

Patriotism and Age: Teaching the Veteran Experience of the Early Republic



THE
AMERICAN
REVOLUTION
INSTITUTE

of The Society of the Cincinnati

THE OLD SOLDIER—A Fact.

AMERICANS! READ AND REFLECT.

The following touching Narrative of Facts is dedicated to *every generous American*. Let any man who has a heart, READ IT—PONDER ON IT—and vote for Mr. Adams, if he can. The true character of the man is seen in this simple transaction—He was here, acting out the dictates of his nature. Is he not at heart a TYRANT? And shall such a man rule over a free People?

Who has not heard the sorrowful story of Richard Nagle, the old soldier of the revolution? and who can hear it without being moved with pity for the poor unfortunate old man? I can figure to my mind all the circumstances and the scene.

Richard Nagle, an Old Soldier of the Revolution, by the reverses of fortune and inability to work, finds himself reduced to poverty in his old age. He determines to apply to the country for relief, as many of his fellow soldiers have done before. In the inclement month of January, 1828, he takes leave of the aged partner of his bosom, his sons and daughters, throws his little wallet over his shoulder, carefully collects his papers and vouchers, puts them in his pocket, and with a heart full of hope, sets out for the city of Washington. As he travels over hill and dale, he looks around and beholds houses and barns, and all the comforts of civilized life.—His heart rejoices at the prospect, and he says, "Fifty years ago, these fields which lately yielded an abundant harvest to their proprietors, were desert wilds. Nought but the yell of the Indian resounded upon these shores.—Where that village now rears its peaceful head, once stood an Indian wigwam; near the spot occupied by that fine house, was formerly erected an Indian fort. Well do I remember, when in that valley we were attacked at night by a party of savages, who had been for some time committing the most horrid massacres in the neighbouring settlements—After a hard fight of several hours, we drove them off with great slaughter."

Thus he plodded along, contemplating the happy changes which had been wrought by the valour of his brave compatriots and himself, who 'fought and bled in freedom's cause.' At night he arrives at a farm-house when it is only necessary for him to say, "I am Richard Nagle, an old Soldier of the Revolution, from Cambria county, bound to Washington to ask a Pension of government." Immediately he is invited in, the best seat offered him at the fire, the best supper prepared for him; after which the family gathers round him, and hears the old soldier tell how the spot on which they now live, was the haunt of the deadly savage, who roamed abroad with tomahawk and scalping knife, sparing neither age nor sex. In the morning he gets his breakfast, has his wallet filled, and departs with the blessings of the whole family, the father of which calls after him saying, come this way on your return, and tell us all about Washington city and president Adams. Thus he travels on, receiving the best cheer from the hospitable and thrifty farmers who inhabit the beautiful borders of the Susquehanna, till he reaches Harrisburg, the seat of government of Pennsylvania. The legislature is in session. He calls upon the representative from Cambria county, and states his business. In an instant the worthy representative's heart is moved with compassion for the old soldier; he enquires, "Is it possible you have walked all the way from Cambria county, Richard Nagle?" "I have, says the veteran. I am used to walking; I have marched over the mountains in pursuit of the Indians in my younger days; I have fought them; whipt them; and as cold a night as this, have laid out under a tree, with no pillow but my knapsack, no covering but my blanket, and the snow that fell on top of it; and if I have health, I will walk all the way to the city of Washington, and show them there, that Richard Nagle, although the snows of 81 winters have whitened his locks, can still keep time to the tap of the drum." The old man was cheerful, because he felt confident his country would reward his services. "You are too feeble, my old friend, says the representative, to walk so far at such a season as this; you must stay with us to-night, and we will see that the soldier who marched so well in his young days, shall ride in his old age." He then takes the veteran to lodgings, informs the other members who he is, and what is his condition; they immediately raise money among themselves to procure him more comfortable clothing, and in the morning with money in his pocket, and a light heart, he takes his seat in the stage for Washington.

In a few days he reached the grand metropolis of the United States. He walks through its spacious avenues, sees the gay retinues that dash through them; surveys its fine buildings, and admires the beauty of the President's house. He then bends his way towards capitol hill, and after viewing the splendid edifice which adorns it, he visits its interior, and takes his seat in the gallery of the House. There he sees the assembled representatives of twelve millions of freemen engaged in national council. He falls into a train of reflections. "This is the beautiful exemplification of all I had imagined; this is that glorious consummation of all my wishes; I fought for liberty, I fought for independence, I fought for free republican government." A tear of joy, and gratitude to heaven, fills his eye, and like Jacob of old, he "worships, leaning on his staff."

When the house adjourns, he calls upon Mr. F. the member from his district, who receives him with cordiality and kindness. He tells him the object of his visit, shows his papers, and asks for instructions. Mr. F. points out to him the mode to be pursued in seeking a pension. He calls at the War Department, exhibits his vouchers; a clerk looks over them hastily and hands them back to him, saying, "Old man, these are hardly sufficient vouchers to place you on the pen-

sioning him in, asks him if he has any papers. He gives him several depositions proving his services as a soldier; they are carried in, and after a little while the President himself comes forth. As he advances towards the front door, the veteran takes off his hat, and prepares to salute his excellency; but before he can get the words out of his mouth, the President cries out, "Begone, you impostor and dirty old rascal, or I will have you horse-whipped!" Good God!—can it be possible? Is it indeed the President of the United States, that thus addresses the old soldier of the revolution? The old man stands for a moment petrified with astonishment and disappointment. All his hopes are blasted in a moment. Instead of the kind endearing treatment he had expected from his excellency, the haughty and unfeeling President bawls out, "BEGONE YOU IMPOSTOR AND DIRTY OLD RASCAL, I'LL HAVE YOU HORSEWHIPPED." What must have been the feelings of old Richard Nagle on hearing this unexpected, this unfeeling language from the man who ought to be a father to the afflicted and distressed? Methinks I see him now, standing on the cold stone steps; his hat in his hand, the cold winds of January whistling through his few grey locks—the big round drop gathers in that eye which once flashed fire against the enemies of his country; and he mentally exclaims "Good God! can it be possible. Is this the gratitude of the government to establish which I endured the hardships, the trials, the privations of the field of war?" Leaning on his staff, he gathers up his papers, and bowing to his excellency in silence, he puts on his hat and totters hastily away. The whole scene passes before my imagination. A tear gathers in my eyes as I think of the deep wound which was inflicted by those cruel words upon that sensible but gallant old heart.

With a heavy heart he returns to the members of Congress who had advised him to call upon the President; and relates with manly indignation the unkind reception he met with. They are shocked—and disgusted. They make up a sum of money to carry him home, again, to the bosom of the little family, who are anxiously looking for his return, and as he leaves the city he says, "Perhaps I may live to see the day when a man will occupy that palace, whose love of country has been proved in many a trying time—one who will not drive the old soldier from his door like a vagabond, without first hearing his story."

At length he approaches his home. His wife, the aged partner of his bosom; his children; his neighbours; all are looking out for his return full of joy and of hope. They see him at a distance; they advance to meet him, with countenances beaming with pleasure; they hail his return, and eagerly enquire, how he has fared. But ere he has time to answer, the tears that start in his eye tells a tale which they can already anticipate.

Where is the heart of sympathy that does not feel for the old soldier who fought to secure the blessings that we now enjoy? Reader, what think you of the conduct of Mr. Adams to old Richard Nagle? Wasn't it cruel, unfeeling and heartless? Would you—could you have acted so, if placed in similar circumstances? Would you have treated him like a dog, and said, "Begone you impostor, and dirty old rascal, or I will have you horsewhipped?" No—never. Yet such was the conduct of Mr. Adams.

How different has been the behaviour of Gen. Jackson. When N. Orleans was invested by the enemy, and famine threatened the city, he pledged his whole estate for 50,000 dollars to obtain provisions for the sufferers. When marching through the wilderness with his army, if a soldier grew faint from fatigue or sickness, he immediately dismounted from his horse, placed the invalid on it, and marched on foot himself. Thus setting an example of compassion and kindness, like that of the good Samaritan, mentioned in Scripture. This is the sort of man we want at the head of our government. We want one who will be like Washington, a Father to his country; not a proud, haughty, unfeeling man, who, when the old revolutionary soldier applies to him for relief, says with scorn, "BEGONE YOU IMPOSTOR, AND DIRTY OLD RASCAL, OR I'LL HAVE YOU HORSEWHIPPED!"

To prove that the foregoing is not merely a picture of fancy, the reader is referred to the following authentic and attested documents:

RICHARD NAGLE of Susquehanna township, Cambria county, Pa. about the middle of January, 1828, left home on foot for Washington city, for the purpose of trying to obtain a pension for his services as a soldier in the revolutionary war, having with him his papers and vouchers of his services. He walked to Harrisburg, when the members of the Legislature raised money by contribution sufficient to buy him a suit of clothes, and pay his stage fare to Washington, where he arrived the latter part of January. He made application to some of the members of Congress, to present his papers, and as there could be nothing decisively done on the subject for some time, and his poverty not enabling him to continue at the city, he was advised by some of the members to call on the President, make his case known and solicit assistance, to enable him to return home to his family. He called at the President's door, knocked—a yellow man came to the door, and

2018 FLORIDA STATUES
1003.42 Required Instruction
(t) In order to encourage patriotism, the sacrifices that veterans and Medal of Honor recipients have made in serving our country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such instruction must occur on or before Medal of Honor Day, Veterans' Day, and Memorial Day. Members of instructional staff are encouraged to use the assistance of local veterans and Medal of Honor recipients when practicable.

Receipt of Pay-Table-Committee

Hartford, CT

June 7th 1782

The Society of the Cincinnati,

The Robert Charles Lawrence

Fergusson Collection

Dick Freedom and Cuff
Liberty were the aspirational
names taken by two enlisted
men serving in the all-black
Second Company,
Fourth Connecticut Regiment.
Among other deployments,
the Regiment was rallied
under the direction of
Alexander Hamilton at
redoubt ten during the Siege
of Yorktown.

Hartford, *June 1th* — 1782.

R E C E I V E D, of Pay-Table-Committee, their Order
on the Treasurer, of this State, to secure the Payment
of *Thirty two pounds ten shillings & two pence*
it being the Balances due to ~~me~~ *Dick Freedom* on the first Day of January 1780
~~last~~, as stated by the Committees of the State and of the
Army. *in behalf of Dick Freedom*
L. 32, 10 & 2

J. C. Cuff Liberty

The Elusive Peter Hunter

Posted July 8, 2020 / Education, Exhibitions, The Legacy of the Revolution



On November 4, 1844, Stephen Thomas of rural West Fairlee, Vermont, wrote to Dr. Ira Davis, an old friend, then in Connecticut. Thomas explained that the widow of a Revolutionary War soldier named Peter Hunter had approached him, seeking his help in securing a widow's pension. In 1832 Congress had passed an act providing pensions to nearly all surviving soldiers of the Revolutionary War. Tens of thousands of men had qualified and received annual pension payments. In the years that followed, Congress

Stephen Thomas A.L.S., West Fairlee Vt., Nov. 4 1844 :
to Ira Davis, Hartford, Ct.

Manuscript Collection, Society of the Cincinnati

<http://cdm16923.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p16923coll3/id/1911>

West Fairlee Vt Nov 4th 1844

Dear Sir

I wish you to have search made for the service of Peter Hunter he enlisted at Farmington Ct in 1776, was waiter to Genl Putnam some during part of his service, & belonged to Capt Meigs Regt she does not recollect the Capt name but the Lieut names were Saml. Mix & Wilson & was at West Point at the time Andre was executed & stood guard of over him was with Genl Wayne she thinks part of the time. Hunter was a Colored man — Daniel Simsworth Sr belonged to the 6th Continental line his widow does not know the names of his officers he was out the trucks in 1775 & at Bunker's Hill & at Groton till the time the enemy destroyed it

If you will cause a search for the above

Henry Knox to John Hancock

West Point, NY

October 20, 1782

The Society of the Cincinnati, The Robert
Charles Lawrence Fergusson Collection

"I hope and believe that Your Excellency will take this matter into consideration, and use such measures as will effect the relief of the gallant unfortunates, whose sufferings, if too long continued, will tarnish the lustre of the revolution."

General Knox appeals to Massachusetts Governor Hancock for state support of disabled soldier Captain John Slewman/Sluman who was gravely wounded at Germantown in 1777—Sluman received a half-pay disability stipend with an annual stipend of \$300 in 1784.

Sir,

West Point.
20 Oct. 1782.

I am constrained to state to Your Excellency a subject, which will be as distressing to you as it is painful to humanity. Capt. Slewman, of Colonel Banes' regiment of artillery, was dangerously wounded in the battle of Germantown. Although he lingered for a long time, yet unfortunately for him, the wound did not prove mortal. He is incapacitated from further service by its effects, which are such as to subject him to continual apprehensions, and totally to deprive him from pursuing any business to obtain a subsistence.

Congress have recommended to the several States to make provision for their wounded officers; but Captain Slewman represents that he never has been able to derive any benefit from it, as the States have passed no laws for that purpose. I was inclined to believe he was mistaken, until upon further enquiry, I found he was certainly right in his information.

It would be great presumption in me to suppose ~~it possible~~ ^{to urge} any reasons to induce a measure which has lain so long, probably only through a multiplicity of more weighty matters. The State have too much dignity and too high a character to support, to suffer the men who have shed their blood in its cause, and who in consequence are untimely cut off from all

all the sweet enjoyments of society, to solicit the aid of charity, for that food, which a less decided conduct would have given them in ease and plenty. I hope and believe that Your Excellency will take this matter into consideration, and use such measures as will effect the relief of the gallant unfortunates, whose sufferings, if too long continued, will tend to tarnish the lustre of the revolution.

I have the honor
to be, with high respect,
Your Excellency's
most obedient servant

H. Knox, M^{rs} General
Commanding the Artillery

His Excellency
Governor Hancock.

Margaret Corbin, Revolutionary

Posted December 10, 2019 / Education, Exhibitions



Liberty is commonly depicted as a pretty young woman in a white classical robe, kindly in peacetime, steel eyed and determined in war. This personification of Liberty is grounded in Roman depictions of the goddess *Libertas*, who was honored with a temple on the Aventine Hill in Rome. *Libertas* was often depicted offering a *pileus*, the soft cap

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LATEST POSTS

Joseph Plumb Martin, Everyman

Joseph Winter, Lone Wanderer

Margaret Corbin, Revolutionary

The Remarkable Thomas
Pinckney

MARGARET CORBIN

- * married John Corbin—First Company, Pennsylvania Artillery
- * August-November 1776 defense of New York City
- * took her husband's place on the gun crew after he was killed by Hessian musket fire
- * 'Margaret fell hideously wounded before the battery was overrun, hit in her left shoulder and arm, jaw and left breast'
- * assigned to the Corps of Invalids—disabled soldiers with no other means of support kept on the army's rolls
- * died at West Point in 1800, age 48

July 6, 1779—Congress awarded Margaret Corbin, “who was wounded and disabled in the attack on Fort Washington, whilst she heroically filled the post of her husband who was killed by her side,” a complete outfit of clothing and one-half of the pay of a private soldier for the rest of her life. By this act Congress formally recognized a female combat veteran for the first time in American history.’

31 January 1786—William Price to Henry Knox, “I am at a loss what to do with Capt Molly...”

DEBORAH SAMPSON

- * self-educated teacher
- * enlisted in the Fourth Massachusetts Regiment as "Robert Shurtleff"
- * served in the Light Infantry in NY, PA and VA
- * wounded in service and honorably discharged
- * received compensation for service and a pension

"no other similar example of female heroism, fidelity and courage"

The Female Review: or, Memoirs of an American Young Lady

Herman Mann

Dedham [Mass.]: Printed by Nathaniel and Benjamin Heaton, for the author

1797

The Society of the Cincinnati, The Robert Charles Lawrence

Fergusson Collection



DEBORAH SAMPSON.

Published by H. Mann, 1797.

THE FEMALE REVIEW:

OR,

MEMOIRS

OF AN

AMERICAN YOUNG LADY;

WHOSE LIFE AND CHARACTER ARE PECULIARLY DISTINGUISHED—BEING A CONTINENTAL SOLDIER, FOR NEARLY THREE YEARS, IN THE LATE AMERICAN WAR.

DURING WHICH TIME,

SHE PERFORMED THE DUTIES OF EVERY DEPARTMENT, INTO WHICH SHE WAS CALLED, WITH PUNCTUAL EXACTNESS, FIDELITY AND HONOR, AND PRESERVED HER CHASTITY INVIOLETE, BY THE MOST ARTFUL CONCEALMENT OF HER SEX.

WITH AN
APPENDIX,

CONTAINING

CHARACTERISTIC TRAITS, BY DIFFERENT HANDS; HER TASTE FOR ECONOMY, PRINCIPLES OF DOMESTIC EDUCATION, &c.

By a CITIZEN of MASSACHUSETTS.

D E D H A M:

PRINTED BY
NATHANIEL AND BENJAMIN HEATON,
FOR THE AUTHOR.

M,DCC,XCVII.

A
NARRATIVE

OF SOME OF THE
ADVENTURES, DANGERS AND SUFFERINGS

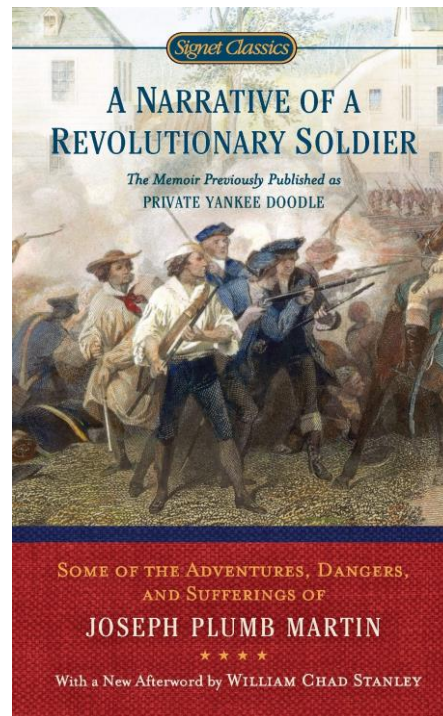
Willie OF A *Shaver*
REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER;

Feb. 13 INTERSPERSED WITH *1836*
ANECDOTES OF INCIDENTS THAT OCCURRED WITHIN HIS
OWN OBSERVATION.

Lucian _____ *Shaver*
WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.
Feb. 13 _____ *1836*

"Long sleepless nights in heavy arms I've stood;
"And spent laborious days in dust and blood."
POPE'S HOMER.

HALLOWELL:
PRINTED BY GLAZIER, MASTERS & CO.
No. 1, Kennebec-Row.
1830.





“turned adrift like old worn-out horses”
Joseph Plumb Martin

“singular hardship...can never be forgotten”
James Madison

John Neagle painted this portrait in 1830, when the nation's attention was drawn to the plight of its aging veterans. The subject was a homeless veteran living on the street in Philadelphia. His name, Neagle said, was Joseph Winter. A German immigrant who arrived in America before the Revolutionary War, Winter was one of thousands of young men who served in the war for American independence. After the war he worked as a weaver in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, but with approaching old age he had lost his livelihood and family and become, in Neagle's words, *“a lone wanderer in a world evincing but little feeling or sympathy for him.”*

A Pensioner of the Revolution, John Neagle, 1830, Oil on canvas.

- 1818 Revolutionary War Pension Act—afforded \$96 year to males serving more than nine months in the regular army “*in reduced circumstances*” who swore “*they were in need of assistance from their country*”
- 1820—indigency by means test adopted
- 1832—indigency test removed
- 1836—extension to widows
- Bryan Rossiter of Connecticut enlisted at age 16 and served until the end of the war as a non-commissioned officer. He was owed back pay, an \$80 bonus, and a warrant for one hundred acres of land, but went home empty handed in 1783. His pension was arrested in 1820 when he failed to demonstrate indigency per they newly legislated test. In 1836 his widow Sarah was granted his pension.
- This portrait of Rossiter in his sergeant at arms uniform includes two white chevrons on his left sleeve, indicating that he had been awarded the Badge of Merit per the order of General George Washington. Each chevron represents three years of service.



Bryan Rossiter, John Trumbull, ca.1806-1808, Oil on canvas.



Ebenezer Huntington, John Trumbull, ca. 1835.



THE OLD SOLDIER—A Fact.

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Printed by order of a few surviving
Soldiers of the Revolution, 1828
The Society of the Cincinnati, The Robert
Charles Lawrence Fergusson Collection

This broadside tells the story Richard Nagle, a veteran from Cambria County Pennsylvania, who walked to Washington DC to seek his pension, was rebuffed by Congress, and met with John Quincy Adams who responded "begone you impostor, and dirty old rascal, or I'll have you horse-whipped." The plight of aging veterans denied pensions was associated with the presidential campaign of Andrew Jackson (running against the incumbent, Adams). This politicized saga of Nagle's treatment suggests that Jackson, a champion of ordinary Americans and a veteran of the Revolutionary War would correct the injustices of the Adams administration.



SERGEANT ANDW. WALLACE.

Aged 105 years.

A Veteran of the REVOLUTION, the rescuer of Lafayette at the Battle of Brandywine.

This extraordinary Man still retains the full power of memory and sound sense, and is a living Chronicle of the days of 'Auld lang syne'.

He was born at Inverness (Scotland) in the year of our Lord 1730, & left his country for America in 1752.— At the commencement of the Revolution, he enlisted in the Service of the U. S. in which he continued with little interruption for nearly 30 years.— He assisted at the most remarkable Battles during the War, escaped the Massacre of Paoli and in the Battle of Brandywine when Lafayette was wounded, rescued him from his perilous situation and bore him on his back about 2 miles to the house of a friend.



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Sergeant Andw. Wallace

ca. 1835

The Society of the Cincinnati, The Robert Charles Lawrence Fergusson Collection



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1860, by RALPH FARNHAM, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court, of the District of Massachusetts.

Ralph Farnham

The above is a PHOTOGRAPH and AUTOGRAPH of RALPH FARNHAM, of Acton, Maine, now in his 105th year. He entered the American Army, in May, 1775, aged 18—was engaged in the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17th, 1775, and is the only survivor of that memorable struggle. These facts are obtained from the Commissioner of Pensions at Washington.

His yearly pension upon which he is dependent for support is only \$61.66.

These Portraits and Autographs are sold for Mr. FARNHAM'S BENEFIT.



ALEXANDER MILLENER, AGED 104,
ONE OF THE SURVIVORS OF THE REVOLUTION.
Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1864, by
N. A. & R. A. Moore, of Hartford, in the clerk's office of the
district court of Connecticut.

The first photographic portraits of Revolutionary War veterans were daguerreotypes, the most common photographic process of the late 1840s and 1850s.

*Photographic print of Ralph Farnham**

1860

The Society of the Cincinnati,
The Robert Charles Lawrence
Fergusson Collection

Alexander Millener, Aged 104
Hartford, Conn.: N.A. & R.A.
Moore

1864

The Society of the Cincinnati,
The Robert Charles Lawrence
Fergusson Collection

*sold with autograph to supplement
Farnham's annual pension of \$61.66



Badge of Military Merit

ca. 1782-1783

Silk, silver braid, and wool twill

Collection of the American Independence Museum, Exeter, NH
and the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New
Hampshire. Gift of William L. Willey.

George Washington's conviction that ordinary soldiers were motivated by honor led him to create the Badge of Military Merit—the first military decoration for enlisted men. Announced on August 7, 1782, the award recognized distinguished conduct and was intended to encourage “virtuous ambition” and “every species of Military merit.” Soldiers honored with the award, Washington directed, “shall be permitted to wear on his facings over the left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth, or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding.”

The record book of those who received this badge of honor has been lost, probably consumed in the fire that consumed the War Department in 1800. Only two reputed examples are known, of which this is one.

The decoration fell out of use after the Revolutionary War, but was revived in 1932 as the Purple Heart.

MILITARY DECORATION: BADGE OF MILITARY MERIT “PURPLE HEART”



The American Independence Museum, located in Exeter, New Hampshire, holds one of the only remaining Purple Hearts from George Washington's era.

Essential Questions

What is the Badge of Military Merit?

Why did George Washington create the Badge of Military Merit?

Who was eligible to receive the Badge of Military Merit and how was this a departure from tradition?

Teacher Background

George Washington announced two awards in the summer of 1782, late in the Revolutionary War. The first award recognized soldiers who honorably served in the Continental Army for more than three years, called the Honorary Badge of Distinction. It consisted of strips of white cloth to be sewn above the left cuff of regimental coats, one for every three years of service. The second—the Badge of Military Merit—would be granted to enlisted men for “singularly meritorious service” and given only for “instances of unusual gallantry. . . extraordinary fidelity and essential service.” Candidates were to be recommended by a soldier or officer and then approved by the commander in chief. General Washington designed the badge to have “the figure of a heart in purple cloth, or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding” to be worn on a soldier’s coat above the left breast. The soldier’s name would be entered into the army’s Book of Merit. The recipient would be permitted to pass guards and sentinels without challenge. The Badge of Military Merit honored

Reading Comprehension

1. What are the reasons General Washington gives for creating the Badge of Military Merit?
2. Who was eligible to receive the Badge of Military Merit?
3. What benefits would a recipient of the Badge of Military Merit receive?

Class Discussion

1. Why would General Washington want to recognize the amount of time soldiers had served in the army?
2. Why would General Washington want to severely punish soldiers who wear the Honorary Badge of Distinction signaling three or six years of service in the army when they did not earn it?
3. What was General Washington trying to accomplish by creating the Badge of Military Merit?
4. How was it a departure from tradition to make the Badge of Military Merit an eligible award for ordinary soldiers? What did this award indicate about the type of country General Washington envisioned?



The American Revolution Institute
of the Society of the Cincinnati
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Washington, DC 20008

www.AmericanRevolutionInstitute.org

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THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION INSTITUTE of The Society of the Cincinnati

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ABOUT VISIT EVENTS COLLECTIONS LIBRARY EXHIBITIONS BATTLEFIELDS CLASSROOM BLOG ASSOCIATES

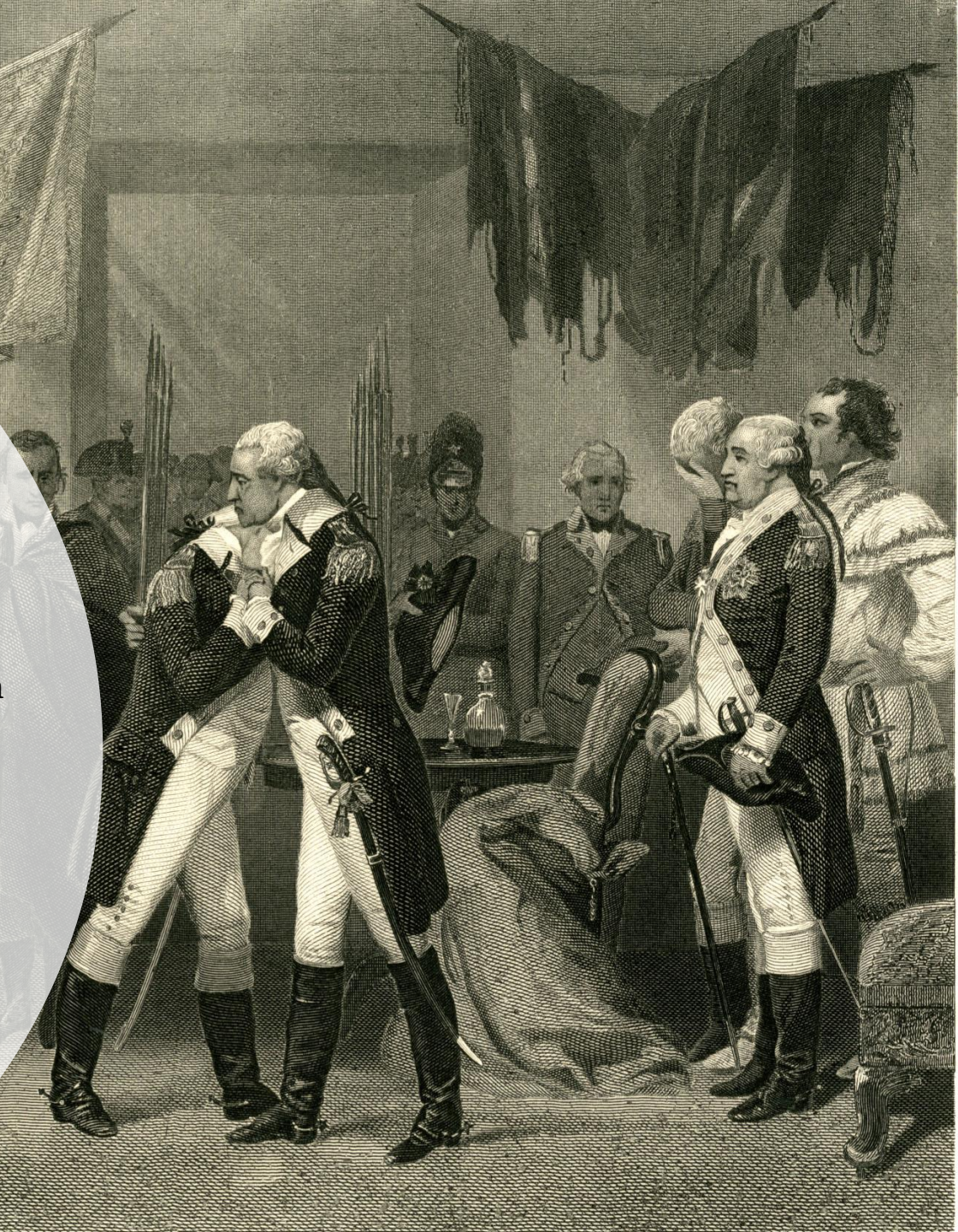
about OUR GOALS, ORGANIZATION AND WORK *learn, share and engage*



What is *The American Revolution Institute?*

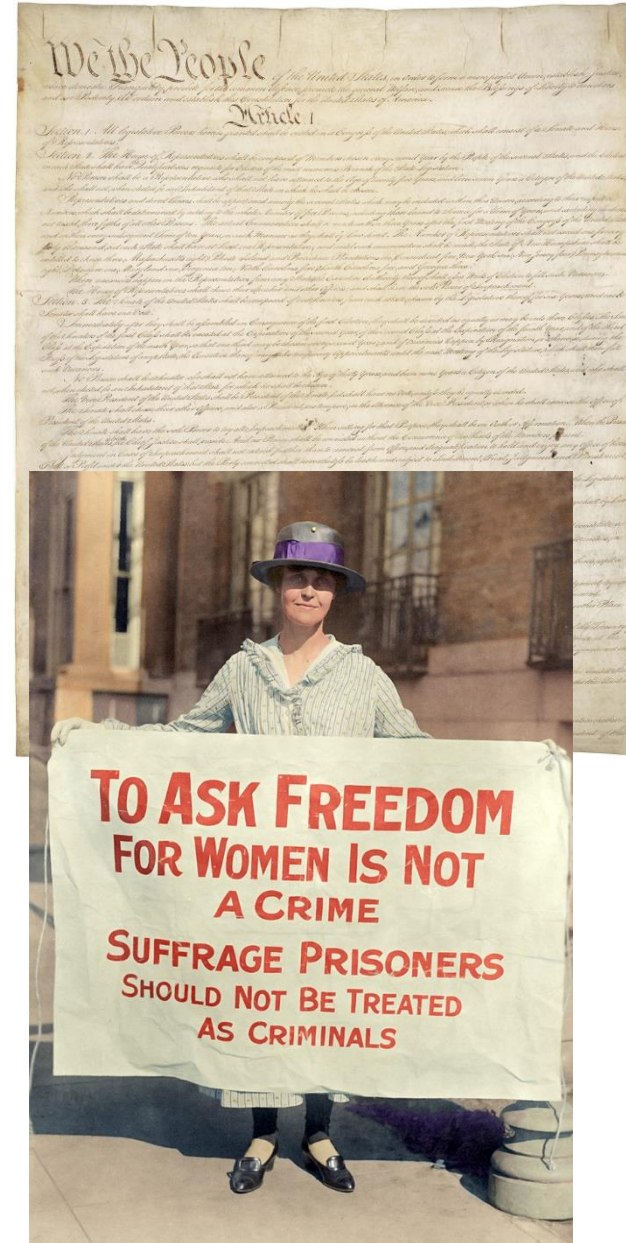
In 2012, the Society of the Cincinnati created the American Revolution Institute to renew appreciation of the history and ideals of our revolutionary generation and to affirm the Society's commitment to promote and support effective education on the American Revolution and its legacy.

The American Revolution Institute provides a thoughtful, historical framework to prepare young Americans to assess modern issues and become active participants in American society.



The American Revolution...

- *secured our national independence,*
- *established our republic,*
- *created our national identity,*
- *and articulated our ideals of liberty, equality, civic responsibility and natural and civil rights* that have shaped our nation's history and will shape the future of the world.



Teacher Programs

- MASTER TEACHERS SEMINAR
Washington DC, July 2021
- TEACHER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS
Florida, South Carolina, Massachusetts,
Connecticut, Virginia, NCSS, NCHE



TRAVELING TRUNKS:


Continental Army

Longfellow K-8 Spanish Immersion
Magnet School, San Diego, CA

Continentalists in California!

Crossing the Delaware in San Diego?






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ABOUT VISIT EVENTS COLLECTIONS LIBRARY EXHIBITIONS BATTLEFIELDS CLASSROOM

A central premise of *Imagining the Revolution* is that the American Revolution created our national identity. That identity is reflected in the visual images of the Revolution. Some of those images, like John Trumbull's depiction of the Battle of Bunker Hill and Emanuel Leutze's *The Great Westward Journey*, have been reproduced hundreds and even thousands of times, and are fundamental parts of our shared national identity.




Imagining Lexington

This first lesson introduces *Imagining the Revolution* and prompts students to consider how the first published image of the Battle of Lexington has shaped the way generations of Americans have viewed the event.




Imagining Princeton

This lesson invites students to compare James Peale's eyewitness depiction of the Battle of Princeton with John Trumbull's complex masterpiece, *The Death of General Mercer at the Battle of Princeton*.



Imagining Bunker Hill

This lesson invites students to consider the meaning of contemporary Americans attached to John Trumbull's depiction of the first major battle of the Revolutionary War by comparing it to an image of the battle created within weeks of the event.



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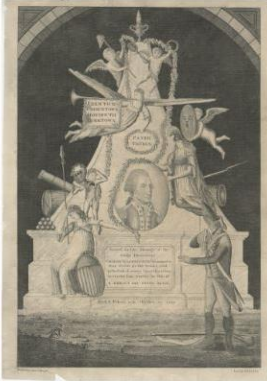
ABOUT VISIT EVENTS COLLECTIONS LIBRARY EXHIBITIONS BATTLEFIELDS CLASSROOM BLOG ASSOCIATES

Collections for the Classroom: Preserving the Memory of George Washington and The Property of the Nation

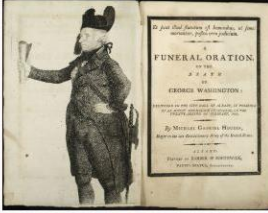
HOME / COLLECTIONS FOR THE CLASSROOM: PRESERVING THE MEMORY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON AND THE PROPERTY OF THE NATION

American Revolution Institute Educator Book Club

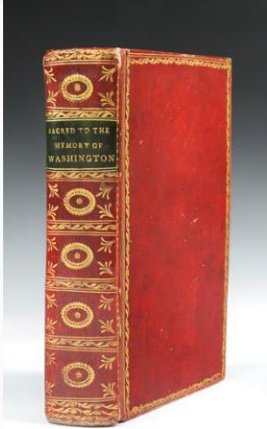
Washington, D.C., Fall 2019




Sacred to the memory of the truly illustrious George Washington
John Coles (ca. 1776-1854)
1800
The Robert Charles Lawrence Fergusson Collection
Image of a monument to George Washington with allegorical figures of Minerva, and Fame, whose trumpet hangs a banner inscribed: "Trenton, Bunker Hill, Monmouth, Yorktown." & how I look




A Funeral Oration, on the Death of George Washington: Delivered in the City Hall of Albany, in Presence of an August Assemblage of Citizens, on the Twenty-second of February, 1800
Michael Gabriel Houdin
Albany: Printed by Barber & Southwick
The Robert Charles Lawrence Fergusson Collection
Michel Gabriel Houdin, born in France, served in the Massachusetts Continental Line and became an original member of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati. Among the hundreds of eulogies published on Washington's death, Houdin's pamphlet has the distinction of featuring as the frontispiece an engraved portrait of the author rather than of Washington.



Sacred to the Memory of Washington
1800
The Robert Charles Lawrence Fergusson Collection
The bound volume contains 25 eulogies on the death



Daguerreotypes of portraits of George and Martha Washington
John L. Grubb, Alexandria, Va.
Mid-19th century
Gift of Henry Irvine Keyser II, 1960
This pair of daguerreotypes reproduces well-known portraits of George and Martha Washington both originally painted around 1796—James Sharples' profile portrait of General Washington and Gilbert Stuart's Athenaeum portrait of the general's wife. These keepsakes are enclosed in a hinged leather-covered case.



Digital Teaching Resources and Lessons

What to Do

Take a Tour

Plan Your Visit

The Revolutionary War

Master Teacher Lesson Plans



HOME / THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Yorktown Perspectives: Comparing and Contrasting French and American Views of the Siege a

Becky Stoltzfus, Kokomo School District, Kokomo, Indiana



The Critical Time After Yorktown

William M. Fowler, Jr.

Professor of History, Northeastern University

April 5, 2013

00:43:39

Many people assume that the Revolutionary War ended with the surrender of the British army at Yorktown in October 1781. In fact, the war continued for two more traumatic years. During that time, the Revolution came as close to being lost as any time in the preceding six years. When Congress failed to pay the army, rumors of mutiny roiled through the ranks, culminating in George Washington's legendary address to his officers in Newburgh, New York, on March 15, 1783. Professor Fowler chronicles the events of the last two years of the war and discusses how Washington saved the republic.

[Part 1 of 8: The Revolutionary War After Yorktown \(6:51\)](#)

[Part 2 of 8: War on the Hudson: The Continental Army in Newburgh \(8:46\)](#)

[Part 3 of 8: Alexander Hamilton and the Nationalists of Congress \(5:29\)](#)

[Part 4 of 8: How Congress Tried to Corrupt Revolutionary War Generals \(5:39\)](#)

[Part 5 of 8: The Newburgh Conspiracy: Revolt During the Revolution \(5:14\)](#)

[Part 6 of 8: George Washington's Newburgh Address \(5:54\)](#)

[Part 7 of 8: The Newburgh Address: Washington's Sight and the Speech \(4:11\)](#)

[Part 8 of 8: Retreating to Mount Vernon and the Treaty of Paris \(3:31\)](#)

Digital Teaching Resources and Lessons

Revolutionary CHOICES

February 2019 Field Testing

Alice Deal Middle School

Washington, DC

The American Revolutionaries won their independence while nurturing liberty and unity, creating a continental republic of free citizens. Doing as well is the challenge of *Revolutionary Choices*, the American Revolution Institute's new educational video game.

Players face the dilemmas confronted by the revolutionaries as they struggle to recruit and supply troops, win French support, suppress loyalists and defeat the British without trampling on rights or fracturing the union.





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