

# BEN FRANKLIN: The REAL FATHER OF AMERICA "

BY PAT/SALTY

BEN FRANKLIN WAS THE BEST-PERIOD. DON'T GET ME WRONG; THE FOUNDING FATHERS LIKE WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON AND ADAMS WERE ALL EXTRAORDINARILY GIFTED MEN.

BUT BEN FRANKLIN - UNDER SALTYS HISTORICAL MAGNIFYING GLASS (SO TO SPEAK) STANDS OUT ALONE AMONG THEM ALL. HE WAS - OF COURSE - THE ONLY ONE OF THE FOUR NEVER TO BE PRESIDENT, BECAUSE OF HIS AGE; HE DIED IN 1790 JUST AS THE PRESIDENCIAL SYSTEM WAS BEGINNING - BUT FRANKLIN WAS AN HISTORICAL GIANT - A MAN BORN AHEAD OF HIS TIME.

BEN FRANKLIN WAS CONDUCTING EXPERIMENTS WITH ELECTRICITY BACK WHEN NOBODY KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT SUCH FORCES, BACK WHEN EVERYBODY ELSE FEARED IT, HE WAS LEARNING ABOUT IT. HIS EXPERIMENTS WITH LIGHTNING AND ELECTRICITY CAUSED A SENSATION ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC EVEN IN HIS OWN DAY AND MADE HIM THE MOST FAMOUS NORTH AMERICAN IN EUROPE.

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IT GAVE HIM, AS AMERICAS FIRST REPRESENTATIVE IN FRANCE, INSTANT CREDABILITY AND RECOGNITION BACK WHEN ~~NOBODY~~ HARDLY ANYBODY IN EUROPE HAD EVEN HEARD OF MEN LIKE WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON.

WITHOUT FRANKLINS YEARS LONG WORK ~~BEHIND THE SCENES~~ OVER IN FRANCE TO BRING FRANCE INTO THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AS AN ALLIE - WHICH HE EVENTUALLY DID - WITHOUT THAT, AMERICA MAY NEVER HAVE WON INDEPENDANCE FROM BRITAIN.

I CAN NOT EMPHISIZE THIS ENOUGH; FRANKLINS SUCCESS IN GETTING FRENCH SUPPORT - AND EVENTUALLY THE FRENCH ARMY & NAVY TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE WASHINGTONS RAG-TAG ARMY - IS WHAT FORCED THE BRITISH TO FINALLY PULL OUT OF THE AMERICAN COLONYS.

BEFORE THEN - BEFORE YORKTOWN - WASHINGTONS FORCES COULD ONLY WIN SMALLER BATTLES, HIT AND RUN TYPE ENGAGEMENTS AND NEVER THE BIG BATTLE, SUCH AS YORKTOWN WAS.

BEFORE FRANKLINS FRENCH ALLIANCE AMERICAN INDEPENDANCE WAS



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MORE PROCLAIMED THEN REAL  
BECAUSE;

- 1) BRITISH FORCES OCCUPIED NEW YORK CITY
- 2) BRITISH FORCES STILL OCCUPIED THE COLONYS
- AND, 3) BRITISH MILITARY FORCES ROAMED NORTH AMERICA AT WILL.

YET - AFTER YORKTOWN - THAT ALL CHANGED,  
BRITAIN ONLY PULLED OUT AFTER  
FRANKLIN HAD FINALLY SECURED AN  
ALLIANCE WITH FRANCE - THE OTHER "GREAT  
POWER" - AND THAT WAS ALL FRANKLINS DOING!  
NOT WASHINGTONS. NOT ADAMS OR  
JEFFERSONS - BUT BEN FRANKLINS ALONE.  
THIS NATION OWES ITS VERY EXISTANCE  
TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN OF PHILADELPHIA  
MORE THEN TO ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL.  
FRANKLIN WAS THE ULTIMATE MASTERMIND  
BEHIND THE WHOLE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT;  
HE WAS FAMOUS FOR HIS WISDOM EVEN  
IN HIS OWN DAY;

"A PENNY SAVED IS A PENNY EARNED"  
IS AS TRUE TODAY AS IT WAS THEN.  
FRANKLIN WAS A BEER DRINKER WHO ALSO  
~~WAS~~ SAID "BEER IS GODS WAY OF TELLING  
US THAT HE LOVES US!"

ANOTHER FRANKLINISM; "EARLY TO BED AND  
EARLY TO RISE MAKES A MAN HEALTHY, WEALTHY, AND WISE"  
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The Guy WAS FAMOUS FOR his SAYINGS AS MUCH IN his OWN DAY AS TODAY — BECAUSE FRANKLYN ALONE HAD REAL SUBSTANCE + SUPERIOR CHARACTER AND WASN'T AFRAID TO SPEAK his MIND. NOW — QUICK — NAME ONE FAMOUS ~~SAYING~~ SAYING OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, OR TOM JEFFERSON.

GO AHEAD, TRY.

DON'T FEEL BAD — NOBODY ELSE CAN, EITHER.

BUT BEN FRANKLYN! THE MAN ALWAYS HAD SOMETHING INTERESTING TO SAY;

FOR ALL THE WRITINGS AND TALK ABOUT INDEPENDANCE THE OTHER FOUNDING FATHERS LEFT, IT WAS — AS USUAL — THE MOST BRILLIANT AMONG THEM — BEN FRANKLIN HIMSELF — WHO CUT RIGHT TO THE CHASE AND DRAMATICALLY SAID IT ALL BEST;

"GENTLEMEN, FOR ALL OUR DIFFERENCES WE HAD BETTER ALL HANG TOGETHER BECAUSE IF WE DO NOT THEN YOU CAN ALL REST ASSURED WE WILL ALL HANG SEPERATELY" — THAT WAS THE REAL BOTTOM LINE MOTIVATOR IN ~~THE~~ →

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pushing ALL THE FOUNDING FATHERS AND PATRIOTS ON YEAR AFTER HARD YEAR FROM 1776 UNTILL VICTORY WAS EVENTUALLY ACHIEVED AND IT WAS FRANKLIN ALONE WHO CUT THRU ALL THE TALK ABOUT INDEPENDANCE AND PRINCIPLES TO "NAIL IT" TO DRIVE HOME IN STARK DETAIL WHAT THEY ALL WOULD FACE - THE HANGMANS NOOSE - IF THEY FAILED TO STICK IT OUT LONG ENOUGH SO THAT HE - FRANKLIN - COULD FINALLY GET FRANCE TO ENTER THE FRAY ON AMERICAS SIDE, AND IT TOOK HIM OVER 4 YEARS TO PULL IT OFF, TOO - BUT he FINALLY DID! he MANAGED TO SECURE AMERICAN RECOGNISION FROM FRANCE AND THE FRENCH SUPPLYS + ARMS + ALLIANCE THAT GEORGE WASHINGTON AND HIS MEN ABSOLUTELY HAD TO HAVE IN ORDER TO MAKE THIS COUNTRY A REALITY + NOT JUST A HOPE OR A DREAM. FRANKLIN HAD TO LIVE OVER IN FRANCE AND STAY OVER THERE FOR 4 YEARS AND HE HAD TO USE ALL HIS KNOWLAGE, ALL HIS CHARISMA AND FAME →

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AND DIPLOMACY AND SKILLS -  
ACCUMULATED OVER HIS LONG LIFETIME -  
TO PULL IT ALL OFF.

TO FORCE BRITAIN TO FINALLY GIVE  
UP HER COLONYS BY PULLING ALL  
OF HER FORCES OUT OF AMERICA,  
GREAT BRITAIN DID NOT DO SO BEFORE  
THEN REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG OR  
HARD WASHINGTONS MEN FOUGHT -  
BRITAIN HAD NO INTENTION OR PLAN  
TO EVER DO SO -

UNTILL BEN FRANKLIN - THE FATHER  
OF LIGHTING RODS - PULLED OFF HIS  
FINAL AND GREATEST "MAGIC TRICK"  
OF ALL BY FINALLY SECURING THE  
COVETED ALLIANCE WITH FRANCE,  
ONLY THEN DID BRITAIN REALISE IT  
COULDN'T WIN.

ONLY THEN DID BRITAIN ~~■~~ HAVE TO  
FACE UP TO COLD HARD POLITICAL REALITY.  
ONLY THEN WAS AMERICAS VERY  
EXISTANCE AND FUTURE SECURED.  
FOR AMERICANS THEN, SENSE, AND FOR US TODAY,  
WE OWE BEN FRANKLIN EVERYTHING.

~~even~~ MORE THEN WASHINGTON OR  
JEFFERSON, EVEN, AND AMERICAS  
CHILDREN SHOULD BE TAUGHT THIS TRUTH...  
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