

Thomas McKean (earlie 1700)

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Mrs. Patterson's class
Essay about my Relative

I'm so excited that we get to study American history this year! When I found out that my relative was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, I first felt shocked and then I was very excited to know more. I feel food inside knowing that my relative had signed the Declaration of Independence. I can't believe all the things that he has done for America.

Thomas was born in Pennsylvania. He was a lawyer. When I first saw what he look like I thought he looked like George Washington. I also thought that it was a picture of him and his wife. Actually it's a (portrait) of Thomas and his son Thomas McKean Jr. I wonder if his son was my age. I'm glad I don't have to wear my clothes and hair like that!

Thomas McKean was one of 56 men to sign the Declaration of Independence. I found out that nobody really signed it on the 4th of July—They only voted on it.

Thomas had to tell this guy named Caesar Rodney to come and vote for it too, because this other guy didn't want to. He barely made it on July 2 to vote yes! Because Thomas did this "the unanimous Declaration (of Independence) of the thirteen United States" happened! He signed it on January 18th, 1777.

On the back of the two dollar bill there is a picture of all the men signing the Declaration of Independence. I wonder which one is Thomas McKean?

Here are just a few of the things that Thomas McKean accomplished:

Came up with the idea of how our country should vote.

Was a colonel in the Military.

Was President of Delaware.

Was Chief Justice of Pennsylvania.

Helped write the Articles of Confederation.

Was President of Congress.

McKean County, Pennsylvania was named after him.

Was Chief Justice of Supreme Court for 22 years.

I feel sad that his enemies were so mean to. It would be really scary. After he signed the Declaration of Independence, all his prized possessions were stolen from him. He worked without pay for Congress. Once, his family lived in a little log house, and the Indians forced them out.

I would never want to go through what Thomas McKean went through, but I'm glad for

what he did. I really appreciate it! It makes me proud to be a McKean. I hope that I can live to be like him in some ways.