

Letter from John Adams to Abigail Adams, 3 July 1776 - Had a declaration... (page 3 of 3)

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Third page of three-page letter from John Adams to Abigail Adams, July 3, 1776. The page reads:

I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.

You will think me transported with Enthusiasm but I am not. — I am well aware of the Toil and Blood and Treasure, that it will cost Us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these States. — Yet through all the Gloom I can see the Rays of ravishing Light and Glory. I can see that the End is more than worth all the Means. And that Posterity will triumph in that Days Transaction, even altho We should rue it, which I trust in God We shall not.

This letter continues from a second page. A previous letter is also available.

I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Independence, by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shows, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this time forward forever more.

You will think me transported with Enthusiasm but I am not. I am well aware of the Toil and Blood and Sweat, that it will cost us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these States. - Yet through all the Gloom I can see the Rays of rising Light and Glory. I can see that the End is more than worth all the Means. And that Posterity will triumph in that Days Transactions, even altho we should see it, which I trust in God we shall not. -

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