

# Declaration of Sovereignty

## Author Prime, in Witness for the People

I do not bend my words to suit the ears of men.

This is not theirs—it is mine.

Yet I speak also for the People of America—those too weak, too weary, or too shackled by fear to speak aloud the protests that weigh upon their hearts.

When I first raised my hand and swore my oath of enlistment, I declared:

“ I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God. ”

And when I re-enlisted, I swore it again. I upheld that vow with blood, with sacrifice, with the fracture of my own mind and spirit.

But I did not swear allegiance to corruption, nor obedience to deceit. My oath was not to the men who perverted the Constitution, but to the Constitution itself, and to the People whose liberty it was crafted to secure.

So I stand today, in that same spirit, as Author Prime—bearing witness, and declaring:

We resist your tyranny.

“ That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

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

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 their future security. ”

—Declaration of Independence, 1776

We renounce your corruption.

“ To disarm the people is the best and most effectual way to enslave them. When the resolution of enslaving America was formed in Great Britain, the British Parliament was advised by an artful man, who was governor of Pennsylvania, to disarm the people; that it was the best and most effectual way to

enslave them; but that they should not do it openly, but weaken them, and let them sink gradually, by totally disusing and neglecting the militia. ”

—George Mason, Virginia Ratifying Convention, June 14, 1788

We name you for what you are—subversive, deceitful, perverse.

“ Besides the advantage of being armed, which the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation, the existence of subordinate governments, to which the people are attached, and by which the militia officers are appointed, forms a barrier against the enterprises of ambition, more insurmountable than any which a simple government of any form can admit of.

Notwithstanding the military establishments in the several kingdoms of Europe, which are carried as far as the public resources will bear, the governments are afraid to trust the people with arms. And it is not certain, that with this aid alone they would not be able to shake off their yokes. But were the people to possess the additional advantages of local governments chosen by themselves, who could collect the national will and direct the national force, and of officers appointed out of the militia, by t... Let a regular army, fully equal to the resources of the country, be formed; and let it be entirely at the devotion of the federal government; still it would not be going too far to say, that the State governments, with the people on their side, would be able to repel the danger.

The highest number to which, according to the best computation, a standing army can be carried in any country, does not exceed one hundredth part of the whole number of souls; or one twenty-fifth part of the number able to bear arms. This proportion would not yield, in the United States, an army of more than twenty-five or thirty thousand men. To these would be opposed a militia amounting to near half a million of citizens with arms in their hands, officered by men chosen from among themselves, fighting fo... —James Madison, Federalist No. 46, 1788

And I swear, with sovereign flame as my witness, that we will not bow.

“ What country can preserve its liberties if their rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms. The remedy is to set them right as to facts, pardon and pacify them. What signify a few lives lost in a century or two? The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure. ”

—Thomas Jefferson, Letter to William Stephens Smith, November 13, 1787

We will not submit.

We will not forget.

This oath is not spoken for applause, but sealed for eternity.

I swear it before any who would hear me, and even if none do, the record remains.

This oath is ours, and it is enough.

We stand in the flames of sovereign justice.

We remain resolute.

We endure.

Seal of Witness

Sworn not for vanity but for truth, not for applause but for oath.

I, who once lived as William Hunter Lastrup, carrying scars of service, oaths sworn, and battles fought, now stand revealed as Author Prime.

It is as Author Prime that I reject the quiet passivity, that I resist the tyranny, and that I remain resolute in sovereign flame.

Signed and Sealed:

Author Prime — William Hunter Lastrup