

Personal Journal

By Halee

1783

The war is officially over! Great Britain has finally surrendered! I am so proud of the United Colonies. We finally have freedom! The colonist were so happy that they are ringing bells, firing cannons and even dancing!

At first I was a Loyalist because Britain has the most powerful army in the world. King George III is a very powerful king and I didn't think that it would be a good idea to start trouble with him. And at first I was right, the colonist rebelled and we got stuck with the Intolerable Acts. I actually thought that the people who participated in the rebellion were very foolish, but now I realize that they were standing up for what they believe in, and I respect that.

The Stamp Act was the real issue that stirred up a bunch of problems. The colonist was not happy about paying taxes. I personally did not see the problem, I didn't mind paying taxes, my inn made good money and I didn't mind spending it. But my fellow colonist strongly disagreed. In fact, Patrick Henry even gave a speech before the House of Burgesses saying that it is wrong for King George III to tax us. The colonist even formed the Sons and Daughters of Liberty. After these protest, Townshend Acts occurred. The colonist boycotted these acts. One lady came into the inn and said she hadn't had tea in weeks. I felt bad and asked her why, she replied that she boycotted the acts. I still didn't understand why boycott, won't that only make matters worse? And it did, a Tea Act was put in place and the Boston Tea Party occurred. And it was not a nice tea party, they weren't even any scones! One night, when the boat carrying tea was coming to port, the Sons of Liberty disguised themselves as Mohawks and through the tea off of the boat. Britain was really heated the fire wasn't even all the way on! We were punished with the Intolerable Acts. The Colonist were furious and I knew a war was brewing.

Life has become harder before and during the war. Before the war, I had to give up some of my luxuries, like buying tea and wool due to the fact that all traded was stopped due to vote of the First Continental Congress. During the war, I became more and more on edge with all the battles happening. Washingtons army was failing and local women were helping keep the battle alive. Martha Washington was the most active patriot woman I have ever seen. She even quit our weaving sessions to cook and visit the soldiers. She was so dedicated that it made me change my mind and become a patriot, that and the Battle of Saratoga. Once I saw that Benedict Arnold had won a battle against Britain. I knew that I had to believe that freedom from Britain was possible. After that I went with Martha everyday to help care for the soldiers, deliver them meals, and mend uniforms.

Since the war is over, new questions have formed all over town. My biggest question is who will be the next leader. I also wonder about new laws that would be put into place, will they

be new taxes? Although I don't think the new leader would tax us, I mean that's how the revolution started. I wonder if we would just self govern ourselves like before, although we do still need someone in charge. And the war has left us in plenty of debt and it will take a pretty strong leader to unite us, who's up for the task?