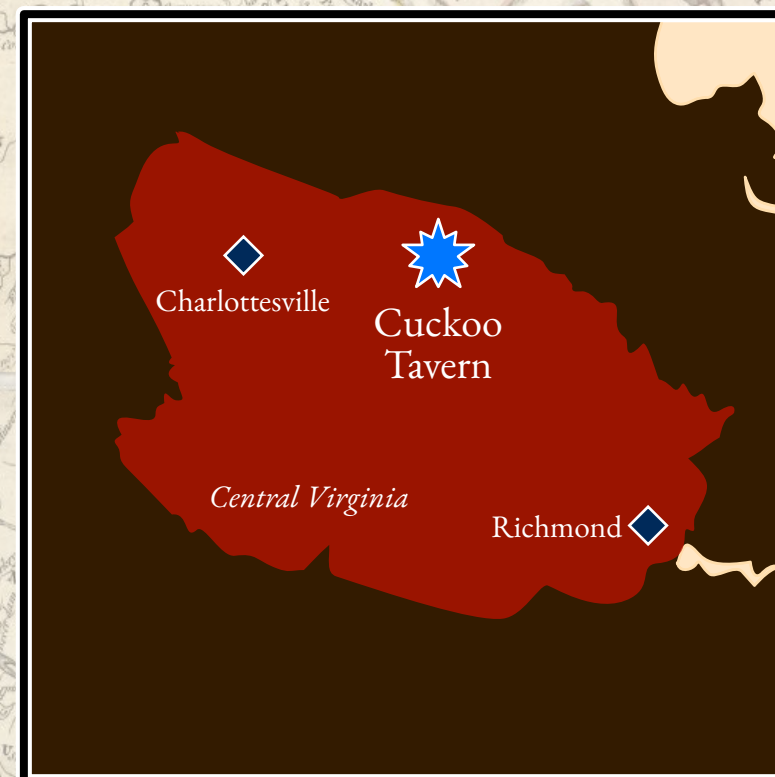
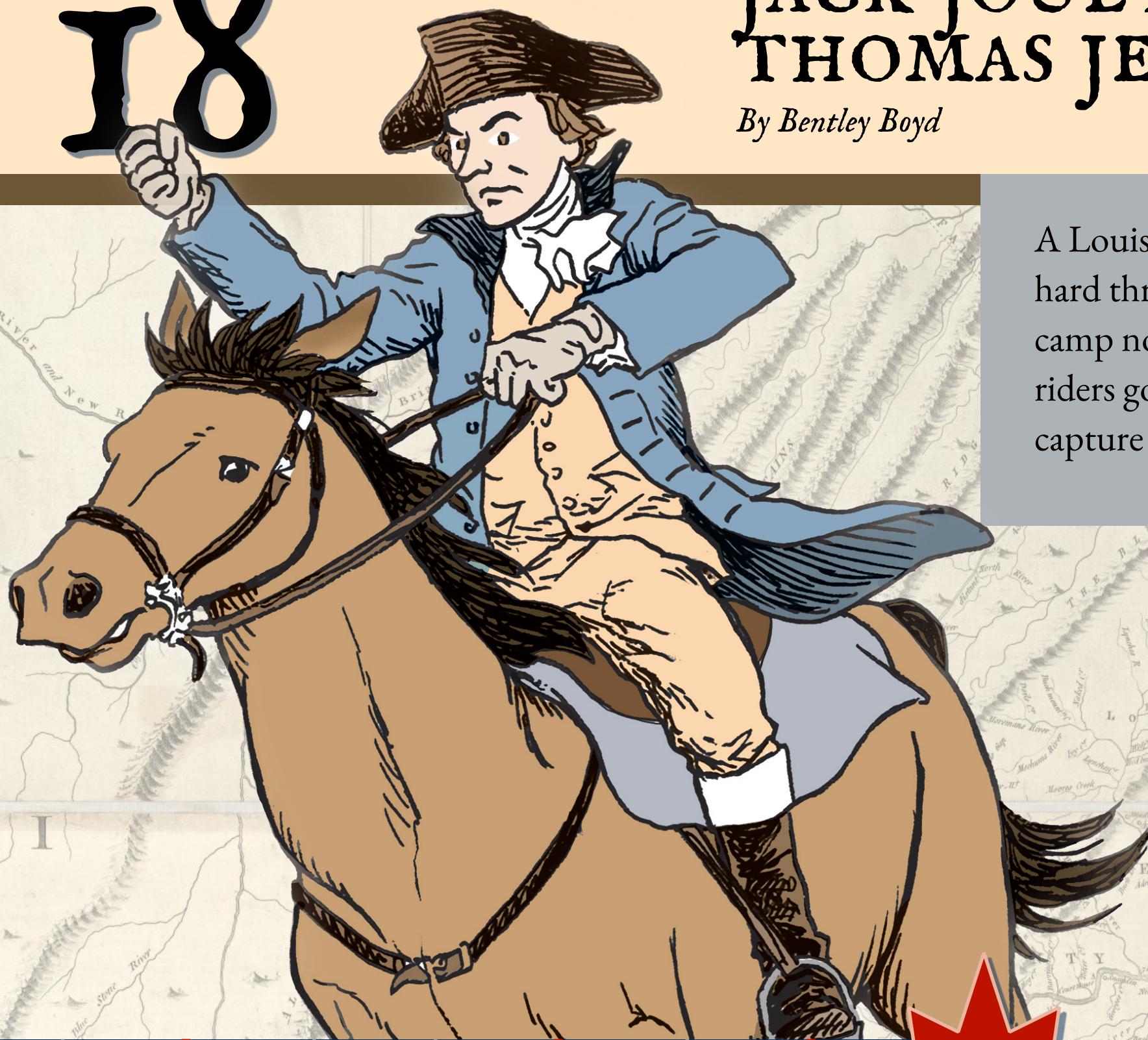


18

JACK JOUETT SAVES THOMAS JEFFERSON

By Bentley Boyd

A Louisa County tavern keeper's son sees Royal troops riding hard through the night, westward from the Royal Army camp north of Richmond. Where are these hundreds of riders going? Jack Jouett guesses they are on their way to capture Thomas Jefferson at Monticello!



1774 1775 1776 1777 1778 1779 1780 1781

The Battles of Lexington and Concord

Royal forces capture Savannah, Georgia

Battle of Kings Mountain in South Carolina



JUNE, 1781...

VIRGINIA'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
PATRIOT POLITICIANS LEFT RICHMOND
THREE WEEKS AGO FOR THE SAFETY
OF ALBEMARLE COUNTY
TO THE WEST.

SOME OF THE POLITICIANS
STAYED WITH THOMAS
JEFFERSON AT HIS
MOUNTAINTOP HOME.

WE ARE SAFE,
GENTLEMEN.

GENERAL CORNWALLIS WILL
STAY IN THE EAST, CLOSE TO
HIS ROYAL NAVY SUPPORT.

CORNWALLIS
IN HIS CAMP
NORTH OF
RICHMOND:

BANASTRE TARLETON, TAKE 250
MOUNTED TROOPS TO RAID
CHARLOTTESVILLE AND SEE IF
YOU CAN CAPTURE THE TRAITOR
WHO WROTE THAT "DECLARATION
OF INDEPENDENCE." **QUICKLY!!!**

70
MILES
TO
GLORY
!!!

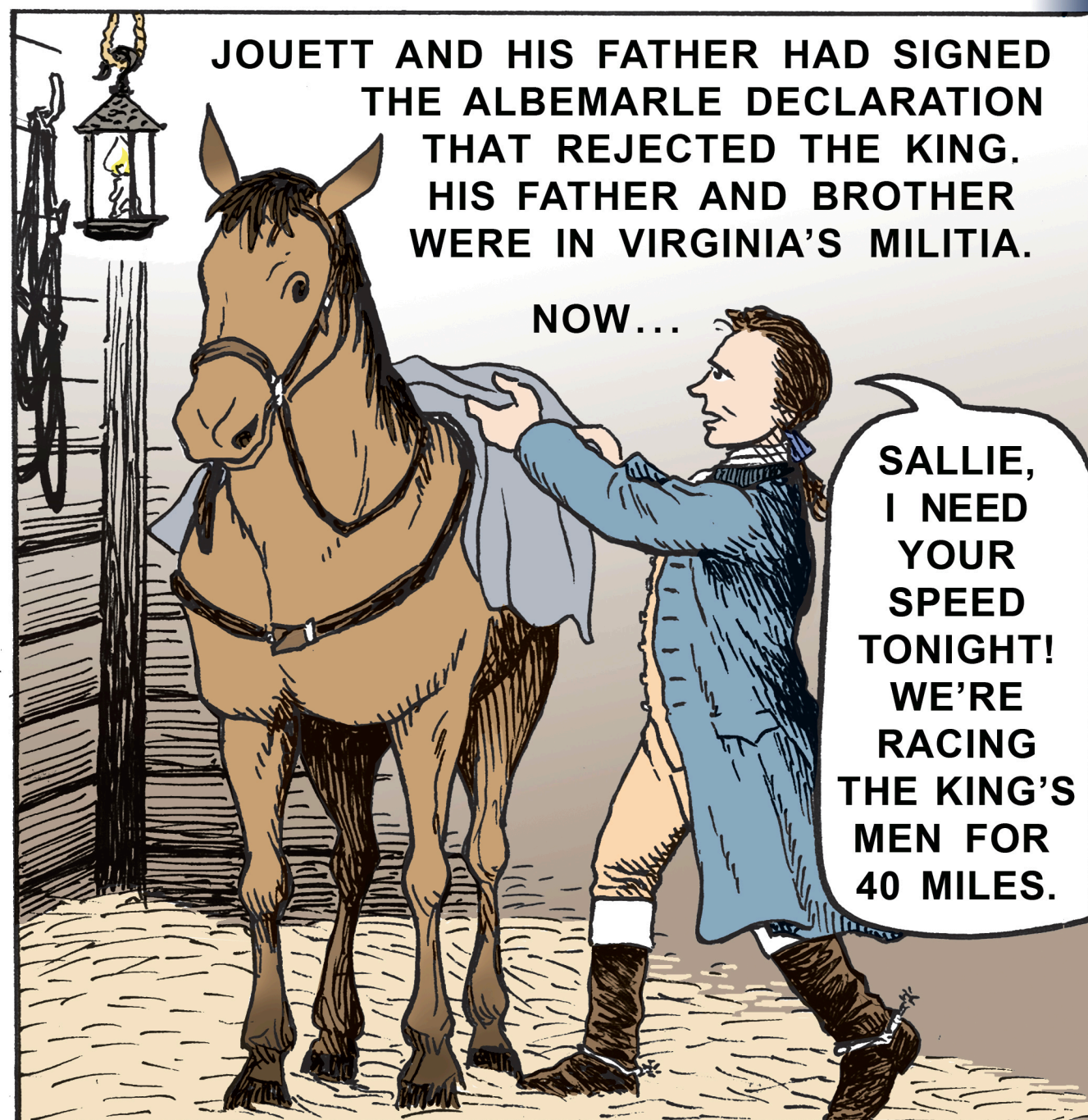
26-YEAR-OLD JACK JOUETT SAW TARLETON'S TROOPS RIDE THROUGH LOUISA COUNTY.



**JOUETT AND HIS FATHER HAD SIGNED
THE ALBEMARLE DECLARATION
THAT REJECTED THE KING.
HIS FATHER AND BROTHER
WERE IN VIRGINIA'S MILITIA.**

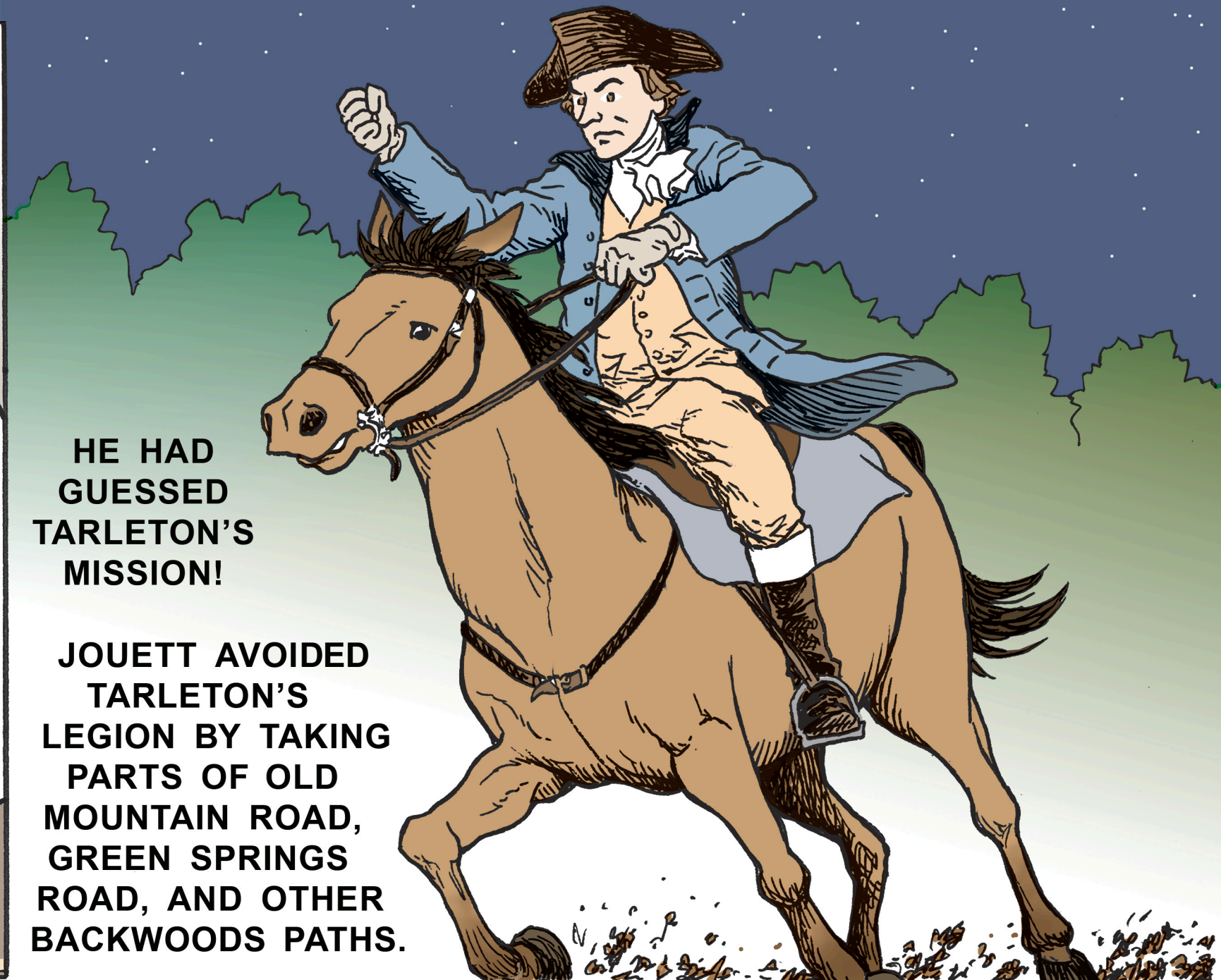
NOW...

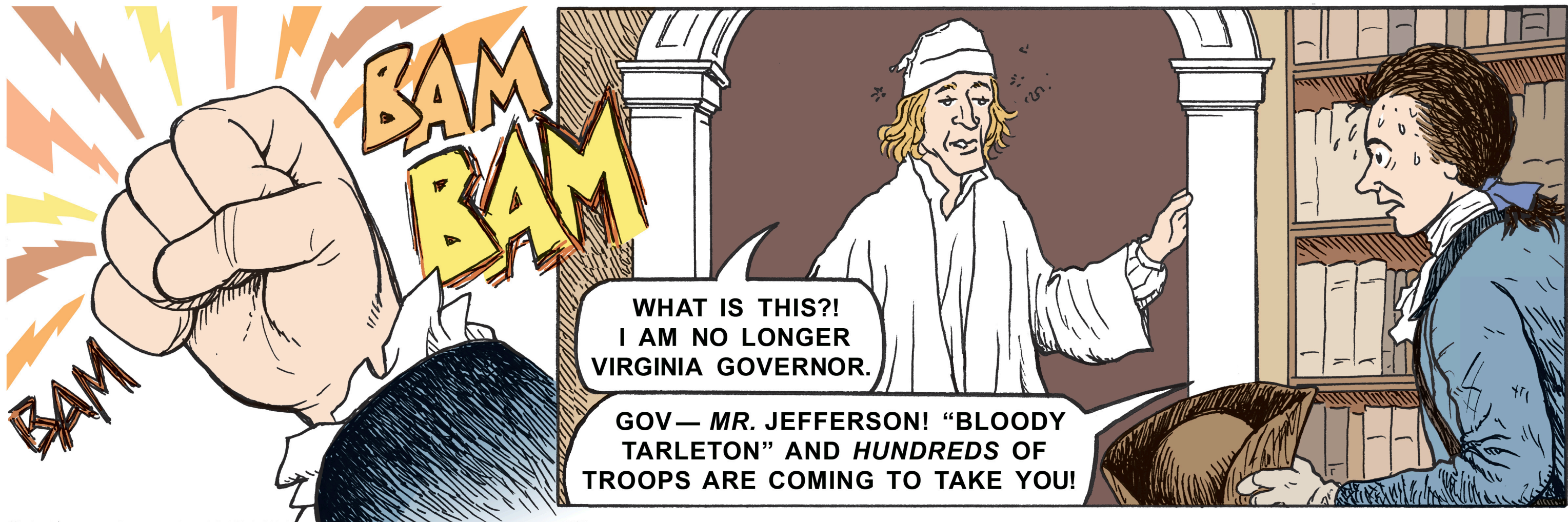
**SALLIE,
I NEED
YOUR
SPEED
TONIGHT!
WE'RE
RACING
THE KING'S
MEN FOR
40 MILES.**



**HE HAD
GUESSED
TARLETON'S
MISSION!**

**JOUETT AVOIDED
TARLETON'S
LEGION BY TAKING
PARTS OF OLD
MOUNTAIN ROAD,
GREEN SPRINGS
ROAD, AND OTHER
BACKWOODS PATHS.**





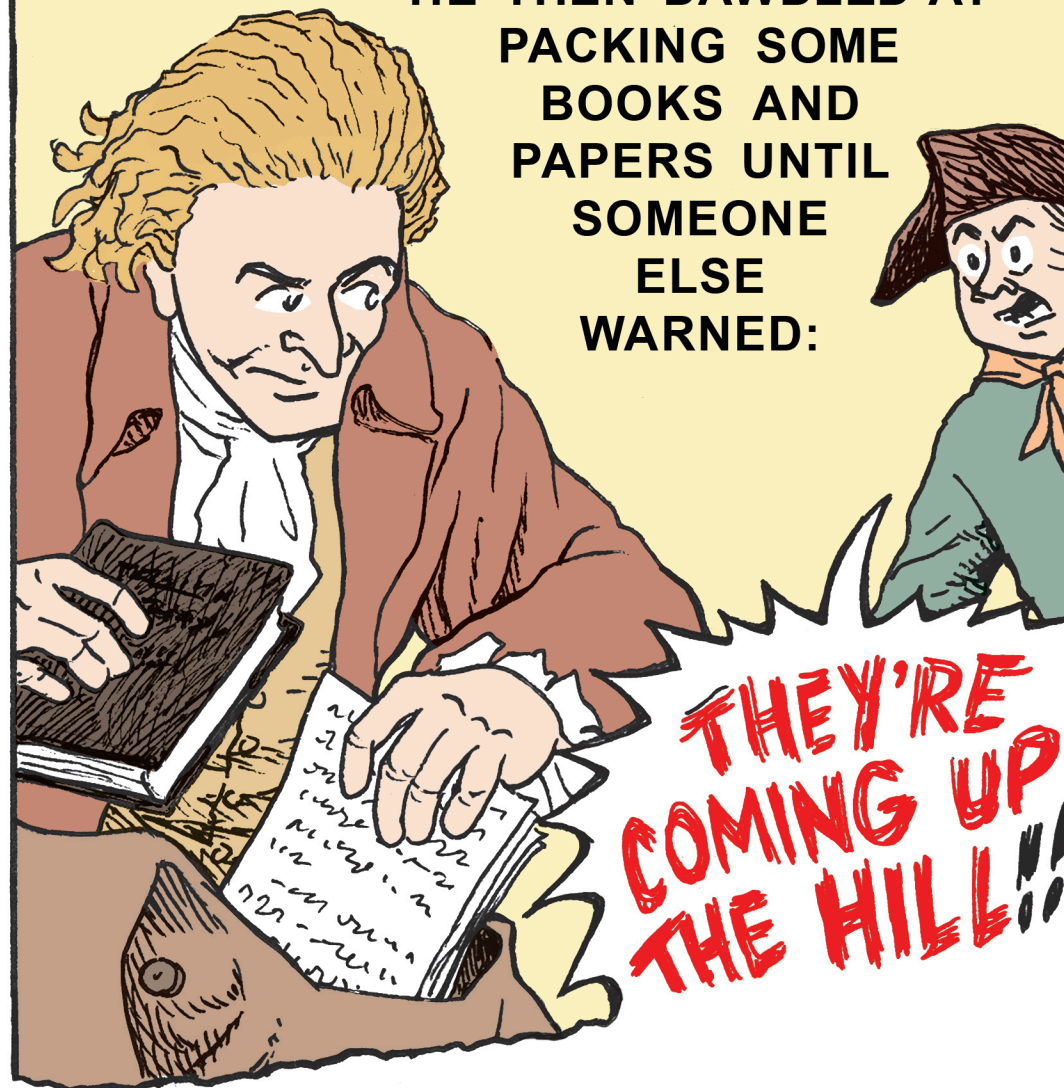
WHAT IS THIS?!
I AM NO LONGER
VIRGINIA GOVERNOR.

GOV — MR. JEFFERSON! “BLOODY
TARLETON” AND *HUNDREDS* OF
TROOPS ARE COMING TO TAKE YOU!

JEFFERSON SENT HIS FAMILY
TO ANOTHER PLANTATION
14 MILES AWAY FOR SAFETY.

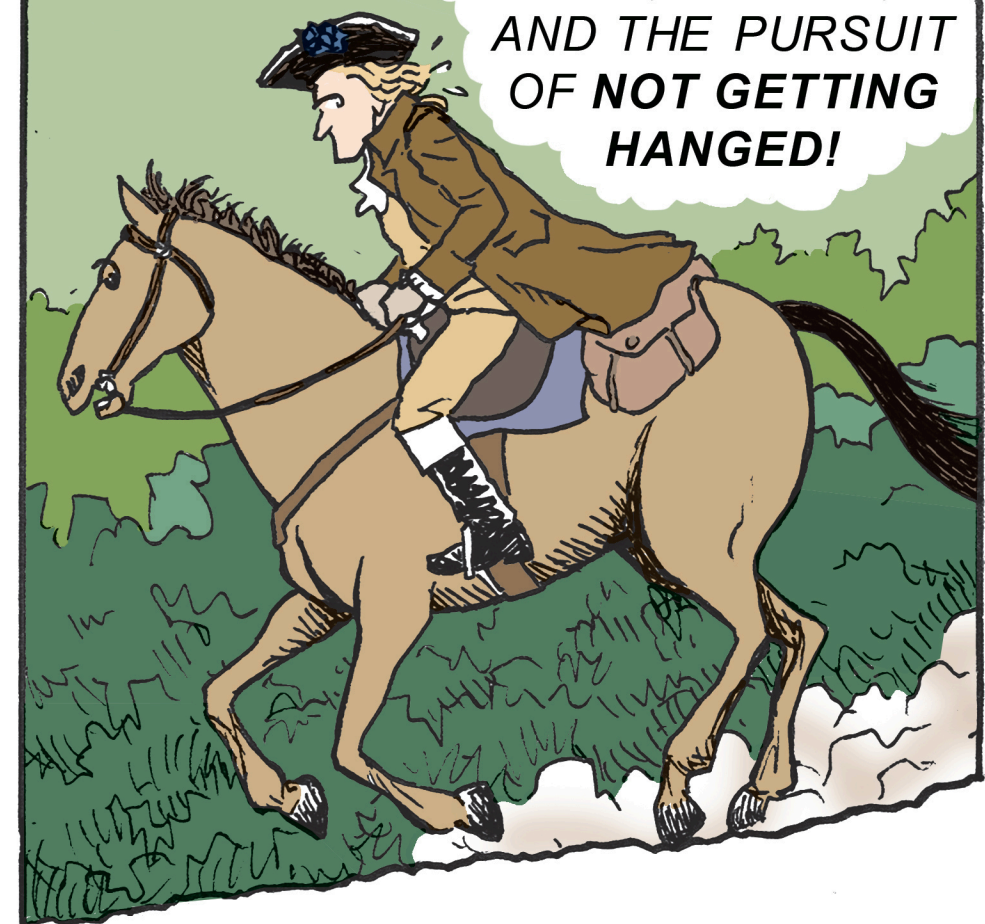


HE THEN DAWDLED AT
PACKING SOME
BOOKS AND
PAPERS UNTIL
SOMEONE
ELSE
WARNED:



THEY'RE
COMING UP
THE HILL!!

I BELIEVE IN
LIFE, LIBERTY,
AND THE PURSUIT
OF NOT GETTING
HANGED!



DOWN THE HILL IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, ROYAL TROOPS
CHASED OTHER PATRIOT POLITICIANS.



JOUETT
DISTRACTED
THEM BY
RACING
AROUND
IN DISGUISE.

JOUETT'S ANTICS
GAVE PATRICK
HENRY TIME
TO ESCAPE.

GIVE ME
LIBERTY
OR GIVE ME
DEATH!!!



TWO SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION
OF INDEPENDENCE ALSO LEFT
CHARLOTTESVILLE SAFELY: RICHARD
HENRY LEE AND BENJAMIN
HARRISON.



THEY DID CAPTURE LEGISLATOR
DANIEL BOONE!



STUDY GUIDE 18 JACK JOUETT SAVES THOMAS JEFFERSON

Questions to Consider

1. What was the most important point of this chapter?
2. How far is it from Cuckoo in Louisa Tavern to Jefferson's home at Monticello?
3. Where are those places in relation to your home?
4. Why did the British want to capture Thomas Jefferson? What might have happened if they had?
5. Where did Jefferson go after he fled Monticello? Why there?

Learn More

 “The British came within minutes of capturing Thomas Jefferson; an alert tavernkeeper's son saved him,”
by Randy Walker, Cardinal News