

**AMERICAN REPUBLIC, A
DRAMATIZATION OF THE
HISTORY OF THE UNITED
STATES IN SIX ARTS**

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American Republic, A Dramatization of the History of the United States in Six Arts by C. W. Wallis

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C. W. WALLIS

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The American Republic



A Dramatization of the History
of the United States
in Six Acts

By C. M. Wallis

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

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PREFACE

The American Republic is a dramatization of the political history of the United States of America from the Declaration of Independence, July 4th, 1776, to the present time.

The purpose is to present in dramatic form the great events of our history in a manner that will inculcate in the minds of the American youth the true principles of Democracy and to arouse them to a conscious fact that they are citizens under the best system of government on earth; that the American Republic has a STANDARD GOVERNMENT that is the best, not only for America, but that it is the only form of government that has ever worked successfully or that ever will work as well for all civilized peoples of whatever conditions or numbers from a few thousands to many millions.

This dramatization also shows the development of our country thru its Oratory, Statesmanship, Music, Poetry and Dramatic Art; whether in the Cabinet, in Congress, in the Forum, in the Pulpit, in the Studio, or on the Platform, on the Stage or on the Screen.

It is not intended to supplant but to be used as an auxiliary to the text books of United States History in our public schools and colleges. To this end the several acts or episodes are adjustable and suitable for different occasions for entertainment; scenes or parts of scenes may be drawn to greater length or shortened or even eliminated.

Only for an elaborate stage production need costumes or scenery be required; they very often detract from the real purpose and object to be attained; rather concentrate on the importance of voice training, dramatic action, and the cultivation of the imagination, the creative faculty.

The characters in the cast for this production may include all grades of school children from the

"tots" to high school students, and may number from six or eight to many hundreds, affording an active part in Oratory, Recitation, Essay, Song, Dance, Pantomime, Parliamentary Drill, Debate and Dramatic Art for every pupil in any school or college in the United States of America or any other nation in the world.

Peoples of all nations are now studying, as never before, Forms of Government, and it is for us and our children to be prepared to show that we enjoy the highest liberty, the widest freedom, under the best laws, for the reason that we have the best form of government on earth.

C. U. Wallis



The American Republic



ACT I

Scene 1. Congress assembled in the State House, Philadelphia, Penn. John Hancock, President.

Time: July, 1776.

(After rise of curtain Mr. Jefferson makes a motion to appoint a Committee of five to draft a Declaration of Independence. This motion is seconded by John Adams. The motion is then put in due form and is carried. The President appoints on that Committee:)

Thomas Jefferson of Virginia.
John Adams of Massachusetts.
Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania.
Roger Sherman of Connecticut.
Robert Livingstone of New York.

These persons rise when appointed and file out into an adjoining room as the

CURTAIN FALLS

Scene 2. A room in the State House, Philadelphia, Penn.

(Thomas Jefferson, President of the Committee, calls the meeting to order and takes from his pocket a copy of the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE and reads the first two sections then stands and pantomimes reading on.)

At the same time the Committee on ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION, having been appointed a little before the Committee of Declaration of Independence was appointed, are holding a meeting in an adjoining room on stage one of their number reads:

"Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union between the States New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

ARTICLE I

The style of this confederacy shall be "THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

The Committee on Declaration of Independence break in and Thomas Jefferson continues:

"Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed."

Thomas Jefferson continues in pantomime but not heard as the one reading the articles in the other section continues.

Josiah Bartlett:

"Article V. Section 1. Congress shall meet on the first Monday in November every year.

"Section 2. No State shall be represented in Congress by less than two nor more than seven members.

"Section 3. Each State shall have one vote."

Jefferson Continues Reading the Declaration.

"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 the future security."

Committee on Articles continues:

"Article IX. Section 5. In recess of Congress 'A Committee of the States' of one delegate from each

State, shall sit instead of Congress and appoint one of their number to preside.

After this is read aloud and while the other Committee is being heard the members of this Committee may pantomime debating and voting on this Article, a majority voting for it.

Jefferson:

"Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their systems of government."

Committee on Articles:

"Article XI. Canada, acceding to this Confederation, and joining in the measures of the United States, shall be admitted into and entitled to all the advantages of this Union: But no other colony shall be admitted to the same, unless such admission be agreed to by nine States."

Jefferson:

"We, therefore, the representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be FREE and INDEPENDENT States. . . . And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Committee on Articles:

"Article XIII. AND WHEREAS, it hath pleased the great Governor of the world to incline the hearts of the legislatures we represent in Congress, to approve of and to authorize us to ratify the said Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union, Know ye, that we, . . . do by these presents, in the name of our constituents, fully ratify each and every of the said Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union and all things therein contained.