# Excerpt from [**The lost founding father of America**](http://mybeliefs.co.uk/2012/11/13/the-lost-founding-father-of-america/)

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Chief Canastaego is a real Iroquois leader who had a profound impact on the founding of America. Many people do believe him to be a lost founding father. The stories related about the arrows and Franklin and how it led to the bundle of arrows in the great seal is true. In resolution 331, passed in October of 1988, which acknowledges the influence that the Iroquois Constitution had upon the American founding documents, including the *Declaration of Independence*. For example in 1787 John Rutledge of South Carolina read to the members of the Constitution Convention from Iroquois law. Words written 250 years before the American Constitution.

Here are the words he read out:   
“We, the people, to form a union, to establish peace, equity and order”.

- One day Chief Canastaego came to Franklin and by way of demonstration broke a single arrow. After which he got a bundle of 13 arrows and tried to do the same, to break them. But, as the mass amount of arrows was greater. He was unable to so. In effect Chief Canastaego was showing Franklin that the 13 colonies of the states will be stronger together and not being apart. That, to win their war against the colonial powers they will have to form a union together. This is why the seal of America has 13 arrows incorporated into the claws of the eagle.

