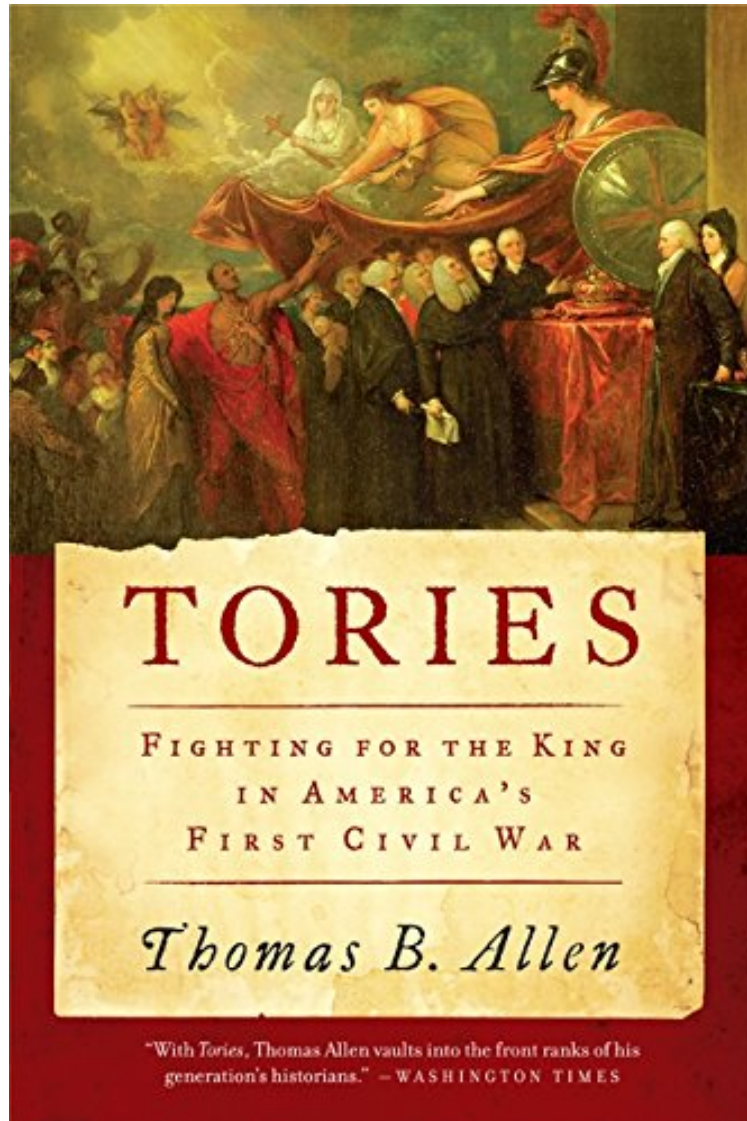


[DOWNLOAD] Tories: Fighting for the King in Americas First Civil War

Tories: Fighting for the King in Americas First Civil War

Thomas B. Allen

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Thomas B. Allen : Tories: Fighting for the King in Americas First Civil War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tories: Fighting for the King in Americas First Civil War:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Page turner! By Michael Herndon This is the American history that you weren't taught in school. Everybody knows about the gallant patriots with little money or arms standing up to the mightiest army in the world, prevailing. What many are not aware of is that a sizable minority (in fact maybe as a many as a third) of Americans in the 1770s actually remained loyal to King George III. The American Revolution was

in fact America's first civil war was a civil war within what would become a world war. It really was a war of brother against brother, father against son. Benjamin Franklin's own son who was Governor of New Jersey would remain loyal to the crown and sail into exile after the war never to see his father again. Francis Scott Key's grandfather would also remain loyal to Britain. The city of New York would remain a Loyalist haven and stronghold throughout the war. Large parts of the south in the Carolina's would also produce large numbers of "Tories" or Loyalists. New York and New Jersey may have even been predominately Loyalist. After two hundred years of the "standard story" of the American Revolution, it was fascinating to read about a facet of that famous struggle that there is really little literature on. The fact that the British Empire could not have fought the struggle in America without Loyalist support stands out, as well as the fact that a sizable number of British military units were actually made up of American colonists loyal to the crown. It's hard to read this book and not be at least somewhat sympathetic to the "Tories" plight. The book also goes into detail about what happened after the end of the war. It was not all bad for the Tories though. After the war many would go on to settle in Canada help form that country in to what it is today. Others would go on to flourish in Britain's Caribbean colonies. This is "true history" at it's best!

10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Revolutionary War as America's First Civil War By timcon1964 As author Thomas Allen observes, Americans have selective memories regarding the Revolutionary War. Soon after the war, the victorious rebels began to forgive and forget the Tories. They would call the Revolution a war between Americans and the British, losing from their collective memory the fact that much of the fighting had been between Americans and Americans. In fact, as the title indicates, it was a civil war. Not surprisingly, the attitude of most colonists toward the mother country did not suddenly shift from loyalty to hostility. Even most Patriots initially sought reform rather than independence. During the war, Americans remained sharply divided. (It is well to remember that, if the rebels had lost, which at times seemed likely, we might remember the Loyalists as Patriots and the rebels as traitors.) We shall probably never know the proportions of Americans who supported each side. It appears that only a minority of Americans provided strong support to either Patriots or Tories. Many Americans provided only lukewarm support to one side or the other. Many favored neither side and preferred to remain altogether out of the conflict. Documentary records regarding this issue are very limited. The British may have offered better incentives and grants to whites, freedom to slaves to potential soldiers than did the Patriots. To a significant extent, Americans chose to support the side they expected to win; and this varied during the war. Members of the Anglican Church generally supported the Tories, whereas Presbyterians sided with the Patriots. Those of Scotch ancestry tended to assist the Tories, while those of Scotch-Irish descent joined the Patriots. Hudson Valley aristocrats supported the Patriots, while their tenants sided with the Tories. Sometimes political loyalties seemed to coincide with geography. In some towns, loyalties were sharply divided. But the Tories were so dominant in New York City that Washington wanted to burn down the town. Tories were strong throughout New York state. The state contributed more soldiers to the Loyalists than to the Continental Army. Tories were also strong in some parts of New Jersey. But there were significant exceptions to all these tendencies. There were divisions, not only between families (the Livingstons were Patriots, the DeLanceys were Tories), but also within families: Ruth, wife of James Otis, whose oratory laid the groundwork for rebellion, was a Tory. One of Otis' daughters married a British officer, another daughter married a Continental Army officer. Benjamin Franklin's son William remained loyal to the mother country. And there were prominent Patriots who changed sides: Joseph Galloway, a member of the second Continental Congress, later served as a government administrator and Superintendent of Police in Philadelphia when it was under British rule. (He was later convicted of treason by the Pennsylvania General Assembly). Benjamin Church, who had been active with the Sons of Liberty, the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, and chief physician for the Continental Army, later spied for British General Gage. (He was eventually banished from Massachusetts). Of course, there was also the famous case of Benedict Arnold. The book's organization is largely chronological, beginning with colonists' resistance to British policies in the 1760s and 1770s, and moving on to Lexington, Concord, and the various battles of the Revolutionary War, with emphasis on Loyalist involvement in these events. Allen describes the British occupation of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston. Unlike most histories of the Revolutionary War, he gives little attention to many of the war's well-known battles, and instead analyzes conflicts on the New York-Canada frontier, the so-called Neutral Ground in New Jersey, and in Georgia and the Carolinas. He describes the recruitment and activities of various Loyalist military units, and the roles of Indians and African Americans in the war. There were actually two wars: the one we remember, and the ongoing war in the shadows. Allen's book focuses on the latter. Much of the fighting by both sides was characterized by intimidation, harassment, banishment, confiscation, and various atrocities. After witnessing the war in the South, General Nathanael Greene reported that, "The division among the people is much greater than I imagined and the Whigs [Patriots] and Tories persecute each other, with little less than savage fury. There is nothing but murders, and devastation in every quarter. Each side tended to deny the legitimacy of the other. In an angry moment, Washington suggested shooting some of the most notorious Tories. This summary punishment inflicted on a few leading traitors will probably strike terror into others and deter them from exposing themselves to a similar fate." The book includes an interesting chapter on the fate of Loyalists after the war. Many moved to Canada; and their descendants constitute a significant proportion of modern Canada's population. For an outstanding discussion of this subject, see Liberty's

Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World. Allen has published books about the Revolutionary War (George Washington, Spymaster: How the Americans Outspied the British and Won the Revolutionary War), (Remember Valley Forge: Patriots, Tories, and Redcoats Tell Their Stories), and on the Civil War (Mr. Lincoln's High-tech War), as well as other topics. His research for Tories was extensive, ranging through books, articles, dissertations, and online resources (especially the Online Institute for Advanced Loyalist Studies), including general histories, local histories, biographies, monographs on diverse topics, official documents, and published accounts of contemporaries. The depth of his research is reflected in Tories 76 pages of footnotes and its 31-page bibliography. The book also includes a good 24-page index. Although Allen does not elaborate on this question, his book makes one wonder to what extent Americans chose sides on the basis of religious affiliation, geographic location, ethnic identity, and the rewards for enlisting (varying over time according to each sides prospects for military victory), rather than political ideology or social class. And it is worth remembering that, although the United States gained its independence and gradually outstripped Britain in power and wealth, America continued to provide the former mother country with raw material for its industries, investment opportunities for its capital and soldiers for its major wars, much as it might have done had it remained in the British Empire. The Declaration of Independence concludes with the memorable statement: And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor. From Allens book, it is clear that, by taking sides, both Patriots and Loyalists risked their lives, fortunes and honor. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Excellent History By R. Hanes I am a 6th generation descendent of a Loyalist that had to flee to Canada after the end of the Revolutionary War. I have read a number of books on the subject of the unconventional warfare conducted in upstate New York during the Revolutionary War and find this book one of the best on the subject. Mr. Allen correctly assesses the motives behind many of the Loyalist decisions to fight on the side of the Crown. He also explains in great detail the various sectional rivalries and different compositions of the occupants of the various colonies at the time of the outbreak of the war. My personal focus and interest was on the events in the Mohawk and Schoharie Valleys as that was the location I am most familiar with. I have visited the region a number of times and reading this book helped sort out many of the questions I had as to what occurred and how the conflict unfolded as a result of the geography and demographics. The author also correctly exposes the fact that the Revolutionary War was actually the first Civil War on the American population. The Loyalist contingent was of major impact for the British generals and their waging of the war. Without the Loyalists there would have been a much shorter and less bitter struggle. Read this book and you will come away with a whole new perspective from the standard version of our Revolutionary War.

From historian Thomas B. Allen, author of Remember Pearl Harbor and George Washington, Spy Master comes a sweeping, dramatic history of the Americans who fought alongside the British on the losing side of the American Revolution. Allens compelling account comprises an epic story with a personal core, an American narrative certain to spellbind readers of Tom Fleming, David McCullough, and Joseph Ellis. The first book in over thirty years on this topic in Revolution War history, Tories incorporates new research and previously unavailable material drawn from foreign archives, telling the riveting story of bitter internecine conflict during the tumultuous birth of a nation.

From Publishers Weekly Drawing on letters, diaries, and other primary sources, historian Allen (George Washington, Spymaster) challenges the traditional notion that all the colonists wanted to overthrow the oppressive British government. Instead, he argues that a substantial portion of Americans remained loyal to Britain. Even families were divided, making the Revolution a civil war that often pitted sons against fathers and brothers against brothers. Yet Patriots and Loyalists changed constantly with the varying fortunes of the war. [For example, Stephen Jarvis, a young farmer, initially joined the Patriots' Connecticut militia in order to defy his Tory father; when his regiment was temporarily released from active duty, young Jarvis fought with the Tory army on Long Island. After the war, 80,000 Tories left the new United States, many starting new lives in Canada; in 1792, about 2,000 ex-slaves given their freedom for joining the Loyalists, sailed to Africa, founding what is now Sierra Leone. Allen's thorough research and fast-paced narrative provide fresh ways of thinking about the Revolutionary War and shed new light on the lives of those, from bankers to small tradesmen, who remained loyal to the throne in the face of vigorous opposition and persecution. (Nov.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. From the Back Cover The American Revolution was not simply a battle between the independence-minded colonists and the oppressive British. As Thomas B. Allen reminds us, it was also a savage and often deeply personal civil war, in which conflicting visions of America pitted neighbor against neighbor and Patriot against Tory on the battlefield, on the village green, and even in church. In this outstanding and vital history, Allen tells the complete story of the Tories, tracing their lives and experiences throughout the revolutionary period. Based on documents in archives from Nova Scotia to London, Tories adds a fresh perspective to our knowledge of the Revolution and sheds an important new light on the little-known figures whose lives were forever changed when they remained faithful to their mother country. About the Author Thomas B. Allen is the author of numerous history books, including George Washington, Spymaster and Remember Valley Forge. A

frequent contributor to Smithsonian Magazine, National Geographic, Military History Quarterly, Military History, Naval History, the U.S. Naval Institute's Proceedings, and other publications, he lives in Bethesda, Maryland.