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This image shows the Americans breaking the British battle line at the Battle of Cowpens. This painting by Don Troiani was part of a National Park Service exhibit at Valley Forge National Historic Park. This image was taken by Robert Housch on November 28, 2011.

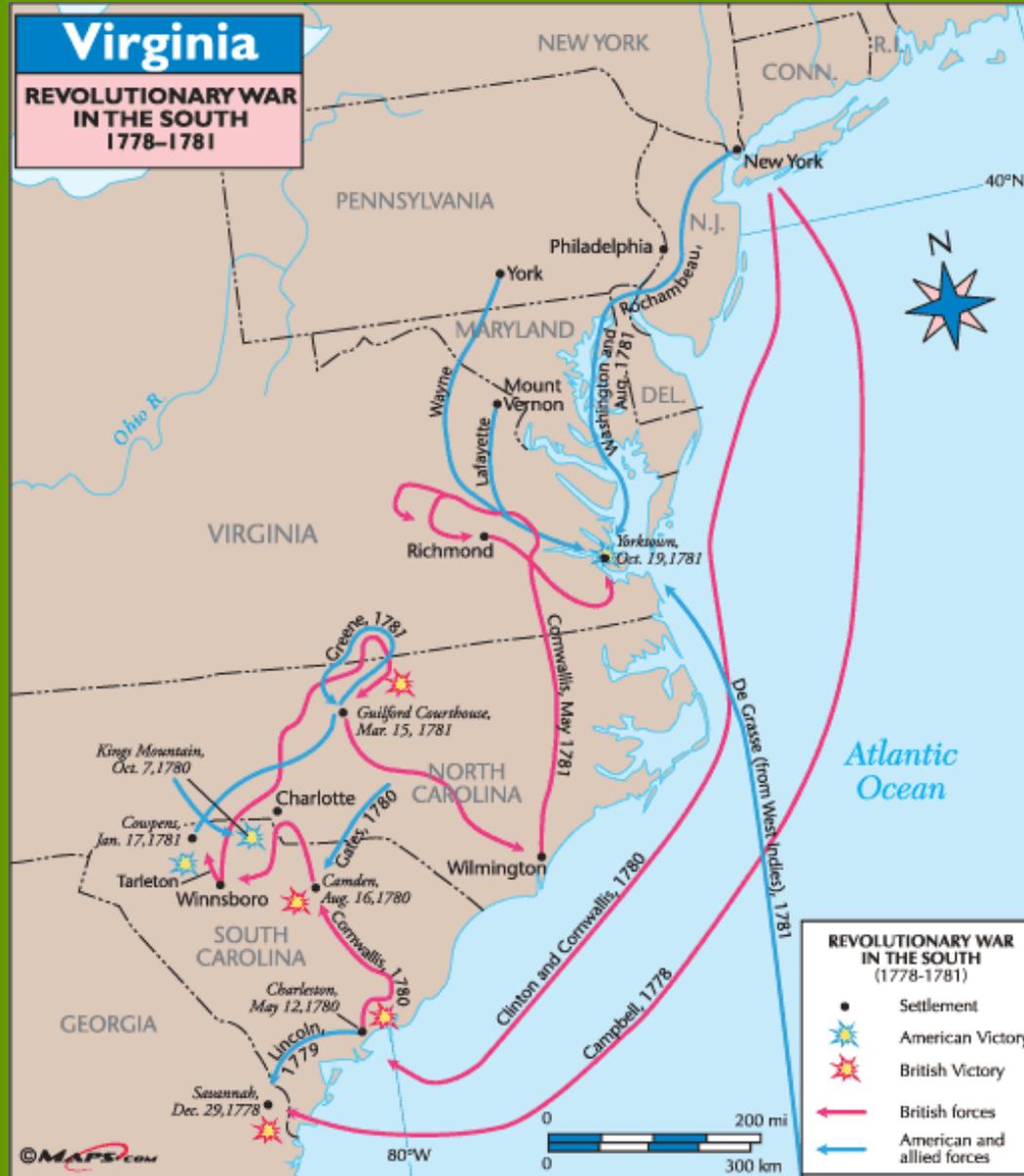
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# American Revolution Southern Battles



Most of the Southern battles were fought in the states of Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina before the British moved back to Virginia. This image is courtesy of maps.com.

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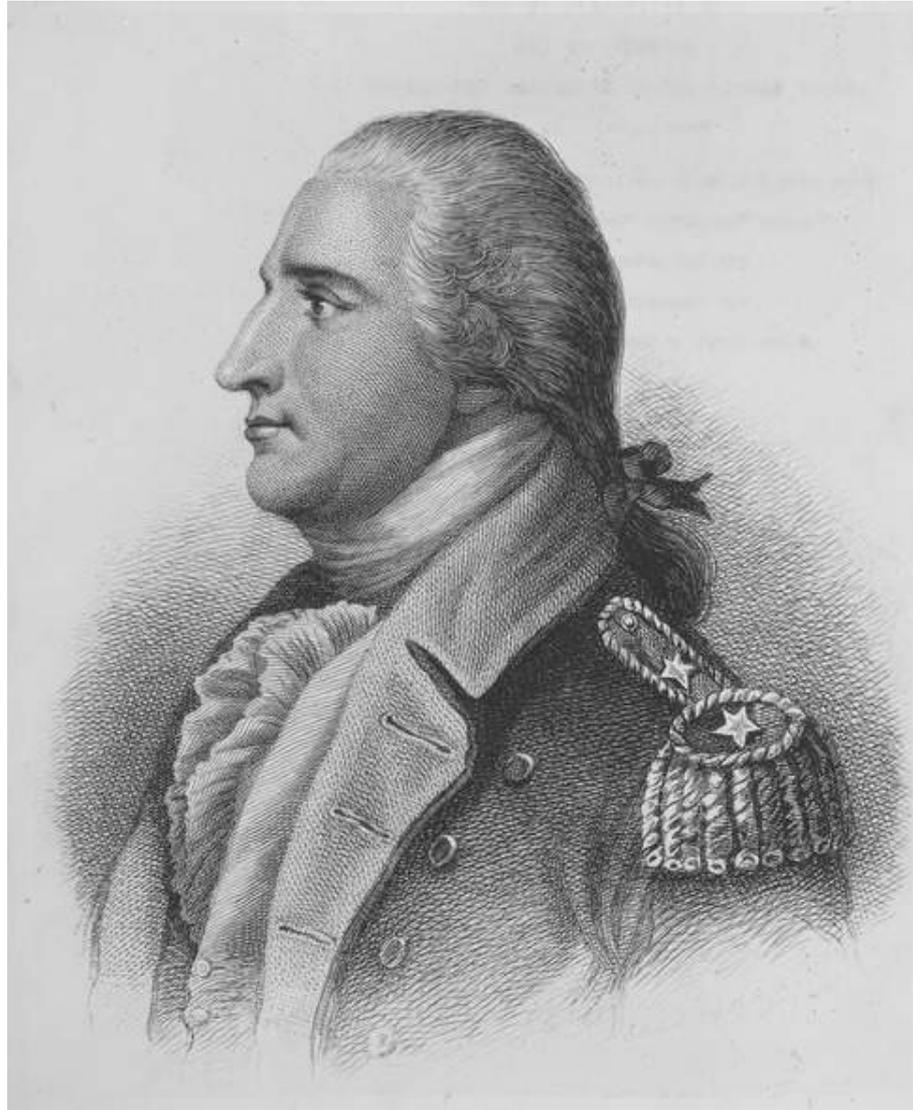
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George Washington became disheartened when Benedict Arnold, one of his most trusted generals, was caught spying for the British.



Benedict Arnold (1741-1801) was frustrated after he was passed over for promotion, and others had taken credit for what he did. He had captured Fort Ticonderoga, and had fought at Quebec and at Saratoga. This engraving by H.B. Hall was from an original portrait by John Trumbull. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

In 1780 Arnold tried to turn the American fort at West Point, New York over to the British.



West Point on the Hudson River is now the home to the United States Military Academy. The painting by William James Bennett (1787-1844) shows West Point from Phillipstown, New York in 1831. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

When Arnold tried to deliver a message to the British about how to best take the fort, three Patriots intercepted it.



At his headquarters at West Point, Major General Benedict Arnold instructs British Major John Andre to put the plans of West Point in Andre's boot. This is a colorized version of Chales F. Blauvelt's (1824-1900) engraving which was created circa 1875. The original image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

# They gave Washington the evidence in Arnold's own handwriting.

274. 9. 19. 70. 8. 172. 240. 8. 13. 8. 246. 9. 240. 158. 8. 15. without. 74. 9. 32. 47. 239. 9. 13  
140. 8. 24 ing. me that. 1. 900. 8. 11 — was 151. 8. 18. to me for the 148. 8. 28  
58. 8. 34. and that he 196. 9. 23 a 117. 9. 35. 61. 8. 35 in the 240. 8. 23. of my  
146. 8. 37. de 900. 8. 11. — on the 261. 8. 22. 147. 9. 12. 112. 8. 12. de a  
150. 8. 15. to you specifying my 235. 9. 19. and 105. 9. 14. viz. that the  
(11. 8. 11. ing 203. 8. 26. he 236. 9. 8. id pursued to 64. 8. 22. ing first that.)  
300. 8. 11. — 234. 9. 9. 266. 9. 36. me my 207. 9. 26. 127. 8. 14. at a 62. 8. 14  
267. 9. 19. 205. 8. 22. 200. 9. 20. to be 190. 8. 15. to me or my 130. 8. 21. 191. in case  
of 161. 8. 25. and as soon as that shall 126. 8. 24. — 112. 9. 19. 201. 8. 21  
250. 9. 22. for 19. 8. 24. to be 234. 9. 10. id to me for 158. 9. 32. in 158. 9. 29. of  
the 190. 8. 15. and 98. 8. 29. 1. 101. 9. 32. up for my 236. 8. 25. at they  
shall 80. 9. 23. — of 9. 198. 9. 24. 158. 8. 31. a 197. 8. 18. of 64. 8. 22. n  
by which 900. 8. 11. — 236. 9. 35. 200. 9. 19. 191. 9. 21. 235. 8. 14. of —  
158. 9. 16. 198. 9. 23. the 120. 8. 17. de 120. 8. 24. 271. 8. 25. 264. 9. 19. 201. 8. 32. 8  
260. 9. 23. I think will be a cheap purchase for an. 180. 9. 22. of 100  
174. 8. 5. 139. 8. 23. at the same time I 232. 9. 32. a 105. 9. 11. 207. 8. 22. 8  
to be 190. 8. 15. id my 14. 9. 18. — 9. 105. 9. 12. at 117. 9. 36. — and 106. 8. 12.  
19. 8. 37. — the 274. 8. 24. 236. 8. 36. of 114. 9. 11. —  
155. 9. 16. 105. 9. 25. — 193. 8. 16. 149. 8. 23. with an 187. 8. 25.  
that you can 61. 8. 24. in 10. 9. 9. 24. 177. 8. 12. to 197. 8. 5. 136. 9. 20. 1  
148. 9. 22. 9. 236. 9. 35. 58. 8. 14. to 157. 8. 30. 175. 9. 19. 117. 8. 9  
I — 9. 15. 9. 33. the 48. 9. 25. in my 201. 9. 9. — 283. 8. 11  
I have the pleasure of 294. 9. 18. 19. 8. 36. —  
152. 9. 19. — 110. 9. 20. —  
to the 15. 9. 11. of my 158. 8. 14. of the  
234. 8. 12. 147. 9. 22. (did not add 236. 9. 12)

From the Collections of the Clements Library

This is a letter from Benedict Arnold to John Andre in code. The letter was written on July 15, 1780. This image is courtesy of the Clements Library.

**Benedict Arnold became a general in the British army, and is now known as the most famous traitor in American history.**



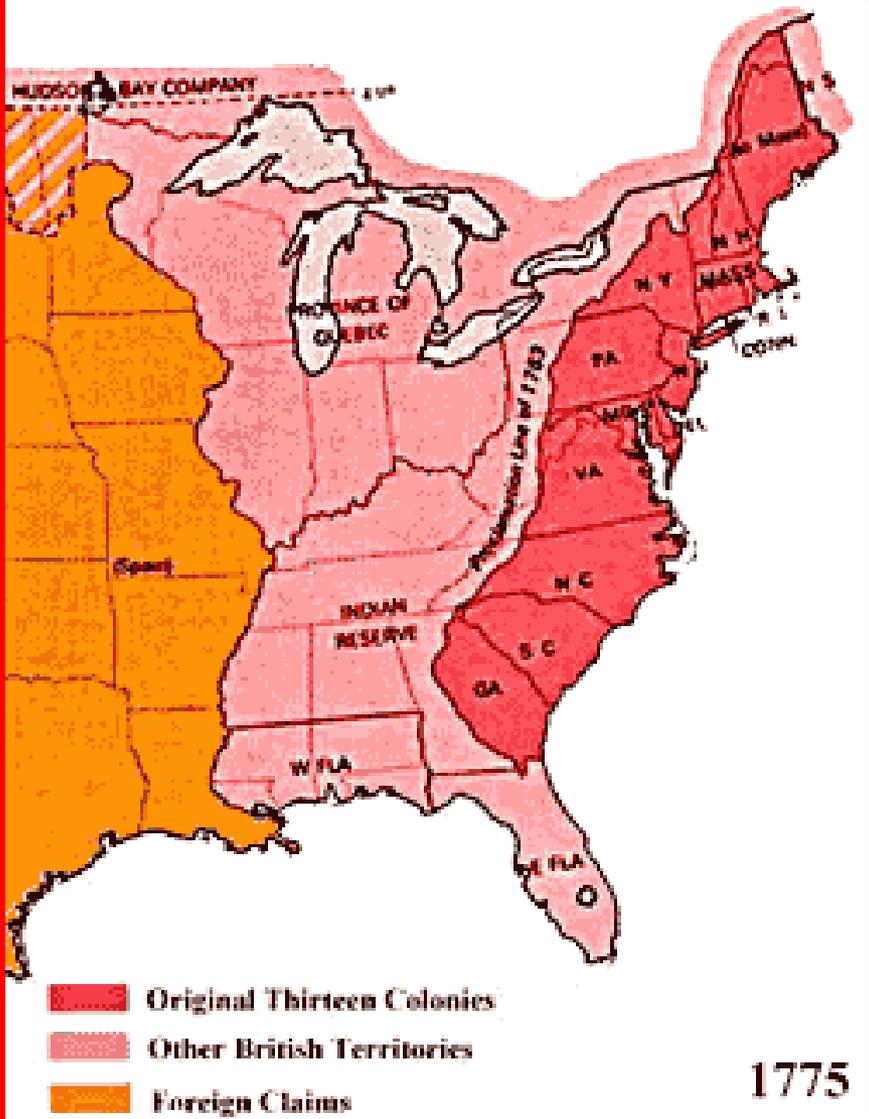
Benedict Arnold negotiated with the British to sell the plans to West Point to them for 20,000 pounds, the equivalent of over \$1 million in today's money. He was also appointed a Major General in the British army. This image is courtesy of [earlyamerica.com](http://earlyamerica.com).

Until 1778 only a few isolated conflicts had broken out between Patriots and Loyalists in the South.



In one battle on February 27, 1776, Patriot forces crushed a Loyalist uprising at Moore's Creek Bridge, North Carolina. Although a small battle, its impact was great. Loyalists found the defeat discouraging, while the Patriot cause in the Carolinas gained strength and popularity. This image is courtesy of [nationalparks.org](http://nationalparks.org).

The British turned more of their attention to the Southern colonies when France entered the war in 1778.



The British believed they had more support in the South and thought that support would help them to win more battles there. This image is courtesy of history.org.

The commander of this British “Southern Strategy” was eventually Lord Charles Cornwallis.



Charles Cornwallis (1738-1805) took charge after the British captured Charleston, and after they defeated the Americans at the Battle of the Waxhaws. This painting of was created by John Singleton Copley (1738-1815) circa 1795. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

For almost three years the British marched through Georgia, the Carolinas, and Virginia without suffering a major defeat.



The Battle of Camden was fought on August 16, 1780 in South Carolina. The British were outnumbered by the Americans but achieved a victory. This image shows the death of American General Baron von Kalb. This image is courtesy of britishbattles.com.

On December 29, 1778, the British captured the port city of Savannah, Georgia.



This image shows one of the restored earthworks at Savannah, Georgia. The British defeated American and French soldiers here. This image was taken by Robert Housch on April 24, 2011.

The next year the British captured Charleston, South Carolina and began to move inland to occupy other parts of the Carolinas.



Some South Carolina Patriots were angry about the American defeat at Charleston. This image shows an earlier American victory near Charleston at Fort Moultrie on June 28, 1776. This image was created by John Blake White in 1826. It is courtesy of the United States Senate.

Looking for revenge, many Patriots formed bands of armed men and raided British camps that were spreading into the countryside.



Hit-and-run raids, similar to the Patriots' attack on Kings Mountain, worked well for them in the South. This image shows an American attack on a British outpost in South Carolina called Ninety Six. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service.

The Patriot raiders were skilled hunters, trained since childhood to use their rifles.



This image shows a reenactment of the Overmountain Men near Sycamore Shoals in Elizabethton, Tennessee. This image is courtesy of [rexbarbor.wordpress.com](http://rexbarbor.wordpress.com).

They knew the land and could survive in the wilderness.



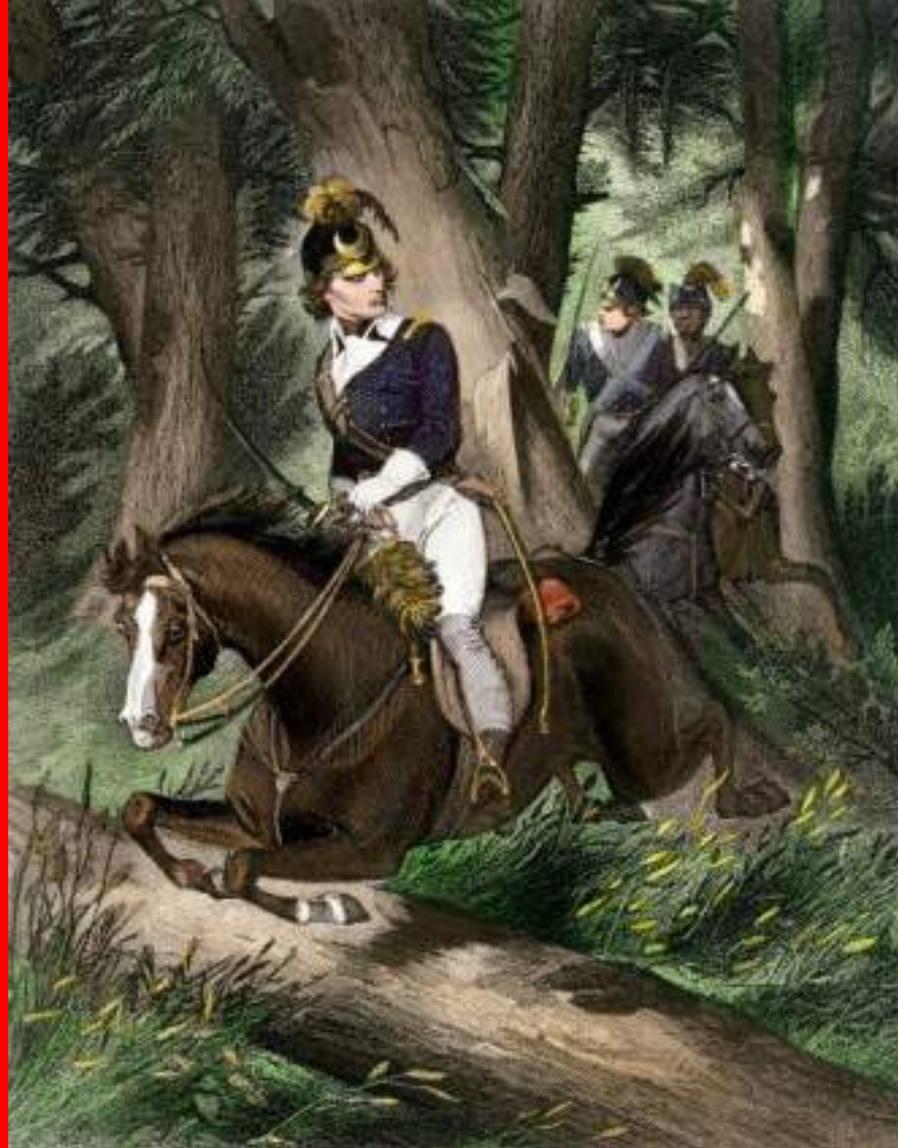
This image shows some of Francis Marion's American Patriots moving through the swamps of South Carolina. This image is courtesy of [meredithhopson.blogspot.com](http://meredithhopson.blogspot.com).

Francis Marion, known as the Swamp Fox,” led one band of organized raiders.



A quiet man, Marion was known for his imaginative war tactics and for his success in battle. Marion led his troops in quick strikes, cutting off enemy supplies and supply routes, and then running away. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service.

Marion usually struck at night, taking advantage of the darkness to surprise unsuspecting British troops.



This colorized version of an original black and white painting shows Francis Marion leading his men through the South Carolina wilderness. This image is courtesy of allposters.com.

Marion never stayed at the same camp more than once.



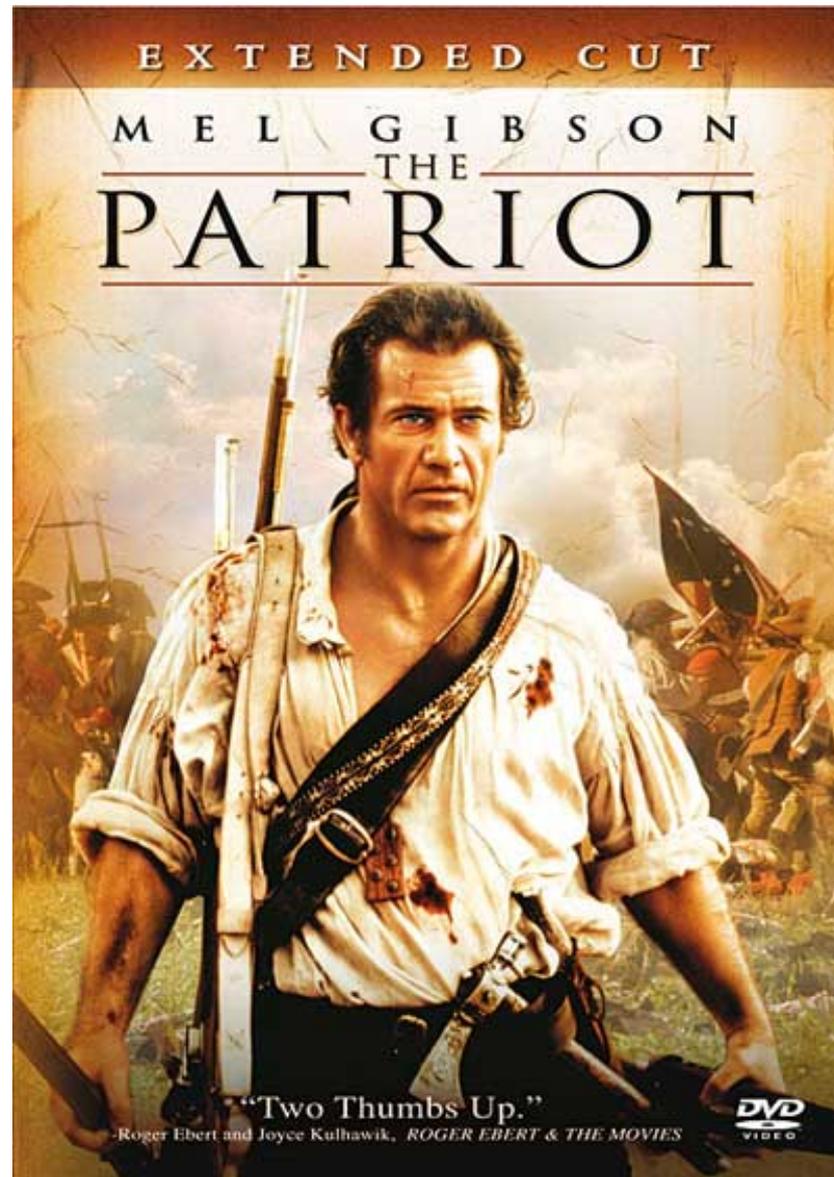
His scouts perched in treetops and signaled the troops with shrill whistles. This image shows Francis Marion inviting a captured British officer to his meal. This painting by John Blake White was completed circa 1833. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Whenever Marion and his troops came to a bridge near enemy lines, they covered the bridge with blankets to soften the sound of the horses' hooves as they crossed.



Bridges over wide rivers were not very common during the American Revolution. Marion's raids helped keep the British off balance. This image is courtesy of backpacker.com.

The movie, "The Patriot," is loosely based on the life of Francis Marion.



The Patriot starring Australian actor Mel Gibson came out in 2000. Gibson's character is a composite of American Patriots Andrew Pickens, Francis Marion, Daniel Morgan, and Thomas Sumter. This image is courtesy of [joshdea7.wordpress.com](http://joshdea7.wordpress.com).

As the British moved towards the mountains of western South Carolina, British Major Patrick Ferguson ordered Patriot militia to lay down their arms or “suffer the consequences.”



Major Patrick Ferguson (1744-1780) was a Scottish officer in the British army, and the designer of the Ferguson Rifle. This miniature shows him in uniform as a Captain of the light company of the 70<sup>th</sup> Foot Regiment. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

**Instead, Patriot militia from North Carolina, South Carolina, and what is now Tennessee, joined together for an attack on Ferguson.**



On September 25, 1780, Sycamore Shoals, then North Carolina, now Tennessee, served as the staging area for the Overmountain men, the frontier militia that crossed the mountains to defeat British Loyalists at the Battle of Kings Mountain. This image, created by Lloyd Branson in 1915 is titled *Gathering of Overmountain men at Sycamore Shoals*. This image is courtesy of [washingtoncountyregiment.wordpress.com](http://washingtoncountyregiment.wordpress.com).

**They caught up with Ferguson at the border of North Carolina and South Carolina, attacked up Kings Mountain, and killed Ferguson.**



This engraving shows the death of British Major Patrick Ferguson at the Battle of Kings Mountain on October 7, 1780. It was created by Alonzo Chappel (1828-1887) in 1863. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

About 1200 Loyalists were killed, injured, or taken prisoner during the fierce fighting on top of Kings Mountain, South Carolina in 1780.



This image shows Americans surrounding the British Loyalists and preparing to attack uphill. This image was created by F.C. Yohn. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service.

With the capture of Kings Mountain, the Patriots scored a needed victory for the Americans in the South.



This image shows Major Patrick Ferguson, the only British regular on the battlefield, attempting to lead his Loyalist soldiers through the Patriot lines at Kings Mountain. Ferguson was killed in the attempt. This image is courtesy of [oldgloryprints.com](http://oldgloryprints.com).

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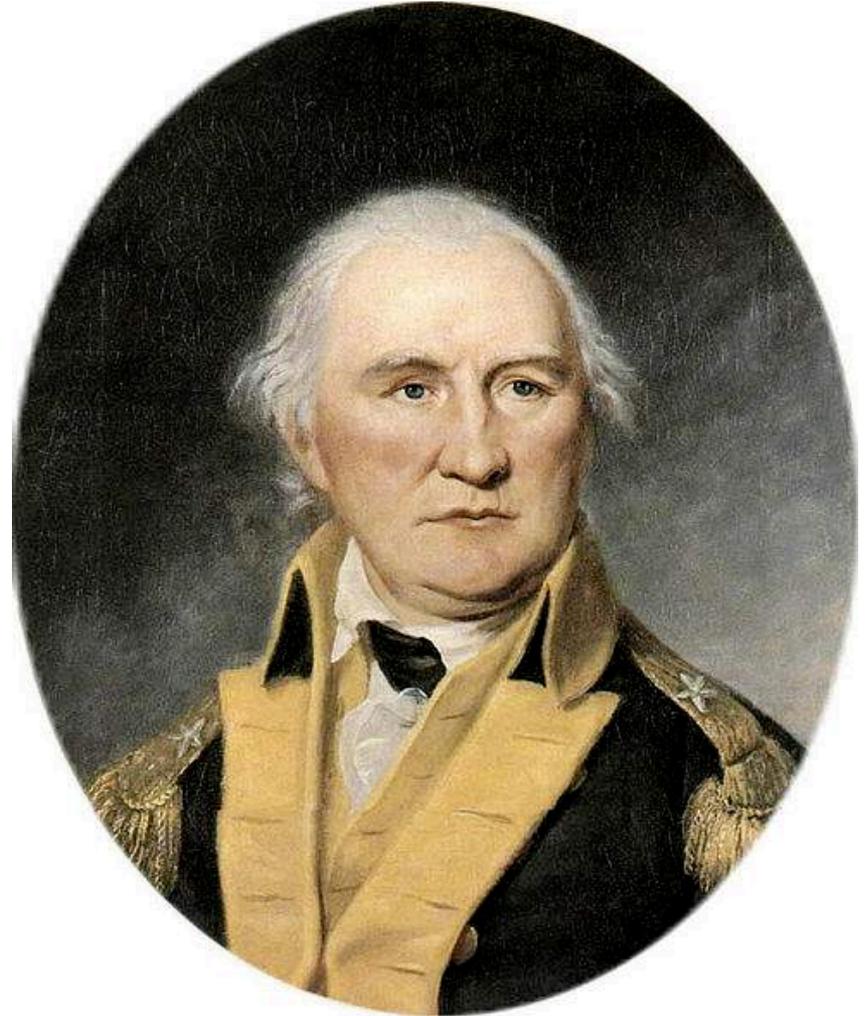
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## **The Battle of Cowpens**



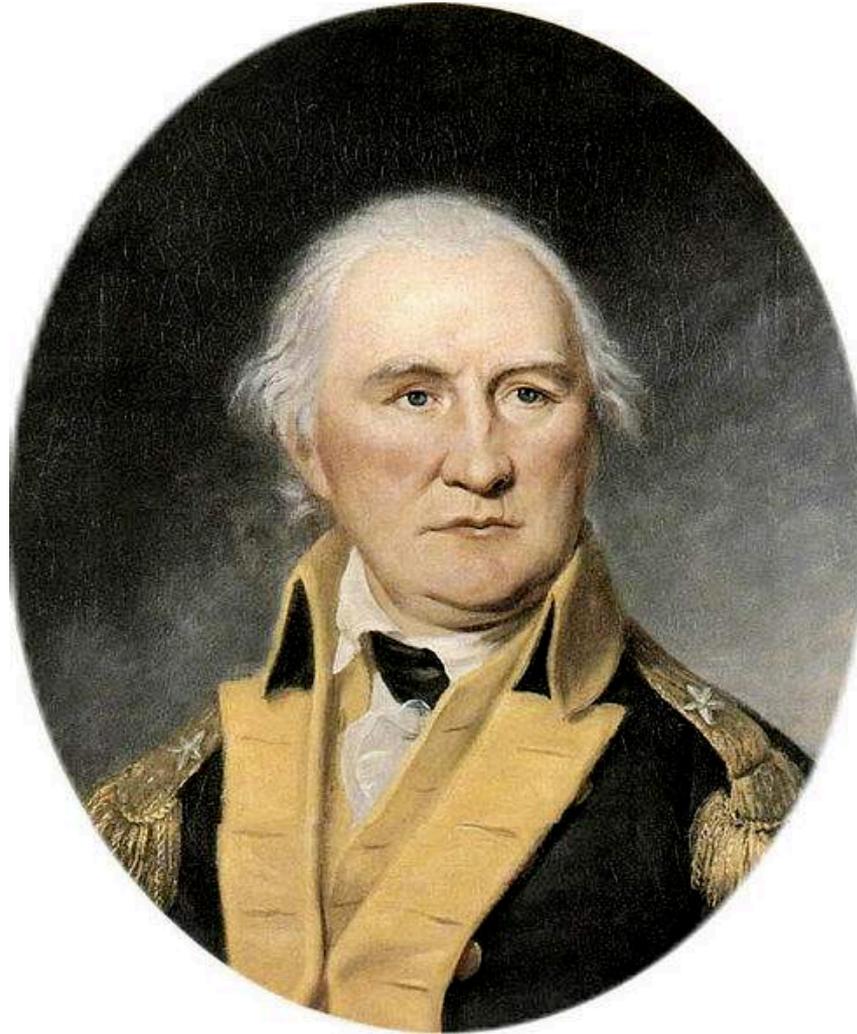
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After the British sent many of their soldiers to the South, George Washington sent two of his best Generals to the South.



Nathanael Greene (1742-1786) on the left and Daniel Morgan (1736-1802) on the right were two daring generals. Both paintings were created by Charles Willson Peale (1741-1827). The image on the left was created in 1783. The image on the right was created in 1794. Both images are courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

# Daniel Morgan was a veteran of the French and Indian War, and had fought at the Battle of Saratoga.



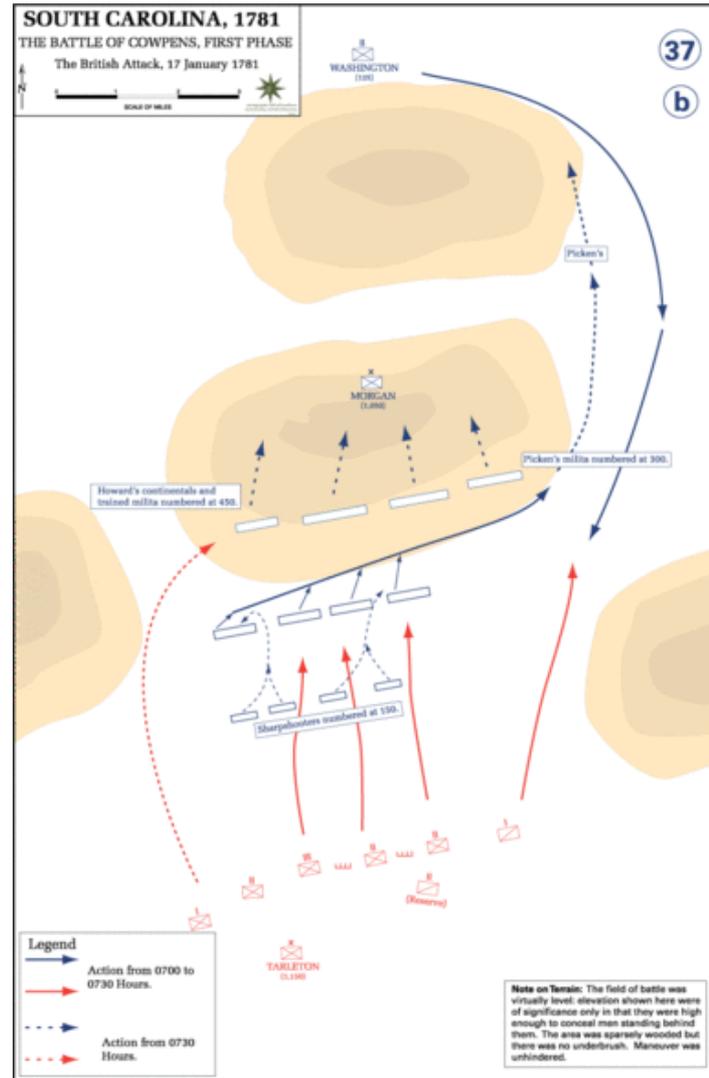
Daniel Morgan (1736-1802) was born in New Jersey, lived briefly in Pennsylvania, and finally settled on the Virginia frontier. After Braddock's failed campaign during the French and Indian War, Morgan punched a British officer and received 499 lashes. He hated the British from that moment. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Morgan defeated the British in South Carolina at the Battle of Cowpens.



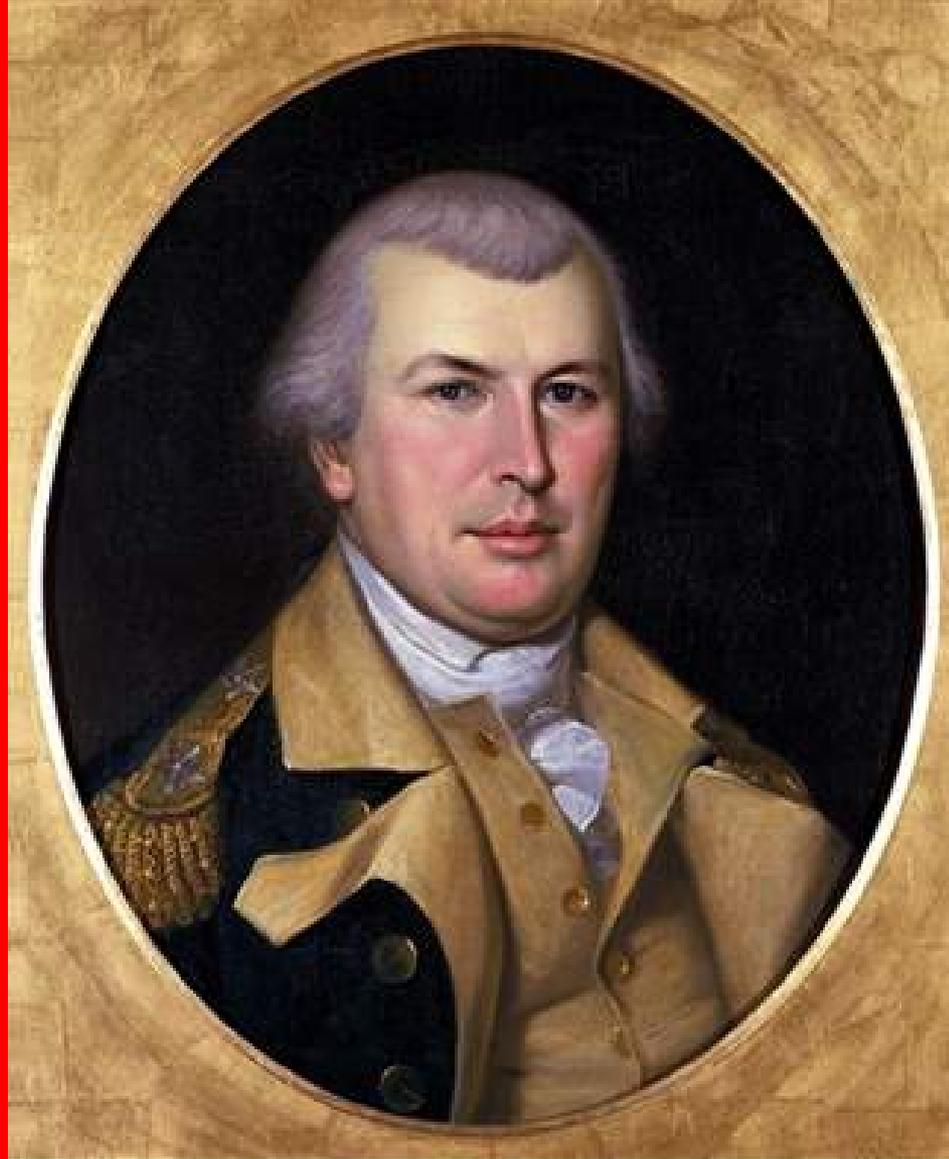
The Battle of Cowpens took place on January 17, 1781. This painting by William Ranney (1813-1857) in 1845 shows an African American soldier saving the life of American cavalry commander William Washington at the Battle of Cowpens. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

# The tactics that Morgan used at Cowpens as he worked with inexperienced soldiers were very successful.



Daniel Morgan had his soldiers placed in three lines. The first two lines retreated before the British until the third line was reached. Nathaniel Greene would later use some of Morgan's tactics. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Nathanael Greene's hit-and-run raids also kept the British off guard.



Nathanael Greene (1742-1786) was one of Washington's best generals. He wrote, "We fight, get beat, rise, and fight again." This image was created by Charles Wilson Peale (1741-1827) in 1783. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Following the Patriot victory at Cowpens, Greene's forces joined Morgan's with hopes of crushing Cornwallis' weakened force.



Daniel Morgan was not present at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse because of illness, but Greene used the same tactics that Morgan had used at Cowpens. This image shows General Nathanael Greene giving orders to the North Carolina Militia at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse on March 17, 1781. This image is courtesy of [guilfordbattlegroundcompany.org](http://guilfordbattlegroundcompany.org).

On March 15, 1781, the armies met in a bloody fight known as the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina.



Nathanael Greene is shown here watching the 1<sup>st</sup> Maryland Regiment push back the British with a bayonet charge. Although Cornwallis drove the Patriots from the battlefield, the Americans badly battered his troops. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

**Although the British won at Guilford Courthouse, they suffered 25% casualties.**



This image shows a physician bandaging a foot of a soldier. This painting was created by Don Troiani in 1983. It is courtesy of the National Park Service.

**One British official stated, “Another such victory would have ruined us.”**



This photograph was taken at a reenactment of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in March, 2012. It is courtesy of [marthastatting.blogspot.com](http://marthastatting.blogspot.com).

# British commander Lord Cornwallis decided to leave the Carolinas, and retreated to Yorktown, Virginia.



American General Benjamin Lincoln appears mounted on a white horse. He extends his right hand toward the sword carried by Charles O'Hara, who heads the long line of troops that extends into the background. To the left, French officers appear standing and mounted beneath the white banner of the royal Bourbon family. On the right are American officers beneath the Stars and Stripes. General George Washington, riding a brown horse, stayed in the background because Lord Cornwallis himself was not present for the surrender. This image was painted by John Trumbull (1756-1843) in 1820. It is courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol.

Peter Francisco was an American hero at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.



This is the Francisco Monument at Guilford Courthouse National Battlefield. It is named after American soldier Peter Francisco who was born in the Portuguese Azores. As a young child, he was taken from his family and abandoned on a dock in Virginia. When the Revolution began, 16-year-old Francisco joined a Virginia militia unit and fought in many battles. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service.

Most accounts indicate that he was quite large, standing 6 feet 6 inches tall and weighing 260 pounds.



This miniature of Peter Francisco was produced in the early 1800s, approximately 40 years after the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. This image is courtesy of the Wikimedia Commons.

Armed with a huge sword at Guilford Courthouse, Francisco killed 11 British soldiers.



This image is not Francisco at Guilford Courthouse, but shows him fighting British cavalry in Nottoway County, Virginia in 1781. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Seriously wounded by a British bayonet, Francisco collapsed and was left for dead on the battlefield.



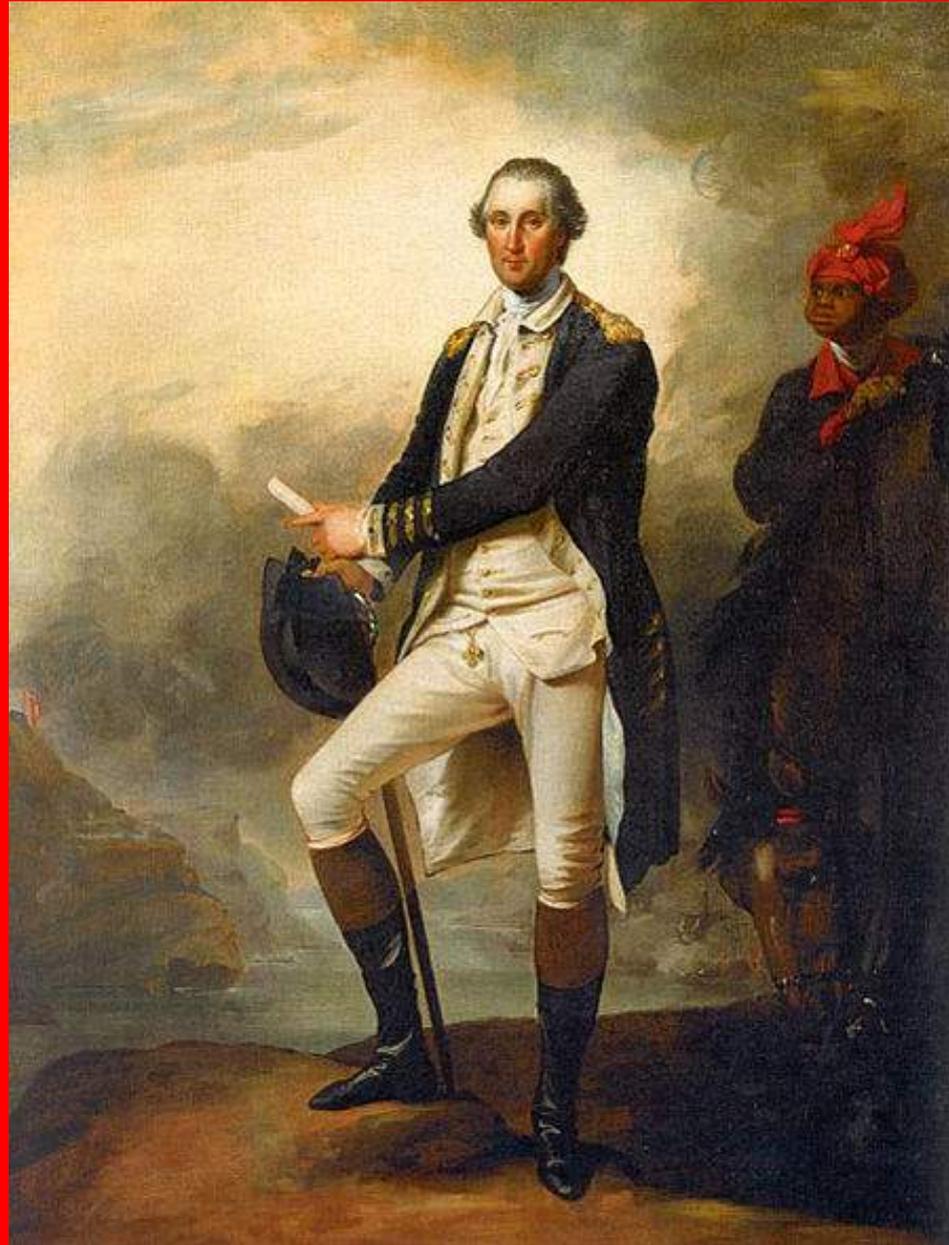
Francisco recovered from his wound and rejoined his unit for the Yorktown campaign. He had earned a reputation for bravery and dedication to the revolution that was matched by few others. This 1975 postage stamp depicts Peter Francisco's strength at the Battle of Camden, South Carolina. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

One of the most famous African Americans at the time of the Revolution was Crispus Attucks, killed before the Revolution at the Boston Massacre.



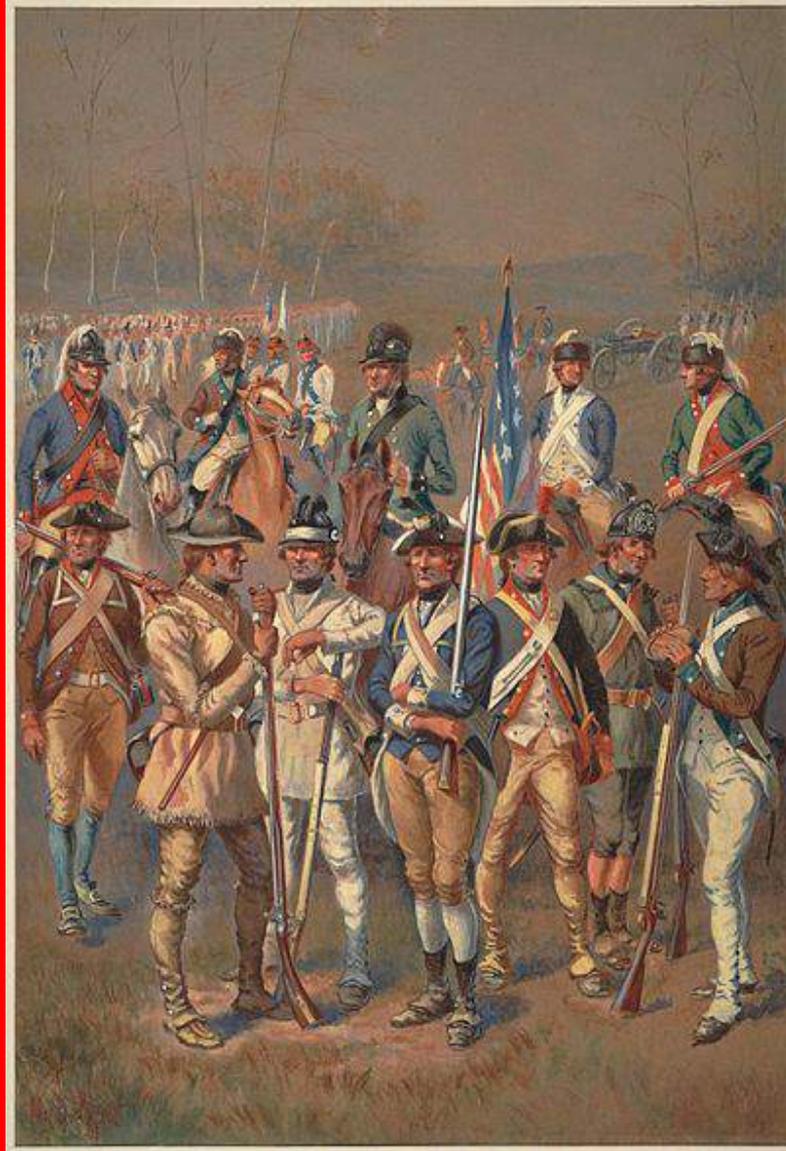
When the American Revolution began, the population of the colonies was approximately 2.5 million. More than a half million were African Americans. This image is courtesy of framingham.com.

Many slaveholders were afraid to give guns to either enslaved or free African Americans.



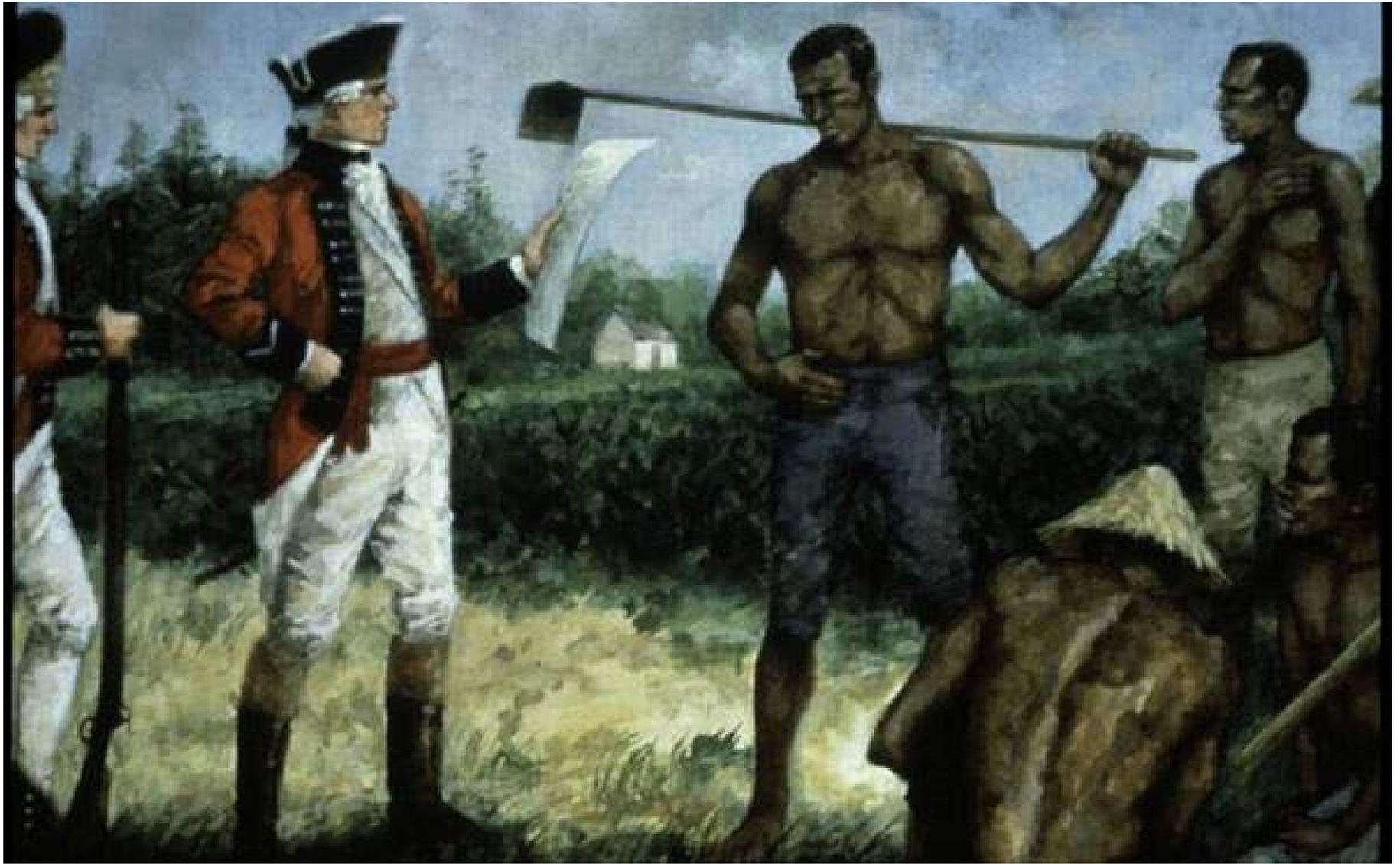
George Washington was a slave holder from Virginia. He is shown with his slave William "Billy" Lee. This painting was produced by John Trumbull (1756-1843) circa 1780. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

In November 1775 orders went out to discharge all African American soldiers in the Continental Army.



This watercolor depicts a variety of soldiers in the Continental Army. All of them are “white.” This image was produced by Charles Lefferts (1873-1923) circa 1915. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The British offered slaves their freedom in return for military service.



Enslaved African Americans signed up in great numbers. According to one estimate, nearly 1000 enslaved persons joined the British and gained their freedom. As the war went on, the Americans realized that they needed more soldiers. This image was painted by Victor Wooten circa 1970. This image is courtesy of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

Realizing that great numbers of African Americans were fighting for the British, American policy changed to encourage the enlistment of slaves.



This image shows various soldiers in the Continental Army, including an African American soldier on the left. This image is courtesy of [8ahistory.wikispaces.com](http://8ahistory.wikispaces.com).

In all about 5000 African Americans served as soldiers, minutemen, scouts, guards, sailors, spies, laborers, fifers, and drummers in the Continental Army.



Some masters sent slaves to fight in their place. Most slaves who fought for the Continental Army remained the property of their masters. This image is courtesy of history.org.

American commanders singled out Salem Poor for his skill and valor.



Following the Battle of Bunker Hill, 14 Continental officers, including Colonel William Prescott, cited him for heroism, and petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts to reward Poor. Salem Poor was honored with a stamp in 1975. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Salem Poor's commanders recommended that the Continental Congress recognize and honor him for his bravery.



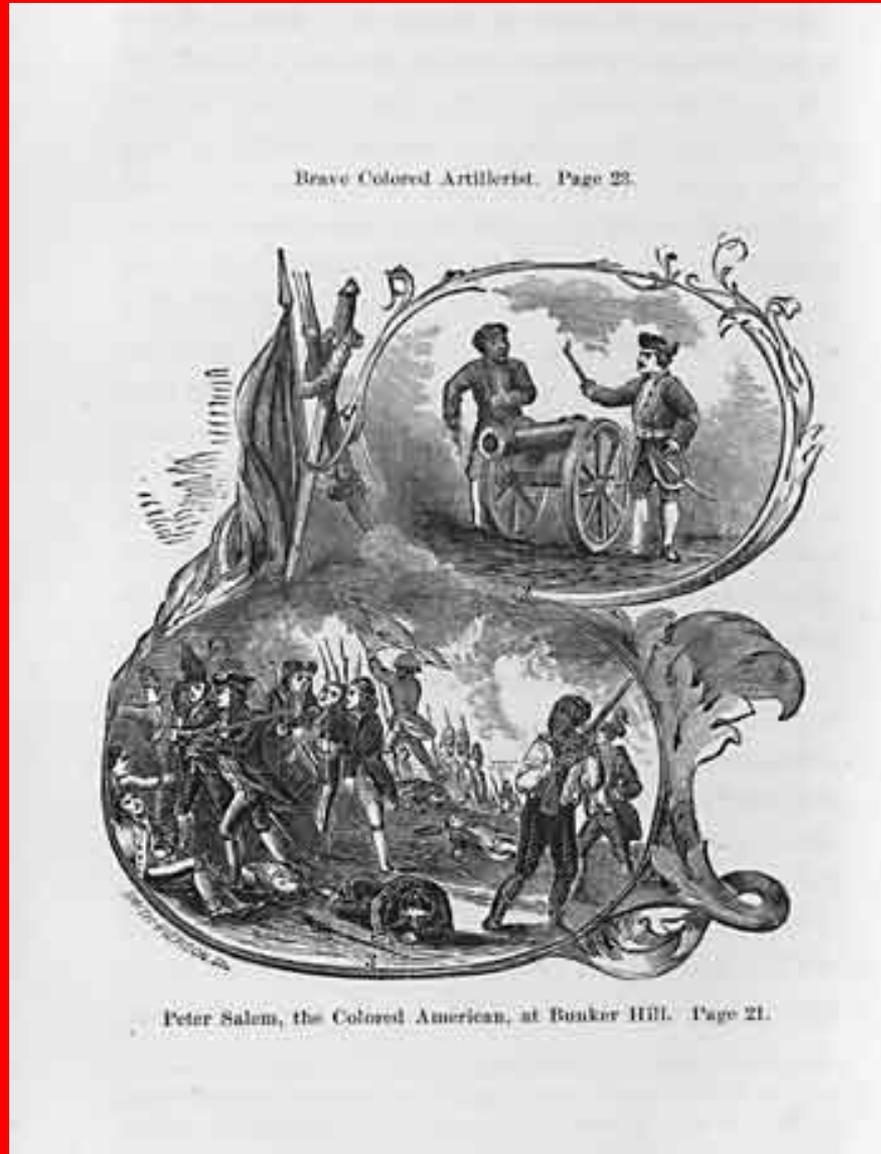
Of the approximately 3500 colonial soldiers who fought at Bunker Hill/Breed's Hill, Salem Poor was the only soldier singled out by officers. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The idea of fighting for freedom was particularly meaningful to the colonial African Americans.



By the end of the war, some enslaved African Americans had gained their freedom. This image is courtesy of [africanamericanslavery.blogspot.com](http://africanamericanslavery.blogspot.com).

As a result of the war efforts of African Americans, Northern states such as Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania made laws to eventually end slavery in their states.



Vermont banned slavery in 1777. New Hampshire began the abolition of slavery in 1783. Pennsylvania began a gradual abolition of slavery in 1780 freeing future children of slaves, but the last slave in Pennsylvania was in 1847. Massachusetts immediately freed all slaves in 1783. This image is courtesy of soldiers.dodlive.mil.

The African Americans who returned to the **South** after serving in the Continental Army did not find an end to enslavement, however.



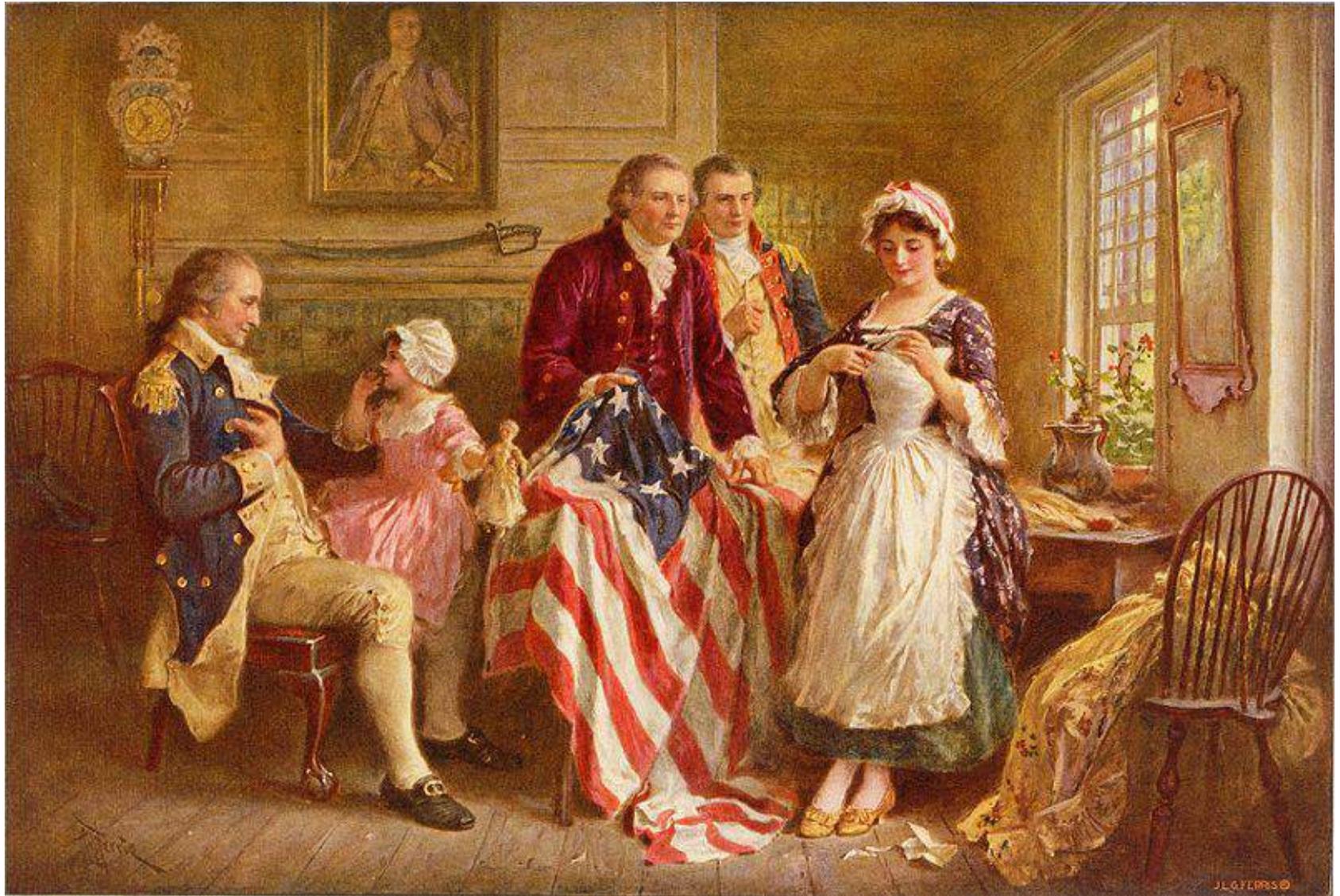
This image shows slaves awaiting an auction in Virginia. This image is courtesy of familysearch.org.

Even though Virginia and other states passed laws giving freedom to ex-soldiers, most slaveholders did not free them.



Therefore these slaves fought for the freedom of their masters, not for themselves. This image is courtesy of history.org.

## Women also contributed to the war effort.



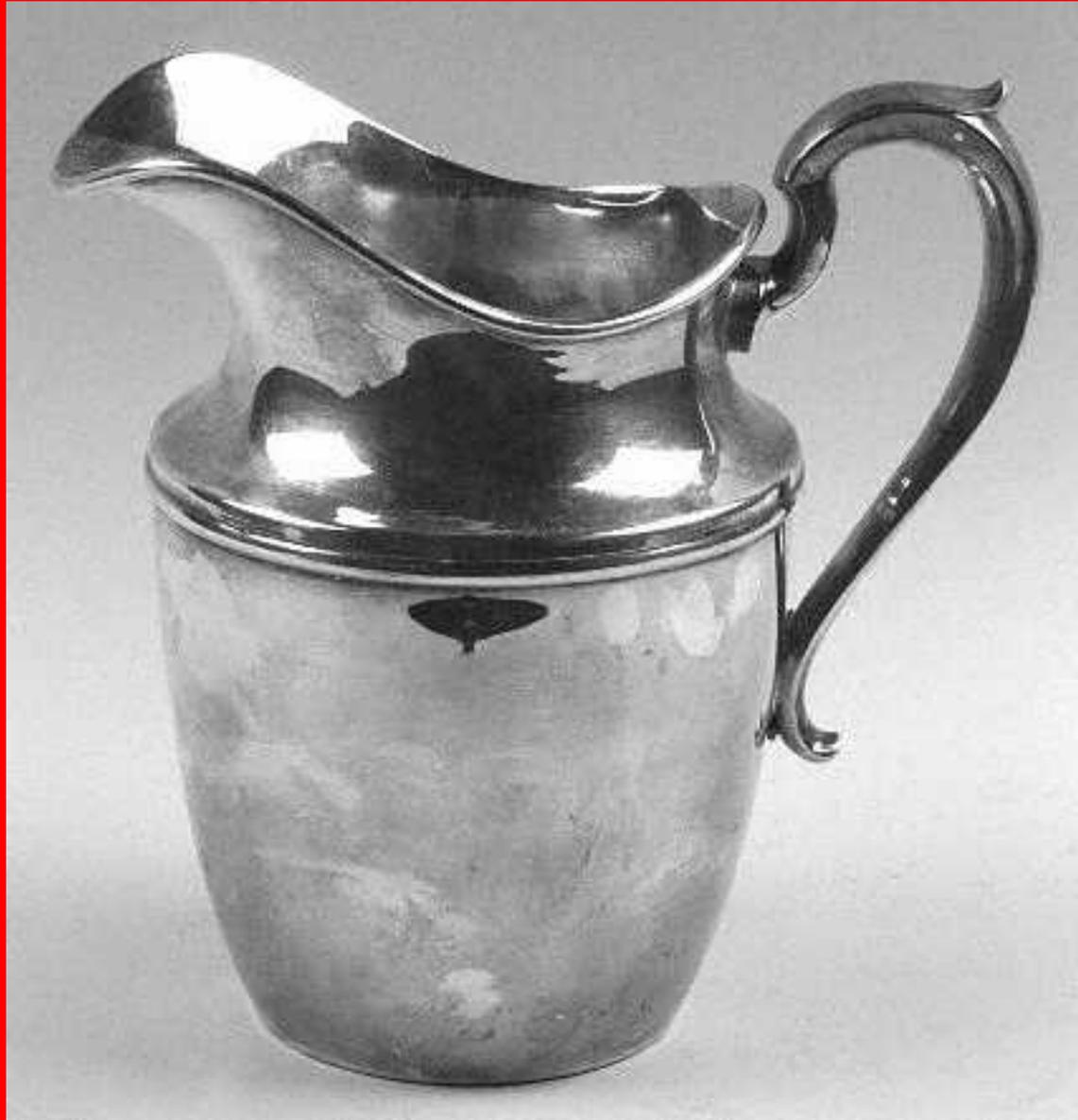
With the men away on the battlefield, many women took on the responsibility of running the family farms and businesses. Other women followed their husbands to the army camps. There they cooked, sewed, carried ammunition, or served as nurses. This painting by Jean Leon Ferris (1863-1930) shows Betsy Ross making the stars for the American flag. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

**A few women took part in battles. Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley spent seven years at her husband's side in battle.**



Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley (1754-1852) was born in New Jersey and died in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. This image is courtesy of [colonialbytes.blogspot.com](http://colonialbytes.blogspot.com).

The soldiers called her “Moll of the Pitcher,” or Molly Pitcher, because she carried water pitchers to the soldiers.



It is not known from what material her water pitcher was made. This image is courtesy of [replacements.com](http://replacements.com).

**During the battle of Monmouth, New Jersey, in 1778,  
McCauley's husband was wounded.**



This image is titled "Molly Pitcher," the Heroine of Monmouth. It was published by Currier & Ives between 1856 and 1907. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

She took her husband's place on the battlefield, operating the cannon, and helped to fire it at the British.



Some sources state that Molly's husband was not wounded, but that he fell over from exhaustion. This image is courtesy of the Fraunces Tavern Museum in New York City.

The American government eventually granted her a \$50 per year pension, or payment for the military service she had performed.



They did not recognize her service until 40 years after the Battle of Monmouth, and then she died after receiving the pension for only one year. This image is courtesy of sonofthesouth.net.

Lydia Darragh worked as a spy for the Continental Army.



Lydia Barrington Darragh (1729-1789) was born in Dublin Ireland. She and her husband immigrated to Philadelphia, where she worked as a midwife. It is said that during the British occupation of Philadelphia, she delivered information to the Continental Army, warning them of a possible British attack. This image is courtesy of [inyourfacewomen.blogspot.com](http://inyourfacewomen.blogspot.com).

Mercy Otis Warren helped the war effort by writing newspaper articles in support of the Revolution.



Mercy Otis Warren (1728-1814) was born in Massachusetts. She also wrote the first history of the American Revolution. This image was painted by John Singleton Copley (1738-1815) circa 1763. This image is courtesy of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

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