



JOHN ADAMS WINS PRESIDENTIAL RACE

By our politics editor

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TODAY is a proud day for the people of Massachusetts. Braintree-born John Adams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, has at last been elected as the second U.S. President. He succeeds George Washington, after serving as his Vice President.

In the first contested American presidential election, Adams' main rival was Thomas Jefferson, who becomes the next Vice President. Presidential electors were appointed by state legislatures or chosen by popular vote. Adams received 71 electoral votes, narrowly beating Jefferson's 68, to win the presidency.

As the nation's seat of government takes shape in Washington, D.C., the president will reside in a new "Presidential Mansion" currently under construction, that some are already calling the "White House."

Adams is a distinguished statesman, lawyer, and principal author of the Massachusetts state constitution, upon which the U.S. Constitution has been partly modeled.

During the American Revolution, Adams served as a Massachusetts delegate at the Continental Congress. Later, as a diplomat in Europe, Adams helped negotiate a peace

SECOND U.S. President John Adams and third U.S. President Thomas Jefferson died within hours of each other on Independence Day, 1826. The political rivals became friends in later years, writing to each other. Their letters—a look inside the minds of the Founding Fathers—were published for all to enjoy. Adams, aged 90, uttered his last words: "Thomas Jefferson still survives." Little did he know that Jefferson, aged 83, had died several hours earlier.

treaty with Britain that recognized American independence.

A close adviser to Adams is his wife Abigail, who, despite being deprived of a formal education, is known for her intellectual prowess and insights on politics and women's rights. Their son, John Quincy Adams, has been appointed a U.S. ambassador.

As a young nation, America is already showing itself determined to follow its own course. Although France helped it defeat Britain, the U.S. wants to stay "neutral" in France's latest war with Britain.

Adams must deal with growing tensions between the U.S. and France, which is in the midst of its own revolution, especially as French privateers have started seizing ships to halt American trade with Britain.