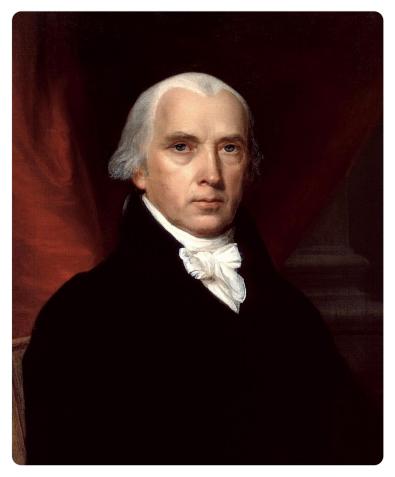


This guy...

James Madison Jr. was an American statesman, lawyer, diplomat, philosopher, and Founding Father who served as the fourth president of the United States from 1809 to 1817

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Madison

born March 16, 1751 - 25 yrs old in 1776



"He is hailed as the "Father of the Constitution" for his pivotal role in drafting and promoting the United States Constitution and the United States Bill of Rights."

"Madison served as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates and the Continental Congress during and after the American Revolutionary War. He became dissatisfied with the weak national government established by the Articles of Confederation and

helped organize the Constitutional Convention, which produced a new constitution to

supplant the Articles of Confederation. Madison's Virginia Plan served as the basis for the Constitutional Convention's deliberations, and he was

one of the most influential individuals at the convention. Madison ... joined with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay in writing The Federalist Papers,... is widely considered to be one of the most influential works of political science in American history."

" He was the main force behind the ratification of the United States Bill of Rights, which enshrines guarantees of personal freedoms and rights within the Constitution."

"After diplomatic protests and a trade embargo failed to end British attacks against American shipping, he led the United States into the War of 1812"

Sentiment was generally against going to war with GB; Madison lobbied the public to take up arms and resist. Had he not, the Revolution might well have been undone.

"He retired from public office in 1817 and died in 1836. He is generally considered to be one of the most important Founding Fathers of the United States"

In 1837 two brothers Jesse and Warren Wheaton and their friend Erasmus Gary traveled from New England to

Northern Illinois. The last leg of their trip was on the steamship USS Madison. They claimed hundreds of acres and established settlements which became the cities of Wheaton and Warrenville, Il. When they first arrived they stayed with a friend in what is now Warrenville.

A wagon trail between that friend's homestead and Wheaton was named Madison Street, in honor of that hero of the Republic who had died the year before they arrived. Portions of it are gone, but a 3-block segment remains. Every time I pass the street

signs enroute from/to my house I mentally salute him and express my fervent hope that we can salvage the Great Experiment he, Jefferson, and the other Founders dedicated so much effort and care to establishing.

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