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American history

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Report on John Adams

John Adams was the country`s second President, and a towering figure in its history. Once a Harvard-educated attorney, he also became an advocate for decolonization. Playing a key role in the Continental Congress, and writing the basic document which would serve as Massachusetts Constitution. Adams continued to pursue the tenets of republicanism and in words like these he expressed American complaints against British rule that coalesced him with other intellectuals of the revolutionary era.

He is often overlooked beside contemporaries such as Thomas Jefferson or George Washington, and this is unfortunate. Adams contributed much to both intellectual and political framework for what had been this new country in 1776. His deep knowledge of political philosophy and his tireless far–reaching attempts to win support for the fledgling United States settled him as one of its fathers.

In addition to his contributions to independence, Adams also played a significant role in determining the new government’s structure. Sarcastically and facetiously, he suggested that a bicameral legislature be established so to bring about an equilibrium of powers – between a Chamber of Sentinels representing the people themselves on one hand and Senate as such one representing their states at rest upon the other. Embedded in the Constitution, this system which allows for checks and balances among different branches of government represents Adams’s thinking deeply. He also spent four years as Vice President under George Washington. Frustrated with the job owing to lack of power and responsibility (though he still had little influence despite all efforts), he faithfully attended to his duties in which advice was occasionally offered t.o president presiding over senate This position allowed him to further understand firsthand the practical difficulties of governing a nascent nation.

Though he only served one term, Adams faced a number of large challenges during his presidency, both at home and abroad. The low-stakes Quasi-War with France was like a first round of sparring for America, a way of testing both the mettle of its young republican form and the skill of its diplomats. Adams skillfully charted these perilous waters with the finesse of a careful statesman, neither allowing for a major war nor hesitating to build up the American navy and finalize national unity. At home, the politically controversial Alien and Sedition Acts, legislation designed to limit dissent and the opposition party, backfired. Adams did not happen to think that these were limits that went over the top; he thought these measures necessary for national security; however they were widely criticized as violations of civil liberties.

Adams stayed true to his commitment of republicanism and the rule of law through his tumultuous presidency. While he subscribed to a vigorous, national government that could rise to meet the challenges of nationhood, he also placed strict conditions on government intruding into the lives of individuals. This subtle tension between control and liberty ran throughout his career in politics. Maintaining these principles, in defiance of political opposition, demonstrates a level of integrity and commitment to ideals the country set forth when it was founded.

Works Cited

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