

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

**The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen  
united States of America,**

When in the Course of human events,

it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve  
the political bands which have connected them  
with another,

and to assume among the powers of the earth,  
the separate and equal station to which the Laws  
of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them,

a decent respect to the opinions of mankind  
requires that they should declare the causes  
which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident,

that all men are created equal, that they are  
endowed by their Creator with certain  
unalienable Rights,

that among these are Life, Liberty and the  
pursuit of Happiness