

CHAPTER 9

War in Western Virginia

CHAPTER PREVIEW

TERMS

ally, treaty, retaliation, casualty, Proclamation of 1763, nullify, neutral, rebellion, Loyalist, siege

PEOPLE

Thomas Cresap, Nemacolin, Governor Robert Dinwiddie, George Washington, General Edward Braddock, Andrew Lewis, William Pitt, John and Samuel Pringle, Michael Cresap, Chief Logan, Lord Dunmore, Chief Cornstalk, Henry Hamilton, Samuel McCulloch (McCulloch), William Foreman, Matthew Arbuckle, Elinipsico, Dick Pointer, Elizabeth Zane

PLACES

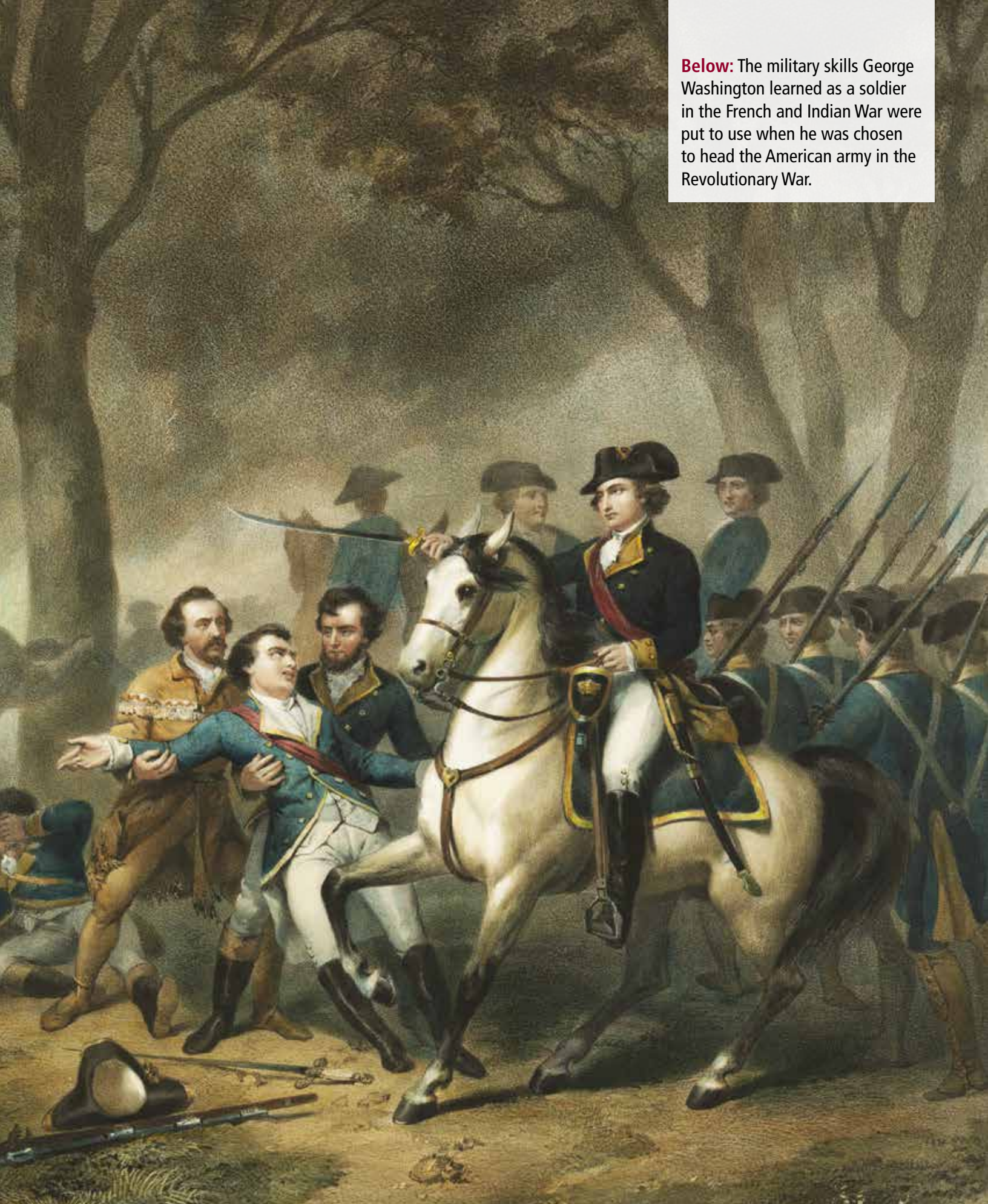
Fort Duquesne, Great Meadows, Fort Edwards, Fort Seybert, Buckhannon River, Vandalia, Fort Gower, Point Pleasant, Fort Randolph, Fort Henry, Fort Donnally

As more English settlers crossed the Alleghenies, they had to confront their rivals—the French. France and Great Britain each laid claim to the land drained by the Ohio River. France based its claim on the explorations of Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle, and Céloron de Blainville. The British claims were based on the Batts and Fallam expedition. The dispute resulted in the French and Indian War. During the war, most of the Indians, who held first claim to the land, sided with the French because they were less of a threat to the Native Americans' lifestyle.

After the French and Indian War, the colonists were dismayed to find that they had fought a war to gain access to the Ohio Valley only to have the British government forbid their moving into the area. For the next twenty years, western Virginians found themselves in conflict with Great Britain as well as with their Indian neighbors.

The Indian problem culminated with the outbreak of Lord Dunmore's War, which is sometimes considered the beginning of the American Revolution. The war for independence erupted after many years of growing resentment of British attempts to control the actions of the colonists through laws passed by Parliament without the colonists' input. When the war broke out, western Virginians were ready and willing to fight alongside their countrymen. George Washington praised their ability to fight and their patriotism as factors in the campaign for American independence.

Below: The military skills George Washington learned as a soldier in the French and Indian War were put to use when he was chosen to head the American army in the Revolutionary War.



SIGNS of the TIMES



HISTORY

In April 1775, Virginia Governor John Murray (Lord Dunmore) ordered the seizure of a store of gunpowder. Patrick Henry then led a group of soldiers to confront the governor, who fled to a British warship for protection. In November 1775, Lord Dunmore offered freedom to slaves who would flee their owners and join a Loyalist military regiment.

ECONOMICS

In 1776, Adam Smith, a Scottish college professor, wrote *The Wealth of Nations*, which argued for a market system free of the king's control. That same year, Virginia helped lead the effort to have the thirteen colonies break away from the Crown and establish their own markets.

GOVERNMENT

In May 1765, the House of Burgesses adopted the Virginia Resolves, a set of statements that gave colonial governments the right to make their own laws and tax their own citizens.

GEOGRAPHY

Virginia claimed western lands all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

EVERYDAY LIFE

Population: In 1776, Virginia's population was about 500,000, 60 percent of whom were white.

Wages: Plantation owners could make over 1,000£ (British pounds) a year. A skilled craftsman might earn about 85£. The average laborer made 30£; a skilled artisan made 40-45£. The annual pay for a ship's boy was 2£, 10 shillings. In the South, workers might be paid in farm goods, particularly tobacco.

Cost of Living: A supper of bread, cheese, and beer cost around 3 pence (pennies). If meat was added, it was just under a shilling (12 pennies). A day's worth of coal cost 1 pence. A yard of good cloth cost about 12 shillings. In the South, a good flintlock musket cost less than 1£. For 16 shillings, one could buy a new saddle, a dictionary, a table or a chair, or a winter coat. For 200£, one could purchase a nice home.

Music: Revolutionary War favorites included "Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier," "The Foggy, Foggy Dew," "All the Pretty Little Horses," "The Rebels," and "God Save the King." British soldiers sang "The Yankeys Return from Camp" to make fun of the colonists. Today the song is known as "Yankee Doodle."

Leisure Time: Horse racing was popular throughout the colonies. Popular games in cities included tennis, badminton, whist (a card game), cricket, backgammon, check (checkers), dominoes, jacks, and marbles. Young people enjoyed fishing, kite flying, hopscotch, berry picking, tag, and blind man's bluff.

Life Expectancy: 37, if a child was past 5 years of age.

Science/Technology: Benjamin Franklin performed his now-famous kite experiment in 1752. Franklin also designed Philadelphia's first streetlights and invented bifocal glasses. In 1753, black inventor Benjamin Banneker built a wooden clock that kept time for fifty years. John Hobday invented a threshing machine in 1772 and was awarded a gold medal by the "Virginia Society for the Promotion of Useful Knowledge."

Figure 9.1

Timeline: 1750 – 1790



Sequencing

DEFINING THE SKILL

Sequencing is the ordering of events. In history, sequencing often addresses the order in which events occurred. Creating a timeline is one useful way to illustrate a number of events that took place over a given period of time.

PRACTICING THE SKILL

Look at the timeline on page 333. Using the information on the timeline, answer the questions that follow.

1. How many years does the timeline cover?
2. What happened in 1755?
3. When did the French and Indian War end?
4. What treaty ended the American Revolution?

After you have answered the questions, copy the timeline found here onto a sheet of paper. Then, read Section 1 and record at least six events found in the reading on your timeline.

TIMELINE



SECTION 1

The French and Indian War

As you read, look for

- causes of the French and Indian War;
- the basis for the land claims of the French and the British;
- the difference between the Indian and the British views of land ownership;
- the location of the first fighting of the French and Indian War;
- the result of the French and Indian War;
- terms: **ally, treaty, retaliation, casualty.**

Major conflict came to the Ohio Valley as a result of a worldwide rivalry (competition) between France and Great Britain. In Europe, a series of wars between these two European nations lasted about one hundred years. The conflict that took place during the last seven of those years—1756-1763—was simply called the “Seven Years’ War.” Across the Atlantic Ocean in North America, however, the fighting was called the French and Indian War since most of the Indians **allied** (formed an association with another for mutual benefit) themselves with the French against the British. The fighting in North America lasted from 1754 to 1760.

Different Views of Land Ownership

Both France and Great Britain claimed the land drained by the Ohio River. Because land claims in the seventeenth century were based on water flow, all the land touched by water beginning from a specific source was claimed by the discoverer of that source. Great Britain based its claims on the 1671 Batts and Fallam exploration of the New River, whose waters flow to the Kanawha, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers. France based its claims on the 1669 exploration of the Ohio River by Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, a full two years earlier. The French claim was strengthened in 1749, when Céloron de Blainville buried lead plates along the Ohio River, declaring ownership of the land in the name of the king of France.

The Indians were also involved in the conflict. Native Americans, who held the first claim to the land, were caught between two powerful enemies and had to choose sides. Indians did not see land as private property, and boundaries were not strictly defined. One tribe or a group of tribes might have control over an area, but the size and amount of





something extra!

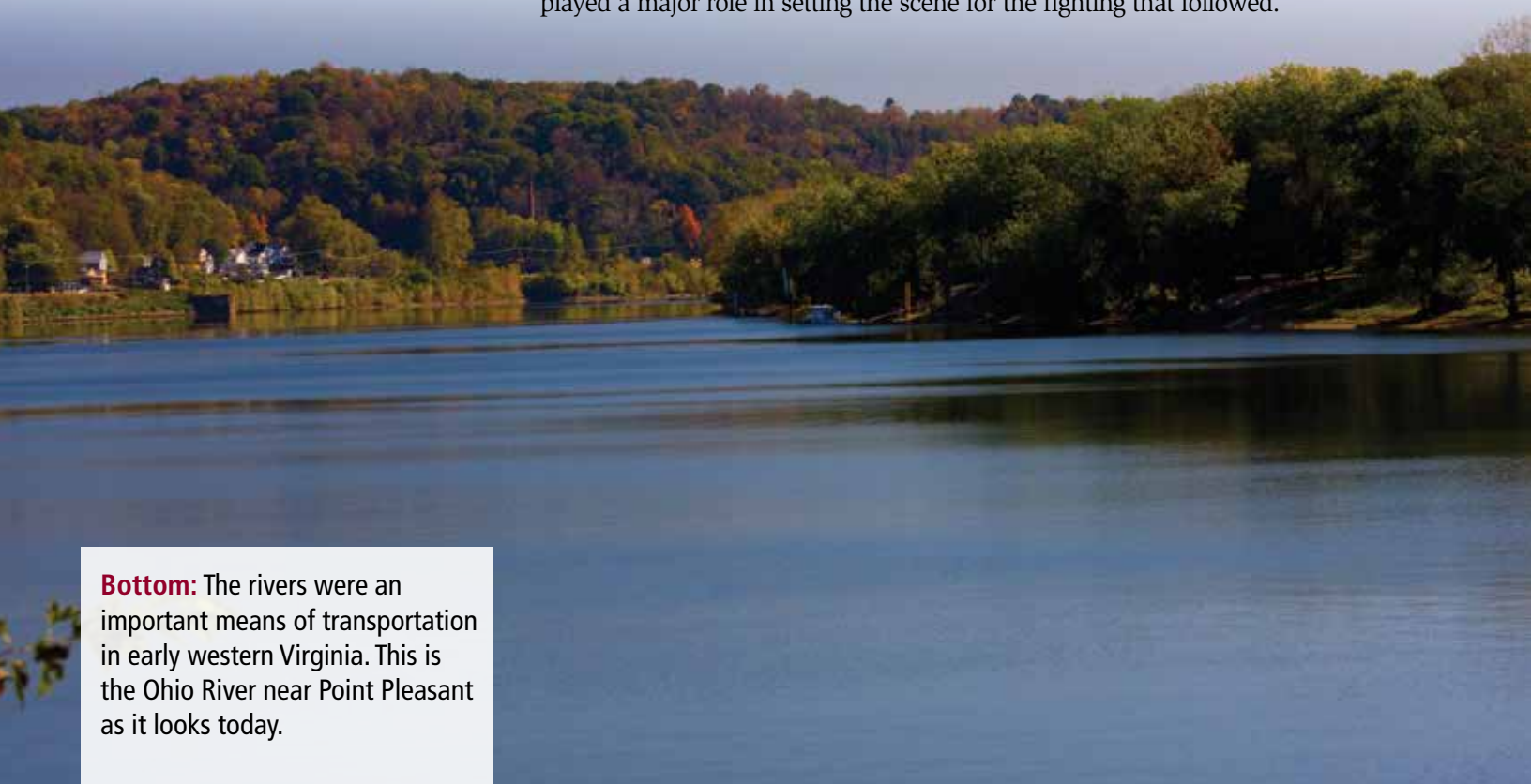
Logstown was the largest Native American village in the area and the center of trade between the Native Americans and the French and later the British.

control varied greatly. The British concept of land was quite different from that of the Indians. The British surveyed in order to gain private ownership. British settlement of the land would drastically change the lifestyle of the Indians.

The British tried to avoid difficulty by negotiating **treaties** (formal agreements between two or more nations) with the Indians. To most Indians, treaties signaled the end of warfare or announced a trade agreement; they had nothing to do with ownership of land. Europeans, however, used treaties to take control of property. These cultural differences placed the Indians at a disadvantage. Indians saw agreements as changeable; Europeans saw treaties as binding. Although France had begun to engage in some settlement, permanent ownership of land was not a major consideration. Therefore, the French, who were more interested in the fur trade, did not pose as much of a threat to the Indians. As a result, the Indians became allies of the French, and together they pledged to keep the British from changing the frontier lifestyle.

The Coming of War

Virginians who had formed the Ohio Land Company in 1747 were eager to settle the Ohio Valley. They established a trading post at Wills Creek in present-day Cumberland, Maryland, in 1750. Two years later, Thomas Cresap and Nemacolin, a Delaware Indian, cut a path from Wills Creek to where the Ohio River begins, near Pittsburgh. The Nemacolin Path, as it was known, brought the French and the British into direct contact in the Ohio Valley. At the same time, Christopher Gist, an agent for the Ohio Land Company, signed the Treaty of Logstown with the Delaware and Shawnee, giving Virginia control of the Ohio Valley. These two events played a major role in setting the scene for the fighting that followed.



Bottom: The rivers were an important means of transportation in early western Virginia. This is the Ohio River near Point Pleasant as it looks today.

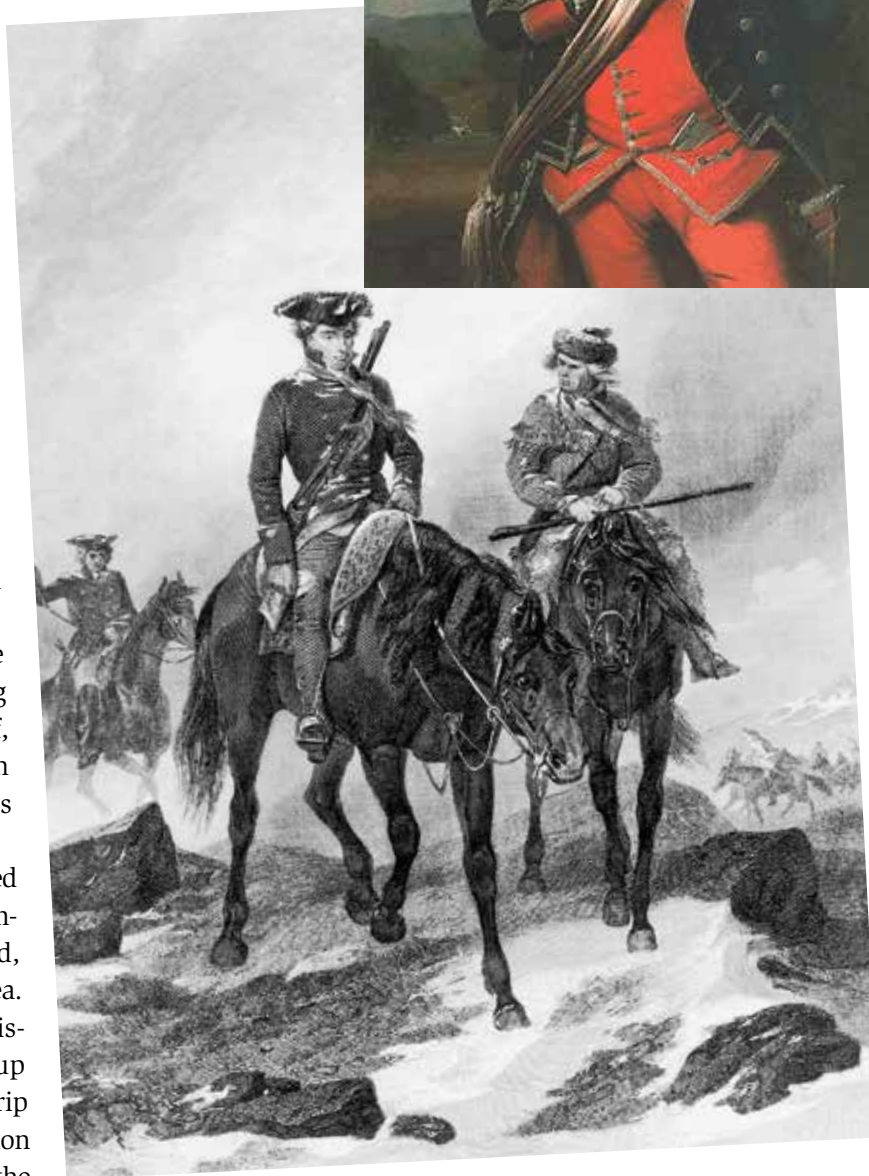
Governor Dinwiddie's Proposal

The first conflict between the French and the British occurred in 1753. Virginia Governor Robert Dinwiddie, concerned with preserving the claims of land speculators in the Ohio Valley, was worried about French activity there. He sent a diplomatic mission (a delegation to handle sensitive international relations) to Fort LeBoeuf, near Lake Erie. The mission, led by twenty-one-year-old George Washington, was charged with asking the French to leave the Ohio Valley.

Washington left Williamsburg, then the capital of Virginia, and proceeded to Wills Creek. From there, he followed the Nemaquin Path to the confluence of the Ohio (where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers meet). There he was joined by Christopher Gist; Jacob Van Braam, a French interpreter; and Half-King, an Indian chieftain and guide. The group continued up the Allegheny River, following a tributary to Fort LeBoeuf, where Washington met with the French leader, Jacques Legardeur de Saint-Pierre.

The French firmly rejected Dinwiddie's proposal. Claiming ownership of the land, they refused to leave the area. Having failed in their mission, Washington's group prepared for the return trip to Williamsburg. Washington was dismayed to learn that the French had bribed Half-King with food and wine, hoping to convince him to remain with them. The French plan did not succeed, however, and soon the whole group set out for what they thought would be an uneventful trip home.

However, the return trip did not prove to be uneventful. As the group traveled by raft down the Allegheny River, the waters became rough, and



Top: A young George Washington.
Above: Washington led a diplomatic mission to Fort LeBoeuf to ask the French to leave the Ohio Valley.



Gist and Washington fell overboard. The two spent the night on an island with their clothes frozen to their bodies. As they recovered from this mishap while continuing their travel downstream, they encountered hostile Indians. Washington did not permit his companions to return the Indians' fire, because he knew the British would need friends among the Indians in the Ohio Valley if armed conflict ever developed with France over the rival land claims.

Washington recorded the highlights of the return journey in his journal, making detailed and insightful observations about the land. Looking over the area, Washington saw a natural water highway. He predicted that whoever built a fort at the confluence of the Ohio River could easily control the region, which could become an important area for settlement. Today, the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is located there.

The Outbreak of War

When the group finally reached Williamsburg, Washington gave his report to Dinwiddie. Enraged, the governor

ordered Captain William Trent to take the militia and a construction crew and return to the confluence of the Ohio River to build a fort. In May 1754, three months later, Dinwiddie ordered Washington to return to the fort as Trent's backup. Before he reached the site, however, Washington learned that the French had defeated Trent. The French had destroyed the partially built British fort and constructed one of their own, which they named Fort Duquesne.

Washington considered the French actions an overt (open) act of war. He believed that, since France had threatened the lives of British citizens, it was his duty to defend the honor of his country. Although his men were greatly outnumbered, Washington prepared to march against the French, who were 140 miles away. On May 24, he reached Great Meadows, just south of present-day Pittsburgh, where he left 110 of his men to dig trenches. Washington and the other forty men continued on through the dark woods in a heavy rain.

In the morning, the party came upon their intended target, a French scouting party hiding in a rocky hollow. Both sides opened fire, and fifteen minutes later the skirmish (minor clash) ended. Washington's troops killed ten Frenchmen, including their leader, Joseph Coulon de

something extra!



British statesman Horace Walpole called the skirmish with the French scouting party a "volley fired by a young Virginian in the backwoods of America [that] set the world on fire."

Above: During the war, British military forces were distinguished from colonial forces by their uniforms.

Villiers de Jumonville, while losing only one of their own men. The war between the French and the British had begun!

As the war began, both sides had distinct advantages as well as disadvantages. The French advantages included a larger land claim, an already-existing system of forts in the Ohio Valley, a majority of the Indian tribes as allies, and superior military officers and army. Sparse population, soldiers with no personal interest in the land, and poor lines of supply proved to be French disadvantages. The British advantages included a larger population, powerful Iroquois allies, control of the oceans, a population concentrated in a relatively small area, and the desire to protect their own property. Their disadvantages focused on military organization, including poorly organized frontier volunteers and less qualified officers.

French Retaliation

The French were angry and planned an immediate **retaliation** (counterattack) for an action that they considered unnecessary and provocative (likely to anger). A force of Frenchmen and Indians set out from Fort Duquesne in search of those responsible for Jumonville's death. Learning of their plans, Washington hurriedly ordered the completion of the fortifications at Great Meadows, which he appropriately named Fort Necessity.

On July 3, 1754, the British met 1,600 French soldiers and Indians in a day-long battle. With perhaps one-third of his 300 men sick or wounded, Washington decided to surrender. Under the terms of surrender, Washington was required to leave the Ohio Valley and not return to the area to build forts for a year. He also agreed to return all the prisoners taken in the battle in which Jumonville had been killed. The French made concessions as well. They agreed to return to Fort Duquesne and not build any more forts in the Ohio Valley.

Bottom: Washington built Fort Necessity in order to defend his troops from French retaliation.



Below: General Braddock and his troops were defeated by the French and the Indians.

something extra!



A 21-year-old Daniel Boone served as a teamster (mule driver) with General Braddock's forces.

The Arrival of General Edward Braddock

As the situation in the Ohio Valley worsened, Governor Dinwiddie asked the king to send reinforcements to help protect the frontier. Great Britain sent two regiments of British Regulars under the command of General Edward Braddock, a veteran of the British army. Braddock arrived in February 1755 and began training 1,000 Virginia militia; George Washington was his aide. Although Braddock was required to use the Virginia militia, he disliked them and considered them undisciplined.

The British troops marched along the Potomac River to the Nemaquin Path, which they had to widen to accommodate the heavy wagons and equipment Braddock insisted on taking along. George Washington joined Braddock in Fredericktown, Maryland. From there, the army made its way into western Virginia, crossing the Potomac River below Shepherdstown. As the group traveled through what is today Jefferson County, settlers in their frontier cabins watched with great interest the spectacle of long lines of soldiers in scarlet uniforms marching to military music. The army continued through parts of present-day Berkeley, Morgan, and Hampshire Counties, with Braddock directing the way from a chariot he had purchased from Governor Sharpe of Maryland. The entire force of 1,400 British soldiers, 60 sailors, 2,400 colonial troops, 300 Indians, 150 wagons, and 2,000 horses met at Fort Cumberland. From there, they set out for Fort Duquesne.

Traveling through the wilderness, Braddock insisted on building a bridge over every stream and cutting away every obstacle they ran into along the way. This so slowed their progress that, after ten days, the army had traveled only thirty miles. On July 9, 1755, two months after they left Fort Cumberland, Braddock's troops neared Fort Duquesne. The



DEFEAT OF GENERAL BRADDOCK, IN THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, IN VIRGINIA, IN 1755



French commander, Claude-Pierre Contrecoeur, considered evacuation. However, his second in command, Captain Daniel Beaujeu, appealed to their Indian allies to join the French and fight the British in the wooded area surrounding the fort.

Realizing that the French were going to fight, Braddock prepared for battle in the continental style. That is, the soldiers lined up in straight rows and marched forward into battle as drums sounded the advance. The men in one row fired their guns and then knelt down to reload while the second row fired. Any **casualties** (persons killed or wounded) were replaced from the row behind.

At first, the British were successful, driving back the French and Indians with their superior firepower. Then the French and Indians regrouped and began firing from behind trees and rocks. The British, standing in their straight rows in their bright red uniforms, made perfect targets and fell like dominoes. The British became so confused they began firing at each other on the narrow, smoke-filled road. Hundreds of dead and dying soldiers were left on the road. Braddock himself was critically wounded.

Unlike the British soldiers, the Virginia militia realized what was happening and broke ranks to take cover behind trees and rocks as their enemy did. Washington, assuming command, organized a retreat back to the supply camp. Had it not been for the Virginia militia, the French victory might have been complete. Braddock died from his wounds four days after the battle, leaving Washington to lead the remaining troops back to Virginia.

The British defeat was a terrible blow to the settlers. They had crossed the mountains confident that, if conflicts broke out, they could depend on the British army for protection. Now the settlers knew they had to depend on themselves.

Above: General Braddock was critically wounded in the battle at Fort Duquesne and died four days later.

something extra!

Mary Draper and William Ingles were said to be the first white couple married west of the Alleghenies.



The Ordeal of Mary Draper Ingles

On July 8, 1755, the day before the British defeat at Fort Duquesne, a party of Shawnee from Ohio attacked a settlement at Draper's Meadows, near present-day Blacksburg, Virginia. The Indians killed a number of settlers and took as prisoners Mrs. William Ingles (Mary Draper Ingles), her two sons (George and Thomas), her sister-in-law (Mrs. Bettie Draper), and Henry Lenard. Mary's and Bettie's husbands were spared because they were away from home at the time of the attack tending their crops. A few days after leaving Draper's Meadows, Mary Ingles gave birth to her third child.

The Shawnee took their captives to their village in Ohio. The route they followed took them down the New River, up the Bluestone River, and across Flat Top Mountain to the headwaters of Paint Creek. They

traveled down Paint Creek to the Kanawha River and stopped at a salt lick near the present community of Campbell's Creek. From Campbell's Creek, the party continued down the Kanawha River to the junction of the Scioto and Ohio Rivers. There the group separated. Bettie Draper was taken to an Indian village near Chillicothe, Ohio. Thomas Ingles was taken to Detroit, and his younger brother George died. Mary Ingles and her baby were taken to a salt lick near Cincinnati, Ohio. Historians are not certain what happened to Henry Lenard.

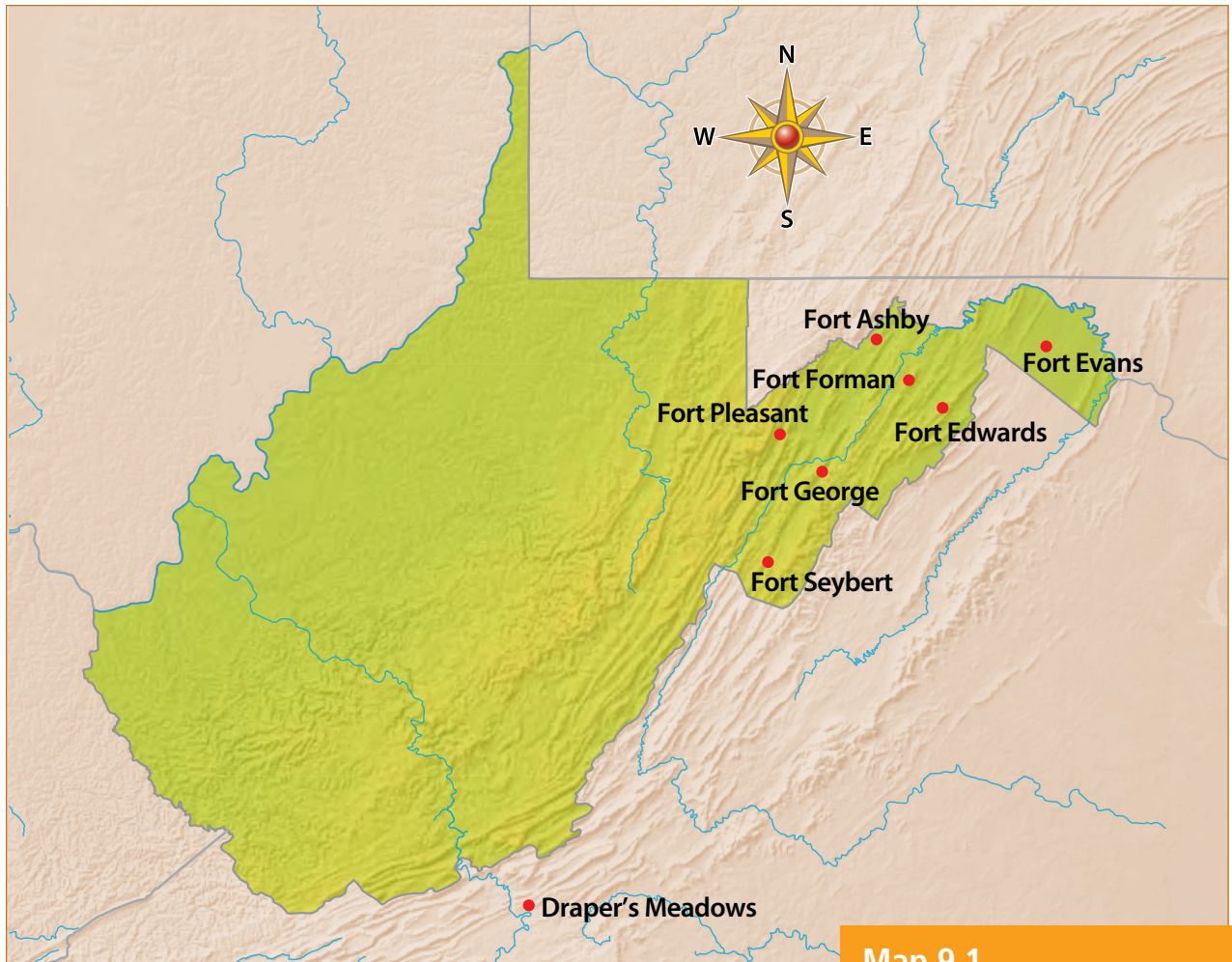
In the fall, Mary Ingles and a Dutch woman captive managed to escape from the Indians. Mary had to leave her baby behind as the two women set out to find their way home. They did not have supplies for such a journey and lived off the land, eating whatever berries and nuts they could find. The women followed the rivers for six weeks, covering about five hundred miles. The Dutch woman turned on Mary and even tried to kill her. She blamed Mary for her hunger and discomfort. The two women were separated, but both eventually reached Draper's Meadows, where Mary was reunited with her husband, William. Their son Thomas and Bettie Draper were eventually ransomed and returned to their families.



Above: Mary Draper Ingles was captured by the Shawnee Indians. She was able to escape and endured a 500-mile journey back to her home in Draper's Meadows.

In Search of the Shawnee

After Braddock's defeat, the Indians waged a relentless war on the Virginia frontier. Settlers built a number of forts to provide places of safety from the Indian attacks. Fort Pleasant in Hardy County, Fort Edwards and Fort Forman in Hampshire County, Fort Evans in Berkeley County,



Map 9.1

Western Virginia Forts

Map Skill: What is the southernmost fort on the map?

and Fort Ashby in Mineral County were just five of the shelters scattered throughout the trans-Allegheny frontier.

The settlers asked for help from Governor Dinwiddie. He sent Major Andrew Lewis with a company of militia to confront the Shawnee beyond the Ohio River. Lewis's party of about 340 men set out from Fort Frederick in Augusta County. Traveling down the New River, through Draper's Meadows, in the general direction of the Big Sandy River, the group spent their first night on western Virginia soil near Big Creek in McDowell County.

Continuing down the Tug Fork River, the troops ran short of supplies. With no tents and little food, Lewis ordered his men to make canoes to transport the remaining equipment and ammunition by water. While the canoes were being built, Lewis sent several groups overland to present-day Wharmcliffe. Those who followed in the canoes came upon rapids in the Tug Fork River, and their canoes overturned. After losing their arms and ammunition, the wet and hungry men threatened to desert (to leave military service without permission). Although some of his officers tried to persuade Lewis to order his men to go forward, Lewis disbanded his forces at Devon in Mingo County before reaching any of the Shawnee towns.

Below: At Fort William Henry, General Montcalm tried to stop France's Indian allies from attacking British soldiers and civilians as they tried to leave the fort.

The Tides of War

In April 1756, a group of French and Indians struck Fort Edwards in Hampshire County, completely wiping out the British forces there. Although the frontier had continually been attacked by Indians, it was not until four months after the attack on Fort Edwards that a formal declaration of war was issued by Governor Dinwiddie.

Two years later, in May 1758, a band of Shawnee attacked Fort Seybert, a frontier post near Franklin in Pendleton County. The Indians promised the frontiersmen that their lives would be spared if they surrendered. The promise turned out to be a trick, however, as all but eleven of those who surrendered were put to death.



Outside the Ohio Valley, the British suffered a number of defeats during the first two years of the war. In the summer of 1756, French troops under the command of the Marquis de Montcalm swept down on Fort Oswego on Lake Ontario. A year later, Montcalm won a victory at Fort William Henry on Lake George and defeated British General William Howe at Fort Ticonderoga a year after that.

Alarmed at the lack of progress against the French in North America, the British government changed priorities and appointed William Pitt to take charge of the war. Pitt promptly reorganized the armed forces. He poured money and supplies into the war effort and quickly saw positive results. On July 26, 1758, the British and colonial forces in Canada defeated the French at Louisbourg and Fort Frontenac. These victories gave the British control of Lake Ontario and stopped the French from reinforcing their forts in the Ohio Valley. As the British again marched toward Fort Duquesne, the French, sensing defeat, blew up the fort and left the area. The British immediately rebuilt the fort, naming it Fort Pitt. This victory gave Great Britain control of the Ohio Valley.

The British success continued with victories at Fort Niagara, Fort Ticonderoga, and Crown Point. These battles preceded the most important victory of all—the Battle of Quebec—on September 12, 1759. At Quebec, both French General Montcalm and British General James Wolfe were killed, but the French retreat signaled the beginning of the end of the French empire in North America. The French fought for another year, until they lost the city of Montreal. In Europe, the fighting continued for another three years.

The Treaty of Paris of 1763 officially ended the French and Indian War. Several nations—including Great Britain, France, and Spain—gained and lost territory because of the terms of the treaty. In North America, France gave Canada, most of its land east of the Mississippi River, and the islands of Grenada and the Grenadines in the West Indies to Great Britain. France gave Spain western Louisiana and New Orleans. France received the Caribbean islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe from Great Britain. Spain gave Florida to Great Britain in exchange for Cuba and the Philippines.

The British victory in the French and Indian War was heavily influenced by what was at first thought to be a handicap. Normally, untrained soldiers are a serious disadvantage in war. But, because the British colonists were

something extra!



Pitt was forced from office in 1761. But his supporters wanted to reward him for his efforts. He chose a title of nobility—for his wife!



Above: The British victory at the Battle of Quebec marked the beginning of the end of the French empire in North America.

Map 9.2

North America after the French and Indian War

Map Skill: What territory did France control after the war?



fighting for their homes, their valor (bravery) overcame their disorganization. The colonists' allegiance was more to their new homesteads than to Great Britain, and it was those homes that they fought to protect.

The French and Indian War was very costly, and the British believed the colonists should pay a share of the expenses. On the other hand, the colonists believed they had done most of the fighting and considered that to be payment enough.

Nevertheless, the British government imposed several taxes on the colonies to raise money to pay for the war. The colonists particularly disliked one tax, the Stamp Act. In a fiery speech before the Virginia House of Burgesses (the colony's

Right: The military skills George Washington learned as a soldier in the French and Indian War were put to use when he was chosen to head the American army in the Revolutionary War.



legislative body), Patrick Henry proclaimed, “Taxation without representation is tyranny.” (*Tyranny* is the harsh or oppressive use of power.) The colonists accused the British of passing laws that affected them without giving them a voice in the lawmaking process. To the colonists, this was intolerable. This disagreement over taxes helped lay the groundwork for the American Revolution.

Below: In a speech to the Virginia House of Burgesses, Patrick Henry proclaimed, “Taxation without representation is tyranny.”

Reviewing the Section

Reviewing the Content

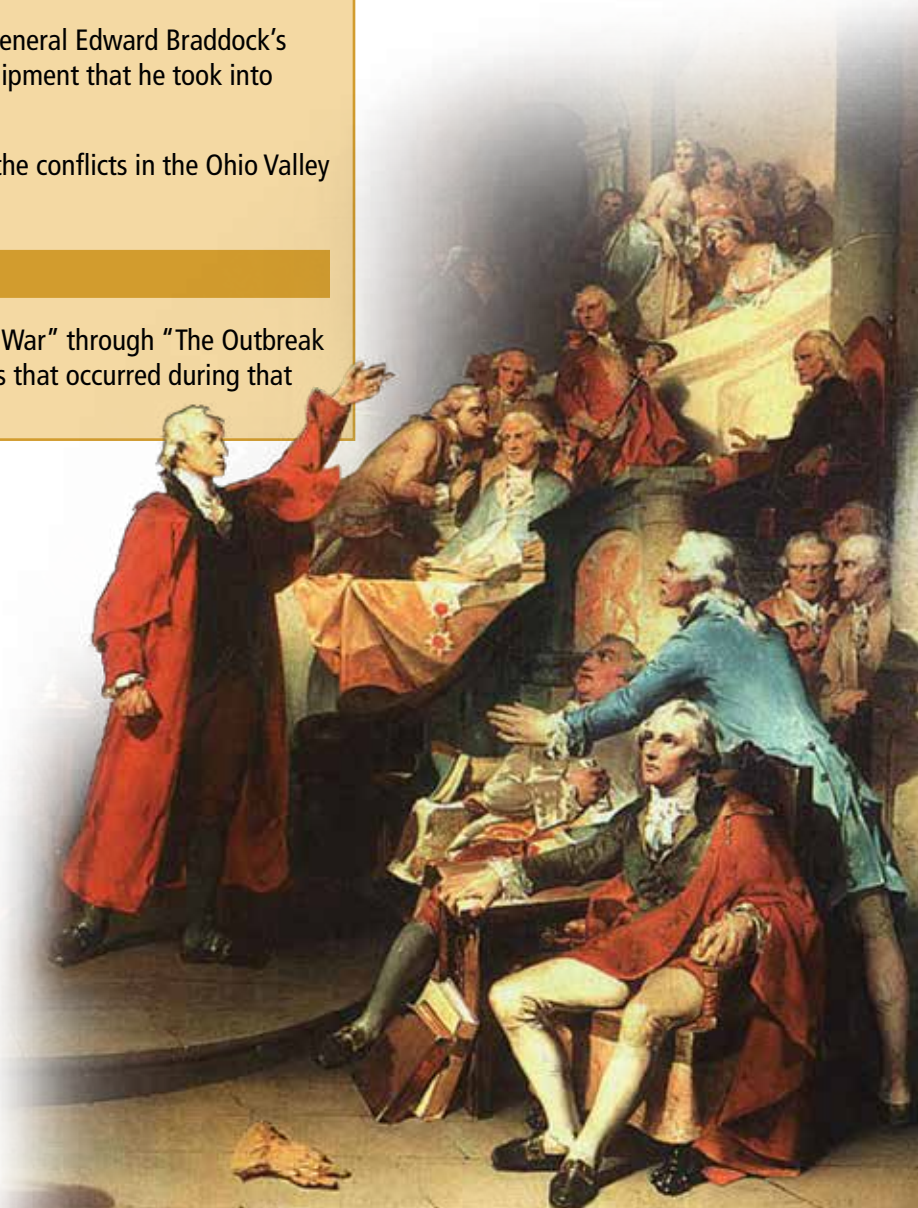
1. What two European nations claimed land in the Ohio Valley?
2. Why did Washington make a diplomatic mission to Fort LeBoeuf? What was the result of the mission?
3. Why was Fort Necessity built?

Using the Content

1. Write a newspaper article describing General Edward Braddock’s march. Include a description of the equipment that he took into battle.
2. Design a plan that might have settled the conflicts in the Ohio Valley peacefully.

Extending the Literacy Skill

Read pages 336-339 from “The Coming of War” through “The Outbreak of the War.” Create a timeline of the events that occurred during that period.



Focus on Technology

LEARNING SKILL: CREATIVE THINKING, BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTATION

Engage in a critical thinking process that supports synthesis, and conduct evaluations by applying comprehensive criteria.

TECHNOLOGY TOOL: SEARCH ENGINE, RESEARCH

Conduct online research and evaluate the accuracy, relevance, and appropriateness of electronic information.

Historians are much like detectives looking for clues and possible solutions to questions and mysteries. The Internet is a great source of information; however, websites may not always contain factual information. Use a search engine to find information on one of the following topics: Fort Duquesne, claims to the Ohio Valley, the Shawnee, Edward Braddock, pioneer forts. Find at least four websites that discuss the topic you choose. Write each website in bibliographical form. Then, evaluate each site by answering the following questions.

1. Was the information on the site useful?
2. Was the information on the site the same as information on other sites? List three examples of "facts" that were the same.
3. Did you find any "facts" that differed from information on other sites? List those "facts" that were different on this site.
4. Would you recommend this site to others who were researching your topic?



Continued Problems with the Indians

As you read, look for

- the consequences of the Proclamation of 1763;
- the settlement of the Pringle brothers;
- the treaties of Fort Stanwix and Hard Labor;
- the proposed colony of Vandalia;
- terms: **Proclamation of 1763**, **nullify**.

After the French and Indian War, the colonists became upset with the British. After they bravely fought to gain access to the Ohio Valley, the British government stopped them from moving there.

Settlers Claim Forbidden Western Lands

When the war ended in 1763, prospective settlers eagerly awaited the opportunity to again claim western land. But King George III of Great Britain had a different idea. He angered the settlers by imposing the **Proclamation of 1763**, which forbade settlement west of the Allegheny Front. The proclamation also ordered all those who had already settled in the West to return to the East immediately. The king feared an Indian uprising if settlers were allowed into the West; he believed he was acting in the best interests of the colonists by forbidding them to settle there.

The colonists, however, viewed the proclamation differently. Having fought to protect the frontier for seven years, they thought they now deserved a reward of land. They believed that the treaty ending the French and Indian War had eliminated the French threat in the West, and they



Above: King George III of Great Britain forbade settlement west of the Allegheny Front.

Map 9.3

The Proclamation Line

Map Skill: Which colonies did not border the Proclamation Line?



resented the king's attempts to restrict their travel. King George III, in attempting to protect the lives of the colonists, was actually sowing the seeds of the American Revolution.

The Pringle Brothers

Land-hungry settlers ignored the proclamation and began to cross the Alleghenies illegally. Two unique settlers were John and Samuel Pringle. In 1761, the Pringle brothers, British soldiers, deserted from Fort Pitt, where they had been stationed during the French and Indian War. Three years later, they reached the Buckhannon River, where they took up residence in a large, hollow sycamore tree. The tree was large enough to accommodate two beds and a rough stone fireplace over which the brothers cooked their food. They covered the opening in the tree with animal skins to keep out the winter cold. Mostly hunters, the Pringles killed small game for meat and gathered nuts and berries to supplement

(add to) their diet. They lived an isolated, lonely life, having to depend on each other for companionship as well as their very lives.

The brothers stayed in the tree until their supply of ammunition was almost gone. At that time, they realized that one of them must recross the mountains to replenish the supply because they could not survive without it. They decided that John would be the one to go. While he was gone, Samuel's life was even more dreary, as he now could depend only on himself. When John did not return by the time he should have, Samuel realized that he did not know if his brother had even reached his destination safely.



something
extra!

Sycamores, which can grow into giant trees, have a tendency to rot in the lower part of the trunk.



Below: John Stuart was in charge of the southern portion of the Indian lands in the West. In 1768, he negotiated the Treaty of Hard Labor, in which the Cherokee gave up all their land between the Kentucky and Kanawha Rivers.

However, John had indeed found his way to the Potomac Valley, where he was surprised to learn that the French and Indian War was over. He could hardly wait to return to tell Samuel that the two were no longer fugitives (persons who are running away from something). They no longer had to live in isolation. They could move back East and live in one of the growing settlements.

When John told the easterners about the land in the West, some of them wanted to return with him. Many men did indeed travel with John Pringle to the land around the Buckhannon River. They spent most of the summer clearing land, building cabins, and planting gardens. The men then returned to move their families to their new homes.

As more people moved West, John and Samuel Pringle had to decide their own future. John chose to travel to Kentucky to settle, but Samuel settled permanently along the Buckhannon River.

Settling Indian Lands

The Proclamation of 1763 created an Indian territory west of the mountains. This territory was divided into northern and southern districts. William Johnson oversaw the land north of the Ohio River. John Stuart administered the southern portion, which reached as far south as Florida. Both tried to fairly regulate trade and settlement with the Indians. In so doing, the two men arranged separate treaties giving clear title for part of the western lands to the British.

Johnson arranged the Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768, giving the British all Iroquois land south of the Ohio River and east of the Alleghenies. In the same year, Stuart negotiated the Treaty of Hard Labor by which the Cherokee gave up all of their land between the Kentucky and Kanawha Rivers. Even though the Cherokee may have given away lands that did not belong to them, Virginia immediately claimed the territory.

These two treaties **nullified** (took away the legal status of) the Proclamation of 1763 and opened the West to migration and settlement greater than that which had occurred in the 1730s. Because the western lands were again officially open, more adventurers moved into the area. Zackquill Morgan, the son of Morgan Morgan, settled in what was to become Morgantown in 1768. In the same year, John Simpson, who had originally deserted from Fort Pitt with the Pringle brothers, settled on Elk Creek near present-day Clarksburg. The next year, the Zane family established a homestead in what is now Wheeling. In 1770, the Tomlinson family settled on Grave Creek, now Moundsville. Not all settlers were successful. Walter Kelley, who settled



at Cedar Grove in the Kanawha Valley in 1773, met opposition from the Indians. He and his family were ultimately driven out of the area. Kelley himself was killed.

George Washington also played a role in settling the western lands. He was barely seventeen years old when Lord Fairfax hired him to survey and divide his estate into lots. This was the future president's first encounter with western Virginia. Later, like all those who fought in the French and Indian War, Washington was promised western land in payment for his military service. In 1770, he and a friend, Dr. James Craik, set out in a canoe from Fort Pitt. Paddling down the Ohio River to the mouth of the Kanawha River, Washington and his party continued up the Kanawha, notching trees as beginning points for the survey. In the area that is now West Virginia, Washington claimed over 55,000 acres, including land in present-day Berkeley, Kanawha, Putnam, Mason, and Ohio Counties.

When Washington returned to his home at Mount Vernon, he began plans to settle his land in present-day Mason County. He sent an employee, James Cleveland, to design and establish a planned community of indentured servants from Ireland. Twenty acres were cleared; crops and fruit trees were planted; and buildings, including multiroom houses, were constructed. By 1776, the property, with the improvements, was valued at \$5,500, a huge amount for that time. By the end of the American Revolution, however, plagued by Indian raids and the continued desertion of settlers, the community was abandoned. When Washington died in 1799, he left his land to nieces and nephews, one of whom moved to Putnam County to settle on part of the family's land.

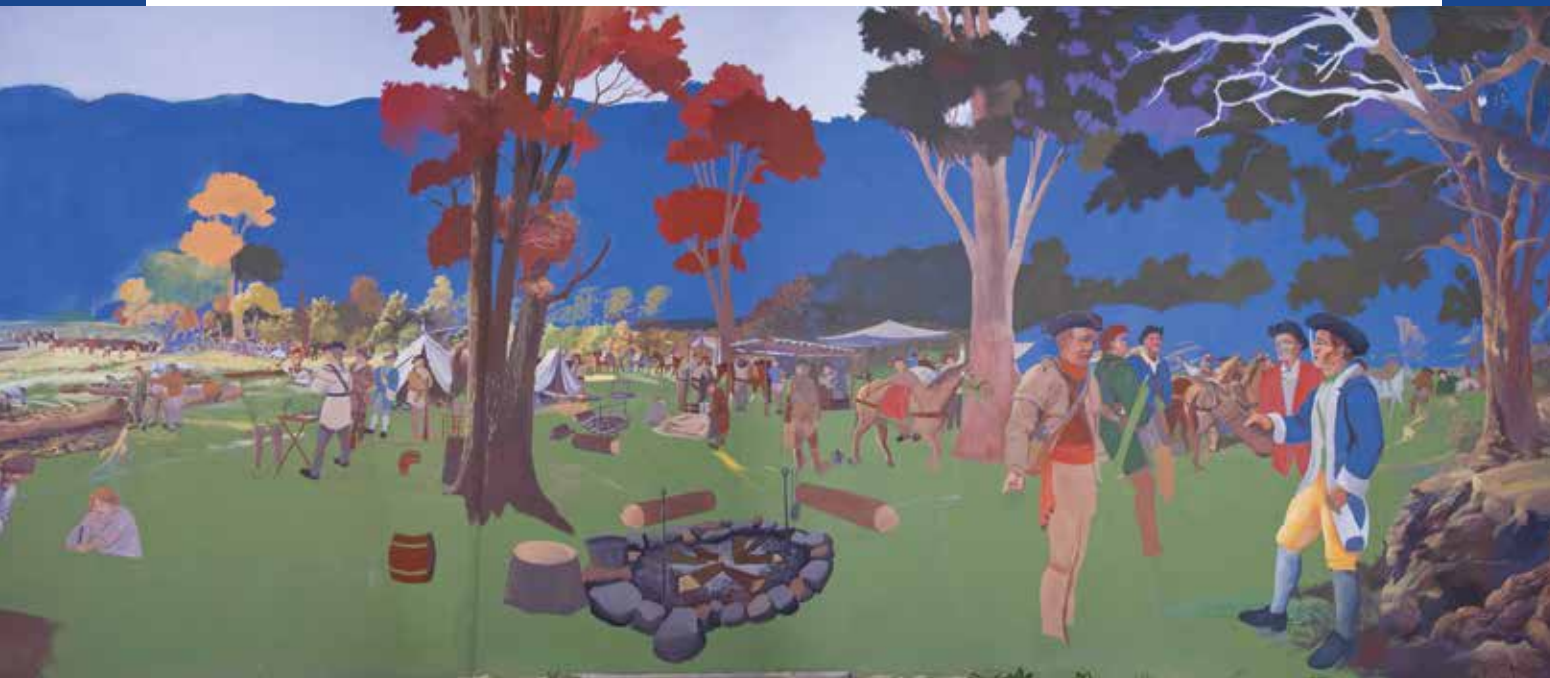
Below: George Washington originally claimed over 55,000 acres. This marker identifies some of his land holdings in Jefferson County.



Vandalia

As growth continued in the West, Great Britain granted lands for a new colony to a group of prominent land speculators, including Benjamin Franklin. The proposed fourteenth colony was to include southwestern Pennsylvania, present-day West Virginia west of the mountains, and parts of present-day Kentucky. Its capital would be at Point Pleasant, where the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers meet. The colony was to be named Vandalia in honor of the queen of England, who claimed to be descended from a Germanic tribe called Vandals. (The word *vandalism* comes from Vandals because they were so destructive when they conquered the Roman Empire.)

After the outbreak of the American Revolution, however, the king refused to approve the colony. After the war ended, Virginia was no longer interested in giving up land. Therefore, the movement to create Vandalia was abandoned. If the colony had been established, however, West Virginians would today be known as Vandalians!



Point Pleasant Flood Wall Mural.



Map 9.4

Vandalia

Map Skill: What rivers form borders of the proposed Vandalia colony?

Reviewing the Section

Reviewing the Content

1. What was the Proclamation of 1763?
2. What two treaties nullified the Proclamation of 1763?
3. How did the British government anger the colonists after the end of the French and Indian War?

Using the Content

1. Design a poster to show support or opposition to the issuance of the Proclamation of 1763.
2. If the colony of Vandalia had been created, how might West Virginia's history have been different?

Extending the Literacy Skill

Read pages 352-353 and create a timeline showing the dates and places settled by early pioneers.

Shawnee Spirituality



The Shawnee worship many spirits, including items found in nature and everyday life. They believe the universe was created by a supreme being called Moneto and the Shawnee people were created by a Great Spirit, a female whom they called "Our Grandmother." Our Grandmother made the first man and woman, and they became the parents of the Shawnee Nation—whose people are affectionately known as grandchildren. The Shawnee believe Our Grandmother establishes, observes, and participates in every aspect of their lives.

Our Grandmother taught the grandchildren how to behave and honor her through various dances and ceremonies. The formal ceremonies focus on asking Our Grandmother for something or giving

thanks for something they received. They create a vehicle through which they can worship Our Grandmother. They also believe that the sacred dances and ceremonies were given to them by Our Grandmother. She will often appear and participate in a celebration to assure that her orders and laws are being followed.

At one of the ceremonies, The First Fruits, it is believed that Our Grandmother will come and taste the fruit that is set out for her. The Bread Dance, held in the spring and in the fall, focuses on different groups of people, depending on the time of year it is performed. In the spring, the ceremony is about women, and participants ask for fertility, good crops, and a good harvest. In the fall, the ceremony focuses on men and their role as hunters. The ceremony provides an opportunity to give thanks and ask for a productive hunting season. The Green Corn Dance, which lasts from four to twelve days, is held in August and marks the first harvest of corn. This ceremony offers forgiveness to persons who are guilty of misconduct or a crime, except for murder.



Some dances and ceremonies celebrated by the Shawnee were not given to them by Our Grandmother. One of these, the Buffalo Dance, is held in late August or early September. The dance was originally given to Tecumseh (a Shawnee chief) by the Buffalo, his guardian spirit. Eight sets of dances are performed by men and women, with the final dance portraying a mock battle for two kettles of corn mush that were prepared for the festival. After the mock battle, participants eat the corn mush. Because this ceremony did not come from Our Grandmother, it cannot be held on ceremonial grounds. Other ceremonies, for various animals and objects found in nature, are also held outside the ceremonial grounds.



One Shawnee myth tells what will happen to the grandchildren when the work of Our Grandmother is finished. The story tells of Our Grandmother's weaving a net which, at the appropriate time, will be dropped over the world and then pulled toward the heavens. Only the souls of the good people would be caught in the net and join her for a better life. The bad people would fall through the net, and the world would come to an end. However, other stories say Our Grandmother has a dog, always by her side, who, every time she is not looking, undoes the work she has completed. In that way, her work will never be finished, and the world will never be destroyed.



Lord Dunmore's War

As you read, look for

- Indian leaders, such as Logan and Cornstalk;
- the purpose of Lord Dunmore's War;
- the result of the Battle of Point Pleasant;
- the importance of the Treaty of Camp Charlotte;
- the importance of the Fort Gower Address;
- term: **neutral**.

Although a relatively peaceful period followed the issuance of the Proclamation of 1763, many Native Americans, especially young warriors, still resented the settlers' intrusion into their hunting grounds. Isolated bloodshed signaled a major conflict to come. In April 1774, Major John Connolly, Virginia Governor John Murray's representative at Fort Pitt, called upon the people to prepare for war.

Continued Indian Problems

A large group of settlers headed for Kentucky waited at Wheeling for the danger to pass. As it became increasingly clear that war was inevitable, the settlers asked Michael Cresap to lead them against the Indians. Cresap agreed and led the volunteers on a surprise raid at Captina Creek, a Shawnee camp. Several Indians were killed, including two who were shot trying to escape in canoes. Cresap's attack on the Indians is believed to have led to many of the problems that followed.

One of the worst atrocities was the killing of the family of Mingo Chief Tahgahjute, better known as Logan. A group of settlers led by Daniel Greathouse confronted and killed a number of Indians who had crossed the Ohio River near present-day Steubenville, Ohio, to purchase rum at a tavern in Virginia. Several members of Logan's family—including his mother, a brother, and a sister—were among the victims.

Logan lived on the Ohio side of the Ohio River at Yellow Creek, across from Hancock County. The Mingo chief had been very friendly with the Virginia settlers, but that changed when he found out about the killings. He was enraged and believed Cresap was responsible for the cowardly act. Logan sought revenge and, during the summer of 1774, led many attacks on frontier settlements. More than thirty settlers were either killed or taken prisoner during that time.

Above: Statue of the Mingo Chief Tahgahjute (Logan), whose family was killed by settlers.

Conflicts between settlers and Indians continued. When Delaware Chief Bald Eagle was killed, his murderers placed his body in a canoe and floated it down the Monongahela River. When Silver Heels, a Shawnee chief, was killed, a general Indian uprising was avoided only when Sir William Johnson persuaded them to honor the treaty they had signed. Major Angus MacDonald began an assault from Fort Fincastle in Wheeling. His force included four hundred militia, a friendly chief named White Eyes, and missionaries. MacDonald burned several Shawnee towns and destroyed cornfields on the Muskingum River in Ohio.

something extra!

Logan's sister was the wife of Colonel John Gibson, a well-known Indian trader.

The Start of Another War

As the situation on the frontier grew worse, Virginia Governor John Murray (better known as Lord Dunmore) decided that the time had come to completely destroy the power of the Indians in the West. Some Virginians had doubts about the governor's motives, especially after he began gathering an army of 2,500 men. Many believed his only reason for raising a force that size was to draw attention away from the colonists' grievances against the British government. Others believed the army was created because the governor was interested in western events. Regardless of his motives, Lord Dunmore set out in the late summer of 1774 to confront the Indians. He divided his forces into two parts. Dunmore himself led the northern troops, while Colonel Andrew Lewis commanded the troops in the south.

Lord Dunmore followed Braddock's Road and headed toward Fort Fincastle (Wheeling). When he arrived there, he sent part of his force, about 1,200 men, to meet Lewis's army at the mouth of the Hocking River below the mouth of the Little Kanawha. Lord Dunmore and the rest of the troops were to follow a few days later. The first group crossed the Hocking River and proceeded to establish Fort Gower.

Lewis left Camp Union (Lewisburg) and marched 160 miles in nineteen days to a location near Point Pleasant, where the Kanawha River meets the Ohio. Theodore Roosevelt, in his book *The Winning of the West*, described the regiment marching to Point Pleasant in the following way.

All of them wore fringed hunting shirts, dyed yellow, brown, white, and even red; quaintly carved shot-bags and powder-horns hung from their broad ornamented belts; they had fur caps or soft hats, moccasins, and coarse woolen leggings reaching half-way up the thigh. Each carried his flint-lock, his tomahawk, and scalping-knife. They marched in long files with scouts or spies thrown out in front and on the flanks, while axemen went in advance to clear a trail over which they could drive the beef cattle, and the pack horses, laden with provisions, blankets, and ammunition.



Above: This statue of Lord Dunmore at Point Pleasant shows him dressed in his Scottish attire.

Below: The Battle at Point Pleasant was the largest battle ever fought in North America between the settlers and the Indians.

The Battle of Point Pleasant

Meanwhile, as Lord Dunmore moved down the Ohio River, he decided to cross the river near the mouth of the Hocking River instead of waiting for Lewis as planned. He believed he could catch the Indians off guard and defeat them. However, the Shawnee, under their leader Chief Hokesqua (Cornstalk), were following the movements of the British forces with great interest. Noticing that Lord Dunmore had moved away from Lewis, Cornstalk decided to take advantage of the situation and strike at Lewis's army before it could join Lord Dunmore's forces. The result was the Battle of Point Pleasant, which was the major encounter of Lord Dunmore's War. This was the largest battle ever fought in North America between the settlers and the Indians.

Colonel Andrew Lewis had divided his forces into two divisions of about four hundred men each. He appointed Colonel William Fleming to head one regiment and Colonel Charles Lewis (his brother) to head the other. A third group, under the command of Colonel William Christian, was to oversee the transportation of supplies and baggage. Lewis's advance guard reached Point Pleasant on October 6. Lord Dunmore was not there to meet Lewis but sent orders for the southern army to meet the northern division at the Shawnee settlements on the Scioto River. Lewis's men, who had just completed a march of 160 miles, were too tired to set out immediately on another march. Lewis sent a message to Lord Dunmore advising him that he would join him as soon as the men



rested a little and the food supplies had arrived. He then established a camp to wait for Colonel Christian's group to arrive with those supplies.

On October 9, 1774, Cornstalk led an army of warriors to within three miles of Lewis's army. The warriors represented the Shawnee, Delaware, Mingo, Wyandotte, and Cayuga tribes. Early that morning, two soldiers were hunting deer when they spotted a large encampment of Indians who apparently had crossed the river the night before. The Indians attacked the two soldiers, killing one of them. The other soldier ran back to the camp to warn the others.

Colonel Andrew Lewis ordered his less able fighters to begin cutting trees to use as a temporary wall of defense. Colonel Charles Lewis and Colonel Fleming positioned their forces for battle. The next day, October 10, one of the bloodiest and most violent Indian battles on the American frontier began at Tu-Endie-Wei, a Wyandotte word meaning "the point between two waters," where Point Pleasant is located. The frontiersmen had superior weapons, but the Indians were skilled at close fighting and hiding behind trees and rocks. Much of the fighting was hand-to-hand. The battle lasted all day and stretched over a mile through the woods. As darkness fell, Cornstalk ordered his braves to withdraw. They picked up their dead and injured as they left. No one knows the number of Indian casualties, but they are estimated to have been over 200. The Virginians suffered over 50 killed and 100 wounded. Colonel Fleming was wounded, and Colonel Charles Lewis was killed.



something extra!

Oceana, in Wyoming County, is named after Cornstalk's youngest daughter.





Left: The regiment marching to Point Pleasant.

The End of the War

Cornstalk retreated across the Ohio. Since he had been unable to defeat Lewis, Cornstalk believed that he also would not be able to defeat Lord Dunmore. As a result, two days after the battle, the Indian chief sent a message to Lord Dunmore at Fort Gower asking for peace. Meanwhile, Colonel Andrew Lewis stayed at Point Pleasant for seven days after the battle. During that time, he and his forces buried their dead, cared for their wounded, and began building a fort that would become known as Fort Randolph.

On October 17, Lewis left Fleming in command while he set out to meet Lord Dunmore along the Scioto River. On October 22, he first heard the news that Cornstalk had requested a meeting to discuss peace terms. A short time later, before his troops could reach Dunmore, Lewis learned that the peace negotiations had been completed. Lewis returned to Point Pleasant and then continued on to Fort Savannah, where his army was disbanded. Dunmore's division returned by way of Wheeling.

The Treaty of Camp Charlotte, signed by Lord Dunmore, the Shawnee, the Delaware, and the Mingo, was a temporary agreement. By the terms of the treaty, the Indians agreed to return all the prisoners and horses they had taken. Most important to the western Virginians, the Indians gave up their rights to hunt south of the Ohio River, an area that included present-day West Virginia. The Treaty of Pittsburgh, which was signed in 1775, made the terms of the Treaty of Camp Charlotte permanent. At Pittsburgh, the Indians promised that they would remain **neutral** (not take sides) and not help the British in the coming conflict.

Many of Lewis's soldiers were angered when Lord Dunmore signed the peace treaty. They had believed the governor when he told them his purpose was to attack the Indians. Since the Indians had not been soundly defeated, many colonists began to suspect Dunmore's motives, especially as tensions between Great Britain and the colonies increased. In November 1774, the soldiers met at Fort Gower on the Hocking River in Ohio and issued a statement, later known as the "Fort Gower Address." In the statement, the soldiers pledged their allegiance to King George III and to Lord Dunmore, but they also pledged that from then on their love for America and Virginia would outweigh any other consideration. The soldiers declared that they would be ready to defend American liberty if called to do so by a majority of their countrymen.



Above: Chief Cornstalk monument in front of the murals at Point Pleasant.



The address, delivered while eastern colonists were meeting in the First Continental Congress to discuss their problems with Great Britain, hinted of a possible break with the mother country that became a reality some fifteen months later.

Perhaps because of the strong spirit of independence expressed in the Fort Mifflin Address, the Battle of Point Pleasant has sometimes been called “the first battle of the American Revolution.” But because the Americans and their British governor fought on the same side in this battle, that claim is not really valid. In reality, six months later, the “shot heard round the world”

was fired in Massachusetts as embattled farmers stood their ground against the British at Lexington and Concord.

The real importance of the Battle of Point Pleasant may be that it was responsible for creating peace between the colonists and the Indians for the first two years of the American Revolution. Since the colonists did not have to worry about attacks from the Indians, they were free to concentrate on defeating the British and freeing themselves from British rules and regulations.

Reviewing the Section

Reviewing the Content

1. Why did problems with the Indians continue after the issuance of the Proclamation of 1763?
2. Where was the largest battle between the settlers and Indians in North America fought?
3. What was the importance of the Battle of Point Pleasant?

Using the Content

1. List the reasons for and against the following statement: “The Battle of Point Pleasant was the first battle of the American Revolution.” Based on your list, what do you think?
2. Write a story from the point of view of one of the soldiers who served under Colonel Lewis.

Extending the Literacy Skill

Sequence the attacks on Native Americans prior to Lord Dunmore’s War.

Above: The Battle at Lexington was the official start to the Revolutionary War.

Anne Hennis Trotter Bailey (Mad Anne Bailey)



Anne Hennis was born in Liverpool, England, around 1742. She eventually made her way to Staunton in Augusta County, not far from present-day Pocahontas County. Not long after her arrival in Virginia, Anne met a rugged young frontiersman named Richard Trotter who had just returned from Braddock's ill-fated campaign against the French. The two were soon married and moved to Covington, Virginia, near White Sulphur Springs. They had one son, William, before Richard was killed by Indians in the Battle of Point Pleasant.

After her husband's death, Anne left her son with friends and set out on her own. During this time, she began to dress in frontier-style clothing, wearing a hunting shirt, leggings, and moccasins. She became an excellent shot and horsewoman and was always armed with a hatchet, knife, and long rifle. It was during this period of time that she earned the nickname "Mad," perhaps because of her daring and courage or the fact that some thought she had indeed become insane after her husband's death.

Anne became an Indian fighter and scout and also served as a messenger between the upper Shenandoah settlements and Fort Savannah near Lewisburg. She later extended her message service to Fort Randolph, at Point Pleasant. Once, when she was delivering messages, she was pursued by a band of Indians. She hid in a hollow tree until the Indians lost her trail.

While serving as a scout, Anne met John Bailey, who had also fought in the Battle of Point Pleasant. In 1785, Anne and John were married and eventually moved to Fort Lee, which is now Charleston. Once, upon receiving word that an Indian attack on the fort was imminent, Anne rode about one hundred miles to Greenbrier County to get ammunition needed to help the settlers in Charleston drive the Indians from the area.

John and Anne continued to live in Charleston, where John died around 1802. In 1817, Anne's son, William, decided to move his family to Ohio and convinced his mother to go with them. She died there on November 22, 1825, and was buried in the Trotter graveyard near Gallipolis. Her remains were later moved to Point Pleasant and interred at Tu-Endie-Wei Park.

Western Virginia and the American Revolution

Below: Daniel Morgan led one of the two companies formed in western Virginia.



As you read, look for

- examples of resistance to war in western Virginia;
- skirmishes in western Virginia: Fort Henry, Fort Randolph, Fort Donnelly, Second Battle of Fort Henry;
- terms of the Treaty of Paris of 1783;
- reputation of fighters from western Virginia;
- terms: **rebellion, Loyalist, siege.**

The American colonists declared their independence in 1776. When the war broke out, western Virginians were ready and willing to fight alongside their countrymen. George Washington praised the frontiersmen's ability to fight and their patriotism as factors that were important to achieving independence.

Organizing an Army

To head the new American army, the Continental Congress chose George Washington, who had learned his skills as a soldier on the western frontier. When the Second Continental Congress voted to ask all colonies to send troops to aid the war effort, Washington especially wanted men from west of the Alleghenies. Remembering his experiences during the French and Indian War, he is credited with remarking that any ten soldiers from the West were worth one hundred British Regulars.

Two companies formed in western Virginia. One was from Berkeley County, under the command of Captain Hugh Stephenson. The other, from Frederick County, was led by Daniel Morgan. The men from the West were a curiosity to easterners. Wearing buckskin clothing and coonskin hats, they carried rifles, tomahawks, and large knives as if they were a part of their bodies. Regardless of their appearance, there were few fighters to equal Washington's "men from Augusta," as the western Virginians were nicknamed.

Fighting in Western Virginia

While the war raged in the East, the British were busy in the West trying to undo the Treaty of Pittsburgh. In 1777, “the bloody year of the three sevens,” the British commander at Detroit, Henry Hamilton, encouraged the Indians to attack the westerners. He offered the Indians rum and placed a bounty on American scalps and prisoners.

Hamilton also encouraged colonials who did not favor the Revolution to take an active part in putting down what the British considered a **rebellion** (open resistance to authority). The people who did not want to separate from Great Britain were called **Loyalists**, or Tories. It has been said that, at the beginning of the American Revolution, one-third of the colonists favored the Revolution, one-third wanted to remain British, and the remainder were neutral.

There were signs of loyalism in Hampshire, Berkeley, and Greenbrier Counties. There, many people refused to contribute crops, livestock, and supplies to aid the colonists in the war. In Hampshire County, some people refused to pay their taxes and even attacked the sheriff for trying to collect them. Not all who refused to support the war were Loyalists, however. Some—Quakers, Mennonites, and Dunkards, for example—did not support the war because their religious beliefs forbade them to bear arms. Sometimes their lack of support was interpreted as support of the British, but these groups simply believed it was wrong to supply food and money to either side.

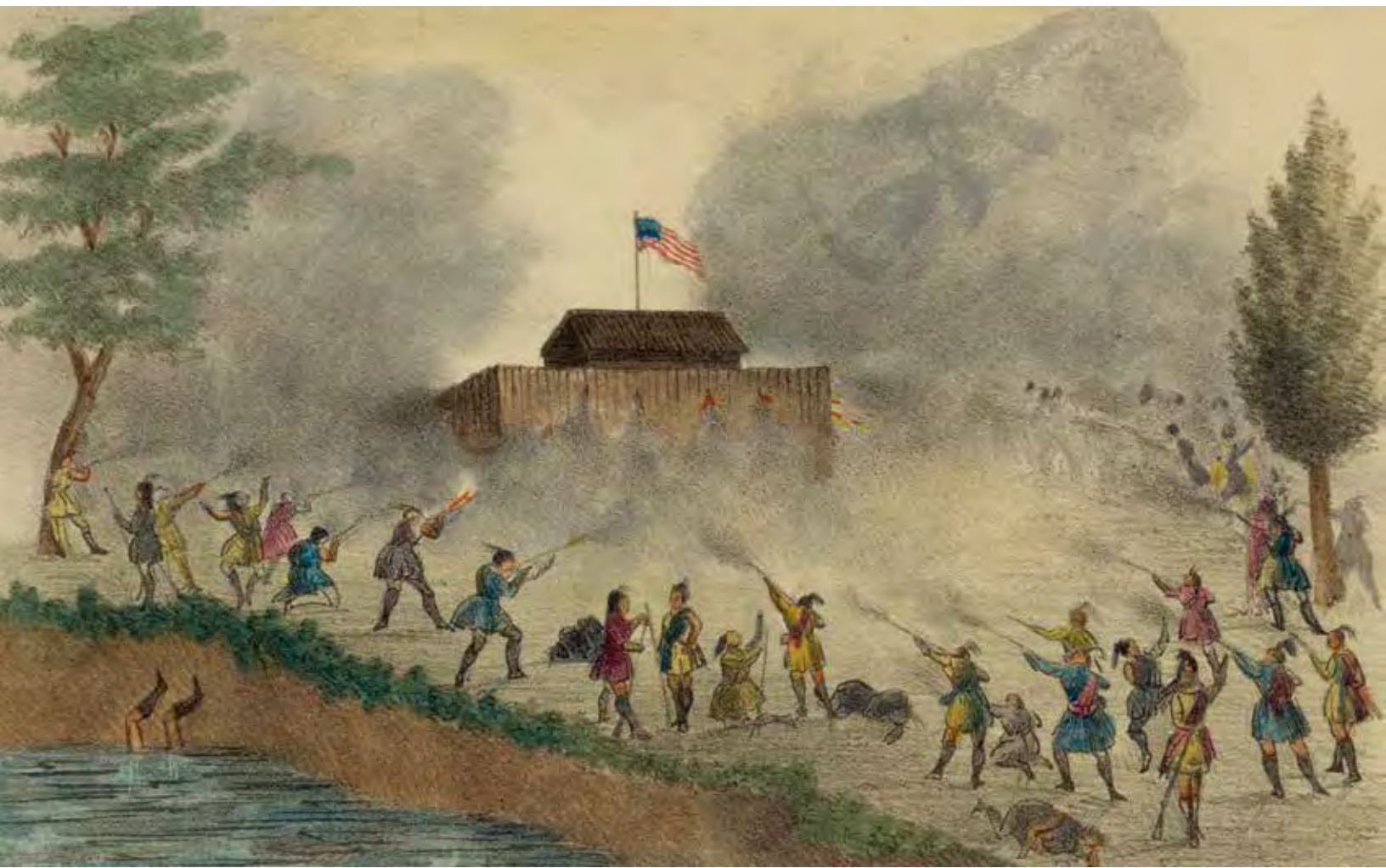
Because the problems on the frontier had to do with Indian attacks, the majority of fighting was defensive. The settlers believed it was more important to protect their land than to start an offensive war.



something
extra!

Because of Hamilton's practice of paying a bounty, the Indians nicknamed the British general "hair buyer."

Left: In 1779, Patriot Colonel George Rogers Clark took British commander Henry Hamilton prisoner when Clark captured an outpost at Vincennes (in today's Indiana).



Above: The Indians surround Fort Henry.

The First Fighting at Fort Henry

The forts along rivers were major points of defense. Because each side wanted to control the forts on the Greenbrier, Kanawha, Monongahela, and Ohio Rivers, each site became the scene of a desperate and heroic battle. One of the worst attacks on the western frontier took place at Fort Henry, near Wheeling. Fort Henry had originally been named Fort Fincastle in honor of one side of Lord Dunmore's family. It was later renamed in honor of Patrick Henry, Virginia's fiery orator and governor.

In August 1777, all the settlers between Fort Pitt and Point Pleasant were warned that the Indians were coming together in large numbers—a sign of a possible impending attack. On September 1, a number of Indians appeared at Fort Henry, ready to fight. Between 300-400 Indians, supplied with arms and ammunition by the British, placed the fort under **siege** (a military encounter where armed forces try to capture a fort or fortified town by surrounding it and preventing any supplies from reaching it). Several times, the attackers tried to batter down the walls, but they were driven back by rifle fire. When they were unable to draw the defenders outside, the Indians and the British burned many of the houses surrounding the fort, killed the cattle, destroyed the crops, and went back across the Ohio.



Two historic events related to Fort Henry occurred while the fort was under siege. One involved Major Samuel McCulloch (also spelled McCulloch), who came from Brooke County to help the besieged fort. The defenders opened the gate to the fort, but the Indians blocked his entrance. With the Indians in pursuit, McCulloch hurried away to Wheeling Hill. There he found himself surrounded by Indians and backed up against the steep slopes along Wheeling Creek. McCulloch surprised the Indians by guiding his horse to the edge of the cliff and forcing it to jump. Within seconds, horse and rider were at the bottom of the steep cliff and were able to travel along the creek until they found their way back to the besieged fort. “McCulloch’s leap” is but one example of the bravery shown by the fighters of western Virginia.

The other event involved Captain William Foreman, who led a company of volunteers from Hampshire County to Fort Henry during the fall of 1777. After spending the winter at the fort, Foreman set out the next fall with a scouting party of about forty-five men to check for possible Indian attacks on settlements near Grave Creek (Moundsville). Their search was unsuccessful as they found no people, settlements, or Indians. As they traveled along the river on their return trip to Wheeling, however, the party was attacked. Twenty-one men, including Foreman and his two sons, were killed in what has been called Foreman’s Massacre.



Top: This 1851 lithograph by Nagel and Weingaertner shows McCulloch’s dramatic leap.

Above: A plaque commemorating Major Samuel McCulloch escaping Indians by forcing his horse to jump down Wheeling Hill is placed near the summit of the hill on Route 40.

Below: Burial site of Chief Cornstalk in Point Pleasant.

The Death of Cornstalk

Fort Randolph at Point Pleasant was the scene of one of the most atrocious acts against the Indians. In September 1777, Shawnee Chief Cornstalk visited Fort Randolph. Cornstalk had remained friendly with the colonists even though most of his warriors joined the British. When Cornstalk realized he would no longer be able to control the young warriors, he went to the fort to warn the American commander, Captain Matthew Arbuckle, of a possible attack. Fearing a trick, Arbuckle took Cornstalk and Red Hawk, a Delaware chief, prisoners.

Some time later, Cornstalk's son, Elinipsico, went to the fort to see what had happened to his father and Red Hawk. He too was taken prisoner. While the three Indians were being held, two men from the fort crossed the Kanawha River to hunt deer. They were returning up the river bank when a band of Indians, who had hidden in the weeds, attacked them. One of the hunters was killed and scalped. When others in the fort heard the commotion, they ran to help, drove off the Indians, and brought their dead companion back to the fort. Because the soldiers in the fort decided that Elinipsico must have brought the Indians with him a day earlier, they demanded that all three Indians be killed. Afraid that he would be killed

if he refused, Captain Arbuckle stepped aside and allowed the soldiers to go to the cabin and open fire on the Indians, killing all three. Shortly after Cornstalk's death, Captain Arbuckle left Fort Randolph to join the forces at Camp Union in Greenbrier County.

When the Indians heard of Cornstalk's death, they vowed revenge. Hoping to avert an Indian war, Patrick Henry, the governor of Virginia, sent a message to the Indians. The message assured them that everything would be done to bring Cornstalk's murderers to justice. Nonhelema, Cornstalk's sister who was also known as the Grenadier Squaw, was selected to deliver the message. Unfortunately, the Indians ignored it.

A group of Indians soon came to Fort Randolph. They were driven off but later ambushed a regiment of soldiers, killing the commander and three others. In May 1778, about two thousand Indians came to Fort Randolph and demanded its surrender. When the commander, Captain William McKee, refused, the Indians began their attack. The Indians besieged the fort for a week, hoping to lure the defenders outside. Those inside the fort, however, chose to ignore their attackers and remain inside. Unsuccessful in their attack, the Indians gathered up all the cattle in the vicinity and moved up the Great Kanawha River.

something
extra!

The body of Cornstalk was buried near the site of Fort Randolph.



The Attack on Fort Donnally

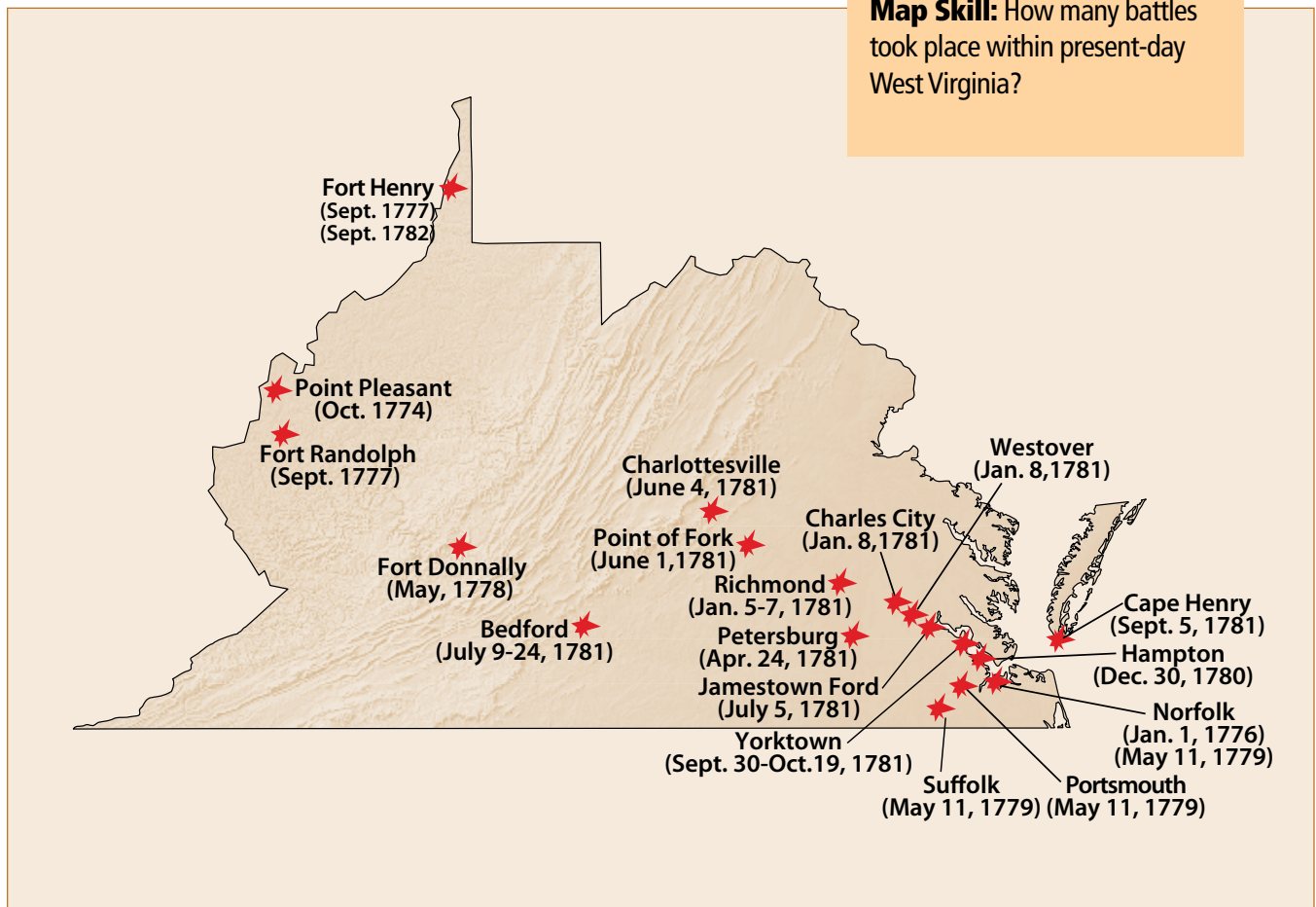
When the Indians left, Captain McKee, who believed they were headed for the Greenbrier Valley, asked for volunteers to warn the settlers there of an impending Indian attack. John Pryor and Philip Hammond volunteered and set out disguised as Indians. They passed the Indians and arrived at Fort Donnally at night. They immediately spread the word of the imminent Indian attack. In an effort to protect themselves, the settlers gathered in the house of Colonel Andrew Donnally, inside the stockade.

That night all of the eighty defenders, including sixty women and children, were asleep except for Philip Hammond and a black slave named Dick Pointer. Around dawn, the Indians attacked, running through the stockade and assaulting the door of the fortified house. Pointer and Hammond shoved a barrel of water against the door. The Indians tried to split the door with their tomahawks, a noise that woke everyone. Hammond and Pointer cracked open the door and fired at the Indians. Upstairs, the now wide-awake settlers began firing down at the Indians. During the morning, seventeen Indians were killed. The Indians then changed tactics, concealing themselves around the house while continuing to besiege it. At about three o'clock, Captain Arbuckle arrived from Camp Union with a company of sixty-six men. The Indians fled, taking their dead with them.

Map 9.5

The American Revolution in Virginia

Map Skill: How many battles took place within present-day West Virginia?



something
extra!



Western author Zane Grey was related to Elizabeth Zane.

The Battle at Fort Donnally was the last time a large raiding party of Indians entered the upper Kanawha and Greenbrier Valleys. Years later, Dick Pointer asked the Virginia General Assembly to grant him his freedom and provide him with a pension for his heroic actions at Fort Donnally. In 1801, his request was approved.

The End of the War

On September 10, 1782, five years after the first battle, Fort Henry was attacked by a company of 40 British soldiers and 238 Indians under the command of Captain Andrew Bradt. The majority of the fort's defenders were women and children. The fighting, which lasted two days and nights, is remembered because of the bravery of a young girl named Elizabeth Zane. She risked her life to get gunpowder when the supply inside the fort ran low.

Knowing there was plenty of gunpowder in the house of Ebenezer Zane, located about sixty yards from the fort's gates, Colonel David Shepherd asked for a volunteer to leave the fort, run

across the open area, and bring back a supply of gunpowder. Three young men volunteered, but sixteen-year-old Elizabeth Zane, the sister of Ebenezer Zane, stepped forward and insisted that she be permitted to undertake the mission. As the story is told, Elizabeth, or "Betty" as she was called, ran to her brother's house, got the powder, and began her return to the fort. As she ran from the fort, the Indians watched her without firing a shot. When she began her return, however, the Indians suddenly realized what she was doing, and bullets flew all around her. Safely back inside the confines of the fort, she discovered that her skirt had one bullet hole in it. This was a small price to pay for the additional gunpowder, which



enabled the defenders to drive off the fort's attackers.

This second attack on Fort Henry occurred a year after British General Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown, which ended the Revolutionary War. Because it was fought after the war ended, Fort Henry is sometimes called the last battle of the American Revolution. Slow communications resulted in many battles, especially in the West, being fought after the end of the war.

Peace negotiations with Great Britain began in 1782, the same year as the second assault on Fort Henry. The Treaty of Paris, which formally ended the American Revolution, was signed in 1783. In the treaty, the British agreed to abandon their forts in the West. In return, the American government told the British that the colonies, now called *states*, would repay money America owed Great Britain. The money owed was the result of debts owed to British subjects before the war as well as payment for land seized during the war.

Above: Elizabeth Zane risked her life to retrieve gunpowder during an attack on Fort Henry.

In all probability, western Virginians fought on almost every battlefield of the Revolutionary War. Besides the thousands of men and women who fought the Indians, there were thousands of others who crossed the mountains to challenge the British. Included among the many distinguished officers from the Revolution are three from the eastern panhandle: Horatio Gates, the hero of the Battle of Saratoga; Charles Lee; and Adam Stephen. George Washington often spoke of the patriotism of the western Virginians. He once declared that, should the war be lost in the East, he would cross the Allegheny Mountains where he was sure he would find men who would fight until victory was secure.

Below: The surrender of British troops at Yorktown, Virginia, marked the end of the Revolutionary War.

Reviewing the Section

Reviewing the Content

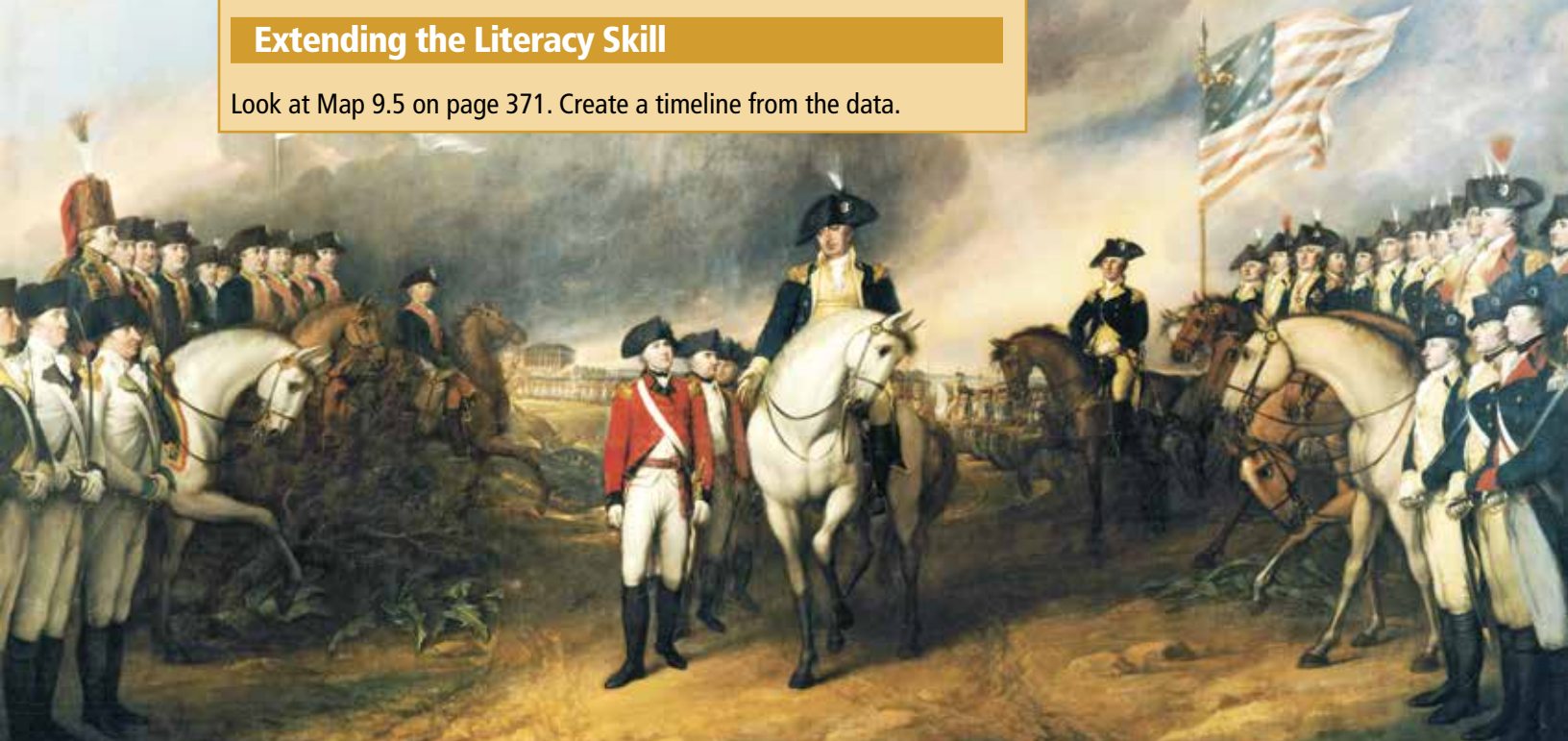
1. Who were the Loyalists?
2. Why did Cornstalk go to Fort Randolph? What happened to Cornstalk?
3. What role did Elizabeth Zane play in the second attack on Fort Henry?

Using the Content

1. Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the two attacks on Fort Henry.
2. Write a paragraph summarizing the information about one of the skirmishes described in the section. Be sure to include the who, what, when, where, and why.

Extending the Literacy Skill

Look at Map 9.5 on page 371. Create a timeline from the data.



Chapter Summary

Section 1: The French and Indian War

- Rival land claims to the Ohio Valley created conflict between the French and the British.
- The Indians favored the French over the British because they believed the French were not as great a threat to their lifestyle.
- The Treaty of Logstown gave Virginia control of the Ohio Valley.
- Indians did not believe treaties were binding.
- Governor Robert Dinwiddie sent George Washington on a diplomatic mission to ask the French to leave the Ohio Valley. They refused.
- At the beginning of the French and Indian War, the French were hampered because their soldiers had no personal interest in the land. The British were hampered by poorly organized frontier volunteers and less qualified military officers.
- General Edward Braddock was sent from Great Britain to lead troops against the French.
- Braddock's European fighting style helped the French to defeat him.
- Mary Draper Ingles was captured by the Shawnee and taken to a salt lick near Cincinnati, Ohio. After escaping, she followed rivers nearly 500 miles to get back home.
- William Pitt reorganized the British forces when he was appointed to take charge of the French and Indian War.
- After Pitt's appointment, the British won victories at Louisbourg, Fort Frontenac, Fort Duquesne, Fort Ticonderoga, Quebec, and Montreal.
- After the French and Indian War, the British government imposed more taxes on the colonists.

Section 2: Continued Problems with the Indians

- The Proclamation of 1763 forbade settlement west of the Allegheny Front.
- The Pringle brothers, who deserted from the British military, moved west of the Alleghenies and lived in a hollow sycamore tree near the Buckhannon River.
- The treaties of Fort Stanwix and Hard Labor nullified the Proclamation of 1763.
- George Washington planned a community in present-day Mason County.

Section 3: Lord Dunmore's War

- Michael Cresap led a surprise raid against a Shawnee camp at Captina Creek, leading to many of the problems that followed.
- Daniel Greathouse killed a number of Indians, including members of Chief Logan's family.
- Lord Dunmore developed a plan to destroy the power of the Indians in the West.
- The Battle of Point Pleasant was the largest battle fought in North America between settlers and Indians.
- The Treaty of Camp Charlotte ended Lord Dunmore's War.
- In the Fort Gower Address, the colonial soldiers pledged allegiance to the British king, but they also declared that they would fight to protect their homeland instead of for the British crown.
- The Battle of Point Pleasant was responsible for the peace between the colonists and the Indians for the first two years of the American Revolution.

Section 4: Western Virginia and the American Revolution

- George Washington was appointed to lead the new American army in the fight for independence from Great Britain.
- Some settlers were Loyalists who wanted to remain British.
- Fort Henry was attacked twice during the American Revolution.
- Samuel McColloch (McCulloch), who came to help the defenders of the besieged Fort Henry, made his famous leap as he was being pursued by Indians.
- Cornstalk, who came to Point Pleasant to warn the settlers of a possible Indian attack, was taken prisoner and later killed.
- Philip Hammond and Dick Pointer were heroes at Fort Donnally. The fighting at Fort Donnally marked the last time a large raiding party of Indians entered the upper Kanawha and Greenbrier Valleys.
- Elizabeth Zane became a heroine during the second attack on Fort Henry.
- The second attack on Fort Henry actually occurred after the British surrender at Yorktown, which ended the American Revolution.
- The Treaty of Paris of 1783 required the British to abandon their forts in the West while requiring the colonies (now states) to repay money they owed to Great Britain.

War in Western Virginia

Recalling the Facts

1. What were the advantages and disadvantages of the French and the British at the beginning of the French and Indian War?
2. Who was Mary Draper Ingles?
3. What change in British policy helped them win the French and Indian War?
4. Why were the colonists opposed to the Proclamation of 1763?
5. Who were the Pringle brothers?
6. What happened to George Washington's planned community in Mason County?
7. What reasons did Lord Dunmore give for creating such a large army?
8. What was "McColloch's leap"?
9. What happened at Fort Donnally?
10. What were the terms of the Treaty of Paris of 1783?

Learning Skill

1. Why was the French and Indian War important?
2. Make a list of the qualities you believe a person must possess to be a hero. Choose a hero or heroine of the American Revolution from western Virginia. What qualities from your list did this person possess?
3. Why were more Loyalists from the eastern panhandle than from the western frontier?
4. Choose a person from the chapter who you believe had an impact on West Virginia's history. Tell why you chose that person.

Chapter Review

Community Connection

Some people today protest the taxes they must pay. Poll five people to determine if they think certain taxes—income, sales, property—are fair. Share your data with the class. Then, make a class graph for the data collected by you and your classmates.

Literacy Skill

1. Write the text for a highway marker to commemorate one of the events in the chapter.
2. Pretend that "You Were There" at one of the events described in the chapter. Write a first-person account of the incident.

Technology Tool

Use a search engine to find information about Cornstalk's revenge. Share your findings with the class.