



0. American Revolution - Highlights - Story Preface

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Painting "General George Washington at Trenton" by John Trumbull in 1792. Maintained by Yale University Art Gallery. Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

*Whoever looks upon them as an irregular mob
will find himself much mistaken. They have
men amongst them who know very well what
they are about.*

Lord Hugh Percy
1775

It was 1775. George III, ruler of Great Britain, viewed the thirteen American colonies as "his." Heavy taxes, paid by the colonials, filled the King's treasury. Life was good - for some people. For others, like Thomas Paine.

*These are the times
that try men's souls*
The American Crisis

What was trying "men's souls" was British rule. The time had come for America to be free.

But cutting the ties that bound thirteen colonies to England would not happen without a revolt. No one ever gives up a treasure without a fight - especially not a king.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/American-Revolution-Highlights>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/American-Revolution-Highlights>

Media Stream



George III, King of Great Britain

Image - By E. Fisher, from painting by Benjamin West; published in 1778.

U.S. National Archives, image 148-GW-473

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/George-III-King-of-Great-Britain>



Lord Hugh Percy, 2nd Duke of Northumberland

Portrait, 1788, courtesy *Ancient House of Percy*.

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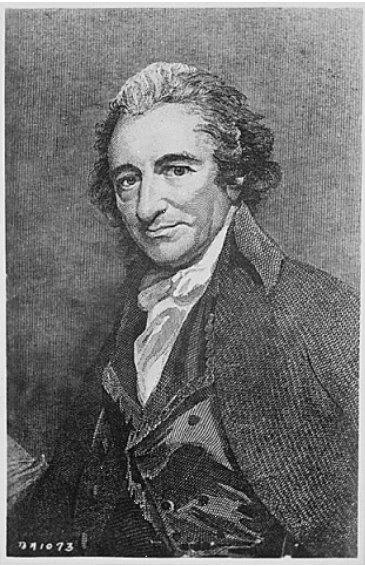


Population Density, American Colonies, 1775

Map, courtesy of U.S. Military Academy

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Thomas Paine

Image - A 1793 engraving by William Sharp (after a portrait by George Romney, painted in 1792).

U.S. National Archives, image 28/4/28-0372a.

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