

George vs. George

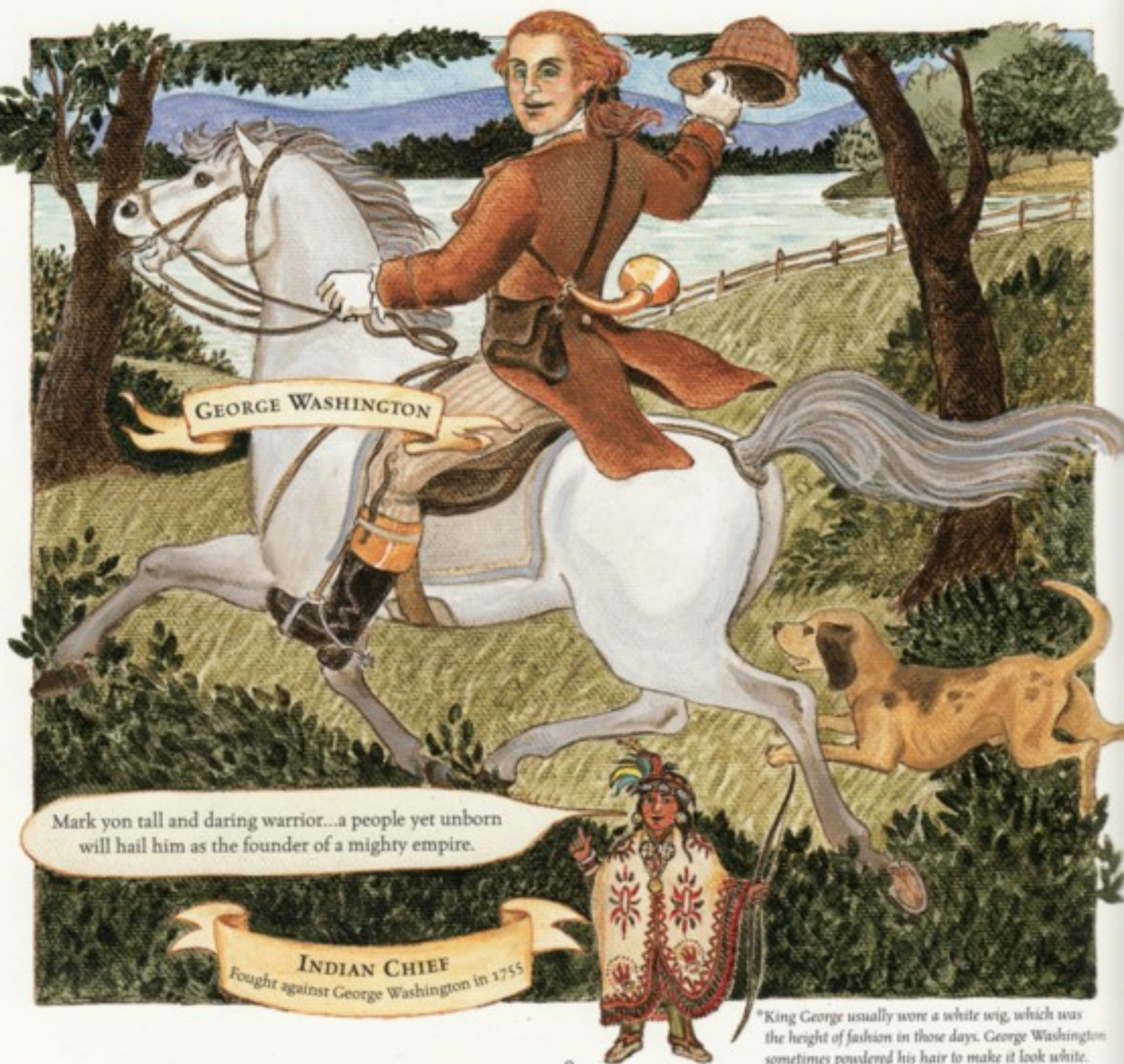
The
American Revolution
as seen from
Both Sides



by Rosalyn Schanzer

At First Glance

The year was 1763, and in many ways, George Washington of America and King George III of Great Britain were very much alike. Both men had light blue eyes and reddish-brown hair.* Athletic and dignified in appearance, each stood well over 6 feet tall, towering above most other men during a time when the average height was 5'7". Both were honest and popular with the public. They liked simple food and



GEORGE WASHINGTON

Mark yon tall and daring warrior...a people yet unborn will hail him as the founder of a mighty empire.

INDIAN CHIEF
Fought against George Washington in 1755

*King George usually wore a white wig, which was the height of fashion in those days. George Washington sometimes powdered his hair to make it look white.

much preferred plain clothes to the high-fashion outfits of the period decorated with lace, ruffles, and embroidery.

George III was sometimes called "farmer George" because of his life-long interest in agriculture. George Washington was a farmer who was happiest when working on his land. Both were excellent horsemen and loved hunting. George III believed that a king should rule America. For a long time, George Washington thought so, too. He had even fought bravely alongside the British Army.



The people of Great Britain and the people from Britain's American colonies had a lot in common, too. Most everyone on both sides of the ocean liked their good-natured young "Patriot King." English was their main language; after all, 60 percent of the colonists had British ancestors. London was everybody's capital city, and many Americans proudly thought of England as "home."

Great Britain had just won the Seven Years War*, which involved almost every country in Europe and extended all the way to India and Australia. King George was now the ruler of the world's greatest empire. As loyal citizens of Great Britain, colonial soldiers had joined forces with soldiers from England to fight against France for control of North America. When France gave up its territories, jubilant

* The part of the Seven Years War fought in North America is called the French and Indian War.





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consideration of both sides, a sound research basis,
attribution of sources, and interesting writing."**

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