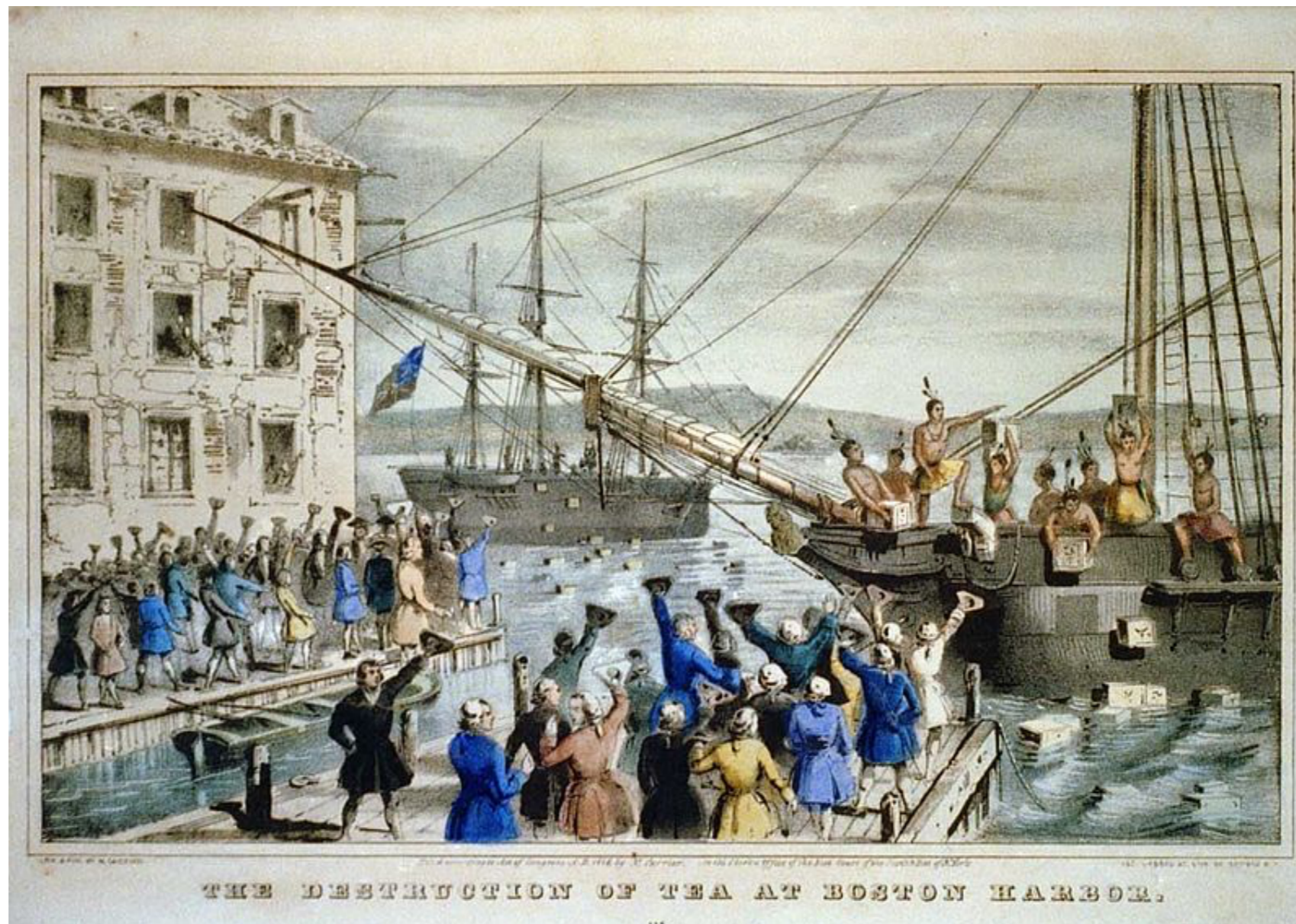


Founding a White Republic

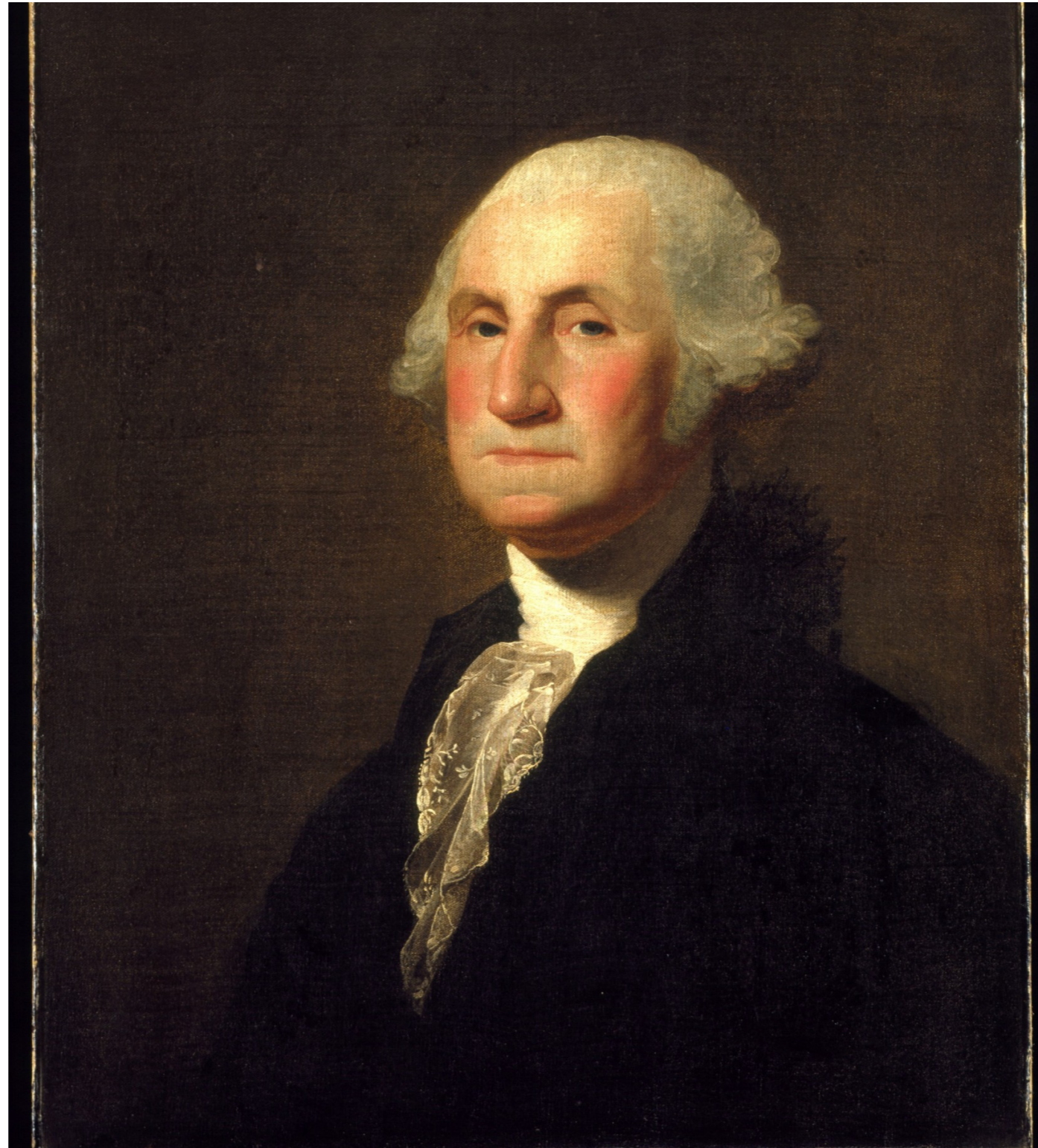
- I. Playing Indian, Drinking Tea
- II. Race and Slavery
- III. Revolution from Below
- IV. Race and Republicanism
- V. Resolving TJ's Contradictions



Boston Tea Party (1773)



Porcelain imported from China, mid-18th century



George Washington
Revolutionary, Slaveholder, Gentleman

American Revolution

1. Revolutionary movements led by the unruly masses generated a crisis in the British empire.

2. Leading American revolutionaries (the “Founding Fathers”) aspired to become a proper, propertied elite.

Race resolved the tensions and
contradictions of the American
Revolution.

Race

A broad set of ideas, representations, and practices that define particular peoples as different from and somehow biologically or culturally inferior to others (i.e., white people in the U.S. context) to justify and perpetuate unequal social relations.

Virginia (1662)

1. Children “got by any Englishman upon a negro woman” would inherit mother’s status.

2. Prohibited fornication between “any christian . . . with a negro man or woman.”

Maryland (1664)

1. Authorized lifetime enslavement.
2. Prohibited marriage between “freeborne English women” and “Negro Slaves.”

[First of what would later be called antimiscegenation statutes—not ruled unconstitutional until 1967.]

Virginia (1691)

Prohibited marriage and “bastardy”
between any “English or other white man
or woman” and any “negro, mulatto, or
Indian man or woman bond or free.”

Riots against the British Crown 1740s-1770s

“wretches of a mongrel descent”

“the immediate sons of Jamaica, or
African Blacks by Asiatic Mulattoes”



Crispus Attucks, Boston Massacre (1770)

Slave Revolts and Plots

Jamaica (1760, 1765, 1766, 1776)

Bermuda (1761)

British Honduras (1765, 1768, 1773)

Grenada (1765)

Montserrat (1768)

St. Vincent (1769-1773)

Tobago (1770, 1771, 1774)

St. Croix and St. Thomas (1770)

St. Kitts (1778)

Virginia (1767)

New Jersey (1772)

South Carolina (1774, 1775)



Paul Revere, *The Fatal Fifth of March* (1770)

republicanism

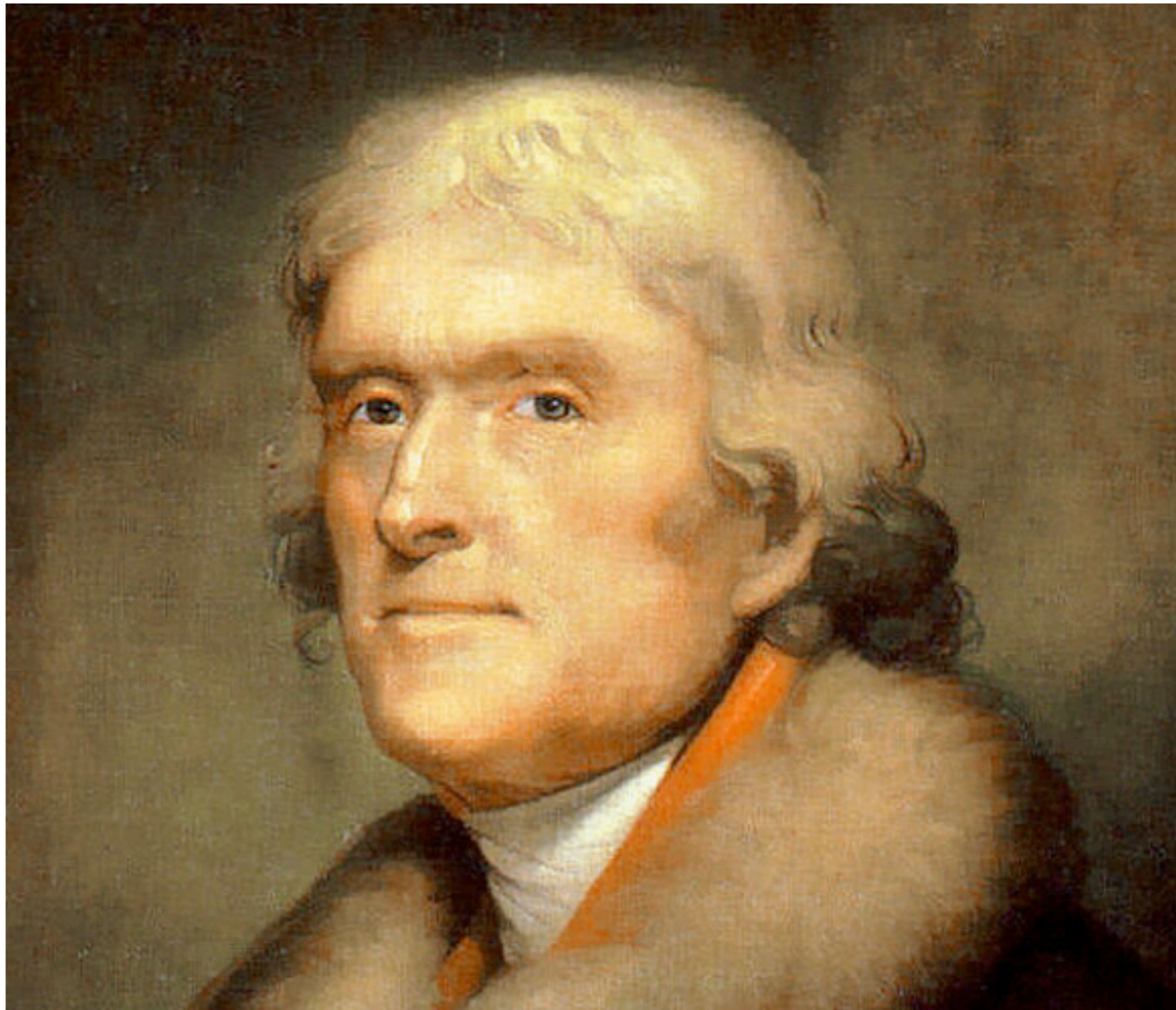
The ideal of self-sacrifice and self-control for the public, common good.

Other (excluded)

- Nonwhite
- Dependent
- Savage

Self (included)

- White
- Independent
- Civilized



Thomas Jefferson

Jeffersonian agrarian ideal

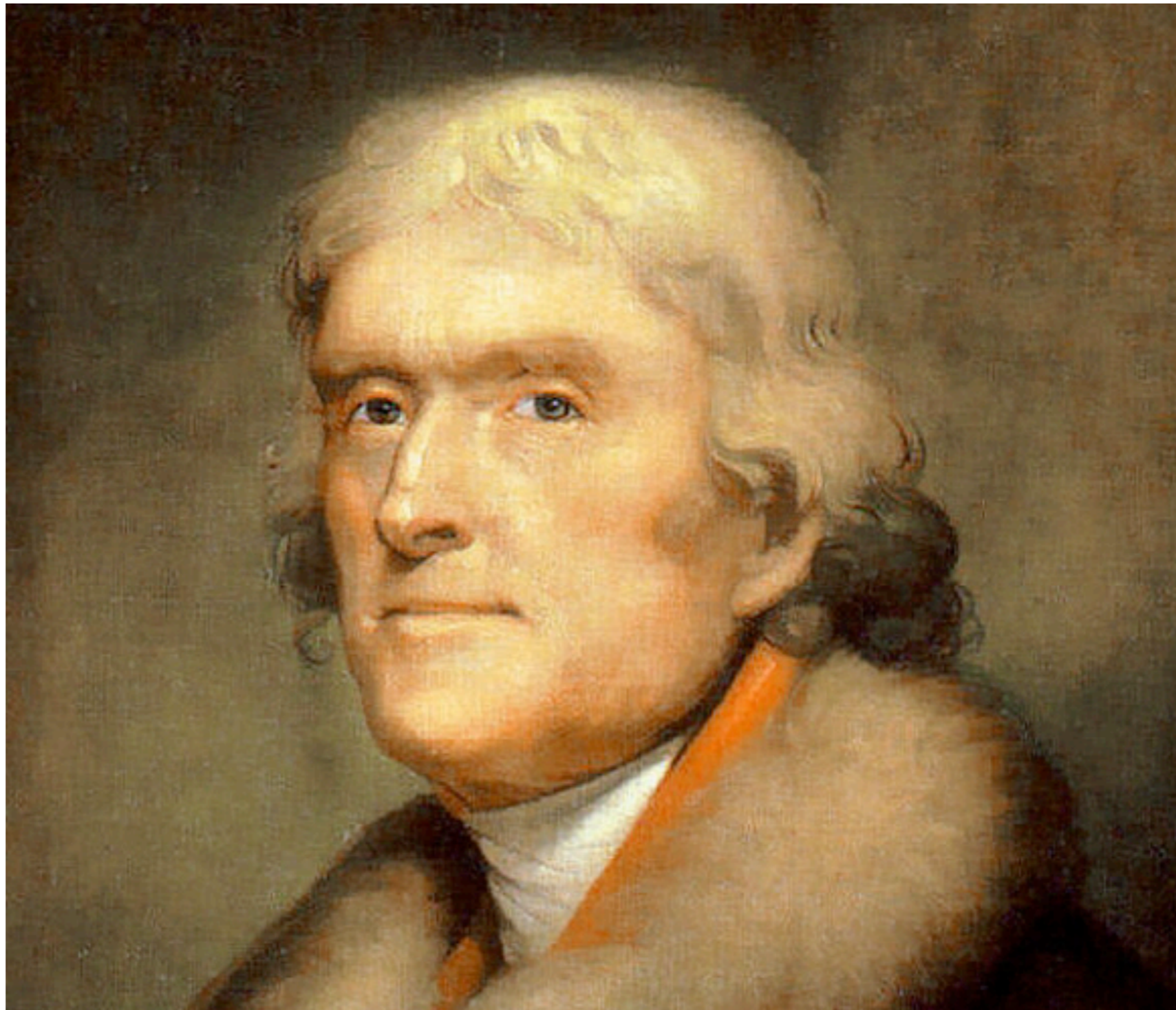
small landowners

no slaveholders

no slaves

Environmental factors explained human differences (skin color, moral character).

Dominant thought in the 18th century did not invoke innate or permanent differences.



Supported the “colonization” of black people outside of the United States.

“I advance it therefore as a suspicion only, that the blacks, whether originally a distinct race, or made distinct by time and circumstances, are inferior to the whites in the endowments both of body and mind.”

Thomas Jefferson, *Notes on the State of Virginia*
(1785)



Descendants of Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings