

## Chapter 1 : Siege of Yorktown - Wikipedia

*The Siege of Yorktown, also known as the Battle of Yorktown, the Surrender at Yorktown, German Battle or the Siege of Little York, ending on October 19, 1781, at Yorktown, Virginia, was a decisive victory by a combined force of American Continental Army troops led by General George Washington and French Army troops led by the Comte de.*

The Americans had high hopes for this venture, but those hopes were initially dashed. George Washington September 20th, Victory at Yorktown: Count Rochambeau was appointed to command of the army that was destined to support the Americans, and on May 2, 1781, he sailed for the U. They were meant to be deployed overseas and are considered the predecessor of the Foreign Legion. They discussed coordinating a joint military operation, but since it was now clear that the remaining French troops both generals were expecting were not yet en route from France, and since no significant military operation was possible without the assistance of the French Navy, the arrival of which was not imminent, the commanders agreed that there could be no campaign in In May some additional French troops arrived, and with them came the news that Admiral de Grasse was headed for the West Indies and had instructions to cooperate with the allied commanders in the U. So the allied commanders decided to march the French troops to New York to join the Americans and prepare for an attack there, supported by the French fleet under de Grasse. In mid-August he received a letter from Admiral de Grasse indicating that the French fleet would be available for service in Chesapeake Bay by the end of the month and would remain there until October It would not challenge the Royal Navy in New York waters. Abandoning the idea of attacking New York City, Washington and Rochambeau embraced the southern campaign strategy "à la Rochambeau" to rendezvous with the French fleet and attack the British under Cornwallis in Virginia. On August 18, American and French forces began moving south. American watercraft managed to transport some of the allied foot soldiers down the Chesapeake from Elkton, Maryland to Annapolis. The rest of the troops continued overland to Annapolis, where the infantry units halted to await boat lift further south. The artillery and wagons eventually went to Williamsburg, 12 miles from Yorktown. Lauzun then received orders to reinforce the Virginia militia under General George Weedon encamped near Gloucester Courthouse on the north side of the York, and he headed there. Weedon was a friend of Washington who served as one of his Continental Army generals all the way from to the late winter at Valley Forge. Now he led the Virginia militia at this key juncture at Yorktown. Washington and Rochambeau, accompanied by a few of their staff officers, took a different route from the main army. The allied commanders rested at Mount Vernon on September 10 and Lauzun wrote in his memoirs that Gloucester was being "watched by a corps of three thousand militiamen under the continental Brigadier-General Weedon. This is the letter Washington wrote to Weedon to introduce him to Lauzun, written as he was returning from a shipboard conference with de Grasse, where they coordinated the final siege of Yorktown. You will be pleased to shew him all that Respect and Attention, that his Rank and Services justly demand. The letter was de-accessioned by a state historical society. Letters of Washington from the Yorktown Campaign are great rarities. This is among a very few publicly offered for sale in at least the last half century. Cornwallis had fortified the town of Gloucester, a hamlet of four houses, with entrenchments, four strong redoubts and three batteries with 19 pieces altogether, mostly pounders. Some British infantry and cavalry were also there. On October 3, 1781, at the Battle of the Hook, French and British cavalry skirmished at Gloucester, with the French being aided by the American militia. Fifty British were killed or wounded, including Tarleton, who was much hated by the Americans for his notorious cruelty. Washington was elated by this victory; his decision to send units to Gloucester had payed big dividends. Cornwallis was now cut off from escape or reinforcement, either by land or sea, at Yorktown. Together, the American and French land forces laid siege to the town. The French fleet under the command of de Grasse blocked the Chesapeake Bay from British reinforcement, as well as from possible escape that way. On October 19, 1781, three week after the siege began, General Cornwallis surrendered to the allies. Weedon was given the honor of securing the surrendered British arms. As a result of this catastrophe to their arms, the British lost heart for the ware and Britain sued for peace. The American Revolution was won. Frame, Display, Preserve Each frame is custom constructed, using only proper museum archival materials. The finest frames,

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### Chapter 2 : Yorktown: Triumph of the Alliance | National Museum of American History

*On this day in , General George Washington, commanding a force of 17, French and Continental troops, begins the siege known as the Battle of Yorktown against British General Lord Charles.*

Dates of the Battle of Yorktown: General Washington commanded the American army. Lieutenant-General de Rochambeau commanded the French troops. Size of the armies at the Battle of Yorktown: The British wore red coats, with bearskin caps for the grenadiers, tricorne hats for the battalion companies and caps for the light infantry. The Highland Scots troops wore the kilt and feather bonnet. The two regiments of light dragoons serving in America, the 16th and 17th, wore red coats and leather helmets in England, but there is clear evidence that they took to wearing green in America. The Hessian infantry wore blue coats and retained the Prussian style grenadier mitre cap with brass front plate. Battle of Yorktown The Americans dressed as best they could. Increasingly as the war progressed infantry regiments of the Continental Army took to wearing mostly blue or brown uniform coats. The American militia continued in rough clothing. Both sides were armed with muskets. The British and German infantry carried bayonets, which were in short supply among the American troops. Many American soldiers from backwoods areas carried rifles, weapons of considerably greater accuracy than the ordinary musket and which their owners used with proficiency. Both sides were supported by artillery. The French royal regiments of foot wore white coats. The Americans and French. German Regiments in British pay at the Battle of Yorktown: French Regiments at the Battle of Yorktown: During the campaigning in , Cornwallis progressively lost his grip on the Carolinas. The years of fighting in America, with no proper supply of recruits to replace British losses, and the intervention of Spain and France in the war, leading to the requirement for British troops in the West Indies and the Mediterranean, left the British much weakened in America. Cornwallis marched his army into Virginia and seized Yorktown and Gloucester, towns on each side of the York River. The Americans and French arrived before Yorktown on 28th September , forming a semi-circle around the British entrenchments and putting the British and German troops under siege. The Americans immediately occupied the empty redoubts. Washington began formal siege operations on the eastern side of Yorktown on 30th September, and on 9th October were sufficiently close to open an artillery bombardment. The British carried out a sortie on the 16th October, in which several guns in the two redoubts held by the Americans were spiked. On the same day, Cornwallis attempted to pass the Guards, the 23rd Regiment and the Light Infantry across the York River to Gloucester, but was thwarted by a storm. The casualties during the siege were British, 80 Americans and French killed and wounded. Follow-up to the Battle of Yorktown: The war was formally ended by the Treaty of Paris, signed in , that acknowledged the independence of the American states. After the surrender the American and French officers entertained the British officers to dinner, other than Tarleton with whom the Americans refused to sit at table, due to the atrocities committed by his troops in North and South Carolina. References for the Battle of Yorktown:

### Chapter 3 : Battle of Yorktown begins - HISTORY

*Washington, George. George Washington was appointed Commander-in-chief of the Continental forces on June 17, His dedication and force of personality kept the Continental Army together during the long years of arduous service.*

In October , the successful siege of Yorktown, Virginia, by General Washington in effect ended major fighting in the American Revolution. The American Army and allied forces defeated a British force there under Lord Charles Cornwallis, and on October 17, Cornwallis raised a flag of truce after having suffered not only the American attack but also disease, lack of supplies, inclement weather, and a failed evacuation. The map shows what Yorktown looked like before British military fortification. It displays key roads and buildings, but there are no fortifications or regimental positions shown. The map also features an intriguing endorsement: On October 6, allied forces under Washington began digging the first siege line, and on October 9 the fighting began. British forces were cut off from their supply lines, andâ€”running out of ammunition, suffering high casualtiesâ€”Cornwallis attempted to evacuate his troops. The evacuation was thwarted by stormy weather, however. Cornwallis and Washington began negotiating the terms of British surrender in their correspondence of October 17, The final Articles of Capitulation reflect the concerns and compromises of the two sides over the surrender of British troops and the treatment of loyalists. Article 3 states that: They are then to ground their arms, and return to their encampments, where they will remain until they are dispatched to the places of their destination. As if to instruct posterity as to where this victory was really achieved, Washington added a short paragraph at the end: This print, an lithograph, depicts the surrender at Yorktown. The print shows a defeated Lord Cornwallis surrendering his sword to General Washington. This transaction, however, was not the one that actually took place. Though Cornwallis did not really present his sword to Washington at the surrender, this print captures, if not a true moment, a patriotic feeling forged by the end of Revolutionary hostilities and the birth of a new nation from the ashes of war. Questions for Discussion Read the introduction and the transcript. A comparison of the transcript with the handwritten image may be interesting. Use as much of this information as well the print of the Surrender of Cornwallis and your knowledge of American history to answer the following questions. Identify and explain those aspects of the surrender that complicated the process. Why do you think the artist depicted the surrender showing both Washington and Cornwallis even though Cornwallis was not there and Washington did not accept the sword?

## Chapter 4 : Battle of Yorktown - HISTORY

*General George Washington and the French commander, Comte de Rochambeau, met in May to plan their strategy. Washington wanted to attack the British in New York City. Washington wanted to attack the British in New York City.*

While the other navy ships of the U. Joined by the Confederate gun boats, Patrick Henry, Jamestown and Teaser, the Merrimac next laid a raking fire into the 50 gun frigate, Congress, which, maneuvering in the narrow channel, attempted to loose a broad side on the Merrimac but the frigate ran aground in the ebbing tide, caught fire and began to sink. Night was falling by this time and the Merrimac, minus her iron brow, which had broken off in the impact with the Cumberland, slowly made her way through the remaining U. Lawrence and the Minnesota, and steamed back up the Elizabeth River, past crowds of cheering spectators, to her berth. After reconnaissance revealed that the enemy had destroyed the bridges over the Rappahannock, the army returned to Alexandria on March 11 and waited for the government to assemble the necessary fleet of boats to begin its transfer down Chesapeake Bay to the new base of operations at Fort Monroe. Several days later, on March 13, without training or experience qualifying them for the task, two prairie lawyers assumed they knew better than McClellan how to plan a campaign. Next, Lincoln ordered the western armies consolidated into the Department of the Mississippi and placed in command of it, Henry Halleck, a career army officer. General McClellan was left the Yorktown Peninsula. At the same time, in response to a telegram from President Davis telling him to come quick, General Lee was arriving in Richmond from Savannah where he had been organizing the coastal defenses, and he found that President Davis had issued a very different order. Lee is assigned to duty at the seat of government; and, under the direction of the President, is charged with the conduct of military operations in the armies of the Confederacy. By Command of the Secretary of War: Cooper Adjutant and Inspector General In formulating a plan of operation for the Army of the Potomac, General McClellan understood that the amount of time and force needed to carry it out must be in direct proportion to its ultimate scope and objectives. Clearly, the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay provided such means. Among the several points along the length of Chesapeake Bay where the Army of the Potomac might have established a base of operations on the strategic flank of the enemy, the tiny village of West Point at the headwaters of the York River provided the greatest advantages. It had wharfs and warehouses suitable for stockpiling supplies brought by steamers up the deep channel of the York River from Chesapeake Bay, and it was the terminal of the York River Railroad that ran 35 miles into Richmond. Accordingly, McClellan had planned to take the Urbanna route to reach West Point but changed his mind when Lincoln rearranged the chain of command. Parking the Lincoln on the grass by the wall, I got a pack from the trunk and led Murphy along an abandoned asphalt roadbed that passed through a grass field. A tenth of a mile ahead of us, a small herd of mule deer was in the field, the rising sun spreading behind them, a rosy gleam through the fringe of dense trees. A quarter mile to the north, the earthen rampart of a line of trenches stretched toward the York River bank, a half mile to the east. Behind us, a cluster of deep pits overrun with weeds flanked both side of H. We were walking between the remnants of the mound and ditch lines of Washington and Cornwallis that were renovated and expanded upon by Joe Johnston and McClellan. On March 17, an armada comprised of hundreds of barges, steamers and schooners was assembled in the Potomac in front of Washington; over a period of four weeks the boats transported , men, 15, animals, 1, wagons, 44 artillery batteries, 74 ambulances, pontoon bridges, telegraph materials and camp equipment to Fort Monroe. The remaining divisions of the three corps were still enroute along with the rest of the artillery and much of the transportation and camp equipment. They found that the enemy line stretched across the peninsula ten miles from the York River to the James River. Like fingers spreading out from the palm of a hand, deep ravines cut the ground in front of the town between the Yorktown Road and the York River and a series of creeks feed rain water into the York River. Where the Yorktown Road bends to the east to enter the town, the headwaters of the Warwick River rise and flow southwest six miles into the James River through dense forest and deep broadening swamps. After its repulse convinced him that the enemy line was too strong for a frontal assault, McClellan began a slow advance on the right side of the line. The established technique of siege warfare that had developed to

that time was complicated and though frequently successful it was necessarily slow. The digging of the trenches had to proceed in a zigzag toward the Yorktown defensive works and branch off at intervals known as parallels. The information I have obtained here has induced me to move forward the troops for whom I have wagons, in order to invest Yorktown. I still think that it will be advisable for you to land at least one division at MoJack Bay behind Gloucester in order to insure its fall. I have therefore telegraphed to Franklin to get your First Division embarked as soon as possible to make this movement. Shortly after this telegram was sent, General McClellan was handed a telegraph from the War Department. Drenched to the bone by successive rain storms that had been smashing into the Peninsula all the while his forces were deploying in front of Yorktown, McClellan stomped down a muddy road under construction behind the trenches forming the first parallel and hurried inside a tent staked under a clump of weeping trees. Inside, he flung himself down on a camp chair and scribbled a message to President Lincoln on a sheet of paper. When he was done writing, he thrust it into the hand of a soldier sitting at a small desk where a telegraph apparatus was set up and ordered him to send it. The enemy are in large force along our front and, apparently, intend to make a determined resistance. A reconnaissance shows that their line of works extends across the entire Peninsula from Yorktown to Warwick River. Under these circumstances, I beg that you will reconsider the order detaching the first Corps from my Command. In my deliberate judgment the success of our cause will be imperiled by so greatly reducing my force. If you cannot leave me the whole of the first Corps, I urgently ask that I may not lose Franklin and his Division. After you left I ascertained that less than twenty thousand unorganized men, without a single field battery, were all you designed to be left for the defense of Washington and Manassas Junction. I do not forget that I was satisfied with your arrangement to leave Banks at Manassas Junction; but when that arrangement was broken up and nothing was substituted for it, of course, I was constrained to substitute something for it myself. And allow me to ask, Do you really think I should permit the line from Richmond to Manassas Junction to this city to be entirely open, except what resistance could be presented by less than twenty thousand unorganized troops? You will do me the justice to remember, I always insisted that going down the bay in search of a field, instead of fighting at or near Manassas, was only shifting and not surmounting a difficulty; that we would find the same enemy, and the same or equal entrenchments, at either place. The country will not fail to noteâ€”is now notingâ€”that the present hesitation to move upon an entrenched enemy, is but the story of Manassas repeated. Yours, very truly, A. In the west, President Lincoln had three armies in the field commanded by John Pope, Carlos Buell and Ulysses Grant, operating under a common plan of campaign. By April 9, , the three generals had cooperated to drive the rebels out of Kentucky and Western Tennessee, penetrate Northern Mississippi and Alabama, and free the navigation of the Mississippi down to Memphis. Yet, inexplicably, President Lincoln was disparaging and undermining the one plan of campaign that could quickly bring the war to an end. While the Army of the Potomac was operating on the Yorktown peninsula, Banks was to command his detached corps of two divisions, each 9, men strong, at Manassas Junction and guard the approaches to Washington. Stonewall Jackson, in peacetime an eccentric professor of mathematics at the Virginia Military Institute, was positioned 40 miles south of that place, with 4, infantry and a regiment of cavalry. Shields, an Illinois politician who once challenged Lincoln to a sword fight on a road outside Springfield, did not think Jackson would have dared attack his superior force unless heavy reinforcements were lurking somewhere behind him. Banks ordered Williams to march two of his three brigades back to the Valley, leaving only the third brigade of 4, and a battery of artillery to continue toward Manassas. At this point, in his role as Commander-in-Chief, President Lincoln badly blundered; excited by a belief that one army corps was insufficient to secure Washington from surprise attack, President Lincoln decided to use three army corps to cover Washington. The President had good political reasons to want security for Washington: But Lincoln had no good military reasons to believe that an enemy force large enough to pose a serious threat to its security would suddenly appear in front of Washington. The art of warfare distills to the concepts of hitting and guarding through movements which are consistent with economy of force. Application of these essential principles of war to the strategic situation confronting Lincoln rendered ridiculous the idea that, with the Army of the Potomac closing on Richmond, the enemy would march an army to the suburbs of Washington. If the enemy advanced its infantry and supporting wagon trains by fording the Rappahannock, or

by approaching Washington from the direction of the Valley, the infantry and artillery must also ford the Potomac somewhere between Williamsport and Leesburg, a distance of 45 miles from Culpeper and 35 miles from Front Royal, and then march down the left bank of the river and break through the cordon of forts around Rockville. The logical choice to command the guarding force was Irwin McDowell; he was a career army officer with real experience in warfare and he was well-liked by Lincoln and his cabinet. McClellan probably picked Banks because he did not want the politician-general campaigning with him and if he chose McDowell the Army of the Potomac would lose three divisions, not two. Frontal assaults result in heavy casualties requiring replacement and President Lincoln had closed the recruiting offices a month before! And if the President truly thought the "unorganized troops" McClellan was supposed to have left behind him, could not be relied upon to hold the entrenchments around Washington, then he could hardly expect them to charge entrenchments on a field miles from Washington. Reaching the end of the old asphalt road that tracks east from the cemetery, Murphy and I came to a finger of trees that poked out from the dense forest that borders the fields. On the other side of this salient of trees, the field bulges toward the south and we followed the tree line a quarter mile until a piece of red striping tied around a tree caught my eye; motioning to Murphy to follow me, I plunged into the thick undergrowth of the woods. Slapping her thigh to scare away the grasshoppers leaping at her out of the grass, Murphy followed me in with a sigh. Somewhere deep in the woods were the redoubts for his Parrot guns. Making our way forward, we skirted a tangle of bramble bushes and zigzagged through a grove of saplings, only to find a cluster of fallen trees blocking our path at the other end. Our dodging through the obstacles of the woods had brought us up against a massive spider web that stretched across a six foot space between two trees. We could see more webs were behind it, looking like reflections of an image in a series of mirrors. A fat-bellied brown spider with grey and yellow markings sat high up in one corner, its long slender legs gauging the meaning of the slight trembling it sensed in the threads. I picked up a dead branch from the debris on the forest floor and with a sharp crack, broke it over my knee into two pieces. I offered the longer one to my pal, who was standing now with her hands spread on her hips; Her blue-grey eyes flashing, she looked skeptically, first at me and then at the stick. Yorktown Trenches After twenty minutes of hiking, we came to the edge of a ravine. Looking down the slope we could see water sparkling through the trees; it was Wormsley Pond. Angling down the slope, we came upon the trace of an old wagon road bending east around the edge of the pond, and walked along it for about feet or so. Two deep gouges had been cut into the slope, each about twenty feet long by ten feet wide; in the middle of each gouge there was a weathered earth rampart perpendicular to the mound of earth that formed the front face of the work. The tubes of Battery No. When the energy of the powder was initiated, it propelled a pound cast-iron shell about 3, yards; fully elevated to 25 degrees and charged with maximum powder these monster guns could throw shells 4, yards. The placement of the guns was but one element in the military tradition of the siege that had developed steadily from the Middle Ages onwards. We followed it a short distance east until we came up on the National Park road which slides around behind Wormsley Pond; walking along the Park road for a hundred yards we came to the grassy plateau again and crossed the open fields toward the York River. Near the Moore House, which dates from the Revolution, the National Park Road intersects with another road just in front of the river; this road is lined on the river side with recently built twostory brick homes. Taking it, we soon came to an undeveloped lot between two of the new houses. A mound of earth protruding from the midst of the trees and tangled brush that covers the lot, forms a tooth-like structure; it outlines the redan that anchored the left flank of the Confederate fortifications to the river. Late in the night of May 4, just hours after the booming of the Union guns signaled the gunners were fixing their ranges, the Confederate general, Joe Johnston, ordered his batteries to barrage the Union lines and his infantry began evacuating the Yorktown entrenchments. Your call for more Parrott guns from Washington alarms me, chiefly because it aims indefinite procrastination. Is anything to be done? I need restâ€”my brain is taxed to the extremeâ€”I feel that the fate of the nation depends upon me and I feel that I have not one single friend at the seat of Government; any day may bring an order relieving me from command. If such a thing should be done our cause is lost. If they will simply let me alone I feel sure of successâ€”but, will they do it? Inside, he waved at the sentries standing guard and climbed the stairs to the second floor where he entered a small room crammed with chattering

telegraph equipment.

**Chapter 5 : Union General George McClellan at Yorktown**

*General George at Yorktown on [www.nxgvision.com](http://www.nxgvision.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers.*

The long war of the Revolution culminated at length in victorious triumph on these very plains of Yorktown. These frowning battlements on the heights of York are turned in this second war of liberty against the enemies of our country. Shall we, their sons, imitate their example, or basely bow the neck to the yoke of the oppressor? I know your answer. Bankhead Magruder, Major General, Commanding While Yorktown is most significant for the Revolutionary War siege of , which effectively ended the conflict, during the American Civil War was again the site of major siege operations during the Peninsula Campaign of McClellan, persuaded Lincoln that a move on Richmond up what it known as "The Peninsula" was a better approach. And the Union army still held Fort Monroe at the tip of the Peninsula -- giving a base from which to begin operations. The Confederate leaders, however, had planned for this Union offensive. In , Major General John Bankhead Magruder, commander of the Army of the Peninsula, began constructing defensive lines across the peninsula. He anchored his left flank at Yorktown, improving and strengthening existing Revolutionary War fortifications. From Yorktown, 12 miles of new earthworks spanned southward to the Warwick River and then continued along the Warwick River for several miles before angling westward and ending at the James River. Magruder also made effective use of the terrain, using dams to flood the lowlands. He fortified the dams with earthworks and troops. Initially, Magruder had only 11, men to hold his entire line. In April , McClellan reached Fort Monroe, where an armada of almost vessels had delivered his army of over , troops. After making a reconnaissance of the Confederate line and with intelligence reports projecting southern forces as large as his own, McClellan decided to lay siege to Yorktown. Brigadier General Fitz-John Porter was placed in charge of siege operations and work on Union fortifications began. Meanwhile, Magruder, and later Johnston, kept improving the Confederate defenses. Rainy weather favored the defenders. However, the Union army made advances and prepared more positions. Minor forays gave new soldiers combat experience and broke the monotony of the siege. A serious threat came on April 16 when a Union assault tried to force the Confederates to halt work on their defenses at Dam No. When the mooring broke, the balloon drifted over the enemy. Before the Confederates could fire on Porter, a changing wind carried him back to his own lines. Despite this problem, Professor Lowe continued his observation flights. This was an early step in the development of aerial reconnaissance. The Union arsenal of siege guns included Parrott guns ranging from 20 pounders weight of the shell to pounders. There were over 40 siege mortars, the largest being the 13 inch seacoast mortar which weighed almost 9 tons and fired a pound shell. Never before had so much artillery been massed in one place in the history of the world. While Union field batteries fired continuously during the siege, only one siege battery fired on the Confederates. McClellan planned to open his artillery barrage on May 5, concentrating his efforts at Yorktown and along a portion of the Confederate line just outside Yorktown. The plan also called for Union gunboats to give supporting fire from the York River. McClellan, to the irritation of some, always insisted on thoroughness in planning and preparation, and the Peninsula Campaign was no exception. As early as April 30, Johnston had planned to withdraw. Around midnight of May 3, the Confederate heavy guns had ceased their diverting fire, were spiked and left behind by the retreating army. At dawn on the 4th, the Union army discovered Yorktown abandoned. However, the Confederates had left behind a new weapon of war -- land mines, which claimed the lives of several Union soldiers. The Confederate withdrawal was well planned and executed. A mile east of Williamsburg, Magruder had built another fortified line. Johnston elected to delay the Union pursuit here. On the afternoon of the 4th, the Battle of Williamsburg began, lasting into the next day. Confederate casualties for the battle were 1,, while Union losses were 2, On May 6, Johnston resumed his march towards Richmond. On August 26, , General George B. McClellan and most of the Army of the Potomac left the Peninsula. Some regiments were left behind at Yorktown. Yorktown remained in Union control for the rest of the war and was maintained as a military garrison until the summer of In , forces from Yorktown participated in what is known as the Second Peninsula Campaign against Richmond. Grant ordered Yorktown abandoned. A National Cemetery,

## DOWNLOAD PDF GENERAL GEORGE AT YORKTOWN

established in , contains over 2, interments, mostly Union dead. Nearby is a small Confederate burial ground of undetermined size.

**Chapter 6 : Battle of Yorktown**

*General George at Yorktown: A Story in Play Form (Stories of the Revolution) [Carole Charles] on www.nxgvision.com*  
*\*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. A British drummer boy expresses his loyalty to England while observing the events which lead to Washington's victory at Yorktown.*

He first raided Richmond , defeating the defending militia, from January 5â€”7 before falling back to Portsmouth. After they proved ineffective, he took a larger force of 8 ships in March , and fought a tactically inconclusive battle with the British fleet of Marriot Arbuthnot at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Richmond was about to suffer the same fate, but Lafayette arrived. The British, not wanting to engage in a major battle, withdrew to Petersburg on May He immediately assumed command, as Phillips had recently died of a fever. Instead, he sent raiders into central Virginia, where they attacked depots and supply convoys, before being recalled on June Rochambeau disagreed, arguing the fleet in the West Indies under Admiral de Grasse was going to sail to the American coast, where easier options than attacking New York could be attempted. Washington abandoned his plan to take New York, and began to prepare his army for the march south to Virginia. Washington wanted to maintain complete secrecy of their destination. General Rochambeau generously loaned Washington half of his supply of gold Spanish coins. This would be the last time the men would be paid. This strengthened French and American relations. De Grasse debarked his French troops to join Lafayette, and then sent his empty transports to pick up the American troops. Graves did not realize how large the French fleet was, and neither did Cornwallis. Initial movements On September 26, transports with artillery, siege tools, and some French infantry and shock troops from Head of Elk , the northern end of the Chesapeake Bay, arrived, giving Washington command of an army of 7, Frenchmen, 3, militia, and 8, Continentals. Some of the American soldiers hunted down wild hogs to eat. The men improved their works and deepened their trenches. On October 1, the allies learned from British deserters that, to preserve their food, the British had slaughtered hundreds of horses and thrown them on the beach. Preparations for the parallel also began. General Washington continued to make visits to the front, despite concern shown by several of his officers over the increasing enemy fire. The British cavalry quickly retreated back behind their defensive lines, losing 50 men. On the northernmost end of the French line, a support trench was dug so that they could bombard the British ships in the river. The British fire began to weaken when they saw the large number of guns the allies had. The Franco-American guns began to tear apart the British defenses. The British soldiers began to pitch their tents in their trenches and soldiers began to desert in large numbers. Cornwallis sank more than a dozen of his ships in the harbor. The French began to fire at the British ships and scored a hit on the British HMS Charon , which caught fire, and in turn set two or three other ships on fire. During the night, the British fire continued to land in the old line; Cornwallis did not suspect that a new parallel was being dug. Lafayette named his aide, Jean-Joseph Sourbader de Gimat , who commanded a battalion of Continental light infantry. However, Hamilton protested, saying that he was the senior officer. Washington concurred with Hamilton and gave him command of the attack. Hamilton sent Lieutenant Colonel John Laurens around to the rear of the redoubt to prevent the British from escaping. A British sentry called a challenge, and then fired at the Americans. They hacked through the abatis, crossed a ditch and climbed the parapet into the redoubt. The British fire was heavy, but the Americans overwhelmed them. The bayonet fight cleared the British out of the redoubt and almost the entire garrison was captured, including the commander of the redoubt, Major Campbell. When there was no response, the sentry opened fire as did other Hessians on the parapet. The Germans charged the Frenchmen climbing over the walls but the French fired a volley, driving them back. He then ordered a storming party of British troops under the command of Colonel Robert Abercromby to attack the allied lines and spike the American and French cannon i. As the British charged Abercromby shouted "Push on my brave boys, and skin the bastards! The British had been able to spike six guns, but by the morning they were all repaired. However, Washington firmly refused to grant the British the honors that they had denied the defeated American army the year before at the Siege of Charleston. At York-town, VA Oct. Others wept or appeared to be drunk. Cornwallis surrendered 7, officers and enlisted men in Yorktown when

he capitulated and a further sailors from the British fleet in the York River. Another 84 prisoners had been taken during the assault on the redoubts on October 3. This gives a grand total of killed, wounded prisoners and 7, other prisoners. Greene mentions a German account that gives much higher figures: The Continental Army enjoyed an advantage, in that most of their members had grown up with malaria, and hence had acquired resistance to the disease. As malaria has a month-long incubation period, most of the French soldiers had not begun to exhibit symptoms before the surrender. Five days after the battle ended, on October 24, 1781, the British fleet sent by Clinton to rescue the British army arrived. The fleet picked up several Loyalists who had escaped on October 18, and they informed Admiral Thomas Graves that they believed Cornwallis had surrendered. Graves sighted the French Fleet, but chose to leave because he was outnumbered by nine ships, and thus he sent the fleet back to New York. Also present were descendants of Lafayette, Rochambeau, de Grasse, and Steuben. To close the ceremony, Arthur gave an order to salute the British flag.

## Chapter 7 : Surrender of Lord Cornwallis | Architect of the Capitol

*Basic Battle of Yorktown Facts The battle took place in Yorktown Virginia from September 28th of through October 19th The battle pitted General George Washington, aided by French General de Rochambeau, against British General Lord Cornwallis.*

And you will be so good as to give me the earliest Information of any important Circumstance that may take place. Contact Us This is the first letter we have carried, or can recall seeing, in which Washington issues orders for the Siege of Yorktown, the final act of the Revolutionary War The final chapter of the American Revolution commenced in August when George Washington and his French counterpart, the Comte de Rochambeau, determined On August 18, American and French forces began moving south. The combined American and French armies proceeded to Annapolis, Maryland, where the infantry units halted to await boat lifts further south. The artillery and wagons eventually went to Williamsburg, Virginia, 12 miles from Yorktown. Lauzun then received orders to reenforce the Virginia militia under General George Weedon encamped near Gloucester Courthouse on the north side of the York, and he headed there. For much of the summer, Weedon and the militia had been skirmishing with British forces commanded first by Benedict Arnold and then by Lord Charles Cornwallis. Moreover, Weedon lacked grain and other supplies, and the artillery had not yet arrived. Putting a stop to British supply raids was one of the tasks Washington would assign to Weedon. Meanwhile, Washington and Rochambeau, accompanied by a few of their staff officers, took a different route from the main army. The allied commanders rested at Mount Vernon on September 10 and Washington wrote Weedon on September 20 specifically for the purpose of introducing him to Lauzun, who would be arriving at Gloucester. And most importantly, he instructs Weedon to impede the enemy to the full extent possible and report any and all important information directly to him. Letter signed, September 23, , to Weedon. You will please to shew him all the Respect and Attention that his Character demands. The action at Gloucester proved to be key. Cornwallis had fortified the town, a hamlet of four houses, with entrenchments, four strong redoubts and three batteries with 19 pieces altogether, mostly pounders. Some British infantry and cavalry were also there. On October 3, , at the Battle of the Hook, the American militia, together with the French cavalry, fought with the British cavalry. The escape route was rendered useless to Cornwallis. Fifty British were killed or wounded, including Tarleton, who was much hated by the Americans for his notorious cruelty. Washington was elated by this victory; his decision to send units to Gloucester had payed big dividends. Cornwallis was now cut off from escape or reinforcement, either by land or sea, at Yorktown. Together, the American and French land forces laid siege to the town. The French fleet under the command of de Grasse blocked the Chesapeake Bay from British reinforcement, as well as from possible escape that way. On October 19, , three week after the siege began, General Cornwallis surrendered to the allies. Weedon was given the honor of securing the surrendered British arms. As a result of this catastrophe to their arms, the British lost heart for the war and Britain sued for peace. The American Revolution was won. Frame, Display, Preserve Each frame is custom constructed, using only proper museum archival materials. The finest frames, tailored to match the document you have chosen. These can period style, antiqued, gilded, wood, etc. Fabric mats, including silk and satin, as well as museum mat board with hand painted bevels. Attachment of the document to the matting to ensure its protection. This "hinging" is done according to archival standards. You benefit from our decades of experience in designing and creating beautiful, compelling, and protective framed historical documents.

**Chapter 8 : Charles Cornwallis, 1st Marquess Cornwallis - Wikipedia**

*Union General George McClellan at Yorktown By: Joe Ryan On March 8, , the first ironclad naval vessel to appear in the world, the Confederates' Merrimac, steamed into Hampton Roads; her two 7-inch pivot guns firing on the 30 gun U.S. Navy frigate, Cumberland, riding at anchor in the channel off Fort Monroe, she plowed her iron brow into.*

Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. He was the eldest son of Charles Cornwallis, 5th Baron Cornwallis. His uncle, Frederick , was Archbishop of Canterbury. His brother William became an Admiral in the Royal Navy. The family was established at Brome Hall, near Eye , Suffolk , in the 14th century, and its members would represent the county in the House of Commons over the next three hundred years. He was made Baron Cornwallis, of Eye in the County of Suffolk, in , and by judicious marriages his descendants increased the importance of his family. Early military career Further information: While at Eton, he received an injury to his eye by an accidental blow while playing hockey , from Shute Barrington , later Bishop of Durham. After travelling on the continent with a Prussian officer, Captain de Roguin, he studied at the military academy of Turin. Although he tried to reach his regiment before it sailed from the Isle of Wight , he learnt upon reaching Cologne that it had already sailed. He managed instead to secure an appointment as a staff officer to Lord Granby. After the battle, he purchased a captaincy in the 85th Regiment of Foot. In , he served with the 12th Foot and was promoted to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel. He led his regiment in the Battle of Villinghausen on 15â€”16 July , and was noted for his gallantry. In his regiment was involved in heavy fighting during the Battle of Wilhelmsthal. A few weeks later they defeated Saxon troops at the Battle of Lutterberg and ended the year by participating in the Siege of Cassel. He succeeded his father as 2nd Earl Cornwallis in , which resulted in his elevation to the House of Lords. Jemima died on 14 April Cornwallis in North America During the postwar years, Cornwallis had remained active in military matters. He became colonel of the 33rd Regiment of Foot in With the outbreak of the war in North America, Cornwallis put his previous misgivings aside and sought active service; proposing an expedition to the southern colonies. Cornwallis was often given a leading role during this campaign; his division was in the lead at the Battle of Long Island , and he chased the retreating George Washington across New Jersey after the city fell. Howe ordered Cornwallis to return to New Jersey to deal with Washington. Cornwallis was unable to dislodge Washington in the battle that followed. Cornwallis was again often in an advance role, leading the flanking manoeuvre at the Battle of Brandywine , [20] and playing key roles at Germantown and Fort Mercer. Cornwallis commanded the rearguard during the overland withdrawal to New York City and played an important role in the Battle of Monmouth on 28 June After a surprise attack on the British rearguard, Cornwallis launched a counter-attack which checked the enemy advance. Clinton wrote, "I should wish you to assist in operations which will certainly be carried on in the Chesapeake as soon as we are relieve from our apprehension of a superior fleet and the season will admit Cornwallis was expected to recruit more Loyalists, who were believed to be more numerous in the southern colonies. Supplies not available locally like uniforms, camp gear, arms, and ammunition were delivered all too infrequently, supply ships were frequent targets of local privateers, and bad weather impeded the work. The first was responsible for administering goods confiscated from Patriots he avoided confiscating supplies from Loyalists since he depended on them for manpower and intelligence , and the second for administering land that was confiscated. A chronic shortage of hard currency another supply only infrequently delivered to Charleston made it difficult to purchase supplies from any source, either Patriot or Loyalist. Although these attempts met with limited success, they were continually undermined by Patriot activity, both political and military, and the indifferent abuses of British and Loyalist forces. Patriot militia companies constantly harassed Loyalists, small British units, and supply and communication lines. Cornwallis himself had generally been successful in his battles, but the constant marching and the losses incurred had shrunk and tired out his army. Believing that North Carolina could not be subdued unless its supply lines from Virginia were cut, he decided to join forces with Phillips. Phillips, a personal friend of Cornwallis, died one week before Cornwallis reached his position at Petersburg. It was during this period that Cornwallis and Clinton exchanged a series of

letters in which Clinton issued a number of confusing, contradictory, and not entirely forceful orders. At York-town, VA Oct. Because he was released on parole, Cornwallis refused to serve again until the war came to an end in 1763. An attempt failed to exchange him for [66] Henry Laurens , an American diplomat who was released from the Tower of London in anticipation that Cornwallis would be freed from his parole. He had in been offered the governor-generalship only, but refused the post until he also received military command as well. According to historian Jerry Dupont, Cornwallis was responsible for "laying the foundation for British rule throughout India and setting standards for the services, courts and revenue collection that remained remarkably unaltered almost to the end of the British era. Cornwallis eliminated the practice, increasing employee salaries in compensation. He also worked to reduce nepotism and political favouritism, instituting the practice of merit-based advancement. Cornwallis had the company take over the few remaining judicial powers of the Nawab of Bengal , the titular local ruler of much of the Bengal Presidency , and gave some judicial powers to company employees. In he introduced circuit courts with company employees as judges, and set up a court of appeals in Calcutta. He had the legal frameworks of Muslim and Hindu law translated into English, and promulgated administrative regulations and a new civil and criminal code. This work, introduced in 1793, was known as the Cornwallis Code. One consequence of the code was that it instituted a type of racism, placing the British as an elite class on top of the complex status hierarchy of caste and religion that existed in India at the time. He introduced legislation to protect native weavers who were sometimes forced into working at starvation wages by unscrupulous company employees, outlawed child slavery, and established in a Sanskrit college for Hindus that is now the Government Sanskrit College in Benares. This reform permanently altered the way the company collected taxes in its territories, by taxing landowners known as zamindars based on the value of their land and not necessarily the value of its produce. In the minds of Cornwallis and its architects, the reforms would also protect land tenants ryots from the abusive practices of the zamindars intended to maximize production. Cornwallis, a landed gentleman himself, especially believed that a class of landed gentry would naturally concern themselves with the improvement of the lands, thus also improving the condition of its tenants. Early in his tenure he abrogated agreements with the Maratha Empire and the Nizam of Hyderabad that he saw as violating the Treaty of Mangalore that ended the Second Anglo-Mysore War. Fort Cornwallis in Penang is named for Cornwallis. Kirkpatrick was the first Englishman to see Nepal; by the time he reached Kathmandu in 1771, the parties had already resolved their dispute. Cornwallis ordered company and Crown troops to mobilize in response. The campaign against Tipu was conducted by General William Medows , and it was a limited success. Medows successfully occupied the Coimbatore district , but Tipu counterattacked and was able to reduce the British position to a small number of strongly held outposts. Tipu then invaded the Carnatic , where he attempted unsuccessfully to draw the French into the conflict. Tipu requested negotiations on 23 February, and peace was agreed on 18 March. Cornwallis and his allies demanded the cession of half of Mysorean territory, much of which went to the allies. After he was sent on an ultimately fruitless diplomatic mission to stop the fighting, he was appointed master of the ordnance , a post he held until 1796. His attempts to significantly reform the military were hampered by the ongoing war. His appointment, which had been discussed as early as 1794, was made in response to the outbreak in late May of the Irish Rebellion of 1798. However, he struck up a good working relationship with Lord Castlereagh , whom he had appointed as Chief Secretary for Ireland. Panicked by the landing and the subsequent British defeat at the Battle of Castlebar , Pitt despatched thousands of reinforcements to Ireland, swelling British forces there to 60,000. Cornwallis was also instrumental in securing passage in 1800 of the Act of Union by the Parliament of Ireland , a necessary step in the creation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. I despise and hate myself every hour for engaging in such dirty work, and am supported only by the reflection that without an Union the British Empire must be dissolved. Pitt consequently resigned, and Cornwallis also resigned his offices, returning to London in May 1799. Actions by Bonaparte over the next year alarmed the other European powers, and the United Kingdom refused to withdraw forces from Malta as specified in the treaty. By May 1800 war was again declared. Cornwallis is often seen as being partially responsible for conceding too much in the negotiations, although much had already been granted to France in the preliminary negotiations. Having five daughters but no sons, the marquessate became extinct on his death, but he was succeeded in his remaining titles by his

uncle, the brother of the general, the Right Reverend James Cornwallis. The statue now stands in the Victoria Memorial in Kolkata. Cornwallis appears in the novel *Horse-Shoe Robinson* by John Pendleton Kennedy, a historical romance set against the background of the Southern campaigns in the American War of Independence, and interacts with the fictional characters in the book. He is depicted as courtly in manner, but tolerant, or even supportive, of brutal practices against those found deficient among his own forces, and against enemy prisoners. In India he is remembered for his victory against Tipu Sultan in the Mysore war and his promulgation of revenue and judicial acts. Statues of Cornwallis can be seen in St. George, Chennai, and in the Victoria Memorial, Kolkata. On his retirement in 1783, and in celebration of his victory over Tipu Sultan, the British residents of Madras renamed Chennai in 1783 and voted in May that year to commission a portrait in oils, and a statue, for their city. Only one artist submitted a model, and that was Thomas Banks, RA. The statue was unveiled on the Parade Grounds of Fort St. George, Madras, on May 15, 1783, after being exhibited at the Royal Academy. The eight-foot tall marble with its pedestal base depicts the children of Tipu Sultan being handed over to Cornwallis as part of the treaty to end the war. Cornwallis wears the robes of a Garter Knight. In this work Cornwallis appears as a hero wearing a Roman kilt and carrying a sheathed short sword. A cornucopia symbolizing the abundance pouring into the coffers of the East India Company EIC is behind the left foot. The statue was covered by a protective cupola on Elphinstone Circle, before it was damaged in August and removed to the grounds of the Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Byculla, Bombay. Designed by Thomas Fraser, the free standing marble cenotaph, topped by a funerary urn, was created by John Flaxman, RA. Flaxman completed the work in March and it was shipped to India in April. The two others have a figure of a Hindu and Muslim, heads bowed in mourning a typical motif for Flaxman. The reverse has a figure of a British soldier and an Indian sepoy, also in mourning.

Chapter 9 : LIBERTY! . Chronicle of the Revolution . Yorktown | PBS

*On August 26, , General George B. McClellan and most of the Army of the Potomac left the Peninsula. Some regiments were left behind at Yorktown. Yorktown remained in Union control for the rest of the war and was maintained as a military garrison until the summer of*

The British occupied New York City. There was a glimmer of hope, however. The French, allied with the Americans since , had landed six thousand troops in Rhode Island while the French fleet gathered in the Caribbean preparing to do battle with the British. Washington wanted to attack the British in New York City. Washington finally acquiesced to the French position and on August 22, the two armies began their march from White Plains, New York to Virginia arriving in early September. As the combined American and French armies marched south, a battle between the French and British fleets in the Chesapeake Bay sealed the fate of General Cornwallis and his British troops at Yorktown. In the period from September 5 - 9, the French surprised the British fleet at the mouth of the Chesapeake forcing the British navy to retreat to New York, leaving General Cornwallis stranded. The British commander was left with no choice but to surrender, which he did on October . News of the surrender reached England on November 25 sending shock waves through the British government. His replacement began the peace process that culminated in the signing of the Treaty of Paris in September granting independence to the American colonies. James Thacher served with the Continental Army and published his account of the surrender some years later: The Americans were drawn up in a line on the right side of the road, and the French occupied the left. At the head of the former, the great American commander [George Washington], mounted on his noble courser, took his station, attended by his aides. At the head of the latter was posted the excellent Count Rochambeau and his suite. The French troops, in complete uniform, displayed a martial and noble appearance; their bands of music, of which the timbrel formed a part, is a delightful novelty, and produced while marching to the ground a most enchanting effect. The Americans, though not all in uniform, nor their dress so neat, yet exhibited an erect, soldierly air, and every countenance beamed with satisfaction and joy. The concourse of spectators from the country was prodigious, in point of numbers was probably equal to the military, but universal silence and order prevailed. This officer was followed by the conquered troops in a slow and solemn step, with shouldered arms, colors cased and drums beating a British march. With his usual dignity and politeness, his excellency pointed to Major-General Lincoln for directions, by whom the British army was conducted into a spacious field, where it was intended they should ground their arms. The royal troops, while marching through the line formed by the allied army, exhibited a decent and neat appearance, as respects arms and clothing, for their commander opened his store and directed every soldier to be furnished with a new suit complete, prior to the capitulation. But in their line of march we remarked a disorderly and unsoldierly conduct, their step was irregular, and their ranks frequently broken. But it was in the field, when they came to the last act of the drama, that the spirit and pride of the British soldier was put to the severest test: Some of the platoon officers appeared to be exceedingly chagrined when giving the word "ground arms," and I am a witness that they performed this duty in a very unofficer-like manner; and that many of the soldiers manifested a sullen temper, throwing their arms on the pile with violence, as if determined to render them useless. This irregularity, however, was checked by the authority of General Lincoln. After having grounded their arms and divested themselves of their accoutrements, the captive troops were conducted back to Yorktown and guarded by our troops till they could be removed to the place of their destination. Cook, Don, The Long Fuse: How To Cite This Article: He became disgusted with the excesses of the Revolution, however, and was imprisoned. He escaped the Guillotine only because of the execution of Robespierre, leader of the revolution. The surrendered troops were transported to the interior of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.