

**JAMES WILSON (1742-1798), PENNSYLVANIA**

On the immortal second of July, 1776, the vote of Pennsylvania was recorded against the Declaration. The delegation from the Keystone State was made up of James Wilson, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, Charles Humphreys, John Dickinson, Thomas Willing, and John Morton. The report was postponed until July fourth. It was a rainy day, and Morris and Dickinson were absent; some say the former, who was an enthusiast, had detained the latter, who was always timid and hesitating. Be that as it may, Wilson, Franklin, and Morton voted affirmatively and Humphreys and Willing, to their shame, in the negative. The day was saved, and Pennsylvania ratified. James Wilson was selected for this purpose. Studying law in the office of the very Dickinson with whom he was associated to his honor on the Pennsylvania delegation, Wilson early marked himself an opponent of tyranny and an advocate of liberty. His name slandered and his life threatened for the act that gave him immortality, he was honored in later life by being raised to the United States Supreme Court. He helped draft the Federal Constitution.

**ELBRIDGE GERRY (1744-1814), MASSACHUSETTS**

"It is the duty of every citizen, though he may have but one day to live, to devote that day to the service of his country." So spoke Elbridge Gerry as he signed the Declaration of Independence in September 1776. It was the occasion about which he spoke, but the records indicate that from his youth Gerry devoted every day to the land of his birth and love. A graduate of Harvard, he early became one of the zealous political leaders of his State. When Samuel Adams proposed a committee to enter protest against the occupancy of Boston by General Gage, Gerry was chosen as its head. When John Adams formed his celebrated committee to carry this protest further, Gerry was again picked. And when the enemy made its early morning march toward Lexington and Concord, in April, 1775, it was Gerry, hidden as he had been in a tavern on the way, who waited until the last minute before he fled to carry the tidings of the approach of war to the surrounding neighborhood. And, again, the night before the battle of Bunker Hill, Gerry occupied the same bed with General Joseph Warren. "Give them plenty of ball, doctor," he said in the morning, as Warren went off to his command and death. Gerry did not reach Congress in time to sign the Declaration with the others, but he did get there in time to be appointed with Robert Morris as a committee on finances. In 1787 he refused to vote for or sign the Federal Constitution, and tested his action later by running for Governor of his State. He was elected, and was afterward made Vice President of the United States. Gerry had a sacred regard for the firm establishment of his country and was a patriot above all else.

**THOMAS NELSON, JR. (1738-89), VIRGINIA**

Another of the southerners possessing great wealth was Thomas Nelson, Jr. To his honor let it be noticed that he gave his entire fortune to his country when its need became urgent, and died penniless. At one time the issuance of a \$2-million loan was necessary to repel the enemy from Virginia soil. This full amount Nelson raised over night by mortgaging his estates. The next day his own home was occupied by the personal staff of Cornwallis. It was at Yorktown, and the Revolutionary forces were on the offensive. Nelson, who was Governor at the time, visited the firing line. Nothing that the entire neighborhood was being razed by the artillery, he inquired why it was the fire was not directed at his own dwelling. "We are sparing it out of respect to you, Governor," replied one of the young Lees. "Give me the cannon," retorted Nelson.

"Do this," he added, and he fired a ball through the house. Subsequent shots destroyed the place and forced the enemy to flee. And so it was always with Nelson—America first.

**JOSEPH HEWES (1730-79), NORTH CAROLINA**

Joseph Hewes was a signer who discarded his religion to give his voice and signature to his country. Born a member of the Society of Friends, he was steadfast in his religious devotions until it became apparent to him that he must sever these or be less loyal to the cause of freedom. Urged by his church to relinquish his seat in Congress he refused, and became instead a warm and enthusiastic patriot. At first he was opposed to ratification in the form the original resolution was introduced, but after listening to a speech of Samuel Adams he is said to have "started suddenly, and lifting both hands to heaven as if in a trance, exclaimed 'It is done, and I abide'." He died at the height of his usefulness, but not before he had earned the enduring and grateful recognition of the country he served.

**ABRAHAM CLARK (1726-94), NEW JERSEY**

"Firm and decided as a patriot, zealous and faithful as a friend to the public, he loved his country, and adhered to her cause in the darkest hours of her struggle against oppression." Such is the inscription above the Rahway churchyard grave of Abraham Clark. It presents a concise view of the character of this New Jersey hero. Unambitious of wealth, this sterling old Revolutionary chieftain early acquired local fame as "the poor man's lawyer." It is said of him that "he persistently refused fees for his services, and when fees were offered seemed more inclined to accept produce or merchandise." Starting his political life as the sheriff of Newark, Clark soon was distinguished for official assiduity. When war began to agitate the land he had passed the meridian of life. It was, therefore, under a well settled and mature conviction of the justice of independence that he devoted his remaining years to his country's service. Two of Clark's sons were captured and locked up. They were treated with the utmost severity. Their father scrupulously refrained from interfering in their behalf, as he felt any movement for them meant a lessening of his influence for his country. Clark met the test as only a true patriot should.

**WILLIAM WILLIAMS (1731-1811), CONNECTICUT**

William Williams has been referred to as the tallest signer of the Declaration. His ardent patriotism and his outspoken approval of every move for liberty and justice add to his distinction in the gallery of immortals of which he was a member. First a soldier, then a lawyer, then a judge, and next a merchant, he was taken from these spheres and carried into the Congressional halls, where he at once made his presence felt. One of the Pennsylvania members who had not signed the document bragged of that fact to Williams, who sternly replied, "Then, sir, you ought to be hanged for not doing your duty." Williams did his duty at all times and against all hazards.

**GEORGE READ (1733-98), DELAWARE**

George Read was a fearless patriot and an able man. Almost alone he openly and vigorously opposed the adoption of the Declaration, maintaining that the time had not come for such action, and when the vote was first secretly taken his was recorded in the negative. Later he changed his mind, became one of the most strenuous advocates of independence and affixed his signature. Samuel Adams laughingly informed him he had signed with a halter about his neck, and Read, who was of serious mien, replied, "So be it; I am prepared to meet all consequences of this just act." Pleased with his course he

subsequently introduced this resolution: "Resolved, That any one who shall wilfully break this agreement shall have his name published in the Public Newspapers as a betrayer of the civil rights of America and forever after be deemed infamous and a traitor." During the war Read's home was confiscated by the enemy, his wife taken captive and he driven from place to place for 6 years. Later he became Chief Justice of Delaware and that State's first United States Senator.

**WILLIAM ELLERY (1727-1820), RHODE ISLAND**

The mind of William Ellery kept pace with the world. He was a lawyer who had graduated from Harvard, and while in Congress served in a conspicuous way on many important committees. The fine bold signature he placed on the Declaration is somewhat in contrast to the handwriting of a few of his more anxious colleagues. He spoke of this great event as one "which many regarded with awe, some with uncertainty, but none with fear," and added, "I watched every one sign, as I was determined to see how they looked as they gave their names to what might be their death warrant. There was undaunted resolution in every countenance." Ellery returned to his home to find it destroyed and his personal treasures stolen. He died when 93.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. McDOWELL, for an indefinite period, on account of death in family.

Mr. HALE (at the request of Mr. McIntire), for an indefinite period beginning July 17, 1956, on account of illness in family.

**SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED**

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, today for 5 minutes, and to include certain extraneous matter.

Mr. SHEEHAN, for 5 minutes on Thursday and Friday next.

Mr. HESELTON, transferred from today to Friday.

Mr. REES of Kansas, for 5 minutes tomorrow.

Mr. DIXON, for 30 minutes today, on 2 subjects.

**EXTENSION OF REMARKS**

By unanimous consent, permission to extend remarks in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, or to revise and extend remarks, was granted to:

Mrs. SULLIVAN in two instances and to include extraneous matter.

Mr. ZELENGO.

Mr. MCGREGOR and include excerpts from various speeches he has made.

Mr. DAVIS of Georgia to revise and extend remarks he expects to make in Committee of the Whole today and to include certain newspaper articles.

Mr. DAWSON of Utah (at the request of Mr. KEATING) and to include extraneous matter.

Mr. ROBINO (at the request of Mr. ALBERT) and to include extraneous matter.

## SENATE BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION REFERRED

Bills and a joint resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 558. An act for the relief of Irene Montoya; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 579. An act for the relief of Giuseppe Scalia; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1407. An act for the relief of Guillermo B. Rignonan; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1626. An act for the relief of Rachid Abdallah; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 2216. An act to amend the act of March 4, 1915 (38 Stat. 1086, 1101; 16 U. S. C. 497); to the Committee on Agriculture.

S. 2419. An act for the relief of Dr. Anton M. Lodmell; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 2578. An act to amend the law relating to residence of assistant assessors for the District of Columbia; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

S. 2815. An act for the relief of Peter V. Bosch; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3064. An act for the relief of Thomas J. Smith; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3068. An act for the relief of Arsene Kavoukdjian (Arsene Kavookjian); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3103. An act for the relief of Eldur Eha; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3127. An act for the relief of Karl Eigil Engedal Hansen and his wife, Else Viola Agnethe Hansen, and their minor child, Jessie Engedal Hansen; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3133. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain real property of the United States to the city of Boise, Idaho; to the Committee on Agriculture.

S. 3155. An act for the relief of May Ping Lee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3179. An act for the relief of Redentor Ligot Romero; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3182. An act for the relief of Dr. Cheng-en Lu; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3188. An act for the relief of Stephen Kuang-Tao Hsu; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3191. An act for the relief of Jose Maria Arias-Ortega; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3193. An act for the relief of Natalia Kozlov Kavazov Kolubaev (Koljubajer, Kolubajev); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3257. An act for the relief of Georgiana Ching Hsien (Liang) New; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3258. An act for the relief of Margaret Kwei Chang (Margaret Hua-Chen Kwei); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3285. An act for the relief of Glok Po Oey; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3306. An act for the relief of Sergius Kusmin and his wife, Irene Kusmin; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3347. An act for the relief of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Webb; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3354. An act for the relief of Jelena Simicevic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3358. An act for the relief of Hewey Malachi Mackey; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3364. An act for the relief of Roberto Mario Bettinzoli; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3370. An act for the relief of Paul Yen-Hsiung Feng and his wife, Mary Stella Pao-Ching Feng, and their minor child, Joseph Shao-Ying Feng; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3417. An act granting the consent of Congress to the States of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming to negotiate and enter into a compact relating to their interest in, and the apportionment of, the waters of the Little Missouri River and its tributaries as they affect such States, and for related purposes; to the Committee on the Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 3440. An act for the relief of Vincent Lee Lao; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3465. An act relating to effective dates of increases in compensation granted to wage board employees; to the Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service.

S. 3487. An act for the relief of Lucy Lin and her minor child, Peter Lin; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3500. An act to reduce postage rates on parcels containing only food, clothing, medicines, or drugs sent by mail for relief purposes; to the Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service.

S. 3521. An act for the relief of Athanasios Nicholas Prittes (also known as Thomas Prites, or Tom N. Phillips); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3537. An act for the relief of Manuel Souza Novo; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3557. An act for the relief of Stylianos Lecomplex; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3619. An act to amend the District of Columbia Public School Food Services Act; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

S. 3657. An act for the relief of Nelson Shu-Yung Chuang; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3660. An act for the relief of Panagiota Paganis; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3713. An act for the relief of Elizabeth Cacavas (Elisavet Ioannou Kakava); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

§ S. 3813. An act for the relief of Dr. James R. P. Wong; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3814. An act for the relief of Guiseppina Coppola; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3887. An act to amend the act entitled "An act to provide that all cabs for hire in the District of Columbia be compelled to carry insurance for the protection of passengers, and for other purposes," approved June 29, 1938; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

S. 3889. An act to amend the act entitled "An act to grant additional powers to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes," approved December 20, 1944, as amended; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

S. 3968. An act to provide for the termination of Federal supervision over the property of the Peoria Tribe of Indians in the State of Oklahoma and the individual members thereof, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 3969. An act to provide for the termination of Federal supervision over the property of the Ottawa Tribe of Indians in the State of Oklahoma and the individual members thereof, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 3970. An act to provide for the termination of Federal supervision over the property of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma and the individual members thereof, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 4003. An act to extend Federal recognition posthumously to Lt. Col. Lee J. Merkel, Air National Guard of the United States, as a colonel, Air National Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

S. 4015. An act for the relief of Antonietta Aurora Matterna Berg; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 4058. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to extend and renew to Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Co. for the term of 10 years a lease of a tract of land in the United States Department of Agriculture Range Livestock Experiment Station, in the State of Montana, and for a right-of-way to said tract, for the removal of gravel and ballast material, executed under the authority of the act of Congress approved June 26, 1946; to the Committee on Agriculture.

S. 4060. An act to amend section 607 of the Postal Field Service Compensation Act of 1955 to include employees of the motor vehicle service; to the Committee of Post Office and Civil Service.

S. 4086. An act to provide that the United States hold in trust for the Indians entitled to the use thereof the lands described in the Executive order of December 16, 1882, and for adjudicating the conflicting claims thereof of the Navaho and Hopi Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 4099. An act granting the consent of Congress to the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. for the construction of a dam on the North Branch of the Potomac River; to the Committee on Public Works.

S. J. Res. 187. Joint resolution to extend the operation of the Emergency Ship Repair Act of 1954; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

## ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

Mr. BURLESON, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills and joint resolutions of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H. R. 483. An act to amend the Army-Navy-Public Health Services Medical Officer Procurement Act of 1947, as amended, so as to provide for appointment of doctors of osteopathy in the Medical Corps of the Army and Navy;

H. R. 842. An act granting increases in the annuities of certain former civilian officials and employees engaged in and about the construction of the Panama Canal, and for other purposes;

H. R. 1403. An act for the relief of Anthony J. Varca, Jr.;

H. R. 1535. An act for the relief of Cabrillo Land Co., of San Diego, Calif.;

H. R. 3733. An act for the relief of Charles A. Barron;

H. R. 3987. An act for the relief of Onie Hack;

H. R. 4456. An act for the relief of Cpl. Oscar H. Mash, Jr.;

H. R. 5868. An act for the relief of the estate of Gertrude I. Keep;

H. R. 6729. An act to provide that the Secretary of the Navy shall appoint certain former members of the Navy and Marine Corps to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, as may be appropriate, and thereafter transfer such members to the appropriate retired list;

H. R. 7190. An act restoring to tribal ownership certain lands upon the Colville Indian Reservation, Wash., and for other purposes;

H. R. 7611. An act to establish a date of rank for pay purposes for certain Naval Reserve officers promoted to the grades of lieutenant and lieutenant commander;

H. R. 7646. An act to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments, and the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the Coast Guard, to incur expenses incident to the representation of their personnel before judicial tribunals and administrative agencies of any foreign nation;