

How did life change for the Patriots after the war?

After a lot of celebrating, the Patriots worked to remove the memory of the British. Place names were changed. The Queen's Head Tavern in New York became the Fraunces Tavern again after its owner Samuel Fraunces, who later became the steward of Washington's household. Hutchinson Street in Boston, named for Loyalist Governor Thomas Hutchinson, was renamed Pearl Street.

Some names honored Patriot leaders. Washington College in Maryland was the first college named for George Washington. Mountains, towns, lakes, and counties were also given his name.

Other colleges reopened and college textbooks that had all come from Europe were now printed in America. Noah Webster's *American Spelling Book* (1783) used American spellings and word usage.

Patriotic themes were popular in writings and paintings. In 1793, *A History of the Revolution* was published for children.

The Great Seal of the United States, with the motto "E Pluribus Unum" (a Latin phrase meaning "one out of many"), started appearing on official papers after it was adopted in 1782. Pictures of eagles were also popular because the eagle was chosen as the national bird (although Benjamin Franklin thought the turkey was a better choice). Children were named "Independence," "Peace," "Joy," and "Thanks."

Being a new, free country brought problems, too, especially with money. Soldiers had been promised bonus money to stay in the army but the government didn't have



the cash. The soldiers were told they would be paid in money or land at some time in the future. It took until 1789, when a new central government was formed, for the nation to start redeeming its promise notes.

Products from England flowed into the country but exports dropped. American merchants, shipbuilders, and fishermen could not compete with other countries when England put a tax on American goods going into England.

Congress decided to form a government with a president, not a king. They looked to George Washington again. He became the first President of the United States in 1789 and guided the new nation until 1797.

