

PETER MUHLENBERG PREACHES: IT'S TIME TO FIGHT

By Lamont Wayne

Many, many immigrants fought in the American Revolution, on both sides. There are tight-knit communities of German immigrants in the Shenandoah Valley, and King George III has hired troops from Germany to help him end the rebellion in America. Which side will the German settlers in Virginia choose?



1770

1771

1772

1773

1774

1775

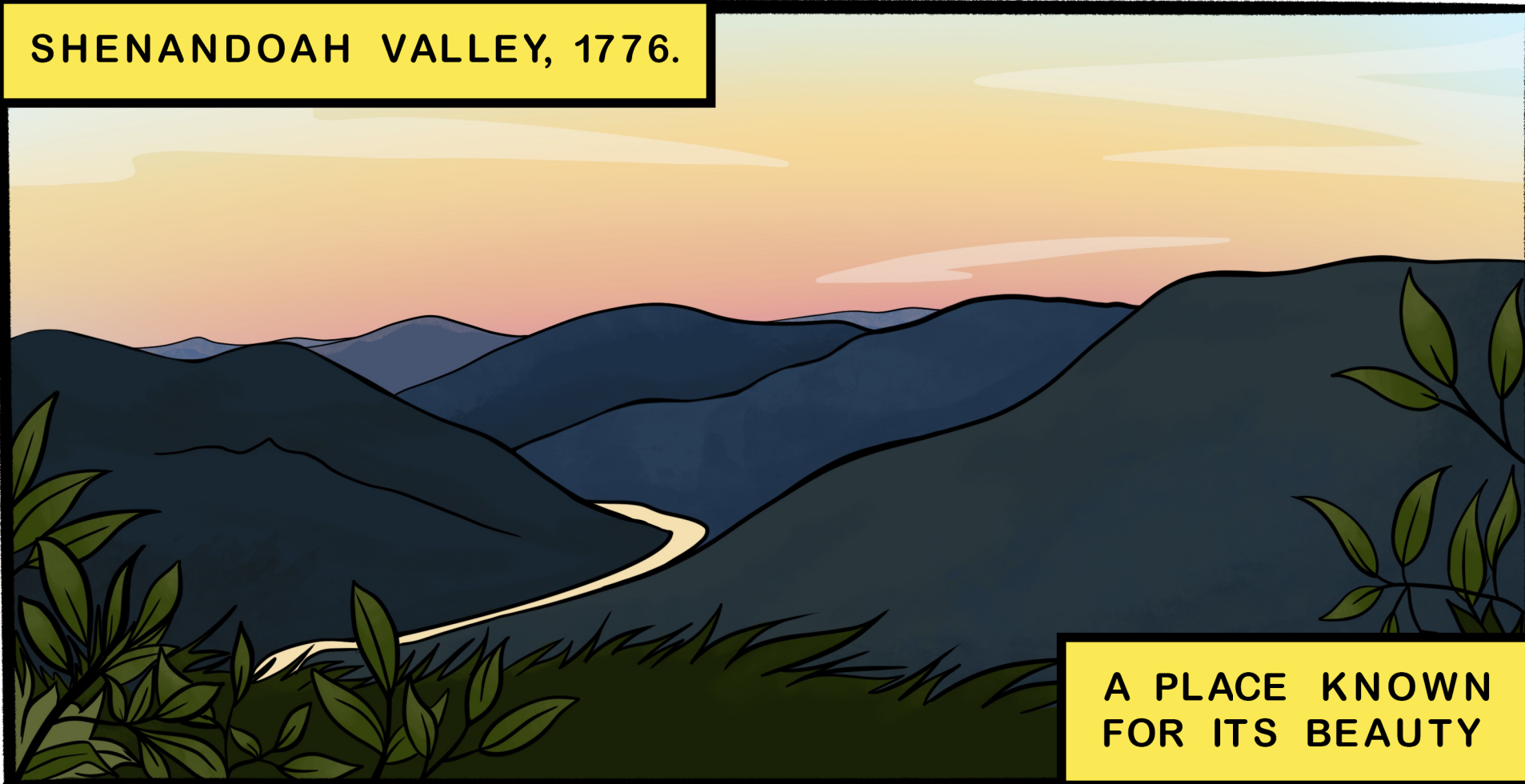
1776

Muhlenberg ordained an Anglican priest

Muhlenberg elected to Virginia House of Burgesses

The Battles of Lexington and Concord

SHENANDOAH VALLEY, 1776.



**A PLACE KNOWN
FOR ITS BEAUTY**

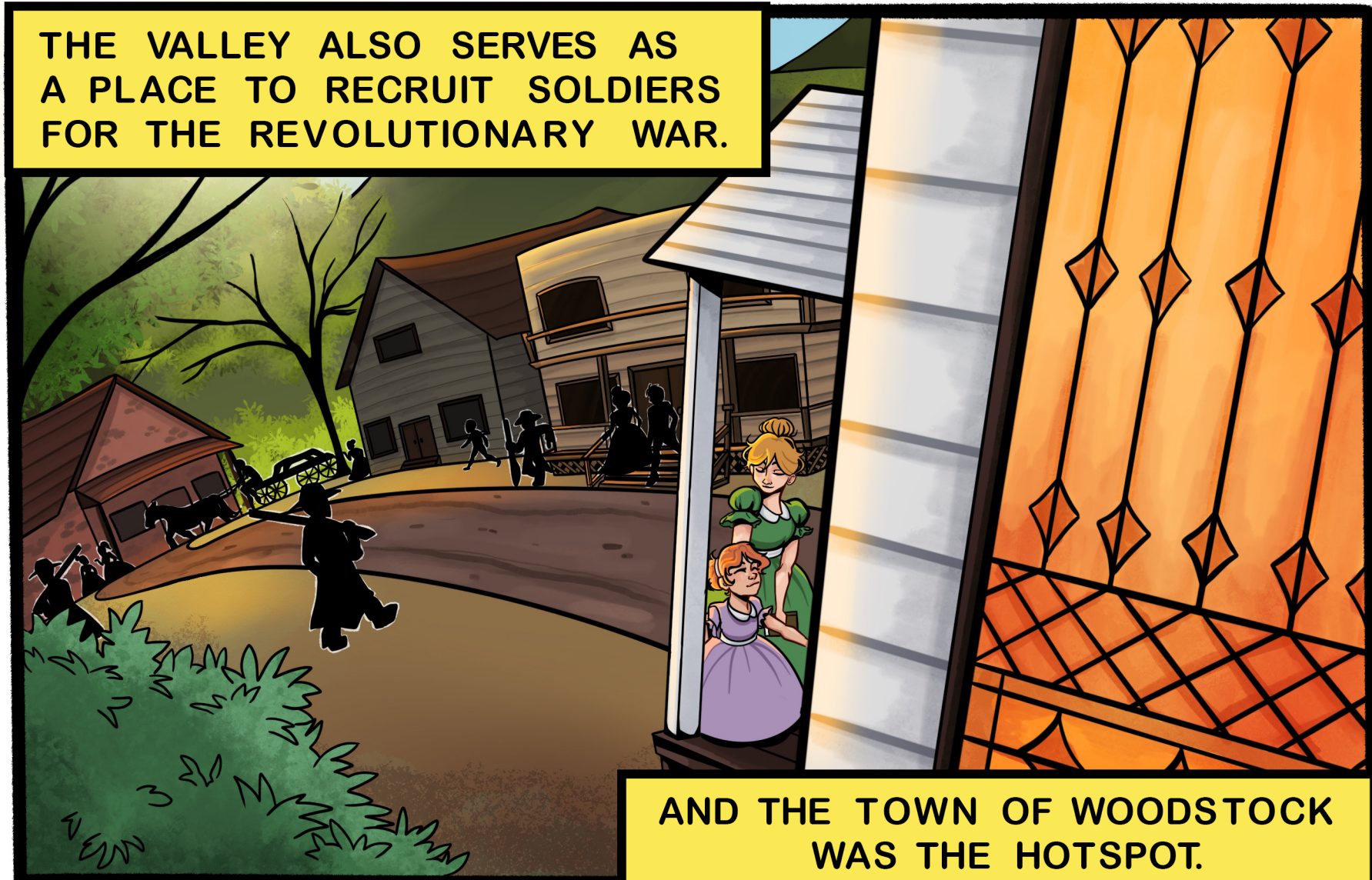


**AS WELL AS ITS
FARMLAND.**

**HOME TO MANY GERMAN
IMMIGRANTS THANKS TO
THE CHEAP LAND AND
RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS.**



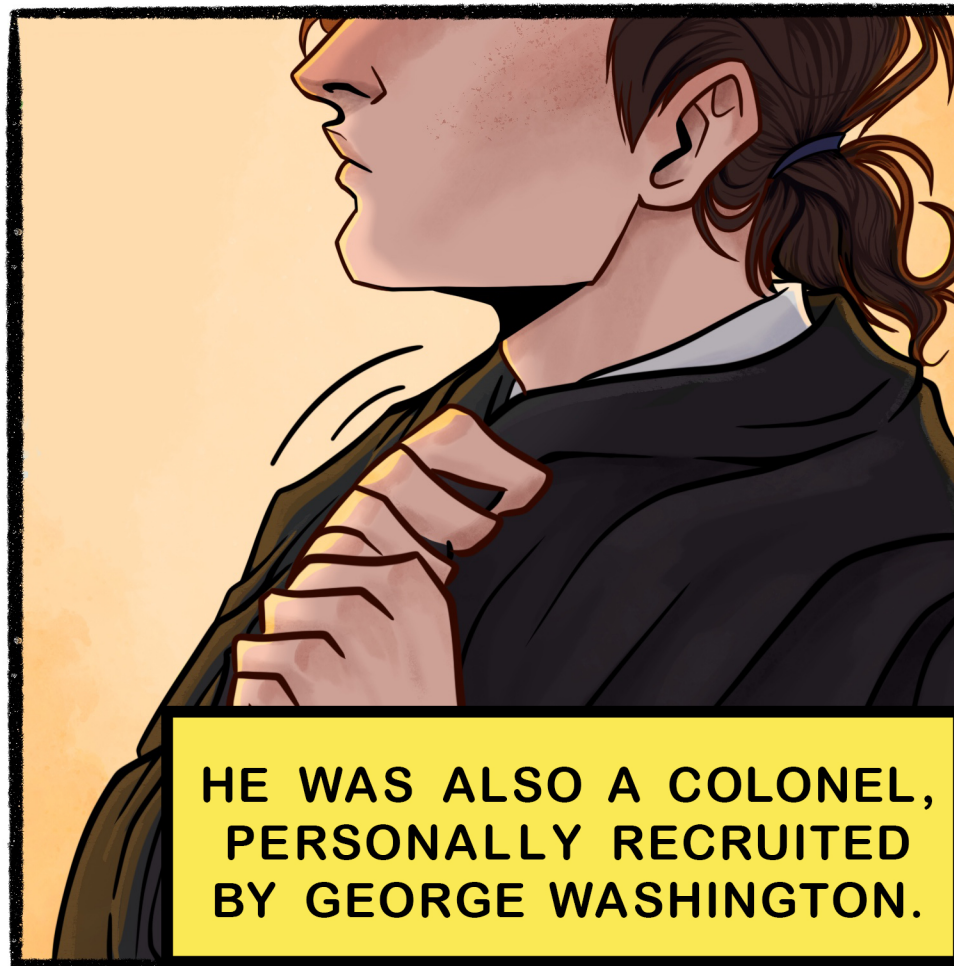
**THE VALLEY ALSO SERVES AS
A PLACE TO RECRUIT SOLDIERS
FOR THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.**



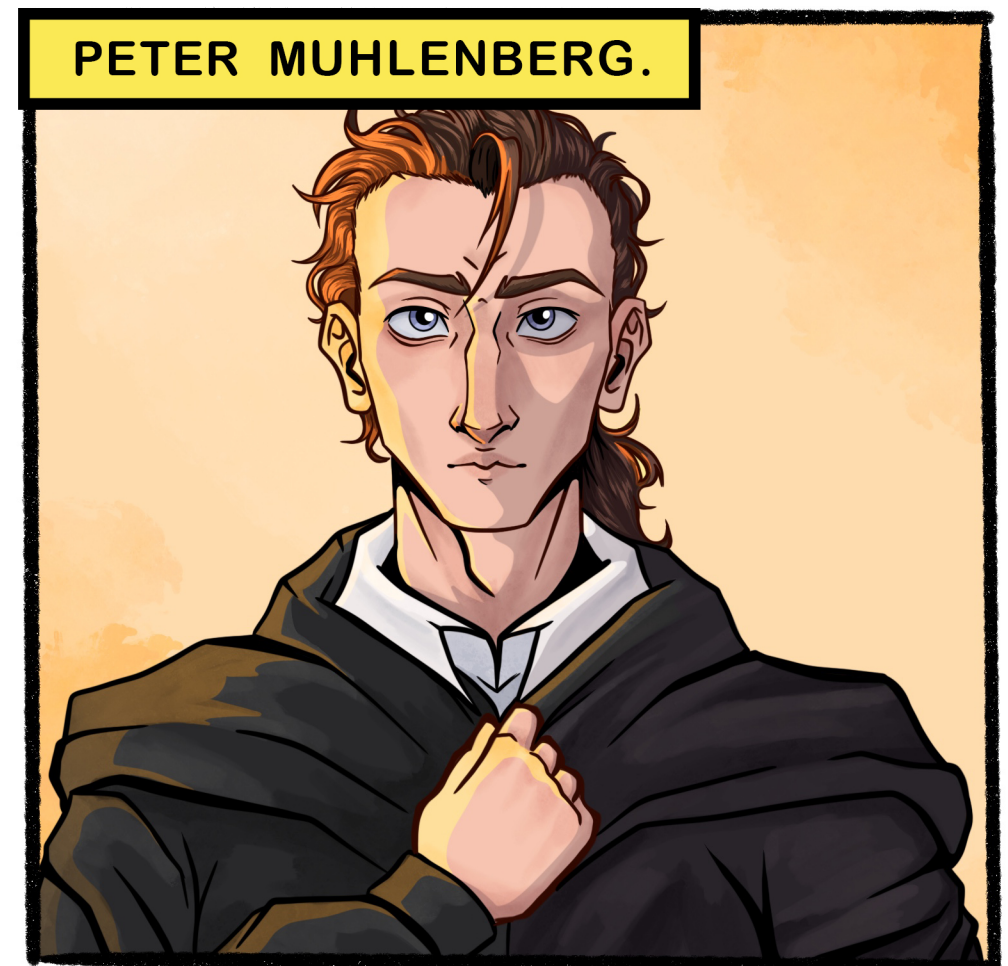
**AND THE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
WAS THE HOTSPOT.**



THE ONE
RECRUITING THESE
MEN WAS A PRIEST.



HE WAS ALSO A COLONEL,
PERSONALLY RECRUITED
BY GEORGE WASHINGTON.

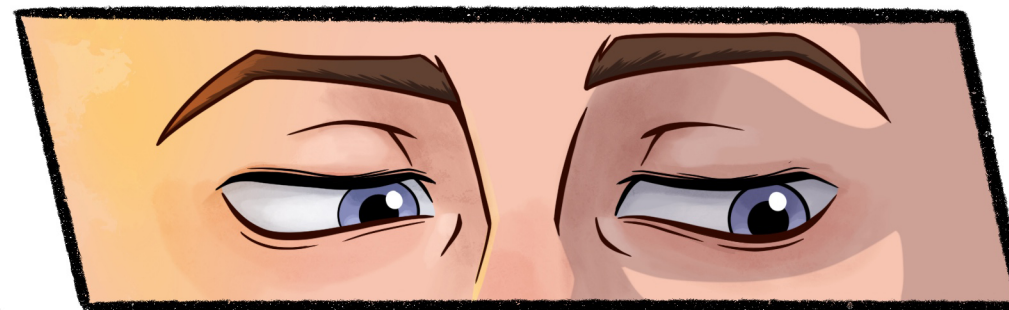


PETER MUHLENBERG.

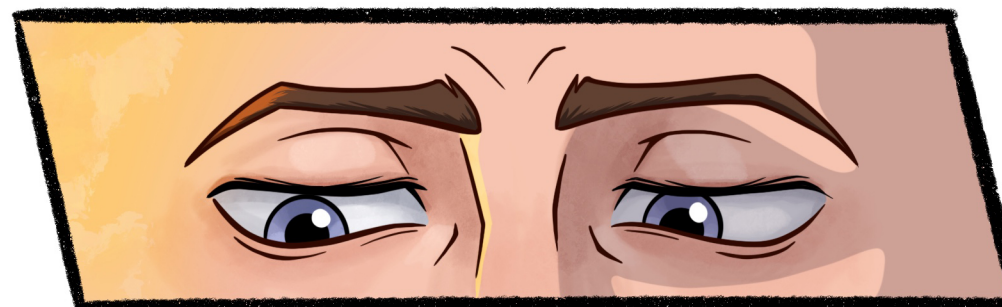


HE BELIEVED THAT LIBERTY
WAS A CIVIC DUTY
AND FREEDOM
BELONGED TO
EVERYONE.

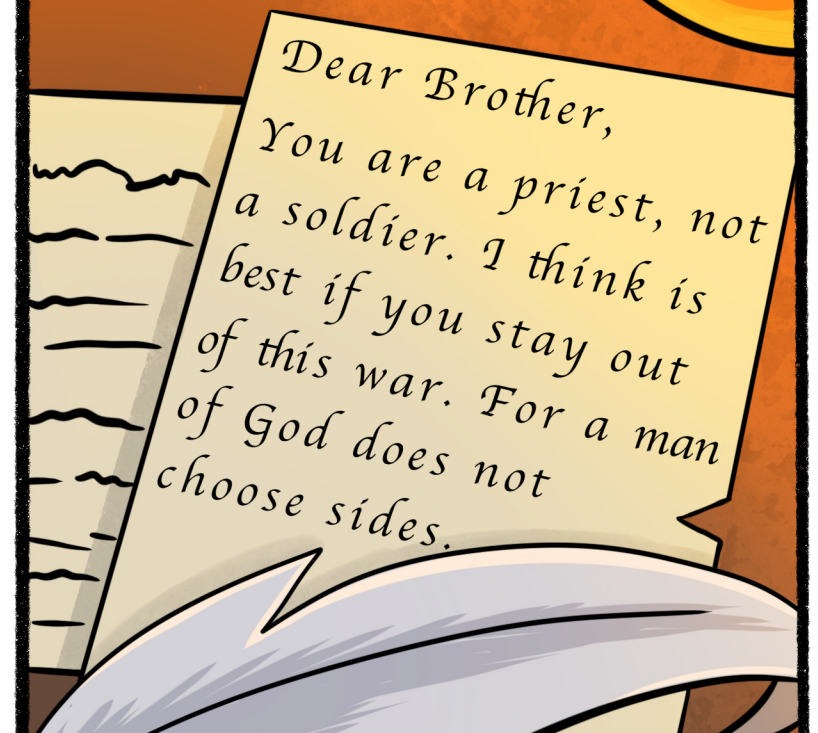
— AND HE WAS GOING
TO FIGHT FOR IT.



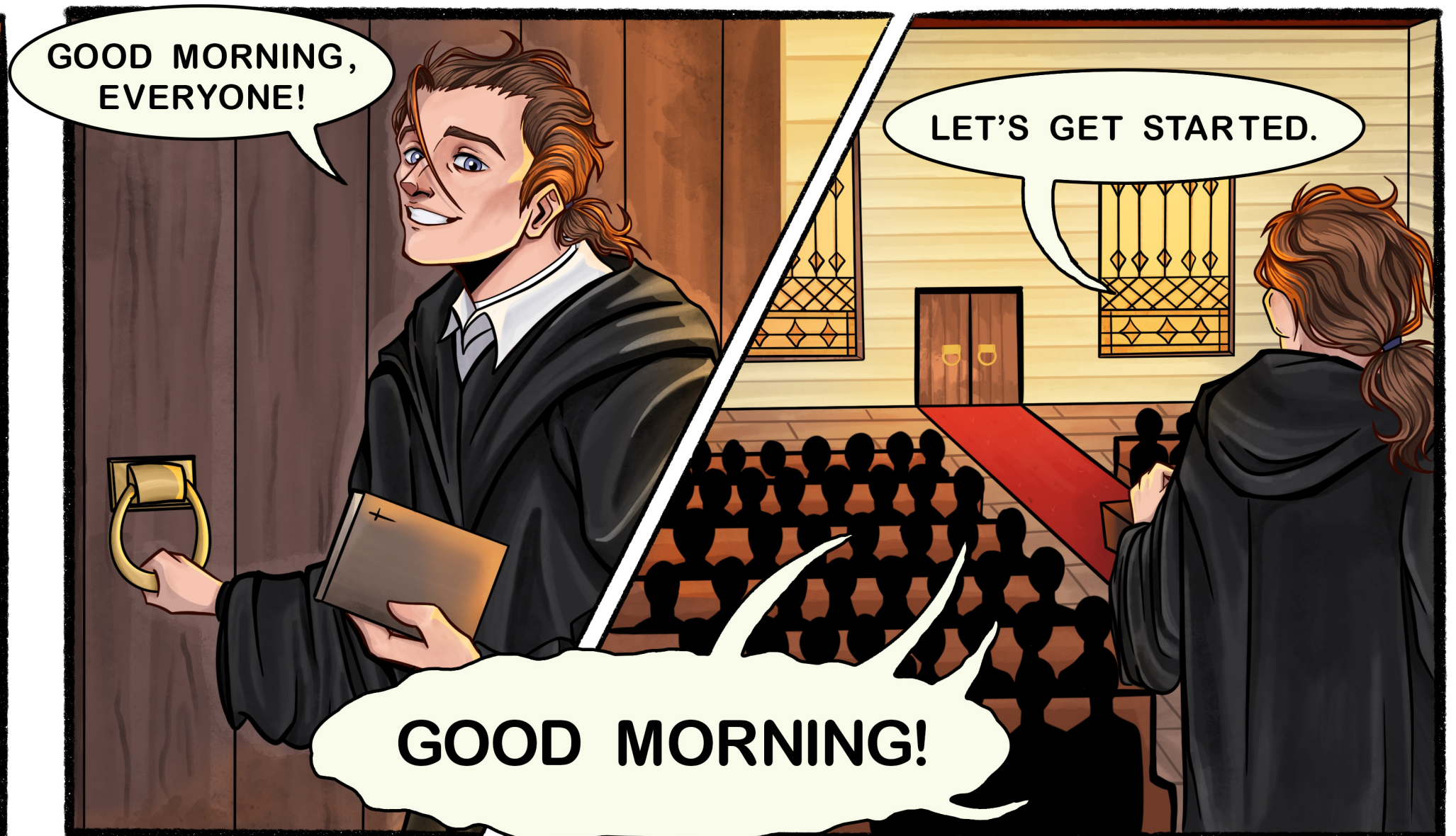
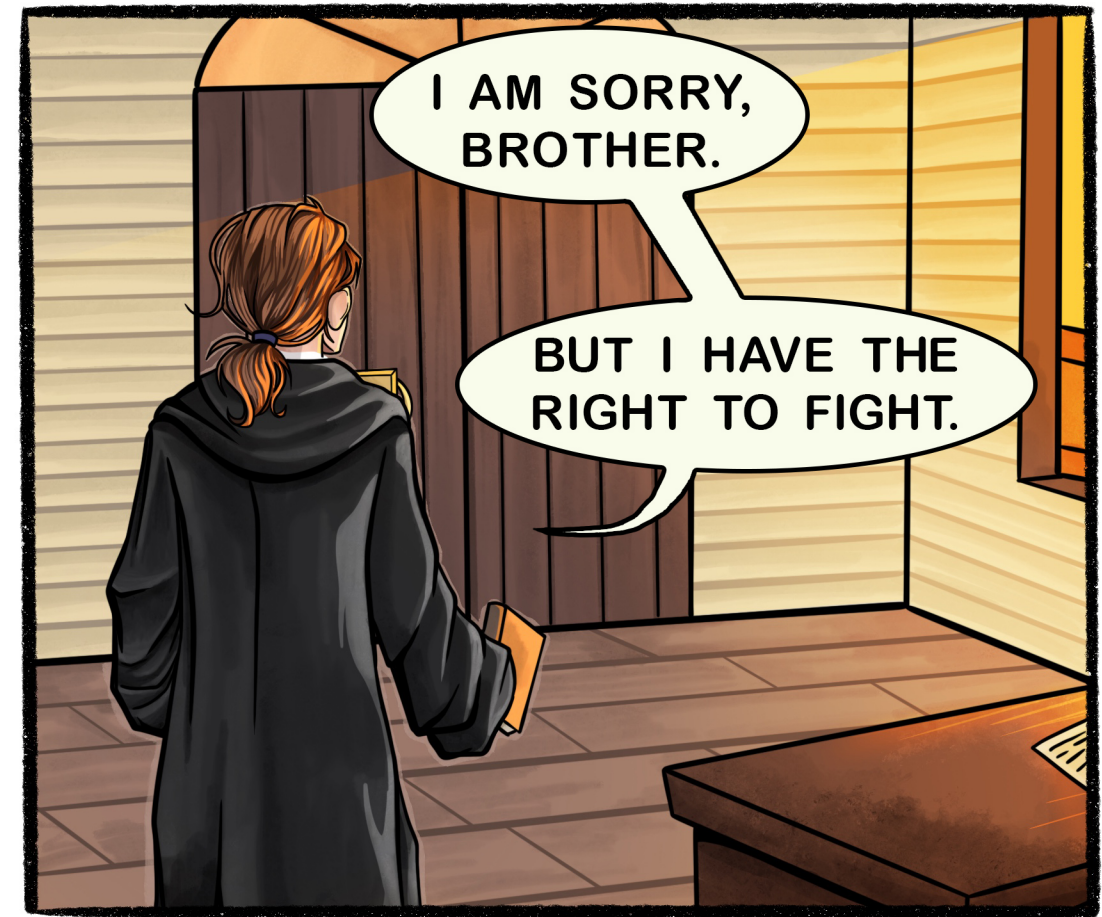
HOWEVER...



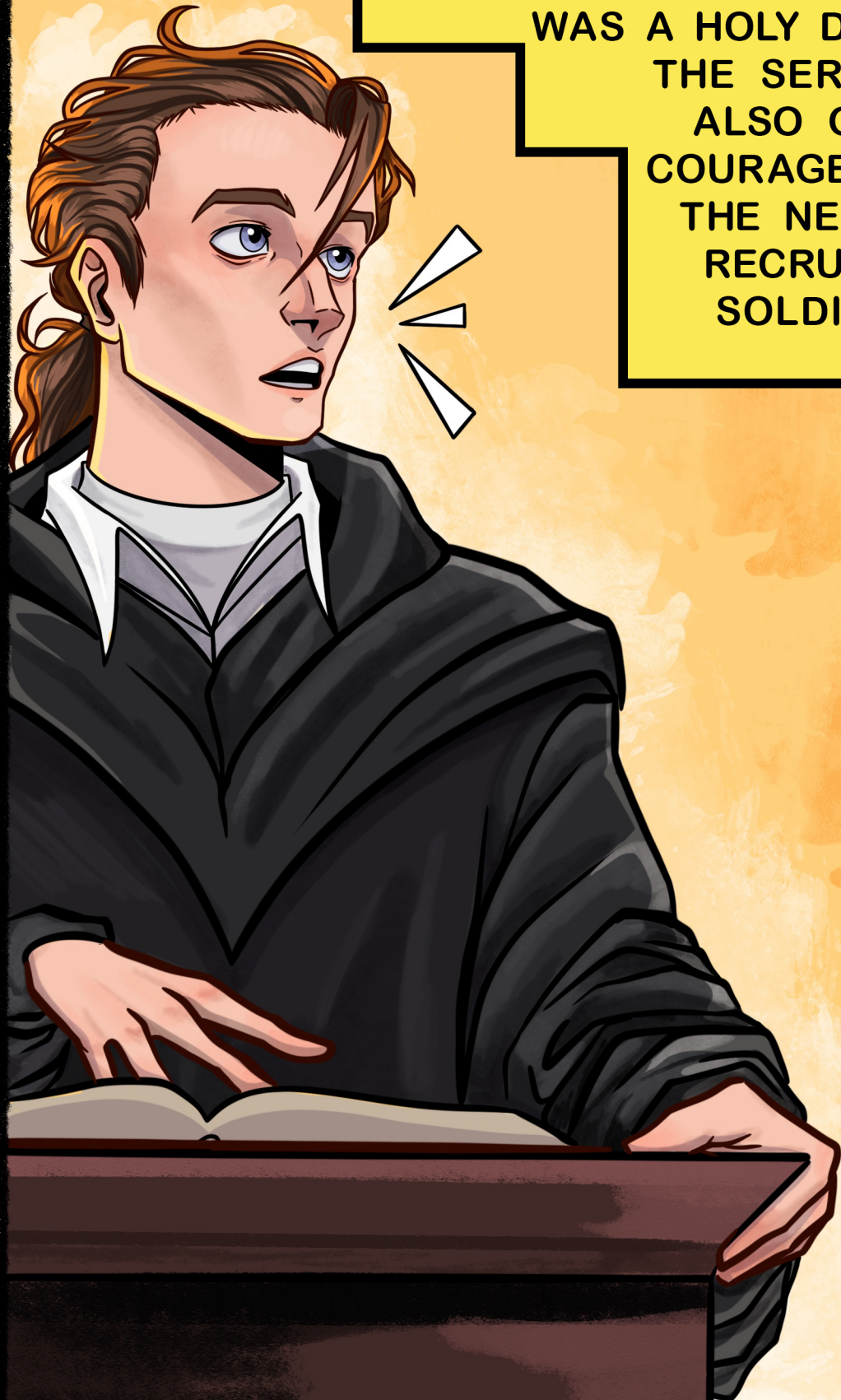
NOT EVERYONE
THOUGHT HE SHOULD.



HIS BROTHER, FREDERICK
MUHLENBERG.



TODAY'S SERMON WAS SPECIAL.
IT WAS MUHLENBERG'S LAST
BEFORE GOING OFF TO WAR. HIS
FAREWELL WAS A CLAIM THAT
FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM
WAS A HOLY DUTY.
THE SERMON
ALSO GAVE
COURAGE TO
THE NEWLY-
RECRUITED
SOLDIERS.



"AS THE BIBLE STATES,
THERE IS ALWAYS A SEASON,
A TIME FOR EVERY MATTER
UNDER THE HEAVENS."



"AND SO, IN THE WORDS OF
THE HOLY BIBLE: THERE
IS A TIME FOR ALL THINGS."

"THERE IS A TIME TO
PREACH.
AND THERE IS A TIME TO
FIGHT."

"AND NOW, LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN, AS OUR FREEDOM
RESTS ON THE LINE..."





RIGHT NOW...

***NOW IS THE
TIME TO FIGHT!***

IT IS SAID THAT THIS SPEECH MOTIVATED 300 MEN TO ENLIST IN THE AMERICAN ARMY AGAINST THE BRITISH THAT VERY DAY. MUHLENBERG WENT ON TO LEAD THE 8TH VIRGINIA REGIMENT IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND LED A BRIGADE AT THE BATTLE OF YORKTOWN. AFTER THE WAR, HE SERVED IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THEN U.S. SENATE. THOMAS JEFFERSON APPOINTED HIM SUPERVISOR OF REVENUE FOR PENNSYLVANIA, WHERE HE SERVED UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1807.

Questions to Consider

1. What was the most important point of this chapter?
2. Where is Woodstock in relation to your home?
3. It's possible that Muhlenberg's sermon was delivered in German. Why would that have been? Do you know anyone who speaks a language other than English?
4. What would have motivated you to enlist in the colonial military?
5. When speaking to a group, what are some ways to make a good presentation?

Learn More

 [“A time to pray and a time to fight,”](#)
[by Randy Walker, Cardinal News](#)