

# The Revolutionary Period

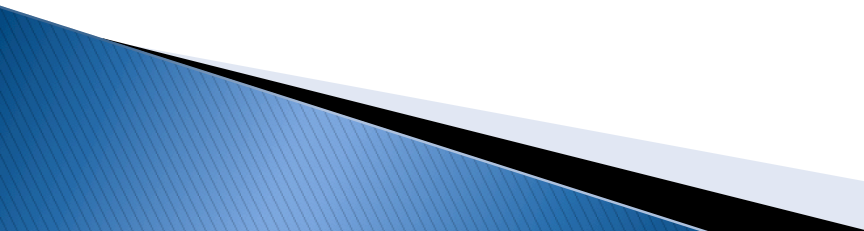


1750–1800

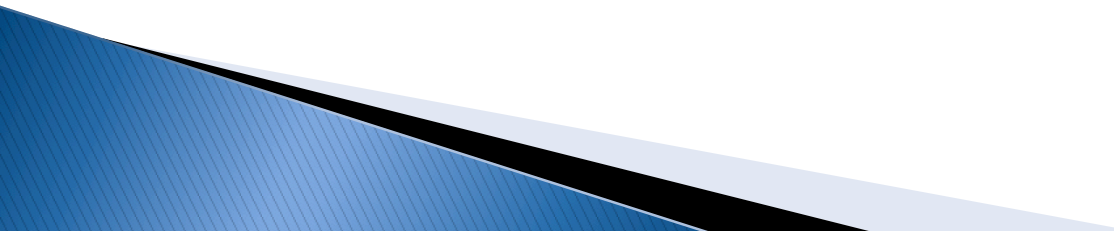
# Fundamental Ideas of the Revolutionary Period

- 1. Reason over religion**
  - People believed that reason was a God-given gift and that we should try to understand and find order in the universe.
- 2. Progress**
  - new inventions, education, government
- 3. People are basically good**
  - This is different from the Puritan view that people are basically sinners by nature

# Values of Revolutionary Period

- ▶ –reason and man’s ability to use it **logically**
  - ▶ –there is an **order** to the natural world, the universe is like a watch (unchanging and mechanistic) *Static Mechanism*
  - ▶ –stability found in the natural world through order
  - ▶ –**perfection, permanence, reason, order**
- 

# Effect of Revolutionary Writing

1. Patriotism grows
  2. Instills pride
  3. Creates common agreement about issues
  4. Shows differences between Americans and Europeans
- 

# Types of Writing

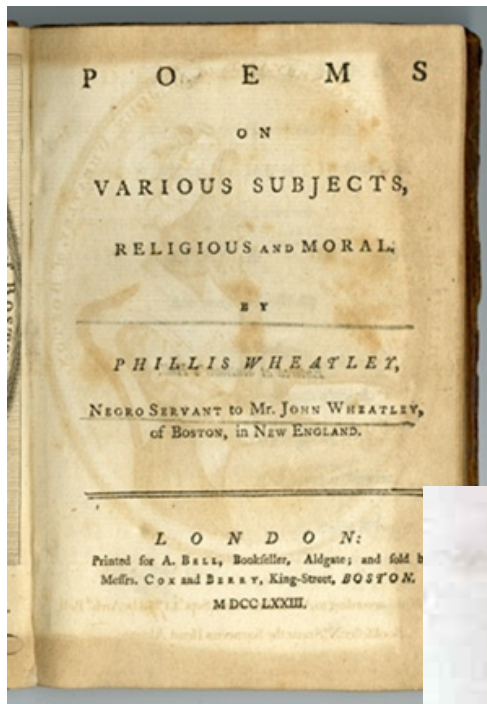
- ▶ Poetry
- ▶ Autobiographies
- ▶ Historical documents
- ▶ Political Pamphlets  
With a Highly Ornate  
Style



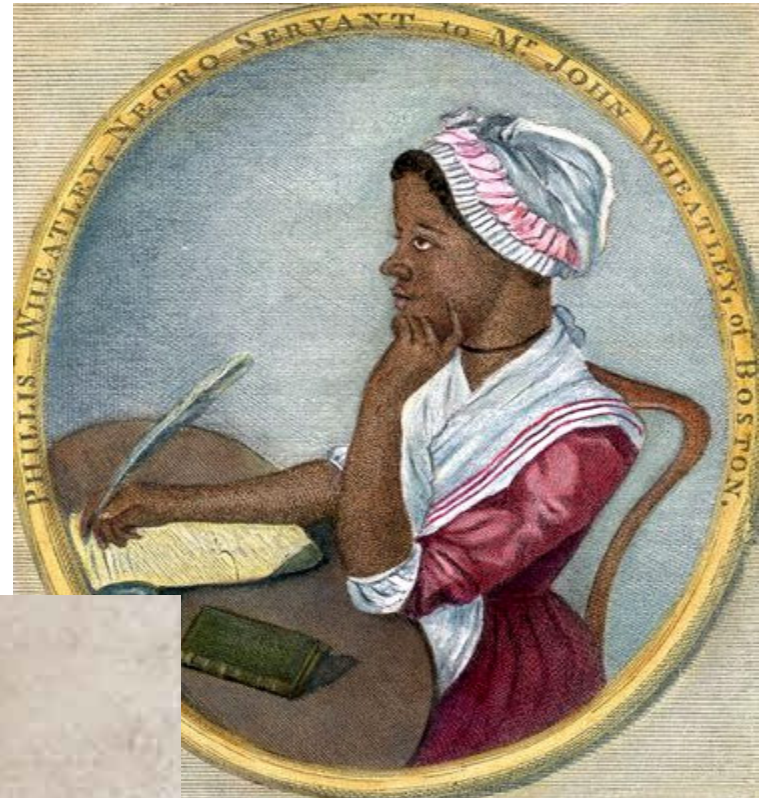


# Writers of the Revolution

## Phillis Wheatley



Title page of Phillis Wheatley's 'Poems.'



# Ben Franklin



*Dear Richard,*  
*Yours a Servant*

## Almanack

For the Year of Christ  
**1740,**  
Being LEAP YEAR.

<i>And under Six de Centes</i>	1140
By the Account of the Golden Credo	1148
By the Latin & French, with Chron. Y.	4210
By the Compendium of W. D.	1140
By the French Chronology	1140
By the French History	1144

*Wherein is contained,*  
The Eruptions, Eclipses, Judgment of  
the Weather, Spring Tides, Plague, Cholera &  
annual Epidemics, Sun and Moon's Place and  
Motion, Length of Day, Time of High Water,  
Faint, Clouds, and other visible Days.  
Fixed to the Latitude of Forty Degrees,  
and a Division of Five Hours West from London,  
but may without Enlarging them, serve all the  
same Place, even from Newfoundland to  
Cathay.

By **RICHARD LUNDERS**, Printer,  
**PHILADELPHIA:**  
Printed and Sold by **J. FRASER**, at the New  
Printing-Office near the Market.





# Patrick Henry

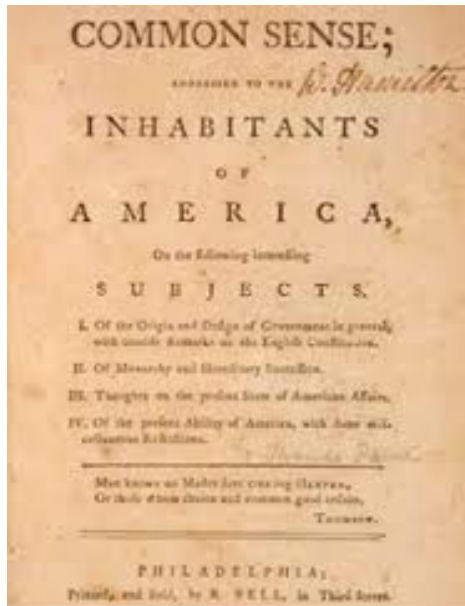




# Thomas Jefferson



# Thomas Paine



**Thomas Paine**  
**Common Sense**, published in 1776.

