

**Scenes 9, 10, 11**

**Bert - Isaac M**

**Bob - Cyrus**

**Alice - Evie**

**Ethel - Livia**

**General Rochambeau - Akshanth**

**John Paul Jones - Jad**

**Benedict Arnold - Andy**

**Students 1-5 Eva, Daisy, Bianca, Ivy, Zohe**

**Betsy Ross - Nora**

**John Jay- Hakeem**

**Colonists 1, 2, 3, 4 - Ania, Sama, Charlotte Bark, Cataleya**

**Bert:** Good Evening, folks! Welcome again to the History Channel's Home Shopping Network! I'm Bert and these are my colleagues, Bob, Ethel and Alice. Alice, what do we have for our shoppers tonight?

**Alice:** Bert, tonight we have memorabilia from the American Revolutionary War.

**Bert:** Excellent. Well, lets get right to it We've got over six years of the war to choose from with fighting in every colony and more than a dozen important battles.

**Alice:** (holding up a boot) Our first item, number J-57, is a boot form John Burgoyne ("brrr-GOY-nuh"), the British general who lost the battle of Saratoga.

**Bert:** (taking the boot) His boot? Wow! I'm guessing we don't have many of those left.

**Alice:** Just two, Bert.

They come from the famous battle in 1777 that gave the Colonists a badly needed boost.

**Bert:** (sniffing the boot) Smell that, Alice.

**Alice:** (alarmed) What?

**Bert:** Go on, take a whiff.

(he holds it up to her nose)

YOU know what that smells like Alice?

**Alice:** (coughing) A really old boot?

**Bert:** (dramatically) No, it smells like victory! (to the audience) And you, too, can grab victory from “defeat” by phoning us right now to purchase General Burgoyne’s shoe. (to Alice) **Victory from Defeat. Da feet.** Get it???

(he points to his feet. Alice is not amused. Bob quickly jumps in to keep things moving.)

**Bob:** So, what’s that lovely item over there, Ethel?

**Ethel:** This is B-65, a snowball from Valley Forge in Pennsylvania where George Washington and his army were forced to spend a devastating winter.

**Bob:** These things are going fast folks.

**Ethel:** We sold out in just 15 minutes the last time we offered these at this unbelievable “Try Me” price.

**Bob:** Just one per customer, please.

**Ethel:** We have just a few minutes before our stock completely melts under these studio lights.

(General Rochambeau appears on the side of the stage holding a phone)

**Bert:** Bob, I hear that we have a satisfied customer on the phone. Hi there. Who are you, where are you calling from and tell us just how much you love your snowball.

**Rochambeau:** ‘Ello? ‘Ello? Am eye on zee air?

**Bert:** You sure are.

**Rochambeau:** I am Comte de Rochambeau (comb-dee Row-sham-boo). I am from France.

**Alice:** How wonderful! General Rochambeau (Row-sham-boo) arrived from France in 1780 with over 6000 troops to aid the colonists. French help was decisive in winning the war.

**Bert:** Rochambeau, (Row-sham-boo) you say? Didn't you invent the chocolate éclair?

**Rochambeau:** No. I was commander of the French troops at Yorktown alongside George Washington and his men. I thought your viewers should know.

**Bob:** Terrific! So, tell us, how do you like your snowball? You probably serve it with some fancy French sauce. Am I right?

**Rochambeau:** I have no idea what you are talking about. I am a general, not a chef!

(He hangs up and angrily storms off)

**Bert:** Ah, those French cooks ~ SO modest.

**Ethel:** (to the audience) Our next incredible item is being brought to us right now by John Paul Jones.

(he enters)

**John Paul:** Hi Alice! I helped the American Navy get it's sea legs and even defeated a number of British ships off the coast of England.

**Bob:** So, John, what's that you've got there?

**John Paul:** This is button from the coat British General Cornwallis was wearing when he surrendered to George Washington and our French allies at Yorktown in 1781. It's a lovely brass finish AND it's **oven safe**.

**Ethel:** Amazing! Hold it up so our viewers can get a good look at it.

(He does, but just then a man races across the stage, grabs the button out of his hand, stops and looks at the audience and then races off)

**John Paul:** BENEDICT ARNOLD! Give that back, you traitor!

(He runs after Arnold, pauses then says dramatically) I have **not yet** begun to fight! (exits)

**Bert:** I guess that will do it for us, too. Good night!

**Alice:** And stay tuned. Next on the American History Channel, we have our new documentary on Grover Cleveland: Man, Myth, City or Sesame Street puppet?

(They freeze in a puzzled pose for a few seconds and then exit. Students, Jay and Betsy enter)

**Student 5:** So what happened after the British surrendered, Mr. Jay?

**Jay:** I went to help Ben Franklin and John Adams work out the Treaty of Paris in 1783. The British conceded all the land from the Mississippi River to the Atlantic Ocean, from Spanish Florida to the Great Lakes.

**Student 1:** Wow! That's great!

**Jay:** Well, it was complicated. The Articles of Confederation, which had been the basis for the central government, intentionally gave little power to congress.

**Student 5:** Couldn't they do anything?

**Jay:** Not much. We did pass the Northwest Ordinance, which provided for the eventual incorporation of new states from the land between the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

**Betsy:** And I macramé-d the Liberty Bell!

**Jay:** Now, Betsy, you've got to stop exaggerating!

**Betsy:** Dropped a stitch on the seam, though, didn't I? Nasty little crack opened up. I think a few pleats would have helped.

**Jay:** Betsy, you know that isn't...

**Betsy:** Shush dear. Let's listen to the colonists.

(They exit. Three colonists enter)

**Colonist 1:** What more could we ask for? We've got 13 independent states in a loose confederation.

**Colonist 2:** There's no executive branch in the central government. We DON'T need another King around here!

**Colonist 3:** But congress has no power to control commerce or enforce it's tax collection program. I don't know. Are you sure this is a good thing?

**Colonist 4:** What could go wrong?

**Song #8: Thirteen Little Countries**

(Colonists 1,2,3 solo on verse 1)