



# The Revolution

The World Turned Upside Down and a Nation was Born

# Independence

- ▶ **Second Continental Congress created a committee to draft a statement of independence.** It consisted of John Adams, Ben Franklin, Roger Sherman, Robert Livingston, and Thomas Jefferson.
- ▶ Thomas Jefferson drafted the document
- ▶ Congress approved Richard Henry Lee's resolution declaring independence on July 2, 1776
- ▶ **It approved the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.**
- ▶ There are three main parts
  - ▶ **Preamble – describes what government should do using Locke's Natural Rights and Social Contract**
  - ▶ **List of grievances – states what the British government has done wrong**
  - ▶ **Conclusion – declares independence**



# The Structure of American Government

- **Congress drafted a governing document called the Articles of Confederation.**
- **Organization:** It was to be a league of sovereign independent states joined together for protection.
  - The government was to consist of **one house (unicameral legislature) called Congress to make laws**. Each state had one vote in Congress.
  - Congress had the power to declare wars, sign peace treaties, regulate currency, make commercial treaties, borrow money raise an army and navy, and levy assessments against state governments.
  - But it **lacked the power to tax** on its own **or enforce its' will** on the sovereign states.
  - Congress did establish a postal system, manage Indian and foreign affairs, and settle disputes between states at their request.

# The Structure of American Government

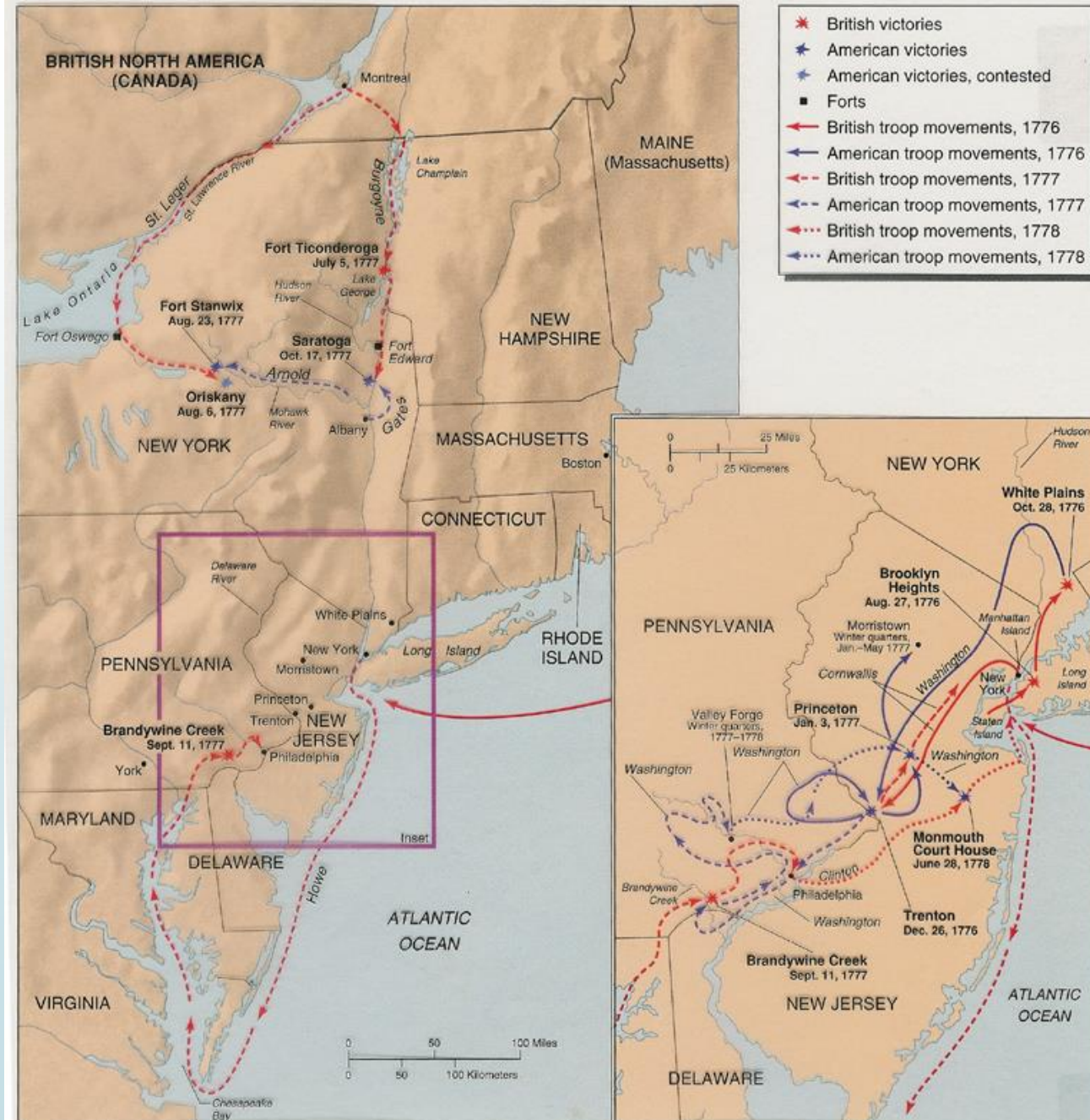
## ➤ Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation:

- Lack of an Executive and a Judiciary Branch **caused law enforcement and judiciary decisions to be placed in the hands of the states.**
- Tax difficulties- lacking the power to tax Congress had to obtain funds from the states as contributors. From 1781-1789, **Congress got only 1/5 of what it needed from the states.** Because of this **Congress could not form an army or navy but had to depend on the state militia for defense.**
- Lack of control over trade- **Congress did not have the power to regulate interstate commerce and foreign trade.** It could make commercial treaties but not enforce them. It could not levy any taxes on imports or exports.

# The War

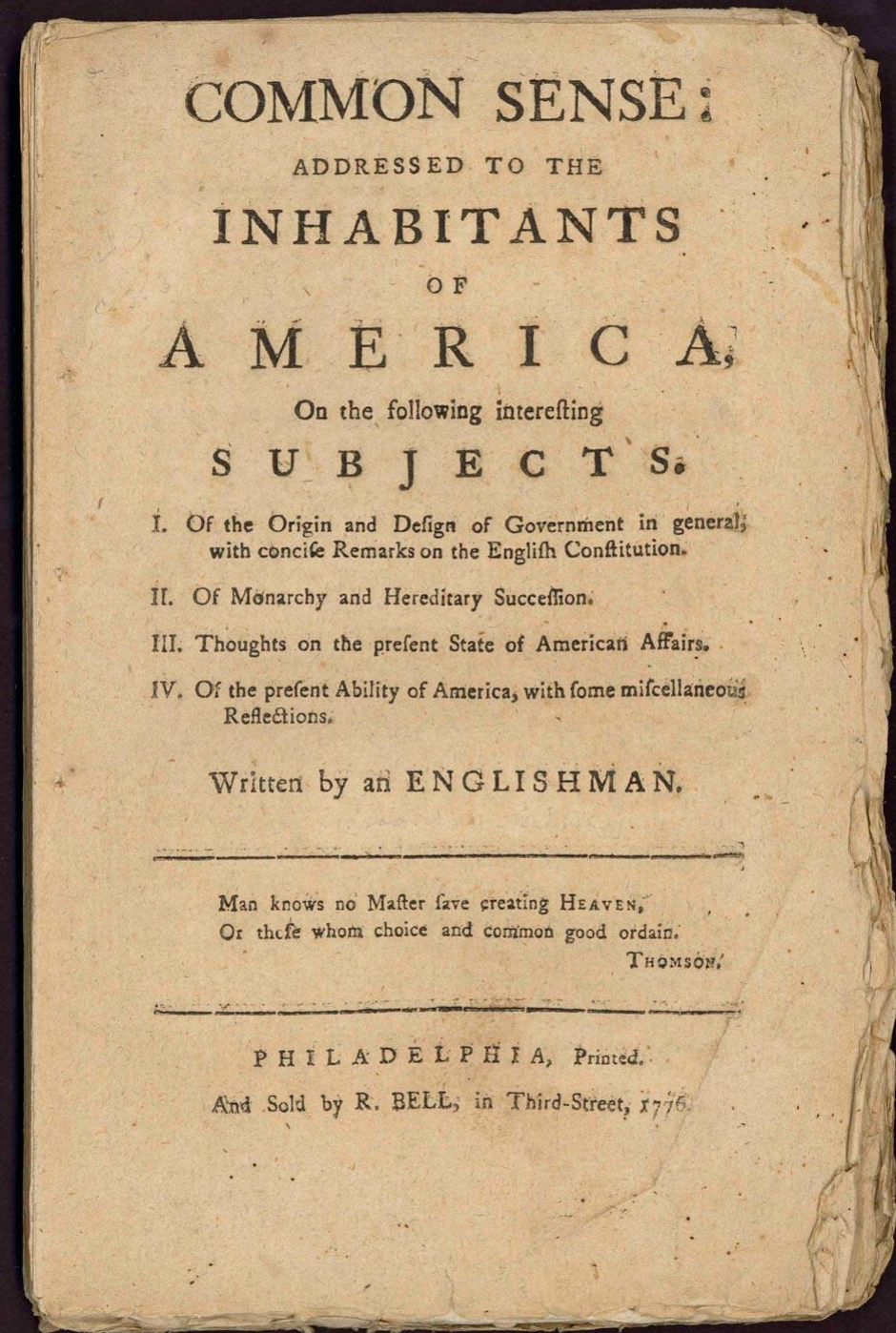
- ▶ The early battles of the war were primarily in the north. **The British invaded New York City and used it as a base of operations**
- ▶ The Continental Army retreat from New York City earned **George Washington the nickname "Sly Fox"**
- ▶ The **British would try to split New England away from the rest of the colonies** by invading from Canada and driving north from New York City. **They were stopped at West Point and at the Battle of Saratoga**

## 6-3 The War in the North, 1776-1777



# The War

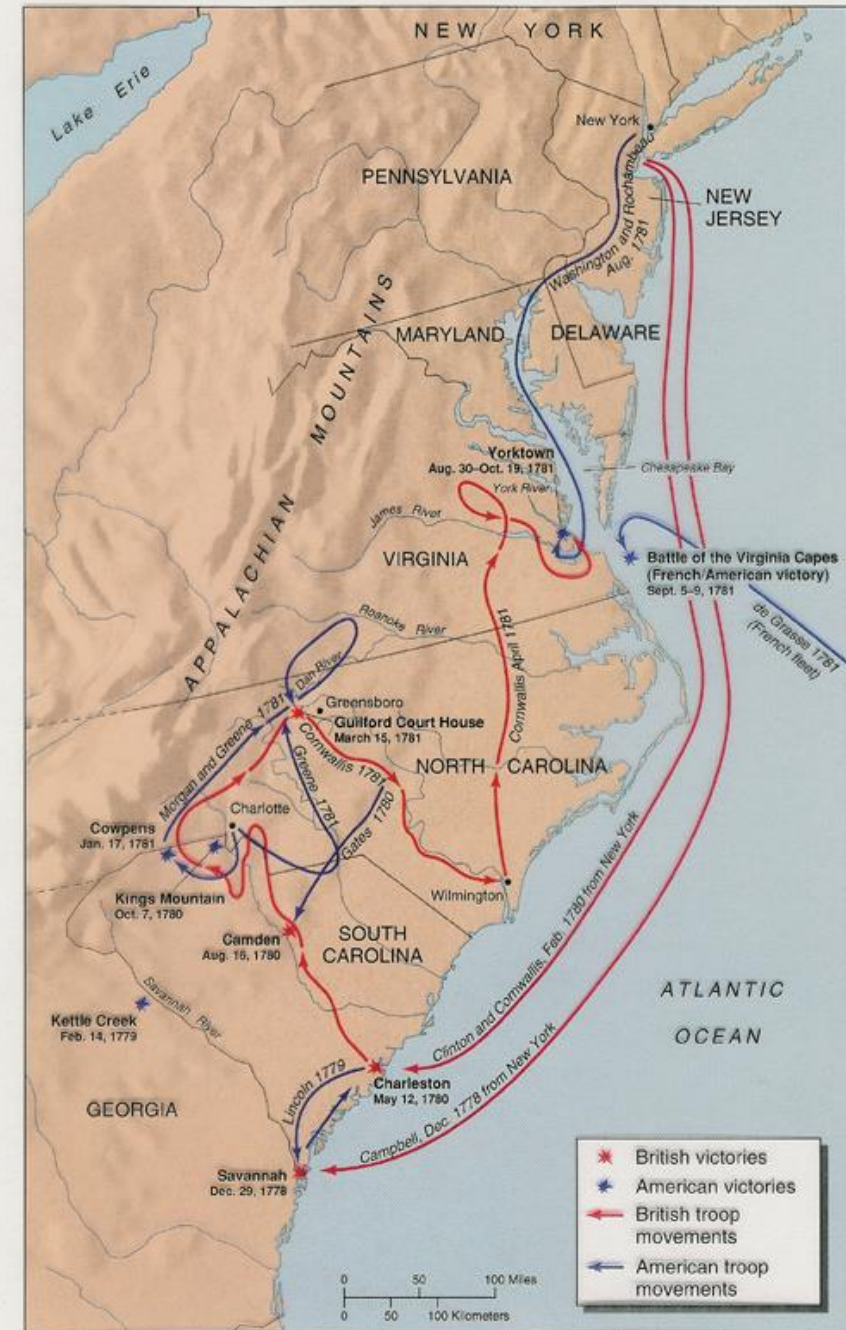
- ▶ While the British occupied Philadelphia during the winter of 1776-77, the Continental Army stayed at nearby Valley Forge.
- ▶ **They lacked proper food, shelter, uniforms, and many soldiers had not been paid in months as Congress could not impose taxes and had to ask states for money**
- ▶ **Many soldiers deserted**
- ▶ George Washington used his own money to buy food and supplies for the army
- ▶ **To boost moral, Thomas Paine wrote "Common Sense," which spelled out why they were fighting for independence**



# The War

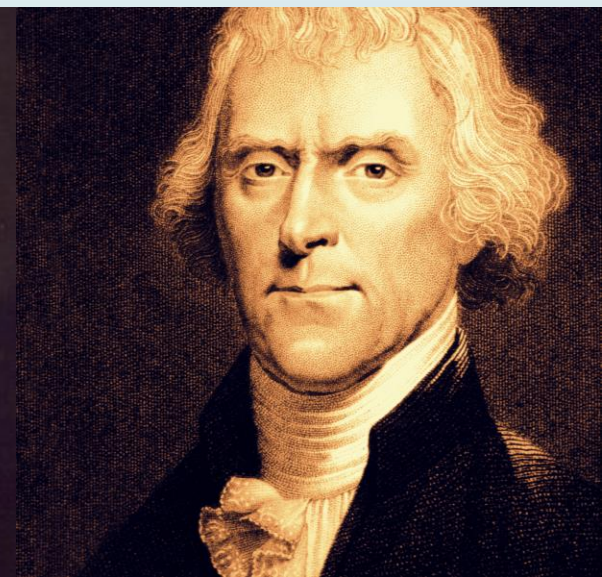
- The **British shifted their strategy by invading the south colonies.** They hoped to gather up Loyalist supporters and to cause the southern colonies to quit the rebellion.
- They fought a series of battles as they moved northward before being **trapped on a peninsula at Yorktown Virginia**
- **Washington met up with a newly arrived French army to pen in the British**
- The French navy blocked a British navy rescue effort
- **The British were forced to surrender**
- **Major offensive operations came to a halt afterward**

## 6-5 The War in the South, 1778–1781



# The efforts aboard

- Ambassadors such as Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin worked the courts of the European kings seeking support for the Revolution
- At first they met with little success as the Continental Army could not win large battles on a consistent basis
- After defeating an entire British Army at Saratoga, European attitudes toward the Americans changed
- *France, Spain, and the Netherlands would eventually help*

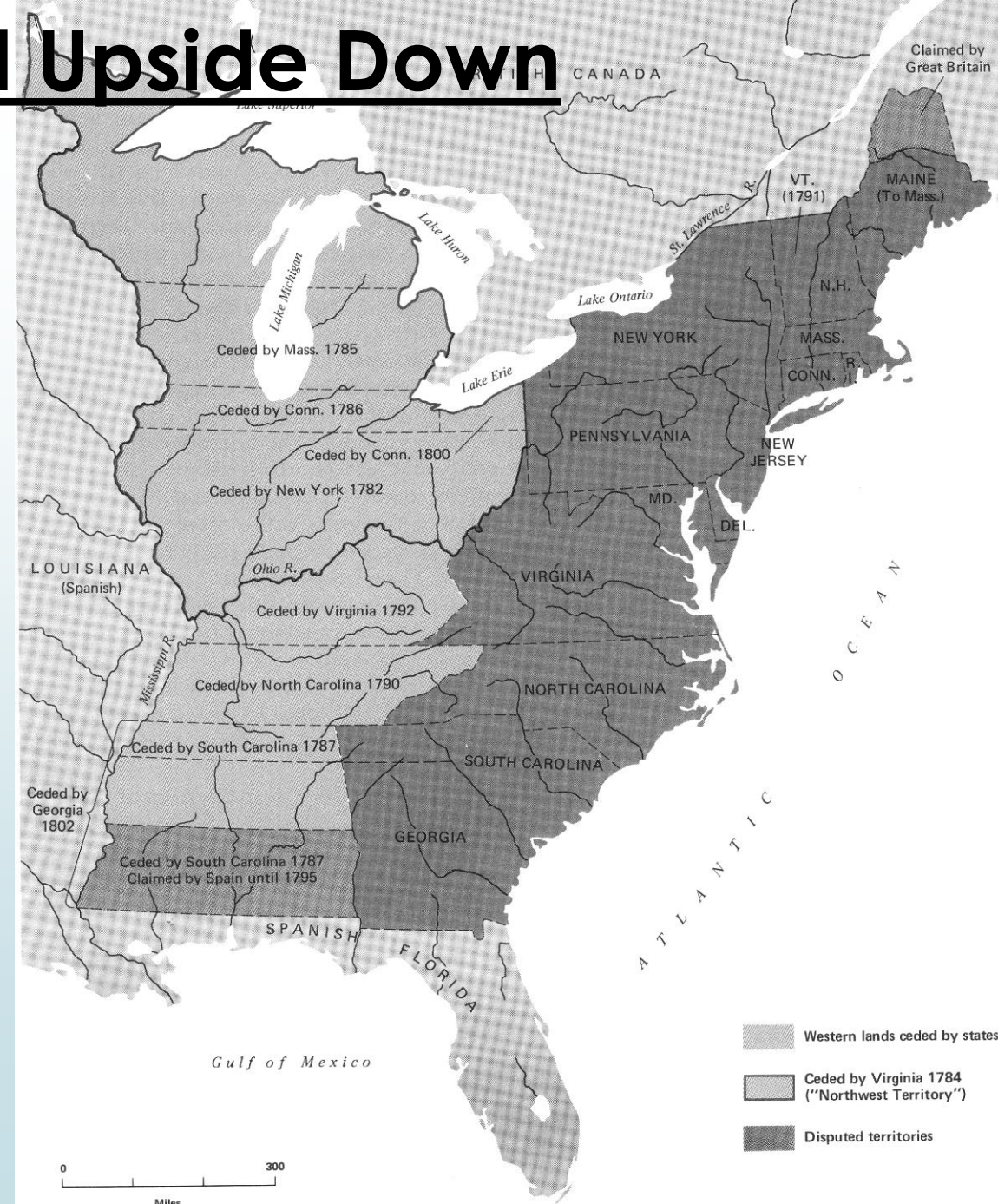




# The World Turned Upside Down

## ➤ The Treaty of Paris 1783

- 1. **Recognize the United States** as a free sovereign country.
- 2. **Obtain all lands south of the Great Lakes, east of the Mississippi River, & north of the Spanish Florida territories.**
- 3. **British agreed to remove troops** from this territory.
- 4. British agreed to allow Americans to fish off the Newfoundland.
- 5. Americans would **not prevent British from collecting debts** incurred before the Revolutionary War.
- 6. America agreed to recommend to the states they **return all confiscated Loyalist lands & not persecute them.**
- 7. The **Mississippi River would remain free to British & American commerce.**



Western land cessions, 1781-1802.

# Northwest Land Ordinances

## Land Ordinance of 1785

- The region was **divided into 36 square mile townships** with 36 sections, each containing 640 acres. 1 was set-aside for public education.
- This **land was sold off in 640 acre sections**. Land speculators bought it & sold it off in smaller sections.
- Originally land was sold off for \$1.00/acre, but was later raised to \$2.00/acre.

## Northwest Ordinance of 1787

- Territory status could be achieved when 5000 males from an area applied to Congress.
- The territory was to have its **own legislature elected by the people, a Governor, and Judges appointed by Congress** and be allowed to send **delegates to the Congress who could speak but not vote**.
- When a territories **population reached 60,000 people they could apply for statehood** on an equal footing with the original thirteen states.
- **Slavery was banned** in this territory
- All citizens had the same freedoms as the citizens in the original thirteen states.
- **Education was encouraged** in these territories.

