Coughlan, Margaret N., Comp.
Creating Independence, 1763-1789; A Selected Annotated Bibliography.
72
90p.; (69 References)

*American History; Annotated Bibliographies; Children's Books; History; Library Material Selection; Recreational Reading; Revolutionary War (United States); United States History; Young Adults

The era of the Revolutionary War has provided subject material for numerous histories and biographies. The Children's Book Section of the Library of Congress has compiled this bibliography as a guide in the selection of background reading for young people in connection with the Bicentennial of the American Revolution. Criteria for selection included factual accuracy, logical organization, and clear succinct writing. Some historical novels have been included but textbooks have been omitted. Subject divisions are: (1) The Times, (2) The Rise of Discontent, (3) A Few Hot and Designing Men, (4) Acts and Declarations, (5) The Days of Revolution, (6) Soldiers, Spies, and Citizens, (7) The Sound of the Drum, (8) A Constitution is Born, and (9) Heroes, Heroics, and Tradition. (Author/DH)
CREATING INDEPENDENCE, 1763-1789
Background Reading for Young People
Creating Independence, 1763-1789

A Selected Annotated Bibliography

Compiled by Margaret N. Coughlan
Children's Book Section, General Reference and Bibliography Division

Library of Congress • Washington • 1972
The frontispiece is a detail from a 1779 British cartoon entitled "The Horse America, Throwing his Master." Prints and Photographs Division.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Coughlan, Margaret N.  1925—
Creating independence, 1763-1789.

Z1238.C66  016.9733  72-3573

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price 75 cents

Stock Number 3001-0046
The Children's Book Section has prepared this bibliography as a guide in the selection of background reading for young people in connection with the Bicentennial of the American Revolution. The work is part of the Library's larger bibliographic program for the Bicentennial, in which a staff of specialists is engaged.

Including a number of works issued for adults, as well as accurate, well-documented histories, biographies, and other books intended primarily for young people, the bibliography is based on the sifting of a large number of publications. Between one-fourth and one-third of the books read were found to meet the standards set.

Criteria for selection have been 1) factual accuracy, with evidence of the use of primary source material in presenting authentic pictures of the times and objective views of key figures; 2) logical organization of the material, in attractive format; 3) clear, succinct writing; 4) skill in bringing to life the period and the revolutionary movement, without oversimplification, artificial dialogue, and exaggerated or fictionalized situations; and 5) a point of view that broadens the reader's understanding not only of Revolutionary America but also of problems still current, such as equal rights and individual freedom. A limited number of historical novels and fictionalized biographies of leading figures are included because they are the best books now available for young people on their subjects. Some persons important in the period—such as Thomas Hutchinson, George III, and John Jay—are not represented because no works suitable for young people appear to be available.

Omitted are textbooks or other works designed especially for the classroom. Annotations are provided to indicate the relative importance as well as the estimated interest and usefulness of the items chosen.

PREFACE

Virginia Haviland, Head
Children's Book Section
Continental currency. Soon after the battle of Bunker Hill, on June 22, 1775, the Continental Congress authorized the first issue of bills of credit, to help finance the Revolution. Rare Book Division.
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To counterfeit is Death.

Continental currency. Actual leaves were sometimes used in making the plate, in an effort to prevent counterfeiting. Rare Book Division.

Burlington in NEW-JERSEY,
Printed by Isaac Collins, 1776.
How fortunate indeed were those young Americans who experienced at first hand the spirit of '76 and witnessed the tragedies and triumphs that accompanied the birth of a new independent nation! Our young people today are living in another time of challenge and stress in which they have important parts to play, but they are fortunate in the wealth of reading matter available to them about the American Revolution, books which make that event both comprehensible and relevant.

One could make out a good case for the American Revolution as a young people's war without forgetting that the principal leadership of the movement remained in the hands of mature statesmen. Indubitably Benjamin Franklin defies the adage about old age and revolutionary fervor being antipathetical; and George Washington, George Mason, and John Adams gave the patriot movement a solid middle-aged aura. So did many of the patriot soldiers, large numbers of whom had seen war service in the French and Indian War.

By and large, however, the war was fought by young people, who often achieved considerable prominence. Some lived on to be aged veterans, traveling from town to town, telling their stories at the village inn or by the fireside to the boys and girls of later years, who in turn passed them on to our own time. Some of these veterans, like Samuel Downing and Daniel F. Baxeman, who had joined the army in their early teens, lived on until after the Civil War.

Some of these teenage patriots became famous Americans. One thinks of 13-year-old Andrew Jackson who took part in the battle of Hanging Rock, only to be trapped by Tory intelligence at the home of a patriot fighter. The British officer in command of the dragoons ordered Jackson to clean his high jackboots. Jackson replied, "Sir, I am a prisoner of war, and claim to be treated as such." The
officer smashed his sword down on a boy's head, but Andrew broke the force of the blow with his left hand, carrying to his grave two wounds—a deep gash on his head, another on his hand.

One thinks of another teenager, Alexander Hamilton, who, while a sophomore at King's College (now Columbia), stirred patriot crowds assembled on what is now New York's City Hall Park with a youthful oratory excelled only by his precocious mastery of the issues. In his notable mission to Holland during the war, John Adams was accompanied by his sons John Quincy and Charles, 13 and 10 years of age respectively. As a suitable book for youngsters he purchased La Fontaine's Fables, where the boys were able to read in French a number of charming renditions of Aesop, with its many parallels to then current affairs. John Quincy Adams accompanied Charles Dana to Russia as his secretary, indubitably the youngest member of the diplomatic corps in American history, one closely slated for great things in the future. And so it went. Young people, boys and girls, were caught up in the Revolutionary movement and made sure that their children in turn would know about their exciting adventures.

The Founding Fathers were concerned that the young people would be told the complete story of the winning of independence, and they encouraged the writers of their day to record the history of those eventful years. To build a national tradition for a country with so recent a past
might mean prettifying the facts, as Parson Weems did in his biography of Washington. It might mean presenting the events of the American Revolution through fictionalized portraits, often based on real people and true events, as did James Fenimore Cooper in his characterization of the peddler-patriot Harvey Birch in The Spy, or, for a later generation, Paul Leicester Ford in his Janice Meredith. Young people reared on Parley’s Magazine or Saint Nicholas learned a mixture of fact and fiction about America’s past but caught much of the true excitement, drama, and tension of Revolutionary days.

Today reading must compete with television and the motion picture for the attention of young people. The American Revolution, too, has to compete with later revolutions, some of which have caught the imagination of youth. So much greater, then, is the task of the present-day writer for young people to bring home to the younger generation the relevance of the American Revolution to many of the issues which confront the emerging nations of today—the anticolonial struggle, the fight for freedom and national independence, and the effort to build a system of government based on the consent of the governed. The American Revolution has much to teach in these areas.

The American Revolution and the constitutional system which emerged therefrom also created a durable system of values which are as deep a concern to Americans of today as they were to earlier generations. Liberty, equality, civil rights—these values are at the center of the struggle of minority groups and women to eliminate the last vestiges of discrimination, a fight begun on July 4, 1776. Thus it is incumbent on writers for young people to explain the American Revolution not as an isolated event in American history but as a turning point in world history, not a single crisis settled in a brief span of years but a broad movement of liberation which has not yet run its course.

In compiling this invaluable bibliography for young people Miss Coughlan has kept these objectives clearly in mind. The books that have been selected are representative of the broad range of interests covered by the years of the American Revolution while at the same time they cast light on current issues for which the Founding Fathers laid down some guidelines. For this sophisticated age the books listed here have sought to give the reader the unvarnished facts in depth, covering the era from the youthful days of George Washington to the climactic Convention when the Constitution was debated in Philadelphia. A stirring period, it calls to mind heroic moments and towering personalities. A liberal sampling of these listings should bring its own rewards—excitement and adventure driven by a sense of high purpose, durable values for which America must continue to stand before the world, extraordinary lives of extraordinary people whose dedication to the cause of freedom should still lift the hearts of young people everywhere.
The Times

A contemporary view of Boston in the 1770's.
Prints and Photographs Division.
Earle, Alice M.


Abridged and edited from the author's Home Life in Colonial Days and Child Life in Colonial Days, this attractive, well-designed book describes the customs and materials of everyday life. Among the subjects examined are foods, medicines, schooling (as well as the lack of it), story and picture books, games, occupations, handcrafts, dress, religion, and transportation. Flavor is imparted to the text by occasional excerpts from diaries, letters, and school books. One letter from John Adams' wife describes the education available to girls before the Revolution.

New photographs by Alfred Tamarin add vitality to this edition.

Flexner, James T.


"This book is a reworking of material previously published in the author's books America's Old Masters and John Singleton Copley." Bibliography: p. [157]–158.

A readable introduction to the life and period of the Tory painter. A man of peace, married to the daughter of a Boston Tory tea merchant, Copley "argued eloquently for moderation" in the tea affair. Despite his efforts, the Tea Party took place, and "the fuse that was to detonate the American Revolution" was ignited. Three weeks later Copley sailed for exile in London.


Foster, Genevieve S.


"... the story of George Washington's life, of ... [important persons] living when he did, both in America, and all over the world ... what they did when they were children, how later on the pattern of their lives fitted together, and what part each one played in that greatest of all adventure stories, the History of the World."

Mrs. Foster deals with the 18th century in a logical, lively manner, although not without occasional inaccuracies, the result of oversimplification. Use of imaginary scenes and conversations (some of the latter in Negro, frontier, or Scottish dialect) does not detract from the value of the content. By introducing such figures as Frederick the Great of Prussia, Emperor Ch'ien Lung of China, and Catherine the Great of Russia with Daniel Boone and John Adams, she places America in a world perspective. The character studies are vigorous but not always unbiased, such as her Marie Antoinette and Napoleon. The book is worth noting for its success in the depiction of this vital period in world history.
**TABLE**

Shewing the Value of any Number of Dollars, from 1 to 10,000, at Seven Shillings and Six-pence each.

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The issuance of Continental currency created a need for tables such as this. Rare Book Division.
Continental currency was produced on contract by private printers, and the designs were as numerous and varied as their creators. This sample, shown front and back, was printed by the firm which was once owned in part by Franklin.

Rare Book Division.
Glubok, Shirley.


A description of paintings, buildings, and household objects reflecting the culture of the Colonies. A profusion of well-produced illustrations make the volume attractive.

Graham, Shirley.


An emotional, fictionalized account of the life of Benjamin Banneker, an "Ethiopian" mathematician, surveyor, and astronomer "who helped lay out Washington." Although there are minor inaccuracies (the use of "Lord Calvert" for Lord Baltimore, for example), and although Banneker's contribution to America was made after the Revolution, the book is included here for its representation of the conditions under which free Negroes lived at the time.

Morison, Samuel Eliot.


The first 20 chapters of this readable, if weighty, work describe in fascinating detail life, culture, and politics in America from her beginnings to the start of Washington's presidency. "Here you will find a great deal on social and economic development; horses, ships, popular sports, and pastimes; eating, drinking, and smoking habits. Pugilists will be found cheek-by-jowl with Presidents; rough-necks with reformers, artists with ambassadors. More, proportionally, than in other histories, will be found on sea power, on the colonial period in which basic American principles were established..." (Preface)

Plate, Robert.


A vigorous portrayal of an "energetic citizen," artist, and "painter of patriots" who found time to participate in the Revolution, dabble in the sciences, run a museum of natural history, and experiment with "illumination" and "moving pictures."

Russell, Francis.


"For further reading": p. 149.

A handsomely illustrated chronicle of the bitter struggle between the English and the French for possession of the
North American continent, revealing the growth of independence and self-reliance in the English colonies as a factor of great importance in the rapidly approaching crisis with England.

Speare, Elizabeth G.


An unusually readable description of civilization from 1607 to 1783, enhanced by quotations from such sources as advertisements, journals, and letters. Interest is piqued by such subject headings as "The Witchcraft Fever," "The Goodwife at Home," "Lug-Pole and Brick Oven," "Snails, Superstition and Common Sense," and "Nails, Spoons and Bullets," and by facsimiles of old prints and drawings by Charles Walker.

Tunis, Edwin.


A graphic account of 18th-century American handicrafts and industry opening with a sketch of economic history up to about 1830 and the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution.

Pages from Father Abraham's Almanack, For the Year of our Lord, 1770, published in Philadelphia by Abraham Weeberwhile. Rare Book Division.
Approved Receipts to Cure Horses.

For the Scratches:
Take verdigris and burnt allum, mix them together, and so apply it, keeping the horse dry.

For the Swelling of a Horse's Back:
Take flax or flax tar, with the whites of eggs and wheat bran; beat them all together, it will take the swelling down.

Of Hide-bound, or Consumption of the Flesh:
Hide-bound or consumption of the flesh proceedeth from unreasonable travel, disorderly diet, and many surfeits. It is known by a dislike and leanness over the whole body, and by the sticking of the skin close to the body in such sort that it will not ride from the body; the cure is, first let the horse blood, and then to give him to drink, three or four mornings together, a quart of new milk, with two spoonfuls of honey, and one spoonful of coarse treacle; let his food be either (fed Bailey, warm grains and salt, or beans split in a mill; his drink milk.

To Make Hair Smooth, Sleek and Soft:
If you will make your horse's coat to be smooth sleek and soft, and shining, keep him warm at the heart, for the least inward cold will make the hair flare; make him sweat oft, for that will raise the dust and filth which makes his coat foul and hard; then, when the horse is in the greatest sweat, with an old (sword blade, turning the edge towards the hair, scrape away all the white foam, sweat and filth which shall be raised up, and that will lay his coat even, and make it smooth; and when you let him blood, rub him all over with some of it, and let it remain two or three days; then curry and dress him well, and this will make his coat shine like glass.

Relief for a Tired Horse:
Take a quart of strong beer, cider or wine and put into it half an ounce of elecampane; brew it well together, and give it the horse with a horn, and it will make him exceeding cheerful; also take a bunch of pennyroyal to your bit, and it will prevent your horse from tiring. Or thus, take off your saddle and rub his back with the herb arsifmar, and lay some under the saddle, and ride him, and with good feeding and moderate usage, will prevent your horse from tiring. Take some rue and rub your horse therewith all over, and no flies will touch nor come near him.

How to Make a Black Star:
Take the ruff of iron, galls and vitrol, and pound them with oil, anoint the place where you would have the star, and the hair will turn black.

Discussed are such matters as the effect of British trade restrictions on the development of crafts and industries; the limited legal ways for colonists to acquire money needed for essentials (tea, for example); and the growth of smuggling and of trade with known pirates and prohibited foreign ports. The artisan's life and the apprentice system for major industries are also presented clearly and accurately, much enhanced by a wealth of the author's meticulous drawings.


A survey of social life and customs in North America, 1564-1770, which serves as a "stage set for history" by putting these centuries into perspective and thus enabling the reader to recognize how different patterns of life evolved.

Of equal value for its full account of life in the back country is the author's Frontier Living (Cleveland, World Pub. Co. [1961] 165 p.). Both studies are invaluablely enriched by the author-artist's painstakingly detailed drawings.

Winslow, Anna G.


...I hope aunt wont let me wear the black hat with the red Domine—for the people will ask me what I have got to sell as I go along street if I do,
Eighteen PENCE. No. 6886

Eighteen Pence. [Signature]
June 22, 1756.

Colonial currency, issued before the Revolution and bearing the British lion and unicorn. Rare Book Division.

Opposite page: Benjamin Franklin is often credited with the original design of the disjointed snake representing the Colonies, with the warning "Join or Die." Newspaper Collection, Serial Division.

Or, how the folk at New guinie do? Dear mamma, you don't know the fotion here—I try to look like other folk.

Provincial Boston and its social life and customs are faithfully recorded in this diary by Anna Winslow for her parents in far-off Nova Scotia. Little of the political scene is reported; there is only an occasional reference to such events as "the murder of the 5th March last," a muster of the regiment on the common, and a feast given by Mr. John "Handcock." The diarist concentrates on matters of religion, domestic activity, lessons, fashion, and entertainments:

... our treat was nuts, raisins, Cakes, Wine, punch, hot & cold, all in great plenty. We had a very agreeable evening from 5 to 10 o'clock. For variety we would a widow, hunted the whistle, threaded the needle, & while the company was collecting, we diverted ourselves with playing of pawns, no rudeness Mamma I assure you.

A 1971 reprint of this diary has been made available by the Gale Research Company.
The Rise of Discontent

The Massachusetts Spy

Or, Thomas's Boston Journal.

"Do thou Great LIBERTY inflame our Souls—And make our Lives in thy Protection happy—Or, our Daubs glorious in thy just Defence."

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1774.

VOL. IV. (NUMB. 179.)

JOIN OR DIE
"A Few Hot and Designing Men"

John Adams (1735–1826)

Bowen, Catherine D.


Bibliography: p. 646–676.


Of interest to those wishing to know more about John's remarkable wife Abigail is Janet Whitney's Abigail Adams (Boston, Little, Brown, 1947. 357 p.), which vividly describes Abby's loneliness without John during the Revolution.

Samuel Adams (1722–1803)

Hall-Quest, Olga W.


Bibliography: p. 185–186.

A lively account of the careers of two Boston patriots who played decisive roles in pre-Revolutionary days. These two, and John Adams as well, are sympathetically presented and come fully alive in the delineation of character and thought. The times, issues, and setting also are clearly presented.
Benjamin Franklin (1706–90)

Daugherty, James H.


E302.6.F8D23

Illustrated lining papers in colors.

Benjamin Franklin's charm, intellectual curiosity, humor, practicality, and wisdom are displayed in a vigorous portrait. Well-chosen quotations give flavor to the text, and sparing use is made of fictionalization in conversation and in the handling of incidents. The pace is swift, the chapter headings intriguing. The author's lithographs have a robust spirit suitable to the times.

Additional material on Franklin can be found in Jeannette Eaton's That Lively Man, Ben Franklin (New York, W. Morrow, 1948. 253 p.) and Clara I. Judson's Benjamin Franklin (Chicago, Follett Pub. Co. [1957] 204 p.). Of these, the Eaton volume is the "liveliest," most fictionalized, and easiest to read, while Judson's is more detailed.
Both suffer from minor inaccuracies and a tendency to judge unfairly those who did not like Franklin.

Donovan, Frank R.


Bibliography: p. 151.

A handsomely illustrated introduction to the "Universal Man of American history"—scientist, businessman, diplomat, patriot, and moralist—who embodied the spirit of the Age of Reason. In the manner of the typical American Heritage series, the volume contains many documentary facsimiles and art reproductions.

Franklin, Benjamin.


"Bibliographical note": p. xvii.

Here is the serious, didactic Franklin, in a work originally intended to serve as an essay on the "conduct of life." The first part has an informal tone and a certain charm and humor which are less apparent in the second part. Of particular interest here, however, are Franklin's ideas on urban improvements and his insightful comments on General Braddock.


Franklin's wit, wisdom, and intellectual curiosity are revealed in a well-balanced selection of his writings. Included here is his denunciation of the massacre of 20 friendly Indians by the notorious Paxton Boys in 1763:

If an Indian injures me, does it follow that I may revenge that injury on all Indians? It is well known that Indians are of different tribes, nations and languages, as well as white people. In Europe, if the French, who are white people, should injure the Dutch, are they to revenge it on the English, because they too are white people?

Here, also, is his wonderfully barbed letter to the editor of the Federal Gazette, March 23, 1790, ostensibly on the subject of the Barbary Coast pirates:

Sir:

Reading last night in your excellent paper the speech of Mr. Jackson [of Georgia] in Congress, against their meddling with the affair of slavery . . . it put me in mind of a similar one made about one hundred years since, by Side Michmed Ibrahim . . . of Algiers . . . It was against granting the petition of the sect called Isika or Purists, who prayed
for the abolition of piracy and slavery as being unjust. . . . The African’s speech, as translated, is as follows:

“Allah Bismillah, Gcd is great, and Mahomet is his prophet.

Have these Eric considered the consequence of granting their petition? If we cease our cruises against the Christians, how shall we be furnished with the commodities their countries produce; and which are so necessary for us? If we forbear to make slaves of their people, who in this hot climate are to cultivate our lands? Who are to perform the common labors of our city, and in our families? Must we not then be our own slaves? . . . If we then cease taking and plundering the infidel ships and making slaves of the seamen and passengers, our lands will become of no value for want of cultivation; the rents of houses in the city will sink one half; and the revenue of government arising from its share of prizes be totally destroyed? . . . And if we set our slaves free, what is to be done with them? Few of them will return to their countries. they know too well the greater hardships they must there be subject to . . . . For men long accustomed to slavery will not work for a livelihood when not compelled. . . .”

For a detailed study of Franklin, see Carl C. Van Doren’s *Benjamin Franklin* (p. 54).
By the LION & UNICORN, Dieu & mon droit, their Lieutenant-Generals, Governors, Vice Admirals, &c. &c. &c. &c.

A HUE & GRY.

WHEREAS I have been informed, from undoubted authority, that a certain PATRICK HENRY, of the county of Hanover, and a number of deluded followers, have taken up arms, chosen their officers, and, styling themselves an independent company, have marched out of their county, encamped, and put themselves in a posture of war; and have written and despatched letters to divers parts of the country, exciting the people to join in these outrageous and rebellious practices, to the great terror of all his Majesty's faithful subjects, and in open defiance of law and government; and have committed other acts of violence, particularly in extorting from his Majesty's Receiver-General the sum of 320l. under pretence of replacing the powder I thought proper to order from the magazine; whence it undeniably appears, there is no longer the least security for the life or property of any man: Wherefore, I have thought proper, with the advice of his Majesty's Council, and in his Majesty's name, to issue this my proclamation, strictly charging all persons, upon their allegiance, not to aid, abet, or give countenance to the said PATRICK HENRY, or any other persons concerned in such unwarrantable combinations; but, on the contrary, to oppose them, and their designs, by every means, which designs must otherwise inevitably involve the whole country in the most direful calamity, as they will call for the vengeance of offended Majesty, and the insulted laws, to be exerted here, to vindicate the constitutional authority of government.

Given, &c. this 6th day of May, 1775.

G * * d * * * the P * * * *.
Patrick Henry (1736–99)

Campion, Nardi R.


"Bibliography of principal sources": p. [253].

A colorful, highly sympathetic, fictionalized biography of the idolized patriot who was described by a contemporary, Roger Atkinson, as a "real half Quaker, moderate and mild, and in religious matters a saint, but the very Devil in politics—a Son of Thunder." Emphasis falls on Henry's life and career before the Revolution and on his relationship with Jefferson (first his friend, then an implacable enemy), George Washington, and the Adamses. Only slight attention is given in the last chapter to his later ultraconservative years and his fight against ratification of the Constitution by Virginia. Among sources quoted are Henry's letters and speeches and writings by contemporaries such as George Mason, who observed:

Mr. Henry is by far the most powerful speaker I have ever heard. Every word he says commands the attention. Your passions are no longer your own when he addresses them. In my opinion he is the first man on this Continent in ability and public virtues.

The events described in this broadside, which was issued by Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, occurred within two months of Henry's famous "give me liberty, or give me death" speech. Rare Book Division.

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Thomas Paine (1737–1809)

Coolidge, Olivia E.


Bibliography: p. [207]–208.

An able and honest study of the "greatest pamphleteer of the century," whom Mrs. Coolidge likens to Karl Marx in his devotion to "social revolution brought about by political means... The closest likeness between the two men is their inability to control or direct an actual revolution. In other words, both were men of ideas rather than action, the difference being that Marx was the thinker and Paine the propagandist."

The author makes no attempt to glorify Paine by ignoring his weaknesses—difficult temperament, lack of understanding of money, inflexible adherence to principle to the point of alienating his friends and adding to his enemies. She carefully develops his political tenets, scientific interests (invention of an iron bridge), and religious ideas.

The work is noteworthy for its interpretation of a remarkable man and the ideals, thought, and prejudices of 18th-century France, England, and America. Mrs. Coolidge quotes Paine:

I have avoided all places of profit or office, either in the state I live in, or in the United States; kept myself at a distance from all parties and party connections, and even disregarded all private and inferior concerns.

But as the scenes of war are closed... I therefore take my leave of the subject... and whatever country I may hereafter be in, I shall always feel
an honest pride at the part I have taken and acted, and a gratitude to nature and providence for putting it in my power to be of some use to mankind.

A livelier but less critical and less detailed introduction is provided in Leo Gurko's *Tom Paine, Freedom's Apostle* (New York, Crowell [1957] 213 p.). However, the many quotations incorporated add to the usefulness and appeal of the work.

**Paul Revere (1736–1818)**

Forbes, Esther.


A spirited distillation for younger readers of the author's earlier *Paul Revere & the World He Lived In* (Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1942. 510 p.). It conveys an understanding of the man—artisan and patriot—and the troubled, stirring times in which he lived. Noteworthy is the careful account, without misrepresentation of fact, of events leading up to the Revolution. Miss Forbes projects Paul Revere's integrity and extraordinary versatility. He comes to life as a flesh-and-blood figure whose famous ride was of minor importance compared to his legacies as silversmith and as pioneer in the manufacture of copper and the casting of bells. Lynd Ward's full-color illustrations are a virile interpretation of the text.

The longer *Paul Revere & the World He Lived In* offers much fuller detail for young students capable of coping with cumbersome writing.

Revere, Paul.


Includes facsimiles of documents in the Massachusetts Historical Society. "The first two [accounts], of which the second is a copy and revision of the first, were probably prepared in 1775, perhaps at the request of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress. . . . [The third] was evidently written in reply to a request by Jeremy Belknap, the Corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society . . . . Belknap assigned it the date of January 1, 1798."
Paul Revere's account of what happened on Lexington Green: "Paul Revere of Boston, in the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay in N. England of Lawfull age doth testifye and Say: that I was in Boston on the evening of the 18th of April 1775, that I was sent for by Docr. Joseph Warren about 10 oClock that evening, and desired, 'to go to Lexington and inform Mr. Samuel Adams, and the Hon. John Hancock Esqr. that there was a number of Soldiers composed of the Light troops and Grenadiers marching to the bottom of the common, where there was a number of Boats to receive them, and it was supposed, that they were going to Lexington ...' I proceeded immediaitely. . . ."

The direct account, plainly stated, reveals Paul Revere as the "man of action who had a job to do and did it." It brings freshness and immediacy to the study of the period and the reading of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's "Paul Revere's Ride."

Benjamin Rush (1745–1813)

Douty, Esther M.

Patriot doctor; the story of Benjamin Rush.
Acts and Declarations

Commager, Henry S.


Includes bibliography.

A lively discussion of events leading up to the writing of the Declaration of Independence emphasizes the struggles of the "brace of Adamses" (Sam and John), Thomas Jefferson, Richard Henry Lee, Benjamin Franklin, and others as they worked for "separation from Britain." Excerpts from two documents—the Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking up Arms, and the Olive Branch Petition to the King—reflect the state of tension over the decision to be made. Dr. Commager's graphic narrative also contains Dr. Benjamin Rush's capsule evaluations of members of the Second Continental Congress and liberal quotations from the writings of John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Thomas Paine. Here, also, are the Malden, Mass., town meeting's instructions to its representatives to vote for independence, Virginia's resolution for independence, and Congressional records of the Great Debate.

Many Colonial newspapers declared their defiance of the stamp tax through symbols such as this from the Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser, October 24, 1765. Newspaper Collection, Serial Division.
Dickinson, Alice.


Bibliography: p. 59.

A concise, balanced chronicle of events in England and the Colonies leading up to the Stamp Act, 1765-66. This reveals the colonists discovering their strength, their ability to act together, and, most important, their political rights and relationship to the mother country.

In The Bolton Massacre, March 3, 1770 (New York, F. Watts [1968] 66 p.), Miss Dickinson continues this dispassionate, accurate presentation of the gradually worsening conditions which caused a "colonial street fight" to explode into violence.

McGee, Dorothy H.


Morris, Richard B., and James L. Woodress, eds.


"Notes on Sources": p. 251-253.
WILLIAMSBURG, SATURDAY, April 29, 1775.

LATE last night an express arrived from Philadelphia, with the following melancholy advices from the province of Connecticut, forwarded to the committee of correspondence in this city.

The news (so much desired by our noble friend LORD CHATHAM) is now in hand, a great deal of blood spilt, and much more, it is likely, than the present advice communicates. This great man, in his speech upon the necessity of withdrawing the troops from Boston (delivered in the House of Lords the 20th of January last) says: "Perhaps, even whilst I am now speaking, the decisive blow is struck, which may involve millions in the "inevitability of, and believe me, the very first drop of blood that is spilled "will cost a wonderfully flawed world; it will be irrevocable; but, a "word of that fanciful and flattering kind, that, in all probability, will "notify the whole body.""

PHILADELPHIA, April 27, 1775.

An express arrived at five o'clock this evening, by which we have the following advices, viz.

Watertown, Wednesday morning, near 10 o'clock.

To all FRIENDS of AMERICAN LIBERTY.

Be it known, that this morning, before break of day, a brigade, consisting of about 1200 or 1250 men, landed at Phillips farm, at Cambridge, and marched to Lexington, where they found a company of our colony militia in arms, upon whom they fired, without any provocation, and killed six men, and wounded four others. By an express from Bolton, we find another brigade is now on its march from Bolton, supposed to consist of 1000 men. The bearer, Trial Eldred, is charged to alarm the country, quite to Connecticut; and all persons are desired to arm him with fresh bands, as they may be needed. I have spoken with several, who have seen the dead and wounded. Pray let the Delegates from this colony to Connecticut see this; they know Col. Faller, one of the Delegates.

J. PALMER, one of the committee.

A true copy from the original, by order of the committee of correspondent of Worcester, April 1775.

Attended and forwarded by the committee of Brookline, Norwich, New London, Lyme, Saybrook, Killingworth, E. Guilford, Guilford, Branford, Newhaven.

FACERIELD, SATURDAY, April 29. 8 o'clock.

Since the above written, we have received the following, by a second express.

THURSDAY, 3 o'clock after noon.

SIR,

I am this moment informed, by an express from Woodstock, taken from the mouth of the express at two of the clock after noon, that the contest between the first brigade that marched to Concord was full continuing this morning at the town of Lexington, to which said brigade had retreated; that another brigade, said to be the second mentioned in the letter of this morning, had landed with a quantity of artillery at the place where the first did. The Provincials were determined to prevent the two brigades from joining their strength; if possible, and remain in great need of succour.

Divided into four sections: The beginnings of America, 1607-1765; The times that tried men's souls, 1770-1783; The age of Washington, 1783-1801; and The Jeffersonians, 1801-1829. Here the beginnings of America are described "by those who were there, the eyewitnesses and the participants."

The selection of materials pertaining to the Revolution (section 2) is varied and the documents provocative; they provide a glimpse into many aspects of civilian and military life. Both the Colonial and the British points of view are presented.

Ross, George E.


In two parts: part one summarizes events leading up to the signing of the Declaration, defines the document, and sketches its subsequent wanderings; part two contains concise biographical sketches of the signers.

Russell, Francis.


Left and on opposite page: the news of Lexington and Concord, as it was relayed from New England to Williamsburg by various committees of correspondence along the way. Rare Book Division.
A straightforward chronicle of the last days of British rule in Boston begins with a statement from Paul Revere's account of his activities on the night of April 18, 1775:

I then went Home, took my Boots and Surtout, and went to the North part of the Town, Where I had kept a Boat; two friends rowed me across Charles River, a little to the eastward where the Somerset Man of War lay. It was then young flood, the Ship was winding, and the moon was Rising. They landed me on Charlestown side . . . and I went to get me a Horse.

The point of view presented is the popular, traditional one; however, the British side of the question is indicated without rancor.

Lively prose supported by photographs of contemporary engravings, prints, and maps, many in color, make this narrative an attractive introduction to the Revolution.

Sanderlin, George W., comp.


Bibliography: p. 245-247.

Well-balanced, selected passages from documents, letters, pamphlets, ballads, speeches, cartoons, and resolutions illustrate the change in thinking of the colonial American from "dependent colonist" to "independent citizen." These writings are preceded by an introduction describing

N. B. The Regulars, when in Concord, burned the courthouse, took two pieces of cannon, which they rendered useless, and began to take up Concord bridge; on which Capt. ——— (who, with many on both sides, were shot killed) made an attack upon the King's troops, on which they retreated to Lexington.

I am, &c.  E. B. WILLIAMS.

To Col. O. B. JOHNSON, CANTERBURY.

F. S. Mr. McFarlane of Plainsfield, merchant, has just returned from Boston, by way of Providence, who converted with an express from Lexington, who further informs, that 4000 of our troops had surrounded the first brigade above mentioned, who were on a hill in Lexington; that the action continued, and there were about 50 of our men killed, and 150 of the Regulars, as near as they could determine, when the express came away. It will be expedient for every man to go, who is fit and willing.

The above is a true copy, as received by express from Newhaven, and attested by the committee of correspondence from town to town.

The above was received yesterday at 4 o'clock by the committee of New York, and forwarded to Philadelphia by ISAAC LOW, chairman of the committee at New York.

PRINTED BY ALEXANDER PURDIE.
three major influences responsible for that change—the
land, the character of the settlers, and the "clash of em-
pires." Thus is revealed a "mental voyage" to a "New
World of union, independence, and liberty for the common
man," beginning with the siege of Quebec and terminating
with the Declaration of Independence.

The book is notable for its impressively researched con-
tent. The selections vary from the serious "Declaration of
the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms" to the
mocking ballad, "The Rich Lady Over the Sea":

The old lady's pockets were filled with gold,
But never contented was she;
So she ordered her daughter to pay her a tax
Of thruppence a pound on the tea.

Lively sketches, facsimiles, and portraits add to the attract-
tiveness of this well-designed volume.

Tourtellot, Arthur B.

WILLIAM DIAMOND'S DRUM; THE BEGINNING OF THE
WAR OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. Garden City,


In a carefully worked out, well-researched narrative, the au-
tor submits a theory that the events at Lexington and
Concord on April 19, 1775, would not have taken place
had Sam Adams, master of propaganda, not been in the
vicinity. Mr. Tourtellot builds his case clearly and logically,
supporting his statements with quotations from primary
sources. These include contemporary records, letters, and
sworn testimony of witnesses taken on April 23, 24, and
25, 1775, at the direction of the Continental Congress.
Found here, for example, is the first circular from Dr.
Warren (another master of propaganda) describing the
events of Lexington and Concord less than 24 hours after
the battle ended:

Gentlemen,—The barbarous murders committed on
our innocent brethren, on Wednesday, the 19th
instant, have made it absolutely necessary that we
immediately raise an army to defend our wives and
our children from the butchering hands of an in-
human soldiery, who, incensed at the obstacles they
met with in their bloody progress, and enraged at
being repulsed from the field of slaughter, will,
without the least doubt, take the first opportunity
in their power to ravage this devoted country with fire
and sword. We conjure you, therefore, by all that
is dear, by all that is sacred, that you give all assis-
tance possible in forming an army. . . .

Thus did Dr. Warren secure the provincial army Sam
Adams wanted.

Provocative for the mature student, the events come to
life through the skillful use of a minute-by-minute unfold-
ing technique and sharp portrayal of important persons.

The book has now been reissued by W. W. Norton
under a new title, Lexington and Concord; the Beginning
of the War of the American Revolution.

Wright, Esmond.

A TIME FOR COURAGE; THE STORY OF THE DECLARA-
TION OF INDEPENDENCE. New York, Putnam [1971]

"Revolutions, like anything else in history or in life, are
the result of what men do or fail to do. We will not under-
stand why independence came to America in 1776 unless
we see what a few men did." Thus a British scholar begins his examination of the American Revolution, emphasizing the roles of five willful men—heroes and patriots to some, a "constant source of sedition" to others.

First is Thomas Jefferson, lawyer, scholar, writer, inventor, a "sensitive" man described by his slave Isaac as "a tall strait-bodied man as ever you see, right square-shouldered: nary a man in this town walked so straight .. . neat a built man as ever was seen in Virginia .. . or any place a straight-up man, long face, high nose . . . ."

Second comes Patrick Henry, "almost the opposite of Jefferson: a wild young man, but already married and a father of four, a great drinker, and a superb orator." Sam Adams is the third, "one man in the colonies .. . who was increasingly active in the cause and kept it alive, as the Virginians did not," a "new political phenomenon . . . an organizer and an operator." Fourth is John Adams, an "honest man to whom plots did not come naturally: justice and honesty mattered," and fifth, a self-contained "farmer, surveyor, soldier, 'Colonel George Washington.'"

The study is provocative. In addition to the American Revolution, Mr. Wright discusses causes of revolutions in general, placing first "distance, propaganda and the leadership of men of ideas and of character." And he says:

Revolutions do not happen; they are caused. But once caused, once set in being and in motion, they have their own momentum. Some they liberate, and some they enslave.
The Days of Revolution

Soldiers, Spies, and Citizens

View of attack on Edmouch, Mass., from An Impartial History of the War in America (Boston, 1782), volume 2. Rare Book Division.
THE TOWN of FALMOUTH Burnt by Captain MOET Oct. 5 1773.
Bakeless, Katherine L., and John E. Bakeless.


Based on John Bakeless' solid treatment in Turncoats, Traitors, and Heroes (Philadelphia, Lippincott [1960] 406 p.) is this dramatic account of espionage during the Revolution. The writers "have concentrated on material which is relatively unknown and have passed over lightly the facts about espionage that can already be found in other books." Among the spies highlighted are John Howe, Benjamin Church, Nathan Hale, Mrs. Lydia Darragh, and the Culpers.

The writing is lively and the pace swift. Some adventures are slightly exaggerated, including such apocryphal material as the tale of Paul Revere and the forgotten spurs.

Billias, George A., ed.


Essays. Includes bibliographical references.


The military careers of 11 Continental commanders are examined in well-documented studies, each by a specialist. Preceding this "literary portrait gallery" are an introduction which discusses the leaders, all of them "amateurs in combat" except for Charles Lee and Horatio Gates, and an essay on Washington as a general, written by Marcus Cunliffe of the University of Manchester.

The value of the book for the teacher, as well as for the gifted student, lies in its graphic description of military obstacles, the inexperience of the commanders, the lack of money, and the ineptness of a meddling Congress. Quotations from letters and other writings support the authenticity of the text. The essays on Nathanael Greene, the Marquis de Lafayette, Benedict Arnold, Anthony Wayne, and Henry Knox have particular interest for young readers.


Essays. Includes bibliographies.

In this companion to George Washington's Generals, Thomas Gage, Sir William Howe, Sir Henry Clinton, Sir Guy Carleton, John Burgoyne, Charles Lord Cornwallis, Richard Lord Howe, the "Old Women" of the Navy (Arbuthnot, Gambier, and Graves), Sir Samuel Hood, and Sir George Rodney are assessed by Mr. Billias and other military history specialists. These scholars, all Americans
except Maldwyn A. Jones of the University of Manchester, examine their subjects in the light of recent scholarship and treat the war in "a broader perspective than has been done in the past . . . in terms of the complex problems of strategy, logistics, and civil-military relations facing the British."

As in the earlier volume, the essays are preceded by an introduction. This offers the reader a view of the Revolution through British eyes, as "only one part of a worldwide struggle . . . [involving] hostilities with France, Spain, and Holland . . . threats of invasion of England itself; struggle to maintain control of the seas and the Channel; attacks upon Canada, the West Indies, and Gibraltar; the war in India; and popular unrest in Ireland and other parts of the realm."

For the mature student.

Ford, Corey,


"Acknowledgments and bibliography": p. [329]–342.
An account of espionage during the American Revolution, "scrupulously documented and thoroughly researched" (Richard B. Morris). The work is divided into three books: "The Inglorious Tree" concerns Nathan Hale; "Conscience Bay" describes the Culper ring (Abraham Woodhull, Robert Townsend, and the mysterious lady known only as "355"), Benedict Arnold, and Maj. John André; and "Honor Bound" concludes the account of the Culper ring.

Here is a graphic recreation of life in New York and its environs before and during the Revolution, and of the realities of war—the struggle, bitterness, treachery, and cruelty, as well as the incredible courage and gallantry. Inquiring junior high school students will find special importance, also, in the pictures given of Nathan Hale, Benedict Arnold, and Major André.

McGiffin, Lee.


Lively profiles convey the personalities of military leaders whose exploits have "too often [been] crowded from the pages of history": Henry Lee, John Glover, Anthony Wayne, Joshua Barney, Francis Marion, Nathanael Greene, Daniel Morgan, and Henry Knox.

Quarles, Benjamin.


Bibliography: p. [201]–223.
In a thoroughly researched, objective study the author examines the Negro's role in the American Revolution and the "development of attitudes and practices, civilian and military, toward an American minority in a period of crisis." The work is a "group portrait rather than a study of individuals," for the soldiers were racially anonymous. There were "no all-Negro units; hence the military history
of the Negro soldier in the Revolution is one with the general history of the American soldier in action."

The writer has taken care to avoid legend; if "an often related story has not been included, it may be simply because it is not true," or may lack strong supporting evidence. Documentary sources are indicated and conjecture avoided.

The work is not designed for young readers, but the wealth of information found here makes the book valuable for the teacher.

Sobol, Donald J.


Includes bibliographies.

Well-delineated vignettes of 40 American and British military and political figures, many of whom have received scant mention in history books. Tensions, misunderstandings, and incompetences in England are revealed in the portraits of Thomas Gage, John Wilkes, William Howe, Henry Clinton, George Germain, John Burgoyne, William Pitt, George III, Charles Cornwallis, and Frederick North; the inexperience of the colonial forces and their gradual growth in strength are apparent in the sketches of Ethan Allen, Artemas Ward, Israel Putnam, Henry Knox, John Glover, Benjamin Tallmadge, Benedict Arnold, and others.

A British cartoon mocking the French military assistance to American revolutionaries, 1780. Prints and Photographs Division.

Ethan Allen (1737–89)

Holbrook, Stewart H.


A vigorous account of the stormy life of the loud-talking, swashbuckling giant, Ethan Allen. Told here are the most famous exploits: commanding the Green Mountain Boys against the "Yorkers" in the struggle for the Hampshire Grants, and leading the expedition to capture Fort "Ti." The book also tells of his ill-starred attempt to take Montreal and his years as a British prisoner-of-war, and it concludes with his efforts to make Vermont a State in her own right. Lynd Ward's illustrations capture the force and violence of the man and his time.

For a more fully detailed, robust account of this man's life see the author's Ethan Allen (New York, Macmillan, 1940; reprinted, Portland, Oreg., Binford & Mort, 1958).

Benedict Arnold (1741–1801)

Kraske, Robert.


Bibliography: p. 59.

The tragedy of a brilliant soldier and his secret machinations with the British are presented simply and factually.
David Bushnell (1742-1824)

Wagner, Frederick.


Bibliography: p. 132-141.

See Bushnell’s strong, creative genius, fraught
With all th’ assembled powers of skilful thought,
His mystic vessel plunge beneath the waves,
And glide thro’ dark retreats, and coral caves!

Timothy Dwight
GREENFIELD HILL
VII, 431-434

A fully researched portrait of the unassuming man who invented the first recorded workable submarine, described by a fellow inventor in a letter to Franklin as “not Equalled by any thing I ever heard of or Saw, Except Dr. Franklin’s Electrical Experiments.”

Extensive notes (p. 125-131) add to the value of the book.

James Forten (1766—?)

Douty, Esther M.


Bibliography: p. 200-201.

A well-researched account of the life, works, and times of James Forten, a free Negro who served as a powder boy aboard the Royal Louis and survived imprisonment on the notorious Jersey to become a wealthy sailmaker, humanitarian, and abolitionist. Although emphasis is placed on Forten’s postwar achievements, the book is included for the picture it gives of one Negro youngster’s contribution to the Revolution.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-90)

Van Doren, Carl C.


“General bibliography”: p. [785]-788.

A scholarly, detailed portrait which reveals the “history” of Franklin from tradesman to “imperial prophet, revolutionary statesman, cosmopolitan diplomat, scientist, wit, moralist, sage.” Here Franklin is rescued from the “dry, prim people who have claimed him” and restored to “his magnificent central unity as a great and wise man moving through great and troubling events.” While offering a mine of basic information, the author has taken full advantage of Franklin’s humor expressed in letters and hoaxes.

Sources used include the autobiography, journals, letters, and miscellaneous writings.

See also pages 15-17 and 55 for other works concerning Franklin.
Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826)

Lisitsky, Genevieve H.


"The jacket, end papers, and illustrations for this volume have been drawn by Harrie Wood."


This substantial work is notable for its descriptions of 18th-century life in the United States and France and its unusually detailed discussions of young Jefferson's philosophical and political ideas, his dream of an "ideal state" in which "everyone capable of learning at all must be educated, be he rich or poor," and his plan for a system of public education. Also reported is Jefferson's solution to the problem of slavery—deportation of young, trained Negroes and the establishment first of a colony and then of an independent nation in Africa.

The Jefferson who emerges here is idealized; many facets of his complex personality are disclosed but his faults are handled kindly. Not treated so gently, nor always fairly, are men who opposed him, John Adams and Alexander Hamilton, for example. The writer's strong antifederalism is evident.

Enlivening the book are such quotations from contemporary accounts as that of a visitor to Monticello who described the former President on horseback:

I was well aware by the cut of his jib who it was. His costume was very singular—his coat was checkered gingham, manufactured in Virginia, I suppose. The buttons on it were of white metal, and nearly the size of a dollar. His pantaloons were of the same fabric. He was mounted on an elegant bay horse going at great speed, and he had no hat on, but a lady's parasol, stuck in his coat behind, spread its canopy over his head. This was Thomas Jefferson.

Moscow, Henry.


Bibliography: p. 151.

Similar in format and purpose to other titles in the American Heritage Junior Library, this volume surveys the many-sided Jefferson—philosopher, statesman, and intellectual. The narrative is direct and provides an attractive introduction to a remarkable man.

Profusely illustrated with "paintings, prints, drawings and photographs of the period," many in color.

Peterson, Merrill D.


Bibliography: p. [1001]–1047.

A detailed, authoritative study which portrays Jefferson in his strengths and weaknesses. Not designed for young
The terrible conditions in the notorious British prison ship the Jersey are portrayed in this 19th-century print from Henry Howe's Life and Death on the Ocean (Cincinnati, 1855). Prints and Photographs Division.
people, it contains, however, material invaluable to the
teacher—discussions of Jefferson's philosophy, his belief
in the freedom of the individual, his resulting inner conflict
about slavery, and his views on education. Also of im-
portance is the account of Jefferson's service as Governor
of Virginia and as Minister to France.

Wibberley, Leonard P. O.

MAN OF LIBERTY; A LIFE OF THOMAS JEFFERSON.
E332.W6 1968

Originally published as four separate volumes, 1963-66.
Contents.—Young man from the Piedmont.—A dawn in
the trees.—The gates of spring.—Time of the harvest.
In an affectionate well-researched portrait, the author re-
veals Jefferson in such diverse roles "as father and farmer,
as worried provider for a huge household, and worried
President in a hostile world." Here is Jefferson in his
complexity and extraordinary ambience. Here are his achieve-
ments, excitements, multitudinous interests, and concerns:
To free the slaves, to establish a true democracy in
the United States, to breed new plants and improve
the agriculture of the nation, to study the stars, to
provide for the expansion of America to the coast
of the Pacific and to bring up . . . [two] daugh-
ters—these were the tasks of Thomas Jefferson. The
last he sometimes found the most difficult.

An engrossing biography of a man who in the midst of
political struggles could snatch the time for "the delicate
task of picking the right hat for his daughter."

Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

Maurois, André.

LAFAYETTE IN AMERICA. Illustrated by Frank Nich-
Star books, 15) E207.L2M3

An idealized, heroic Lafayette is encountered here in a
smoothly written portrait. Maurois emphasizes Lafayette's
best qualities—chivalry, devotion to his own honor and
the honor of France, willingness to learn, modesty (con-
cealing a lofty ambition), and devotion to George Wash-
ington and "Liberty." The author pays scant attention to
the postrevolutionary years, the French Revolution, Lafay-
ette's imprisonment, and his ultimate retirement from
public life. Quotations from such original sources as Lafay-
ette's letters to his wife add warmth to the text.
Those more interested in the real Lafayette than in the
"folk hero" will value Louis Gottschalk's Lafayette Comes
to America (Chicago, University of Chicago Press [1935]
184 p.) and his Lafayette Joins the American Army
(Chicago, University of Chicago Press [1937] 364 p.).

Haym Salomon (1740-85)

Fast, Howard M.

HAYM SALOMON, SON OF LIBERTY. Illustrated by Eric
E302.6.S17F3
The Jewish contribution to the American Revolution is made evident in a fictionalized portrait of Haym Salomon, one of the lesser known figures of the Revolution. Although the background is not detailed and the events of the war are shadowy, the book conveys a sense of the suffering and acute financial needs of Washington and his army, the plight of the people, and the helplessness of the Continental Congress. The “little Jew” who drove himself to death while raising monies from nowhere is made real.

George Washington (1732–99)

Cunliffe, Marcus.


Bibliography: p. 149.

A British historian relates the growth of the young United States within the context of George Washington’s life. In illustration and format, the volume is very like other titles in the American Heritage Junior Library.

Eaton, Jeanette.


In this remarkably warm, fictionalized portrait Washington emerges as a human being rather than as a demigod. The biography reveals the secret of his achievements—a self-discipline acquired painfully in the wilderness, in defeat, and in the mastering of his love for Sally Fairfax, wife of one of his close friends. Made clear are the agonies of the Revolution, Washington’s longing for country life, and his ordeals as first President of the new Nation. Quotations from letters, newspapers, and dispatches lend conviction to the text.

Fleming, Thomas J.

First in Their Hearts; A Biography of George Washington. Illustrated with photographs and en-
A lively, unfictionalized, adulatory biography which makes Washington a credible human being. The author has taken care to divulge the reason for Washington's extraordinary self-mastery: the necessity to cope with an ill-natured, domineering mother, to overcome poverty, and to survive in the wilderness as surveyor and soldier. He also points out the paternal influence of Lawrence Washington on the adolescent youth, and the inspiration of the Fairfax men who adhered to the ancient Roman tradition of service to one's country.

Washington is shown as an awkward lad encountering a polished society, as surveyor, soldier, general, husband, businessman, farmer, and President. Emphasized here are his maturing years and the Revolution itself; unfortunately, Washington's critics, both political and military, are treated as enemies, and his own errors of judgment are not indicated. Use of quotations from diaries and letters contributes to the substance of the text.

Wright, Esmond.


For the persistent student, and his teacher, here is a British scholar's incisive and unbiased assessment of Washington, the man behind the legend:

... Washington was pre-eminently fitted to handle the business of war: he was an excellent organizer in an army that lacked a professional staff; he was self-reliant; if he had doubts he had learnt when and where not to reveal them; he was physically strong and physically impressive, a superb horseman in an age when it mattered; he was a disciplinarian with no hesitations about the lash. He had the qualities of command without the menace of overweening ambition. The root of his triumph in war and his skill in peace was this integrity. And he knew it. On 19 Jun. 1775, four days after his election to command the Continental Army, he said: "I can answer but for three things, a firm belief in the justice of our Cause, close attention in the prosecution of it, and the strictest integrity."
The Sound of the Drum

Commager, Henry S., and Richard B. Morris, eds.

THE SPIRIT OF 'SEVENTY-SIX; THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AS TOLD BY PARTICIPANTS.
E203.C69 1967

Bibliography: p. 1297–1319.

A well-balanced selection from "a vast miscellany of sources hitherto discrete: letters, diaries, journals, orderly books, official records of the Congress and of state legislatures, diplomatic correspondence, local histories, Parliamentary debates, the writings of statesmen on both sides of the Atlantic, the voluminous collections and proceedings of historical societies, and many manuscript repositories."

A few of the documents appearing here can be found also in Morris and Woodress' Voices from America's Past (p. 23) and Sanderlin's 1776: Journals of American Independence (p. 25), but the majority here may be unfamiliar to the young reader.

Cook, Fred J.

THE GOLDEN BOOK OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.
E208.C7

A survey of the Revolution designed "to give flesh and blood to the war that gave us our independence, to get back to the reality beneath the legend—not only in words, but also, as far as it is possible, through pictures drawn and painted by men who lived through those times." As profusely illustrated as its fellow American Heritage books, the volume retells a familiar story with zest.

Additional material on the period, the world beyond the Colonies, and the war itself can be found in Bruce Lancaster's The American Heritage Book of the Revolution. (New York, American Heritage Pub. Co. [1958] 384 p.).
Cuneo, John R.


Bibliography: p. [93].

A reconstruction of the Saratoga campaign "ten scant years . . . from the bicentenary anniversary." The writer is dispassionate, his style succinct and clear. His work is rendered even more valuable by a discussion of the problems inherent in the reconstruction of historical events from conflicting memoirs and secondary sources. He carefully indicates the areas in which he disagrees with other writers, as, for example, over Burgoyne's plan for the invasion and Benedict Arnold's role. The book concludes with a tribute to the "common British or German soldier," whose "extraordinary bravery in the face of overwhelming odds without any special incentive . . . has rarely been noticed."

A chronology of events and handsome, clear maps are included.

Fleming, Thomas J.


Bibliography: p. 149.

Similar in format to others in the series, this volume tells of events leading up to the victory at Yorktown. It presents Washington and his army, their relationships with the French, the problems of the British, and details of the siege. It also includes such generally unfamiliar incidents as the "nocturnal catastrophe" of the French commissary, Claude Blanchard, when the first floor of the house in which he had stored 800,000 piastres collapsed under the weight of the gold, and he found his servant "up to his neck in gold coins."

Burke Davis' YORKTOWN; THE WINNING OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE (New York, Harper & Row [1969] 192 p.) covers much the same material. The campaign, described as "brilliant, deceptively simple," is likened to a chess game. Despite the fact that the writer perhaps overvalues the French contribution and overpraises Lord Cornwallis, his book is of value for its inclusion of the Articles of Capitulation, a chronology, and "Dramatis Personae."

Martin, Joseph P.


First published in 1830 under the title A NARRATIVE OF SOME OF THE ADVENTURES, DANGERS, AND SUFFERINGS OF A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER.

Mr. Scheer had previously edited this for adults as PRIVATE YANKEE DOODLE (Boston, Little, Brown [1962] 305 p.).
The present volume is a skillful abridgment, for young people, of the original. Recounted here are the reminiscences of a 70-year-old man who enlisted in the Continental Army at the age of 15 and gave seven years to the service of his country. The telling is as sharp as if the Revolution had ended yesterday. It presents graphically the incredible hardships encountered by the common soldier—the intense cold of Valley Forge, the agony of hunger and inadequate clothing, the lack of ammunition, and the bitterness of retreat when ammunition ran out. The matter-of-fact, wryly humorous tone of the narrative is manifested in passages such as those describing the experiences of the Continentals trying to hold Fort Mifflin, on an island in the Delaware:

We had a thirty-pound cannon in the fort, but had not a single shot for it. The British also had one in their battery upon the Hospital Point, which raked the fort, or rather it was so fixed as to rake the parade in front of the barracks, the only place we could pass up and down the fort. The artillery officers offered a gill of rum for each shot fired from that piece, which the soldiers would procure. I have seen from twenty to fifty men standing on the parade waiting with impatience the coming of the shot, which would often be seized before its motion had fully ceased and conveyed off to our gun to be sent back again to its former owners.

"Molly Pitcher" legend. The book is lively in pace, and its chapter headings are intriguing—"Bloody Backs in Old Boston (1761-1776)," "The Rise and Fall of Gentleman Johnny (1776)," "Heroes and Villains (1777-1779)," and "Lively Times in the Carolinas (1776-1781)." British and American points of view are skillfully interwoven. The book is further enlivened by the inclusion of quotations from letters, reminiscences, and ballads such as the following which taunted the British in Boston:

And what have you got now with all your designing,
But a town without virtues to sit down and dine in;
And to look on the ground like a parcel of noodles,
And sing how the Yankees have beaten the Doodles.
I'm sure if you're wise you'll make peace before dinner
For fighting and fasting will soon make you thinner.

Nolan, Jeannette C.

THE SHOT HEARD ROUND THE WORLD; THE STORY OF
LEXINGTON AND CONCORD. New York, J. Messner
Bibliography: p. 185-186.
A lively dramatization of the developing conflict between England and the Colonies which culminated in the shots fired on April 19, 1775. The account begins with a description of the battle at Lexington and flashes back to describe important men (British and Colonial) and the roles they played as the troubles developed. British and American points of view are presented fairly. Here, speaking for the English, are Major Pitcairn, Gen. Thomas

A British cartoon depicting the angry reaction in England to Charles Fox's support of the rebellious Colonists. Prints and Photographs Division.
The Habeas Corpus, or The Wild Geese flying away with Fox to America.
Gage, and George III. Their biographical portraits, together with those of Washington, Franklin, Hancock, and the Adamses, are faithful to historical record. Although there is fictionalization, it is restrained and does not impair the overall value of this introduction to the complex prewar picture.

Peterson, Harold L.


287 p. UC263.P47

A fully illustrated, authoritative introduction to the Revolutionary soldier and his equipment. Among items and "physical objects" surveyed here are shoulder weapons and handguns, ammunition and "accoutrements," artillery, medical and surgical supplies, musical instruments, clothing, and regimental organization. Intriguing chapter headings—"Bullet, Belt and Box," "Great Guns and Mighty Mortars," "To Sustain Life and Provide Comfort," "Scalpel, Saw and Spirits"—and quotations from letters and journals enliven the text. The Revolutionary soldier's attitude toward his officers is revealed in this comment from a New Jersey private on joining a new company:

[The men were] sworn to be true and faithful soldiers of the Right Honorable Congress. After this we chose our officers... When on parade, our 1st Lieut. came and told us he would be g'd if we would excuse him from going, which we refused; but on consideration we concluded it was better to consent; after which he said he would go; but we said, "You shall not command us, for he whose mind can change in an hour is not fit to command in the field where liberty is contended for." In the evening we chose a private in his place.

Sobol, Donald J., ed.

*AN AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR READER.* Illus-
A picture of the realities and the stresses of the Revolution, 1775-83, emerges from this well-researched sampling of military reports, pledges, poems, letters, and sundry other sources. A balance is achieved by the incorporating of first-hand reports and documents conveying the British point of view.


A detailed chronology (p. 165–226) of major military events is appended.
A Constitution Is Born

*George Washington at the time of the Constitutional Convention, portrayed by Charles Willson Peale. Detail. Prints and Photographs Division.*
Commager, Henry S.


E303.C6

A lively, informal introduction to the "making [of] a nation," a process Washington described in a letter to an English friend as "the novel and astonishing spectacle of a whole people deliberating on what form of government will be the most conducive to their happiness." The condition of post-Revolutionary America, the need for a central government, the men who created it, the problems they encountered, and their compromises are presented clearly. The straightforward text is lightened with such quotations as the comments of certain delegates about others in the Constitutional Convention; for example, Dr. Cutler on Franklin:

Notwithstanding his age, his manners are perfectly easy, and everything about him seems to diffuse an unrestrained freedom and happiness. He has an incessant vein of humor, accompanied with an uncommon vivacity, which seems as natural and involuntary as his breathing. . . .

Morris, Richard B.


JK34.M63

A clear, straightforward explanation of events which culminated in the Constitutional Convention. The historian discusses such issues facing the 13 States as the question of State or national government, the Great Compromise, the matter of representation, and the election of a chief executive. A "simplified outline" of the Constitution is appended.

Alexander Hamilton (1757–1804)

Lomask, Milton.


E302.6.H2L86

Here is a skillful portrait of Alexander Hamilton, one of the builders of this Nation, brilliant, ambitious, ashamed of his birth, and craving danger, conflict, and glory:

Mine is an odd destiny; perhaps no man in the United States has sacrificed or done more for the present Constitution than myself; and contrary to
all my anticipations of its fate, as you know from the very beginning, I am still laboring to prop the frail and worthless fabric, yet I have the murmurs of its friends no less than the curses of its foes for my reward.

James Madison (1751-1836)

Wilkie, Katharine E., and Elizabeth R. Moseley.


"Books about James Madison and his times": p. 186.

A competently organized, accurate biography, though flawed by fictionalization, occasional coyness, and exaggeration of Madison's role in American history. In spite of these handicaps, the book conveys a feeling for the period and for a man who served his country as delegate to the Continental Congress, one of the drafters of the Constitution, and the fourth President.


George Mason (1725-92)

Rutland, Robert A.


"A Note on the Sources": p. 115-116.

A study of "one of the generals in the intellectual leadership of revolution," author of the Virginia Declaration of Rights, chief architect of the constitution of Virginia, and member of the Constitutional Convention. Although this authoritative work is not intended for young readers, mature students will find of value the revelation of Mason's personal dichotomy as slaveholder and theoretical abolitionist. Among the problems presented here that have come down to today are those of States' rights and the rights of the individual.
Heroes, Heroics, and Tradition

Patrick Campbell spent two years—1791 and 1792—in the frontier areas of the United States. This plate is taken from his account of that trip, Travels in the Interior Inhabited Parts of North America (Edinburgh, 1793).

Rare Book Division.
Adams, Dorothy.


An almost legendary tale of the heroic deeds of a young Polish count who served the cause of freedom in Poland and gave his life in the Revolution in America. The book recounts best Pulaski's days in Poland; however, it does convey clearly a sense of the Polish contribution to this country's independence.

Boyd, James.


Illustrated title page and lining papers in colors.

In telling of the fortunes and ultimate maturing of young Johnny Fraser, the author recreates 18th-century life in North Carolina and in London, the diversities, disparate values, and class and racial attitudes. Among the engrossing dramatic scenes is an account of Johnny's adventures by the side of John Paul Jones and the duel between the Bonhomme Richard and Serapis. Acclaimed by a critic on the New York Herald Tribune as "...history that leaves with the reader the atmosphere and soul of a vanished era."

Cooper, James F.

THE SPY. With illustrations of contemporary scenes and a foreword by Curtis Dahl. New York, Dodd, Mead, 1949. 333 p. (Great illustrated classics)

A classic based on the experiences of an inarticulate man who actually served George Washington as a confidential spy in Westchester County, N.Y., "a battleground over which British and American forces fought. In spite of ponderous prose, the novel is of value for its depiction of a family's divided loyalties and the high cost of patriotism.

Daugherty, James H.


Illustrated title page and lining papers.

The saga of Daniel Boone—"toes in the good black earth . . . the ring of the anvil in his ears, strong and sure-handed with tools and guns"—and of the wilderness he loved is recounted in singing prose. "Through the story runs the clamor of distant voices, of the generations springing up from the bottom lands, . . . saying: 'We are the nation of the valley, . . . We make our own destiny and we like it.'"

The rhythmic, sculptured quality of the author-artist's brown-and-green lithographs sustains the sweep of the text.

Edmonds, Walter D.

WILDERNESS CLEARING. Illustrated by John S. de Martelly. New York, Dodd, Mead, 1944. 156 p. PZ7.E247Wi

Border warfare, marauding bands of Tories on search-and-destroy forays against isolated patriot farmers, and the
ever-present fear of Indian uprisings are reflected in this quiet, compelling novel concerning 16-year-old David Mount, Maggie Gordon, and their families. The novel is based on an episode in northern New York at the beginning of the Revolution—the murder in 1777 of the Mount boys by two Indians, for $16 and a copper kettle, the price their scalps would bring that year at Fort Oswego.

Forbes, Esther.


Map on lining: papers.

Eighteenth-century Boston in revolt, the social scene, the Boston Tea Party, and the Battle of Lexington are brought to life through the eyes of young Johnny Tremain, a silversmith’s cocky apprentice. The novel is notable for its treatment of fictional characters and such historic figures as Sam Adams, Dr. Warren, James Otis, and Paul Revere. Newbery Award winner, 1943.

Hopkinson, Francis.


In verse.

A rollicking ballad which was sung to the tune of “Yankee Doodle” commemorates an incident in the Revolution. It tells how, in an attempt to damage British shipping on the Delaware, the Colonials launched a fleet of kegs filled with gunpowder “floating down the tide, sir.”

The mocking verses circulated through the countryside, and the British became a laughingstock because, though destruction to the ships was minimal, damage to British pride was great:

```
Such feats did they perform that day
Against those wicked kegs, sir,
That years to come, if they get home,
They’ll make their boasts and brags, sir.
```

Lawson, Robert.

**BEN AND ME; A NEW AND ASTONISHING LIFE OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AS WRITTEN BY HIS GOOD MOUSE, AMOS, LATELY-DISCOVERED.** Edited and illustrated by Robert Lawson. Boston, Little, Brown, 1939. 113 p. illus.

The Franklin encountered here is the figure of legend, pictured with more than a touch of raillery by his “good mouse.” Modestly claimed by Amos are the Franklin Stove, Poor Richard’s Almanack, Franklin’s experiments with electricity, and the authorship of the Declaration of Independence. Also presented is the “secret” behind Franklin’s
extraordinary success as a statesman in France. The author's spirited drawings reflect the gentle satire of the text.


Revolutionary Boston comes to life in this grudging, tongue-in-cheek account of the deeds of the patriots, as witnessed by Mr. Revere's unsympathetic (though later patriotic) horse. Sherazade misses nothing; her incisive comments are aimed as much at the British as at the patriots. The Boston Tea Party, Paul Revere's ride, and the affair at Lexington are graphically described here.

The mockery in the text is captured by the author's vigorous drawings.

Moore, Frank, ed.


Reprint of the 1855 edition.

Selections from the multitudinous verses which appeared in "the newspapers and periodical issues...original ballads, sheets, and broadsides" during the Revolution. Some of the verses derive from the recollections of surviving soldiers, "who heard and sang them amid the trials of the camp and field." Each selection is accompanied by a brief explanatory note. When known, authorship and title of tune are provided.

Ranging in spirit from the patriotic to the mocking, and reflecting Tory as well as colonial sentiments, the verses convey popular attitudes toward the Revolution. Found here are such fervent ballads as "The World Turned Upside Down" (or "The Old Woman Taught Wisdom"), "Gage's Proclamation," a patriotic "Alphabet for Little Masters and Misses," "Battle of the Kegs," and "The Dance":

Cornwallis led a country dance,
The like was never seen, sir,
Much retrograde and much advance,
And all with General Greene, sir.
Greene, in the South, then dance'd a set,
And got a mighty name, sir,
Cornwallis jigg'd with young Fayette,
But suffer'd in his fame, sir.


Bibliography: p. [431]-443.

A scholarly, engrossing work pays tribute to the real sailor, the flesh-and-blood John Paul Jones. Quotations from English and Dutch ballads, letters, and other contemporary sources enliven the text, while the preface and appended notes worthy for the discussion of "spurious biographies" and citation of original source materials.
You have heard of Paul Jones?
Have you not? have you not [?]
How he came to Leith Pier, and he fill'd the folks with fear,
And he fill'd the folks with fear,
Did he not?

He took the Serapis
Did he not? did he not?
He took the Serapis, the battle it was hot;
But a rogue and vagabond,
Is he not?

See also Armstrong Sperry's biography of Jones (p. 59).

This readable account of the British spy seeks to answer the question "What kind of man was this, whose own enemies—the very people against whom he plotted—wished to set him free?"

Roberts, Kenneth L.


Maps on lining papers.
"Authorities": leaf 2 at end.

Set down here are the recollections of Steven Nason "of the town of Arundel, in the county of York and the province of Maine" concerning Col. Benedict Arnold, the disastrous attack on Quebec, and "certain occurrences connected in various ways with the neighborhood." Of special interest is the account of life on the northern frontier; the relationships between the settlers, the Indians—the Abenaki in particular—and the French; the gradual growth of hostility towards England; and the presentation of Arnold as a hero.

Rabble in Arms (Garden City, N.Y., Doubleday, Doran, 1938. 870 p. FZ3.R54263Rab) continues the narrative,
describing the fortunes of the men from Arundel and Colonel Arnold's role in the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga. The writing is graphic and vigorous, the defense of Arnold eloquent.

Smith, Fredrika S.


Fact and fiction are combined in an account of the amazing exploits of Israel Putnam, a veteran of the French and Indian Wars, Pontiac's War, and the Revolution.

He pitied littleness, loved goodness, admired greatness... The friend, the servant, and almost unparalleled lover of his country, worn with honorable age and the former toils of war, Putnam, rests from his labors.

Illustrations include photographs of historic places and reproductions of early engravings.

Sperry, Armstrong.


A robust saga of John Paul Jones, here presented as the hero of legend, larger than life. Glory and gallantry are described in the narration of his deeds of daring, his early victories at sea, his encounter with the Countess of Selkirk, and his stunning defeat of the Serapis.

Wilson, William E.


Illustrated title page; map on lining papers. "Certain chapters in this book are adapted from 'The Wabash,'... by William E. Wilson."

The winning of the wilderness out of which arose Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin is chronicled in this idealized, almost legendary account of the exploits of George Rogers Clark, a "red-headed son of a saw-toothed alligator." Here are the glories—the taking of Kaskaska and Vincennes and the defeat of Hamilton, the "Hair-Buyer." The bitter years, beginning with Clark's unfortunate romance, are handled lightly. The book closes on the note that though America had neglected him cruelly, Clark loved her still.
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THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: A SELECTED READING LIST.

A bibliography of books concerned with the period from the origins of the controversy with Great Britain to the postwar years of the 1780's. Although most of the works are nonfiction, selections of historical fiction and children's literature are included.


A collection of six rare essays by prominent figures in England who believed in the justice of the American cause. Reprinted to provide insight into the intellectual sources of American patriot writings and resistance in the 1770's, the essays are accompanied by notes, a general introduction, and brief surveys of the work of each author.


This full-color facsimile of the famous engraving is presented in a red folder which forms a mat for the print. A description of the events leading to the massacre and to the production of the engraving appears on the folder.


This selective bibliography is arranged by subject and period and provides a convenient and representative guide to essays and periodical literature on the Revolutionary era that have appeared in the past 75 years. Included are a list of currently available paperbacks that reprint some of the essays, as well as an author and a subject index.