

# The Making of America

## Webinar Part II

### DISCOVERING THE DIVINE SCIENCE OF POLITICS



**I**n this session we will learn why the Founders called the study of politics a “divine science.” This concept surprises most Americans, but those who hear the story of where the Founders got their great ideas gain a great new hope for America today. One man said, “This is what I always felt inside, but I just have never heard it put in words before.” Also, we will discover why most people in history seem to have to go through a very rough period in order to have the perspective to really appreciate freedom.

The four webinar sections include selected pages from the *Making of America Seminar Guide*. You may download each of the four parts separately or the entire *Seminar Guide* at [www.nccs.net/seminars](http://www.nccs.net/seminars).

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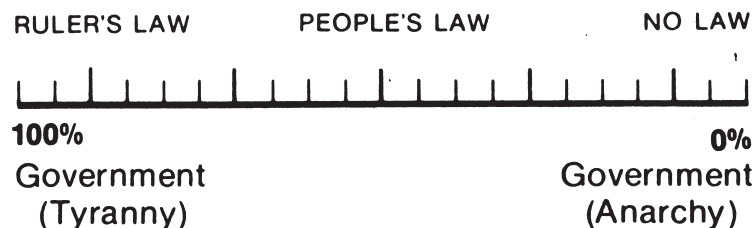
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8. He introduced a bill to eliminate the official recognition of a state church so that there could be equality for all religions.
  9. He introduced a bill to eliminate the payment of a tithing tax to support a particular church.
- H. In June 1783, just as the Revolutionary War came to a close, Jefferson composed his \_\_\_\_\_ and final draft for a sound system of government in Virginia. He took it with him when he accepted an appointment as minister to France and finally published it there.

## II

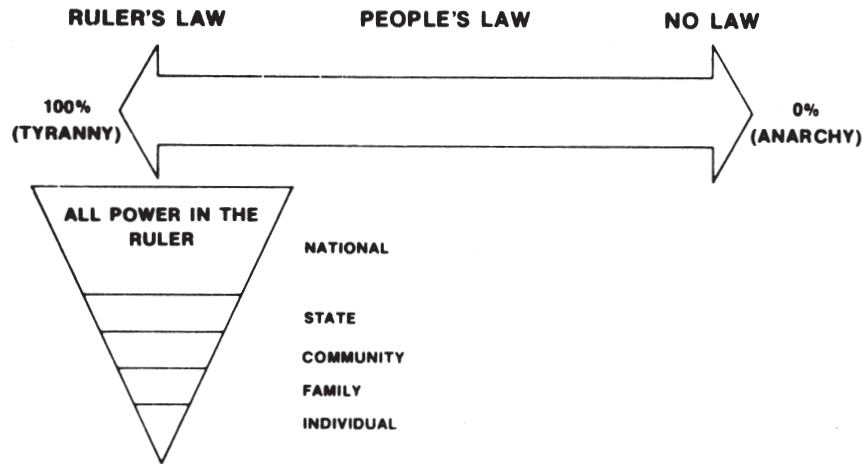
It had been a difficult and painstaking process to sift out the golden nuggets of "ancient principles" for the American \_\_\_\_\_ formula.

- A. The pilgrimage of exploration into the past was pursued by many of the Founders including Jefferson, Madison, Franklin, Samuel Adams, John Adams, and James Wilson. Not only were many of the Founders excellent scholars and widely read, but they exchanged correspondence and cross-fertilized their thinking for a quarter of a century before they put it all together in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Some of the voluminous major works through which Jefferson and several of the other Founders had patiently plowed included the writings of Plato, Aristotle, Polybius, Cicero, Richard Hooker, Edward Coke, Thomas Hobbes, Algernon Sidney, John Locke, Baron Charles de Montesquieu, David Hume, and William Blackstone.
- C. The Founders developed a yardstick for measuring the merits of government:



1. George Washington described the human struggle wherein "there is a natural and necessary progression from the extreme of \_\_\_\_\_ to the extreme of \_\_\_\_\_." (John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., *The Writings of George Washington*, 39 vols., Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1931-44, 26:489.)
2. Thomas Jefferson emphasized the same point: "We are now vibrating between too much and too little government, and the pendulum will rest finally in the \_\_\_\_\_." (Paul Leicester Ford, ed., *The Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, 10 vols., New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1892-99, 5:3.)

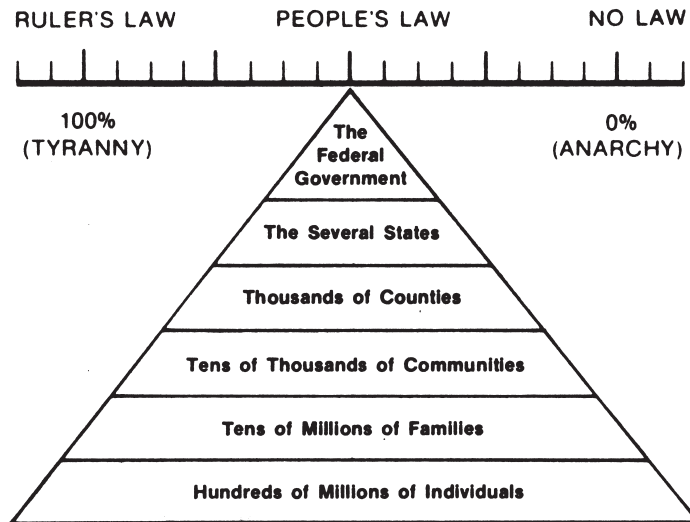
- D. The Founders knew from sad experience that the foremost enemy of freedom and self-government is Ruler's Law, with its power base of central government hanging menacingly over the people:



The Founders had studied Ruler's Law and knew its chief characteristics:

1. Government control is exercised by force, conquest, or legislative usurpation.
2. Therefore, all power is concentrated in the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The people are treated as "subjects" of the ruler.
4. The land is treated as the "realm" of the ruler.
5. The people have no inalienable rights.
6. Government is by the rule of \_\_\_\_\_ rather than the rule of law.
7. The people are structured into social and economic classes.
8. The thrust of government is always from the ruler down, not from the people upward.
9. Problems are typically solved by issuing new edicts, creating more bureaus, appointing more administrators, and charging the people more \_\_\_\_\_ to pay for these "services." Under this system, taxes and government regulations are oppressive.
10. Freedom is not considered a solution to anything.
11. The transfer of power from one ruler to another is often by \_\_\_\_\_—the dagger, the poison cup, or fratricidal civil war.
12. The long history of Ruler's Law is one of blood and terror, both anciently and in modern times. Those in power revel in luxury while the lot of the common people is one of perpetual poverty, excessive taxation, stringent regulations, and a continuous existence of \_\_\_\_\_.

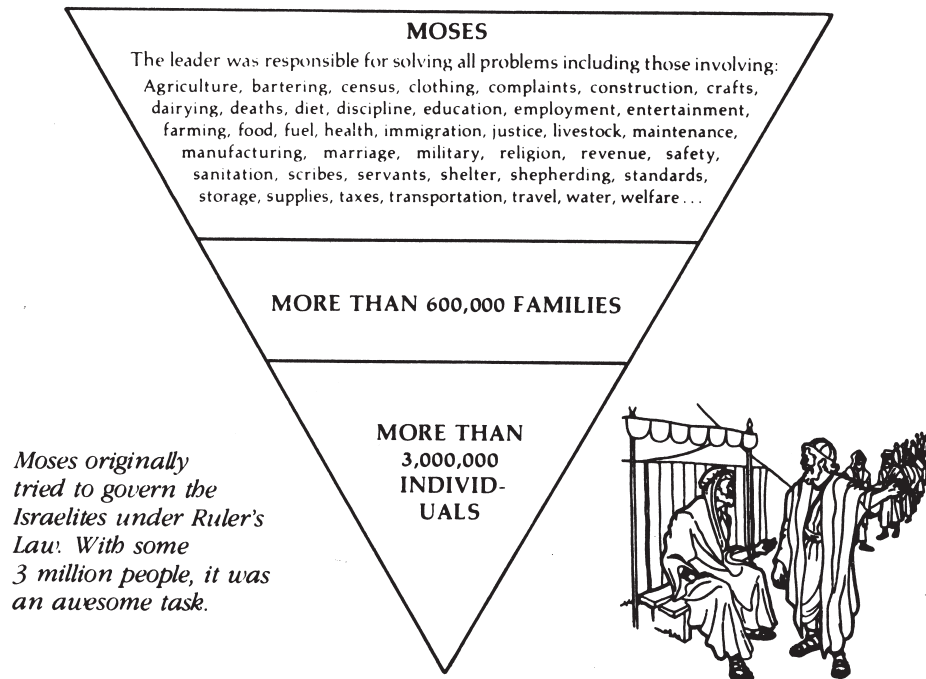
- E. Jefferson and the other Founders hoped to find the golden mean in the center of the political spectrum. The idea was to have the governing power based in the \_\_\_\_\_ themselves, with a hierarchy of limited government serving them. The political structure they visualized would look something like this:



- F. Once the government was established, the Founders hoped to keep it in the balanced \_\_\_\_\_ under the control of the people. This would require a written constitution. However, since no pattern for such a government existed anywhere in the world, they had to either discover some example of it from past history or invent one through their own ingenuity. In the final analysis, what they were seeking was a system of \_\_\_\_\_ Law to replace the tyranny of Ruler's Law.
- G. Thomas \_\_\_\_\_ was one of the first to make the long pilgrimage into the past trying to find the right answers.
- H. Why was Jefferson so fascinated with the development of People's Law depicted in the history of ancient Israel?
1. The Israelites came out of Egypt sometime between 1490 and 1290 B.C.
  2. They were originally under Ruler's Law, which was the only system the



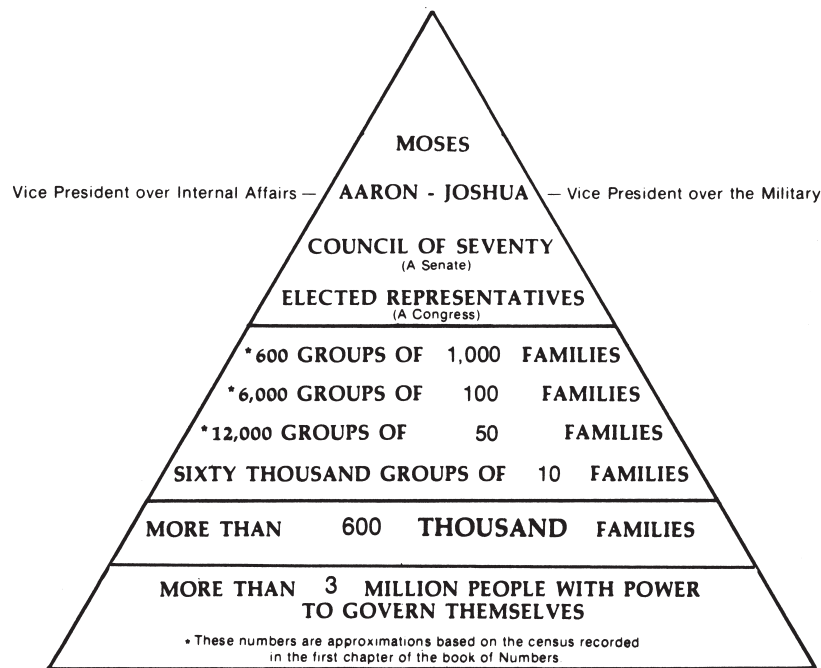
people had known while in Egypt. The role of Moses as the leader under Ruler's Law might be graphically illustrated as follows:



3. Moses found it impossible to govern the people effectively under this system. The record says that the people lined up "from morning unto the evening" (Exodus 18:13) to have Moses solve their problems.
4. Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, said, "The thing that thou doest is not good. Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone." (Exodus 18:17-18.)
5. Jethro then instructed Moses on the way he should organize this multitude of approximately 3 million people.
6. Following the advice of Jethro, Moses divided the people (consisting of about 600,000 families) into groups of 10 families each. Then he had each group elect a leader or "judge" to preside over them. These small groups were combined in groups of 50 families, each of which also elected a leader. Then, these larger groups were combined into companies of 100 families, and they too elected a leader. Finally, these combinations were formed into groups of 1,000 families, each of which again elected a leader. All of these leaders were to be "able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness." (Exodus 18:21.)
7. By this means, the people were organized into small, manageable groups with elected "rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of ten." (Exodus 18:25.)



8. There was primary emphasis on strong local self-government with problems being solved at the level where they originated. As the record says, "The hard causes they brought to Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves." (Exodus 18:26.)
9. In due time, the organization of the people was set up as follows:



10. The major characteristics of People's Law under the government of the Israelites were as follows:
- a. They were set up as a commonwealth of \_\_\_\_\_, a system reflected in the command: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." (Leviticus 25:10.)  
  
Whenever the Israelites fell into the temptation to have slaves or bond servants, they were reprimanded. Around 600 B.C., a divine reprimand was given through Jeremiah: "Ye have not hearkened unto me, in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother, and every man to his neighbor: behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 34:17.)
  - b. The duties and responsibilities of the people were based on religious principles and a solid commitment to \_\_\_\_\_. (See Exodus 20:2-17.)
    - (1) Benjamin Franklin declared: "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters." (Albert Henry Smith, *The Writings of Benjamin Franklin*, 10 vols., New York: Macmillan Co., 1905-7, 9:569.)

- (2) John Adams was equally explicit: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." (John R. Howe, *The Changing Political Thought of John Adams*, Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1966, p. 189.)

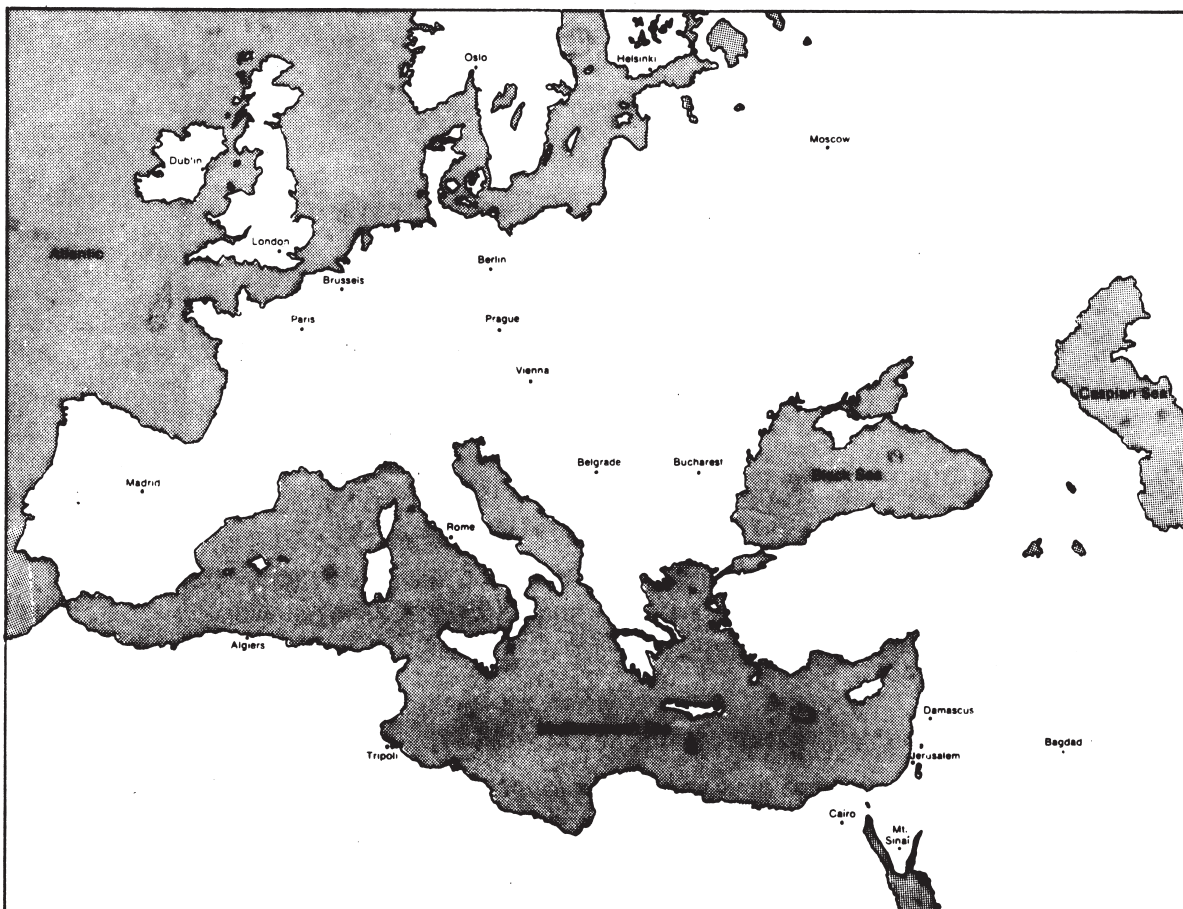


- c. They were organized in small, manageable units where everyone had a voice and a \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. There was a major emphasis on strong local self-government.
- e. They had a system of honest \_\_\_\_\_.
- f. The land was looked upon as a private stewardship of the people, not the government.
- g. The rights of property were protected.
- h. The rights of life and private liberty were protected.
- i. All \_\_\_\_\_ were selected with the consent of a majority of the people. (See 2 Samuel 2:4; 1 Chronicles 29:22; for the rejection of a leader, see 2 Chronicles 10:16.)
- j. All \_\_\_\_\_ came into force only when approved by a majority of the people or their representatives. (Exodus 19:8.)
- k. Accused persons were presumed to be innocent until proven guilty. Evidence had to be strong enough to remove any question of doubt. Borderline cases were decided in favor of the accused and left to the judgment of \_\_\_\_\_.

- l. The entire code of justice was based primarily on reparation to the \_\_\_\_\_ rather than fines and punishment by the commonwealth. (Reference to this procedure will be found in Exodus 21 and 22.) The one crime for which no "satisfaction" could be given was first-degree murder. The penalty was death. (Numbers 35:31.)
- m. The main thrust of government was from the people upward; only in a time of temporary crisis was the thrust from the government down. (The Founders included this in the Constitution in their enumeration of the \_\_\_\_\_ powers.)
- n. The government was required to operate according to principles of \_\_\_\_\_, not the whims of men.
- o. Because this system expressed the will of the majority of the people, it allowed power to be transferred from one regime to another by \_\_\_\_\_ means.

### III

The Israelites occupied much of Palestine until around 922 B.C., when ten of the tribes broke away from the two remaining tribes of Judah and Levi. During 722-21 B.C., the northern ten tribes were captured by Assyria and carried off to





that country. When the Assyrians were conquered by the Babylonians in 605 B.C., the ten tribes were able to escape northward where they settled around the \_\_\_\_\_. In due time they disappeared from history as a people and are usually referred to as the lost Ten Tribes.

Why was Thomas Jefferson equally fascinated with the development of People's Law by the Anglo-Saxons?

- A.** The Anglo-Saxons trace their beginnings back to a people who called themselves "Yinglings," later changed to "Engels" and then "Anglos." According to the *Saga of the Norse Kings*, the Yinglings came from the area of the Black Sea, exactly where the Ten Tribes were located before they disappeared.
- B.** They left the Black Sea area about 65 B.C. as \_\_\_\_\_ legions began conquering the territory. They spread all across Northern Europe. After conquering and intermingling with the Saxons, they were called Anglo-Saxons.
- C.** The Anglo-Saxons began migrating to Britain around A.D. 450. They conquered the \_\_\_\_\_ (including King Arthur) and changed the name of the island from Britain to England. The first Anglo-Saxons to bring their system of People's Law to England were two brothers named Hengist and Horsa.
- D.** The Anglo-Saxons were the best organized people in Europe and soon spread their influence into nearly every European country. Anglo-Saxons in the north became known as \_\_\_\_\_. They not only occupied all of Scandinavia but soon took over Iceland, discovered Greenland, and then went on to establish colonies in North America 500 years before Columbus. However, they died out for some unknown reason long before Columbus arrived.
- E.** Many have thought the Yinglings, or Anglos, included a branch of the ancient Israelites because they came from the territory of the Black Sea and because they preserved by some means the same unique institutes of \_\_\_\_\_ as those which were given to the Israelites at Mount Sinai. (See Colin Rhys Lovell, *English Constitutional and Legal History*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1962.)
1. They considered themselves a commonwealth of \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. They organized themselves into units identical to those of the Israelites:
    - a. The head of 10 families was called a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. The head of 50 families became an obscure office but may have been a vil-man, or head of a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - c. The head of 100 families was called the \_\_\_\_\_ man.
    - d. The head of 1,000 families was called the eolderman, later shortened to \_\_\_\_\_. The territory occupied by 1,000 families was called a \_\_\_\_\_.

## IV

shire, and the administrative assistant to the earl was called the "shire reef." We pronounce it \_\_\_\_\_.

3. All laws, as well as the election of leaders, had to be by the common \_\_\_\_\_ of the people.
4. Authority granted to a chieftain in time of war was extremely \_\_\_\_\_ and was taken away from him as soon as the emergency had passed.
5. Their system of justice was based on payment of damages to the \_\_\_\_\_ rather than calling it a crime against the whole people.

## V

Having discovered what John Adams later called the "divine science" or \_\_\_\_\_ law of sound government, the Founders wondered if there were natural laws which would produce a dynamic and prosperous economy with a high standard of living.

A. In 1776, just as the first free people in modern times was coming into existence as the United States of America, an economist in Scotland (a friend of Benjamin Franklin) published his now famous book, *The Wealth of Nations*. His name was Adam Smith.

B. In his book, Adam Smith said wealth is not \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ but the essentials of life—food, clothes, houses, transportation, communications, schools, good roads, factories, and well-cultivated farms.

C. Adam Smith said that if you want an increased standard of living and prosperity, goods and services should be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. How is that achieved? Here are the highlights of Adam Smith's formula:

1. Specialized \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Buying and selling in a \_\_\_\_\_ market.
3. Based on the natural law of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, where people vote with their dollars on what they want or don't want. Natural-law marketing is completely democratic.
4. Everyone improves his position by making a \_\_\_\_\_ at whatever he is doing. A profit is defined as doing whatever is necessary to make an exchange \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The secret to the successful operation of a free market is COMPETITION. It is painful, but the results are good:
  - a. Greater \_\_\_\_\_ (more production, more profit).
  - b. Improved \_\_\_\_\_ (to attract customers).
  - c. Lower \_\_\_\_\_ (to beat the competition).
  - d. A greater \_\_\_\_\_ of goods and services to satisfy individual customer demands.



Adam Smith

6. The greatest threat to a free-market economy is government \_\_\_\_\_. This happens when the government is involved in fixing *prices*, fixing *wages*, controlling *production*, controlling *distribution*, or subsidizing production. The role of government is simply to serve as referee and to prevent:
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Mafia tactics).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (phony stocks and bonds).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (eliminating competition).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (pornography, obscenity, drugs, prostitution, and other forms of \_\_\_\_\_).
- D. Adam Smith's tremendously successful formula for prosperity can be summarized in the following economic principles:
1. The freedom to \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. The freedom to \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. The freedom to \_\_\_\_\_.
  4. The freedom to \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. When Adam Smith published his new book, no country in the world was practicing free-market economics. The United States was the \_\_\_\_\_ nation to try it.
- F. Thomas Jefferson later rejoiced in the tremendous success of the \_\_\_\_\_ laws that had led to the development of a prosperous free-enterprise economy in America. These were the laws Adam Smith had endeavored to enunciate in *The Wealth of Nations*. Jefferson declared:

We remark with special satisfaction those [prosperous circumstances] which, under the smiles of Providence, result from the skill, industry, and order of our citizens, managing their own affairs in their own way and for their own use, unembarrassed by too [many] regulations, unoppressed by fiscal exactions. (Second Annual Message to Congress, in Albert Ellery Bergh, ed., *The Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, 20 vols., Washington: Thomas Jefferson Memorial Association, 1907, 3:340.)

Agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and navigation, the four pillars



of our prosperity, are the most thriving when left most free to individual enterprise. (First Annual Message to Congress, in *ibid.*, p. 337.)

***Conclusion***

It was a monumental task to glean from history the natural laws of freedom, security, and prosperity. It was an even greater task to put the principles into practical operation. We now turn to the slow and sporadic effort to provide a proper structure for the American success formula.

## 4

## How the First U.S. Constitution Almost Lost the Revolutionary War

### Introduction

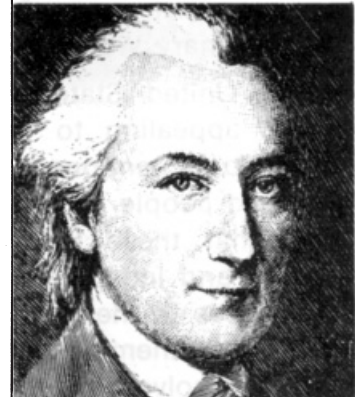
Once the Founding Fathers made the decision to declare independence, they knew they had to formulate a structure of government that would unite the states into a solid national unit. On June 12, 1776, almost a \_\_\_\_\_ before the Declaration of Independence was announced, a committee was appointed to draft the "Articles of Confederation."

Little did the Founders realize that it would be 11 years before they would know how to put together a sound constitution for a free, prosperous people. In 1776 they still had much to learn. As Thomas Jefferson wrote: "We had never been permitted to exercise self-government. When forced to assume it, we were novices in its science." (Saul K. Padover, *Thomas Jefferson on Democracy*, New York: The New American Library, Inc., 1939, p. 33.)

A country without a constitution.

- A.** The first draft of the Articles of Confederation was prepared under the direction of John Dickinson of Pennsylvania. Dickinson was a great patriot but had originally been opposed to \_\_\_\_\_. It was only after King George III had rejected all of their petitions for conciliation and ordered vindictive reprisals against the colonies that Dickinson saw that separation was inevitable. However, in his original draft he provided for a central government almost as \_\_\_\_\_ as the British crown. A shocked Congress received Dickinson's draft on July 12, just eight days after they had declared their independence from such a government.
- B.** Sixteen months of prolonged debate resulted in a new draft, which was adopted by Congress on November 15, 1777. This draft left the central government extremely \_\_\_\_\_ and the states vigorously independent. The weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation almost caused the United States to lose the Revolutionary War. It provided for:
1. No \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. No federal \_\_\_\_\_ system.
  3. No power to \_\_\_\_\_.
  4. No power to \_\_\_\_\_ its decrees. (In other words, the national government simply had to depend upon the cooperation of the states.)

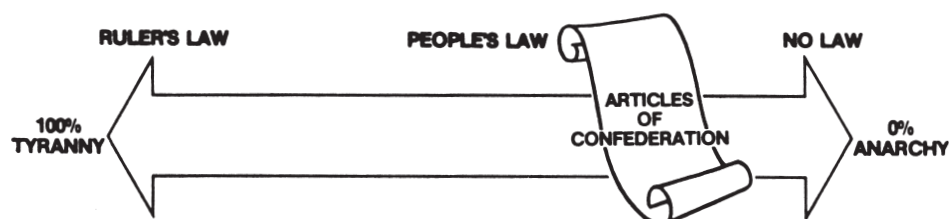
## I



John Dickinson



- C. Congress had not yet found the balanced center of the political spectrum which Jefferson said was so essential. The Articles of Confederation were too close to \_\_\_\_\_.



- D. In spite of its weaknesses, the Articles of Confederation contained many valuable principles. In fact, more than \_\_\_\_\_ major provisions in the Articles were later included in the Constitution of 1787.
- E. The ratification of the Articles of Confederation was delayed until the smaller states, particularly Maryland, induced the larger states to surrender to \_\_\_\_\_ their claims to western lands. The Articles finally went into full force and effect on March 1, 1781, although for all intents and purposes Congress had been functioning under them for more than four years.

## II

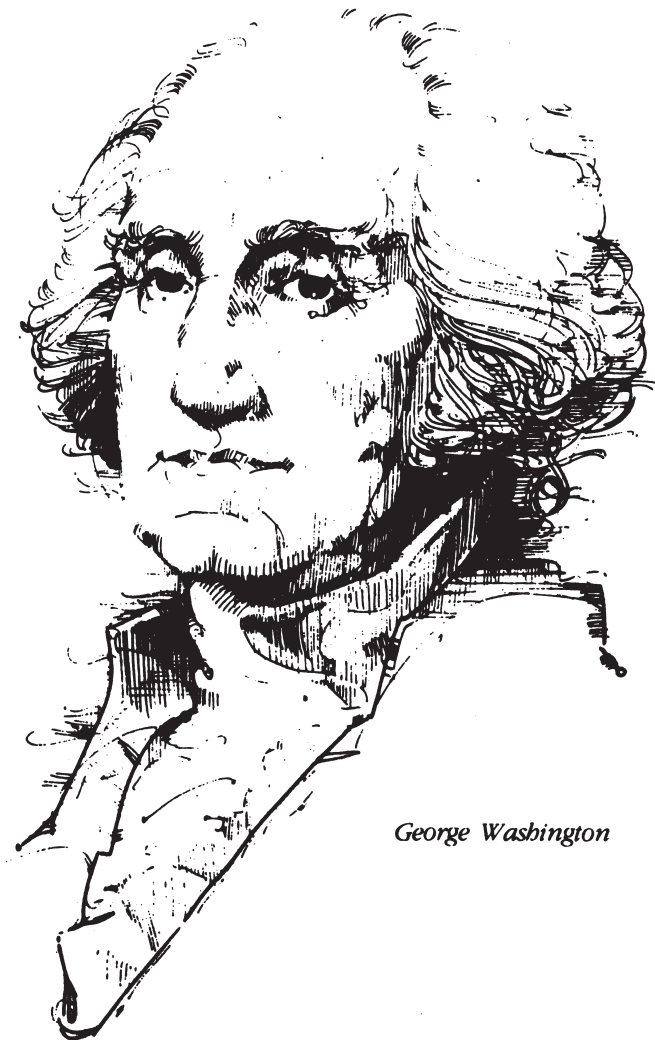
Having declared their independence from Britain, the Americans then had to sustain it by force of arms. The eight-year Revolutionary War turned out to be a \_\_\_\_\_ war.

- A. The Americans were caught without a well-structured system of strong central government to run the war.
- B. They were facing the most powerful empire on earth, with the largest army and the most powerful navy in the world.
- C. They had no trained \_\_\_\_\_ and no \_\_\_\_\_ whatsoever.
- D. The central government had no money with which to finance the war.
- E. There were strong loyalist or \_\_\_\_\_ elements throughout the country who were bitterly opposed to independence and actually fought with the British.
- F. The assistance of \_\_\_\_\_ in providing supplies was highly significant, but the impact of her troops and naval support was extremely disappointing. The brilliant exception was the victory at Yorktown.
- G. In summary, it could be accurately stated that financially, politically, administratively, militarily, and logistically, the United States should have \_\_\_\_\_ the war.

### III

There were many heroes in the Revolutionary War, but for sheer grit and steel-girded fortitude, none exceeded \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. At no time was he completely and wholeheartedly supported by either the Congress or the \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Throughout most of the war he was being secretly maligned in Congress by his two jealous subordinates, General Charles Lee and General Horatio Gates, each of whom had been former \_\_\_\_\_ officers and wanted to replace him as commander in chief. Lee turned out to be a traitor and Gates a coward.
- C. Washington won most of his battles with men who were starving, freezing, poorly clothed, poorly equipped, half-trained, and often ill.
- D. After any battle which proved less than victorious, his army would melt



*George Washington*

away except for two or three thousand stalwarts, and a new army would have to be recruited for the next encounter.

- E.** At the end of the war, some military and financial leaders of the nation wanted to place Washington in power as \_\_\_\_\_ George I of America. He turned away from the proffered honor in total disdain and retired to his farm in Virginia.

## IV

The battles of the Revolutionary War tell the story. Washington and his ragtag army fought a cruel and bitter conflict for eight years on the razor's edge of imminent and foreboding \_\_\_\_\_. Truly, it was a miracle war.

| Battle              | Date               | Winner |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Boston              | March 17, 1776     | _____  |
| Charleston          | June 28, 1776      | _____  |
| New York            | August 26, 1776    | _____  |
| Trenton             | December 26, 1776  | _____  |
| Princeton           | December 27, 1776  | _____  |
| Ticonderoga         | July 4, 1777       | _____  |
| Bennington          | August 15, 1777    | _____  |
| Freemen's Farm      | September 19, 1777 | _____  |
| Saratoga            | October 17, 1777   | _____  |
| Brandywine          | September 11, 1777 | _____  |
| Germantown          | October 3, 1777    | _____  |
| Monmouth            | June 28, 1778      | _____  |
| Savannah            | December 29, 1778  | _____  |
| Vincennes           | February, 1779     | _____  |
| Savannah            | October 3, 1779    | _____  |
| Charleston          | May 12, 1780       | _____  |
| Camden              | August 15, 1780    | _____  |
| King's Mountain     | October 7, 1780    | _____  |
| Cowpens             | January 17, 1781   | _____  |
| Guilford Courthouse | March 15, 1781     | _____  |
| Yorktown            | October 9, 1781    | _____  |

