

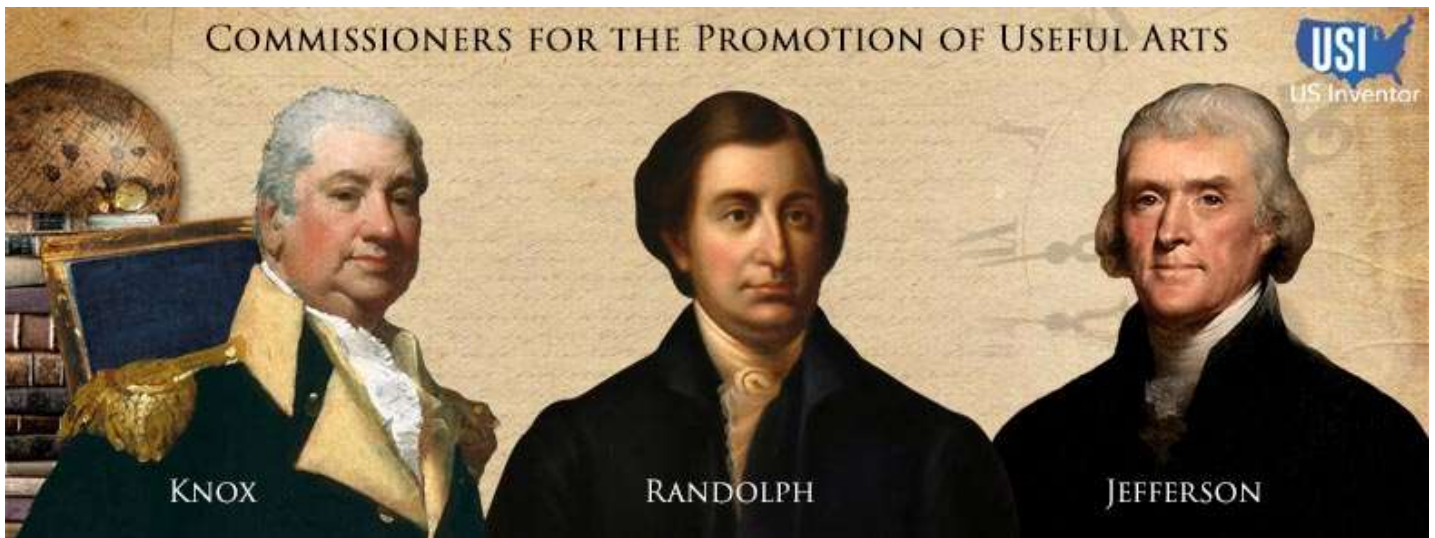
The Importance of Patents and Innovation

One of the reasons America became the world leader in nearly all endeavors is due, in no small part, to how our Founders recognized and encouraged invention and innovation. They understood what builders, creators and designers could mean to a small, fledging country with such a noble purpose.

Within our U.S. Constitution, the word 'Right' is used exactly one time.



That clause is a significant and powerful part of the American Dream, allowing people from all walks of life who have a bright and useful idea to capitalize on their innovations and creations.



To give an idea of how important inventors and patents were to our young nation, consider that the first board members, aka the "Commissioners for the Promotion of Useful Arts," included three of President George Washington's cabinet; Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of War Henry Knox, and Attorney General Edmund Randolph.

The Father of our U.S. Constitution and third president, James Madison, wrote, "A Government is instituted to protect property of every sort...This being the end of government, that alone is a just government, which impartially secures to every man, whatever is his own."