

**T.C.  
İSTANBUL AYDIN UNIVERSITY  
INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTS  
OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN WASHINGTON IRVING'S  
RIP VAN WINKLE**

**M.A. THESIS**

**Mehmet Çağrı ORAN**

**Department Of English Language And Literature  
English Language And Literature Program**

**AUGUST 2015**

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**Thesis Supervisor : Prof. Dr. Kemalettin YİĞİTER**

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T.C.  
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(21./08./2015)



Mehmet Çağrı Oran



*To my spouse and son,,*

## FOREWORD

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## AMERİKAN DEVRİMİ VE WASHINGTON IRVING'İN RIP VAN WINKLE KISA HİKAYESİNDE AMERİKAN DEVRİMİ'NİN ETKİLERİNİN İNCELENMESİ.

### ÖZET

Amerikan Devrimi, günümüzde de bildiğimiz gibi, Amerika Birleşik Devletleri'nin temellerini oluşturan en önemli olaydır. İngiliz Krallığı'nın dayatmaları karşısında, koloniler yeni bir ülke kurdu. Bu çalışma; 1763 Bildirisi ve Boston Katliamı, Birinci ve İkinci Kongreler, Fransız ve Hint Savaşları, kolonilerin düşünceleri, onlardan talep edilen ağır vergiler, Özgürlük Bildirgesi, Aydınlanma Çağı ve etkilerinin edebi araştırmasına dayanır; ama bu çalışmanın esas amacı Amerikan Devrimi'nin oluşu ve edebi bağlamda incelenmesidir ayrıca Amerikan kısa hikayesinin kurucularından biri olan Washington Irving ve Amerikan Devrimi ile ilgili en ünlü kısa hikayesi Rip Van Winkle adlı eserinin incelenmesidir. Tezin temel fonksiyonu, 13 koloninin birleşimi ile sonuçlanan Amerikan Devrimi'dir ve edebiyat vasıtasıyla Kraliyet için farklı duygular aktarılır. Ayrıca, Amerika'nın kendisinin ve edebi biçiminin başlangıcına götüren yeni ulusal kavramlar izlenebilir.

Giriş bölümünde Amerikan Devrimi ve devrimin Amerikan edebiyatı üzerindeki etkileri hakkında genel bilgi verilecektir. Amerikan Devrim Savaşı'nın sebepleri ve süreci tezin ikinci bölümünde incelenecektir. Üçüncü bölümde, Washington Irving'in Amerikan edebiyatı üzerindeki etkisi, Amerikan Devrim Savaşı hakkındaki görüşleri ve eserlerinden bahsedilecektir. Rip Van Winkle tezin dördüncü bölümünde analiz edilecektir. Ayrıca, Amerikan Devrim Savaşı'nın Washington Irving'in eseri "Rip Van Winkle" üzerindeki yansımaları hakkında detaylı bir çalışma bulunacaktır.

Sonuç bölümünde ise Washington Irving'in Amerikan Devrimi'ni eseri "Rip Van Winkle"da başarılı bir şekilde nasıl tasvir ettiği açıklanacaktır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Devrim, Koloni, Bağımsızlık, Edebiyat



# **AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN WASHINGTON IRVING'S RIP VAN WINKLE.**

## **ABSTRACT**

American Revolution is the most important event which created the foundations of The United States of America as we know it today. Under the impositions of the British Crown, colonists established a new country. The research is based on literary search of the Enlightenment and its effects, thoughts of the colonists, the harsh acts that are demanded from them, French and Indian Wars, Proclamation and Boston Massacre, Congress', Declaration of the Independence were thoroughly examined but this paper's main aim is the American Revolution's occurrence, and analyzing it through the context of literature and one of the founding fathers of American short story Washington Irving and his most important short story on the Revolutionary America Rip Van Winkle is examined. The primary function of the thesis is American Revolution that resulted with unison in 13 colonies and through the literature, different feelings are conveyed as for the Crown. Furthermore, new national notions can be traced which lead to the beginning of America itself and its literature style.

In introduction, the general information about American Revolution and its effects on American literature will be given. The process and causes of American Revolutionary War will be examined in the second section of this thesis. In the third section, Washington Irving's effects on American literature and his views on American Revolutionary War and his works will be mentioned. Rip Van Winkle is analyzed in the fourth section of this thesis. Moreover, it can be seen a detailed study about the reflections of American Revolutionary War on Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle.

In conclusion, it is shown how Washington Irving describes American Revolution in his work "Rip Van Winkle" successfully.

**Key Words :** Revolution, Colony, Independence, Literary

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

American history can be seen as the beginning of America herself which happens by the Revolution, and the Revolution is primarily strengthened by the nation's achievement of the sense of nationality which is gathered by a war of independence and its leading figures. Cultural birth was done by the collective feelings and political perceptions through the emergence of Revolution. This rebirth is partially sustained by the economic power in the absence of a single nation. Age was swept by political, social and technological revolution and in the meantime individual perception was re-examined in the literary styles. As revolution is a definite term for change and its effect is impossible not to spread in nations any branch. The American War for Independence and underlying effects of the reasoning is an extensive period and will be enlightened in the context of the thesis. American literature within its national boundaries have taken shape with the beginning of the country and a little before it. To become a national literature, it had to see the very roots of the country that had national traits and orientation of it became diverse within the context of presenting the American history. So the revolution and it's parts have a prominent role on establishing a new national understanding and with the fights against Britain America earned its rights and liberties with in a hard way. The patriots who were in the foundation process and the wars that are waged and the politics that are made had a resolving effect on establishing the principles of the political history of America too. The revolution within the understanding of the British colonial system was a process that has its own roots which had evoked the notions like liberation, sovereignty, dignity, independence, national identity and many more. Oppositions to the crown raised and social and economical reforms were made which can't be seen just as a class struggle but it was a progressive understanding and establishing of national identity. Another topic which will be covered in this thesis is Washington

Irving's *Rip Van Winkle* 1819. It was written during the revolutionary times and Washington Irving depicts the times within a mixture audience where people believe in different facts that can be defined as British or Colonial. With the story that is an allegorical political satire, Irving successfully achieves different perceptions from the point of view. Rip Van Winkle tells the story of a man who sleeps in a mysterious way for twenty years and these twenty years is the time when Revolutionary war of America took place. Aim of this thesis is to show the foundation of the underlying circumstances that created the American Revolution and its Enlightenment period will be seen and the second major theme will be Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle and within the context Irving's life and works will be highlighted and Rip Van Winkle will be analyzed.

### **1.1 The Enlightenment**

The Enlightenment periods notions are followed with science, art, religion and all of the foundations which can reach to people with the cultural context can be seen as the fruits of new reasoning. When the riches of art and culture became globalized and when the middle class interfered with it there happened to be an aesthetic that reached to a wide variety of people and when we look at the ideological origins of revolution they too coincide with the enlightenment. Enlightenment is the process which happens to ignite the revolutions. "Starting with the political and social change wrought by the American Revolution 1775-1783 and the French Revolution 1789-1792..." (Rodriguez, 2007). Within Enlightenment, scientific thought was more important than the dogmatic way of thinking. As people in colonies turned their faces more into cultural activities and philosophy, a new way of thinking emerged because it was a period of intellectual liberation and when the rationalism collapsed and all its restraints vanished step by step. Scientific revolution is placed up on the implication of scientific methods and they are today the only legitimate method for the modern sciences. Unlike dogmatic thought with the scientific reasoning one begins to question the nature and its objects from a different perspective by asking and gathering data through observation.

“Famous early modern scientists include Copernicus, who “discovered” the heliocentric universe; Galileo, who worked on both the nature of the heavens and motion on earth; and William Harvey, who explained the human circulatory system” (Thackeray, 2011). They all had an impact on the society and beliefs and ideas of the times changed and they are literally shaped by the new information. Copernicus’ idea of earth and other heavenly bodies turning around the sun was a break through when people for ages and ages supposed that everything revolved around earth. With the ideas of Harvey human body is understood more and it was another important improvement for medical approach. Again there was another break through with Isaac Newton which shaped our knowledge about the physical world with the law of gravity. In a common way, key to success for every genius was to accomplish the application which put the human reasoning above every other thinking and the era had become to be called as age of reason. Human thought was much more appreciated as it was before, and not only scientific notions but also notions of natural rights and freedom prevailed. “Although intellectual revolutions do not of their own accord naturally inspire a popular response, many of the writers of the Enlightenment era, known as the philosophers, believed that their duty was to become promoters and popularizes of the new ideas so that a true societal transformation be achieved” (Rodriguez, 2007). Intellectual changes that are argued by the philosophers made a new appreciation for the ideas and beliefs were changed by that logic. For the thinkers or philosophers the motivation and desire were before blocked by the dogmatic thought and by breaking the restraints of them a new worldview emerged in the history. Revolutionary ideology was created up on the multiple meanings of freedom and human affairs. Prominent figures like Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Thomas Paine, were on the centre of the political awakening in the Revolutionary process in America. These were some of the many who were motivated during the age of revolution by the desire of a greater degree of freedom. The Declaration of Independence contains the spirit of this kind of a conception of freedom; “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights,

that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” (Declaration of Independence). Of course, The American Revolution is a complicated matter and can be read from different perspectives. However, it has never been under controversy that the Declaration of Independence was a consequence which is purely created by reasoning. The effects of enlightenment cannot be disputed, and the American Revolution has always been referred to as a process of the winning of the will of the people. Enlightenment in colonial America appeared in many different forms and apart from the Declaration, the practical instruments for governing was another issue that is created by the fact. Furthermore, with the age of reasoning there were more bookstores and there were more scholars with systematic studies and more secular thoughts were established in different areas. Another advancement was the learning which improved in America and many newly found colleges showed the result of reasoning. B. Franklin helped create an Academy in Philadelphia, which is the underlying core of the University of Pennsylvania, which is even today one of the most prominent educational institutions all across the country. University of Virginia is yet another university that served great contribution to the country and apart from the universities that were designed to keep pace of the intellectuality American’s created new social institutions and public places, some of which are coffeehouses or tobacco parlors where people gathered and discussed new ways. As the very idea of enlightenment is to serve to every person and create an understanding to these places every individual from different social lives attended. Not only the social gatherings and settings became more and more sophisticated and academic in content, but also women participated in this process in a male-dominated society (Thackeray, 2011), marking the important point that the light of the enlightenment spreads through every part of the society, even the then-subordinated group of women. Intellectual achievement was a must for the Americans and it spread from politics to any kind of art and even to everyday life. Every year brought a new discovery for different areas such as geology, biology, botany and in the other forms of natural philosophy. Americans contributed to the expansion of the knowledge in all the natural sciences (29), however, their contribution was more thorough in the social and political

sciences of the Enlightenment theories. While the impulse of the enlightenment reaches in most of the branches as in the foundation process cultural and institutional development had taken a new turn within the colonies. Another effect of enlightenment is the federal constitution of 1787 which showed a major importance for the age of reasoning. It had the political philosophy and ideas gathered from the Declaration of Independence and furthermore the document itself shows a strong bound and commitment to a rational political system which indicates a powerful governing power that would sustain individual freedom. Personal freedom or personal liberty was the outmost and ultimate context for the constitution and Americans created a governing system that balances legislative, executive and judicial roles within the country. When creating it, they used political science and different state governments formed the Enlightenment thinking and the entire system was established through sovereignty. The Enlightenment in America is a set of dates which is spread throughout the entire century and chronologically the diverse nature of the intellectual currents shaped the establishment. The wide variety of choices and support of social networks enhanced motivation along many Americans and the knowledge about natural sciences were shared with enthusiasm. In the revolutionary times, Benjamin Franklin was seen as the America's leading figure for the time being and his scientific resolutions yet with his political stand was outstanding and appreciated. He was born on January 17, 1706 in Boston, he was fascinated with Isaac Newton's achievements in physics. He was also influenced by John Locke's ideas on the nature of man. By the mid 1750's, Benjamin Franklin had become a prominent scientist whose ideas conducted new experimentations and set a new theoretical understanding.

## **1.2 The French And Indian War 1754 -1763**

In the middle of 1700's, Britain and France had colonies in the North America. The British wanted the place which is called Ohio River valley and they wanted trade business with the Native American who settled there but the French build forts to protect their trade business with the Native Americans and this leads to the war

which is one of the bloodiest wars of the 18<sup>th</sup> century in America. The casualties and lives that are lost are more than in the time of America Revolution. Purpose of the war was the huge struggle between the French and British which sought to improve their wealth and territory. This power struggle in Europe came to be known by its duration, namely, as the Seven Years War (1756-1763). Britain and France desired to capture large pieces of land across North America. British influence was much stronger and there were British colonies all across the Atlantic, marking the British dominance. Even the northern parts of today's Canada were under British rule (Dreier, 2013). There were differences in the two colonial systems of the countries. France had a power over its colonies from Paris and made little effort for installing a local government however, Britain was the right opposite installing local governments in the territory. Commercially being successful was their aim and when we look at France they tried to balance the population by preventing immigration however, Britain tried to populate them. Both of them used slave labor system to regulate the economic life of the colonies. The French pursued huge parts from the inner continent which stretched from New Orleans to Montana in northwest and Quebec in northeast. On October 31, 1753, George Washington, at the age of 21, went to Fort Le Boeuf to remove the French forces in the region (Marley, 2008). However, he was defeated by the French, and Britain declared war on France and one of the advantages of the French were the Indians whom they traded with. In 1754, Washington had the authorization to build a fort. He built a strong fort to help in his struggles with the French forces. In May, Washington's troops clashed with France forces but Washington had to surrender and in year 1755 General Edward Braddock went to Virginia with a convoy that escorted him and there while he was badly routed lost his life. In the year 1756, Britain declared war against France because of the invasion of the British Mediterranean base (Marley, 2008). In the North America, British had chance because their number were much more powerful than the French had. A year later, Britain sends more soldiers to the North America and this had a positive effect on defeating the French in Canada. Of course, there was another reason for this victory. In the year 1757, William Pitt came to power in the

British government. He was a successful figure. He did his best for the war against the French, he sent the best commanders and he placed economic subsidies on the supplies in America with a view to support British colonists (Dreier, 2013). General James Wolfe attacked on the French capital Quebec in 1759 and it was the highest priority because if the British would win the war there they could win the whole war. The Battle that took place called Battle of Abraham which can be seen as a turning point for the French which ended their stronghold in North. At the end there was a treaty signed which is called Treaty of Paris. Britain took control of Canada from the French. Terms of treaty indicated France to give their significant pieces of land which they had acquired over the years. This treaty was surely a great success for the British, and could be regarded as the main factor in the British dominance of the continent that lasted for hundreds of years. However, the British dominance faced Native American resistance as well. With the treaty, British soldiers remained at Ohio River Valley. However, Indians had been wanting soldiers to leave this place. So, with an Ottawa chief in lead, Indians opened a war against British. It lasted in a year and not to make any other conflict British made the Proclamation of 1763. There are important consequences of the French and Indian War which has a crucial power on the early development history of America. First of all and one of the most important factor is the danger from France to the colonies ended and this showed that from that point on colonies didn't need Britain's power for protection against French. While French are gone British military forces begin to disappear as well. Westward expansion of the colonists was granted after the war and the war granted a unifying power to the colonies. At least it made them become aware of each others power and solving them together. Furthermore, Britain had the problems for administration of the land which she got from the French and as a matter of fact land needed protection and they had to handle the debt caused by war.

### **1.3 Proclamation Of 1763**

In 1763, right after the French Indian war, Britain had to control the Appalachian Mountain and that area but of course it was not just a concern of British. "The



necessity of reaching an accord with the Native Americans seemed even more urgent with Pontiac's Resistance, which had begun in the spring of 1763" (Higginbotham, 1964). Native Americans, people in the colonies and whoever resided in the American land was affected and to bring an end to the wars on the area Britain took the assistance of western tribes and during the uprising that is lead by Chief Pontiac of Indians, the government announced a new policy for the West. "The intent of these legal instruments was to reserve for the Indians the vast region west of the watershed along the heights of the Appalachian Mountains. Many Euro-American settlers, however, had other plans for these rich, arable lands" (Hall, 1991). While British recognized the land as Indians some of the colonists had an opposing idea which they believed after winning the war they had the right to use that land. "Although never completely effective, the new British policy won the goodwill of the natives" (Tucker, 2011). Stated in the context of the Pontiac's War, the proclamation established the limits of three new colonies (Quebec and the two Floridas) and also created an expansive territory, temporarily reserved "for the use of the . . . Indians" (qtd in Beaulieu, 5). Another thing that is shown with the Proclamation is that governors can't claim or grant any land to the people in the colonies and it's done by the Britain. With it, there was a new legal instrument that indicated the former territory of the French to be the Native's land. Main idea of the British was to establish a global policy which would apply to all of the North American land and they tried to define the land and its possession. Therefore, in the first years with the approval of the royal proclamation, the colonial authorities outlined the incorporated idea that the Native's had their land by the new policy. "...legal framework, the concept of prior rights played a key role, as it made it possible to differentiate between two categories of rights: the rights of original land occupants, and those of the others" (Beaulieu, 2013). Royal officials in the colonies made illegal land implementations, grants, purchases from tribes etc. Sometimes the tribes didn't recognize the British government's boundaries on the land. Britain proclaimed that they would not continuously expand. They declared a certain boundary to their expansion in 1763. However, they never obeyed their promises. So,

Indian tribes attacked settlers that they regarded as illegitimate. Continuous British expansion provoked Indian raids and retaliations. Around 1768, the hostilities had already become common place and they begin to encounter one another to gain land and this led to taking sides. Many tribes sided against the British (Tucker, 2011). While British couldn't guard every place, in 1768 they adopted a new policy again for reduction of the people that are in duty in West. Trade control with Native Americans done with individual colonies and in the end of 1770 British lost their Imperial power in Appalachian West. "Britain's Proclamation of 1763 was bad policy, because it appeared to hem in the colonists while establishing a standing army on their western border. Instead of viewing the Line and the troops as a beneficial measure, the colonials viewed the policy as an affront to their own interests" (Thackeray, 2011). However, British had fear that their allies will turn against them and precautions were launched on an extensive diplomatic way in an attempt to regulate the relations between Britain and their allies. Furthermore, while British granted land to natives they also build an illusion, because the land affirmed to them was actually their own. This maneuver was an idealized term for the British ideals and the colonial power was tempted to modify the distribution in their own sense. The land which was won from France was distributed by their terms which were a borrowed method which established itself quickly with the British regime but it didn't rest with the overall strategy.

#### **1.4 Stamp Act**

Stamp duties were used in Britain for the first time in the year 1694. It was a form of taxation and on those times, stamp duties were a good and widespread way for revenue collection. When Seven Years War was finished Britain was in a great debt and the war had a global effect. "Since the colonists carried a smaller tax burden than did their fellow subjects in Great Britain, raising new revenues from the colonists and tightening the collection of their taxes made sense..." (Thackeray, 2011). There were two treaties in the end of the seven years war one is The Treaty of Paris which ended French forces claim on the North American territory and the other one was the

Treaty of Hubertusburg. Most of the major powers were present in the war and the vastness of the geographical scale made Britain to increase their expenditures. At the end of the war, Britain's debt became £146,000,000, with an annual interest amount of £4,700,000. This meant more and more taxes (Westin, 2012). Normally taxation is a process which is between state and its members that are in it. Main purpose of it's to get the taxes and present new possibilities and new foundation to the members of the country. To accommodate the colonial conditions Britain imposed the Stamp act and it was the part of an accepted thing in Britain. Yet another policy was again to prevent or slow down the movement of people into western areas and therefore British went on reducing the cost of defending those settlers from Natives. "To provide that protection, the British estimated that 10,000 troops were needed at a cost of £220,000 per year, and the money had to be found somewhere" (Thackeray, 2011). However, it wasn't welcomed well for the colonists and The British government failed to see the difficulties of this especially when it comes to logistics. To understand the Stamp Act truly, one should consider the background information of the taxation in the American colonies. By the half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, British colonies in mainland were 13 with the eight islands colonies in the Atlantic and Caribbean Sea. Each of these colonies had different constitutions and heads of the colonies which govern them were sovereign and managed the civil administration. By the 1700s, colonies had a say in London through an agent. These man were like lobbying professionals who knew their region very well (Beloff, 1965). For the regulation of trade and under commercially thinking the empire had to benefit from the trade and it was a fundamental government policy for the Britain. However, from colonies perspective; "In the colonies, the perception of British motives and actions was different: colonials saw the Proclamation Line and the positioning of troops to enforce it as a device to limit their economic expansion and to impose a standing army on them" (Thackeray, 2011). Before Stamp Act, there was Sugar Act which was a better policy move for Britain because it lowered the prices of Sugar expanses. According to Thackeray "the lower tax on molasses combined with the other taxes and better enforcement of the customs laws would bring the British Treasury £45,000

per year” (99). That figure was good because the income of the revenue was high but it was not so high to harm the colonial trade and by doing this they encouraged to pay taxes and prevent smuggling and bribe. Another thing that is done by the Sugar Act was making a policy in Britain and dictation of it in America without passing a law in their own system. George Grenville was an influential figure and was the official responsible from the Treasury. He proposed the bill in the year 1764, yet, it was the House of Commons who had serious doubts and who hesitated to approve. As again when it was Sugar Act the prices were lowered but with the new Stamp Act there were taxes on each paper that is printed and used. All American Colonists had to pay for it. All papers, including everything, including game cards were taxed. Actually, these taxes were small compared to the ones that are in Britain but what made law so offensive was the standardization of it. However, the British were insistent. George Grenville told the members of the parliament that the British is the protector of America, which should in turn yield some level of obedience in the part of the colonies (Reid, 1976). Still, according to the British view, they anticipated oppositions for the act and the act was meticulously prepared against the objections of colonists. Defined in Oats;

1. the total tax to be raised by the bill was quite small;
2. the stamp duty was chosen as it was considered to be equitable in terms of its burden;
3. the detailed variations from the British duties at the time reflected careful consideration of the particular circumstances in the colonies;
4. the money raised by the tax was to stay in the colonies (although there was some confusion in this regard); and
5. it was to be administered by leading men resident in the various colonies” (117).

Before the act taxes were taken, however, their aims were to regulate commerce, but with Stamp Act it became to raise money. While planning the taxation on the colonies government anticipated resistance as the conditions were not the same in the other places. Taxes were differentiated according to the incomes of the people when some of the colonies were taxed more the others didn't pay taxes as they did because

of the income gap between the colonies. However, according to the stamp act, every colonist should pay for the facilities. Another reason of the oppositions were growing sense of separate identity which made a negative effect on people to be governed from outside which can be seen as becoming nationalistic. In 1766, Benjamin Franklin who is known as one of the founding fathers of United States stated that; “I never heard any objection to the right of laying duties to regulate commerce, but a right to lay internal taxes was never supposed to be in parliament, as we were not represented there” (qtd in Beloff, 1965) and before that again in 1764 he stated that two separate authorities concerning taxing cannot remain in a country. They will eventually collide, resulting in conflict (Beloff, 1965). As the taxes were seen compulsory for Britain; for the colonies own sake of defending them, they thought it was a legitimate right to oppose the Stamp Act. There was also Quartering Act which tried to sustain the local government’s loyalty to the Britain it also made colonists to accommodate the British soldiers. However; “An appeal to "contract", after all, was not fundamentally different from an assertion that the colonists were entitled to the ancient English constitutional right of "consent"-to be bound by no legislation except that to which they themselves or their lawful representatives had consented” (Reid, 1976) which means the colonists are the part of the Britain’s crown so they must be under its Parliaments jurisdiction but in Britain not all the men could vote for their rights. There were the wealthiest subjects and the others which are born with the titles so to be represented as American’s been a fact for the term being. To that idea colonists opposed and argued that true presentation can only occurred if the presenter is allowed to vote for himself for the legislation that is against to the decision. Colonists liked the King but the taxes were burden and colonists opposed to the idea on the streets. After oppositions from all of the colonies in streets and in the meetings that were done, “The Crown agreed to the repeal of the Stamp Act on March 17, 1766” (Danver, 2011). After the repeal of the Stamp Act people rejoiced the King however, first time colonial unification was done and there was an opposition that was against Britain. The damage was done between the mother country and the colonies.

## 1.5 The Boston Massacre

The Boston Massacre is a term that was given at the time when British soldiers shoot the American civilians on March 5, 1770. This incident can be seen as one of the exemplary situation that led to tensions and created distrust among colonists for the British Rule and it can be seen as an early outbreak of the American Independence which is five years after the incident. This incident was that some colonists had been struggling with customs personnel and resisting to them. Then, Boston's British officials sent their forces there with a view to end the fight (Thackeray, 2011). One of the main reasons for the mob's taunting soldiers was the Act which was announced right after the repeal of the Stamp Act. It was called the Townshend Act. Its purpose was to generate income in the colonies so that they can give salary to their governors and their judges. This way, they could be forced to rely on local legislation and financial bounds, which will positively affect trade (Westin, 2012). The act takes its name from the politician Charles Townshend who prepared the tax that placed on common products in the British colonies. Tea, lead, colors, glass and even paper were the things that were taxed. There were oppositions on the colonist's sides however; Britain saw it as a must and a fair gain for the expenses that were created by defending the colonies. Before the event there were tensions before but they were not fatal however this time it wasn't.

1. If Parliament were given the right to tax the colonies for revenue, unrepresented American taxpayers would be discriminated against in favor of British taxpayers who were represented.
2. Americans realized that one objective of revenue taxation was to raise money to pay colonial officials and thereby take these officials out of the control of the colonial assemblies, which had become accustomed to paying them. To the assemblies, this represented the surrendering of a considerable amount of authority the exclusive right to tax Americans and allocate the receipts" (Thackeray, 2011).

When the ceremony for the dead took place, there were too many people and this incident is used in the media. The famous cartoon of the “Boston Massacre” became a prominent object of attention (Danver, 2011). The incident was used as a propaganda device because even though there are casualties the incident wasn’t as big as it was, which after the exaggerations became vital. Furthermore, soldiers gave in their selves and they had a trial and the claim of self defense was given by the jury for the six of the soldiers however, the other two found guilty of murdering. As a result the Boston Massacre was one of the events that intensified the anger in Colonists against the British government and their policies.

### **1.6 The Boston Tea Party**

The Boston Tea Party took place in December 1773, which was an act of vandalism that had been done by the colonists’ objection to taxations. Consuming of the tea was so common for all of the public and as it became so expensive with the taxation people began to drink smuggled tea. It was smuggled through the coastlines of the America and without smuggled ones, tea had been imported from Britain to the colonies which started around 1720’s and objections to taxation were because of the Britain’s purpose of gain from the colonists. “In the contest between British Parliament and the American colonists before the Revolution, Parliament, when repealing the Townshend Acts, had retained the tea tax, partly as a symbol of its right to tax the colonies, partly to aid the financially embarrassed East India Company” (Boston Tea Party, 1). Many people drank tea. however, smuggled tea and the boycott that is done by the people to East India Companies’ Tea dropped the sales of the company drastically. In 1773, with the Tea Act passed; normal payments for tea in England which East India Company import was abolished. So, they began selling tea in all America at a much reduced price when compared to other companies. Eventually, company took the overall market and developed a monopoly. Reasons of this were the shareholders from Britain which were the stronger people that are in Parliament. This led to widespread selling of the tea by the company and it was so cheap that everybody bought it. Parliament’s reason of the act was thorough

Colonists wouldn't mind to give just a little tax to buy cheap tea which can be found and accessed easily. The Colonists had their tea and The East India Company had their business share and the British did gain taxation from the product. However, colonists opposed to that and there are some main reasons of their purpose; East India Company worked with a limited number of merchants whom they would chose and other companies were victimized by the fact. Another issue is that East India Company could sell the product even lower than the standards and even lower than the smuggled tea and the last thing was if the British Parliament have a power on an economical situation like this with just tea may be in other fields they would do the same thing and it wasn't a good occasion for the colonists. Like before, many Colonists had the opposition as they had acted in Stamp Act, or Townshend Act. From their perspective it was a clear imposition from the British Parliament and again those unwanted taxes were on their door steps. It was an economical violation from the alienated mother land which would soon be apart. After the recognition of the Act people began protests to government. The Act was boycotted in different places where tea agents were made to resign from their duty or the shipments were refused by the merchants. Parliament passed four measures:

1. The Boston Port Act, which closed Boston's harbor to all commerce until the East India Company was reimbursed for its lost tea.
2. The Massachusetts Government Act, which nullified the liberal 1691 Massachusetts charter that had established the form of local government in that colony. Under the new act, town meetings were forbidden without the consent of the governor, and members of the upper house of the Massachusetts assembly were to be appointed by the governor and no longer elected.
3. The Administration of Justice Act, which provided that British officials accused of capital crimes committed while performing their duties could not be tried in Massachusetts but had to be sent back to Britain or to another colony to stand trial.
4. The Quartering Act, which applied to all colonies and required them to provide adequate housing in private residences, if necessary, for resident British troops within 24 hours after their arrival, without compensation to the property owner (Thackeray, 2011).



These acts were seen as punishments from the colonist's perspectives and intolerable for them. These acts were the steps that pushed colonists further to Independence. "Because of all of the reasons above in the night of December 16 1773 Colonists attacked the British ships in the Boston port. They were dressed as Mohawks, "threw overboard some £10,000 worth of tea" (Thackeray, 2011). The incident was seen by onlookers and group raided three merchant ships that are docked in the Boston Harbor. They threw chests of tea to the sea they slipped over the containers, and over boarded the goods. When the group done their deed there were nothing left on the ships which is "45 tons of tea" (Thackeray, 2011). Product was ruined and useless for the consumption. "Although the raiders avoided harming anyone or damaging the ships, their depredations cost the owners of the tea the substantial sum of nearly £ 10,000" (Thackeray, 2011). Furthermore, the product was sent from Britain and its sole purpose was to get taxation from it but after the action is done Britain couldn't get anything. Exact participant numbers are not known but there are estimated numbers and according to Thackeray numbers differ "60" to "200." Purpose of British was to save the East India Company from bankruptcy while they tried to get the taxation for the government. So it became an insult for the Britain because it was a deliberate destruction to the British property. From colonists point of view they united against the tyranny of the British rule.

### **1.7 First And Second Continental Congress**

"The Massachusetts Provincial Congress called upon the Continental Congress to recommend setting up civil governments in the states, urging that "there are, in many parts of the Colony, alarming symptoms of the abatement of the sense in the minds of some people..." (Morris, 1962). First Continental Congress meeting took place in Carpenter's Hall between September 5 to 26 1774. Colonists were gathered because of Coercive Acts and they began to realize their separation with Britain both economically and culturally. Colonists decided to gather and hold a meeting to deal with the policies and taxations they were imposed to them by the British Parliament. There were merchants, lawyers and planters among the people who gathered in

Philadelphia. Some of the leading figures or founding fathers were in the meeting who are John and Samuel Adams, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. They represented a wide political wing and there were conservatives too who are John Jay and there were revolutionaries Patrick Henry. Delegates were looking for a political independence and tried to break free from the Great Britain war. First congress can be seen as a first representation of the American way. As a result of twelve out of thirteen colonies had their representatives in this meeting Congress held the wide range of American colonists' voices. They considered their options including economical boycotting of British trade. After the discussions Congress made a Declaration of Rights which indicated them as being loyal to British Crown but they oppose to the British Parliament's right to tax colonies. The Congress also issued Articles of Association which asserted on colonies to stop purchasing the importing goods of British. In big picture, the delegate's main purpose was to unite and give a message to the motherland and show their oppression on the 13 colonies. Unison was very intense for the first time and before Congress the colonists had little contact with each other which helped British to strengthen their control over them. Moreover, with the First Continental Congress Colonists united as America. The boycott for the intolerable acts were successfully implemented with the moves that were taken into consideration in the first Congress however, its potential for changing the British way of policy seized by the outbreak of American Revolutionary War. Furthermore; The revolution was a mass movement, including numerous anonymous actors. It was not a movement of a well-established, organized interest group. It was rather spontaneous. This is thought to add legitimacy to the movement as this disorganized structure seemed to have been reflecting the desires of the common people, without any manipulation by a strong authority (Raphael, 2014). So while, the events in the First Congress happened to appear like this there was a need for the second meeting and the second meeting has taken place on May 1775. Second Congress was an external body as mentioned not authorized by anyone however, it had the qualities of a national governmental force. It started right after the American Revolutionary War and it established relations with other governments,

conveyed treaties and recruited army and printed money. As Morris mentions that the managing people were; “The leadership of the Sons of Liberty and the memberships of the Committees of Correspondence, Revolutionary state legislatures, and the Second Continental Congress were heavily recruited from businessmen, lawyers, and the landowning gentry...” (10). One of the most important facts that gave the needed pulse to the activation of the Independence was The Olive Branch Petition. Second Congress appointed Washington as the commander in chief and it sent the petition to the British King. As Thackeray indicates about the petition; “But it went unheeded, since Parliament would not negotiate with what it considered to be an illegal government. Thus, the drift toward complete separation continued” (161). Parliament and the king himself announced that they would not negotiate to an illegal government. After rejecting them, Parliament concluded that Colonies are in an open and armed rebellion to King and the Empire. King thereby announced that colonies were in rebellion and the leaders of these rebellious acts were seen as traitors. The delegates who were in the first congress joined the second one and they were the voice of all the colonies not just merely a small group. Although, colonials didn't have on their minds a full independence they were in a transitional state which they saw Britain as enemy and the momentum of events taken a turn. There was a fact that if the Congress didn't acted wisely there could have become a leader or a mob or another tyrant could be produced from them. One of the most prominent spokesmen of the Independence was Thomas Paine and his pamphlet which is Common Sense appeared in January 1776 in which he argued advantages of an independent nation. In the end of 1776 colonies send their delegates to Congress to vote to separate from British Empire and there was a committee members of whom are Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams.

### **1.8 Common Sense**

Common Sense which is written by Thomas Paine which is one of the earliest best sellers of the time in America and it is a success on the entire continent. Paine calls upon the American people to establish a brand-new government, and he thinks that

colonists should be happy about this as it is an opportunity that is not to be slipped through one's fingers (Nash, 2009). When Common Sense's main theme is observed The Revolution comes clearly into the view as it serves the very foundation thoughts of America. Thomas Paine was writing without using his real name. He tried to distribute his books among the colonists. He thought that independence should be declared. He was a very active defendant of these views. He even enlisted himself into the Revolutionists' army (Danver, 2011). In times of despair and in times of triumph people need books which can be in political or cultural form that will serve the needs of the nation. Sometimes events can be so immense and important that they are narrated as myths and best way to serve this purpose is done by the means of books. According to the famous historian of American culture, Howard Zinn, the work Common Sense was more significant than any other publication in the history of United States (qtd in Loughran, 2006). As it can be deduced from Zinn's words that sometimes such works can be qualified as the most important publications not because of the literary genius but because of its topic of importance. So the representation of Paine serves for the modern men who are capable of understanding the past times and to express a generational belonging on the readers with the abstract thoughts of the nation. Unlike the traditional patriarchal view of the individual as a certain part of society that fulfills a social role, Paine envisions an abstract conception of the individual as the abstract, atomic part of a society (Warner, 2000). One of the most important sections that Paine tries to indicate in the text is;

“But where says some is the King of America? I'll tell you Friend; he reigns above, and doth not make havoc of mankind like the Royal Brute of Britain. Yet that we may not appear to be defective even in earthly honors, let a day be solemnly set apart for proclaiming the charter; let it be brought forth placed on the divine law, the word of God; let a crown be placed thereon, by which the world may know, that so far as we approve of monarchy, that in America THE LAW IS KING. For as in absolute governments the King is law, so in free countries the law ought to be King; and there ought to be no other. But lest any ill use should afterwards arise, let the crown at the conclusion of the ceremony be demolished, and scattered among the people whose right it is” (Paine, 28).

In these lines, Paine struggles with the idea of King and its power through the nation. Power of the king is granted by God by the divine law and therefore people are seen as the mere subjects which should have the sole purpose of serving. However, Paine strongly indicates that those powers should be granted not to king but to the law. Countries vision and being a free nations importance is shown in the context. In suggesting so Paine tries to advocate the idea to legitimate and offer a Common Sense on the people to think so. He tries to reorganize the colonial thinking and for the future years it can be seen as an indication of the new nation's extension. "...Common Sense suggests that the future is already present in the form of a technologically advanced confederation efficiently linked across vast distances by a well-developed print network" (Loughran, 2006). In Henry Cabot Lodge's 1898 *The Story of the Revolution* he states that;

[T]he pamphlet went far and wide with magical rapidity. It appeared in every form, and was reprinted and sold in every colony and town of the Atlantic seaboard. Presently it crossed the ocean, was translated into French, and touched with unshrinking hands certain chords in the Old World long silent but now beginning to quiver into life. In the colonies alone it is said that one hundred and twenty thousand copies were sold in three months. This means that almost every American able to read, had read "Common Sense" (qtd in Loughran, 2006).

The pamphlet's success was far more reaching than Paine can ever think of and it spread all over the continent with haste and swiftness and notwithstanding only in American soil it went through the ocean and translated into different languages. *Common Sense* expresses the very idea of independence itself within times popular visionary ideas that demonstrate the sovereign origins of the independent people by narrative means. Paine's argument was basic and which indicated that the colonists had the right and justice for their struggle in independence and he also suggested that a break from Britain was crucial. Loughran suggest that; "Revolutionary consensus was never contained in or expressed by sophisticated communal structures; revolutionary community was, on the contrary, pieced together in distinctive (and at times conflicting) ways in the many local worlds that comprised it" (3). The ideas against monarchy are represented well for the sake of the new nation as Paine's

arguments go forward by simply replacing the King's place by the law and it shows that Kings Mortality shows his limitations but the limits of the law simply transcends his. His radical political ideals showed how everyday life of the colonists should be and the forms of organization of a new way were essential for the purpose. After the publishing of the Pamphlet Paine became an adviser to Washington as sustaining a practical and ideological defense for the colonists.

### **1.9 Declaration Of Independence**

“Any revolution in worldview requires a new rhetoric. The most conspicuous and revolutionary product of the revivals was not to be found in doctrine, in the creation of new ecclesiastical or academic institutions, or even in resistance to the tyranny of established religion or monarchy” (Stout, 1977). The Declaration of Independence is issued by the continental Congress on July 4, 1776, which states that American colonies regarded themselves as 13 independent and autonomous states and they excluded themselves from the Britain Empire. It was written after a year of fighting between British forces and American militia forces. Declaration contained a general statement of the government and its purpose where lists of opposition were set against the British Crown and the Declaration of Independence which is from the Empire. “In the document, the delegates deemed the 13 acts that the British Parliament had passed since the end of the French and Indian War void, since they violated the basic rights of the colonists” (Danver, 2011). Stoner notes that “It is printed at the head of the United States Code, where it is considered the first of our organic laws. More to the point, politically today the Declaration of Independence has no open enemies; it is the touchstone of our political arguments rather than an object of advocacy anymore”(3). Declaration of Natural Rights, List of Grievances and Resolution of Independence were the consisting parts of the Declaration. The Declaration itself served as the basis of the Unite States which was established on and its impact had been huge on bringing and establishing the fundamentals of the society. Thomas Jefferson was the author of the text and it was a challenging text for the supporters of the British Empire. “In the Declaration, Jefferson tried to convince

people that there were certain times when revolution might be justified. He derived much of his argument from 17th- and 18th-century philosophers, especially John Locke, who had written to justify the Glorious Revolution in England, in 1688” (Thackeray, 2011). He had the same opinions as his peers on the perspective of an independent government and certain rights and liberties should be protected by government. When there is a lack of government then certain people have a tendency on depriving other people’s liberties, so when people come in unison and agree upon stabilizing the rules of the society in those manner, governments appeared and they protect the rights of the ones who live in. So the people who are united have to lead it and maintain law and order and sole intention of them should be to protect natural rights of the people and when we look to the Declaration there was the section of Preamble; Purpose of the Preamble was to show the true nature of the people that live in the country and how they encountered with the acts by the Crown and throughout the history there are times which ties are broken from the old ones and reforming new foundations shown as essential. “Life, liberty and pursuit of happiness” were used in preamble. The Declaration of Natural Rights are the rights that everyone get by simply being born and coming to existence and those rights should be protected by the government’s forces with certain policies. It is close to the very idea of human rights and these rights are seen as inalienable. The list of Grievances showed the deeds that are done by the King George III and who read the text will understand the oppression from the American perspective. If there was going to be a revolutionary movement that would be considered legitimate, there should have been ways to show people that the authority is becoming a tyranny (Stoner, 2005). King was shown as a tyrant and his abuse of power on the 13 colonies is listed and for the Americans with the Declaration in the resolution part they stated the colonies were from then and on they were independent and autonomous colonies which aren’t under British Rule. Natural equality was meant to be in America and showing the king as a tyrant was a successful depiction for everyone to see their situation. Americans moved for their right to self-government, which is based on the universal principle of political liberty. The principle was

abstract but these people had already experienced the realizations and manifestations of it (Stoner, 2005). However, independence didn't happen in a fast pace but it happened slowly after a year of war it began to appear in many places. Declaration of Independence used ideas that are not stranger to people. It sprung from the realities people had been undergoing (Howell, 1961). Declaration sketches the newly establishing political view of the America and with new social bound free men creates a government. Of course, every law or every-writing has its weak sides and we can see some of them in the Declaration of Independence. For instance, self evident truths don't give an adequate account for the family institution which is the core of any nation. It is the very fundamental institution for the social life. There isn't any equality between husband, wife and child. For example, Jefferson states that equality is the reality and that no one can dominate others by a natural right. However, the social institute of family seems like a problematic case here, because parents in a sense control their children (Stoner, 2005). Family is important to give a life and to sustain the first structure of the nation and in addition to that, rights of children are important. Meanwhile, it shouldn't be excluded that Declaration is a very first text that shows a nation to getting loose from its chains. So main structure of the family isn't denied but there is a gap that should show the structure of it. Declaration of Independence was a very beginning step of establishing the unison of the Colonies and very form of the government is shaped by it. Without creation a connection and without making everyone's mind on the same purpose and gathering the thoughts in the same direction there couldn't be any option for the colonies but to be ruled by the Crown. However, because of the intense feelings that gathered the crowds together proved a Declaration within the 13 colonies. It must be recognized that the American Revolution was an anti colonial war to gain the independence for the masses, which is the first of many to follow, and that in a new age of anti colonial thought its circumstances are grounded solidly with an objective approach and the large scale of the people were gathered for this very purpose.



## 2. AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR

In the colonial America people were migrated from Europe to create new lives in the new founded American continent and in a way they escaped from the taxes, demands and searched for a new way of living. Some of them escaped from the Crown and tyranny and nobility. After arriving to the continent freedom prevailed but not for long as the incidents indicated above created new feelings on them and they created a history. The tyranny and oppression of the motherland left no choice for the colonies and the war was inevitable for them. Morris adds that; “In one sense, by regarding the Revolution as a war of liberation from the rule by a corrupt aristocracy in Great Britain, most Whigs on this side of the water perhaps unconsciously assumed a class war tone” (4). King George III was seen as tyrant and people in the colonies had taken action and on July 1776 with the unison of 13 colonies military rebellion against Britain began. Acts of rebellion first began in the 1774’s and by seeing that British mustered large forces to the land. However for colonists was seen as; “Service in the Revolutionary militia, then, is at best prima facie evidence of loyalty, which may be rebutted by other testimony” (Morris, 1962). After the second Continental Congress and Declaration of Independence, Colonists, fought with the thoughts of freedom and liberty. Before imposing the ideas of liberty and freedom there were hesitations because a complete liberty was a different thought for some of the conservatives. On April 1775, when the war had began, there were three different confrontations in a single day and British commander was Thomas Gage. “What had been intended as a quick strike aimed at capturing dissident leaders Samuel Adams and John Hancock at Lexington and seizing a store of gunpowder at Concord turned into fiasco as Paul Revere, William Dawes, Samuel Prescott, and others raised the alarm” (Hylton, 2013). There were combats in Lexington, and Concord Bridge which forced British forces to go back to Boston. “As news of the Battle of Lexington and

Concord spread through the colonies, irregular military units began assuming control over much of the countryside, and a state of rebellion materialized” (Hylton, 2013). Thirteen colonies’ military efforts were established and directed by the Second continental Congress and on June 15, made George Washington to command all the colonial forces. His duty was to organize and command the continental army. “General Gage, who seemed to have been rendered ineffectual by the swift-moving events of the revolution, was relieved of his command and replaced by Major-General William Howe on October 10, 1775” (Hylton, 2013). While being in combat both of the forces couldn’t prevail other countries provided supplies, ammunition and weapons to the revolutionaries. Creation of the Continental Army to combat the British forces was a hard job because of lack of ineffective training and inexperience of the officers were the reasons that made it that way. After 1778, course of the British attention shifted to the southern colonies and it brought them an early success till 1780 however, in 1781 British forces lost against French and in 1783 with the Treaty of Paris the war ended. War showed that the strength of the United States is quite limited when it comes to struggle against powerful opponents, which in turn brings about the idea that the complete removal of the United States from the interventions of Europe is not quite realistic (Bukovansky, 1997). There were European interventions on the war which was an aid for the colonists but their political maneuvers were not an issue for them to interfere with their inner unity. Furthermore, this isolation was a double bind. On the one hand, the new establishment wanted to be free of any kind of hierarchical interaction between itself and European countries. However, they also needed the aid from the enemies of the British Empire so that they could be successful in their endeavors. Moreover, colonists were quite disorganized especially at the beginning of the war. There wasn’t a regular government or any kind of a standard national army. There was also not an established financial system, there weren’t any banks or functioning government and treasury, however, the war granted everything to them. Most of the things listed above were done by the Congress at first and all the legislative deeds were done by it.

### 3. WASHINGTON IRVING

Washington Irving is the first American author who established himself as a reputable figure in the English literature, and he earned this reputation for his delicate authorship. He accomplished different styles, essays, poetry, travelogues, biographies and short stories under different pen names. Irving was born in New York on April 3, 1783. His father was from Scotland and his mother was from England. They had taken American citizenship before their son was born. “Irving's family enrolled him in Spring 1797 in a school which prepared boys for Columbia College in large part by improving their language skills, but Williams argues that Irving was an inattentive student who wasted his exposure to classical and modern foreign languages” (Keil, 1995). His education had a positive effect on his narration because of the richness of his works but it is interrupted by his poor health. Unlike his brothers who attended Columbia University, Washington's formal education was interrupted at the age of sixteen. He studied law but it was a short term process for him. In 1804, he went on a trip to Europe because of his bad health. His parents wanted him to go to Europe with a view to find a remedy to his condition. Starting from this visit, he visited the famous cities of Italy and France, deriving quite a lot of inspiration and material for his writing. He went to Bordeaux, Marseilles, Paris, Genoa and Naples (Badertscher, 2006). After coming home two years later he succeeded in the New York bar exam however, he was fond of literature rather than law. In 1807 to 1808 he joined his brother in the process of *Salmagundi*, and with the help of his brother they published it. In 1809 under the pen name of Diedrich Knickerbocker, he published his first important work *A History of New York from the Beginning of the World to the End of the Dutch Dynasty*. This book gave him appreciation in America and as well as in England and it was popularized by the nickname “Knickerbocker” to describe the Dutch descent people. Irving had

significant troubles and grieves in his personal life, the most prominent of which was probably the death of Matilda Hoffman, his fiancée (Pollard, 3). In the year 1815, Irving went on a business trip to England, but it was not a very successful attempt. It led to a disaster which resulted in bankruptcy of families mercantile business, and when he returned to literature it was as a profession for him rather than an amusement. Under the pen name of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent he published *Sketch Book* in (1820) and it was followed by *Bracebridge Hall* (1822) and *Tales of a Traveller* (1824) which helped to improve his financial status and his literary reputation. The success of the Sketch book came from its profound theme that is fortified by the facts that Irving saw. He used horrible facts that are part of life and expressed them elegantly, thus gaining considerable success (Dorsky, 1986). Irving's acknowledgment of the sketch made a good commercial attractiveness of his book. People who go through substantial pain and suffering are dominant in his work. They were all the narrations in the Sketch book and one of the success of it was its wide variety of different characters and different places. Naming his work a "sketch" was an interesting choice. However, just merely writing a sketch it doesn't mean that Irving was just speculating or writing things that are mere but his literary terms were definite and extremely serious. As well as his own life, it included the style of German folktales such as *Rip Van Winkle* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Irving's much of the thoughts on the writings were the concern about imperfections of his countryman and his skepticism of his own efforts brought his writing a different sense of irony and generally the thoughts are conveyed through the perspective and mental process of the Geoffrey Crayon. Irving also worked as an Embassy official in Madrid between the years 1826 and 1829, which made him conversant in Spanish language. Spain contributed to his creativity, and he produced a lot during that period. He also wrote meticulously on Spanish history (Badertscher, 2006). *A History and Voyages of Christopher Columbus* (1828) and *The Companions of Columbus*, (1831) *Conquest of Granada* (1829) and *The Alhambra*. (1832). His return to America in 1832 after seven years, he was greeted with great enthusiasm which his countryman appreciated his works and appreciated his prestige of

American literature in Europe. His other books after that period include *Western*, (1836) *Astoria*, (1836) *The Adventures of Captain Bonneville, U.S.A., in the Rocky Mountains and the Far West*. His experiences in the America's west made him speak about the mistreatment of the Native Americans at the times. In the year 1842, Irving was made the American ambassador to Spain by the President. He worked for this position until the year 1846 (Badertscher, 2006). When he completed his working he retired and spent the rest of his life in the small house in Tarrytown, New York. His experiences on Spain led him to the expose of Islamic influence and from that point he wrote *Mahomet and His Successors* (1850) which is about the Islamic leader and Prophet Muhammad. Five years later he wrote the sketch collection which is titled *Wolfert's Roost and Miscellanies* (1855) that is named after the owner of his small house where he spent his last years. His last work was about the first president of the United States, *The Life of George Washington*. (1859) and it is five volumes. He died on November 28, 1859 and buried in Sleepy Hollow, New York. Irving's career is designated with triumph because of his ability on using the European models to create a new style which can be seen as the beginning of American literature. With the inspiration of European folktales he created a fiction world of his home state. His smooth storytelling and descriptions made it clear on the notions that are sketched and his vividness of representations of events and people made his style graceful. "The reality of history was a recognizable factor in the development of America. It was not to be confused with the reality of the imagination, which had no part in the discovery of the New World or in the birth of the new country" (Martin, 1959). Because of this reason, we can see the echoes of the history within the writings of Irving. Although, he plays with the imaginative world by literary means his style is the very outcome of the situations complexity which surely indicated the foundations and development of America. Irving is thought to be an emancipator preceding a better future for American literature. He is considered by many as the writer that started a generation of well-established authors such as Cooper, Hawthorne and Melville (Insko, 2008).

To understand him better, we should not only see his life events, but a brief questioning on his works is essential. In his time, American publishers did not want to risk their limited resources. They used to publish only works with little costs. There was also an identity problem. There was no established identity under the name American literature, and the status of the prevalent American literature was like the status of the city of Washington, namely, with quite a lot of uncertainties and boundless alternatives (Pollard, 82). There were abundance of British works in the area and there weren't any American works and to focus on Irving's narrative of literary history we should analyze some of his works in a narrow scale. As a consequence of this, Irving's attitude can be seen directly in his works. The attitude of American writers was routinely criticized by the British. However, it was necessary for the writers to create their own literary devices. It should be added that under different pen names Jeffrey Rubin-Dorsky's works represent Irving's representation differ as; his expeditions to Europe and his family miseries can be seen with Diedrich Knickerbocker, the author of *History and Crayon*, *Gent* reflect his experiences the break through under these masks. "The stories that Irving's characters tell further secure these bare national beginnings by embracing an autoerotic logic—a logic in which the absolute control enjoyed by the fantasizer over his fantasy must be disavowed to produce the illusion of mutual engagement and agency in the actual world—that obscures the tales' genesis in individual fantasy by presenting them as objective observations" (Hurst, 2012). The story tellers style has an averted effect on the act of storytelling because story telling process transforms the fantasy in cultural and historical context and scatters it into a whole wide world of readers. By the means of Revolution and new republic, Irving's own sense of literary was born. It is nowhere more evident than it is in.

### **3.1 A History Of New York**

Through the colonial Dutch New York, Irving represents the history of the time when the early American republic was born. His satire mocks on the three Dutch governors that face the criticism. Also, it was a success for the period of productivity

for the Irving that shows him as a successful narrator and observer of the new nation. “Anyone can see that Knickerbocker’s tale is a history of New York opinionated, pedantic, ill informed, even crazed at times. So it is altogether amusing, like Knickerbocker, if sometimes also boring, like Knickerbocker” (McGann, 2012). Of course, it was still evolving and Irving indicated his thoughts according to the unfinished nation’s problems. Irving believed that the false thoughts of British and even sometimes the Americans divided the mood of the nation as some long the victory even though they didn’t earn it. From his perspective they would seem as posers whose false, blind them and their facts. His view was a well grounded friendship that should be between America and British but it should weight the mutual respect with mutual independence. The history is nested in two large historical frameworks where first History of New York is narrated and the subtext is the second framework. “Irving’s New York centers an implicate order of various communities that fracture and associate along many different lines Federalist and Democratic-Republican being, for Irving, the readiest index of a pervasive social condition” (McGann, 2012). As it is obvious Irving indicates that he tries to narrate the social condition and diversity of the nation looking from one of the most prominent cities of America. “As in much of Irving’s New York writing, ethnicity is translated as temporality, and history is driven by ethnic conflict. In Knickerbocker’s terms, the “dulcet period” of Dutch glory is “the very counterpart of those glowing pictures drawn by old Hesiod of the golden reign of Saturn,” a timeless era defined by “happy ignorance” and “honest simplicity” (Scraba, 406). Irving in History uses the sentimentality and irony to create the conditions of the development of cultural memory. By creating his discourse with double view of Knickerbocker and himself, he conveyed the American origins and identities.

### **3.2 Tales Of A Traveler**

The story begins with a student from Germany named Wolfgang and he arrives in Paris to continue his studies as France has the revolution. While he was buried in his thoughts, he dreams of a beautiful woman and he visions and a stormy evening in the

city. A shocking development pursues the dark theme of the story. Wolfgang narrates the story from an asylum and the adventure could be just in his mind and he is driven into madness because of his guilt in his mind. Irving gives hints on the character of the Wolfgang by using names. Gottfried's literal meaning is 'God's peace'. His name carries an allusion which "Gang" can be seen as the mob in Paris and his name suggest he is a "wolf" and these are the strong indications of his stance. According to Hoffman, no matter whether Wolfgang indulged into delusions or haunted by demons or by people he murdered, there is an unchanging irony. Irving's writing of the sketch is probably affected by the books that empower Wolfgang's behavior (236).

### **3.3 The Sketchbook**

"The Sketch Book in terms of decline and nostalgia for a form of masculinity unscathed by the forces of commerce and market corruption" (Anthony, 2005). When we come to look at his work *The Sketchbook* it can be seen that it's a collection of 34 essays that are composed between the years of 1817 and 1820. It was published in seven periodical numbers in America and it can be seen that Irving's desire was to establish his first impression in on American readers. His works are the key to the development of American literature and their resolution can be seen as the moral for the entire society. The Sketch Book's first two chapters are like those of a travel narrative. This style directs the reader into thinking that there will be organized descriptions of English land with visions and so on (Murray, 1996). They show the characteristics of his humor and with its fantasy and romance that are present in his style. In the first section of Sketchbook Geoffrey Crayon expresses his ideas about the nation.

"My native country was full of youthful promise: Europe was rich in the accumulated treasures of age. . . . I longed to wander over the scenes of renowned achievement—to tread, as it were, in the footsteps of antiquity, to loiter about the mined castle, to meditate on the falling tower, to escape, in short, from the



commonplace realities of the present and lose myself among the shadowy grandeurs of the past” (The Sketchbook, 22).

Both *The Sketch Book's* and *Brace Bridge Hall's* prefaces reflect America to be a realm that lacks a certain historical background, as a community filled with modern revolution ideas. And Crayon goes to Europe by having become a “grown-up child” (Warner, 2000). For Crayon it seems that America is a region that resides in future while Europe is an old continent. His vision is aesthetic about Europe especially in a historical point of view. “He introduces the story as having been found among the papers of Diedrich Knickerbocker, who had taken a strong interest in the history of the Dutch settlers in the Hudson Valley” (Mohr, 1998). With the pen-name Crayon, Irving shows American experience of the times and he stresses warnings. “In the fourth chapter, “The Wife,” and certainly by the fifth, “Rip Van Winkle,” *The Sketch Book's* neatly launched travel narrative is quite thoroughly disrupted” (Murray, 1996). The stories are narrated in the American soil rather than England or Europe which peculiarly shows the reader another perspective that mythologizes the America. “Irving's introduction of the conversation is significant. He postulates certain half-dreaming moods of mind in which we seek solitude, so that we may “indulge our reveries and build our air castles undisturbed” (Martin, 1959). Crayon is the voice throughout *The Sketch Book's* chapters of America. And this reveals the premise of the book. ““Rip Van Winkle’ and ‘The Legend of Sleepy Hollow’ are ostensibly from the pen of the fictional Dutch historian Diedrich Knickerbocker...” (Murray, 1996).

### **3.4 The Legend Of Sleepy Hollow**

As a general overview *The Sleepy Hollow* portrays the conflict between civilization and the dreamy and new landscape of America. In *Sleepy Hollow*, Irving tries to show the economy of the time within the *Sleepy Hollow* itself. The place is located near to a rural port and man just wander in the tavern only on market days. Furthermore, Irving saw the emergence of the Constitution. He aimed to show certain features pertaining to the prominent authors of American literature. At the

end of his story, he depicted their defeat in a metaphorical way. The story depicts the manifestations of the period with in a fictional world where Ichabod Crane protagonist who is a historian and head of school wants to marry Katrina Van Tassel. Katrina Van Tassel is the daughter of wealthiest man in the area. Story is full of narrative potential which is nurtured with the theme. “He saw the incredible popular appeal of Sleepy Hollow and its eminently recognizable inhabitants, but he also recognized what is often ignored in popular renderings of the story: the postcolonial anxiety at the heart of the narrative” (Daigrepoint, 1984). As a character, Ichabod Crane is a gentleman who has a good personality and taste for good things. Antagonist of the story is a headless horseman. He had been decapitated in an unknown battle within the war of the revolution. The name of the battle is not cited (Sleepy Hollow, 13). The Headless horsemen is a symbolic warning against the corruption and in the story, it purposes evil deeds. When we look at the main character again in the beginning of the story, his point of view is narrated by Irving and he is shown as an ambitious man who hasn’t got aesthetic potential;

As Ichabod jogged slowly on his way, his eye, ever open to every symptom of culinary abundance, ranged with delight over the treasures of jolly autumn. On all sides he beheld vast stores of apples, some hanging in oppressive opulence on the trees, some gathered into baskets and barrels for the market, others heaped up in rich piles for the cider press. Farther on he beheld great fields of Indian com with its golden ears peeping from their leafy coverts and holding out the promise of cakes and hasty pudding; and the yellow pumpkins lying beneath them turning up their fair round bellies to the sun, and giving ample prospects for the most luxurious of pies; and anon he passed the flagrant buckwheat fields, breathing the odor of the beehive, and as he beheld them, soft anticipation stole over his mind of dainty slapjacks, well buttered and garnished with honey or treacle by the delicate little dimpled hand of Katrina Van Tassel.

In the end, Ichabod’s dream left unfinished, he departs from a part in his house and years later a farmer sees him in New York and reports back that he had been admitted to bar and turned out to be a politician and his rival gains a successful chance. “In Sleepy Hollow, to be sure, the people remain unchanged. Apparently, in

the Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Irving creates a land which is fictionalized dreamy but from the real and its atmosphere is filled with visions to entertain superstitious beliefs. Haunted places and reference of Headless Horsemen gives a thrilling experience with the land that is bewitched. Irving's method of creation simply reaches out to the senses of the reader to evoke questioning of real life events throughout the fictional lands and characters. Heavy irony of Ichabod Cane's last appearance shows him in a panicked way when headless horsemen striking him with the pumpkin which can be seen as an allusion of rural idea and communities oppose to the Crane's ideals. Ichabod lies alone on the ground and he doesn't know where to go and he is without Katrina.

### **3.5 Traits Of Indian Character And Philip Of Pokanoket**

This section is different from the other sections of Sketchbook which are narrated or are in America or in Europe. The story is about India and how their land has been taken from them and how white man takes advantage of the Indian in unfair trading. The story itself is different from the entire English sketches which illustrate dispossession. Murray adds that; Irving tried to establish a romanticized Native American historical which white people and Native American people alike were depicted as the victim. Of course, this pattern can be seen in other works but what made his literary work peculiar was his discourse on the topic. In *Philip of Pokanoket* the English violence is carried further in an allegory which is in the role of King Philip who is a patriot in his native soil who fought to deliver the land from the strangers under oppression. Philip later becomes a model for America as well as a noble Indian. Furthermore, setting and the texts material is smoothly narrated by Irving's discourse. Irving undertakes to correct the history of the nation and their political figure. He seems to realize the Indians and notes the tragedy of the continent.

### 3.6 Columbus

In Irving's *Columbus*, the narration of a mythic hero and his legendary life is described. Columbus was a character that has the mythic and real experiences that are mixed in him and the subject was magnificent because in the time of Columbus, Europe was a known and old continent but America was unknown back then. When Columbus's ships set out, Irving indicates; "they seemed literally to have taken leave of the world" and adds; "Before them was chaos, mystery, and peril." Columbus meets the challenges that are unknown to mankind and of course rationally and scientifically. The imaginations of the sailors were stimulated by the unknown things that lie beyond them. As Irving again adds; "Columbus tasked his science and ingenuity for reasons with which to allay their terror"; "Columbus endeavored to dispel these gloomy presages"; "Columbus continued with admirable patience to reason with these fancies." Even though sailors lose their will to go on the journey Columbus doesn't flee and he resists on it and this brings success of his. As McElroy tells about Irving's idea about the book "He wanted this work to be a weighty book having an ongoing sale, and he told several correspondents that *Columbus* was aimed at "the general reader," but would, nonetheless, provide "full information" on the discoverer of America" (1). His work on the life of Columbus is regarded as a principal history of the great Admiral and furthermore; "...it was a work produced during the presidency of John Quincy Adams that could still be cited respectfully by the leading Columbian scholar in America during the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. That fact, alone, testifies to the stature of Irving's achievement" (McElroy, 1978). The patriotic tone of it reveals the mythic place of the American past. Irving himself tells about his work;

"In the execution of this work I have avoided indulging in mere speculations or general reflections, excepting such as rose naturally out of the subject, preferring to give a minute and circumstantial narrative, omitting no particular that appeared characteristic of the persons, the events, or the times; and endeavoring to place every fact in such a point of view, that the reader might perceive its merits, and draw his own maxims and conclusions" (qtd Hazlett, 1983).

Biography is a person's history and history is ought to provide the reader with objective data and events and without indulging in to speculations creating a mythic hero was really hard. "Irving's identification with the fortunes of the young republic committed him to a portrait of Columbus consistent with the needs of literary nationalism. But his ambivalence about his role in the new country seems to have made of Columbus an odd mixture of hero worship and hero-deflation" (Hazlett, 1983). However, the intentions clearly define the prospect of the text and clearly colonialism in Americas was so harsh and Irving's function of historical writing was mixed with the ambivalence about the subject and the tone is constructed by this discourse.

### **3.7 Washington**

Irving's selection of George Washington rather than Queen Isabella for extended biographic treatment marks a final decision to do what he could with the American past. Yet the "essentially historic" nature of the work indicates a concession to the insistence of his culture on actualities. He conceives of Washington as a man who "had very little private life," who was "eminently a public character. All his actions and concerns almost from boyhood were connected with the history of his country." Irving sees Washington as a man whose life, molded by "fact and doctrine," epitomized adult, public existence.

### **3.8 Life Of Oliver Goldsmith**

Oliver Goldsmith was an Irish novelist and playwright and poet born on 10 November 1730 and at Longford in Ireland. He was raised in a respectable family in the Preface of the book Irving wrote; "In the course of a revised edition of my works I have come to a biographical sketch of Goldsmith, published several years since" (The Life of Oliver Goldsmith, 1). His biography of Goldsmith was a constructive and optimist one that covered his birth and parentage and some of his most famous works. Irving concludes Goldsmith's biography with these words; "From the general

tone of Goldsmith's biography, it is evident that his faults, at the worst, were but negative, while his merits were great and decided. He was no one's enemy but his own; his errors, in the main, inflicted evil on none but himself, and were so blended with humorous and even affecting circumstances, as to disarm anger and conciliate kindness" (The Life of Oliver Goldsmith, 260).

### **3.9 John Bull**

*John Bull* is yet another satire that is in the Sketch book which is an English national character followed by *Philip of Pokanoket* that represents variant ideas. He owns a big manor house that is the metaphor for the England itself and it is mortgaged to the hilt and he will never take it back. When the event takes place John Bull's neighbors speculate about the financial troubles of him which show the economic troubles of the time; "Mr. Bull's estate is a very fine one, and has been in the family a long while; but for all of that, they have known many finer estates come to the hammer" (John Bull, 273). Here Irving indicates that the inevitable system of the product is no longer has the success on the order or the order itself has crumbling effects on the generation. John Bull implies that it's because of the growth of economy and the prospect and land ownership has its downfalls in a wide and troubled system which threatens the rest of people increasingly. "The aristocratic order's adaptability, evidenced by the numerous alterations to John Bull's house, cannot overcome this capitalist threat to the estate grounds—both physically and rhetorically—because, according to the logic of Crayon's sketches, it is an existential threat" (Hurst, 2012). By threatening the family, manor capitalism has a troubling effect on the domestic land owners and it negates the possible conditions that allow it to function as a moral and social authority. "The series of substitutions inaugurated by capitalism and self-interest for the anonymity of station, cash instead of a land economy, an a priori trans-historical through line by a vision of futurity as wide-open existential possibility produces the division in interest that the Squire laments" (Hurst, 2012). It means that if a man is peasants today, tomorrow he can be a merchant or anybody can higher their income by the capitalism fact however, it's against the aristocratic

system which doesn't allow to any people. "On the other hand, since successful capitalists tend to embrace and live in the city even those capitalists who flourish in the new order of things produce economic and moral discontinuity by extracting labor from the estate and crippling its claims to moral authority" (Hurst, 2012). Furthermore, the flight into capitalism regardless of its outcome which can be seen as a good thing for any, can break some of the regulating shifts of the economy which is that anybody will try their chance to step higher and shape their existence of morality with other consequences. Extraction of labor can be seen as a leading factor that is stressed out.

### **3.10 The Wife**

In most of the sketches such as at Rip Van Winkle women disappear and they are never seen again which is an allusion that guaranties to unfold the place of the women in the sketches of Irving. Disappearance of the women from the home or manor leaves the presence of an opposing gender within the family structure. Female authority is truly dissolved by this approach however; side characters such as daughters, servants or distant relatives can be seen. In "The Wife," however, the married woman reemerges. This occurs in part because the sketches marriage does not achieve its reproductive telos, and in part because for much of the sketch it remains uncertain whether Mary, the titular character, will submit to the mastery of her husband, C. R. Leslie" (Hurst, 2012). In the Sketchbook, marriage is most extensively seen in this particular story. Marital relations and ideal vision of marriage is shown and wife performs a valuable supportive stance which is highly supportive at house labor and offers herself willingly to her husband. However, the harmonious relationship of C.R. and Mary is seem to be troubled within a deeper context. In spite of C.R. verbal gestures about his wife, when there is an economical hardship and C.R. tells it to her, he doubts that she will go on to do her duties as she has done before. After moving to a cottage and living the real poverty not the factual one C.R. sees Mary's mood as spiritless and exhausted. These circumstances lead to the fact that uncertainty is gathered by the fact of financial status and economic disarray is a

really big trouble to establish the husband and wife relationship in a marriage. “The Wife” dramatizes the ways that capitalism, with its concomitant dreams of upward mobility, introduces notions of accountability into masculine control” (Hurst, 2012). So, economic success leads a big role therefore competence on the financial situation is seen crucial for the establishment of marital purposes and with the fact of capitalism it seems that women can no longer fulfill the household labor by just bearing their work. Aristocratic domestic structure can’t be seen in America as it’s seen in England. Bloodline, social reign and generations are all an old thing for England but America is a new land with its new nation. So the Wife’s perspective presents us the idea of reinvention of the family as a social structure and the place of women in that very structure.



#### 4. RIP VAN WINKLE

Rip Van Winkle one of the most famous works of Irving is literally constructed in the time period of revolution. Story offers multiplicity of shapes and picturesque views such as Rip's house or the narrations throughout the story. Protagonist of the story Rip van Winkle is opened to outer influences but he wants to escape from his reality because of his oppressive wife. He has a permanent conflict with his wife which results in unhappiness. Rip's only escape from her wife is the shot gun's power to command on life and death; "Rip's only alternative to escape from the labour of the farm and the clamour of his wife, was to take gun in hand, and stroll away into the woods ... [where] the still solitudes echoed and re-echoed with the reports of his gun" (Rip Van Winkle, 43). His dog's name is Wolf an obvious representation and a symbol for becoming wild which will abandon him after he sleeps. Rip lives outside more and also he has a companion called Nicholas Vedder who is also a target to Dame Van Winkle. Rip's withdrawal from society into the Kaatskill Mountains is shown in the text as a beautiful day in autumn when he climbs a rock that offers him a view:

"From an opening between the trees he could overlook all the lower country for many a mile of rich woodland. He saw at a distance the lordly Hudson, far, far below him, moving on in its silent but majestic course, with the reflection of a purple cloud or the sail of a lagging bark here and there sleeping on its glassy bosom, and at last losing itself in the blue highlands. On the other side he looked down into a deep mountain glen, wild, lonely, and shagged, the bottom filled with fragments from the impending cliffs, and scarcely lighted by the reflected rays of the setting sun" (Rip Van Winkle, 38-39).

Rip is strangled with the picturesque view which can be seen across the mountains. Wolf his dog growls. His name is called repeatedly and out of his shadowy dream Rip hears his name and meets a strange figure in a Dutch dress. Here, Rip helps the man who tries to carry a keg of liquor "...there was something strange and incomprehensible about the unknown that inspired awe and checked familiarity" (Rip Van Winkle, 19). Here, Irving represents a strange realm that reader is eluded into and he checks the familiarity and after this preparation, Irving introduces Rip's sleep. We wake up in a "bright sunny morning" with the "birds hopping and twittering among the bushes" and with his awakening the reader finds himself in the real world. Basically, Rip sleeps throughout the whole American Revolution and he doesn't understand what happened to him since he looked down from the rock. Irving with its narrative form and setting Americanizes the old folktale which was once German. Of course this is a representation which Wyman indicates; Irving has prepared the representation in an ironical way. Rip lacks sense of a higher order and this is of course not his fault but may be because of his ignorance and naturally Rip appears to become an essence of the history with his naïve experience. During his sleep, the Revolutionary War happened and now when he will return home a generation will be gone by. Mohr narrates his sleep as; "While Rip's consciousness and his senses were 'carried away,' his body, the dog, and his gun remained subjected to temporality. Rip's way back to the village now is a gradual reintegration into human notions of temporality so that its differing dimensions become visible" (402). His look and misrecognition or misplacement of the events becomes the leading theme on the story like not knowing the fact that his beard has grown. Nevertheless, the tale goes on dramatizing the Rip's loss of identity and of course, its functions are fictionalized in the story. He suffers from aging and he is way older before his time and before his generation. The life of him once he remembered has nothing to do with the present time and background of it is completely changed with the national stance. His dog seems nowhere he drifts along the places where irrelevant ruins, tombstones and unfamiliar fashions are present. There is nothing that prepared him for the new outcome of the events and the relation between his old life and the era where he

awakened are irrelevant. They are now related to the new nation and the American Revolution. Rip's knowledge is more or less now a history but the landscape didn't change much even after twenty years. As Rip can't read the signs or symbols that he sees makes a dramatic confusion which leads to the satirical elements. "In "Rip Van Winkle" the village is transformed from "drowsy tranquility" to a bustling disputatiousness. There are no more shadows in Rip's world" (Martin, 1959). Rip can't recognize his own Dutch fellows or his old town. After he finds himself alone in the new world, he asks that if anybody knows him in this world with in sad way:

"Oh. Rip van Winkle?" exclaimed two or three-"oh to be sure!- that's Rip Van Winkle-yonder-leaning against the tree." Rip looked and beheld a precise counterpart of himself, as he went up the mountain: apparently as lazy and certainly as ragged! The poor fellow was now completely confounded. He doubted his own identity, and whether he was himself or another man. In the midst of his bewilderment he man in the cocked hat demanded who he was,-what was his name? "God knows," exclaimed he, at his wit's end, "I'm not myself.-I'm somebody else-that's me yonder-no-that's somebody else got into my shoes-I was myself last night; but I fell asleep on the mountain-and they've changed my gun-and everything's changed-and I'm changed-and I can't tell what's my name, or who I am!"

Rip's body has changed and the history he has known changed. The village community has different features that have their own distinctive colors which are different from Rip van's time. The American Revolution changed the intellectual position of the people which emphasizes the cultural and ethnic homogeneity. Although Rip isn't much impressed with the political stance of the people, he is very liberated from the oppressions of his wife. Liberation of him shows a relieving affect. For Mengeling her wife is; "... a caricature of all those unpleasant pressures which depreciate and lash out at the unpractical and the imaginative." Furthermore, Rip doesn't comprehend the new way of life liberty and the difference between Democrats or Federalists. Even it's evident in the example of King George's portraits replacement with George Washington. These changes doesn't bring security or clarity to Rip Van because he has a gap of understanding the new situation he tries to contribute to the compelling elements of the new society by his old ways. "... Rip's

narrative becomes an instrument of self-knowledge and social cohesion for a nation abruptly split from its past history and identity, Rip becomes textually inscribed as a small bit of history (Wyman, 2010). Because of these circumstances of the revolution, the new political situation has an unrest effect which can be compared to his wife's. There are differences in the old and new ways for instance in the old times the village's symbol was the sycamore tree that is protected by the community which has shown village as a natural place of home and now it's replaced by a big Union Hotel which can be seen as an allusion of the new America. This fact can be seen from an ideological perspective or it can be read as just a moral failure. In his work, Irving presents an ambivalent attitude towards the new state, and profit driven capitalism as well as sectarian politics and a demise of communal lifestyle (Wyman, 2010). The notion of flagpole and the tree is of course a source of authenticity here Irving criticizes the understanding of America's historical mission that has to be considered well. His use of allegories identifies the difference along with a humorous way that invites the reader to think about the reality of the very ideas. Creation of a new world here is gathered with the very idea of the citizenship in a new nation which has been freed from its oppressor. To convey the notion, Irving turns his protagonist Rip to an old man who does nothing for 20 years. The people who knew him before the post revolutionary society are gone. Rip sleeping as a colonial British subject Rip wakes up in an ignorance of the revolution which leads a hard adaptation for him to the unfolding events that had occurred during his pass out. He becomes the local color for the village who establishes the background and heritage of the village. As it can be deduced from Rip Van that the things that he knew earlier have changed and most of his ideas about that period of time are useless 20 years later in the place where he once lived. Rip asks;

Rip bethought himself a moment and enquired, "Where's Nicholas Vedder?" There was a silence for a little while, when an old man replied, in a thin, piping voice," Nicholas Vedder? Why he is dead and gone these eighteen years! There was a wooden tombstone in the church yard that used to tell all about him, but that's rotted and gone too" (Rip Van Winkle, 16 ).

In the story, there happens to be three generations of Rip Van Winkle's. First, Rip himself and then his son who looks quite like his father as the time when he first disappeared in Kaatskills mountains. Also, the second Rip greets his father with a strange indifference. Finally, the last Rip who is the grandson of Rip Van Winkle who cries at the first encounter. There can be seen a generational gap which is hidden under the humor of the context. His satire signifies the distance of a special and authentic force within the story. Ambivalences of these kinds and with the comedy involved perception of the mood is gathered in a new level. "We laugh when we recognize the difference between what is and what ought to be, but we only laugh if we are safely detached in some way" (qtd Ferguson, 2005). Irving's bending of the truth on satire and humor projects and in the same way enhances the natural process of the writing. The generational triplet enhances the encounter of Rip with himself and tries to give the reader again a sense of emerging into the text. Main body of the story is cut out by the understanding and resolving of the national history from the mind of Rip. He quietly tries to translate the new notions into his self and while doing it readers is left with intriguing arguments. The irony of the possibilities show even a person is signified as a history and he gives the vibe of coming from the antiquity even though it's only twenty years. "Rip is the story, but he subsequently learns to make it his own in a way that everyone accepts with pleasure" (Ferguson, 2005). This can be also expressed as the central event of the text which prevails with the meaning of revolution. Rip may have the ability to transcend or to participate in the supernatural dimensions of the nature however, in general people need an improvement for their own perspective not to become dull and alienated by the ongoing events. "Rip Van Winkle" is the replacement of Rip's experience of time with our own extra textual experience: our role is to fill in the gaps, to recognize and supply the history that Rip himself misses" (Insko, 2008). The notions of liberty and progress in American Revolution can't only be expressed in the political terms but it's an ongoing historical element that has the power to change people and things that surround them.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Britain and 13 Colonies of America in the Revolutionary era had political separation and they had their differences which led to the establishment of today's most powerful country. During the Revolution, values of the English order lost its importance and instead of their idles, domestic land takes place for American identity which sought its establishment. American identity is created by its own through the struggles that are bared in the land itself by the people living in it. Oppression from the mainland without being represented and perceived as an income source for them made Colonists to take stand against the tyranny that are faced that is how the Revolution begun and by becoming united Colonies made a nation. Literature is a means that convey the medium for communication and the different ideas as long with the aesthetic thought. With the Revolution and its new way of thinking, literature in American soil taken a turn and it became more of a nationalistic way and Irving in his stories held the notion of history while he embraced it in his literary method for the function. His stories juxtapose the present and new identity with the old one. American foundations and the very development can be seen in American soil through different fictions. Not only his characters and setting, but also his language Americanizes the short story and leads to a new mode.

New continents new nation and its imagination with the enthusiasm is intermingled into his texts which are highly appreciated in his time and today. It can be seen that timelessness and with projections of England into the very core of his literature Irving shows how the old cultural heritage was transformed into the new one.

As we look at one of his most famous works which is named Rip Van Winkle, Irving's story has the idea of the history as a functional theme which is entailed through the protagonist's memory. He showed the link into past and how knowing it is an essential process to nurture the new thoughts. Transcending the limitations of the society is done in a real place but within a fictional world which shows Irving's literary brilliance. American identity is a complex unison of the old heritage while generational derivations gathered in a nation.



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