

Deploying Kingdom Governance

The Heartland Apostolic Prayer Network 2020 Initiative
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“Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, . . .” Ps. 107:2
(Voting is *“saying so”*!)

Deployment #6 The Founding Documents; The Articles of Confederation

If the **Declaration of Independence** was “Why” we became a nation; and the **US Constitution** of 1789 ultimately would become “How” we were to operate as a nation; then **The Articles of Confederation of Perpetual Union** demonstrated just “How NOT” to do it. The Articles of Confederation were the very first baby steps, away from the mother country. Our struggle for independence kindled a fire against the Tyranny of Crazy King George lit by the Declaration of Independence. But their fiery reaction to Tyranny exploded into something just as dreaded by our founders, a form of Anarchy. The best governments were described by Montesquieu and all the best legal minds of the day as a balance between Tyranny and Anarchy, and our founding fathers initially tipped the scales a bit into a form of Anarchy.

They naively labeled their first government “*A Firm League of Friendship*”, which presumed the “goodness” of mankind, in contrast to the Declaration’s reliance on Divine Providence. The Confederation was weak, dispersing most of the power out to each rather self-serving former colony, any one of which could derail most legislation at will. The bickering and micromanagement of one or two colonies, namely Massachusetts and Rhode Island, quite often, subjected the majority of citizens to an uncertain government. The 13 states were only united against common enemies like pirates. It was a less than perfect union.

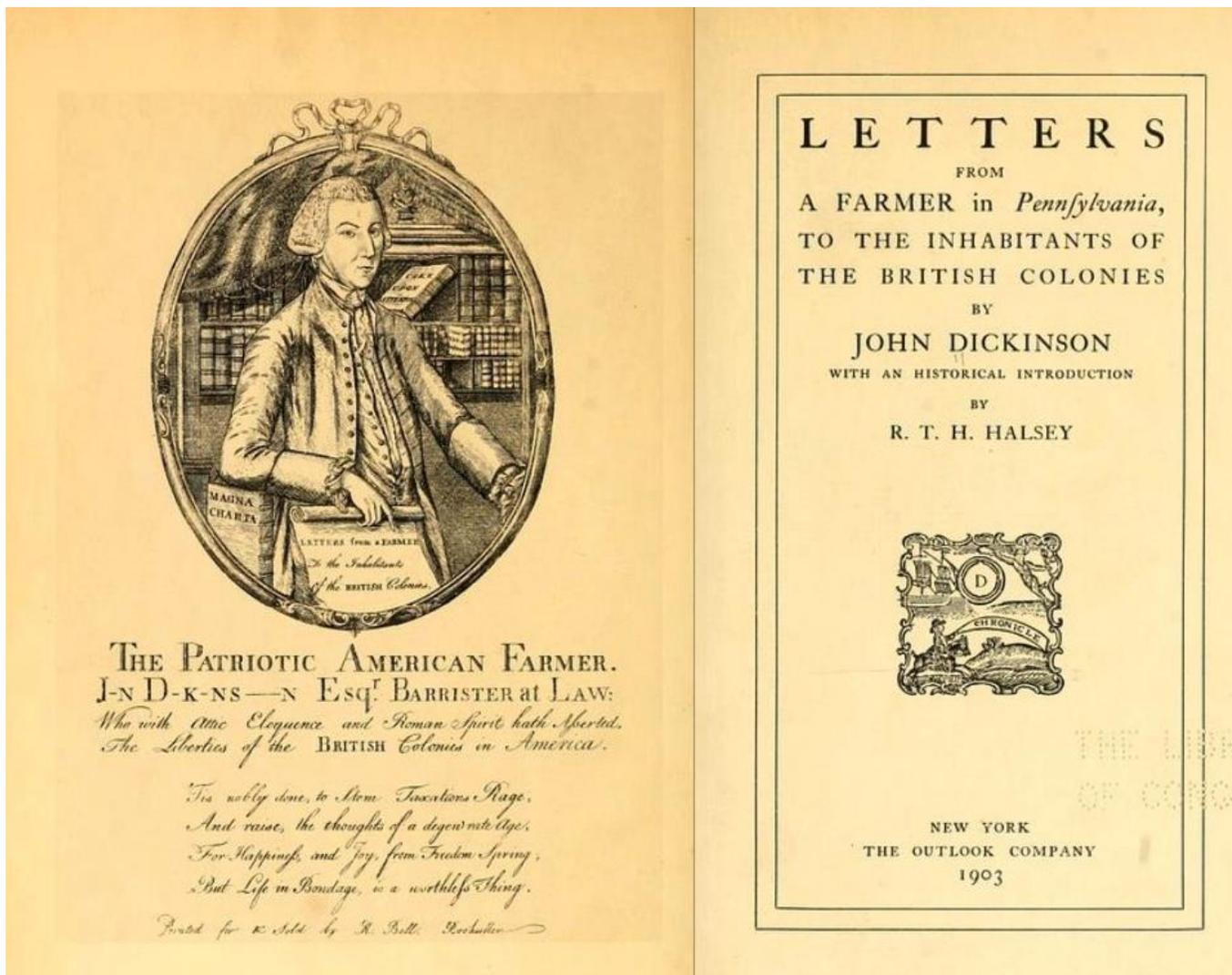
Boston Congregationalist Minister, Mather Byles had famously quipped,

*[“Which is better - to be ruled by one tyrant three thousand miles away or by three thousand tyrants one mile away?”](#)*¹.

The 13 Articles were largely written by John Dickinson, a very wealthy barrister, during the Continental Congress of 1776 where the Declaration of Independence was being composed. Dickinson was not one of the signers, because he was opposed to Independence. At their first meeting, John Adams wrote in his diary, “*Dickinson arrived in “his coach with four beautiful horses” and “Gave us some Account of his late ill Health and his present Gout....He is a Shadow—tall, but slender as a Reed—pale as ashes. One*

¹ Mather Byles, (born 26 March 1706, Boston, Massachusetts – 5 July 1788) A lifelong Tory, during his house arrest in the Revolution he referred to his guard as an “*Observe-A-Tory*”. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mather_Byles
A variation of the quote is spoken by Mel Gibson in “*The Patriot*” ← click to see that scene

would think at first Sight that he could not live a Month.” Adams also noted, “Mr. Dickinson is very modest, delicate, and *timid*.”² His timidity seeped into the 13 Articles of Confederation’s lack of governance which ultimately resulted in the 2,000 Continental soldiers who perished from starvation and froze for lack of clothing in the Winter of 1777 at Valley Forge and many other privations throughout the Revolution.



While less than one third of the population of the 13 Colonies supported the Revolutionary War; another third were Tories, like Rev. Mather Byles; and a final third of the people remained neutral and as uninvolved as possible, failing to “Say So”.

We did not spring up as a new nation because of a “Firm League of Friendship” but in spite of it. The compromises, mitigations, peacemaking, and timidity did not help. This nation was brought forth as a Dream from Providence Whom we now know as our Father God in Heaven. The Articles of Confederation

² <https://www.historynet.com/the-patriot-who-refused-to-sign-the-declaration-of-independence.htm>

were, in fact, not perpetual, and resulted in the U S Constitution of 1789 including a preamble that announced, “**A More Perfect Union.**”

Deployment #6

Let us celebrate the miracle of America’s founding, and survival, despite our first few tottering baby steps; without a coordinated central government; without a professional military; and with no real money (not worth a Continental Dollar). Thank You, Lord, for answering our founding fathers’ cries for Liberty. We, now, today, thank You for saving this Nation, under You, Father God, with liberty and justice for all. Because God blessed America, it is time for America to bless God; not timidly, but with all our hearts.

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee. Psalm 5:11



Washington Praying at Valley Forge, despite a “Firm League of Friendship” saved the revolution.

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/james-nesbit/id1480721148>

