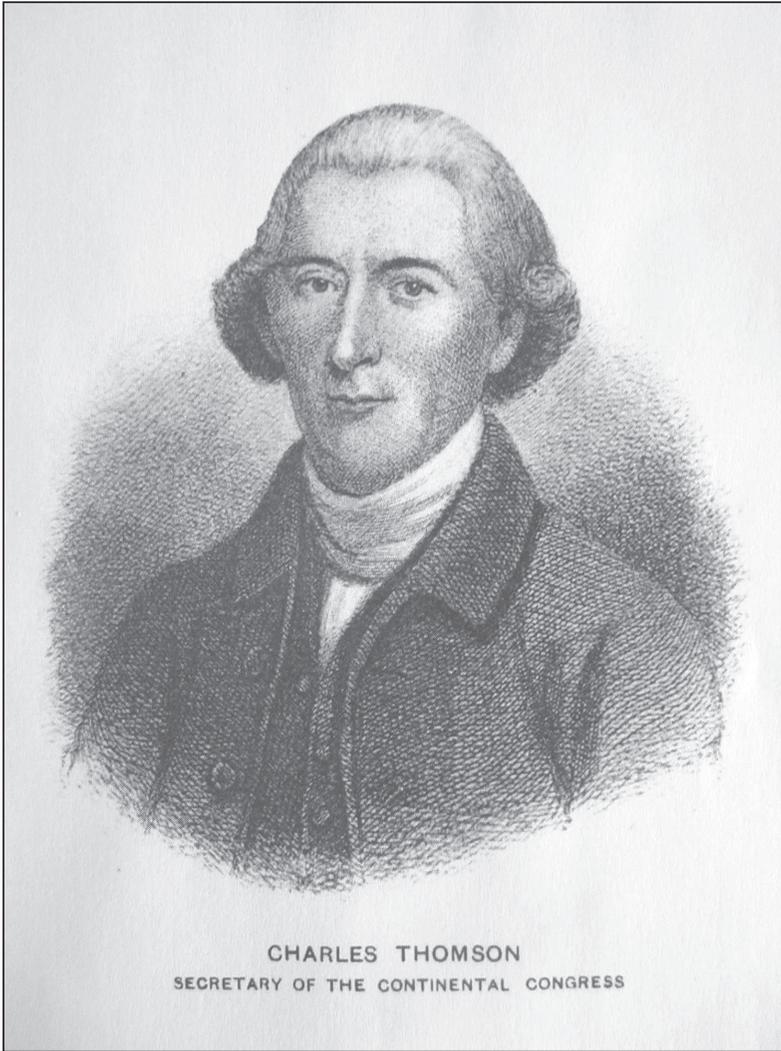


CHARLES THOMSON

Secretary of the Continental Congress and Translator of the Bible from Greek

- 1729 Born in Waghera, County Derry, Ireland.
- 1740 Emigrated to America with family.
Father died on the way.
- 1741– Student at the of Rev. Francis Alison, D.D.,
New London Academy, Pennsylvania
- 1749 Tutor at the Newark Academy, Delaware
- 1751-55 Tutor of Latin and Greek at Benjamin Franklin’s
Academy of Philadelphia
- 1757-60 Tutor at the William Penn Charter School,
(Friends’ School) Philadelphia
- 1759 Published “An Enquiry into the Causes of
Alienation of the Delaware and Shawneese Indians.”
- 1760 Compiled “A Catalogue of the Library
of the Latin School” for the Friends’ School
- 1761-1774 Mercantile pursuits.
- 1774-1789 Secretary of the Continental Congress and
Congress of the Confederation
- 1808 Published “The Holy Bible, containing the Old
and New Covenant, Commonly called the
Old and New Testament, Translated from
Greek (4 Vols.) – first American translation
of the Septuagint into English.
- 1815 Published “A Synopsis of the Four Evangelists”
(Harmony of the Four Gospels).
- 1824 Died in Pennsylvania



Lithograph of Charles Thomson, Secretary of the Continental Congress (1774-1789), Translator of the Holy Bible from Greek, and lifelong friend of Thomas Jefferson.

7. Adullam Films' 2010 production states that Charles Thomson, Secretary of the Continental Congress and Congress of the Confederation, made the final decisions for the Great Seal of the United States, placing an anti-Christian symbol thereon. What evidence is there to prove this allegation?

Following is the entire report, written in Charles Thomson's handwriting, and endorsed by him, as Secretary of Congress, for the 'Device for a Great Seal of the United States in Congress Assembled,' finally adopted on June 20, 1782:

“Remarks and Explanation:

The Escutcheon is composed of the chief & pale, the two most honorable ordinaries: The pieces, paly, represent the Several States all joined in one solid compact entire, supporting a Chief, which unites the whole & represents Congress. The Motto alludes to this union. The pales in the arms are kept closely united by the chief and the chief depends on that Union & the strength resulting from it for its support, to denote the Confederacy of the United States of America & the preservation of their Union through Congress. The colours of the pales are those used in the flag of the United States of America; White signifies purity and innocence; Red, hardiness & valour, and Blue, the colour of the Chief signifies vigilance, perseverance & justice. The Olive branch and arrows denote the power of peace & war which is exclusively vested in Congress. The Constellation denotes a new State taking its place and rank among other sovereign powers. The Escutcheon is born on the breast of an American Eagle without any other support, to denote that the United States of America ought to rely on their own Virtue. Reverse. The Pyramid signifies Strength and Duration: The Eye over it & the Motto allude to the many signal interpositions of Providence in favour of the American cause. The date underneath is that of the Declaration of Independence and the words under it signify the beginning of the new American era, which commences from that date.”¹²⁶

From the above-quoted original, **housed in the National Archives**, we understand that there is no anti-Christian symbol on the Great Seal of the United States, adopted by the United States Congress, on June 20, 1782.

(Excerpted from, *The Truth about the Founding Fathers of the American Republic*, copyright 2013 by Dr. Catherine Millard.)

“ THOMSON'S BIBLE.”

19 **BIBLE. The Holy Bible**, containing the Old and New Covenant, commonly called The Old and New Testament: Translated from the Greek. By Charles Thomson, late Secretary to the Congress of the United States.

4 vols., 8vo, original calf, rebacked. Philadelphia, Printed by Jane Aitken, No. 71, North Third Street, 1808. £5 5s

This edition, which is known as “Thomson's Bible,” contains the earliest translation of the Septuagint into English.

Charles Thomson (1729-1824) was Secretary to Congress from 1774-1789, when he retired to devote himself to biblical study.

The original Manuscript of his translation is preserved at Allegheny College: three of his notebooks containing suggestions and ideas are in the Library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society; while his own copy of the Bible, with manuscript notes in the margins, is the property of the Library Company of Philadelphia.