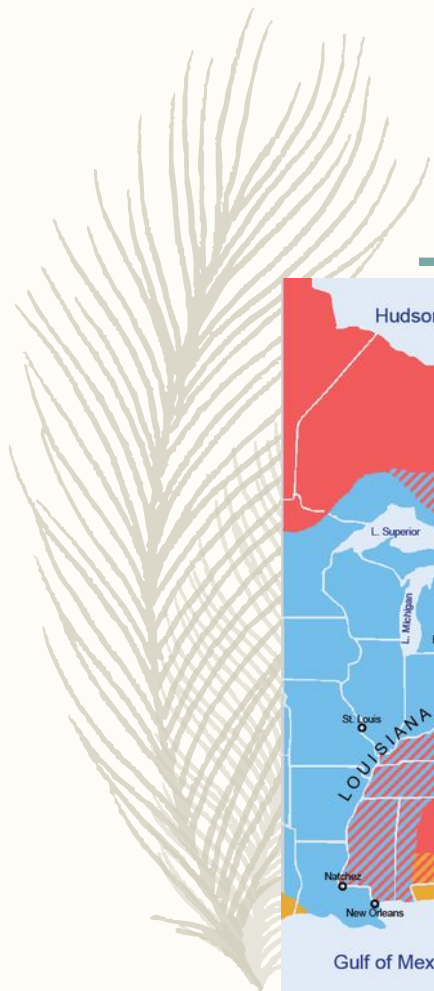




The American Revolution



- French and Indian War – name for the North American theatre (arena) for the imperial fight between England and France
- As a result of the close relations with the French via the fur trade, many Native Americans sided against the British
- French AND Indians vs. Great Britain

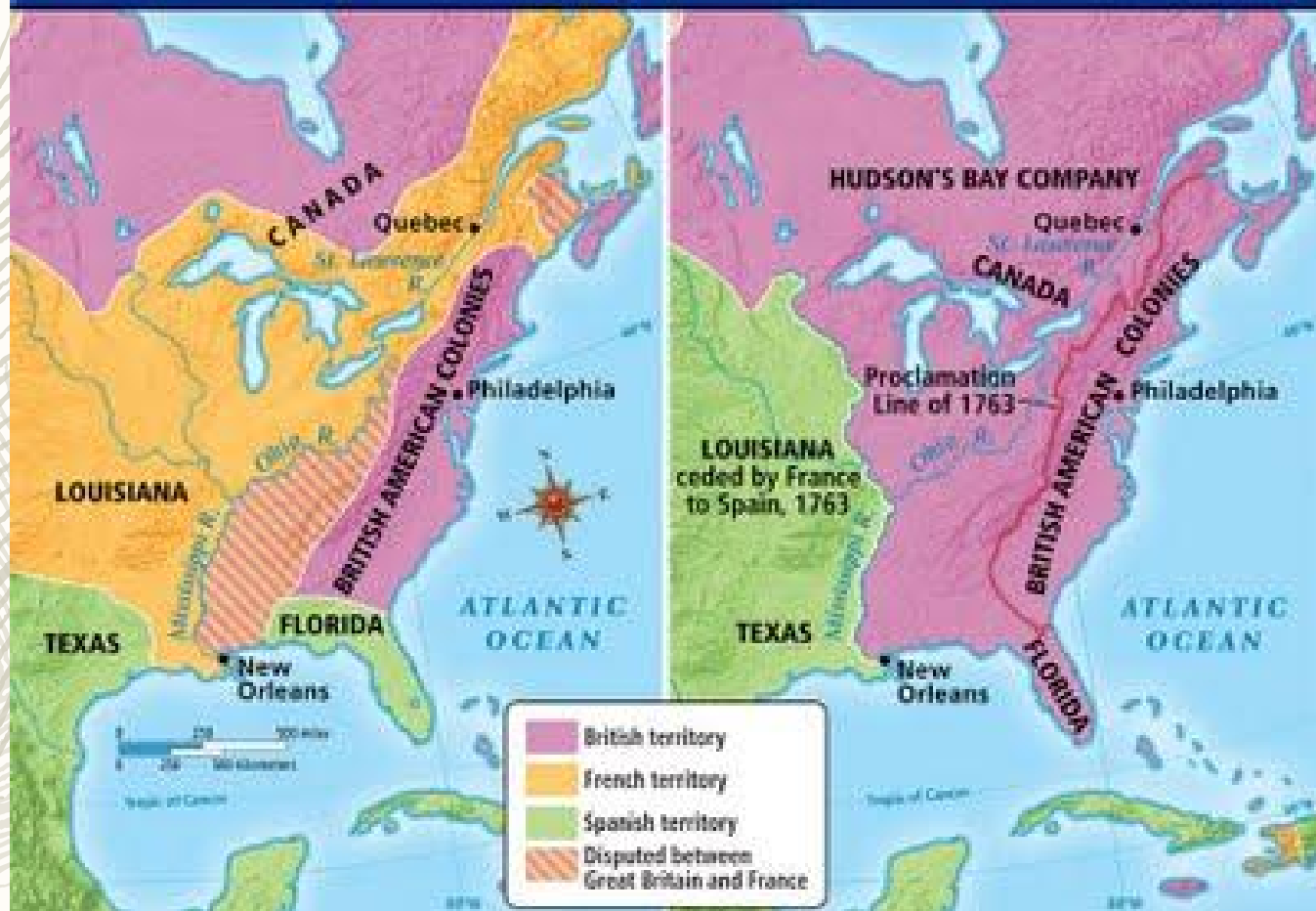
British victorious



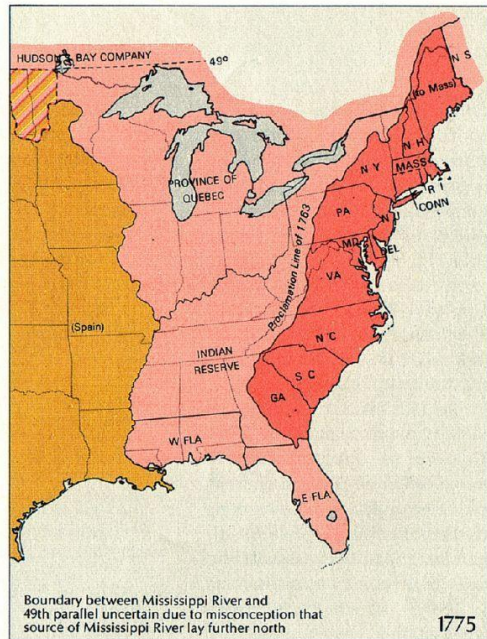
- Great Britain would end up victorious in its imperial battle with the French and Native Americans
- Treaty of Paris (1763): Treaty signed to formally end fighting in North America
- As a result, the French lose the vast majority of their claims to North American lands
- French = OUT (for now)
- British now DOMINATE eastern North America

Prewar Boundaries 1754

Postwar Boundaries 1763



Proclamation of 1763

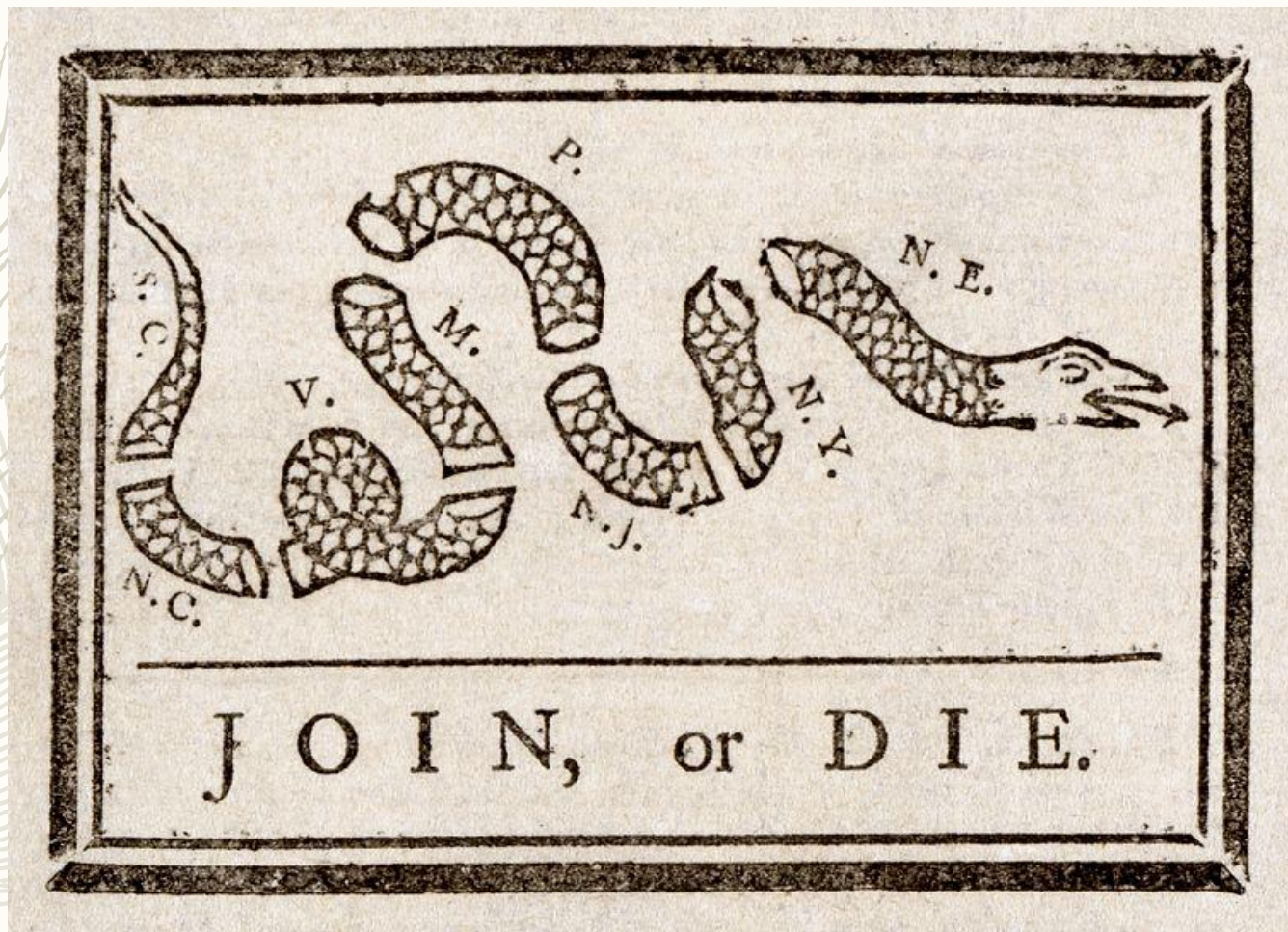


- After French allies were defeated, Native Americans fought to keep encroaching British forces from taking more land
- British called his uprising of Native Americans against the victorious British Pontiac's Rebellion
- British signed Proclamation of 1763 with Natives, stating that they would not settle lands west of Appalachian Mountains
- Many colonists ignored the Proclamation and ventured West regardless
- First example of colonial resentment to new British laws



(Financial) Aftermath of the War

- British amassed a HUGE war-time debt from fighting the French around the world.
- Wanted stronger control over their colonial possessions. After all, they spent years fighting for it.
- >>>England thought the colonies should help share the burden of paying for their defense. <<<<
- This belief entailed placing new, unpopular taxes on the colonists without their approval.
- “NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION”
- Remember from its inception the colonies viewed themselves as separate “entities”; after the French and Indian War, this “disunity” began to evolve slowly into “unity” in opposition to the British and their “unfair” taxes.



British try to raise revenue after the French & Indian War

England looked to the colonies to help relieve some of the tax burden from subjects in the mother country.

Harsher tax collection began with the passage of the **Sugar Act** (raised tax on molasses and sugar from Molasses Act of 1733).



British try to raise revenue after the French & Indian War



Quartering Act of 1765 required colonial citizens to provide room and board to British soldiers stationed in the colonies

The **Stamp Act** of 1765 made colonists truly aware of the impact of British taxation. The funds of the tax were intended to raise a build a new colonial army. All purchased paper had to have a stamp to prove the tax had been paid.

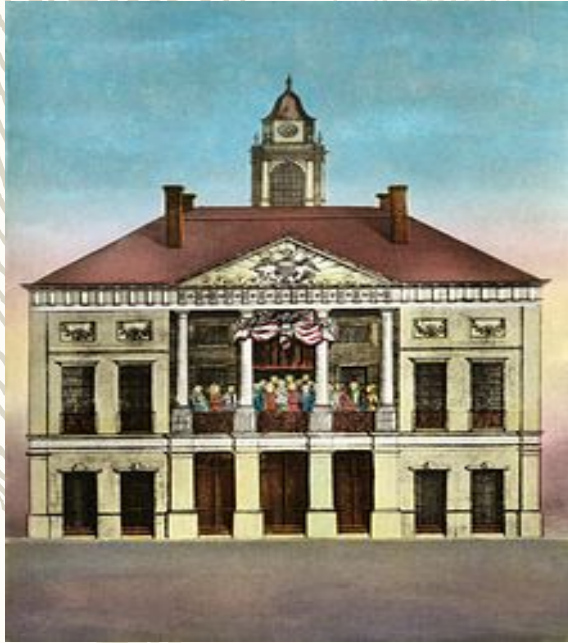
(direct vs. indirect tax)

Stamp Act Congress



Rallied by James Otis, the man most associated with the phrase “No taxation without representation,” 9 of 13 colonies sent representatives to meet in New York as the **Stamp Act Congress**.

Stamp Act Congress



This group sent word to England that only colonial legislatures had the authority to tax the colonists. They agreed that external taxes (taxes imposed on traded goods throughout the empire) were within the rights of the crown to impose. They argued that internal taxes (taxes imposed directly on the people) were only within the rights of locally elected people to put into place.

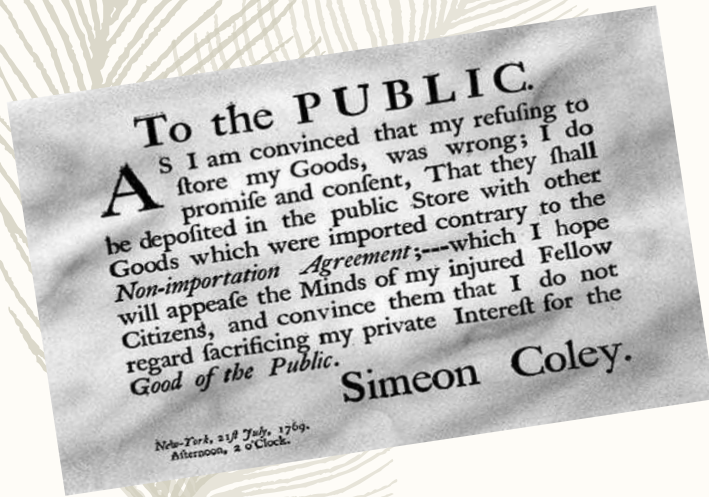
The Prime minister responded that Parliament governed the entire British Empire, therefore the colonists had **virtual representation** Parliament.

Sons & Daughters of Liberty



- Sons of Liberty were led by Samuel Adams
- Intimidated tax collectors by attacking their homes, burning them in effigy, and even tar and feathering them
- Even ransacked and burned down warehouses that held stamps

Sons & Daughters of Liberty



To the PUBLIC.
AS I am convinced that my refusing to
store my Goods, was wrong; I do
promise and consent, That they shall
be deposited in the public Store with other
Goods which were imported contrary to the
Non-importation Agreement;---which I hope
will appease the Minds of my injured Fellow
Citizens, and convince them that I do not
regard sacrificing my private Interest for the
Good of the Public.
Simeon Coley.
New-York, 21st July. 1769.
Afternoon, 2 o'Clock.

- It became fashionable for colonists to protest the Stamp Act by participating in boycotts led by the Daughters of Liberty (refusing to buy goods from the British). They wore homespun clothing and drank Dutch tea as a means of quiet protest.
- The boycotts negatively impacted trade and the British were forced to repeal the Stamp Act in 1766.

Boston Massacre



- Relative peace between the repeal of the Townshend Acts in 1770 and 1772 was disrupted by the Boston Massacre.
- Frustrated by the enforcement of the Quartering Act, a group of disgruntled Bostonians began to harass troops guarding the customs house by throwing rocks and frozen oysters. The guards fired into the crowd killing five and wounding six protesters.

Boston Massacre



- Propaganda by the Sons of Liberty popularized the term “Boston Massacre.”
- With the help of the Committees of Correspondence, a secret communication network, the Sons of Liberty continually circulated letters of protest against the British policies.
- The Committees of Correspondence were “shadow governments” created to help organize *communication* lines between and amongst the colonies.

The BLOODY MASSACRE perpetrated on Sunday the 5th of March 1770 by a party of the M^d. Regt.



Unhappy Britain! for the Stars & Splore,
Thy Sons walk between'd with quiver'd Oars
While Freedom's Zephyr and his fav'ell winds
With rurs'ling Rances stretch forth his plumes
Like fier'd volcanoes gushing out in blood;
Approve the Crime and sign the Day.

If falling drops from England's August Throne
If Freedom's Justice, oh! pray for a Tongue
The of a warring World can ought express
The passive Ghosts of Victims torn to shreds
The Patriotic exposture for justice shed,
A glorious Cause which calms the Peace.

When Justice stands the Shield of the Good,
Should we not—As the Herald of the Lord,
Stand the whole World from her Hand,
From Executions in this Place withhold,
Shall reach a Point who never can be held.

The unhappy sufferers were Messrs. SAMUEL GRIFFIN, SAMUEL MERRICK, JAMES LADD, GEORGE ATTWOOD & THE CARP
Soldiers who were shot down of them (CHRISTOPHER MERRICK, JOHN CLARK) & others.

Published in 1770 by Paul Revere





Boston Tea Party

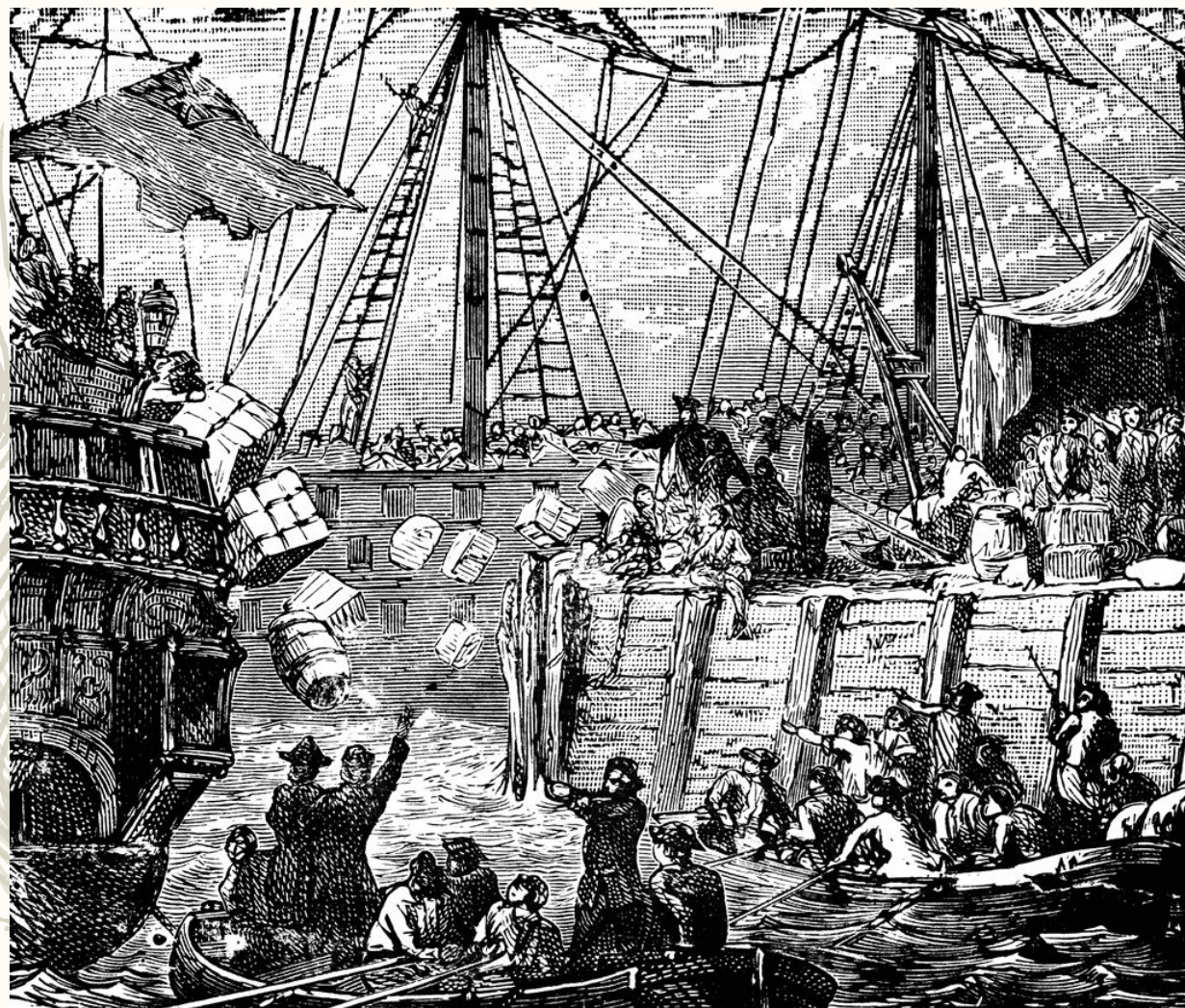
- The Tea Act of 1773, actually lowered the price of tea, but many colonists were unwilling to cooperate with any attempt by the British to collect tax revenue and refused to purchase tea.



As a new shipment of tea sat in Boston Harbor awaiting unloading, a group of colonists dressed as Native Americans boarded the ship, broke open the crates, and dumped the tea into the harbor.

- Colonists debated whether this act was justified protest or childish destruction of property.





The Fighting Begins



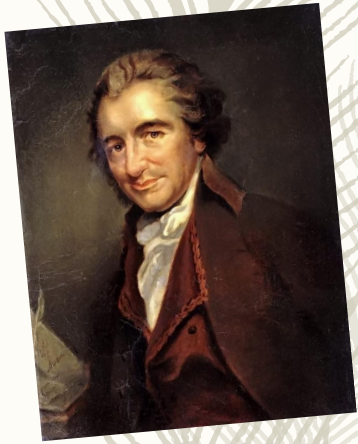
- Citizens of Massachusetts were ready to fight after the punishment by the Coercive Acts. British soldiers were sent to seize the weapons and arrest rebels at Concord. The militiamen (minutemen) assembled at nearby Lexington to stop the British soldiers. As they met on Lexington Green, the American Revolution began.
- “The shot heard round the world”
- The American minutemen were forced to retreat, and the British moved to march on Concord.

The Fighting Begins



- June 17, 1775: The Battle for Bunker Hill was a defeat for the colonials, but they celebrated the massive casualties they were able to inflict upon the most powerful army in the world.
- After this, the King declared the colonies in rebellion (basically declaring war).
- After Hessians from Germany (known for their ruthlessness in battle) were employed by the British, the conflict with Mother England seemed less of a family affair. Patriots felt even more removed from England as a result.

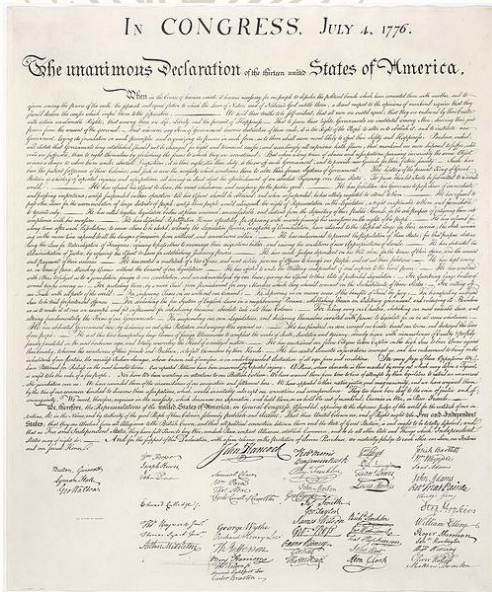
Thomas Paine authors “Common Sense”



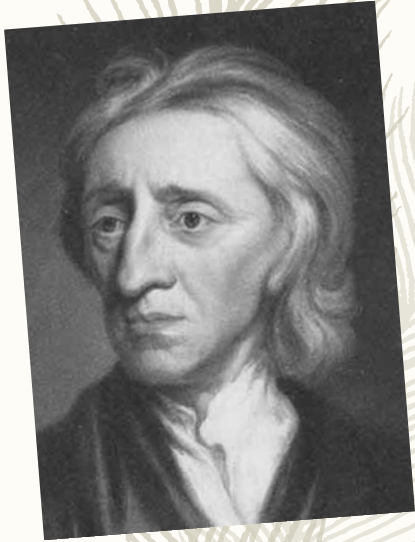
- Not everyone in the colonies were behind the rebels in their fight against the British army. Two groups emerged:
- Patriots = supported independence
- Loyalists = remained loyal to the King
- To rally more colonists over to the Patriot side, Thomas Paine anonymously publishes the pamphlet “Common Sense” in early 1776.
- In “Common Sense” Paine presents the reader with powerful arguments supporting independence.
- At that time, “Common Sense” had the largest circulation of any book in American history.

Continental Congress plots treason

- Public support for independence continued to swell thanks to “Common Sense”.
- Relations between the colonies and England continue to be strained financially and militarily.
- In the Summer of 1776, the 2nd Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia.
- Under the authorship of Thomas Jefferson, they issue the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.
- The Declaration formally announced a political severing of all ties between the colonies and Great Britain.
- It also laid out a series of grievances the colonists had against the King.

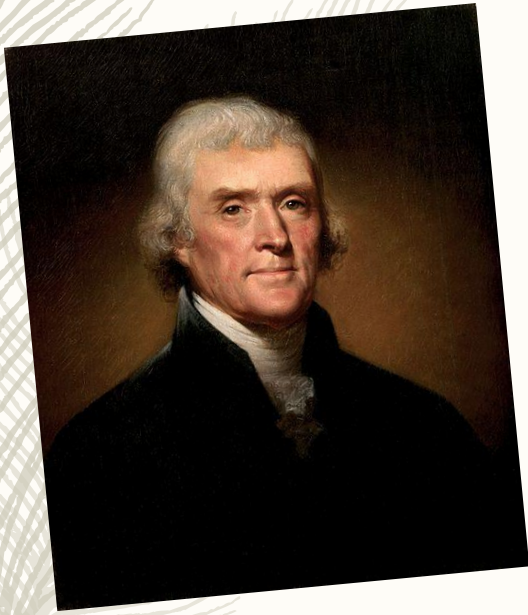


Intellectual sources of the Declaration of Independence



- John Locke (1632-1704); lived during the height of the Enlightenment.
- Philosopher who heavily influenced Thomas Jefferson in his composition of the Declaration of Independence.
- Locke describes the natural state of human existence arguing:
- ...that everyone is born with a natural right to defend his “life, liberty and property”.
- ...individuals would agree to form a state (i.e. government) that would provide a “neutral judge” to protect the before-mentioned rights.
- ...”all men are created equal.”

Thomas Jefferson



- Principal author of the Declaration of Independence
- Influenced heavily by Locke and other Enlightenment thinkers
- Supporter of separation of church and state
- Slave owner from Virginia

Preamble to the Declaration of Independence



■ We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.



Franklin asks France for Help

- In the 18th century England and France maintained a deep rivalry that played out all over the globe.
- While the colonial army scored many victories early in the war with England, victory was far from certain.
- Most Indian tribes were assisting the British who supplied them with high-tech weapons and promised a return of their native lands.
- At the time of the Declaration, Benjamin Franklin was serving as a diplomat to France.
- Franklin convinced the French government to lend support to the American rebels against the British.
- France felt that by supporting the colonial rebellion, they could weaken England militarily and enact revenge for the defeat in the French and Indian War.

Marquis de Lafayette

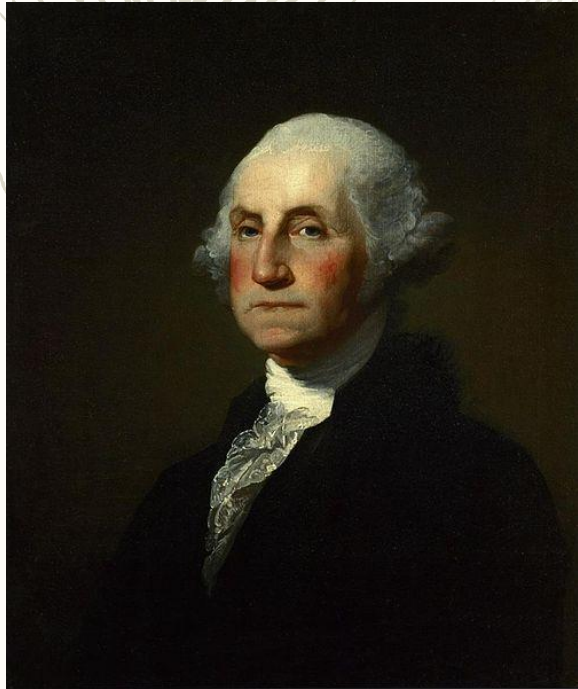


- Marquis de Lafayette: French General who was an integral part of the American assistance in the Revolution.
- France supplied money, supplies, troops, weapons, ships, military expertise, etc.
- Lafayette served alongside General Washington and was influential in the eventual defeat of the British at Yorktown.

Statue of Lafayette in D.C.



George Washington



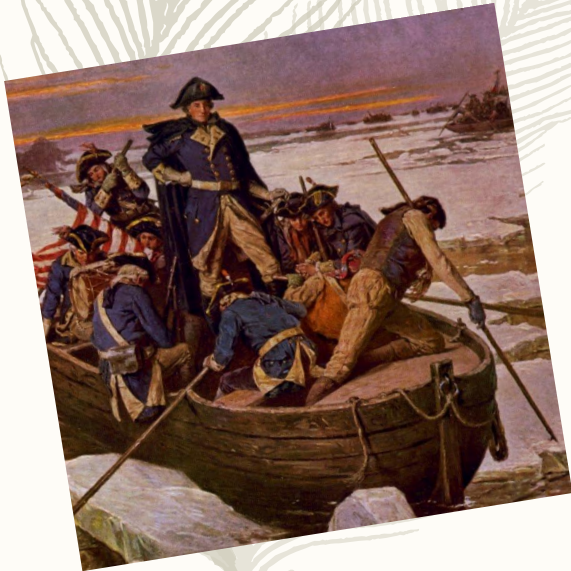
- “Father of the USA”
- Gained military experience in the French and Indian War.
- Chosen as Commander in Chief of the Continental Army.
- One early problem Washington encountered was the creation of a professional military.
- Washington organized and trained (with the assistance of the French) the various state militias into one “national” army.

Life as a common soldier



- At the urging of Washington, Congress provided for the creation of a standing army.
- Enlistments were 1-3 years.
- Pay was meager.
- Rations were short and the army often have to scavenge to find supplies and food.
- Disease was common due to close confinement combined with poor diet and sanitation.

Washington As a Military Leader



- Despite losing many battles, Washington's strong personality and reputation garnered him the support and respect of American soldiers.
- Washington preferred to engage the superior British Army in quick, strong strikes followed by an immediate retreat.
- This principle is best illustrated when Washington crossed the Delaware River on December 25, 1776 in a surprise attack against British allies.
- This victory further boosted the morale of the American forces...victory was now strategically possible.



Valley Forge

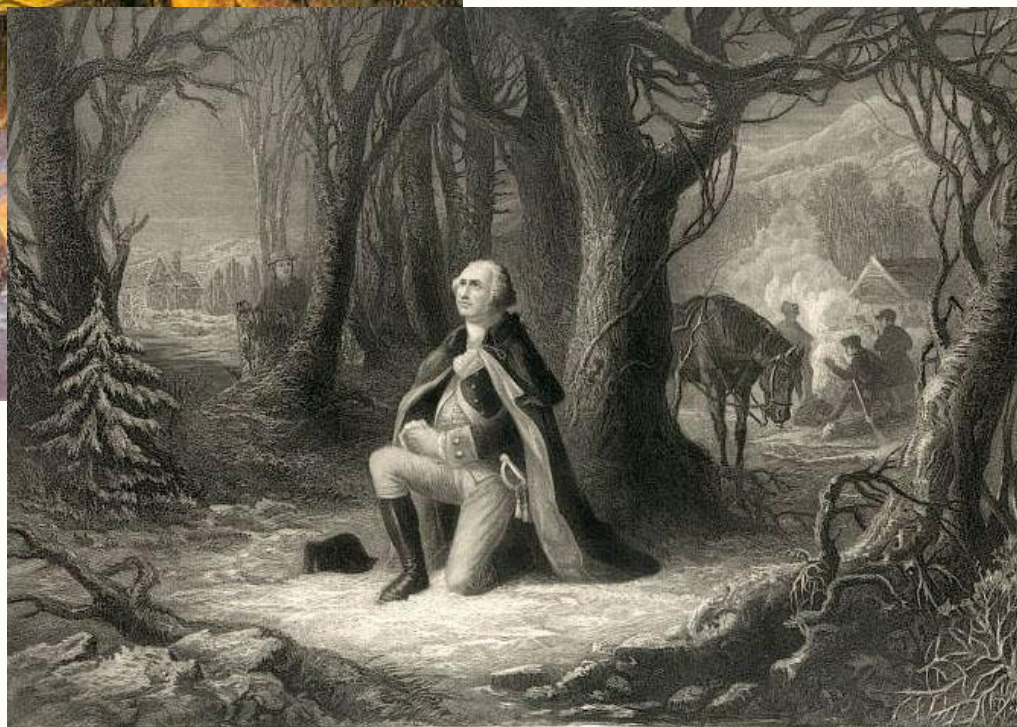
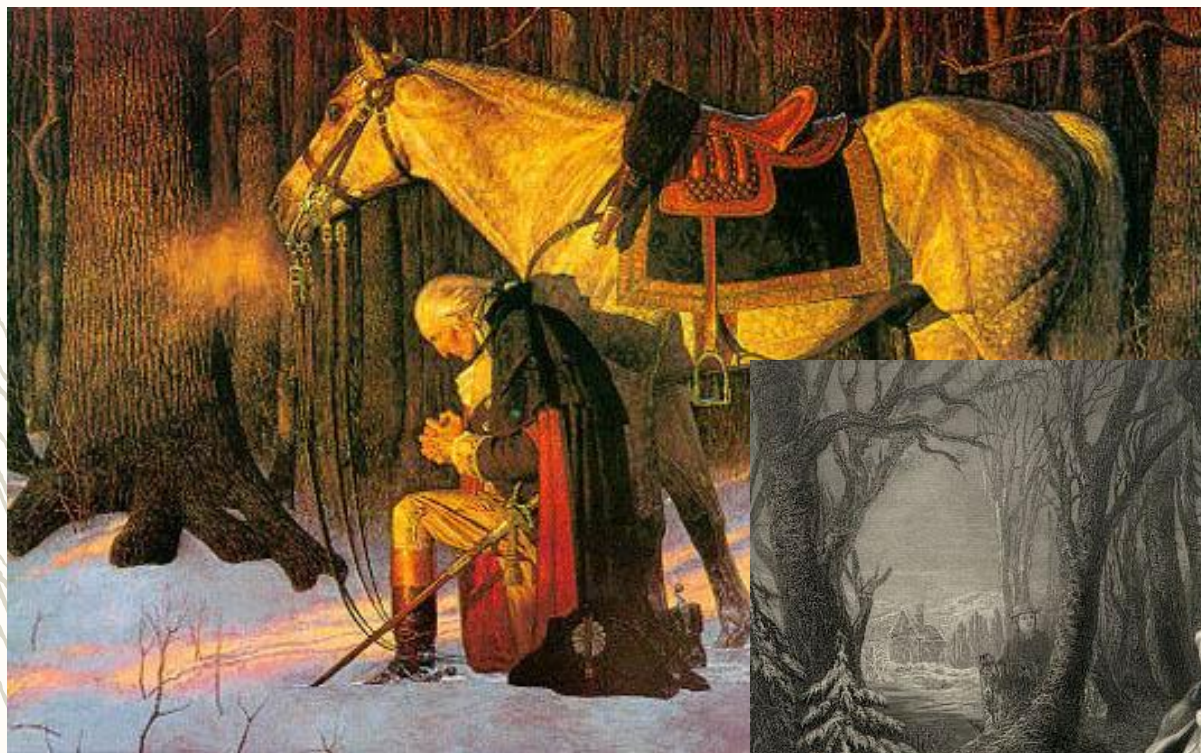


- Washington's skill at maintaining his force under trying conditions is best shown during the winter of 1777-78 at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.
- The Continental Army was stuck at Valley Forge with very little rations; very little food and insufficient winter attire.
- However Valley Forge proved to be critical in the further development of the army.
- Lafayette and other foreign military leaders arrived and trained the soldiers extensively at Valley Forge.
- This newly trained force would go on to defeat the British at Yorktown 3 years later.





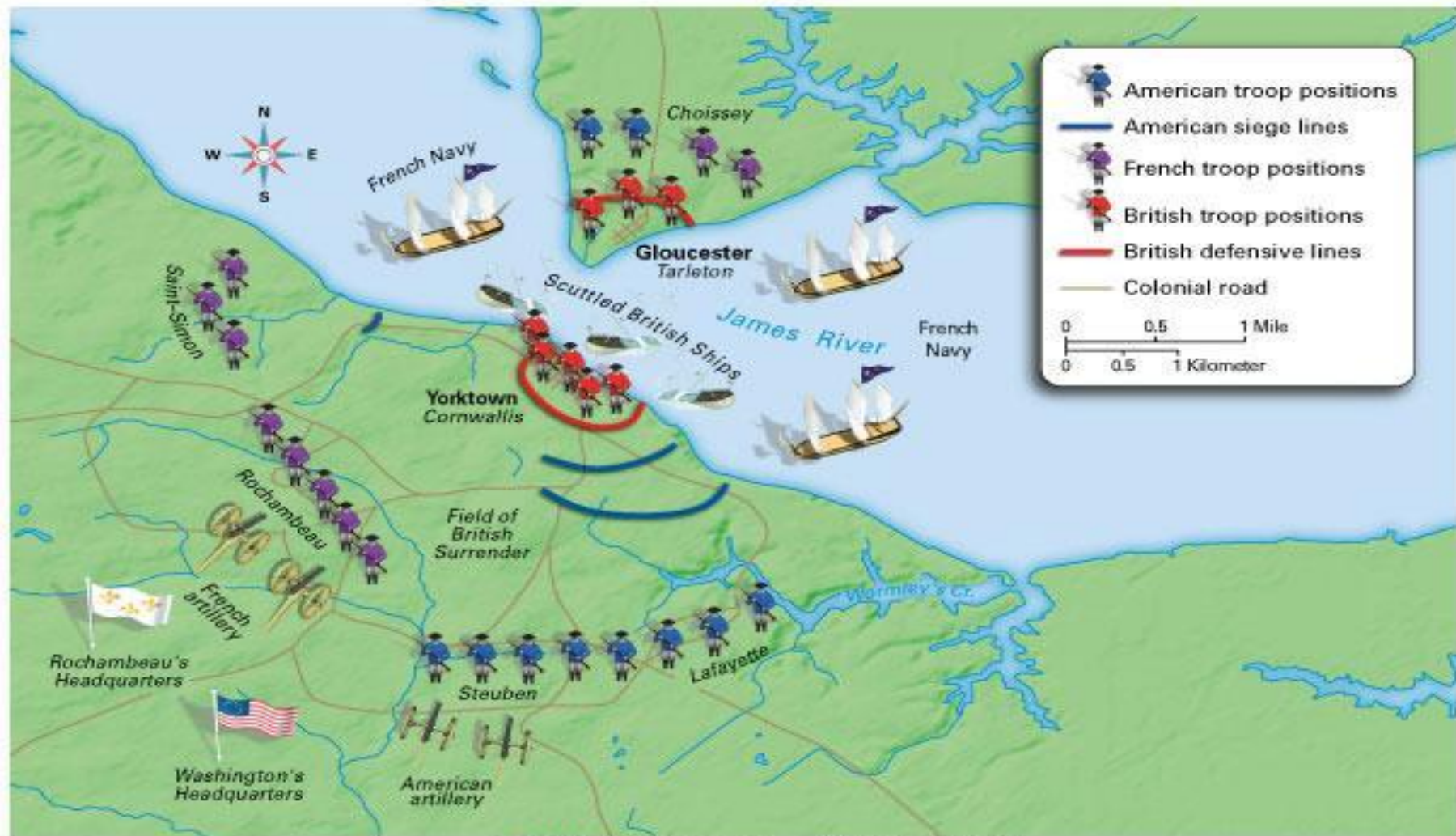




Siege at Yorktown

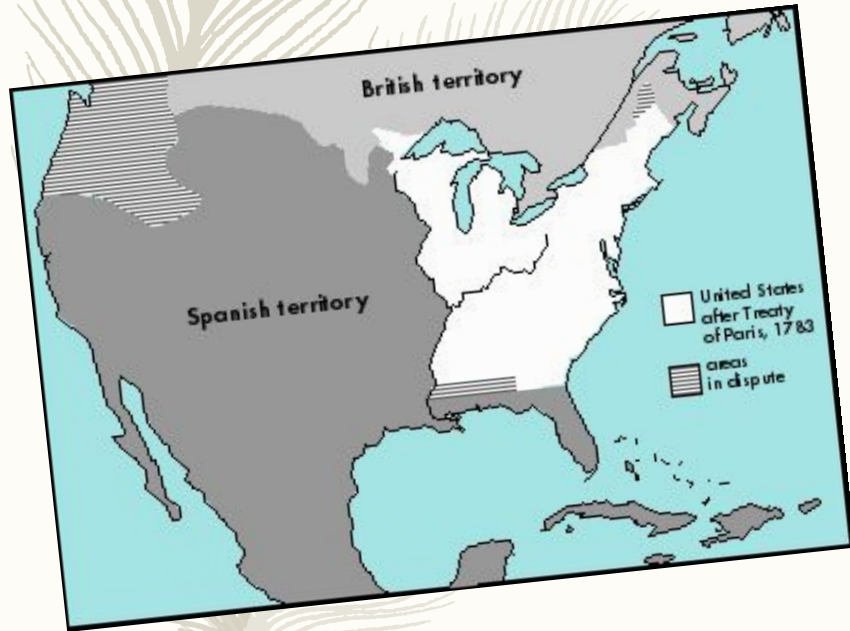


- General Lord Cornwallis: British leader who planned to push French-American forces southward in an attempt to divide the Continental Army in two.
- Cornwallis succeeded...eventually ending up with American forces near the coastal town of Yorktown in Virginia.
- While awaiting reinforcements from the British navy, the French and Americans were able to corner Cornwallis and his men.
- Cut off from reinforcements, Cornwallis was forced to surrender effectively ending the American Revolution.





Treaty of Paris (1783)



- The Treaty of Paris (1783) formally ended the American Revolution.
- The United States won its independence from Great Britain and gained control of land stretching west to the Mississippi River.
- Next, the newly freed colonists would have the tumultuous task of creating any entirely new government on their own.