

# The American Revolutionary War



# Mercantilism

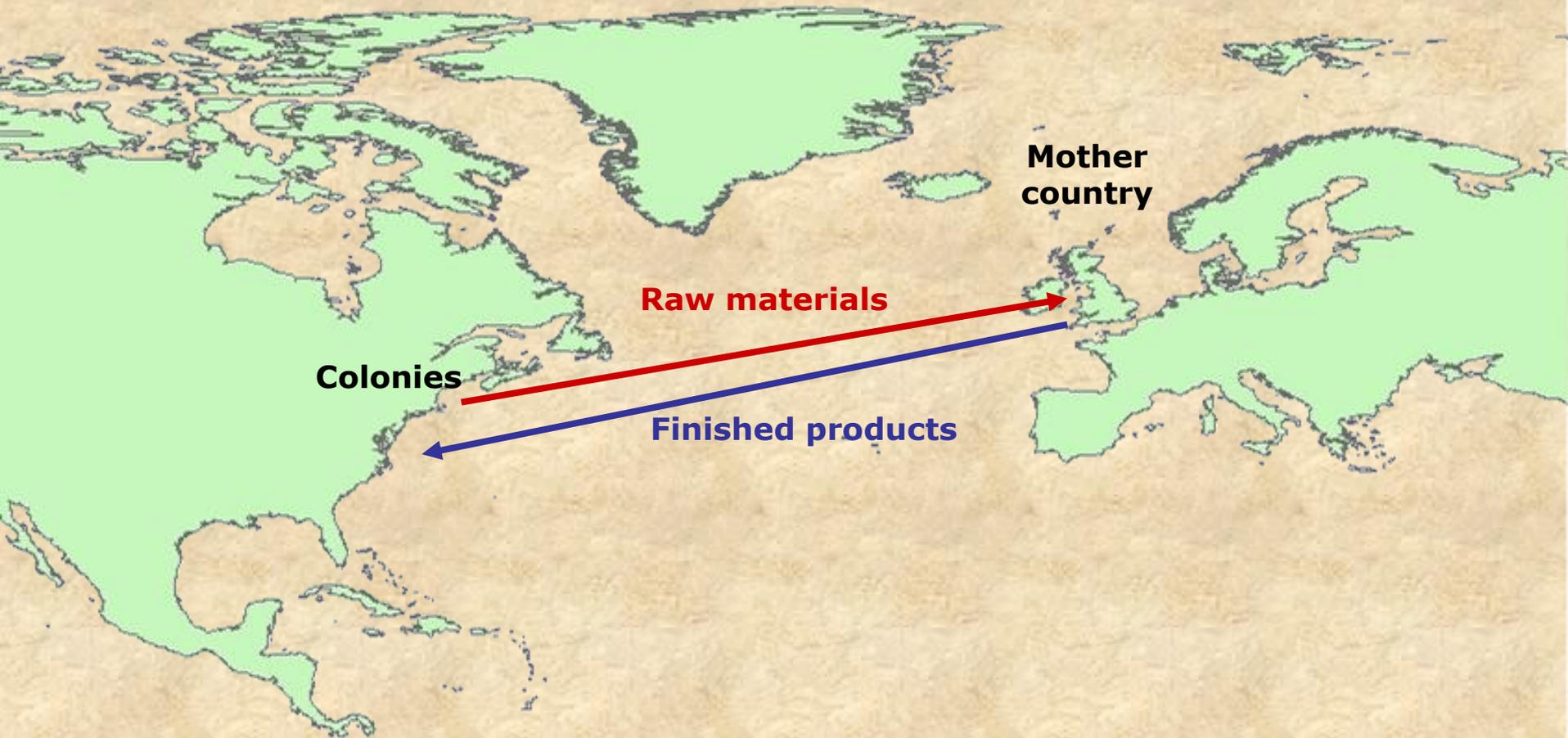
 **Belief there was a limited amount of wealth and a nation should gather more gold and silver than competitors.**

 **Great Britain buys raw materials from colonies at low price. The colonies had to buy manufactured goods from Britain at high prices.**

 **The 13 colonies only allowed to trade within the British empire.**

 **Bitterness on the part of the colonists.**

# How mercantilism worked



# The Navigation Acts



**All goods had to be shipped on British ships**



**All crews of these ships had to be at least 75% British**



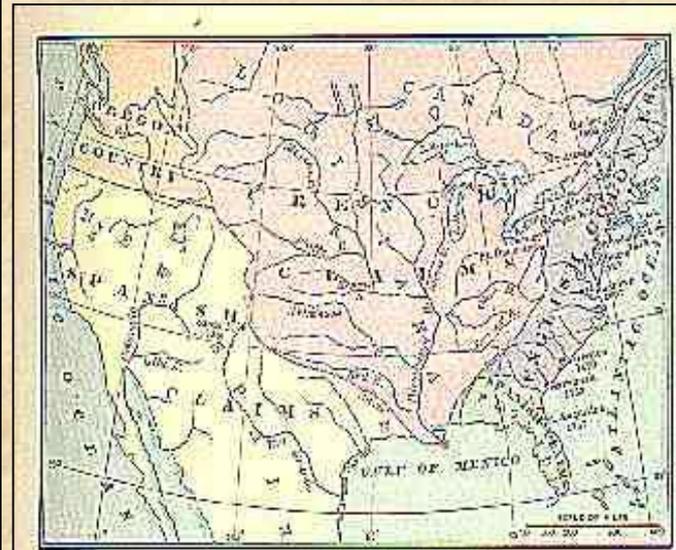
**Certain products (tobacco, sugar, rice, molasses, and furs) could only be sold to Britain**

**Goods had to be unloaded at a British port**

**Resulted in **Salutary Neglect** when unenforced before 1763.**

# Impact of the French and Indian War 1756-1763

- ❖ France lost its N. American lands.
- ❖ British lands doubled (Canada & Mississippi River).
- ❖ British treasury went into debt to pay for the war.
- ❖ Parliament began taxing the American colonies.
- ❖ Britain became the dominant world power at that time.
- ❖ British seen as arrogant, even cruel.



BEFORE THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

← Before the war



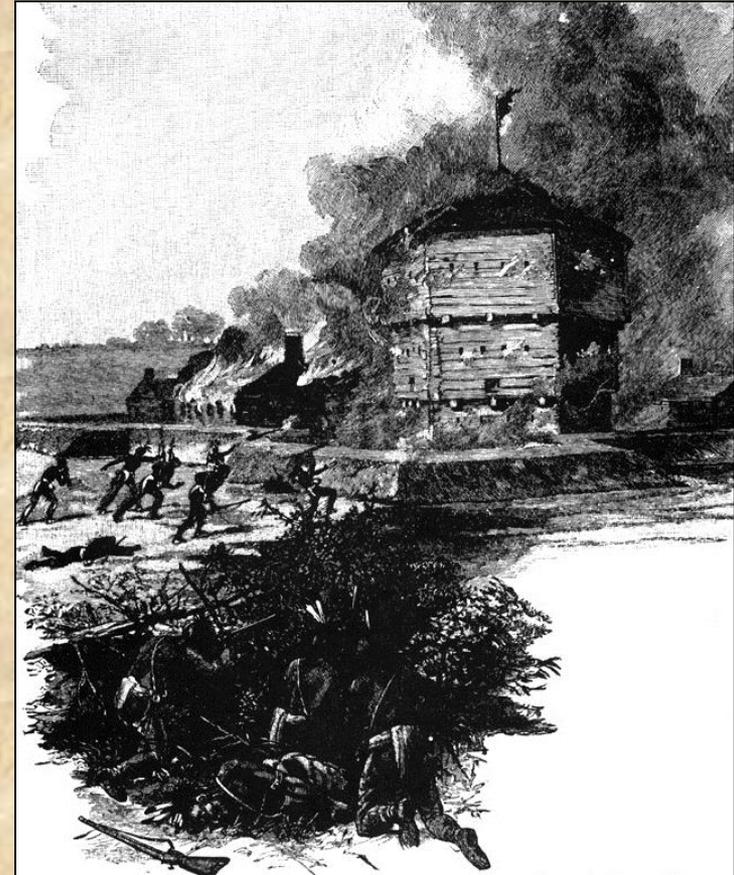
AFTER THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

← After the war

# Pontiac's Rebellion, 1763

**Pontiac - Ottawa  
Chieftain who formed a  
confederacy to attack  
British settlers at the  
end of the French &  
Indian War.**

**Natives captured most  
of the forts west of the  
Appalachian  
mountains.**

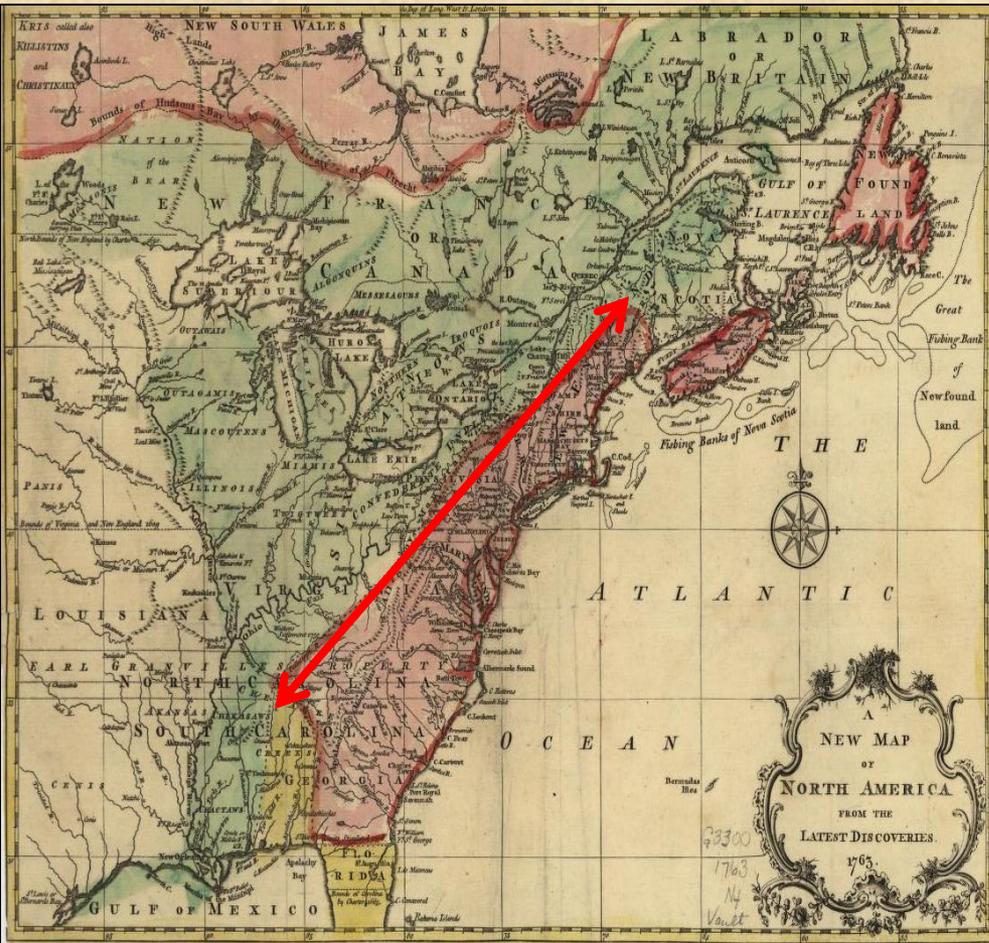


# Proclamation of 1763

After putting down the 18 month rebellion, King George III issued the Proclamation of 1763.

This restricted British settlement to east of the Appalachian Mountains.

The purpose of the Proclamation was to prevent future native rebellions.



**MERCANTILISM**

**RESTRICTIVE  
LAWS  
PASSED  
BY BRITISH**

**ENLIGHTENMENT  
IDEAS**

**CAUSES OF  
AMERICAN  
INDEPENDENCE  
MOVEMENT**

**FRENCH AND  
INDIAN WAR**

**GREAT  
AWAKENING**

**POPULATION  
EXPLOSION AND EXPERIENCES  
OF COLONIAL SELF-RULE**

## Direct versus Indirect taxes

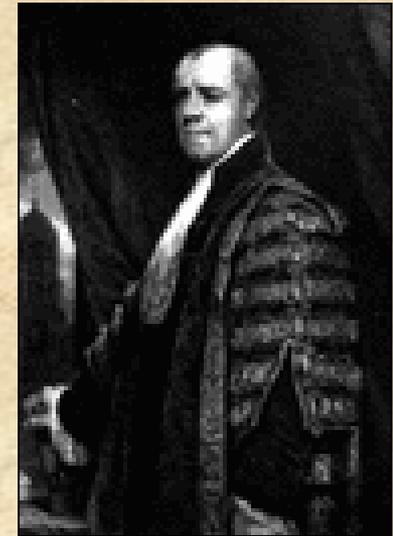


***Direct taxes***, like the Stamp Act, were taxes **ADDED TO** the price of a good after purchase. Easy for a purchaser to see.

***Indirect taxes***, like the Sugar or Townshend Acts, are **Built into** the price of the good. The consumer cannot see the tax.

# Sugar Act (1764)

- Prime Minister **George Grenville**.
- Indirect tax on sugar.
- Grenville hoped to shift some of the British people's tax burden to the American colonists.
- Colonists opposed the idea of being taxed.



Prime Minister  
George **Grenville**

# The Stamp Act



The stamp

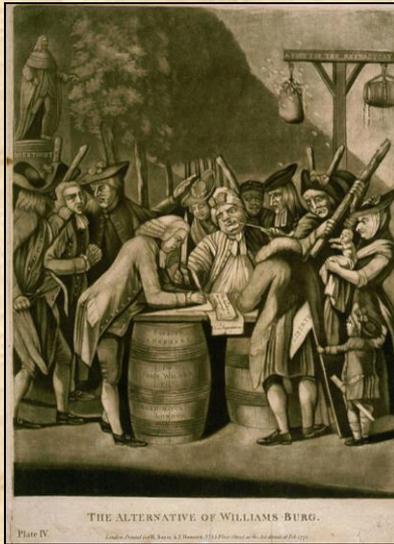
**Included in the list  
were:**

- **Newspapers**
- **Diplomas**
- **Playing cards**
- **Printed sermons**
- **Deeds for transacted property**
- **Nearly all printed materials**



**Colonists read with dismay  
about the new Stamp Tax  
imposed by the British  
Parliament**

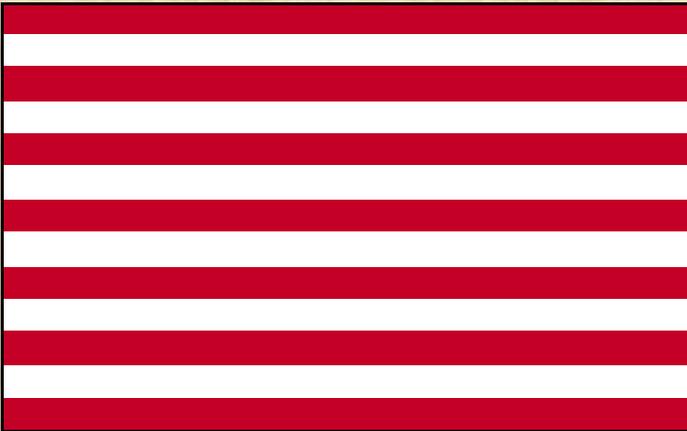
# The Sons of... Liberty, 1765



The **Sons of Liberty** opposed the Stamp Act.

They used violence against tax collectors and burned the home of Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Hutchinson.

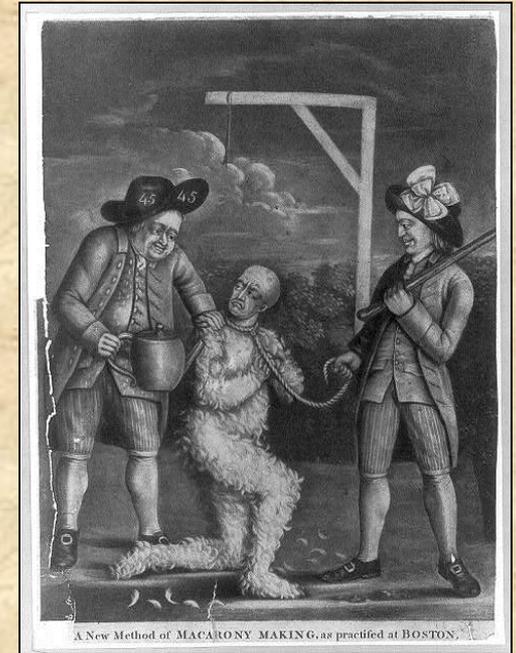
Later, the Sons of Liberty masterminded the Boston Tea Party.



This banner was the Sons of Liberty's official flag.

# Committees of Correspondence

- **Committees of Correspondence** were a communications network to oppose British policies.
- By 1774, all 13 colonies had committees, and these led to the First Continental Congress.



# The Declaratory Act, 1766

- **Passed by Parliament as a “face saving” gesture**
- **Parliament had the right to enforce laws the American colonies must obey**
- **Colonial leaders didn’t pay much attention to the Declaratory Act.**

## The colonist version



## The British version



**The engraving on the left, by Paul Revere, demonstrates the colonial view of the massacre.**

**The painting on the right, done by a British artist, shows British soldiers in a defensive posture.**

# Boston Tea Party

December 16, 1773



LITH. & PUB. BY SARONY & MAJOR.

Engr'd according to Act of Congress, A. D. 1766, by Sarony & Major, in the Clerk's Office of the Dist. Court of the South-Dist. of N. York.

99 NASSAU NAER FULTON ST N.Y.

## THE DESTRUCTION OF TEA AT BOSTON HARBOR.

## **Boston Tea Party led to “Intolerable Acts”**

- ⌘ **Boston Port Act:** Closed the Port at Boston until the tea was paid for.
- ⌘ **Quartering Act:** Forced the citizens of Massachusetts to house and feed British soldiers in their homes.
- ⌘ **Massachusetts Government Act:** Suspended the Massachusetts Colonial Legislature until the tea was paid for.
- ⌘ **Administration of Justice Act:** Local courts could not try British officials.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Continental Congress

12 colonies (except Georgia) discussed the Intolerable Acts.

Met to repeal the **Intolerable Acts**.

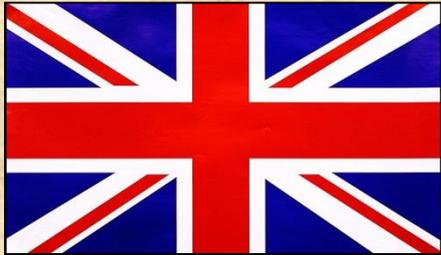
This was NOT about independence.

Delegates signed **non-importation agreements** boycotting British goods. It Created "**the Association**"

Delegates included J.Adams, Ben Franklin, Sam Adams, George Washington, Richard Henry Lee, and John Jay.



# Strengths



## Britain

**Well-trained and equipped army / navy**

**Strong central government with a strong economy**

**Support of Loyalists and many Native Americans (4 of 6 Iroquois tribes)**

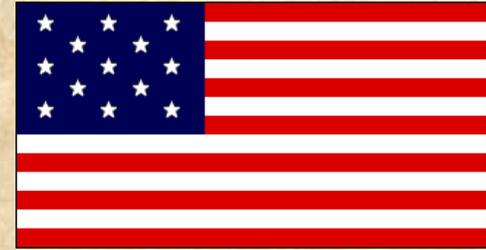
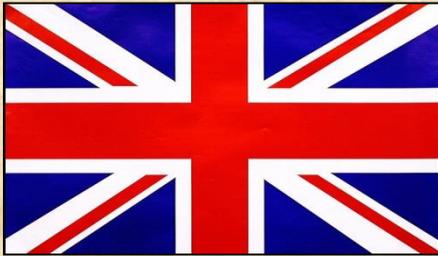
## Colonists

**Familiar territory**

**Solid leadership of Washington and other generals**

**A common cause—fighting for independence**

# Weaknesses



## Britain

**Far from home and unfamiliar terrain**

**Many enemies in Europe-  
France, Spain,  
Netherlands, etc.**

**Poor military leaders**

**No common cause to rally  
army or British people**

## Colonists

**Many soldiers untrained**

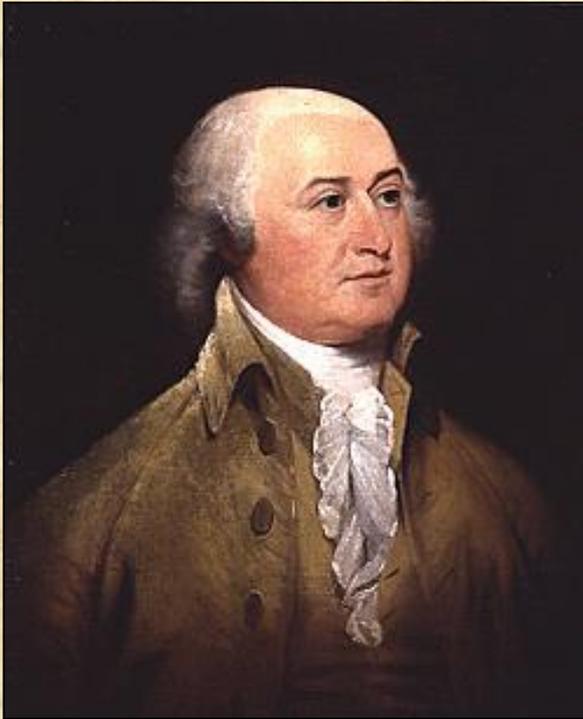
**Shortages of food and  
ammunition**

**No central government**

**Tiny navy (but 1,000  
privateers)**

# Second Continental Congress

Met from **1775 to 1789**



**John Adams**

- **Focus changed from the Intolerable Acts to Independence**
- **Some radical delegates pushed for independence immediately but most...**
- **pushed for reconciliation**
- **Appointed George Washington commander**
- **On July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1776- Declaration of Independence**

# Washington appointed General of the Continental Army



**Washington was selected for two main reasons:**

- 1. Prior military experience (French and Indian War ☹ )**
- 2. He was from Virginia, and necessary to involve Southerners in the war effort**

# Lexington and Concord

April 19, 1775

**“The shot heard round the world”**

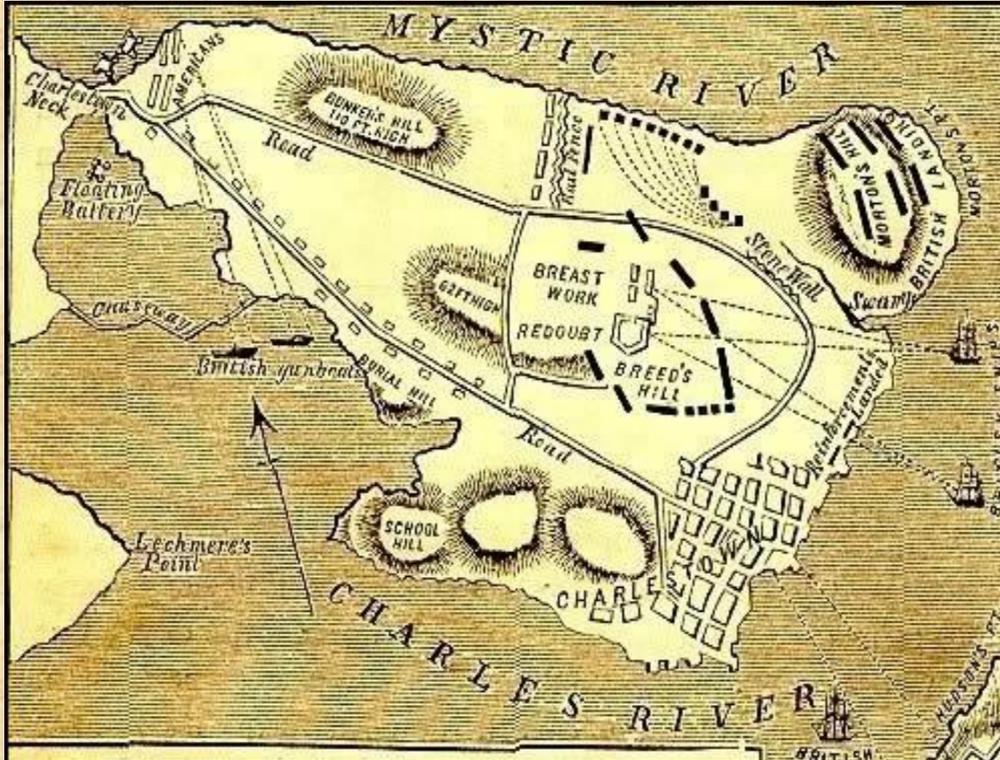


# Battle of Bunker Hill

June 16, 1775



# Bunker Hill (Breed's Hill)



**The French Minister joked that with “Two more British victories like Bunker Hill, there will be no more British soldiers left in America”.**

**British forces attacked Breed's Hill. The colonists held fire until they “could see the whites of their (the British soldiers’) eyes”. Americans ran out of ammunition and the British won the battle, but Brits lost approximately 40% of their men.**

# Olive Branch Petition

**Second Continental Congress sent the Olive Branch Petition to end the fighting.**

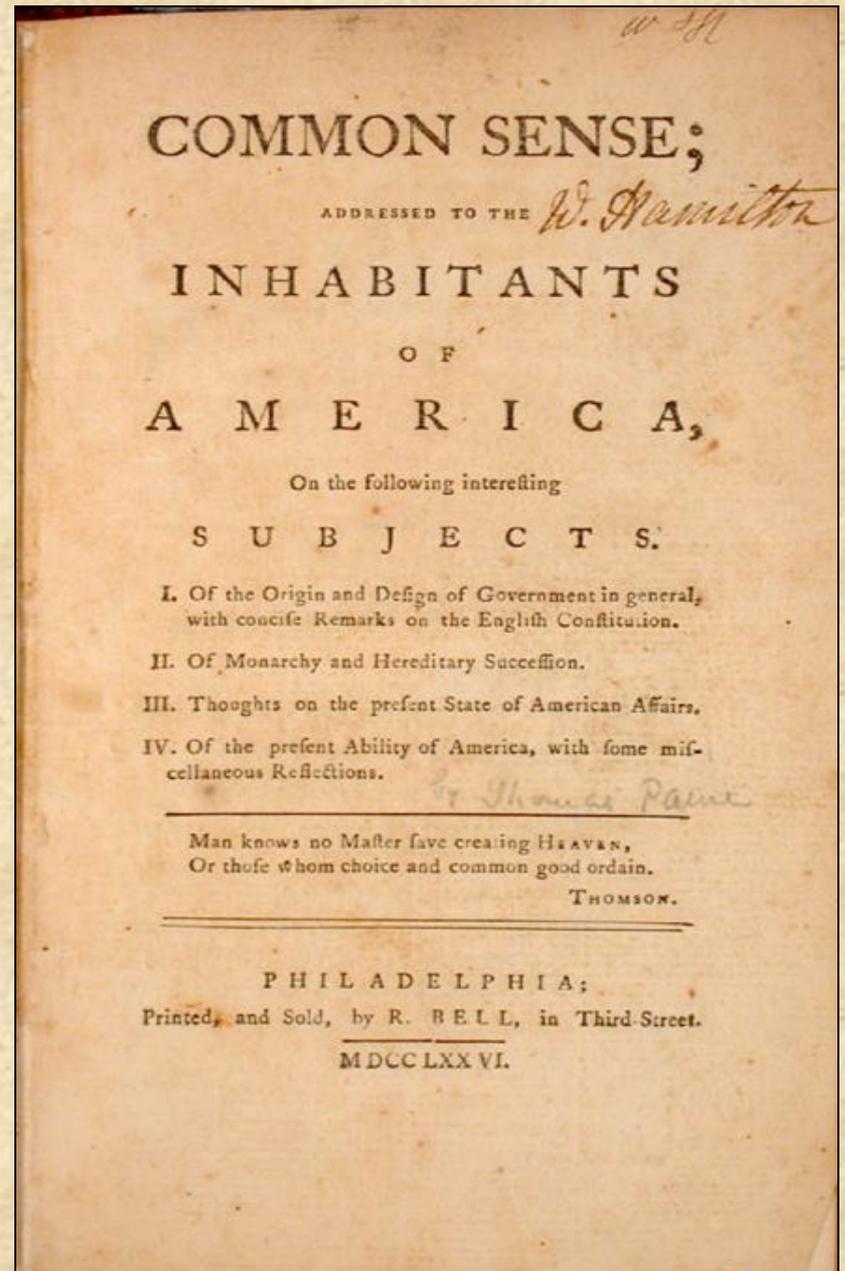
**King George III rejected the petition and called the colonists rebels.**



**Common Sense  
tells you: "You  
don't need a king!"**

**'TIS TIME TO  
PART'**

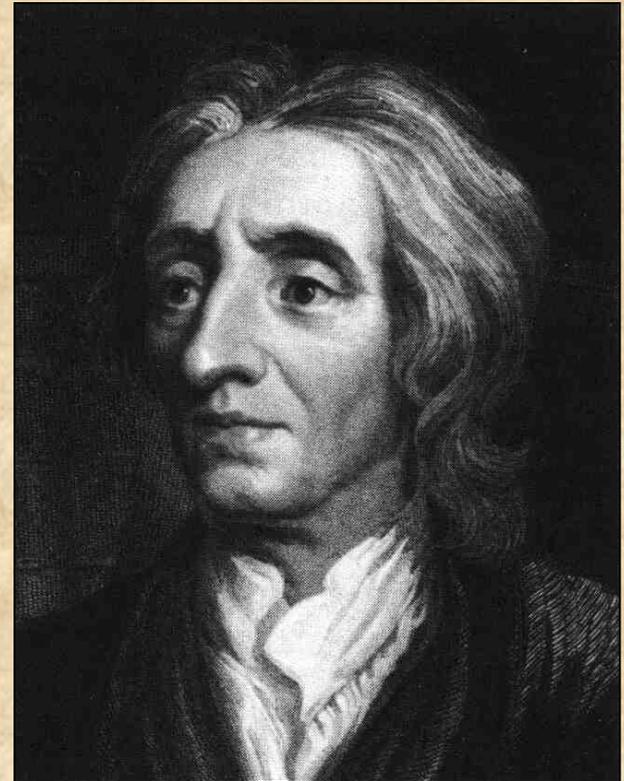
**Thomas Paine**



# The Enlightenment

John Locke believed governments operated with the “**consent of the governed**”.

Jefferson borrowed Enlightenment ideas, most notably from Locke. People enjoyed “natural rights”, including “life, liberty, and property”.



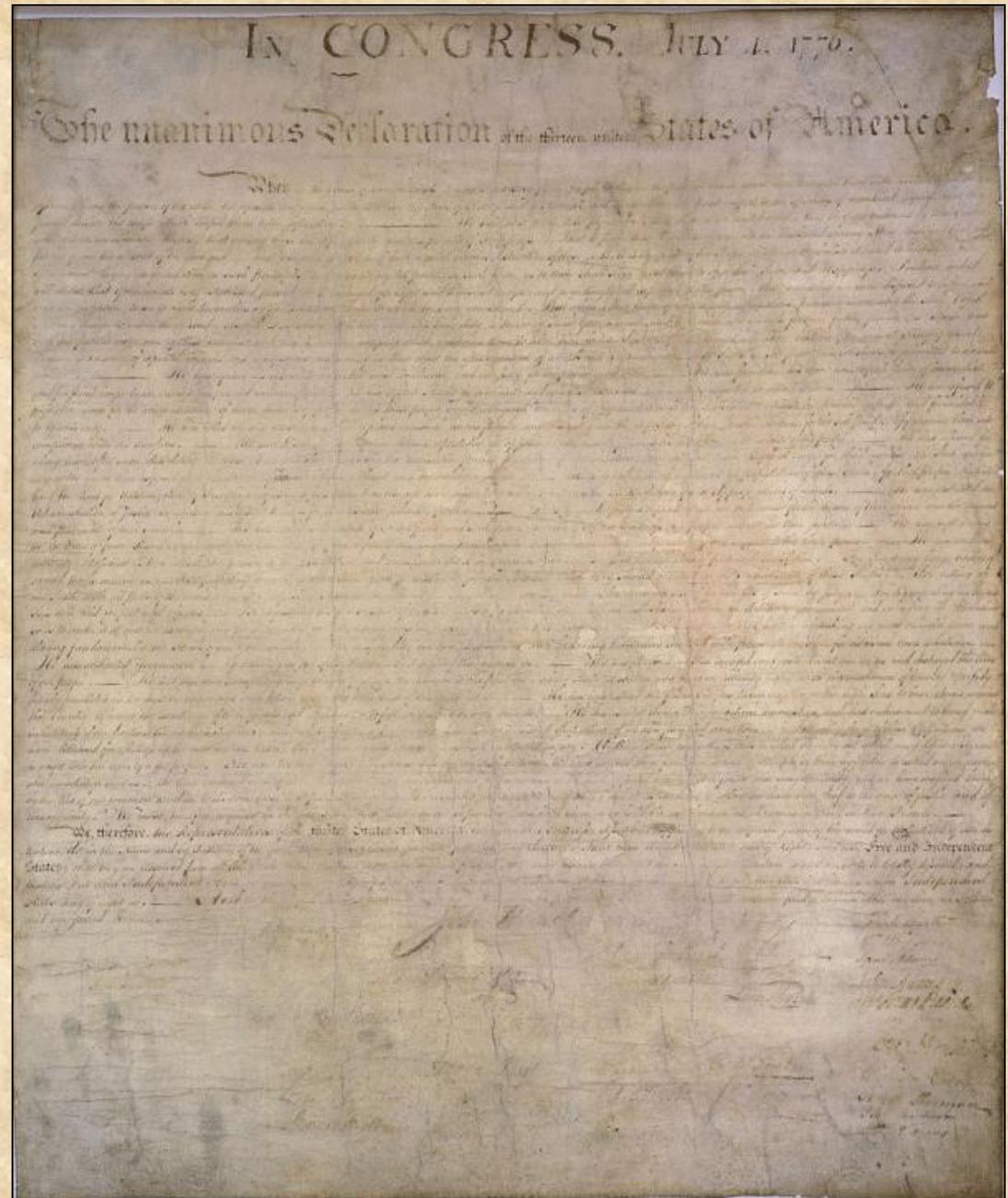
John Locke

# **Social Contract theory**

- ❖ **Derived from John Locke's writing, "*Two Treatises of Government*"**
- ❖ **Locke stated that government had an obligation to protect people from harm, and guarantee their inalienable rights of life, liberty, and property**
- ❖ **People had an obligation to obey government**
- ❖ **According to Locke, people could abolish or alter government if it did not follow their wishes**

# The Declaration of Independence contains three sections:

- 1. Preamble:** purpose of the document
- 2. Grievances:** reasons for separation
- 3. Formal declaration to the world** of their independence from Britain



This painting by **John Trumbull** shows the Declaration at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress.





# Patriots and Loyalists

The American Revolution divided the nation and families.

***Patriots*** were supporters of Independence.

***Loyalists*** (also known as ***Tories***) were loyal to the Crown.

Benjamin Franklin's son, William Franklin, was a staunch Loyalist who was held a prisoner for two years by Patriot forces. William moved to England and never returned.



**Benjamin  
Franklin**

**William  
Franklin**



# The Loyalists

- As many as 16% (500,000) of the colonists remained loyal to Britain during the Revolution
- Loyalists tended to be more **wealthy and older**
- Loyalists were common in New York, New Jersey, and Georgia
- Uncommon in Virginia and Massachusetts
- Laws allowed for confiscation of Loyalist property
- Restoring Loyalist property was required by Treaty of Paris, not followed.
- At the end of the war, many Loyalists left the United States to Canada, the Bahamas and West Indies

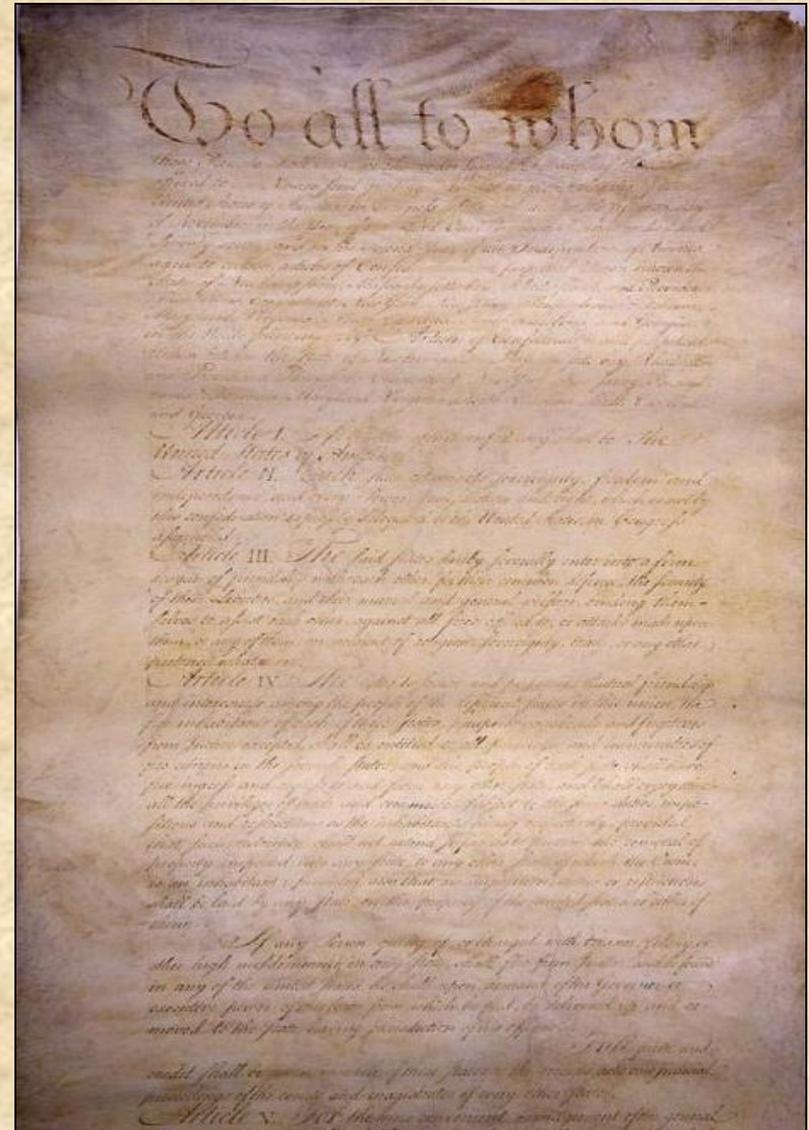


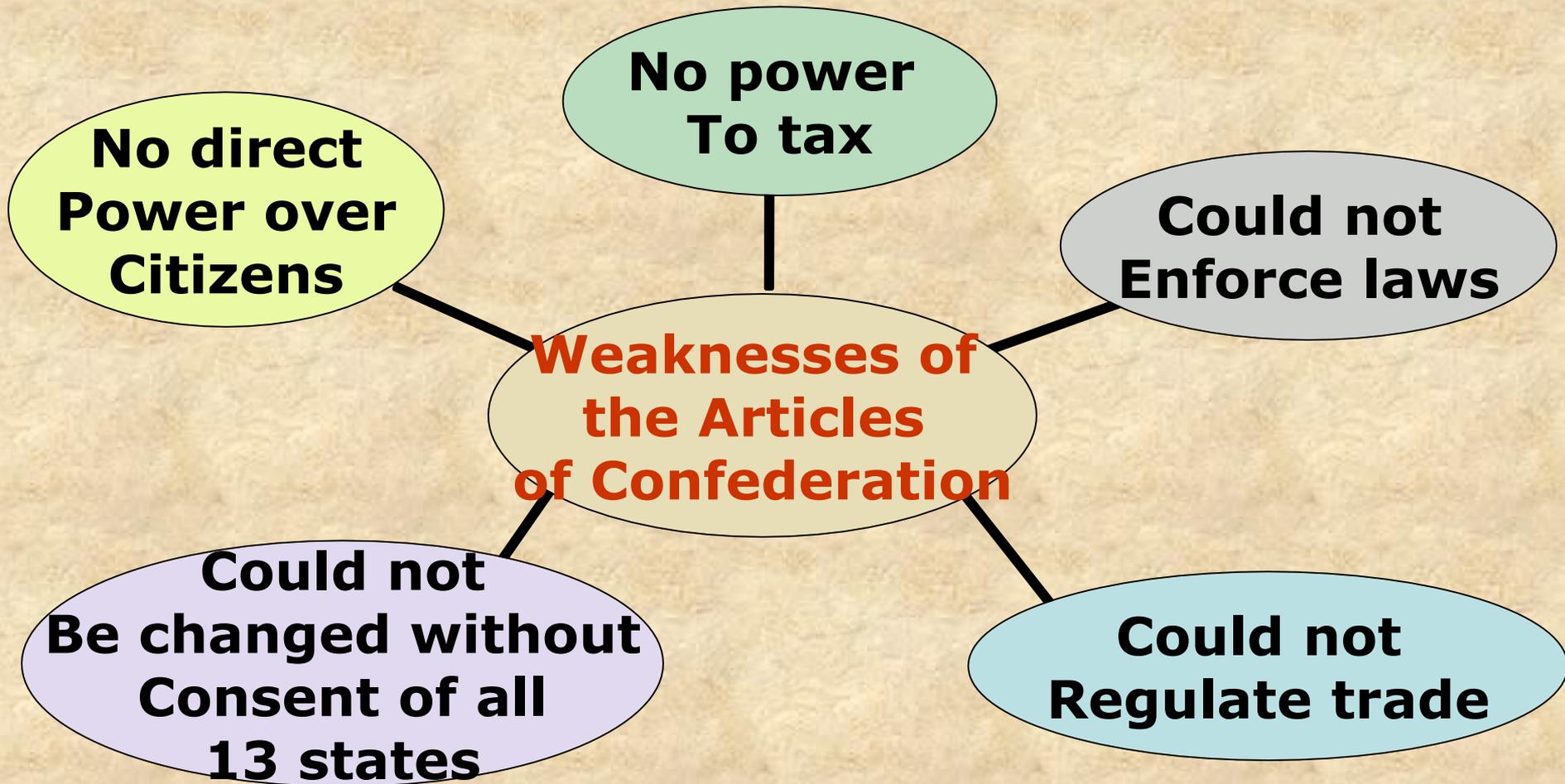
**Punishing  
loyalists**

# The new nation's first attempt at government: The Articles of Confederation

**Articles of Confederation**  
were passed in 1781 after  
Yorktown.

The AOC had a weak  
national government with  
states as the most  
powerful level of  
government.





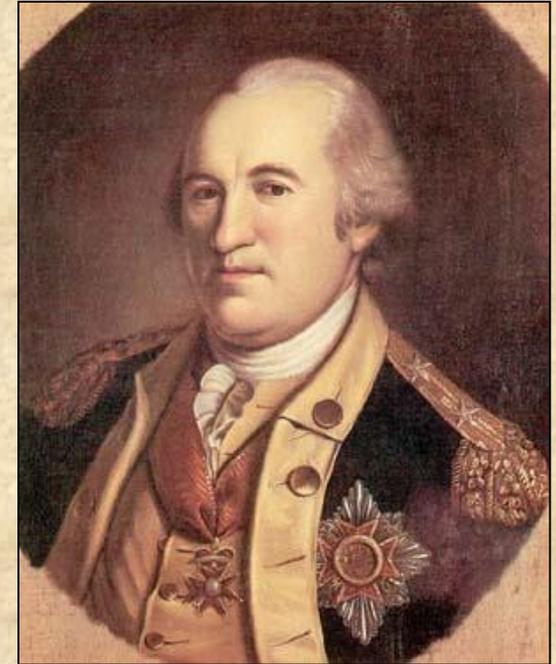
# Lafayette

- **French aristocrat**
- **Became one of Washington's closest friends**
- **Toward the end of the war he was put in charge of the defense of Virginia and he played a key role in the war's final Battle at Yorktown**
- **Later Lafayette participated in the French Revolution**



# Baron Frederick von Steuben

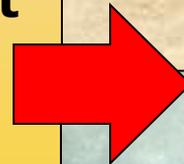
- **Served in the Prussian Army**
- **Offered services without pay**
- **Was sent to Valley Forge, and served as drillmaster for U.S. troops there**
- **Wrote “Regulations of the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States” official army manual for military for nearly 30 years**



# African Americans in the Revolutionary War

- Royal **Governor Dunmore** of Virginia offered freedom to any slave who could make it to British lines.
- Dunmore organized a brigade of 3000 African-Americans
- African-Americans also fought on the Patriot side, nearly 5000 in various militia units.
- Some Americans were scared of black enlistments because of concerns of armed slave revolts.
- Blacks served with distinction in the Continental Army. Approximately five percent of the troops at Bunker Hill were African American.

# Women in the Revolutionary War



- Women took over for husbands on farms and in shops
- Women assisted troops by washing, mending clothes, and nursing
- Some women fought in combat like **Molly Pitcher**
- Mostly they complained and gossiped, and did nothing useful, just like modern day.

# Abigail Adams

⌘ Her letters to Adams urged him to give political rights to women:

“I desire you would **remember the ladies** and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors.

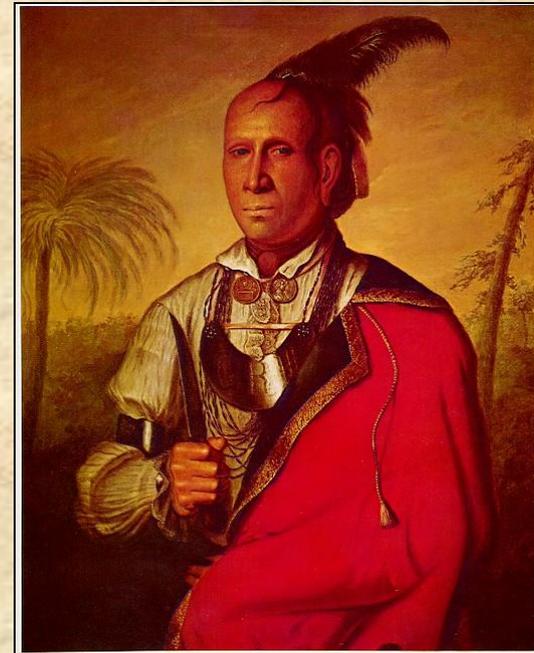
Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands.

Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could.”



# Native Americans in the Revolutionary War

- **Native Americans usually fought for the British**
- **An estimated 13,000 Indians fought on the British side during the war. The Iroquois Confederacy alone provided 1500 men for the British cause.**
- **But 2 of the 6 Iroquois nations sided with the Patriots**



# Joseph Brandt

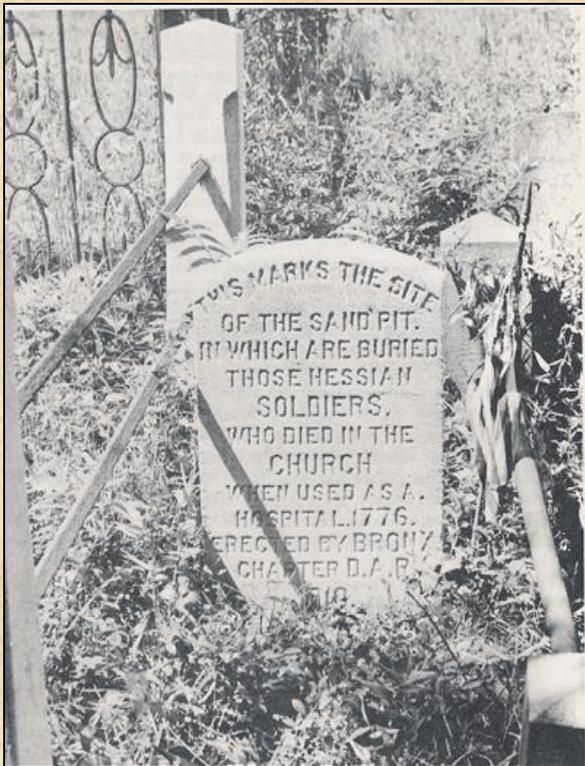


**Joseph Brandt**

**Brandt**, a Mohawk leader, remained loyal to the British. Brandt and his Indian allies fled to Canada.

# The Hessians

- **Hessians** were mercenaries from Germany
- King George hired more than 30,000 Hessians to fight
- 1/3 of Hessians switched sides and remained in the United States



A typical Hessian soldier

# Yankee Doodle

**Yankee Doodle went to town  
A-riding on a pony (not a horse)  
Stuck a feather in his hat  
And called it macaroni.**

**CHORUS:**

**Yankee Doodle, keep it up  
Yankee Doodle dandy  
Mind the music and the step  
And with the girls be handy.**

...

**CHORUS**

**This song was written by the British to ridicule the colonists.**

**British soldiers would sing the tune to shame Americans because "doodle" meant an unsophisticated person, "macaroni" were fancy uniforms, and "stuck a feather in his cap" referred to the idea that an uncultured person could wear a feather and think he was classy and cultured.**

**However, the song had the opposite effect, and soon colonial troops made it their own.**

**Early Battles went poorly except for Crossing the Delaware River on Christmas night, 1776, to attack Trenton.**



# Washington's army wintered at Valley Forge

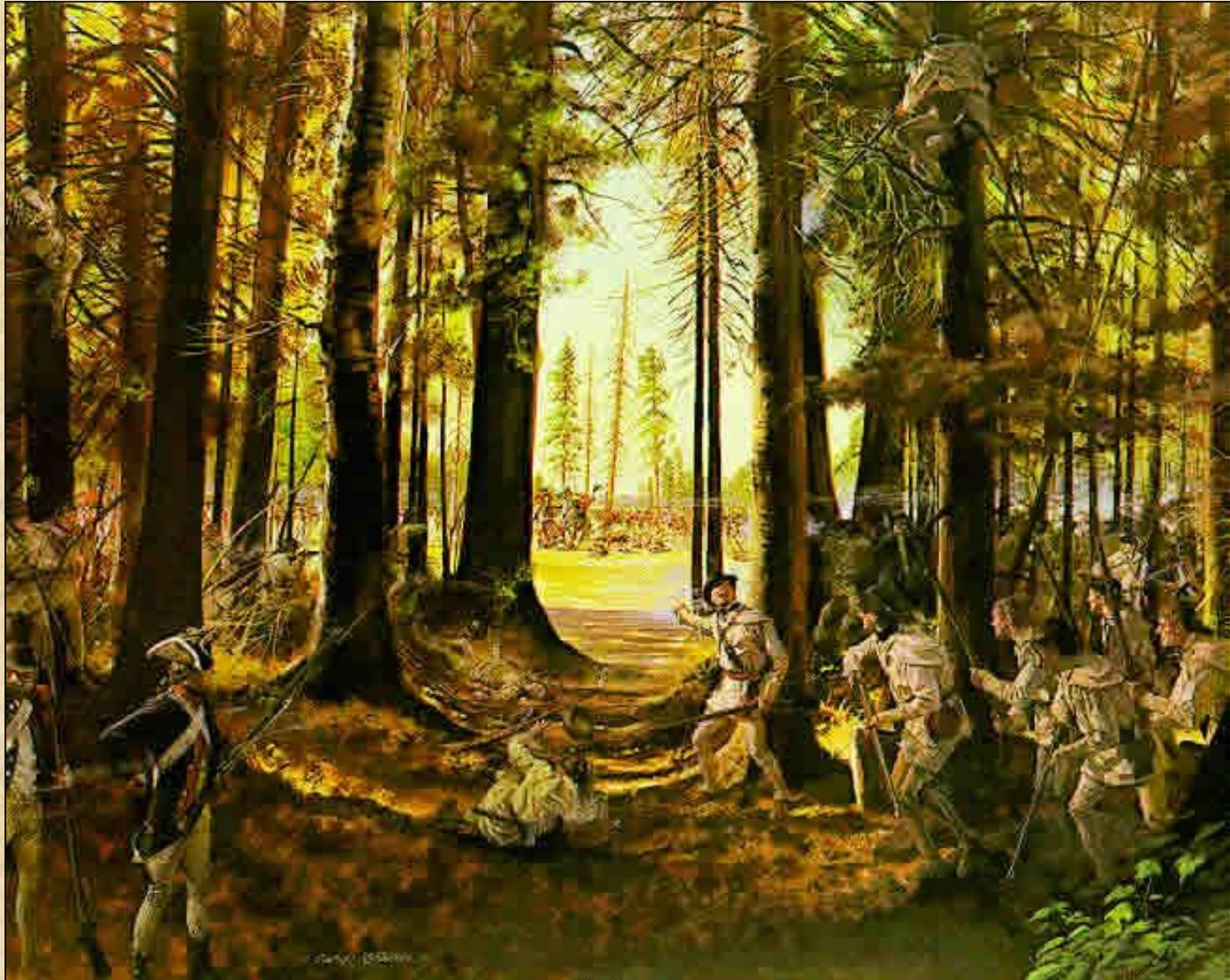


Daniel Shay?

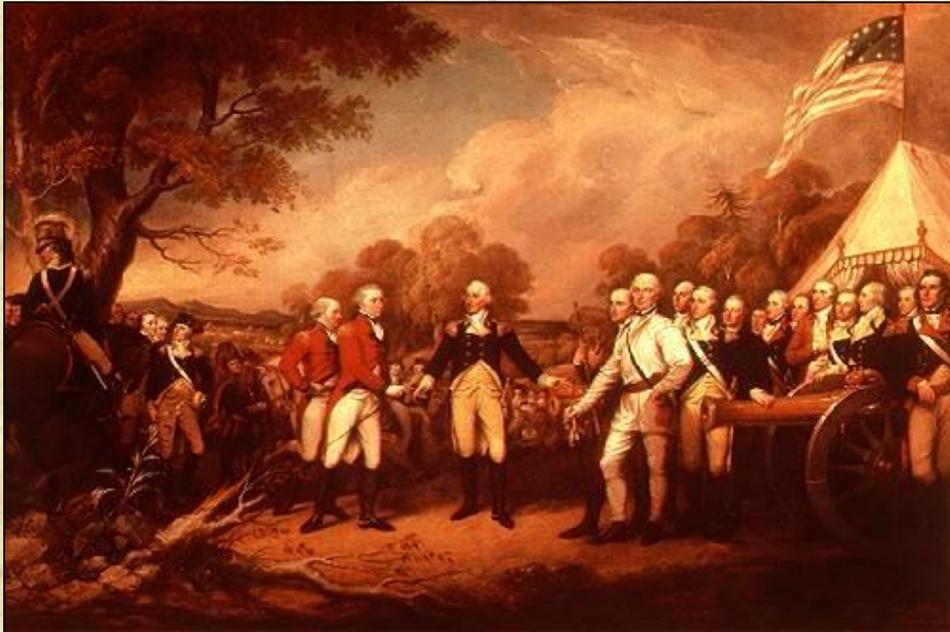


# Battle of Saratoga

## September-October, 1777



# Effects of British defeat at Saratoga



1. Enlistments in the **Continental Army** rose
2. American **morale**
3. **French Alliance** offered financial and military support

# Help from Spain



- **Spain gave minor military and financial assistance**
- **\$250,000 to colonial war effort**
- **Spanish troops attacked along the Gulf of Mexico, Florida and the Mississippi River**

*Galvez led Spanish troops against the British in battles along the Gulf Coast*

# Assistance from the Dutch

- **The Netherlands officially recognized the independence of the United States**
- **John Adams was named first US ambassador to the Netherlands**
- **The Dutch loaned the new nation nearly \$12,000,000 to fight the British**



# Continental currency



**"Not worth a Continental"**

**As Congress printed more money, its value declined substantially, to as low as 2.5% of actual value.**

**Merchants refused to accept Continental money for payment.**

**British counterfeited American money, which further reduced its value.**

**Inflation was a major problem.**

# American Navy



- 1,000 **privateers** seized 100's of British ships
- Raids near British Islands, including Capt. **John Paul Jones** burning a British town!!!
- Jones greatest victory was against the British ship *Serapis*  
"I have not yet begun to fight!"



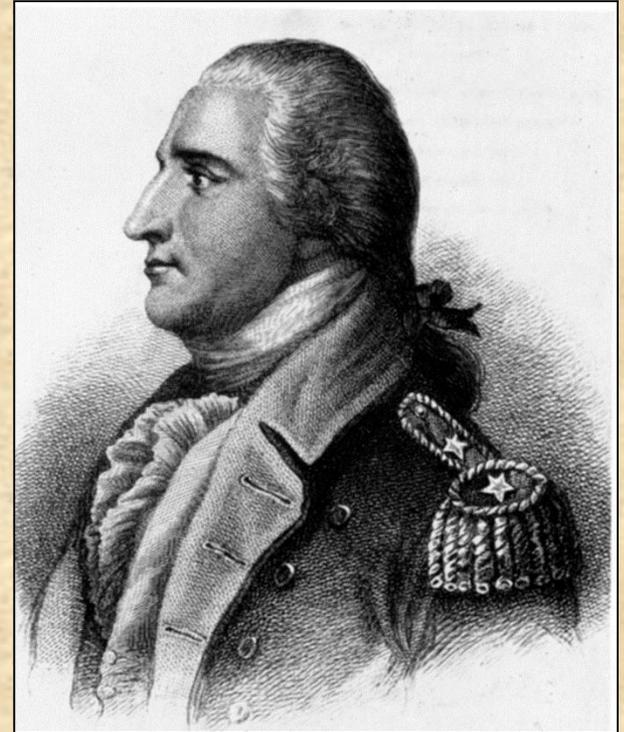
**John Paul  
Jones**

# The treason of Benedict Arnold

Treason of **Benedict Arnold** in 1780.

His treason was primarily for money.

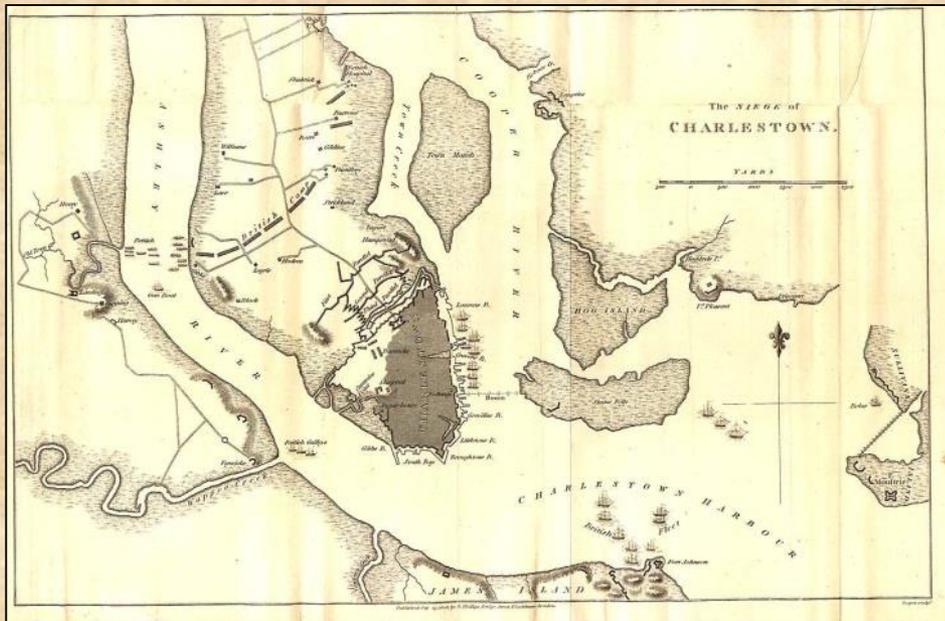
Arnold was caught before he could give away a key US fort.



**Arnold**

# Siege of Charles Town, April-May 1780

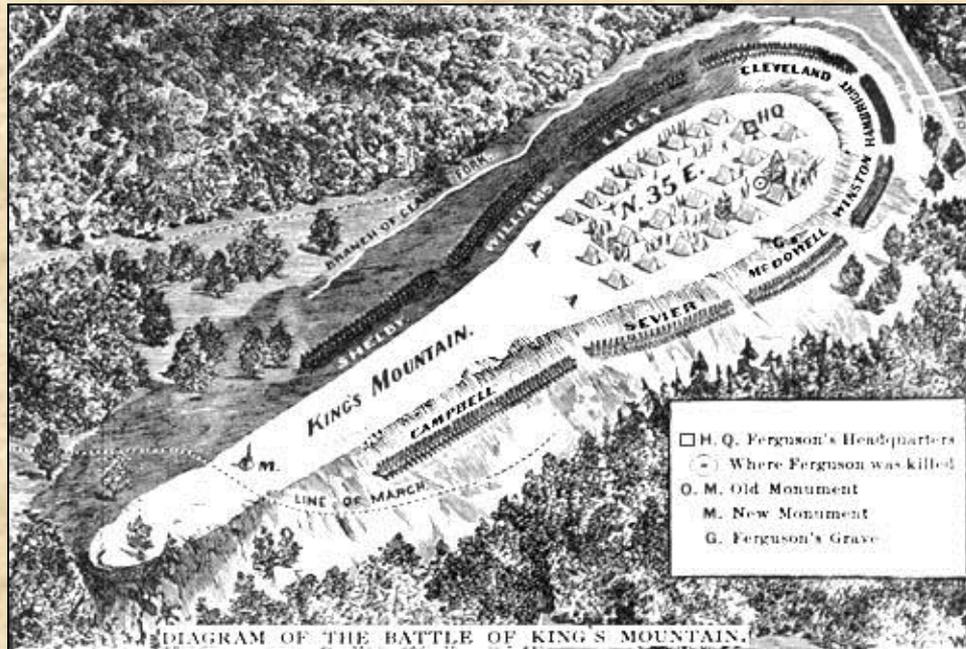
➤ **Charles Town** was the worst Colonial defeat. 5,000 American soldiers were captured along with the largest port in the south.



**Charles Cornwallis**  
After Clinton's transfer to NY he was the southern commander

# The Battle of Kings Mountain

## October 7, 1780



The "Southern turning point" in the American Revolution.

Losses for the Loyalists were high, with 157 men killed and 650 taken prisoner.

The Patriot militia suffered only 28 killed.

# **“The Hair Buyer”**

**British rumored to pay Indians for every settler scalp.**

**This policy angered the colonists, and they attacked the forts from which the Indians were being sent, Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes (In Kentucky territory).**



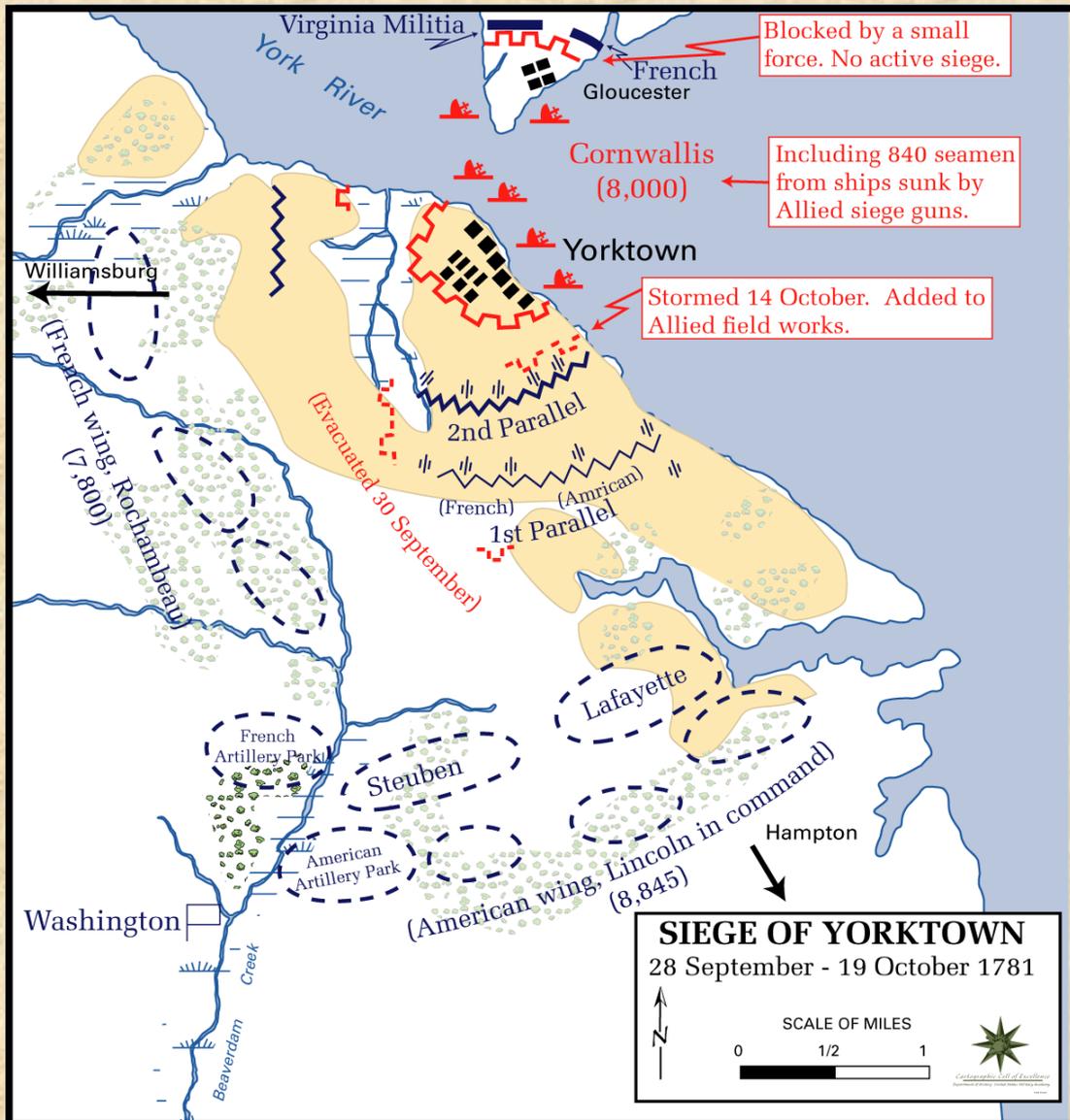
# The March to Vincennes



**In 1778, Clark led a force of approximately 150 men to capture three forts, Kaskaskia and Cahokia in modern Illinois and Indiana.**

# Yorktown August-October, 1781

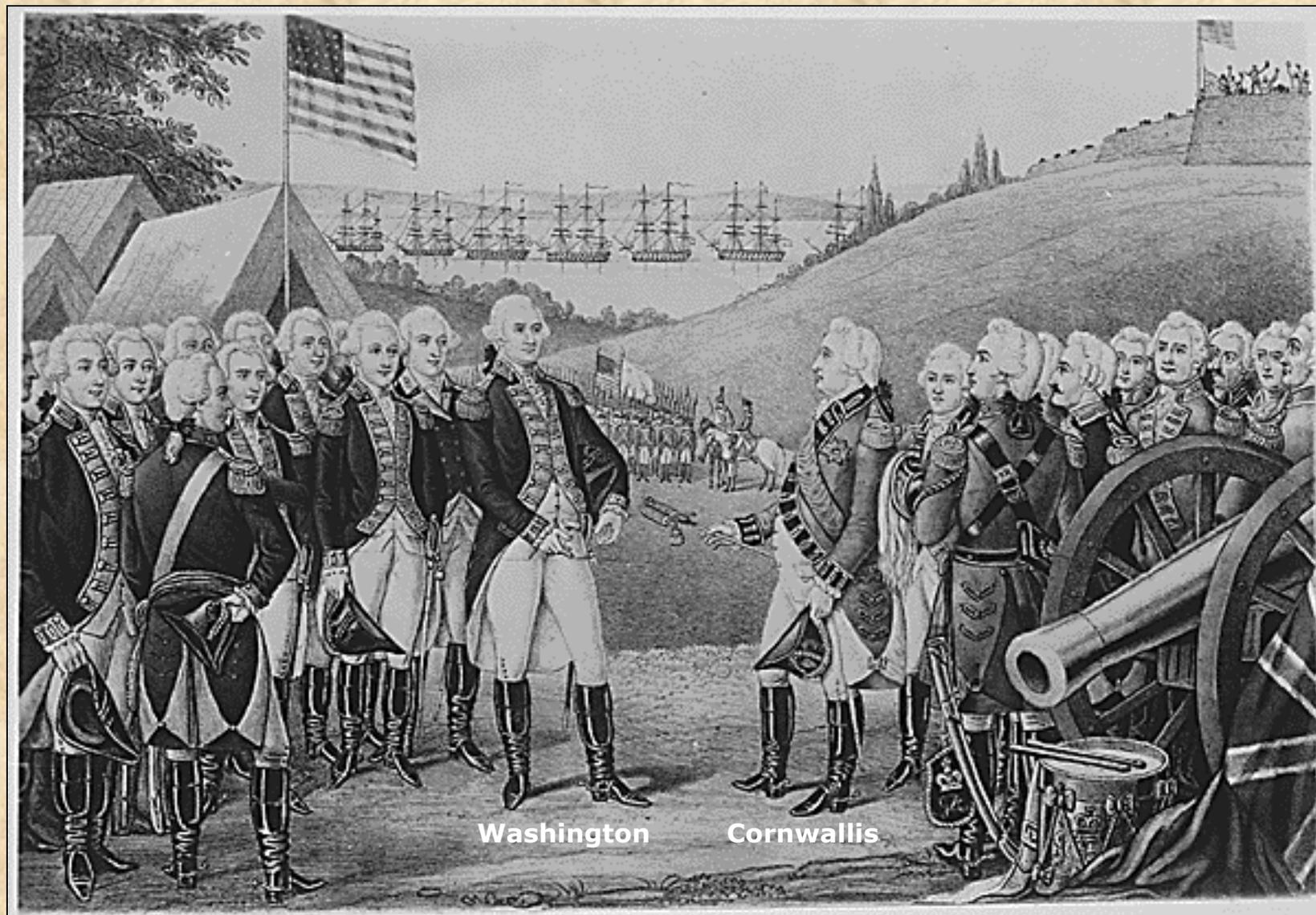




**Yorktown was assaulted by nearly 17,000 men led by Washington, De Grasse, and Lafayette.**

**Cornwallis realized that his position was hopeless, and offered to surrender.**

# Cornwallis' surrender



Washington

Cornwallis

# The Treaty of Paris 1783



This painting of the signing of the treaty, by artist **Benjamin West**, was never finished because the British commissioners refused to pose.

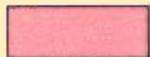
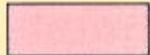
# Treaty of Paris II (1783)

- **U.S. independence**
- **British evacuation of frontier forts (not honored)**
- **U.S. territory extended to the Mississippi River, except Florida**
- **USA gets Fishing rights off Canadian coast**
- **Restoration of Loyalist property**
- **Lawfully debts were to be paid to creditors on either side**
- **Exchange of prisoners of war**

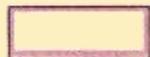
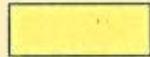
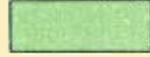
# As a result of the Treaty of Paris, the United States not only gained independence, but also gained substantial geographic territory.

## TERRITORIAL GROWTH

### COLONIAL PERIOD: 1775

-  Original Thirteen Colonies
-  Other British territories

### UNITED STATES: 1790–1920

-  States
-  State claims
-  Special status areas
-  Territories
-  Unorganized territories
-  Claimed areas
-  Foreign areas

- 1803** Dates of territorial acquisitions
- 1805** Dates of initial territorial organization
- (1809)** Dates of latest change within given time period
- 1812** Dates of admission to the Union

Map scale 1:34,000,000

Compiled by H. George Stoll, Hammond Incorporated, 1967;  
rev. by U.S. Geological Survey, 1970

