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**The British colonists’ struggle for freedom encouraged colonists in other parts of the Americas to fight for independence.**

* + **Simon Bolivar fought the Spanish for six years the northern colonies of South America.**
    - He succeeded in gaining independence for South American countries.
      * Gran Columbia gains their independence from Spain in 1819.
      * The Portuguese ruler of Brazil declares its independence from Portugal in 1822.
      * Peru gains their independence from Spain in 1824.
      * Bolivia gains their independence from Spain in 1825.
        + Bolivia is named in Bolivar’s honor
    - Bolivar’s plan for a United States of South America failed.
      * He was known as the “George Washington of South America”.
  + **Colonies in the south fought for their independence about the same time colonies in the north were being liberated.**
    - San Martin and O’Higgins led South Americans in southern colonies in their battles for freedom.
      * Citizens in Paraguay overthrow the governor and gain their independence from Spain in 1811.
      * Argentina declared their independence from Spain in 1816.
      * Chile declared their independence from Spain in 1818.
        + O’Higgins is elected head of Chile.
      * Uruguay declared their independence from Spain in 1828.

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