

# Thomas Paine

Author of “Common Sense”

- Thomas Paine



# I. Thomas Paine

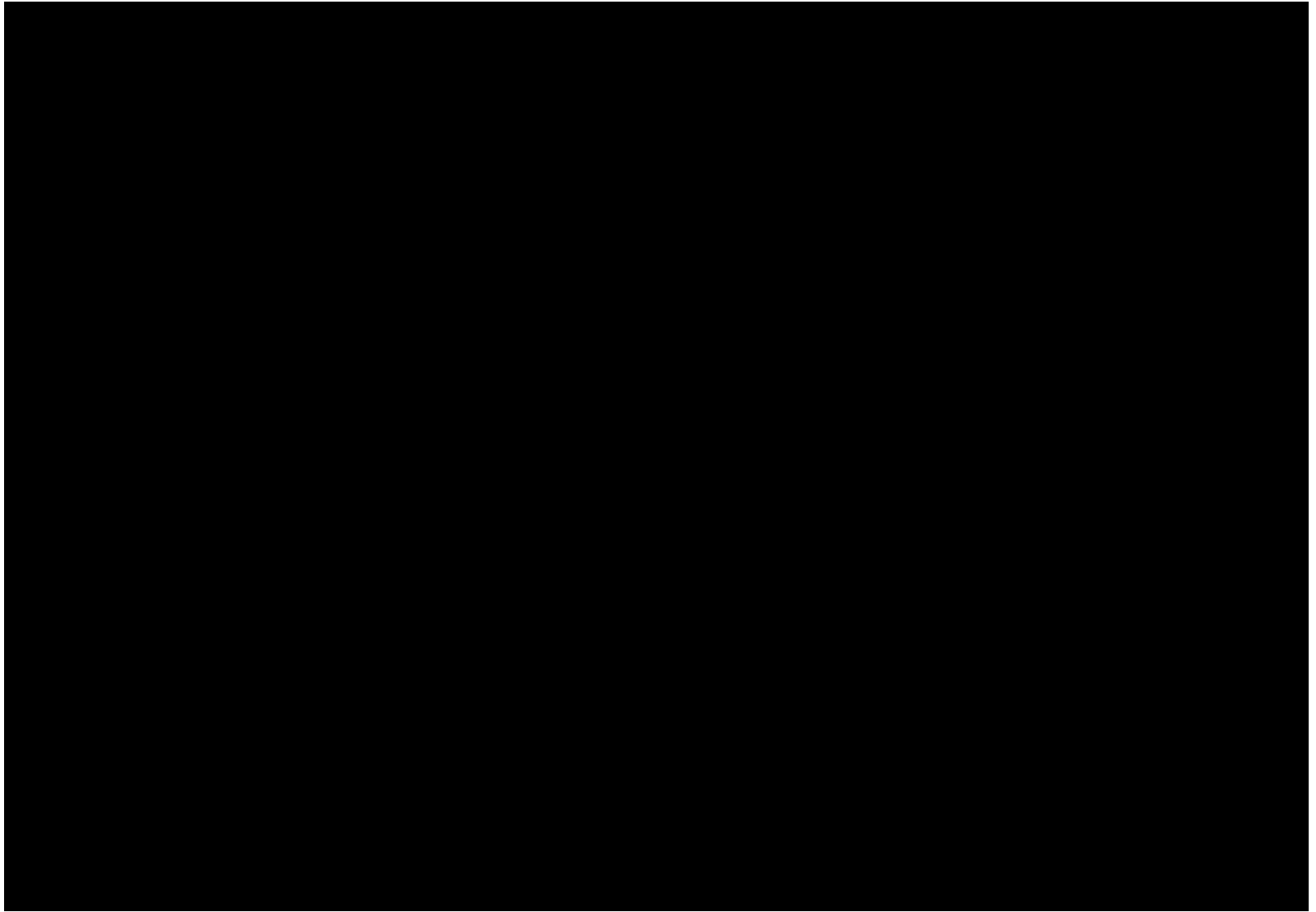
A Political journalist who came to America in 1774

B. Many early failures in life: sailor, teacher, tax collector

1. Failures explain his attitude toward the poor and unfortunate

C. Published Common Sense pamphlet in 1776

# Common Sense



## II. Common Sense



A. Pamphlet which spread  
Pro-independence

Propaganda in the colonies.

B. Argued that Americans owed no direct  
allegiance to either the King of England or to  
England itself

C. Urged Americans to seek a complete break  
from England and called for the  
establishment of an American Republic.

# COMMON SENSE

## COMMON SENSE;

ADDRESSED TO THE *W. Hamilton*

## INHABITANTS

OF

## A M E R I C A,

On the following interesting

### S U B J E C T S.

- I. Of the Origin and Design of Government in general, with concise Remarks on the English Constitution.
- II. Of Monarchy and Hereditary Succession.
- III. Thoughts on the present State of American Affairs.
- IV. Of the perfect Ability of America, with some well-collected Reflections.

*Thomas Paine*

Man knows no Matter here, nor in HEAVEN,  
Or think where choice and common good reside,

THOMSON.

PHILADELPHIA:

Printed, and Sold, by H. REEL, in Third Street.

MDCCLXXVI.

D. Sold 500,000 copies in six months

E. Exhibits the importance for the ability of the common man to be able to read and write

F. Main Idea: New Concept, Citizens can govern themselves!

“But where says some is the king of America? I'll tell you friend, he reigns above, and doth not make havoc of mankind like the royal brute of Britain. ... so far as we approve of monarchy, that in America the law is king.”

“Wherefore, since nothing but blows will do, for God's sake, let us come to a final separation”

From Common Sense