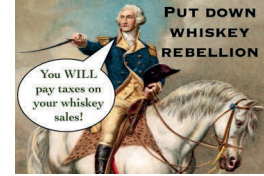
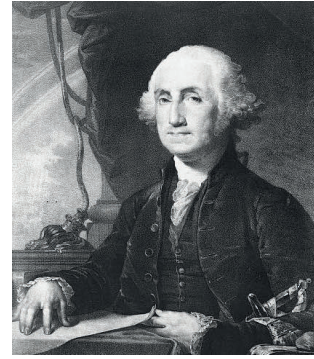


POTUS #1 - George Washington

1789-1797 ~ “Brand New Nation”

*Washington, humble hero
Whom everyone did trust,
Preferred his own Mount Vernon
But into presidency was thrust.*



- Only POTUS to be elected unanimously—TWICE! (define unanimous)
- Extra-good choice for 1st POTUS b/c he had no biological children or “heir” to the “throne”
- Preferred the title “Mr. President” over VP Adams’ more king-like suggestions
- His Virginia home is called **Mt. Vernon**; as POTUS, lived in NYC x16 months then Philadelphia
- Chose the site of the nation’s capital although never lived there
- Only had **1 tooth** by the time he was POTUS, endured constant toothaches during Revolution
- Asked for 6 navy warships, Congress approved 3 ships—including the *USS Constitution*, docked in Boston & the oldest wooden continuously commissioned warship afloat!
- Started tradition of POTUS giving “State of the Union” address annually. The SOTU is a way for the POTUS to let Americans know if the country is struggling like a person trying not to drown or is generally at ease like a person floating on a lazy river drinking lemonade! Most presidents have chosen to give a speech, although a few have sent a letter to Congress instead—like Jefferson, who hated public speaking!
- Enforced a federal law that taxed alcohol by leading the army to squash the **“Whiskey Rebellion”**—a group of Pennsylvania farmers who refused to pay taxes on the whiskey they made and sold. They quickly changed their minds upon Washington’s arrival! The Constitution says the job of the POTUS is to **enforce** the law, and Washington sure did!
- Upon his resignation, King George III and the rest of Europe were amazed because the voluntary, peaceful transfer of power from one man to another man was unheard of!
- At his funeral, his friend, Henry Lee, said that Washington was “First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of our countrymen.” Everyone loved and respected him.

The following states were admitted into the Union during Washington’s two terms as POTUS:



North Carolina
12



Rhode Island
13



Vermont
14



Kentucky
15



Tennessee
16