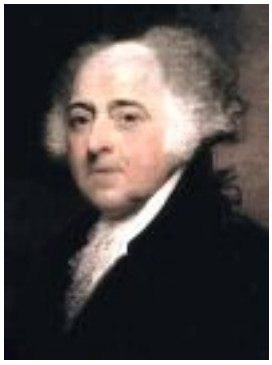

"Public virtue cannot exist in a nation without private, and public virtue is the only foundation of republics. There must be a positive passion for the public good, the public interest, honor, power and glory, established in the minds of the people, or there can be no republican government, nor any real liberty: and this public passion must be superior to all private passions." (letter to Mercy Warren, April 16, 1776)

John Adams was the Second President of the United States, revolutionary statesman and signer of the Declaration of Independence.