



VALOR IN VIRGINIA

By Ethel Hunt Trepte

RIDING swiftly along the quiet Virginia road, the line of red coated British cavalry, Colonel Benastre Tarleton leading, made a striking picture. Through a mass of white plumes, stirred by the motions of the horses, the burnished brass of Tarleton's helmet gleamed in the setting sun. His scarlet, gold-braided jacket, his white leather breeches, his polished boots, were impressive against the background of forest. Tarleton was in good spirits, pleased with the progress of his secret mission, which had left graves and charred timbers all the way from Richmond.

Jack Jouette, Jr., Captain in the Continental Army, saw the riders as they swept past a rural tavern. He dashed to his mare, mounted, and followed the British. Hidden in shrubbery, he watched them set fire to Louisa County Courthouse, burning it to the ground. He saw them capture a wagon train, taking ammunition and food to General Green. Then he heard Tarleton give orders for his troops to rest before proceeding to Charlottesville, where the State Assembly had established a temporary capital after its flight from Richmond in May.

Jack thought of Cornwallis' orders to Tarleton "to get the arch-traitors . . . for a noose awaits them in London." Governor Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, John Tyler and Benjamin Harrison were at Charlottesville with other Assembly members. Jack knew these men were the objects of Tarleton's raid. He had only a few hours in which to cover the 45 miles between the courthouse and Charlottesville, but he knew the terrain and

turned his horse into a rough cross-country trail. Tarleton, unfamiliar with the area, would have to stay on the main roads.

Through trees and underbrush, Jack rode to Castle Hill, home of Dr. Thomas Walker, one of Virginia's patriots. He stopped long enough to warn Walker and to change horses. When Tarleton arrived later, Walker persuaded him to accept a sumptuous breakfast for himself and his men, prolonging the meal to give Jack as much time as possible.

Jouette raced through the village of Milton, shouting a warning, and later arrived at Monticello. Mud-spattered, bloody from his ride through the thick bush, he galloped his horse up the steps of the East Portico. Jefferson appeared at the door.

"The British, they're coming!" Jouette then rushed on to alert Charlottesville. The Assembly, despite his warning, met to name Staunton as their next gathering place. Due to this delay, seven were captured, but Jefferson and the other "arch-traitors" escaped. Jack had saved them from capture and from the noose that "waited in London."

Jack was one of four sons of Captain Jack Jouette, Sr., all of them captains in the Revolutionary Army. When the war ended, he took a prominent part in Virginia affairs, and, when Kentucky became a state, he represented Mercer County in the Legislature. He died in 1822 and was buried "somewhere in Kentucky," the location of the grave being unknown. Today, few have heard of his fearless ride to save the men whose capture might have ended the war for Independence.

This Is What They Said

Whoever controls Alaska controls the world. GENERAL BILLY MITCHELL
Until my dying day, I will regret signing the United Nations Charter.

— SENATOR PAT MCCARRAN

We shall have World Government whether or not we like it. The only question is whether World Government will be achieved by conquest or consent.

— JAMES P. WARBURG, on the floor
of the U.S. Senate, Feb. 2, 1950

If this nation is ever destroyed, it will be from within, not from without.

— ABRAHAM LINCOLN

The Communist barbarian may have taken the knife out of his teeth to smile — but the knife itself is still in his fist.

— SENATOR JOHN F. KENNEDY (D-Mass.)

A bull may be dumb, but he understood the red flag long before the rest of the world did.

— DAN BENNETT

Our enthusiasm for the right has cooled through indifference and false tolerance.

— BISHOP F. J. SHEEN

Our threat is from the insidious forces working from within which have already so drastically altered the character of our free institutions.

— DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

India, although professing neutrality, is actually giving material aid to Communist Russia.—The American Legion National Convention Miami Oct. 1955

To inject more honesty into our politics, let us all follow the batting averages of our representatives in Congress . . . and select the best coaches, trainers and captains for both the Republican and Democratic teams . . . familiarize ourselves with the rules of the national and international game as laid down in our Constitution and Bill of Rights.

— GENERAL ALBERT C. WEDEMAYER

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

— MATT., 7: 16