Filling in Gaps

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| After John’s death, Betsy decided to run the seamstress business on her own. She took great pride in her work and had become well-known throughout the colonies for her tiny, even stitches and beautiful cloth. When men gathered in Philadelphia for meetings, they often ordered clothing from Betsy for their families at home. No order was too difficult for her. As war approached, Betsy was asked to make flags for the Pennsylvania navy. The Continental Army, led by General George Washington, flew one of her flags as well. | **Who is Betsy?** |
| And so, as the legend goes, Betsy sat in her back parlor, stitching by an open window and enjoying the light of a warm summer evening in June 1776, when she heard a loud rapping at her door. Two men were at the door. One of them was General George Washington himself. | **What is the significance of June 1776?** |
| “Do come in,” Betsy replied. “I will heat the kettle for tea, and you can explain to me your business.”  “Thank you kindly, dear Betsy,” said George, entering the house, “but I am afraid we do not have time to sit down. As you may have heard, the Continental Congress is meeting here in Philadelphia for a second time. We are on our way to a meeting this very evening. Soon, quite soon, we will formally declare our independence from England. We must be ready with a new flag, for we will no longer want to fly the flag of the English king.” | **What document will be signed at George’s meeting?** |
| “Mrs. Ross,” General Washington said, “this is your chance to show your patriotism as your late husband, John, did. I have drawn a rough design sketch for the new flag. Please take a look and let me know what you think. We would like for you to sew the first flag of a new nation, thirteen colonies united against England.”  Betsy took the slip of paper from General Washington’s hand. On it was a square drawing of thirteen stripes and thirteen stars. Betsy nodded her head, and then looked up into the general’s face. | **Reproduce George’s sketch:** |