

The Liberty Bell

cast in Philadelphia, 1753; last rung, 2/23/1846.

The 2,080 pound Liberty Bell was cast by John Pass and John Stow to hang in the Pennsylvania State House (Independence Hall) bell tower. It cracked after years of hard use. After an attempt to repair the crack by drilling and widening, a second crack developed while the bell rang for George Washington's birthday, 1846. The bell's inscription has inspired patriots, abolitionists, and others seeking freedom around the world.

"The bell rings and I must go among the grave ones and talk politiks." --B. Franklin