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Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

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When Congress met, it chose George Washington as Commander-in-Chief

*Yr Most Able Servt.
G. Washington*

of the American continental army. Colonel Washington had come to the Congress in his uniform. The reason why he wore such a habit there was, no doubt, clear to those who knew him. It was, says Woodrow Wilson, "his instinctive expression of personal feeling in the midst of all that was happening". His service in the Congress, from first to last, was that of a soldier.

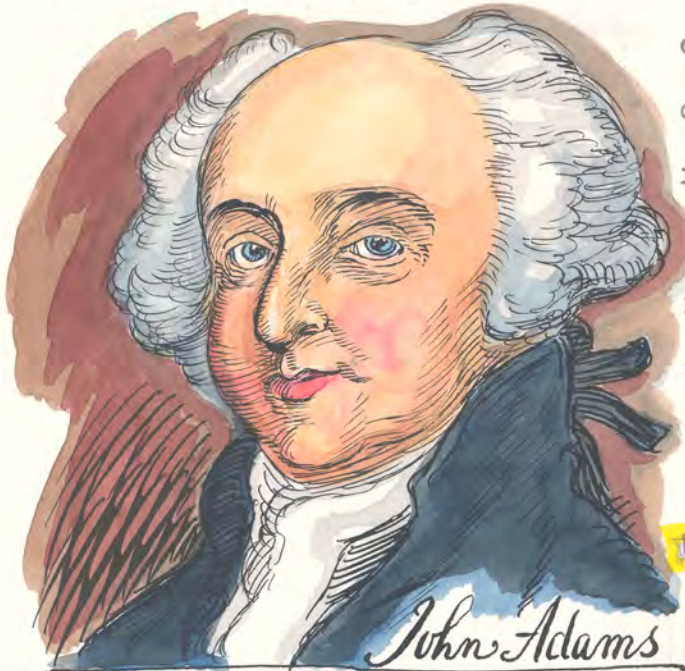


In choosing Washington for the command of the patriot army, Congress chose better than it realized. "It was no small matter to have so noticeable a man of honor and breeding at the head of an army whose enemies deemed it a mere peasant mob and rowdy assemblage of rebels".

Washington's resentment against the British was deep and genuine, but even as late as October, 1775, he was opposed to Independence. As commander-in-Chief of the American forces, he endeavored as a Warrior to keep his Army in being, and to uphold the fortunes of the Revolution.

In accepting the appointment, the new Commander-in-Chief made a modest speech, and declined to take any pay for his services. This

refusal of money was an effective gesture", says Woodward, "because more than anything else at the time, it served to make him a popular hero". The people came from miles around to see the new American



John Adams

JOHN ADAMS NOMINATED GEORGE WASHINGTON AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Commander-in-Chief. He was discussed at every cross-roads store from Falmouth to Savannah.

In the meanwhile, the Ministry in England fingered the forgotten scraps of Braddock's reports, looking for the name of Washington and trying to analyze his character!

Now the colonial question was shifted from the council chamber to the field of military operations. And now it was Washington's business to reach Cambridge and take over the command of the American forces outside Boston. But before he could get to Cambridge, the British had won

General Gage gives liberty to the Inhabitants to Remove out of Town with their Effects, and in order to Expedite ~~the~~ Removal, ^{informs} ~~that~~ the Inhabitants that they may receive passes for that purpose from General Robinson any time after 8 o'clock to morrow morning
Boston April 27th 1775

General Gage's order permitting inhabitants to leave Boston.

a decision at the battle of Bunker Hill, which was watched by the people of Boston from their rooftops. Although the provincial militia were driven from the heights, they demonstrated their bravery and high courage in battle against a formidable foe.



THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL
The people of Boston climbed to their rooftops to watch anxiously the Battle of Bunker Hill across the River

In the opinion of the English historian Green, the American recruits at Bunker Hill "by their

bravery put an end for ever to the taunts of cowardice which had been

Watching the fight at BUNKER HILL

levelled against the colonists.

'Are the Yankees cowards?' shouted the men of Massachusetts, as the first English attack rolled back baffled down the hillside".

During the rest of the winter, till the return of spring, the new American Commander-in-Chief was not disturbed by the British, who (for some strange and unknown reason) gave the "rebel" army an opportunity to get itself into fighting shape. The British remained in Boston until March 16, 1776.



after the sketch by PYLE

W

hen the British were forced out of Boston by Washington, they left for Halifax, thus virtually abandoning New England to the Americans. However, a well-equipped British army and a considerable British fleet remained in undisputed control of Manhattan Island, New York, and Washington---whose ill-fed and ill-armed (they had but forty-five rounds of ammunition to each man) militiamen had shown stubborn endurance through a long and bitter winter ---was compelled to move across the Hudson into New Jersey.

Actually the Revolutionary war had started before the Americans had organized their central government. Also it should be realized that the colonists were far from unanimous about the revolution.

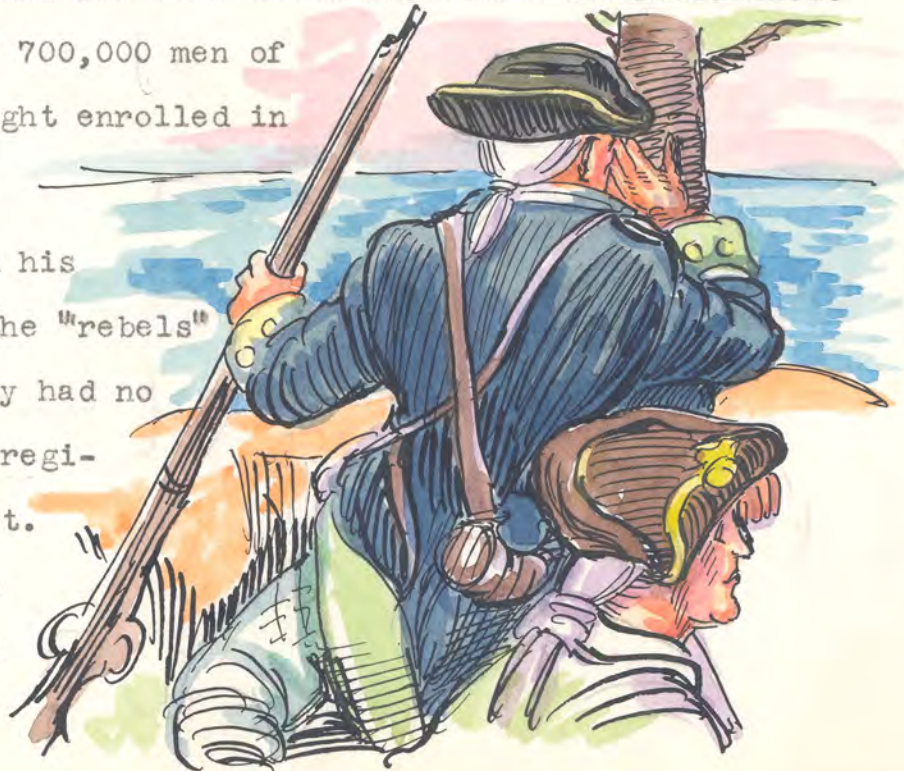
Out of 700,000 men of military age, only one in eight enrolled in Washington's patriot army.

In England, the King and his Parliament were sure that the "rebels" would soon be put down. They had no fortified towns, no trained regiments, no ships and no credit. Neither in financial nor in military resources were the



Washington at Fort Lee

from a sketch by Örtlip



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colonists a match for England.



However, when King George hired Hessian troops to suppress his colonial subjects, he stirred up a spirit of revolt and patriotism

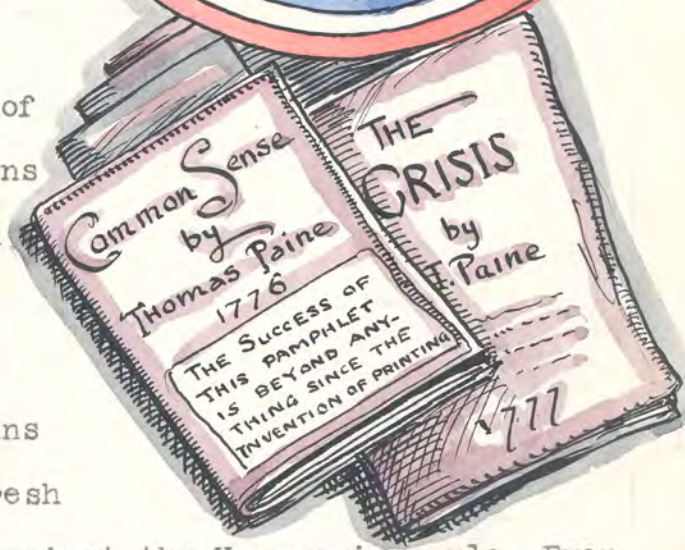
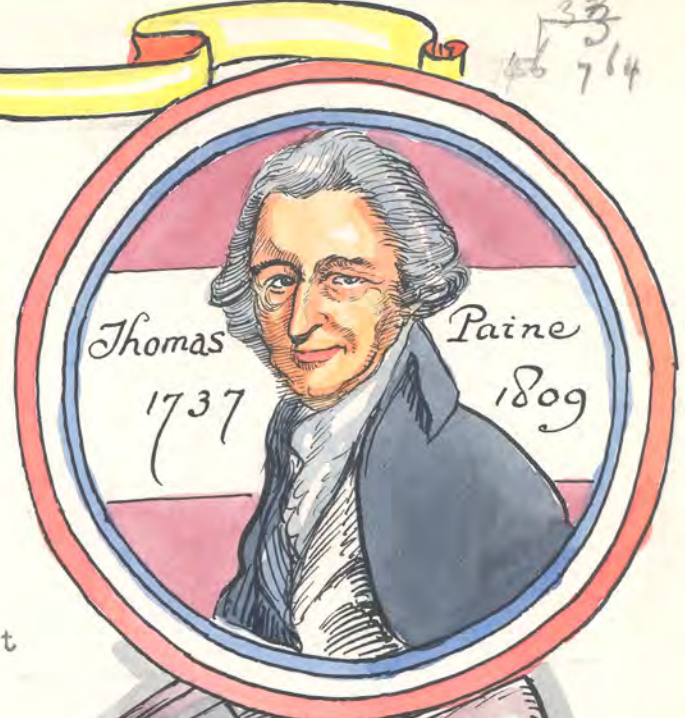
among the colonists, and among numerous sympathisers in England, --- a spirit

that made up for the lack of fortified towns and ships and even credit.

The presence of the Hessians stirred up fresh antagonisms against the Hanoverian rule. Even those who at first refused to engage in the conflict against the mother country now flared

up! Also, during the spring, the colonists were reading the convincing arguments

for independence presented by a radical English immigrant, Thomas Paine, in his remarkable pamphlet "Common Sense". With convincing logic (though crude and homely, it was like new wine to the untrained and un-



GRENADIER

BRUNSWICK DRAGOON.

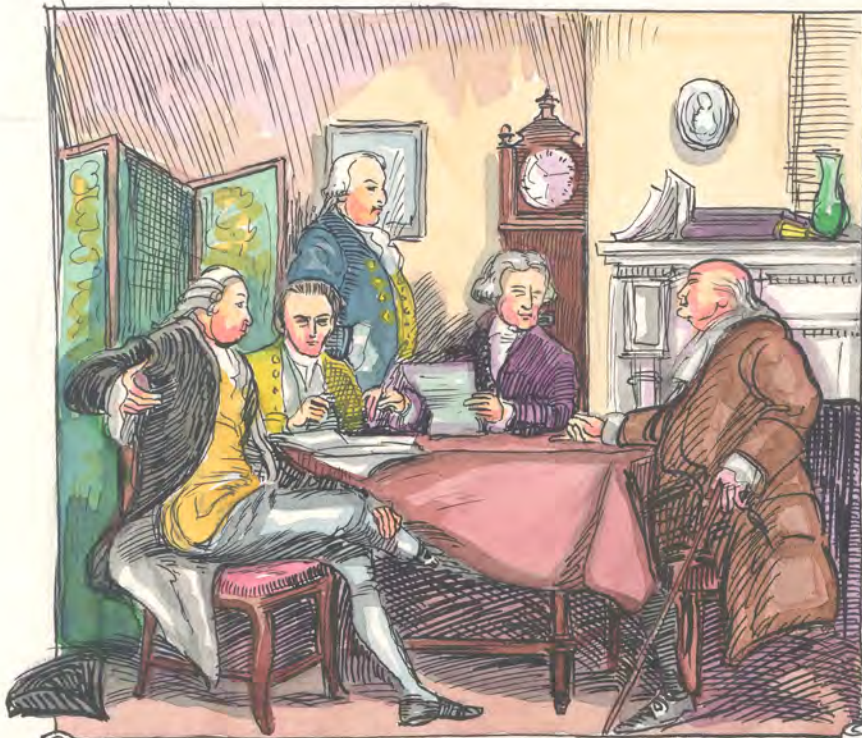
HESSIAN SOLDIERS

FROM "THE CRISIS"
These are the Times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their Country; But he that stands it NOW, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered...
T. Paine

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accustomed brains of classes who had never yet thought about politics except as an occasion for riot and licence at election time)---Tom Paine demonstrated the inconsistency of protesting

loyalty while carrying on war against the king. "I challenge", cried Paine, the warmest advocate of reconciliation to show a single advantage that this continent can reap by being connected with Great Britain... Everything that is right or reasonable pleads for separation. The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries, 'TIS TIME TO PART".



The Declaration of Independence was drafted by a committee of Congress — LEFT TO RIGHT — Robert Livingston of New York, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, John Adams of Massachusetts, Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, and Franklin of Pennsylvania

Paine ridiculed the whole theory of kingship. Almost everybody read and discussed his lively attack, which



HESSIAN BOOT

sold by the tens of thousands. Washington had it read to his soldiers.

On July 4, 1776, the Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence,



in which a brilliant statement of the causes of the war and a severe indictment of George III was drawn up mainly by Thomas Jefferson.

From now on, opposition to the war became treason to the country. In the "Pennsylvania Packet"

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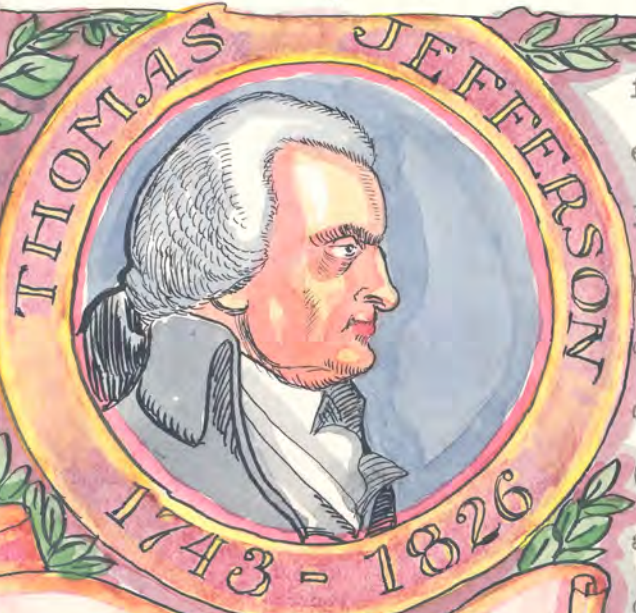
Declaration of Independence

Fac-simile of the original document in the hand-writing of Thomas Jefferson

A Declaration by the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress assembled.

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for ^{one} a people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another and to as-
[~~sume for that purpose which they have theretofore assumed it a course to~~]
sume among the powers of the earth the ^{separate and equal} ~~equal and independent~~ station to which the laws of nature & of nature's god entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to ~~the~~ ^{the} separation.

We hold these truths to be ^{self-evident} ~~sacred & undeniable~~ that all men are created equal & independent; that ^{they are endowed by their creator with equal} ~~from that equal creation they derive~~ ^{on rights of certain} [inherent &] inalienable rights, that ^{these} among [which] are the ~~fundamentals of~~ ^{rights} life & liberty, & the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these ~~ends~~ ^{rights}, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government ~~shall~~ becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, & to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles & organising its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety & happiness prudence indeed

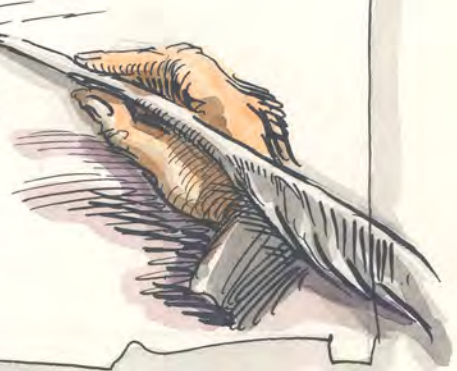


for July 6 appeared the first printed copy of the Declaration. Two days later, the great bell summoned the people to Carpenter's Hall (now Independence Hall) to hear the Declaration read.

(Ever since, the bell has been known as Liberty Bell, and July 4---the day of the signing of the Declaration

acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration] we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes & our sacred honour.

John Hancock
 Robert Morris Lewis Morris
 Benjamin Rush Samuel Chase
 Benj. Franklin James Wilson
 John Morton Geo Ross
 Wm Hooper Richd Stockton
 Joseph Hewes Jns Witherspoon
 John Penn Jas Hopkinson
 Wm Paria John Hart
 Tho Stone Abra Clark
 Geo Taylod
 Wm Hooper
 Phil Livingston
 Juan Ferris
 Button Gunnitt
 Lyman Hall
 Geo Walton.



---as the birthday of the United States of America.



The Declaration transformed the colonies into sovereign states.

No longer was there room for royal governors and councils. American officials were appointed in their places. The elective legislatures became the important part of the American system. For the future, the voter---not the King---would be the source of authority. There were many who (quite naturally) found it difficult to recognize the authority

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Th Jefferson

SIGNATURE OF THOS. JEFFERSON.



of the newly-established governments, and who still professed love for England. These were the Loyalists who made up altogether nearly a third of the total population of the thirteen states. Many of these Loyalists were wealthy merchants of the seaport towns, former office-holders, and farmers of the middle and southern states. Some of them enlisted in the British army, others organized militia companies and attacked the Patriots whenever they found an opening. With all these groups Congress had to deal with firmness.

On this page we have tried to give as fair a portrait of the great American leader who drafted the Declaration of Independence. His suggestions to the Continental Congress were published in a pamphlet entitled "A Summary View of the Rights of America".

SIR WILLIAM HOWE

was a second
cousin of King
George III, &
therefore a great
General by birth.
He did everything
too late; arrived in
America too late;
marched too
late; fought
too late;
resigned
too late;
died
too
late!



William Howe

It is certainly not our
purpose to give any de-
tailed description of the

difficult and tedious cam-
paign. But there are a few
observations that may seem
appropriate in a book of this
kind. As the American histor-
ian warns us, we must beware of
taking too limited a view of the

issues involved. The Revolutionary
War was a civil war,
not a war between
two nations. The
issue was to de-
cide among other

things whether England should in future be
ruled by the King acting through Parlia-
ment, or by Parliament acting by virtue
of its powers derived from the people.
In England, there was a strong minority
speaking with powers as diversified as
those of Chatham, Burke, and Charles Fox.
This minority opinion was against the
whole policy of the war. In fact, General

BRITISH
GENERAL
OFFICER



BRITISH
GRENADIER
35th FOOT

Howe and his brother, Admiral Howe, seemed to share in this view. They
preferred to call for concessions that would save the unity of the
Empire. The British military operations were as ill-conducted as

they had been rashly

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provoked. The military blunders of the English generals--- particularly those of Burgoyne and Howe---were as

serious as the political mistakes of the King and his ministers.

The objective of the British generals should have been to capture and destroy Washington and his army.

General Howe nearly did

this in the critical year of 1776,

when he drove Washington's crude patriotic forces out of New York City and sent them flying

across New Jersey. By the time Washington reached the Delaware River, his half-trained

army had dwindled to less than 3,000 men. There was Howe's chance.

But, instead of finishing the job and completely scattering the American army, General Howe went into Winter Quarters in New York!

Lord George Germain in England planned the Saratoga Campaign (as Pitt had planned



J. Burgoyne
JOHN BURGOYNE
surrendered, Dec. 2, but the King and Lord Germain, however, stood out for a continuation of War.

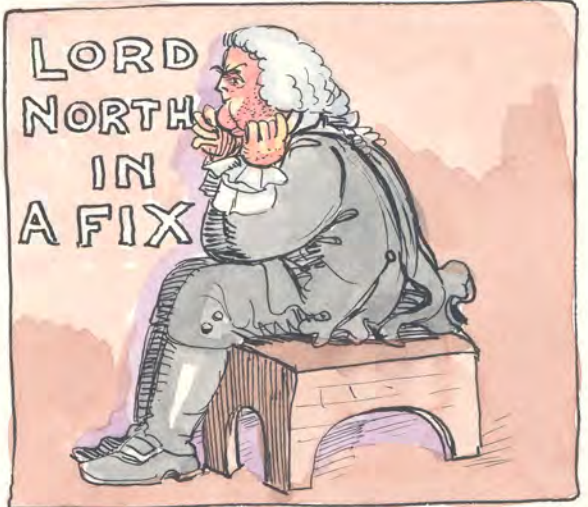


LORD GEORGE GERMAIN



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the taking of Quebec, but with very different results). For the disasters of the American campaign, and especially for Saratoga and Yorktown, military historians hold Lord Germain primarily responsible. He persisted in planning an extensive campaign which had to be fought three thousand miles away ---from his desk! Burgoyne, Clinton and Howe suffered dreadfully at his "incapable and malicious" hands. Yet King George clung to Lord Germain tenaciously, and in the end rewarded his incompetency with a Viscounty! In the opinion of the historian Green, the King himself was equally responsible for the mismanagement and blunders of the British military forces. The King's natural



FROM A BRITISH CARTOON

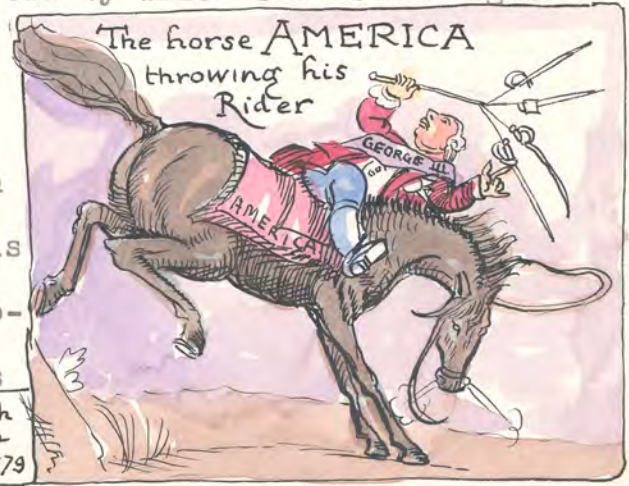


powers, says Green, "were of the meanest sort. Nor had he the capacity for using greater minds than his own by which some sovereigns have concealed their natural littleness. On the contrary, his only feeling towards greatness



was one of jealousy and hate".

A British Cartoon Aug. 1, 1779



Lord Germain's plan gave the Americans the advantage of acting

on the inner lines. The result was

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When he arrived in the summer of 1777, a red-haired, twenty year old Volunteer from France, Lafayette could speak very little English, & his conversation with Washington was interpreted by a young officer, Alexander Hamilton.



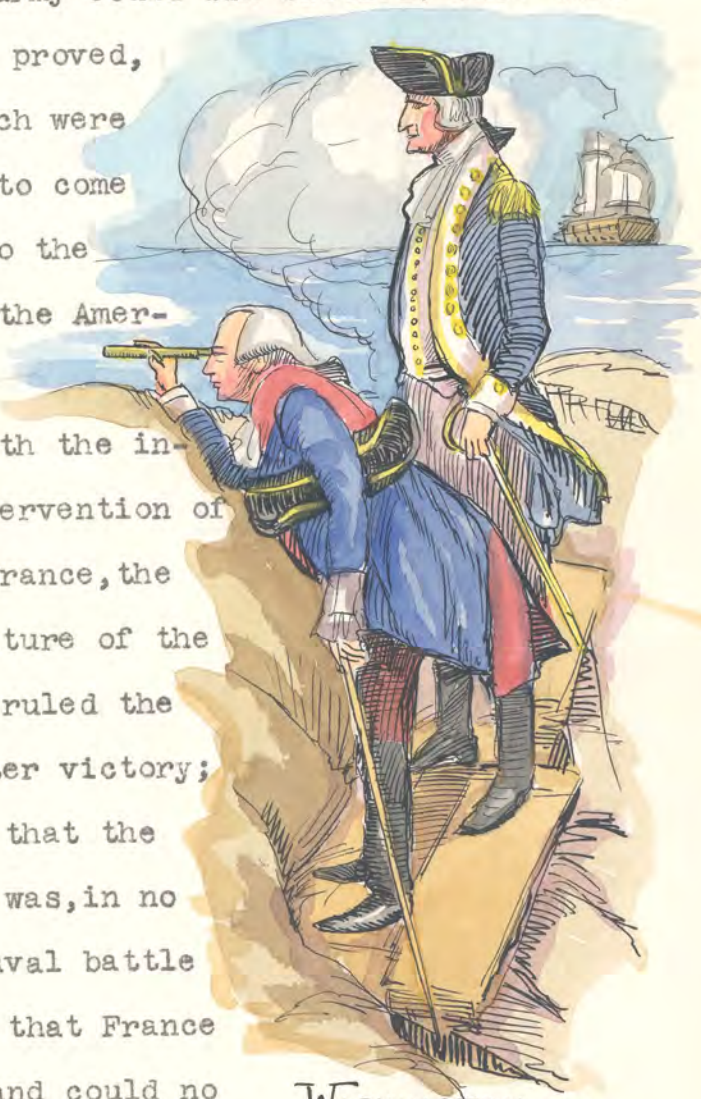
The Marquis de la Fayette
— who rode on one side of Washington, and served as an important staff officer.

tragic for Burgoyne who, with his 5,000 regulars, was cut off in the wilderness and was forced to surrender to the American "minutemen" under the command of Horatio Gates (an English general who had joined the Patriots).

Burgoyne's defeat was a signal victory for the colonists. It proved that the Patriot army could win battles. Once this fact was proved, the French were willing to come openly to the help of the Americans.

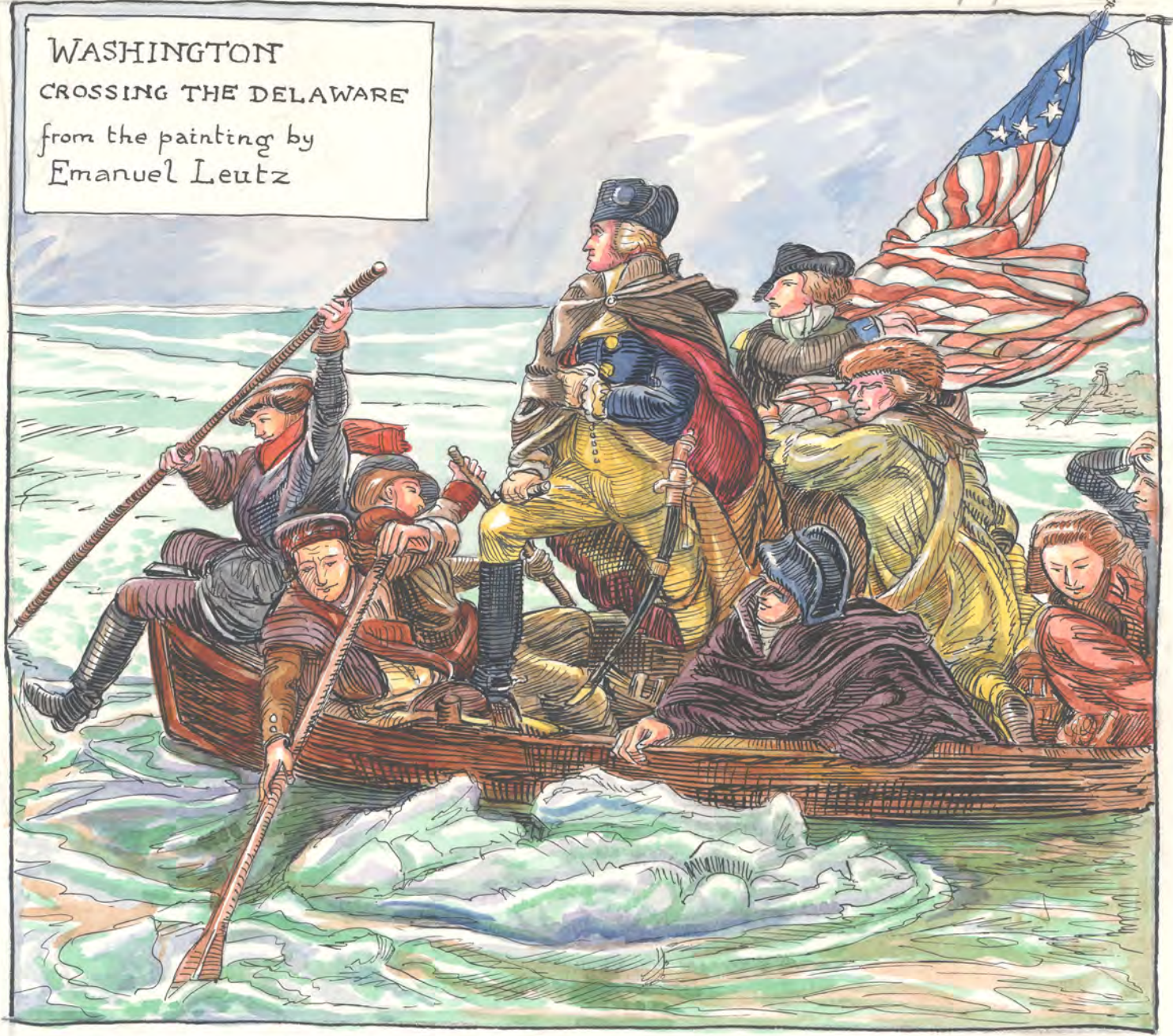
With the intervention of France, the whole nature of the

war was changed. The French fleet ruled the seas. French ships won victory after victory; and it may not be too much to say that the military triumph of the Americans was, in no small measure, determined by the naval battle of Chesapeake Bay. Moreover, now that France was on the side of the enemy, England could no longer concentrate her strength in North America. She was compelled to guard her own shores against possible attack!



WASHINGTON AND ROCHAMBEAU IN THE TRENCHES AT YORKTOWN.

WASHINGTON
CROSSING THE DELAWARE
from the painting by
Emanuel Leutz



There are several unforgettable scenes and situation in the war which have been depicted (in rather a dramatic manner), and some of these should not be ignored. They are a part of the world's story of heroism in the struggle for freedom. On this page we have tried to reproduce one of the popular paintings, depicting the crossing of the Delaware by General Washington in the winter of 1776. The famous picture obviously depicts only the spirit of the daring enterprise. On the next page is another picture associated with the invincible spirit of the American colonies.

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hile General Howe and his officers occupied Philadelphia in the winter of 1778, General Washington and his patriot army camped at Valley Forge. While Howe's men were comfortably quartered and well-fed and handsomely entertained by American Loyalists, Washington's men built huts in the Valley to protect themselves from the severe cold and

WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE — this encampment in the Winter of 1777, has been called the Gethsemane of the American army — a test of the quality of the American Spirit.

heavy snows. Washington was informed by Congress (sitting at York, Pennsylvania, since it had been driven out of Philadelphia) that it

expected him to seize food from the farmers. After months of marching, thousands of the patriots had no shoes; their ragged uniforms were worn out. Hundreds of ill-fed men lay sick on piles of straw that served as beds.

However, from his entrenched camp at Valley Forge, while his men sat by the fire all night for lack of blankets---- in the most discouraging and bitterest hour



BARON
VON
STEBEN

A MILITARY
TECHNICIAN OF
EXPERIENCE
AND SKILL



Le Baron de Steuben

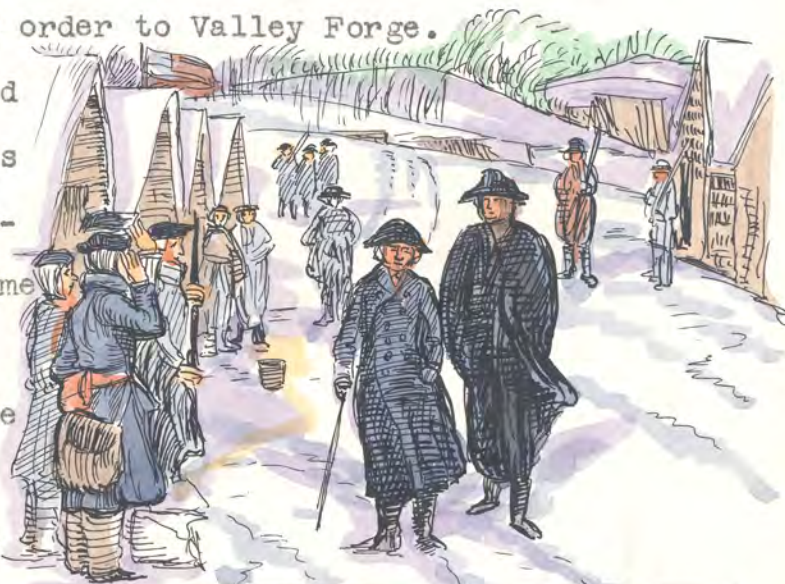
A PRUSSIAN OFFICER WHO HAD SERVED
UNDER FREDERICK THE GREAT

of the Revolution, Washington kept his eagle eye on the British army.

Though his men were dying about him, Washington stuck to his job. Day after day, he inspected his men---his small army of patriots which stood fast through every suffering. A tribute should be paid to the unconquerable spirit of Washington's "drill-master", Baron von Steuben, who all through this trying winter did so much in organizing and training the men. Steuben's work in laying out the camps,

teaching the men how to take care of themselves, handle their guns, march and fight battles, brought order to Valley Forge.

On these pages I have spread sketches of the various elements of the British and American forces, in order to show that in time the Revolutionary war became a war of nations. When the smoke of battle at length subsided, "two nations were standing there erect!" For seven long years



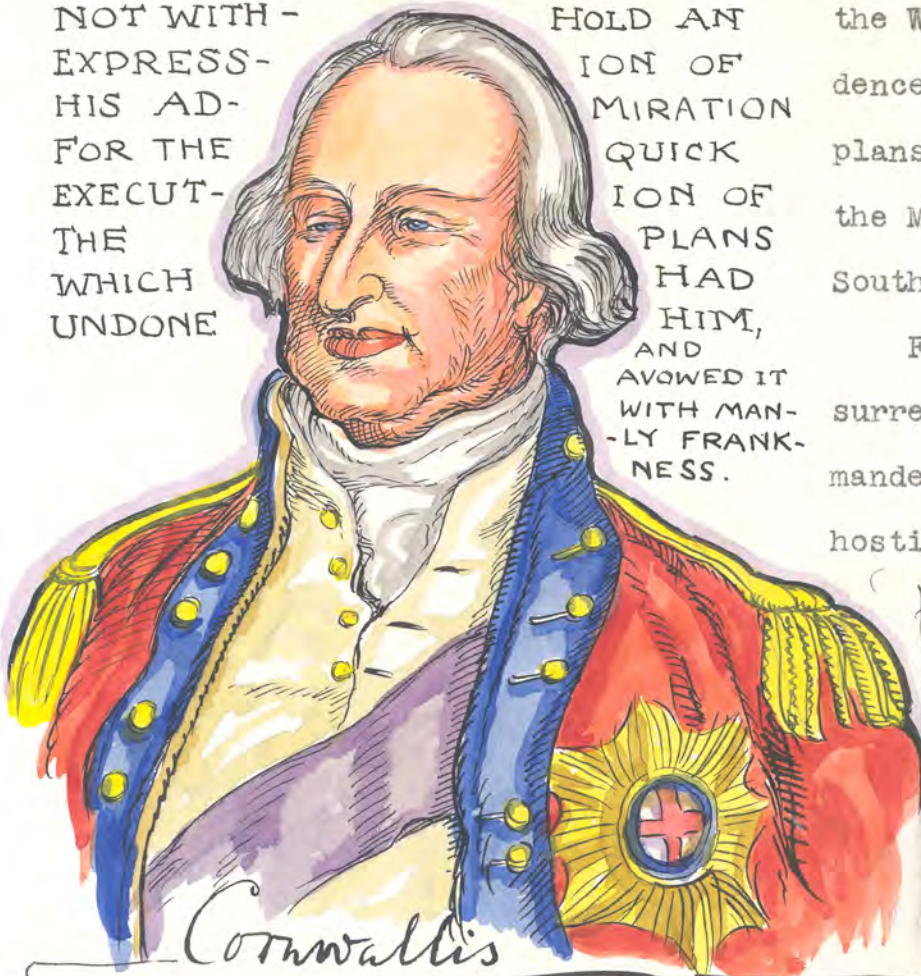
from the painting "WASHINGTON AND STEUBEN AT VALLEY FORGE" by Howard Pyle

THE GALLANT CORNWALLIS COULD NOT WITH- EXPRESS- HIS AD- FOR THE EXECUT- THE WHICH UNDONE

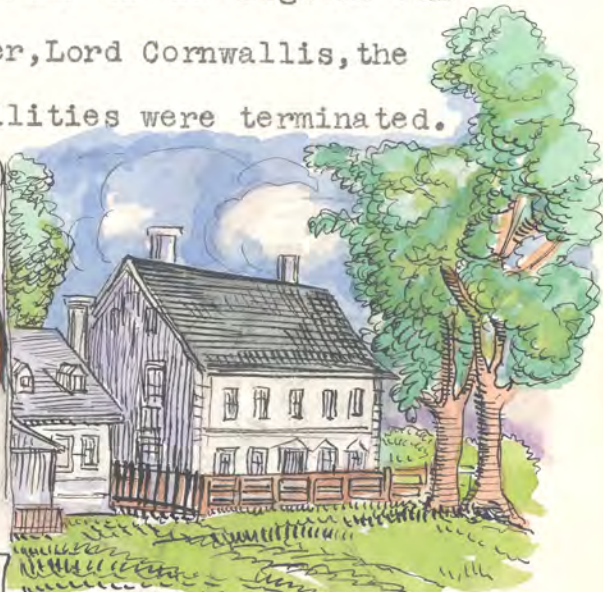
HOLD AN ION OF MIRATION QUICK ION OF PLANS HAD HIM, AND AVOVED IT WITH MAN- LY FRANK- NESS.

the War of American Independence went on. The British plans failed in New England, in the Middle States, and in the South.

Finally, in 1781, with the surrender of the English commander, Lord Cornwallis, the hostilities were terminated.



Cornwallis



Nelson House

CORNWALLIS'S HEAD-QUARTERS, YORKTOWN.

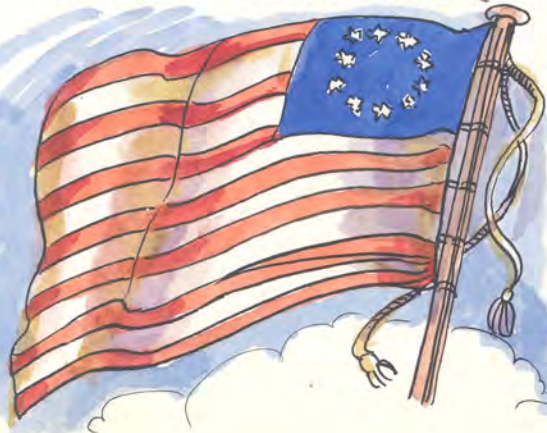
Parole of Cornwallis



Charles Earl Cornwallis Lieutenant General Do acknowledge myself a Prisoner of war to the States of America, & having permission from His Excellency General Washington, agreeable to Capitulation to proceed to New York & Charlestown, or either, & to Europe, Do pledge my Faith & Word of Honor, that I will not do or say any thing injurious to the said United States or Armies.....

George III made a speech (which his ministers wrote for him), in which he informed Parliament that he had "offered to declare the colonies free and independent". And he went on to explain "how essential monarchy is to the enjoyment of constitutional liberty....."

But the American colonists thought otherwise. They were glad to be free of the King and his Parliament. They sang their own "Liberty Song" even more



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lustily, and gloried in the fact that they were "on their own"!

TUNE, Hearts of Oak
1768

The Liberty Song

Come join hand in hand brave A-me-ri-cans all, And rouse your bold hearts at fair Li-ber-ty's call - No tyrannous acts shall sup-press your just claim, Or stain with dishonour A-me-ri-ca's name In Free-dom we're born and in Free-dom we'll live, Our pur-ses are rea-dy Steady, Friends, Steady, Not as Slaves, but as Freemen our mon-ey we'll give —

From BICKERSTAFF'S Boston Almanack 1769, words written by John Dickinson, Music by David Garrick.

Our worthy Forefathers---let's give them a cheer!
 To climates unknown did courageously steer;
 Through Oceans, to deserts, for freedom they came,
 And dying bequeath'd us their Freedom and Fame.
 In Freedom we're born, etc.
 Their generous bosoms all dangers despis'd,
 So highly, so wisely, their Birthright they priz'd;
 We'll keep what they gave, we will piously keep,
 Nor frustrate their toils on the land and the deep.
 In Freedom we're born, etc.



The victory of the American colonies brought to England too the freedom from the King's system of personal government.

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A

lthough the fighting in America ended with the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781, the Treaty of Peace was not signed until 1783. To the utter embarrassment of the ministry, the independence of the United States of America was recognized and proclaimed to all the world.



GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES adopted June 20, 1782 and used in State papers bearing the President's signature

There was nothing that Lord North could do but say, "O God! it is all over!"

--- and resign. The humiliated George III was compelled to accept



a Whig ministry under Lord Rockingham. As Charles Fox (who clapped his hands at news of Washington's final victory) put it, "the Whigs were now able to give a good stout blow to the influence of the Crown".

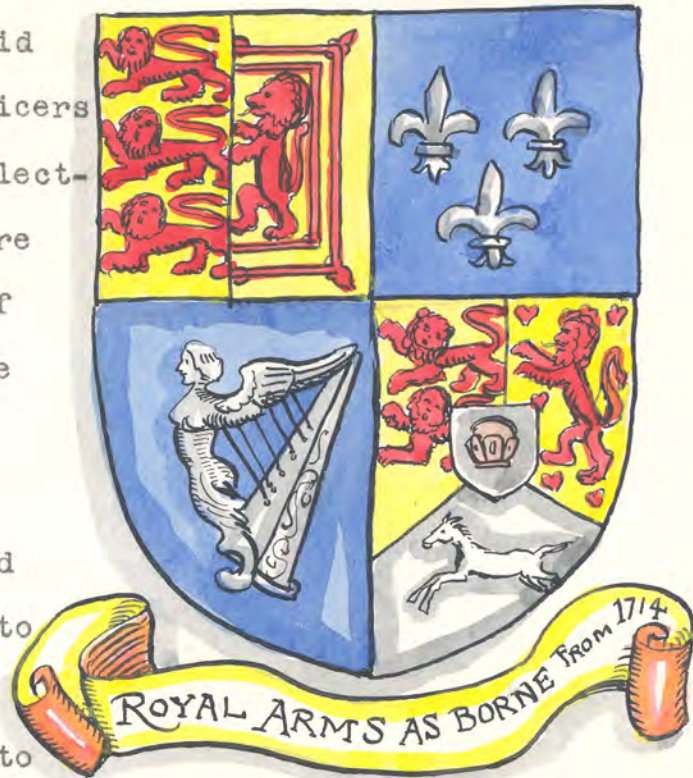
Now it was the task of the Whigs in power to make use of their victory, and to reform the government which the king had corrupted and North had misused. In that their success was singularly



C. J. Fox
CHARLES JAMES FOX

immediate and extensive. By a rapid succession of measures, revenue officers were disqualified from voting at elections, and government contractors were barred from sitting in the House of Commons. Thus the patronage of the Crown was cut in half!

But the chief fruit of the change of ministers was peace. Lord Rockingham lived but three months to preside over the councils of peace and reformation he so long wished to



bring about, but he was succeeded by Lord Shelburne under whose leadership the spirit and policy of the Rockingham Whigs were carried out. The period of peace that began in the early eight-

ies lasted for a little more than a decade!



In English politics, however, there was no peace. The long and fierce quarrels continued inside and outside Parliament. At times the quarrels were taken up by the citizens in the streets, where the cry was raised for better representation of the people of England in the House of Commons. It was really a very reasonable cry, for the existing system was antiquated and absurd. We shall take this matter up a little later. At this point it may be better to rest from politics, and talk about books and about some interesting men and women who wrote them.