

0. MARION'S BRIGADE - Story Preface
1. TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION
2. THE BOSTON MASSACRE
3. COLONISTS REBEL
4. LET IT BEGIN HERE
5. LEXINGTON AND CONCORD
6. THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL
7. WASHINGTON TAKES COMMAND
8. AMERICA ESTABLISHES A NAVY
9. DRAFTING THE DECLARATION
10. THE VOTE: 13-0
11. AMERICA'S FIRST DOLLARS
12. LONDON'S REACTION
13. TREASON
14. TREASON MOST FOUL
15. EXECUTIONS
- 16. MARION'S BRIGADE**
17. THE TABLES TURN
18. SURRENDER AT YORKTOWN
19. GENERAL WASHINGTON RESIGNS
20. UNANIMOUS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Nearly a century after General Francis Marion—known as “The Swamp Fox”—eluded capture by the British as he and his band of “irregulars” traversed the Carolina swamps, Currier & Ives produced this commemorative lithograph. Published in New York, circa 1876, the image has [this summary](#) from the Library of Congress (where it is maintained): “Print shows General Francis Marion offering to share his meal of sweet potatoes and water with a British officer.”

At about the time Benedict Arnold was negotiating a deal to harm the American cause in the North, British victories were demoralizing the South. Momentum in favor of the patriots had gone downhill since their decisive win at [Sullivan's Island](#) early in the war (1776).

Neither [American successes](#) (like the [battle of Saratoga](#) where [General Burgoyne](#) and his [Redcoats](#) were [routed](#)) nor the beginnings of patriot support from European powers (like France) greatly worried the British government. The King, and his men, believed their troops would hold the South.

To make matters worse, southern families were divided. Loyalist fathers were pitted against patriot sons while brothers and cousins fought against each other. Charleston, once the [fourth largest](#) (and richest) city of the colonies was besieged and fell to the British in May of 1780.

Within months, South Carolina was the scene of more [American disasters](#): [Waxhaws](#); [Camden](#); [Fishing Creek](#). By the end of the summer, there wasn't much of a Continental Army left in South Carolina.

But just as soon as the British and their young victorious general, [Banastre Tarleton](#), were confident they would hold their southern prize, a South Carolina patriot forever changed the momentum of war in the South. [Francis Marion](#) and his troop of 150 men (known as "Marion's Brigade") would soon chase the Redcoats out of South Carolina, setting up the final British defeat at Yorktown.

Not bothered by his lack of men and supplies, Marion brilliantly used a weapon unknown to the British: the [swamps](#), [waterways](#) and marshes of the South Carolina low country. Employing guerilla tactics to [harass the enemy](#), Marion and his men would [strike without warning](#) and then disappear into the swamps.

[Tarleton](#), previously feared by southerners for his brutal and bloody attacks, was exasperated when his

communications were interrupted, his supply lines were cut off and his hold on the south slipped away. Powerless to stop the constant unconventional attacks,

*The British soldier trembles
When Marion's name is told.*

The Redcoats could not capture Francis Marion. He and his men were never defeated. Tarleton called him the "swamp fox."

By the time Marion and his men forced a Redcoat retreat to a battleground called Cowpens, near the North Carolina border, ultimate victory was within the patriots' grasp.

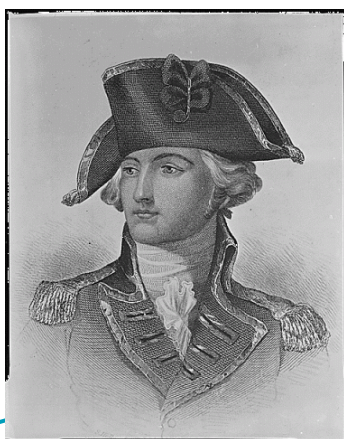
See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

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

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

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

Media Stream

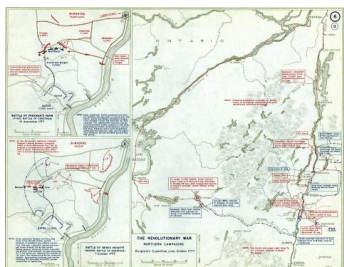


General John Burgoyne

Image, engraving of Burgoyne by S. Hollyer. U.S. National Archives, image 148-GW-616.

Linked above: *Surrender of General Burgoyne*, by John Trumbull. Oil on canvas, 12 by 18 feet. Commissioned 1817; purchased 1822; placed 1826. Image, Architect of the Capitol web site.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/General-John-Burgoyne>

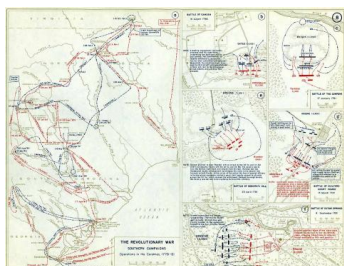


Battles of Saratoga, 1776 - Annotated Maps from USMA

Annotated map, courtesy United States Military Academy.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Battles-of-Saratoga-1776-Annotated-Maps-from-USMA>



Southern Campaigns, American Revolution - 1778-1781

Annotated map, courtesy United States Military Academy.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Southern-Campaigns-American-Revolution-1778-1781>



Battle of Waxhaws - Buford's Massacre

Image, U.S. National Archives.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Battle-of-Waxhaws-Buford-s-Massacre>



Battle of Fishing Creek - Tarleton, a British Hero

Images, U.S. National Archives.

Information, National Park Service - *The American Revolution* web site.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Battle-of-Fishing-Creek-Tarleton-a-British-Hero>



Banastre Tarleton (1754-1833) - Portrait and Bio

Images, U.S. National Archives.

Information, National Park Service - *The American Revolution* web site.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Banastre-Tarleton-1754-1833-Portrait-and-Bio->



South Carolina - Swamps

Image, State of South Carolina web site.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/South-Carolina-Swamps>



Marion's Brigade - Crossing the Pedee River

Lithograph by Currier & Ives (between 1840 and 1900).

Image, courtesy Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Marion-s-Brigade-Crossing-the-Pedee-River>



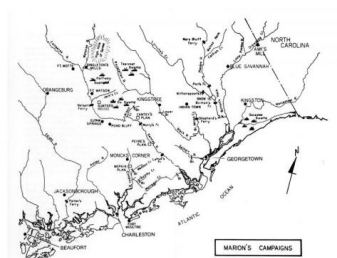
The Swamp Fox and His Band of Irregulars

Engraving by Charles Kennedy Burt, after a painting by William Raney. February 12, 1852.

Image, Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/The-Swamp-Fox-and-His-Band-of-Irregulars>

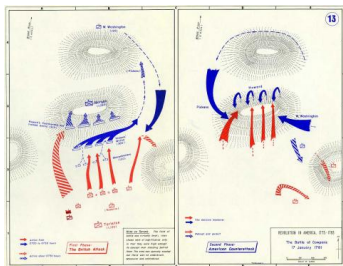


Campaigns of Francis Marion - South Carolina

Image, U.S. National Archives.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Campaigns-of-Francis-Marion-South-Carolina>

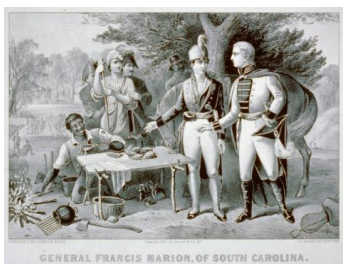


Cowpens - Annotated Battle Map from USMA

Annotated map, courtesy United States Military Academy.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Cowpens-Annotated-Battle-Map-from-USMA>



MARION'S BRIGADE

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/>