

Arnold had been ordered by Gates to stay away. Arnold didn't. He grabbed a horse and charged into the battle. He took command of the troops and attacked.

Arnold's courage won the day for the Americans. Again and again he rode across the battle lines. Arnold stopped only when he was shot in the leg.

The British began to retreat to Saratoga. Baroness Riedesel was among them. Her diary tells of their march.

It's a Fact

At Saratoga there is a monument to Benedict Arnold's leg.

SOLDIERS OF WAR

Had Benedict Arnold died on the battlefield at Saratoga, he would be remembered today as a hero. But later in the war, he became a spy for the British. He planned to hand the keys to the fort at West Point to the British. But the plot was uncovered. Arnold managed to escape to England. He died there in 1801. His place in history is as a traitor, not a hero.



▲ Benedict Arnold

Primary Source

Baroness Riedesel The Defeat and Surrender of Burgoyne

"On the 9th, it rained terribly the whole day; nevertheless we kept ourselves ready to march. We reached Saratoga about dark . . . I was quite wet, and was obliged to remain in that condition, for want of a place to change my apparel. I seated myself near the fire, and undressed the children, and we then laid ourselves upon some straw. I refreshed myself at 7 o'clock, the next morning, (the 10th of October,) with a cup of tea. About 2 o'clock, we heard again a report of muskets and cannon . . . My husband sent me word, that I should immediately retire into a house which was not far off. Soon after our arrival, a terrible cannonade began, and . . . We were at last obliged to descend into the cellar . . . I laid myself in a corner near the door. My children put their heads upon my knees. An abominable smell, the cries of the children, and my own anguish of mind, did not permit me to close my eyes, during the whole night. On the next morning, the cannonade begun anew . . . Eleven cannon-balls passed through the house."



THINK ABOUT IT

Reread page 27. What do you think the Baroness was thinking during the siege?





CONCLUSION

On October 17, at Saratoga, General Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates. The two men rode up to each other. They got off their horses. Burgoyne handed his sword to Gates. Gates held it for a moment. Then he gave the sword back to Burgoyne.

Next, the 6,000 British and German troops marched by the American troops. When they reached the riverbank, they put down their guns. The Americans stood by in complete silence.





The Turning Point

The Battle of Saratoga changed the course of the American Revolution. The rebels had beaten the greatest military power in the world: Great Britain.

The win at Saratoga led both France and Spain to join

the rebel cause. France and Spain helped the American rebels win the war. The end came when the British gave up at Yorktown in 1781. The American Revolution was over. America was a free country.

It's a Fact

As the British and German soldiers marched to surrender, they were trailed by the camp followers. Along with these men and women was a collection of deer, raccoons, and other wild animals who had become their pets.

4. Solve This

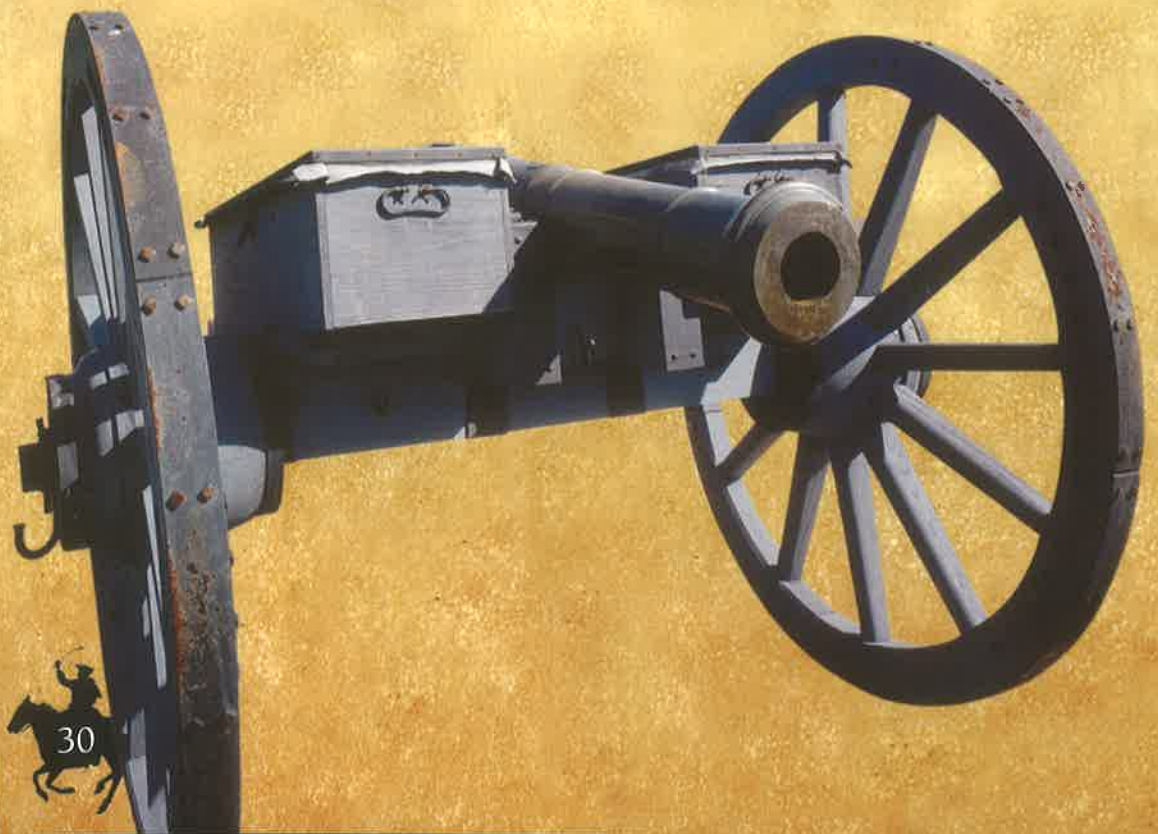
On average, members of the American militia were paid sixpence (about one nickel) per day. If the average term of enlistment was two months (60 days), how much did a soldier earn?



Solve This

Answers

1. Page 9
135,000 pounds of food for thirty days
2. Page 11
54 wagons
3. Page 14
108 horses
4. Page 29
 $60 \text{ days} \times .05 = \3.00 for two months' work





GLOSSARY

artillery

(ar-TIL-uh-ree) heavy, cart-drawn guns and cannons (page 15)

grenadier

(gren-uh-DEER) a British soldier in a special regiment (page 12)

Hessian

(HEH-shuhn) a German soldier who fought with the British in the American Revolution (page 6)

Loyalist

(LOY-uh-lihst) an American colonist who remained loyal to the king of England (page 8)

militia

(muh-LIH-shuh) an army of volunteer citizens organized during an emergency (page 9)

plateau

(pla-TOH) an elevated piece of land with a level surface (page 19)

propaganda

(prahp-uh-GAN-duh) material designed to influence the opinion of a person or group (page 16)

rebel

(REB-uhl) a person who fights against or will not obey authority (page 7)





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