## IN CONGRESS, July 4, 676 NGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Gourse of human events, it becomes necessary for one people t dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of 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 they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unallenable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.-That to secure these /wights: Governments/are instituted among Ment dériving théir just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government the selection of the government of becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter of to abolish it /and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such half principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most Hikely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future of the security,--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the it ought tothe oree and Independent establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let States Facts be submitted to a candid world have John Hancoa

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

Goo Walton.

Josiah Bartlett

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

New in the case of human events, it became needeny for on people to dispote the political bands which have connected them with another, and to me among the flewers of the early, the jepasale and equal flation to which the Laws of Yataris and of Nature's lyed creditle them, a deared respect to the opinions of mankind requires that the

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The He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by prefusing his Assent to he have found to have the foundation of Justice by prefusing his Assent to he have found from the foundation of t

to a tribute has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their mor valuable as to the last in translate and udges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their mor valuable althing offices, land the amount and payment of their salaries while with flows to inside for us in all case who has abdicated government has by dictaing as out of his Protection and waging that against us.—It has plantared on the form of our works of the his flow and in the country and who four flows in all contains and in a third was a flow of four flows in the second of the country for the history form with circumstance of the last for a contain and in a line them takes between the high flow is the contains and the country that the last flows in the last flow is the contains and the last flows in the last flows i

hands He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers.

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He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us; on but South

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders Which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: JULY 4, 1776. For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: of depriving us in many cases, to the benefits of Fraith Surf. Himerica. For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences of mankind require that the a mengani puori qui cam, ni Spatia una equi spania unado in samo for mada una formada que se proposa que in mada una compania de la declare the caufes which imple them to the formada una contration.

We pert them truths to be followed to that men and made in such as the processing that the formation is the formation of the formation and the formation and the formation of the formation and the formation an For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies: shaws them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present thing of g n is a history of separated injuries and separations, all having in duced object the epideishment of an absolute Gyranny over these States . To prove this, let Saits be fubmitted to a image.

"He has refused his Upont to Low, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. ——"He has foliable his Governors topals Saics of immediate. For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering to practundamentally the Forms of our Governments: from the depository of thus flubic Records, for the sele funçous of fedguing the tiona with his margues. It has disposed Reputstative House repeatedly, for opposing with many firmula his invafons on the rights of the people. It has refuse time, after such dispolation, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative flowers, incapable of Unnikilation, have returned to the Rople at large for their across , the shale a For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power.(to, legislate/for us/in/all/cases whatsoever/lgs dependent on his thic alon, for the time of their offices, and the a assment of their salaries. — Ile has exceed a multitude of view Ofices, and eart interes juvarms of Ofices behavior on the pelo and eat cal their fubstance. — He has algored to rands the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. — He has algored to rands the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. — He has algored to rands the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and troops among as - 190 protecting how by a more that from flamanamore for any status when ingression comme comme to find by fury in For han waging Warragainst ustract by fury in For han late tried for frictional offences — We abolishing the free System of English Laws in a mighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and interior to render it at one an example and fit inframent for introducing the same absolute and into these bolonies : — For taking away our Charles, abolishing our most value. altung Herha's plundered our seas pravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns significant in all case whe He has ablied deferment fact by detained as out often belieden and waying this against as .— See has planted on ones, caseged out coast, count our towns and diship from fidestroyed the lives of our people is to compliat the works of death, describing and tyranny, already byon with circumstances of brush grass paralited in the most barbarous ago, and letalize unworthy the Mead of a writized nation. \_\_\_\_\_ He has constrained our follow Chizens taken Captive on the high sleas to bear Ur their bounts, to become the accustioners of their princis and Buthan, is to fall themselves by their Hands. \_ He has excited elomostic inference amongst ye, and has endeavoured to be He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat/the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already/begun with by the circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous and of my ages and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized hatto mankend, Enemia in the in Sac France. 10. the Varies of the Representatives of the united States of Value Town of Grands of Value Town on the Name, and by Authority of the good Rople of these belows folomory publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought tobe Free and Swoeperwent, that a He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to beard on the high seas to beardon. Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands Prot morris Bright Month Market Toutton Guinnity Souph Heres, Somuch Charo, Frankling Gaan! Linu He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to with bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose

known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and im-

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## IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unique of these oppressions we have petitioned for Redressiment ca. most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people and Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the fature circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the mecessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of manking, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends. We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good thungPeople of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declared That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they harded are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be well totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full about Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Allances, establish Commerce and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection wenter States of divine Providence, we mutually pleage to each other our Lives, our Fortunes States and gour sacred Honort of this Declaration, with a from reliance on the protection of dev Josiah Bartlett Not morris 1m Whipple Benjaminkush Jareph Herres. Trunklin, Samuel Charon Saan! Linu John Dinn Lyman Hally John Adams John Morton Rot Fray Painte GooWallow. Janes Willow But South Step Horkins William Ellery-S The Very weet Just George Withe Thomas Synd Just Richard Sterry Les Roger Sherman Attun Middleton The getterion Mir Milliams Many Harrisons
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