

Revolutionary War Quotes

"I wish most sincerely there was not a Slave in the province. It [always] [appeared] a most iniquitous Scheme to me—fight [ourselves] for what we are daily robbing and plundering from those who have as good a right to freedom as we have."

Abigail Adams to John Adams, 22 September 1774

"Our own Country's Honor, all call upon us for a vigorous and manly exertion, and if we now shamefully fail, we shall become infamous to the whole world. Let us therefore rely upon the goodness of the Cause, and the aid of the supreme Being, in whose hands Victory is, to animate and encourage us to great and noble Actions -- The Eyes of all our Countrymen are now upon us, and we shall have their blessings, and praises, if happily we are the instruments of saving them from the Tyranny mediated against them. Let us therefore animate and encourage each other, and show the whole world, that a free man contending for Liberty on his own ground is superior to any slavish mercenary on earth."

George Washington, 1776

"The die is now cast; the colonies must either submit or triumph...we must not retreat."

King George III, in a letter to Lord North, 1774

"These are the times that try men's' souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; bur that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny.....is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

Thomas Paine, *The Crisis*, December 19, 1776

"Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people . . . This radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments, and affections of the people was the real American Revolution."

John Adams, 1818

"We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately."

Ben Franklin, 1776, at the signing of the Declaration of Independence