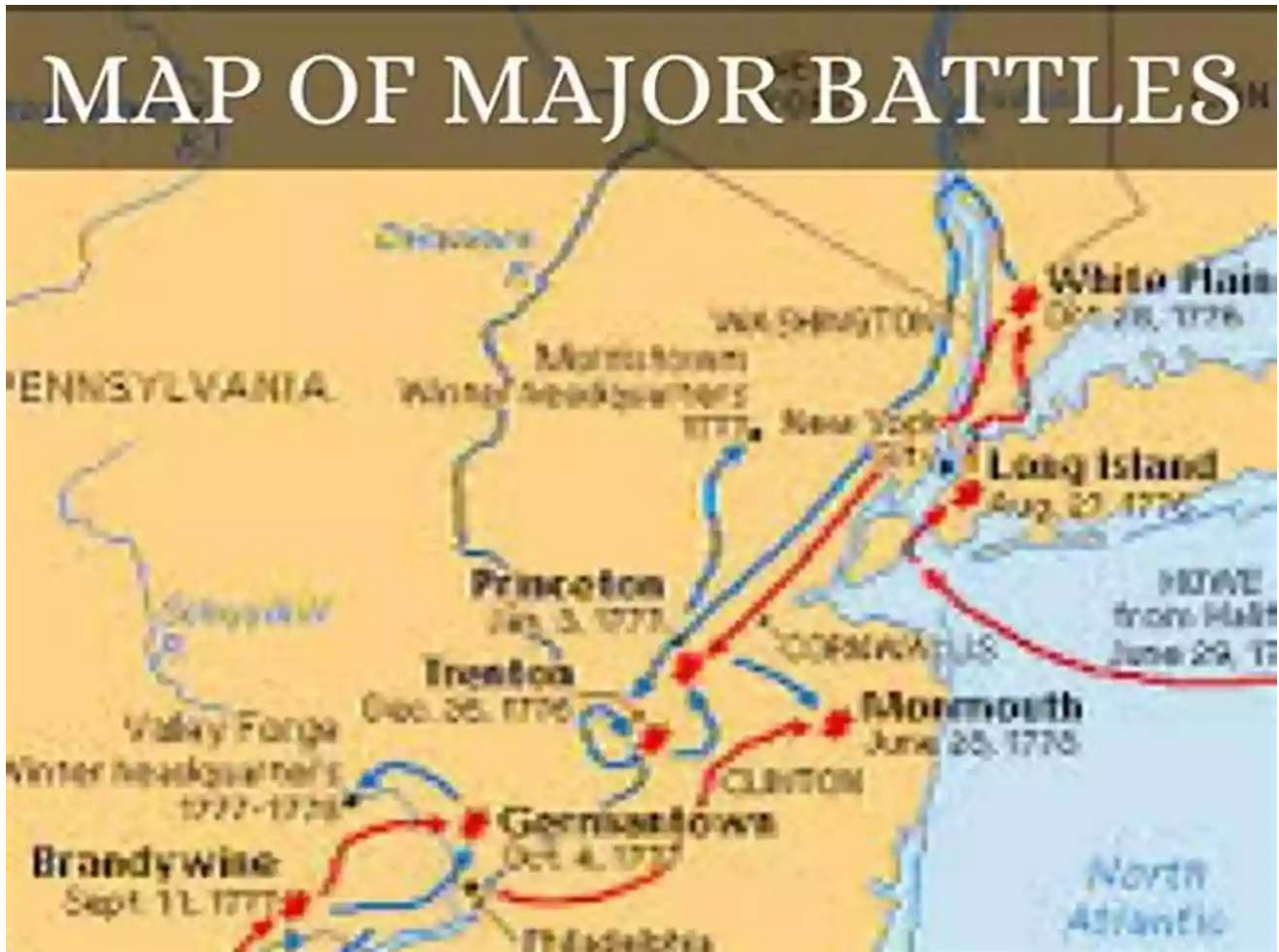


The Decisive Years Of The Revolutionary War 1778-1781

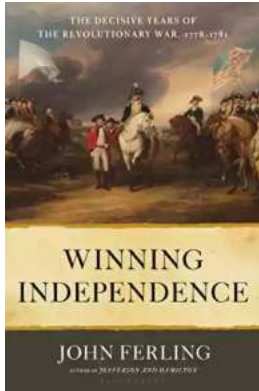


As the Revolutionary War unfolded before their eyes, Americans found themselves facing both triumphs and disappointments. The years 1778-1781 would prove to be decisive in determining the outcome of the war and shaping the future of a nation on the brink of independence.

1778 - A Turning Point

The year 1778 witnessed a significant turning point in the Revolutionary War. Following the alliance with France in early 1778, the American Continental Army

gained a powerful ally against the British. The French fleet, commanded by Admiral d'Estaing, arrived in American waters, providing a decisive advantage in the Battle of Rhode Island.



Winning Independence: The Decisive Years of the Revolutionary War, 1778-1781

by John Ferling (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 68129 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 725 pages
Lending	: Enabled



This newfound alliance boosted American morale and marked a fundamental shift in the war effort. The British, already facing challenges in maintaining control over their vast colonies, now had to contend with a united front against them. It was a period of renewed hope and determination for the American cause.

The Battle of Monmouth - 1778

One of the most critical engagements during these years was the Battle of Monmouth in 1778. General George Washington led his troops against the British in a grueling fight that lasted for hours in the sweltering heat of the Jersey summer. This battle proved the strength and resilience of the American forces, establishing Washington as a formidable military commander.

While the battle ended inconclusively, it inflicted a heavy toll on the British troops and hindered their attempts to gain control over the northern colonies. This battle showcased the American ability to hold their ground against the mightiest army in the world, further bolstering their confidence.

The Conway Cabal - 1778

Another significant event during these decisive years was the Conway Cabal in 1778. A group of discontented officers within the Continental Army plotted against General Washington, questioning his leadership abilities and advocating for his removal. Despite the internal conflict, Washington's steadfast character led him to emerge unscathed, proving his commitment to the American cause.

Ultimately, the Conway Cabal failed to achieve its goals, cementing Washington's position as the indispensable leader of the American forces. The event revealed the challenges faced within the revolutionary ranks but also underscored Washington's ability to navigate through them and maintain the trust and support of his troops.

The Siege of Yorktown - 1781

The year 1781 marked another turning point in the Revolutionary War with the Siege of Yorktown, a battle that would prove decisive in securing American independence. Under the brilliant coordination of General Washington, French General Rochambeau, and Admiral de Grasse, the combined American and French forces effectively trapped British General Cornwallis and his troops at Yorktown.

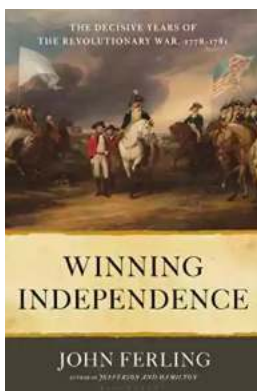
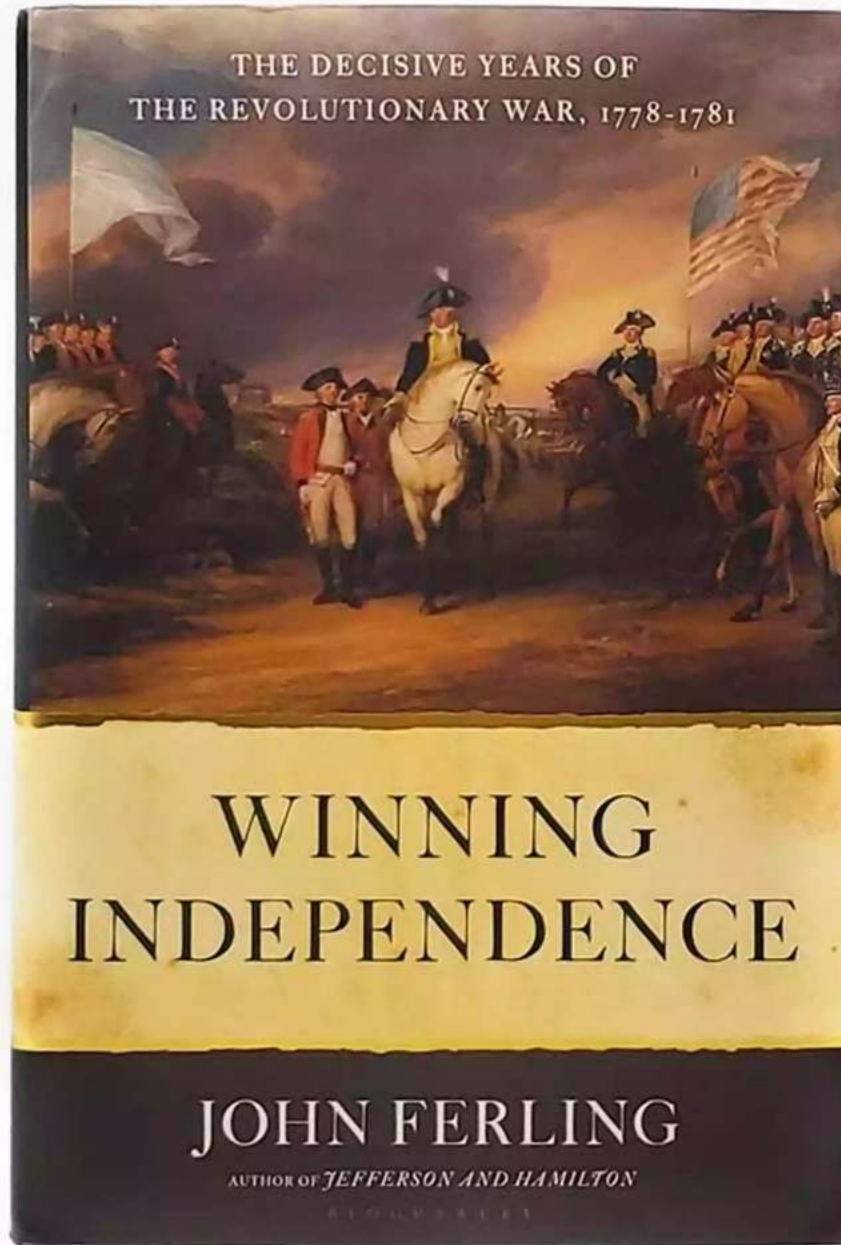
The siege lasted for several weeks, with Cornwallis eventually surrendering on October 19, 1781. This monumental event effectively ended the major military operations of the war and led to negotiations for peace. The British recognized

the futility of continuing the conflict, and in 1783, the Treaty of Paris granted the United States independence from British rule.

The Legacy of the Decisive Years

The years 1778-1781 shaped the narrative of the Revolutionary War and paved the way for the birth of a new nation. From forging key alliances to facing internal challenges and achieving significant victories, these years demonstrated the resilience, determination, and spirit of the American people.

Without doubt, the decisive years of the Revolutionary War laid the foundation for the United States of America, leaving a lasting impact on its government, values, and identity. The lessons learned during this period continue to inspire future generations, reminding us of the enduring quest for freedom and the power of unity.



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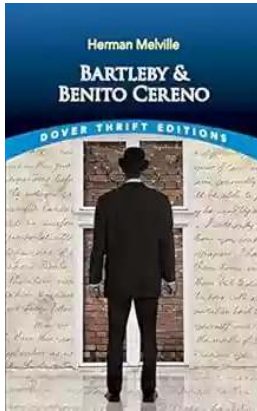
From celebrated historian John Ferling, the underexplored history of the second half of the Revolutionary War, when, after years of fighting, American independence often seemed beyond reach.

It was 1778, and the recent American victory at Saratoga had netted the U.S a powerful ally in France. Many, including General George Washington, presumed France's entrance into the war meant independence was just around the corner.

Meanwhile, having lost an entire army at Saratoga, Great Britain pivoted to a “southern strategy.” The army would henceforth seek to regain its southern colonies, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, a highly profitable segment of its pre-war American empire. Deep into 1780 Britain's new approach seemed headed for success as the U.S. economy collapsed and morale on the home front waned. By early 1781, Washington, and others, feared that France would drop out of the war if the Allies failed to score a decisive victory that year. Sir Henry Clinton, commander of Britain's army, thought “the rebellion is near its end.” Washington, who had been so optimistic in 1778, despaired: “I have almost ceased to hope.”

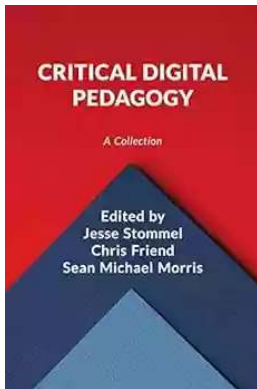
Winning Independence is the dramatic story of how and why Great Britain-so close to regaining several southern colonies and rendering the postwar United States a fatally weak nation ultimately failed to win the war. The book explores the choices and decisions made by Clinton and Washington, and others, that

ultimately led the French and American allies to clinch the pivotal victory at Yorktown that at long last secured American independence.



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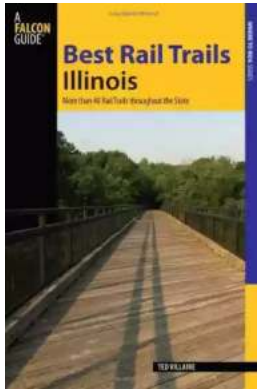
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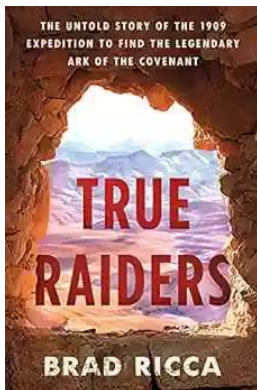
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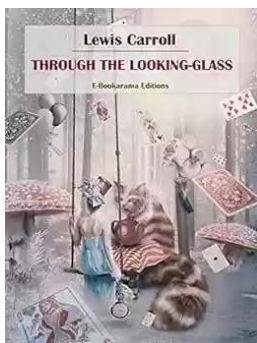
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