The late eighteenth century was a time of change and revolution across the globe. Subsequent to the American Revolution, the French underwent a no less symbolic and absolute alteration of power in their existing government. The power of ideas from the revolutionaries of America via means of suggestion from Benjamin Franklin captured the soul of the people of France. “In 1776 Franklin went to France, where his charm and wit made him as popular with the government as with the ladies. He secured military assistance the colonies needed in the Revolutionary War and, in the process, became a popular hero in France.”

Through his charisma and devotion to a new future, Franklin showed a stark and captivating contrast between what was and what will transpire.

Ben Franklin used ideals such as individual freedom, equality of rights, and national sovereignty of individual citizens to assist in the creation of new era for society.

These developing beliefs spread amongst the populous and became an “Enlightened Opinion.”

The primary examination that this work will undertake are how certain of these enlightened ideas, articulated and personified by Franklin, enabled the Revolution to come to pass. Even the notions that would eventually be retracted left evident signatures of these new ideas upon the western world. Additionally, there will be a particular concentration on what the general social constraints were during time in and around Paris and how exposure to Franklin acted as a catalysis to the French revolution.

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1 The Volume Library, Vol. 1, pp. 1039
2 Doyle, The Oxford History of the French Revolution, pp. 44-64 (chapter 2 depicts the growth of this concept in correlation to Pre-Revolutionary France.)
Works Cited

Reference


Secondary