Diary:

Declaration of Independence

This Diary Belongs To

John Hancock

May 8th,1744                                                   John Hancock

     Father passed away yesterday. He hasn’t been doing very well recently and I know he’s in a better place now. Mother took me to aunt and uncle’s house. My aunt and uncle have no kids, and they decided to adopt me, and I am going to live with them from now on. This is scary to me, as I am used to living with my mother, father, and siblings, but my uncle Thomas is a wealthy merchant who lives in a mansion, and I know I will get adjusted quick. It has been hard dealing with my father’s death and although I have only been living with uncle Thomas for a day, it’s been very different and a big change to my life. Living without my dad and in a mansion will take some time getting used to, but I know they will take good care of me.

August 1st, 12th, 1764                              John Hancock

     My uncle died today. It’s been hard handling his death. He took care of me after my father died and has been training me to take on the family shipping business since I graduated from Harvard ten years ago. I now own his home and land. I’ve been working hard ever since he first trained me, and I’m going to continue the business my uncle has been working on. I will become a wealthy merchant like my uncle as I carry out the business.

    I continued to carry out the shipping business, and I am now a wealthy merchant just like I anticipated. I have worked on the business for a while now and worked harder and harder every day, improving it along the way. I hope to continue with the business and improve it even more.

August 28th, 1775                                      John Hancock

     I had a spectacular day today. As I attended the second Continental Congress in Philadelphia, I met a beautiful lady named Dorothy Quincy there. This was when George Washington was named the commander of the Continental Army. I married Dorothy Quincy today, and she is now my wife. Dorothy’s mother died in 1769, and my widowed aunt Lydia seems to really like her and connect with her. I believe she is going to adopt Dorothy, and act as her mother like she has been to me. I first fell in love with her when I saw her feet, but she’s an all-around beautiful girl. Although we are ten years apart, that changes nothing and I can’t wait to create a future with her and spend my life with her.

July 3rd, 4th, 1776                                      John Hancock

     Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and especially Thomas Jefferson has been drafting a document, a Declaration of Independence, which states the importance of individual rights and freedoms, and that the 13 American colonies will be free from the British rules. As the president of the Continental Congress, I am credited as the first representative to sign the document. I am planning to sign the document bigger than I normally would, so that the significance of the document can be shown, and so that the English king won’t need to use glasses in order to see my signature. This is a bold move and may be a little risky, but I want to do this in order to show the importance. I’m nervous for tomorrow, but I’m ready.

     We adopted the Declaration of Independence today. I signed the document along with many others, and I hope it remains a significant and memorable day for America as the Declaration of Independence was approved, which means we are no longer under the British rules. I signed the document first as the president of the Continental Congress, and I really did sign it with bigger writing. Many were proud of me as they thought this was a bold move, and I’m glad I did it. I was nervous as I was signing the document, but I felt we had accomplished something big as I wrote my signature on that paper.

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