

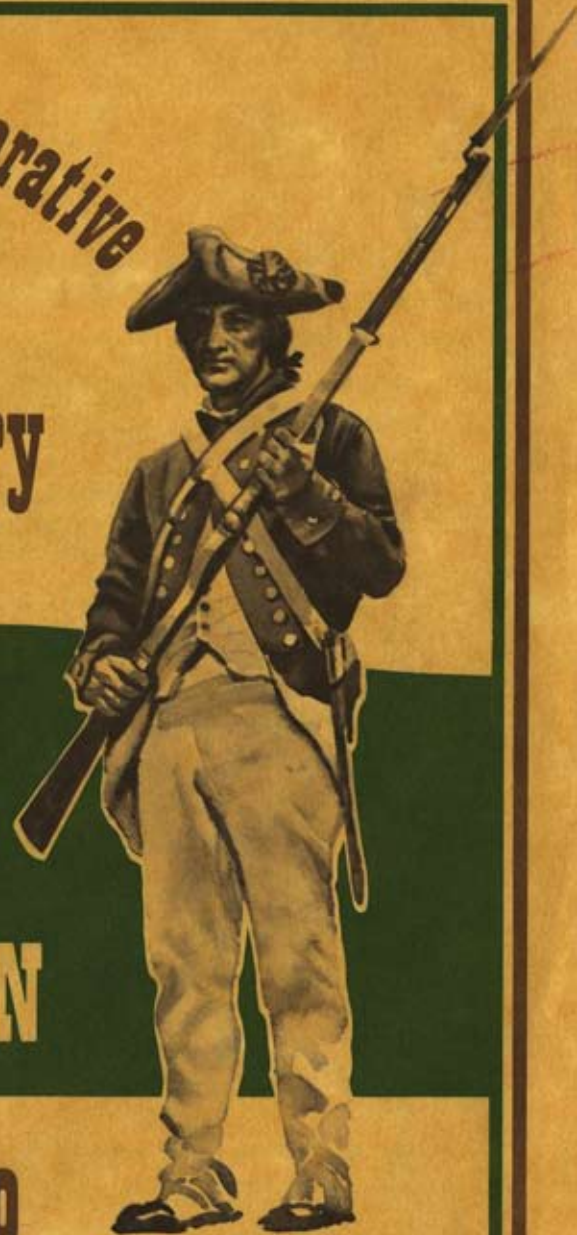
First Day Issue Commemorative

Postal Card
marking the

200th Anniversary
of the

BATTLE
of
KINGS MOUNTAIN

October 7, 1780—1980



Rarely has the American spirit of pride, independence and determination been more ably demonstrated than by the hardy frontiersmen who completely overwhelmed a well-trained British force in the Battle of Kings Mountain on Oct. 7, 1780.

Their families, their homes and their crops threatened by the British commander, Major Patrick Ferguson, the "Overmountain Men" retaliated by marching more than 200 miles over some of the roughest terrain in eastern America to surround Ferguson and his men, who had elected to defend the summit of a ridge known as Kings Mountain.

In the fierce fight that followed, the farmers, woodsmen and hunters from beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains employed the same tree-to-tree tactics

with which they had defended themselves and their homes from Indians. Their long rifles took a terrible toll that Autumn afternoon while Ferguson and his men resorted unsuccessfully to conventional military tactics.

When the dense smoke had cleared from the summit of the mountain, 225 Loyalists were dead, 163 had been wounded, and 716 had been taken prisoner. Ferguson was among the dead. The Overmountain Men lost 28 dead, 62 wounded.

The victory marked the beginning of the end to British rule in the Colonies. As Thomas Jefferson said, "It was the joyful annunciation of that turn of the tide of success which terminated the Revolutionary War with the seal of our independence."



Battle of Kings Mountain, 1780

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

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The commemorative postal card series began in 1978. All cards, including The Battle of Kings Mountain, have been designed by David Blossom of Weston, Connecticut.

The front illustration was done by Major Robert W. Wilson of Woodruff, South Carolina.