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THE WAR COMES SOUTH

By Aaron Kelderhouse

Unable to secure a decisive victory in New England or the Mid-Atlantic regions, the King's forces move south to what they think will be more Loyalist territory. Their goal is to capture the important port of Charles Town, SC, and to destroy the valuable tobacco crop in the Carolinas and Virginia to stop it from being smuggled to the Caribbean to trade for military supplies for the rebels.



1773

1774

1775

1776

1777

1778

1779

1780

The Battles of
Lexington and
Concord

Declaration of
Independence
is signed

Battle of
Monmouth in
New Jersey



FOR FIVE YEARS, THE BRITISH AND THE AMERICANS HAD BEEN FIGHTING UP NORTH. NEITHER SIDE COULD WIN.

SO THE BRITISH CAME UP WITH A NEW PLAN. THEY WOULD TRY THE SOUTH INSTEAD.

UP NORTH, EVERY MILE COSTS US. DOWN SOUTH, WE'RE TOLD THE PEOPLE ARE STILL LOYAL TO THE KING. LET'S GO WHERE WE'RE WANTED.

VIRGINIA HADN'T SEEN MUCH FIGHTING. LIFE HERE STILL REVOLVED AROUND ONE THING: TOBACCO.

THIS CROP'S WORTH MORE THAN GOLD THIS YEAR, SON. IT BUYS GUNPOWDER. BOOTS. EVERYTHING THE ARMY NEEDS.

SO WE'RE FIGHTING TOO? EVEN WITHOUT A MUSKET?

EVERY HOGSHEAD IS A MUSKET, IN ITS OWN WAY.

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR THE BRITISH TO BRING THEIR NEW PLAN SOUTH INTO VIRGINIA ITSELF.



SHIPS ON THE RIVER! REDCOATS HEADED UPSTREAM!



THE BRITISH WEREN'T JUST AFTER SOLDIERS ANYMORE. THEY WERE AFTER VIRGINIA'S MONEY, ONE BARREL AT A TIME.



WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

WHAT EVERY VIRGINIAN'S ABOUT TO DO. WE HOLD ON. AND WE FIGHT BACK.



THE WAR THAT HAD STAYED AWAY FOR SIX LONG YEARS HAD FINALLY COME HOME. AND FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE COAST, VIRGINIANS WERE ABOUT TO ANSWER BACK.



Questions to Consider

1. What was the most important point of this chapter?
2. Why did the Royal Army move from New England to the South?
3. What did the British move mean for Virginia?
4. How far is it from your home to New York and Boston, where much of the New England action had been?
5. How far is it from your home to Charleston, South Carolina, where much of the Southern action began?

Learn More

 “Daniel Morgan's temper brought him 499 lashes from the British; he repaid them with American victories,” by Eric Gorton, *Cardinal News*