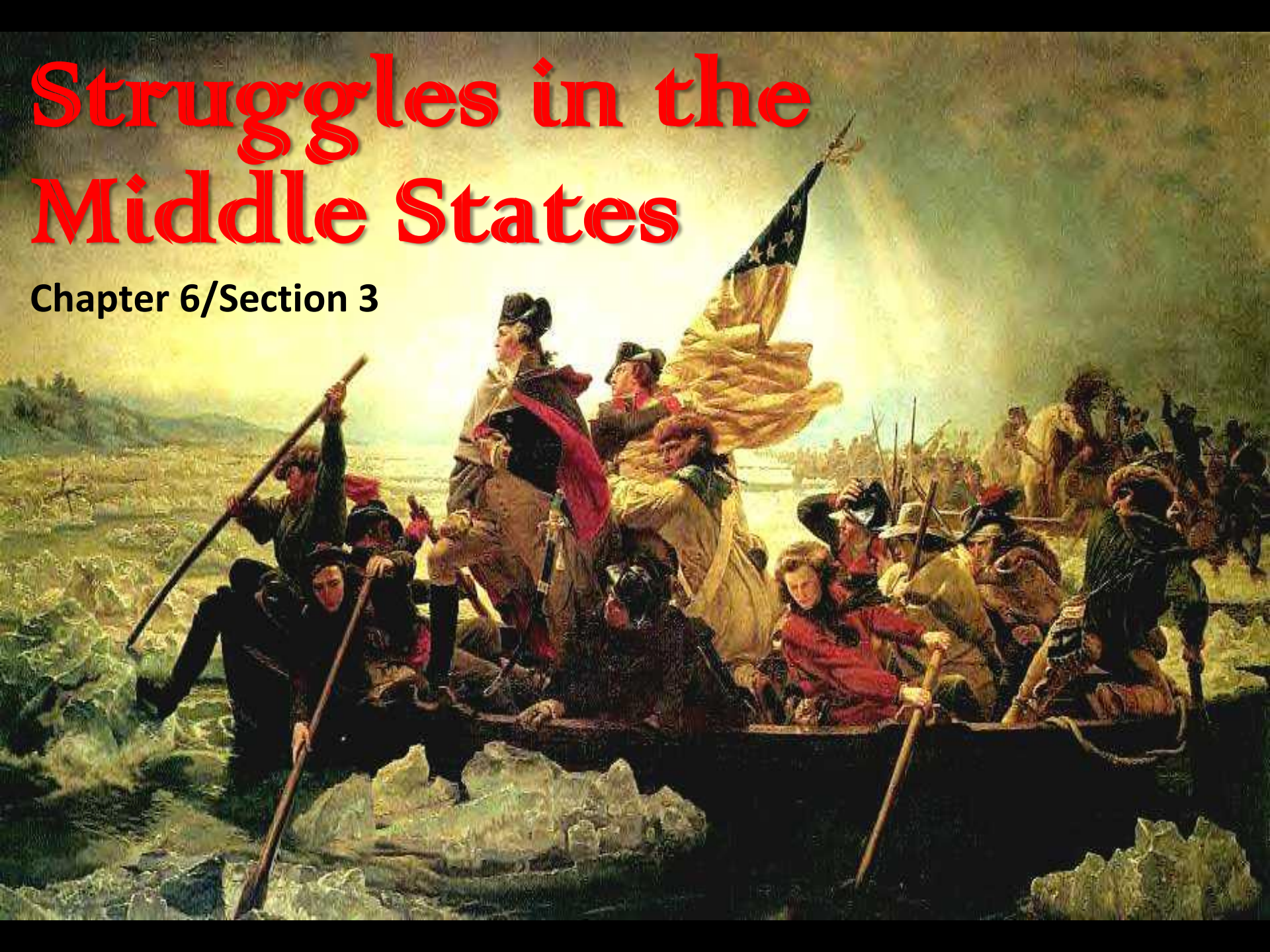
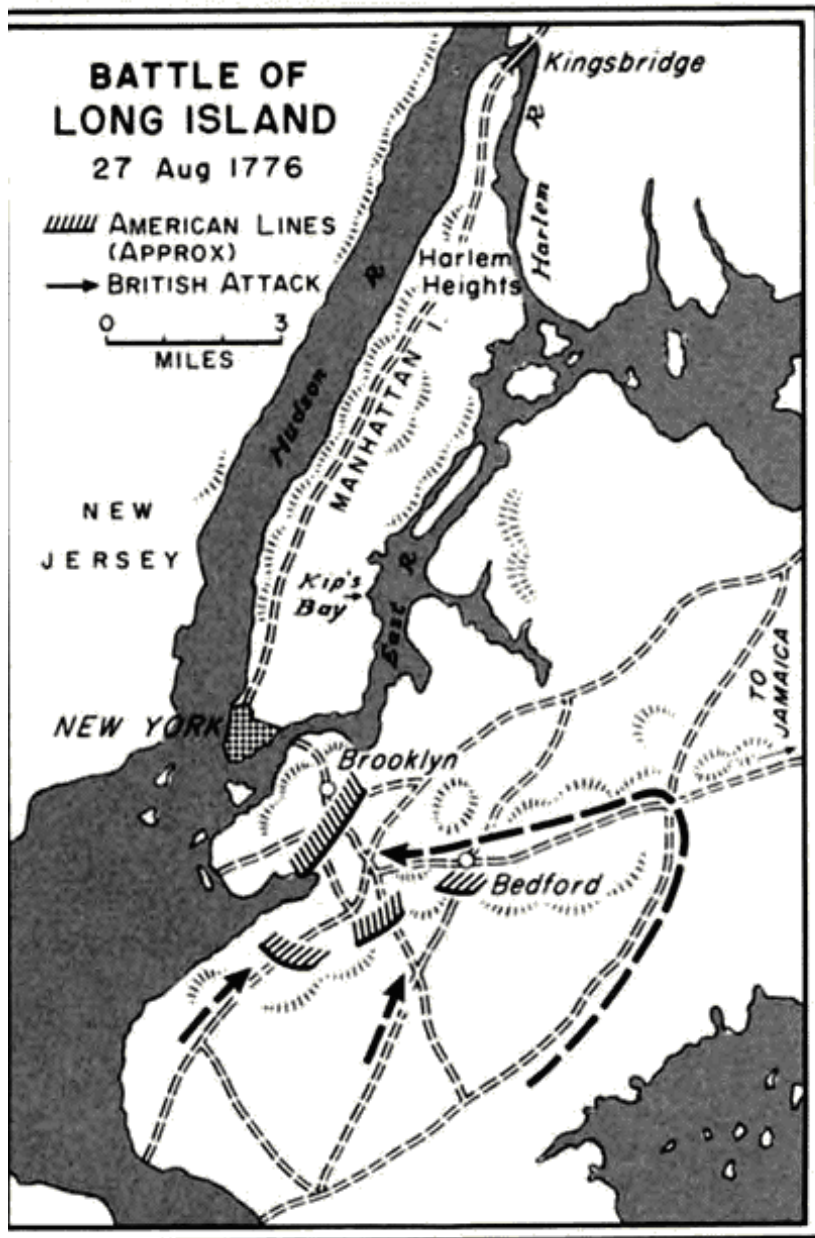


Struggles in the Middle States

Chapter 6/Section 3



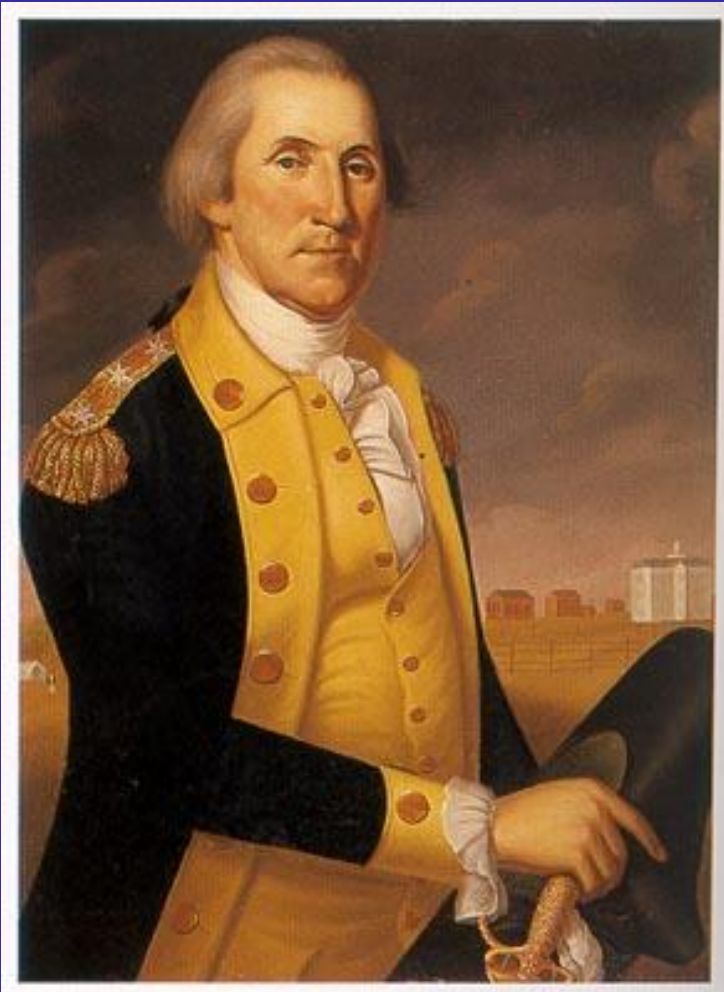


In **June 1776**, British ships moved into New York harbor.

The ships carried thousands of British troops and signaled a shift in fighting from New England into the Middle States.

In August 1776, the **Battle of Long Island** signaled the beginning of bleak times for the Continental Army.

The commanders of the opposing armies were:



**General
George Washington**



**General
William Howe**



Washington had fewer than **20,000 poorly trained troops** and **no navy**.

Howe had **34,000 troops** and **10,000 sailors**.

What do you think was the result of these battles for New York City?





When the fighting on Long Island ended, **1,400 Americans were killed, wounded, or captured.** Washington was forced to **retreat** north in order to avoid being captured by the British.



Throughout the fall, Washington's retreating forces fought a series of skirmishes with Howe's advancing army.

In November 1776, Washington crossed the **Hudson River** into **New Jersey**.

Finally, they crossed the **Delaware River** into **Pennsylvania** to stay ahead of the British pursuit.

Washington needed information about the British forces in New York, so a young officer named **Nathan Hale** volunteered to go behind British lines...

What would be his job description? *(Use one adjective)*

COURAGEOUS



Unfortunately, secret notes about British troop movements were found in the soles of his shoes. He was ordered hanged the next morning. While being walked to the gallows, he is reported to have said:

“I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country!!”

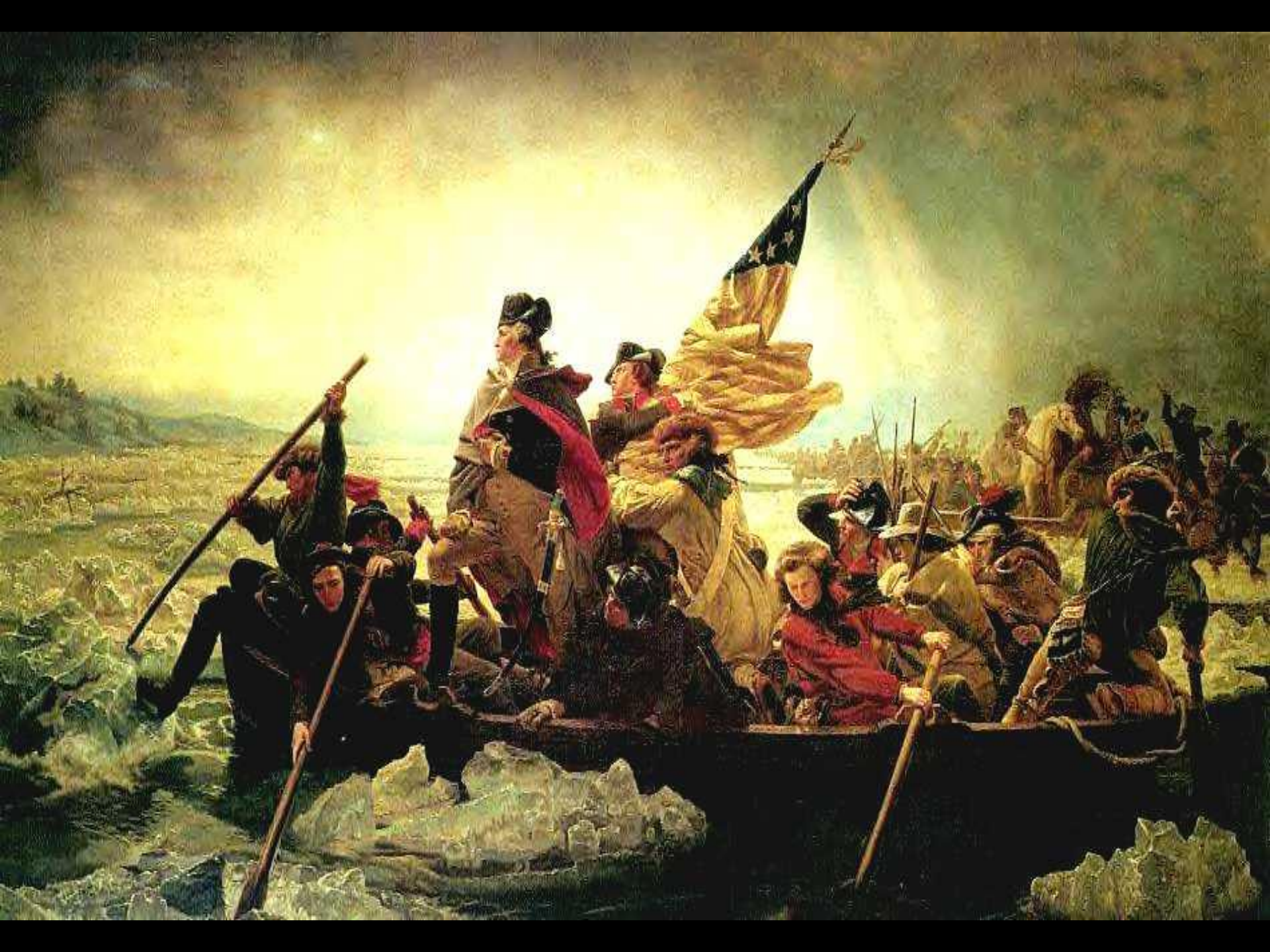
Think/Pair/Share...

**“I regret that I have
but one life to lose
for my country!!”**

**Please write down your thoughts about
this phrase, then turn to a partner to
quietly share your comments. You have
two minutes to complete this task ...**



Please describe what is going on in the painting above. Be descriptive (using adjectives) with your predictions. Again, you have **two minutes** to complete this task ...





On **Christmas night 1776**, **Gen. Washington and his troops** crossed the frozen **Delaware River**, braving freezing temperatures and a lack of proper clothing, to make a daring **surprise attack at Trenton, NJ**. Why? He was **tired of running away** from his enemy.



	Actual Facts:
Who?	Gen. Washington & his troops
What?	Surprise attack
Where?	Delaware River at Trenton, NJ
When?	Christmas night 1776
Why?	He was tired of running away



With this daring raid, the exhausted Continental Army managed to capture most of the German Hessian army that was staying across the river in Trenton.

An American soldier summed up the **Battle of Trenton** this way: **“Hessian population of Trenton at 8:00 A.M.--1,408 men and 39 officers; Hessian population at 9 A.M.--0.”** (*Washington’s thoughts at 10 A.M.--priceless!!*)

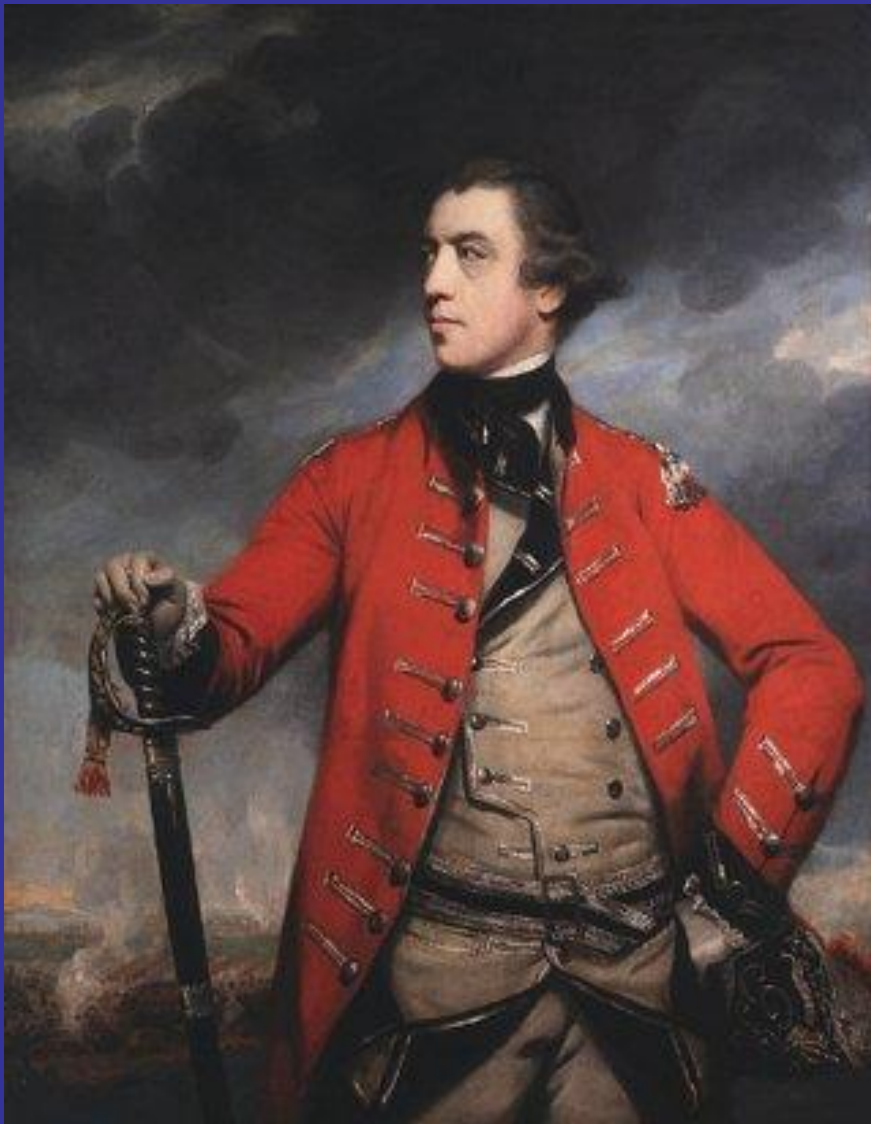
To recover from the Trenton embarrassment, **General Charles Cornwallis** set out to retake Trenton and capture Washington and his troops.

Late on **2 January 1777**, Cornwallis and his men spotted the burning campfires of the Continental Army camp in Trenton and planned to attack in the morning...



General Cornwallis

Little did they know that they had been fooled!! Washington left the fires to burn while his forces slipped behind British lines to attack a British force that was headed toward **Princeton, New Jersey**.



**General
“Gentleman John”
Burgoyne**

The Americans had been **victorious** at Trenton and Princeton, much to the **dismay** of British officials back home...

Meanwhile, back in England, **General John Burgoyne** came up with a new plan to end the war quickly...

His plan was to march three armies to Albany, New York, to **take control of the Hudson River and cut off New England from the other colonies.**



Burgoyne wanted Howe to march directly to Albany, but he was ordered by **King George III** to capture **Philadelphia, PA**. Howe achieved this in July 1777. But instead of moving north, Howe decided to stay in Philadelphia in relative comfort for the winter.

This left Burgoyne on his own to face a tough American army, led by **Benedict Arnold**, in northern New York.

Burgoyne would eventually take back Fort Ticonderoga but his success ended there.



**General
Benedict Arnold**
(later became a traitor)



Unfortunately, Burgoyne's army would be surrounded at the **Battle of Saratoga** by Arnold's troops with the help of the Green Mountain Boys. They tried to break free, but were pushed back. Burgoyne realized he was trapped...



...and surrendered his entire army to the Americans on **17 October 1777**. This was **(1) a major turning point in the war, (2) ended the British threat to New England, and (3) convinced France to become our ally.**



Louis XVI
King of France

The Americans had been hoping for French aid since early 1776, when the Continental Congress sent **Benjamin Franklin** to Paris asking for money, weapons, and supplies. Also, Congress wanted France to declare war on Britain.

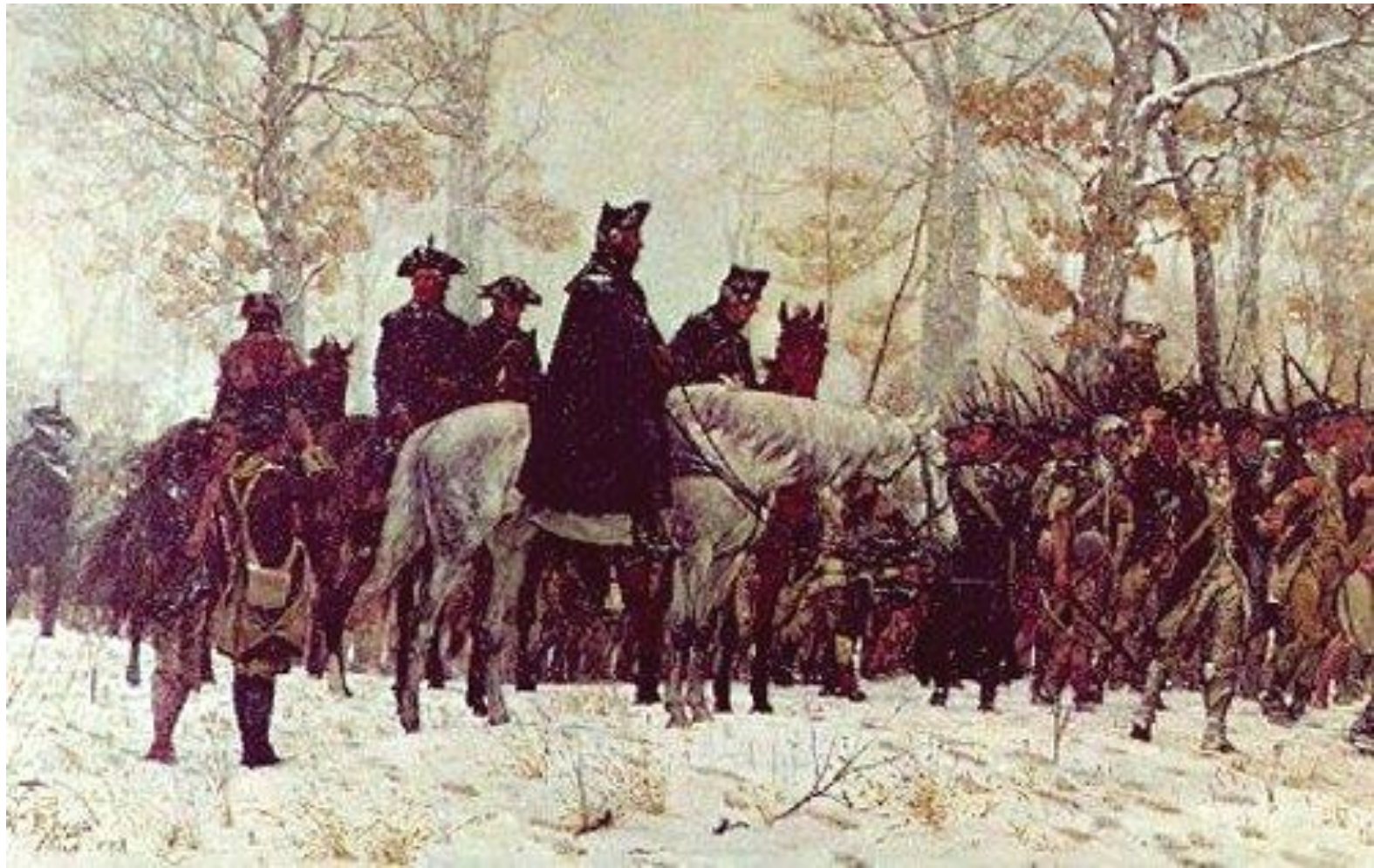
The French were eager to get revenge for their defeat in the French and Indian War, but they were also cautious.

The victory at Saratoga convinced France that the United States could stand up to Britain and proved to be the HIGH POINT of the war in 1777.



Despite improved morale from their recent victories, the Continental Army still faced hardships at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, during the long, cold winter of 1777-1778. **Soldiers experienced terrible suffering from frostbite and diseases in the extreme winter conditions.**

Food and supplies would eventually come from the citizens around the nation as they heard about the suffering. Some would even go to Valley Forge to help out. **Valley Forge would be the LOW POINT of the war in 1777 for the Continental Army.**



**Any
Questions,
Comments,
or Concerns?**