

* * * In April, I sailed for Yorktown, * * * and then rode to Williamsburg, and obtained a drawing of Mr. Wythe for the 'Declaration.' " Washington, in a letter to La Fayette, November 21, 1791, spoke of "the greatness of the design, and the masterly execution of the work."

As a few of the members who were present when the declaration was passed on the 4th of July, retired before the engrossed copy was ready for signing, and thus failed to attach their names to the great American Magna Charta; while others, who were not present, but subsequently became members, affixed their signatures to the declaration. Col. Trumbull was embarrassed in determining how to treat these classes. He finally resolved to include all the signers, of whom he could obtain likenesses, and also those who were present when the declaration was enacted. Of this latter class, however, he, for some reason, omitted Henry Wisner, of New York, Charles Humphreys and Joseph Galloway, of Pennsylvania, and John Rogers,¹ of Maryland.

Speaking of the pictures of the signers, Col. Trumbull says: "All saw the correctness of the portraits. Many knew the accuracy of the countenances recorded." He has introduced forty-eight heads, and full-length portraits, into his grand representation—five of whom were not signers, namely, George Clinton, R. R. Livingston, Thomas Wharton, John Dickinson, who were in Congress when the act was passed, but not at the signing, and Charles Thomson, the secretary, whose name attests the accuracy of the document, and genuineness of the signatures of the signers. Of these forty-eight persons represented in the picture, Col. Trumbull seems to have faithfully painted thirty-eight from life, copied nine from other likenesses, and painted one, that of Harrison, from directions given him for the purpose.

In a letter written by Trumbull to Gen. W. H. Harrison, in February, 1818, he states: "Since I wrote you last, I have inquired of Mr. Peale, and have received for answer that he possesses no portrait of your father in his museum. My

¹ With reference to Rogers, see Etting's *History of Independence Hall*, pp. 85, 96, 100, 177.