

GLOSSARY: Battles for Freedom

Griffin & White

abate	to lessen or reduce
cutlass	a short, curved sword often used by sailors
enfranchisement	to have a right to vote
executor	the person who carries out the terms of a will
irons	shackles for the hands or legs
gill	a liquid measurement equal to one-half cup
liberty	being free
marlinspike	a tool made of wood or iron that comes to a sharp point and is used for working with ropes on board a ship
memorial	an object or writing that shares a memory
meritorious service	an action that is worthy of honor
privateer	a privately-owned ship that has been given a license by the government to attack enemy ships
prize master	the captain who has captured a ship
quarterdeck	part of a ship's upper deck
schooner	a ship with sails
yoke	heavy burden without possibly escape, like a wooden beam around a neck to force work