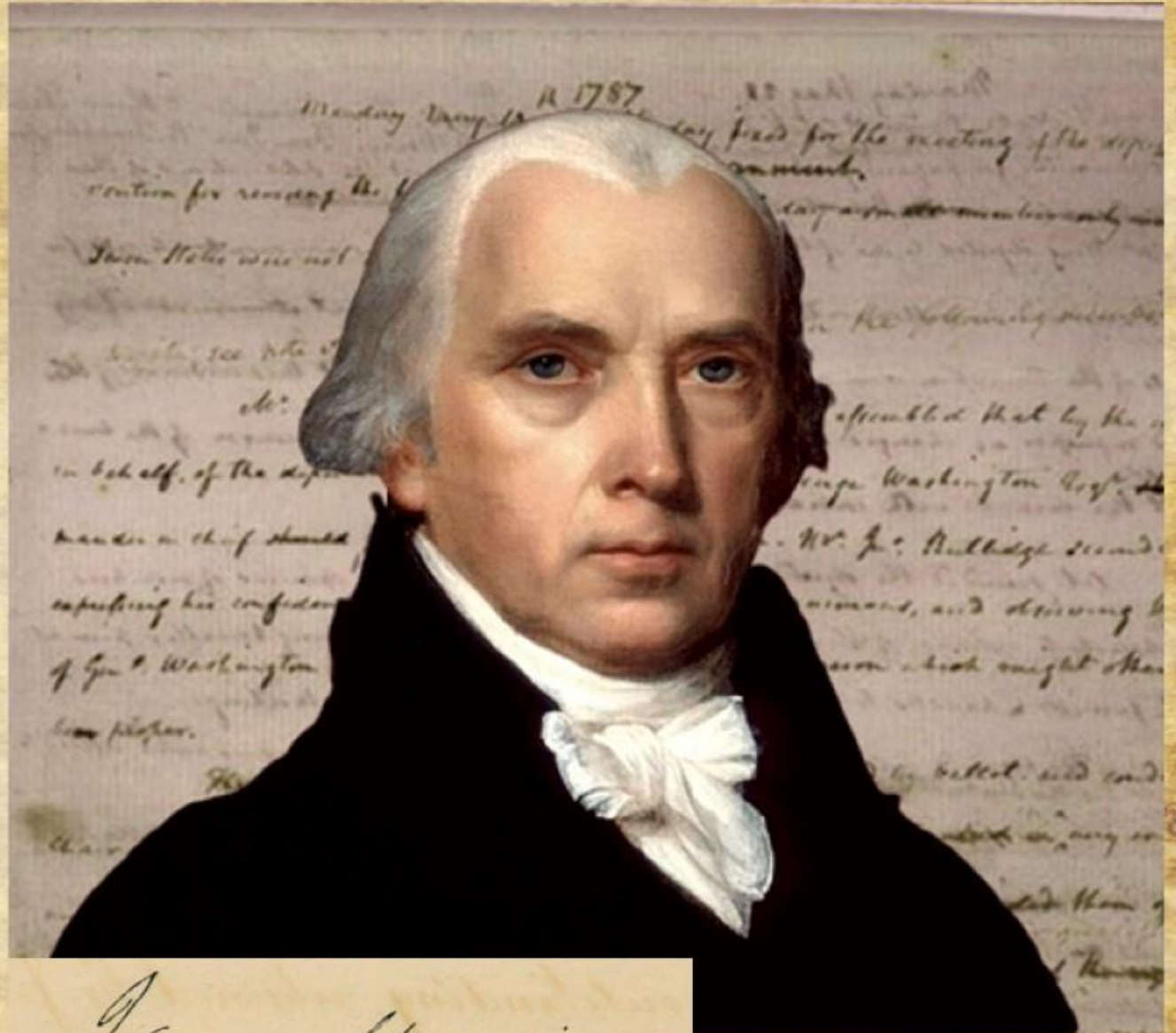
— Joseph Story, 1833



Sept. 25, 1789 James Madison pushes the 12 articles of amendment through the House of Representatives.

"The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. A well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the best and most natural defense of a free country."

And the Second Amendment becomes a part of US History.



James Madison

I hope that you will agree, after reading these, that not only is owning a firearm permissible as a US citizen, but nearly required of everyone for the defense of our liberty as intended by the nation's founders. This wisdom includes:

- **For personal defense against those who intend evil,**
- **For peaceable citizens to always have this privilege of ownership,**
- **To discourage crime,**
- **To discourage slavery of the citizens by tyranny,**
- **To prevent unjust laws from enactment,**
- **To encourage firearms training,**
- **To safeguard the weak, and that**
- **The right of self defense is the first law of nature.**

Marc @ 17643 State Hwy. 204 E, Reklaw, TX 75784