

ceeded in creating a panic in St. Leger's troops. They abandoned the siege and fled to the west, hopelessly scattered. To add to Burgoyne's difficulties, he did not receive the expected support of Howe's army at New York, Howe having failed to get orders to that effect until too late. The news of the successes at Bennington and Fort Stanwix, and the wrath occasioned by the atrocities of the Indian allies of the British brought hundreds of recruits to the American army and enabled Schuyler to make preparations for a battle.

284. Battles of Saratoga.—At this critical moment news came that Congress had removed Schuyler from command and appointed Gates in his stead.¹ Schuyler bore the injustice nobly and lent every assistance to his successor. On September 19, near Saratoga, a desperate but indecisive battle was fought. Both armies then remained three weeks in their intrenchments, Burgoyne's position growing daily more perilous on account of his scant supplies and the increasing numbers of his opponents. Then another battle was fought on the same ground (October 7). Gates had quarreled with Arnold and stripped him of his command. But nevertheless Arnold without orders rushed into the thickest of the fight, placed himself at the head of his old command, who received him with cheers, and won the victory while Gates stayed in his tent.

285. Surrender of Burgoyne.—Burgoyne, with his army beaten and dispirited, cut off from supplies, and surrounded by a force three times as large as his own, decided to surrender. On the 17th of October the papers were signed, and the entire British army of over six thousand men laid down their arms. It was agreed that a passage to Great Britain should be granted to the troops on condition of their not serving again in the

¹ Not long before this, Congress had grossly offended Arnold by promoting subordinate officers over him, on the ground that his state, Connecticut, already had two generals. The unjust treatment of Schuyler was also due to state prejudices.

war. (Congress failed to carry out this agreement. The captured men remained in this country as prisoners of war until the close of the struggle.)

286. Results of the Surrender.—After this great victory the American forces occupied Ticonderoga and all the forts on the northern frontier. The British plan to cut the United States in two by seizing the Hudson valley had failed. The news of the capture of a whole British army awakened the wildest joy from Maine to Georgia, completely counteracting the depressing effects of Brandywine and Germantown (§§ 288 and 289). Best of all, the victory hastened the decision of the French government to acknowledge the independence of the United States and to form an alliance with them. From the beginning of the struggle the sympathies of France had been with the Americans and against her old enemy, England. Her brave Lafayette had voluntarily left country and friends to fight for American liberty. Shiploads of supplies and large sums of money had been secretly sent over. The American commissioners in Paris, Franklin, Deane, and Arthur Lee, had been urging an alliance. In February, 1778, a treaty of alliance was signed, and a French fleet was sent over to aid the Americans.



Lafayette.

3. CAMPAIGNS AROUND PHILADELPHIA.

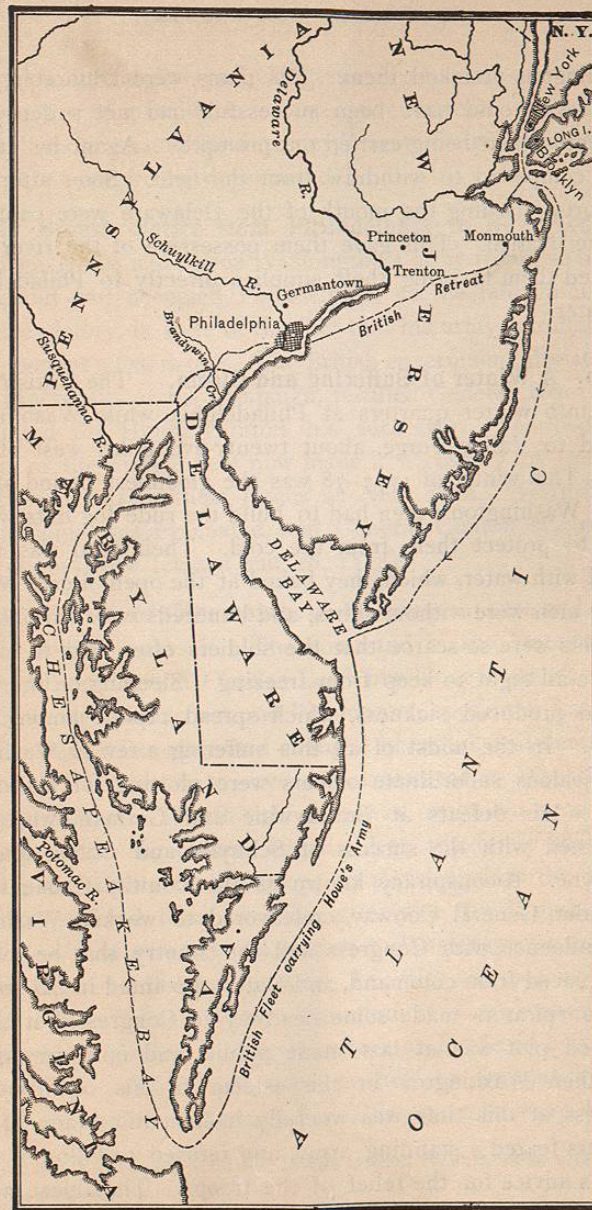
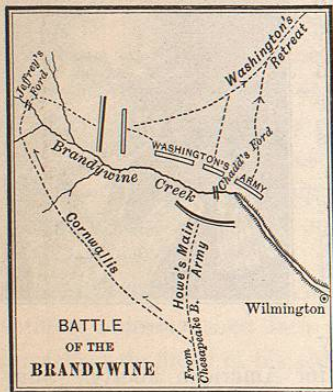
287. Plan of the British.—Howe, instead of ascending the Hudson to cooperate with Burgoyne, as every one expected him to do, decided to advance upon Philadelphia, the "rebel capital." His first intention was to lead his army from New

York by land, but the skillful manœuvering of Washington caused him to abandon this attempt. He then embarked his troops, coasted south, entered Chesapeake Bay, and sailed up to its head, where he landed his army for their march to Philadelphia. As soon as Washington was certain of his enemy's movements, he hastened to oppose him, while Schuyler and Gates were endeavoring to check Burgoyne in northern New York.

288. **Battle of the Brandywine.** — To oppose the British advance on Philadelphia, Washington stationed his army at Chad's Ford on Brandywine Creek, directly in their line of march. Howe divided his forces and while one division remained at Chad's Ford, Cornwallis led another across the stream several miles above, and fell upon Washington's flank. Although not routed, the Americans were driven from the field with heavy loss (September 11, 1777, eight days before the first battle of Saratoga). This was the first

American battle in which the young French Marquis Lafayette participated. Both he and the Polish Count Pulaski showed conspicuous gallantry in the fight.

289. **Philadelphia taken; Battle of Germantown.** — The British army then took possession of Philadelphia, marching proudly into the city with bands playing and colors flying. Congress hastily adjourned to Lancaster, then to York, Pennsylvania. The main body of Howe's troops was stationed at Germantown, five miles from Philadelphia. Here on the 4th of October (three days before the second battle of Saratoga)



British Campaign against Philadelphia.

Washington attacked them. His plans were admirable, and doubtless would have been successful, had not a dense fog prevented their being carried out promptly. Again his troops were compelled to withdraw from the field. Soon afterward the forts guarding the mouth of the Delaware were captured by the British. This gave them possession of the river and enabled them to bring their supplies directly to Philadelphia by water.

290. A Winter of Suffering and Gloom.—The British now went into winter quarters at Philadelphia, while Washington retired to Valley Forge, about twenty-five miles west of the city. This winter of 1777-78 was the gloomiest period of the war. Washington's men had to build the rude log huts which were to protect them from the cold. Their food was flour mixed with water, which they baked at the open fires. Many of the men were without shirts, and hundreds were barefooted. Blankets were so scarce that the soldiers often had to sit by the fire all night to keep from freezing. Sleeping on the cold ground produced sickness, which spread rapidly among the troops. In the midst of all this suffering a few of Washington's jealous subordinate officers were plotting for his overthrow. His defeats at Brandywine and Germantown were contrasted with the success of Schuyler and Gates against Burgoyne. A conspiracy known as the Conway Cabal, from its leader, General Conway, endeavored to weaken Washington's influence with Congress and the country, that he might be displaced from command, and Gates appointed in his stead. The conspirators made some headway in Congress, but their wretched plot was at last made public, and only served to strengthen Washington in the esteem of his countrymen. Congress at this time was woefully inefficient. Many of its members feared a standing army, and refused to follow Washington's advice for the relief of the troops. The ablest mem-

bers of the first and second Congresses had accepted positions either in the army or in their state governments. "The Continental Congress and the currency," wrote Gouverneur Morris in 1778, "have greatly depreciated."

291. British Retire from Philadelphia to New York.—Although Howe had driven Washington's army from two battlefields, and had occupied Philadelphia, yet he had gained no decisive victory, in spite of the fact that his army outnumbered his opponent's two to one. The British government, dissatisfied with the results of his campaign, recalled General Howe, and appointed Sir Henry Clinton his successor. The expected arrival of the French fleet now made it necessary for the British to concentrate their forces at New York. Accordingly, Philadelphia was evacuated, and General Clinton started his army across New Jersey (June 18, 1778).

292. Battle of Monmouth.—Washington hastened from Valley Forge in pursuit. The command of the American advance fell to General Charles Lee,¹ but being opposed to an attack he declined to act, and Washington appointed Lafayette in his stead. Lee afterward changed his mind, and demanded his place. Lafayette, to save embarrassment to Washington, at once yielded. The British army was overtaken near Monmouth, and an engagement began. Lee, apparently having no faith in the ability of his troops to stand against the British regulars, ordered them to retire, greatly to the disgust of his men. As soon as word was carried to Washington, he dashed to the front at full speed, meeting Lee with his men in full retreat. Overwhelmed with indignation at Lee's conduct, he rebuked that general in severest terms, and ordered him to the rear. Then rallying the troops, he held his ground till night ended the conflict. At midnight Clinton stole away, leaving

¹ Lee had been exchanged for the British general, Prescott, whom a few Americans had surprised and captured.

his dead unburied. Neither side had been defeated, yet in effect the battle was a victory for the Americans. The next day Lee wrote an insolent note to Washington, demanding an apology for his language on the battlefield. He was placed under arrest and tried for disobedience to orders, misbehavior on the field, and disrespect to the commander-in-chief. Convicted on all three charges, he was suspended from his command for one year. He never returned to the army, but spent the rest of his life as a hermit on his estate.

293. Indian Massacres. — In the northeastern part of Pennsylvania, where the Susquehanna river breaks through the mountains, is the beautiful valley of Wyoming. In the summer of 1778 a party of British and Indians swept down upon this peaceful region. The men were nearly all away in the Continental armies. A small force hastily collected to oppose the invaders was beaten. Scenes of horrible cruelty followed. The whole valley was laid waste, helpless women and children were burned at the stake, or put to death with sickening tortures. Cherry Valley, in central New York, was attacked a few months later, and its inhabitants were treated in the same horrible manner. In the summer of the next year (1779), Washington sent an army under General Sullivan into western New York to break up the strongholds of the Indians and Tories in that region. Sullivan defeated the enemy's force, and proceeded to burn their villages, destroy their growing crops, and cut down their fruit trees. The Indians never recovered from this crushing blow.

294. The War Transferred to the South. — After the battle of Monmouth Clinton retired to New York, while Washington remained in striking distance of the city to watch every movement of his enemy. Save for an unsuccessful attack upon the British garrison at Newport, Rhode Island, by a land force under General Sullivan, aided by a French fleet (in the sum-

mer of 1778), there was no other military movement of any consequence in the states north of Virginia during the rest of the war. The cherished plan of the British to cut the United States in two by seizing the middle division had failed. Henceforth they directed their efforts to conquering the Southern states.

295. Summary of War in the Middle States. — The plan of the British was to cut the United States in two by taking possession of the Hudson or Delaware rivers. They first attempted to seize the Hudson. General Howe won the battle of Long Island, then took New York City, and drove Washington up to North Castle. Fort Washington on the Hudson was surrendered to the British. Washington, having crossed into New Jersey, was compelled to retreat across that state, escaping over the Delaware. On Christmas night he won a brilliant victory at Trenton, and another ten days later at Princeton. The British general, Burgoyne, supported by St. Leger, made an attempt to seize the Hudson River from the north. This campaign ended in the surrender of Burgoyne to Gates at Saratoga, October 17, 1777. France then formed an alliance with the United States, and sent over ships and men to our aid. Meanwhile General Howe determined to seize Philadelphia and the Delaware River. Advancing by way of Chesapeake Bay, he gained the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, and occupied Philadelphia. Washington's army spent a terrible winter at Valley Forge. The expected arrival of the French fleet caused the British to retire to New York. Washington followed them and fought an indecisive battle at Monmouth. The war was then transferred to the South.

296. Thought Questions. — Why was it so difficult for Washington to defend New York City? Why was control of the Hudson so important? On what previous occasions did New York City surrender to a foreign fleet? In the campaigns around New York City, mention two instances in which Washington's orders were not obeyed. What was the result in each case? What results might have followed if Washington had attempted to hold New York City? What evidence of good generalship did Washington show in the escape from Long Island and the subsequent retreat? in his operations during the two weeks beginning Christmas day, 1776? Mention the battles in which General Arnold has taken part up to this point in the war. What were the causes of the failure of the British attempt to take the Hudson River from the north? Who deserves most

credit for the capture of Burgoyne? Why was France more willing to aid us than was Holland or Spain? In which of the campaigns in the Middle states was the greatest military skill displayed by American commanders? Which campaign was most decisive in its results? Why did the British consider control of the Delaware River important? Were the money and supplies of the French, or their land troops, or their fleet most needed by the Americans? How was Washington hampered by Congress? by his subordinate officers?

IV. THE WAR BEYOND THE FRONTIERS.

(1778-79.)

I. WEST OF THE ALLEGHANIES.

297. **Clark's Conquest of the Illinois Country.**—The region between the Ohio River and the Great Lakes was claimed by Virginia under her charter of 1609, but a recent act of Parliament had declared it part of the British Province of Quebec. In 1778, George Rogers Clark, member of the Virginia Legislature from the "County of Kentucky," formed the bold plan of seizing the British forts between the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Governor

Patrick Henry and the Legislature of Virginia approved the plan, and granted Clark a small equipment of troops and supplies. Under a leader of less enthusiasm and strength of will than this "Hannibal of the West," the hazardous enterprise would have been a failure. But Clark's little band,



Clark's Expedition.

sometimes marching for days without food, crossed trackless prairies, waded through miles of overflowed river-bottoms, overawed hostile Indians, and finally reaching the British posts in Illinois and Indiana, compelled them to surrender. The neighboring French settlers were made to swear allegiance to Virginia. This territory was at once constituted a county of Virginia, and was named the County of Illinois. The fact that it had been conquered by Clark, and was held by American troops at the close of the war was the basis of the claim to its ownership made by the United States and finally admitted by Great Britain in the treaty of peace. But for the genius of George Rogers Clark, the Ohio River, instead of the Great Lakes, would probably have been fixed as the southern boundary of British America. (§ 329.)

298. **The Indians of the Southwest.**—Constant efforts were made by British agents to arouse the Indians on the western frontiers of the Southern states. During the early years of the Revolution, there were frequent conflicts between the savages and the militia of Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia. In the latter part of the war, the Indians were kept quiet chiefly through the efforts of General Joseph Martin, Indian agent for Virginia, who made his home among them and wielded a great influence over them. It was this peaceful condition of the savages that made the victory at King's Mountain possible, by enabling the frontiersmen who won that battle to leave their homes for a time unprotected.¹

2. ON THE OCEAN.

299. **Naval Forces of the United States.**—At the beginning of the war Congress organized a little navy of five ships with Esek Hopkins, of Rhode Island, commander-in-chief.

¹ In 1779, Spanish troops under Governor Galvez, of New Orleans, captured the British forts on the lower Mississippi. Within the next two years, they also took Mobile and Pensacola.

Before the war was over, almost every one of these vessels had been captured, or burned to avoid capture. Several states maintained independent naval forces of their own. But the combined navies of Congress and the separate states were unable to cope with the power of Great Britain on the sea. Until the very close of the war, little aid was rendered by the French fleet. Our most effective service on the ocean was performed by the numerous privateers commissioned by Congress. These inflicted untold damage on British commerce.



300. Paul Jones's Victory.—The most noteworthy naval battle of the war was fought on the North Sea, near the coast of England, off Flamborough Head. Here on September 23, 1779, a brilliant victory was gained by an American squadron under Captain John Paul Jones. Jones was a young Scotchman who had emigrated to New England, and had been appointed by Congress, captain in the United States navy. While cruising in the North Sea with a little fleet of French and American ships, Jones attacked two British men-of-war that were escorting a number of merchant vessels. Jones's own ship, the *Bon Homme Richard* (so named from the "Good Man Richard" of Franklin's Almanac) attacked the



Paul Jones.

enemy's *Serapis*. The two ships were lashed together and fought until both took fire, and Jones's vessel was on the point of sinking. At last the *Serapis* surrendered, and Jones had barely transferred his men to the conquered ship when his own vessel sank. The other English ship was also captured.

301. Summary.—Under the authority of the State of Virginia, George Rogers Clark led a party of militia against the British posts in the Illinois country, then held by Great Britain as part of her Province of Quebec. Clark's expedition was successful, and the territory north-west of the Ohio was organized as a county of Virginia. Its occupation by Virginian troops had an important bearing on the question of boundary as agreed upon subsequently in the treaty of peace.

The Indians on the western frontiers were a source of constant danger. The expedition of General Sullivan in the North (§ 293), and the efforts of militia leaders together with skillful diplomacy of our Indian agents in the South served to hold them in check. In 1779 Captain Paul Jones gained a brilliant naval victory off the coast of England.

302. Thought Questions.—What independent part did Virginia play in the Revolutionary struggle? What results followed from it? How do you account for French settlements in the Illinois country? Why were the Indians so much less important in the Revolution than in the French wars? Why were so few victories on the ocean won by the United States?

V. WAR IN THE SOUTH.

(1778-1781.)

303. Plan of the British.—The successful defense of Fort Moultrie in the early part of the war (§ 269) had checked the first attempt of the British to subdue the Southern colonies. Defeated now in the New England and Middle states, they determined to renew their efforts for the subjugation of the South. Their plan was first to overcome Georgia and South Carolina, then from these states to work their way northward. Accordingly Clinton ordered part of his army under command of Colonel Campbell to sail from New York. To oppose this

movement Congress placed General Lincoln in command of the Southern department.

I. IN GEORGIA AND THE CAROLINAS.

304. Fall of Savannah and Augusta. — Savannah, Georgia, was the first point of attack. Before Lincoln could arrive,



General Lincoln.

the small force of defenders had been beaten, and the town had fallen into the hands of the British (December, 1778). The invaders then ascended the Savannah River and captured Augusta. General Prevost, commanding the troops in the British territory of Florida, now took command of the united forces of the enemy.

305. Georgia Overrun by the British. — The militia of South Carolina and Georgia rallied under command of Colonels Pickens and Clarke, and defeated a detachment of the British at Kettle Creek, Georgia. Soon afterward, however, a division of Lincoln's army under General Ashe was surprised and beaten at Briar Creek. Georgia seemed now (spring of 1779) completely in the power of the British. The royal governor was reinstated, and the old colonial government restored.

306. Events in the North. — While these events were going on in the South, General Clinton at New York was sending out small marauding parties to various points on the Atlantic coast. In Connecticut, New Jersey, and Virginia, coast towns were plundered and burned, citizens murdered, and ladies insulted. At the same time, Clinton ascended the Hudson and captured the fort guarding the river at Stony Point. Washington sent General Wayne (called "Mad Anthony Wayne" from his desper-

ate bravery) to recapture the place. Wayne determined upon a midnight assault. That the barking of curs might not betray him, he ordered every dog in the vicinity killed. That no shot from his own troops might reveal his plan he made his men unload their guns, and advance with fixed bayonets. Moving in perfect silence, his men reached the British outposts before they were discovered. After a brief conflict the garrison surrendered (July 16, 1779). Three days after this brilliant exploit the captors destroyed the works and evacuated the fort, Washington finding that he could not spare enough men from his army to defend it.

307. Effort to Recapture Savannah. — In the autumn of this year the French fleet, after its unsuccessful attack upon Newport, Rhode Island (§ 294), appeared before Savannah. An assault upon the British defenses was made by the combined forces of the French under D'Estaing and the Americans under Lincoln (October, 1779). The attack was a disastrous failure. Among those killed in the assault were Count Pulaski, a brave Polish officer, and Sergeant Jasper, the hero of Fort Moultrie. Lincoln's army withdrew into South Carolina, and the fleet sailed away to France.

308. British Capture Charleston. — Encouraged by the success of his troops in Georgia, Clinton determined to take charge of the Southern army himself, and to begin the conquest of South Carolina by an attack upon Charleston, the largest city in the South. Leaving a sufficient force in New York to hold Washington at bay, he landed thirty miles below Charleston, and led his army overland toward the city, while his fleet approached the harbor. Washington sent all his Virginia and North Carolina troops to the aid of Lincoln, but still that general's forces were wholly inadequate for the defense of Charleston. The enemy's troops gradually surrounded him on the land side, while their fleet in the midst of a furious thunder-

storm sailed by Fort Moultrie, which guarded the entrance to the harbor, and joined in the attack. On May 12, 1780, Charleston was surrendered, and Lincoln with his whole army of about two thousand men became prisoners of war.

309. South Carolina Overrun by the British.—The surrender of Lincoln's army together with the capture of Charleston was a severe blow to the patriot cause, and a corresponding encouragement to the British. Clinton sent detachments into the interior of the state, and issued a circular, offering pardon to all who would return to British allegiance, and calling upon all the people to aid in reëstablishing the royal government under penalty of being treated as rebels and traitors. Then, thinking little else remained to be done, Clinton sailed away to New York, leaving Cornwallis to complete the conquest of the South. Although with no organized army of defense, the spirits of the southern patriots were not broken. Small bands of militia, under such leaders as Marion (the "Swamp Fox"), Sumter (the "Game Cock"),



General Sumter.

Pickens, and Clarke, carried on a vigorous warfare of sudden surprises and desperate hand-to-hand combats, keeping up the courage of their countrymen, until the British were finally expelled from the state. "But for Marion and Sumter," wrote the British general, "South Carolina would be at peace."

310. Battle of Camden.—Against the advice of Washington, Congress appointed General Gates to the command of the Southern department, to succeed the captured Lincoln. Of Gates, who was praised as the "conqueror of Burgoyne," great things were expected. With a strong army he hurried south, disregarding the suggestions of his officers and confident of

victory. He encountered the British under Cornwallis near Camden, in the northern part of South Carolina. Each general had decided to surprise the other by a night attack. About two o'clock in the morning (August 16, 1780), their advance



Greene's Campaign.—War in the Carolinas.

guards met and a general conflict followed. The American militia fled at the first charge of the enemy. Our regulars under DeKalb held their ground until their brave leader fell pierced by eleven wounds; then they abandoned the field. Save one brigade of regulars, who retired in good order, the