# **Chapter 3 Lesson 3: The War in New Jersey**

- -fighting grew stronger in 1776 once Congress declared independence from Great Britain
- -disadvantages the Continental Army had were that they were small and poorly trained
- -some of the most important battles happened in NJ

### Victory at Trenton

- \*the Continental Army lost many battles before Trenton
- \*Washington was fearful that the soldiers would not enlist, sign up, again
- \*the battles that the Continental Army lost were all near New York City
- \*Continental Army retreated, moved away from their enemy, to the west side of the Delaware River, in Pennsylvania because Britain had control of Trenton.
- \*Washington came up with a plan, which was to sneak up and surprise the mercenaries, soldiers hired to fight in a foreign army
- \*Great Britain hired Germans to help them fight
- \*Washington and Continental Army surprised the mercenaries on December 26th in the morning by crossing the Delaware River north of Trenton during the night of December 25th so that way the mercenaries would not know they were coming
- \*they wounded and killed many soldiers and captured over 1,000 mercenaries
- \*Battle of Trenton was won by the Continental Army and became a turning point for them
- \*soldiers enlisted for another year in the Continental Army due to this victory

## • Success at Princeton

- \*Began on January 3, 1777
- \*British General Charles Cornwallis sent 7,000 troops to NJ to stop Washington
- \*George Washington came up with a strategy, a plan of action, to win the Battle of Princeton
- \*GW left 400 troops in Trenton to protect the city where they would make a lot of noise and light many fires. Meanwhile GW and 2,000 other soldiers went

north to Princeton around the British troops. GW and the CA drove three British regiments out of Princeton and Cornwallis's army retreated to New Brunswick.

### Clash at Monmouth

- \*The Patriots spent the winter of 1776-1777 in Morristown where they guarded the roads there
  - \*Washington rebuilt the Continental Army after that winter
  - \*Battle of Monmouth took place in June of 1778, near Freehold, NJ
  - \*GW snuck up on the British and attacked them from behind again
- \*Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley AKA Molly Pitcher because she would bring the soldiers pitchers of water
- \*soldiers wore heavy uniforms and it was extremely hot on June 28 so Molly Pitcher was helping the soldiers
- \*It was also said that Molly Pitcher took over her husband's cannon when he had a heatstroke or was wounded
  - \*both sides believed they won the battle
  - \*nobody actually won this battle
  - \*both British and Patriots had the same amount of soldiers fighting
- \*British left the battlefield first and Washington did not continue to march after them
  - \*This battle proved that the Continental Army was just as good as the British

#### The War Ends

- \*Battle of Springfield in 1780
- -"This battle kept the British from attacking the main colonial army at Morristown."
  - \*Battle of Yorktown
    - -French fleet joined the war and supported the Americans in fall of 1781
  - -British troops were running out of supplies
  - -12,000 Patriots and French soldiers fired on the British for many weeks
- -French ships barricaded the peninsula so British troops were unable to get much needed supplies
  - -British surrendered on October 19
- -September 1783 America and Britain met in Paris, France to sign the Treaty of Paris--> the United States was an independent country
- -War was finally over even though they declared their independence over 8 years ago

-Articles of Confederation were the first plan of government for the whole country written by the Continental Congress in 1777