

For Library Use Only  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

MEMORIAL

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS

FOR THE UNVEILING OF THE

N. J. **Monmouth Battle Monument,**

AT FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY,

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1884.

---

TRENTON, N. J.:  
JOHN L. MURPHY, PRINTER.  
1885.

J974.946  
B336



COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

---

Gov. LEON ABBETT,

A. B. STONEY,

T. G. CHATTLE,

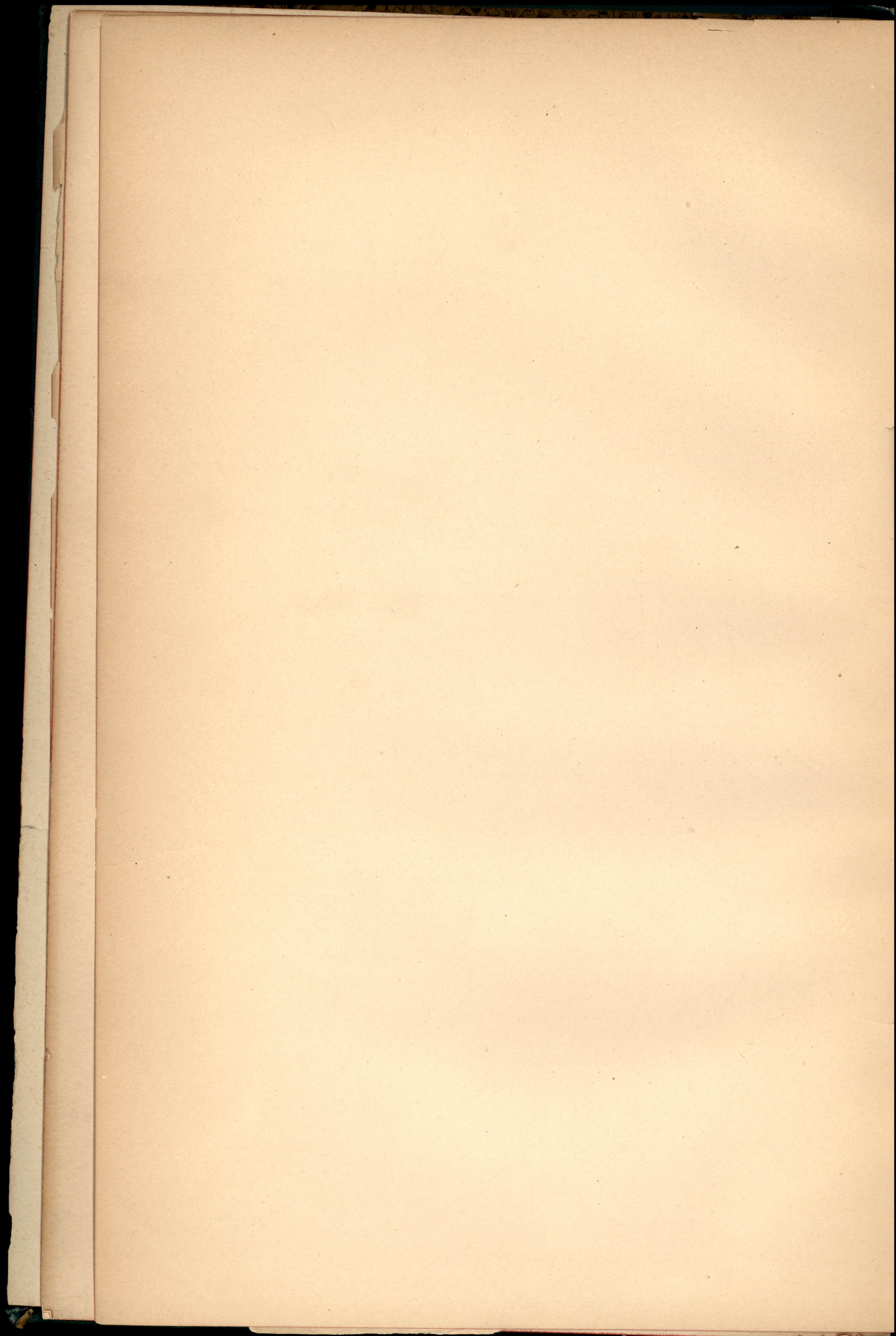
E. J. ANDERSON,

J. S. APPLGATE,

THEO. W. MORRIS,

JOHN B. CONOVER,

JAMES S. YARD.



## MEMORIAL.

---

In view of the very general desire for a history of the organization of the Monmouth Battle Monument Association and Commission, and an account of the ceremonies on the occasion of the unveiling of the monument, the committee have prepared the following memorial :

### HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE MONMOUTH BATTLE MONUMENT ASSOCIATION AND COMMISSION.

The first movement toward the erection of the monument was made in response to an address delivered by ex-Governor Joel Parker, at Freehold, on the ninety-ninth anniversary of the battle, June 28, 1877. A preliminary meeting for this purpose was held September 17, and the Monmouth Battle Monument Association was organized October 2, 1877. At this meeting Governor Parker was elected president, Major James S. Yard, secretary, and a general committee of three gentlemen from each township in Monmouth county selected to procure the funds necessary for the erection of the monument. The people of the State, and especially of Monmouth county, during the years 1878, 1879 and 1880, contributed nearly \$10,000 to this object. On February 2, 1878, the association accepted the offer of a

plot of land, to be called "Monument Park," in Freehold, as a gift from the heirs of Daniel S. Schanck. On May 7, 1878, the association was incorporated under the provisions of an "Act to incorporate associations for the erection and maintenance of monuments and statues," approved March 19, 1878. The same president and secretary were re-elected, and Mr. John B. Conover made treasurer, Major James S. Yard, Theodore W. Morris, James T. Burtis, John H. Laird and Hal Allaire, the executive and finance committee. The corner-stone of the monument was laid with Masonic ceremonies, June 28, 1878, in the presence of Governor George B. McClellan and a large number of distinguished guests. The deed to the park was presented by Mr. Theodore W. Morris, representing the estate of D. S. Schanck. Addresses were delivered by ex-Governors Newell and Parker, by the Hon. S. S. Cox, Mr. B. W. Throckmorton and General Henry B. Carrington. The State of New Jersey, by an act of March 14, 1881, appropriated \$10,000, and placed the work under the charge of a commission instructed to select a design, contract for, erect and finish a monument in the park at Freehold, where the battle commenced, June 28, 1778. Under this act the Monument Association selected five trustees—Mr. Theodore W. Morris, Major James S. Yard, Mr. James T. Burtis, Mr. Hal Allaire and Mr. John B. Conover—to represent them in the newly-created State commission. The State officials to represent the State on this commission were the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Assembly; Hon. Edward J. Anderson, Comptroller of the Treasury; General Lewis Perrine, Quartermaster-General, and General William S.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 7

Stryker, Adjutant-General. On April 9, 1881, the commission was organized by electing Hon. Garret A. Hobart, President of the Senate, to be president of the commission; Hon. Harrison VanDuyne, Speaker of the House of Assembly, and Mr. Theodore W. Morris, vice presidents; Colonel Edwin F. Applegate, secretary, and Mr. John B. Conover, treasurer. Governor Parker, president of the association, was invited to be present at each meeting of the commission, and assist them by his advice and counsel. The commission, at this meeting, also ordered a deed to be executed to the State of New Jersey for Monument Park. The Congress of the United States passed a law, approved July 6, 1882, granting an appropriation of \$20,000 for the purpose of completing the monument. A committee on design, consisting of Mr. Theodore W. Morris, Hon. Edward J. Anderson, General Lewis Perrine, General William S. Stryker and Mr. Hal Allaire, on October 16, 1882, invited the submission of designs and specifications for the battle monument, and on March 2, 1883, the design executed by Emelin T. Littell and Douglass Smythe, architects, and J. E. Kelly, sculptor, and exhibited by Maurice J. Power, of New York City, was accepted, and a contract was awarded Mr. Power, of the "National Fine Art Foundry," for its erection for the sum of \$36,000. On May 9, 1883, the services of Mr. Edward E. Raht, architect, were secured to superintend the construction of the monument. Hon. Garret A. Hobart, President of the Senate, was elected president of the commission, and Hon. John T. Dunn, Speaker of the House of Assembly, and Mr. Theodore W. Morris, vice presidents, for the year 1882. The officers of

8      *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

the commission for 1883 were Mr. Theodore W. Morris, president, and Hon. John J. Gardner, President of the Senate, and Hon. Thomas O'Connor, Speaker of the House of Assembly, vice presidents. In 1884, Mr. Morris was re-elected president of the commission, with Hon. Benjamin A. Vail, President of the Senate, and Hon. Alfred B. Stoney, Speaker of the House of Assembly, vice presidents. The other officers of the commission continue at this date the same as first elected in 1881.

TRUSTEES OF MONMOUTH BATTLE MONUMENT ASSOCIATION, 1884.

President.

JOEL PARKER.

Vice Presidents.

CHILION ROBBINS,

DR. ROBERT LAIRD,

JOHN S. APPLGATE.

Secretary.

JAMES S. YARD.

Treasurer.

JOHN B. CONOVER.

THEODORE W. MORRIS,  
EDWIN F. APPLGATE,  
JAMES T. BURTIS,  
JOHN H. LAIRD,  
LEVI G. IRWIN,  
HAL ALLAIRE,  
JACOB STULTS,

THOMAS FIELD,  
DANIEL P. VANDOREN,  
WILLIAM H. HENDRICKSON,  
DR. S. H. HUNT,  
THOMAS BURROWES,  
JAMES A. BRADLEY,  
WILLIAM L. TERHUNE.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.*

9

MONUMENT COMMISSION, 1884.

President.

THEODORE W. MORRIS.

Vice Presidents.

HON. B. A. VAIL,

HON. A. B. STONEY.

Secretary.

EDWIN F. APPLGATE.

Treasurer.

JOHN B. CONOVER.

GEN. LEWIS PERRINE,

MAJ. JAMES S. YARD,

GEN. WILLIAM S. STRYKER,

HAL ALLAIRE,

HON. E. J. ANDERSON,

JAMES T. BURTIS.

MONUMENT PARK.

The park comprises three and a quarter acres, eligibly located on a commanding knoll, a short distance from the main street of the town, and the title for the same is vested in the State.

DONORS OF THE PARK.

MRS. MARY A. SCHANCK,

MR. ANDREW H. SCHANCK,

MRS. THEO. W. MORRIS,

MR. DANIEL S. SCHANCK,

MRS. ALICE C. SCHANCK,

MR. GEORGE E. SCHANCK,

Heirs of Daniel S. Schanck, deceased.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MONUMENT.

The base of the monument is in the form of an equilateral triangle, with cannon at each angle. Three spurs of granite

form the base of the shaft, surmounted at the point of contact by a large drum-shaped block, on which five bronze reliefs, illustrative of the battle, will be placed. Above the tablets and around the shaft are the coats-of-arms, in bronze, of the thirteen original States, festooned with laurel leaves. Rising above this is the shaft proper, consisting of three sections, each joined by rings of bay leaves. The shaft is surmounted by a composite capital on which is a statue of Columbia Triumphant. The monument is constructed of New England granite, fine-axed, and is about one hundred feet high. The tablets, five feet high and six feet wide, merit special mention. The models thereof were designed by Mr. J. E. Kelly, of New York City, and the bas-reliefs were cast at the National Fine Art Foundry. They represent with graphic exactness five scenes in the Monmouth battle. Three of them are already finished and in position on the monument.

#### THE BAS-RELIEFS.

RAMSEY DEFENDING HIS GUNS.—This represents Lieutenant-Colonel Nathaniel Ramsey, of Maryland, in the closing effort to hold his position until the main army could be rallied. General Washington had told him he depended on his exertions, and he had promised to check the enemy. He tried with his gallant regiment to defend the guns of Lieutenant-Colonel Oswald, until, having been dismounted, he was overwhelmed by the superior numbers of the British Dragoons. In the foreground he is represented with historical accuracy in a hand-to-hand conflict with a detachment of the Seventeenth British Regiment, Light Dragoons. Colonel

Ramsey's portrait is from a miniature and silhouette, both taken from life and furnished by his family. His sword is modeled from the short-bladed weapon which he actually carried and used with great effect that day, and which is still preserved. The uniform, horse furniture and all the equipments of the Dragoons are taken from the official record of the regiment. So particular has the artist been that the "death head" may be seen on the hat of the trooper of the Seventeenth Dragoons—the organization allowed to wear the same by the order of the King—with the motto "glory or death." In the background Oswald is directing his men in their attempt to carry off his guns. It will be remembered that Ramsey, very badly wounded in this personal combat, was taken prisoner by the British. Sir Henry Clinton, in soldierly admiration of so brave a man, ordered his release on parole the following day.

WASHINGTON RALLYING THE TROOPS.—The Commander-in-Chief is here depicted riding down the American lines on the splendid horse which had just been presented to him by New Jersey's War Governor, William Livingston, and rallying the troops after General Lee's unaccountable retreat. He is placing the regiments of Stewart and Ramsey and Livingston in position to check the advance party of the British. General Washington's head and figure are modeled from Houdin's life-cast, now in possession of Mr. Power. The model is worked on a scale, and is entirely accurate in all its proportions, from Houdin's measurements. The style of the uniform and horse equipments of the chieftain are all from authentic sources.

MOLLY PITCHER.—The head and figure of the heroine of Monmouth is an ideal woman of great muscular power. Her dead husband is at her feet, and General Knox is seen in the background directing his artillery line. A wounded soldier uses his right hand instead of left in thumbing the vent. This, it is readily seen, improves the composition of the picture. The old Tennent Church, still standing as a memorial of the battle, is seen on the extreme left of the relief.

COUNCIL OF WAR AT HOPEWELL.—This tablet represents Generals Washington, Lee, Greene, Stirling, Lafayette, Steuben, Knox, Poor, Wayne, Woodford, Patterson, Scott and Duportail as they appeared in the important council of war held at Hopewell, old Hunterdon county, New Jersey, June 24, 1778. General Washington is listening attentively as General Lafayette, standing by the table, is urging upon the council to decide on making a strong demonstration against the British column, even if it brought on a battle. The position and general expression of other officers clearly indicates their opinion of Lafayette's appeal. General Lee, who preferred to let the British force parade unmolested across the State, looks anxious and indignant that his military experience and judgment does not entirely control the board. It is also easy to see that the foreign officers, Steuben and Duportail, want to make a strong attack, and not simply to feel the enemy. General Patterson agrees with them, and so does the true-hearted Greene. General Wayne, always ready for fight, can hardly wait until Lafayette has finished that he may speak a few words of ardent patriotism. Colonel Scammell, Washington's Adju-

tant-General, who afterward gave his life for liberty on Yorktown's ramparts, is here engaged in noting the opinions of the general officers for the guidance of his chief.

WAYNE'S CHARGE.—This relief depicts Mad Anthony Wayne leading his troops in the final charge of the day through a trampled corn-field, and the battalions of British grenadiers falling back and trying in vain to carry away the body of their dead commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Monckton. The parsonage of Tennent Church is seen in the background.

All lovers of American art will be charmed with the wonderful beauty of these reliefs. All students of the revolutionary epoch will be struck with the zealous care displayed by the skillful artist to have every detail historically correct. The great delicacy with which these bronze panels have come from the sculptor's hand may be seen in the fact that all the picturesque qualities of the original mould have been reproduced in the successful cast without the usual chasing.

DESCRIPTION OF CARD OF INVITATION.

The forms of invitation to the unveiling ceremonies were especially prepared for appropriate souvenirs of the occasion.

They are line engravings, executed by the Franklin Bank Note Company, of New York City, and are printed upon white card-board, six and one-half inches by eight and one-half inches in size, and run in harmony with the general

14 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

object of the commemorative column in seeking to tell the story by fitting and graphic illustration.

With this intent in view, the representations of the five bas-relief bronzes of the monument play an important part in the form and enrichment of this suggestive souvenir. Notably that portraying the traditional Molly Pitcher, which has been chosen for the central portion of the card. The tablet is flanked by an ancient Roman emblem, the axe and fasces, representing the strength and union of the great republic sprung from the blood and dust of this and kindred battle-fields. Around and about the central tablet is a semi-circular space of darker shading set with thirteen stars, representing an ideal Union-jack, from which radiate alternate rays of lighter and darker engraving intended to convey the idea of the white and red stripes of the American flag, which thus surrounds and glorifies the chief historic event.

Beneath the semi-circular space described are placed graceful sprays of oak and olive leaves, bound with ribbon, indicative of good civil government held in union with peace and harmony.

In each of the four corners are smaller delineations of the remaining four bronze tablets, beginning with the "Council of War" and "Washington Rallying his Troops" in the upper left and right-hand corners, and "Ramsey's Defense of his Guns" and "Wayne's Charge, with Death of the British Colonel Monckton," in the corresponding lower corners; thus, as also on the monument, fitly portraying the beginning and ending of the struggle which had for its greatest legendary interest, the story of a woman's valor on the field of Monmouth.

The remaining ornamentation consists in the letter-text, setting forth the date and nature of the ceremonial, spaced in graceful and well-balanced proportion across and around the radiated rays, with the words "Monmouth Battle Monument," also in antique missal or ecclesiastical text, spaced upon a triple ribbon scroll floating across the star-set arch, on each side of and below the central tablet, and commingling with the sprays of symbolic leaves beneath.

The name of the State, in style customary on official documents, surmounts the card, while the names of her Governor and her honored citizens, orators of the occasion, suitably find their place beneath the tokens of civil rule and peace.

A dark line, terminating in intersecting spear heads, surrounds the face of the card, beyond which a striped and shaded border, one-quarter of an inch in width, concludes the ornamentation, and a similar border of white completes the whole. The *ensemble* of the engraving generally is light in tone, with effective shade, well broken, graphically and centrally grouped.

The remainder of the card is neatly spaced and properly made subordinate to main effect. The radiating rays are in continuous horizontal line engraving, and so delicate and well executed is the work that the design is not at first apparent, and becomes clearly visible only when held at a slight distance.

The tablets, especially, are engraved in finest bank-note style, and taken as a whole the work reflects credit upon the business firm who, in the execution of the work, have so subtly caught and ably elaborated the suggestions and design furnished by Mr. Hal Allaire, at the request of the

Committee of Arrangements, so that they have wrought upon the receptive steel with the same spirit and fidelity as the workers on the memorial bronzes.

The back of the card contains a list of names connected with the monument enterprise from its inception to the present state.

By resolution of the General Committee the details of the work were referred to a sub-committee, consisting of Hon. Leon Abbett, Governor of New Jersey; Hon. Alfred B. Stoney, Speaker of the Assembly; Hon. Thomas G. Chattle, member of the Assembly; Hon. E. J. Anderson, Comptroller of the Treasury; Hon. John S. Applegate, State Senator; John B. Conover, Treasurer of the Commission; James S. Yard, Secretary of the Association; Theodore W. Morris, President of the Commission.

This committee organized by the election of Theodore W. Morris, chairman, and James S. Yard, secretary.

INVITED GUESTS.

The number of tickets issued to invited guests was six hundred and twenty-four (624), which were distributed as follows:

- I. The President of the United States and his Cabinet.
- II. The Governor of the State of New Jersey.
- III. The surviving ex-Governors of New Jersey.
- IV. The Governors of the several States of the Union.
- V. The Judiciary and State Officers of New Jersey.
- VI. The United States Senators from New Jersey.
- VII. The Congressional Representatives from New Jersey.
- VIII. Minister from Great Britain.
- IX. Minister from France.
- X. Minister from Germany.
- XI. The Senate of the State of New Jersey.
- XII. The General Assembly of the State of New Jersey.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.*

17

- XIII. The Governor's Staff.
- XIV. General Officers of the General Society of the Cincinnati.
- XV. The New Jersey Society of the Cincinnati.
- XVI. Officers of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons.
- XVII. The New Jersey Historical Society.
- XVIII. The Monmouth Battle Monument Association.
- XIX. The Monmouth Battle Monument Commission.
- XX. Ex-Officers of the Monmouth Battle Monument Commission.
- XXI. The Trenton Monument Association.
- XXII. Descendants of Colonel Ramsey.
- XXIII. The Board of Chosen Freeholders and other Officers of the County of Monmouth.
- XXIV. The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Freehold.
- XXV. The Donors of Monument Park.
- XXVI. The Contractors and Architects of the Monument.
- XXVII. The Police Commissioners of the Cities of New York and Philadelphia.
- XXVIII. The Orators at the Laying of the Corner-stone of the Monument in 1878.
- XXIX. The Clergy of the Town of Freehold.

The civic associations of the State, including the Grand Army of the Republic, Free Masons, &c., were especially invited by the early and very general publication in the newspapers of the State of the following :

NOTICE TO THE CIVIC SOCIETIES OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

THE UNVEILING OF THE MONMOUTH BATTLE MONUMENT, AT FREEHOLD, N. J., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1884.

OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS, }  
FREEHOLD, October 22, 1884.

Grand Army Posts, Masonic Fraternities, Odd Fellows' Lodges, Fire Departments, and other civic societies desiring to participate in the ceremonies of the unveiling will be cordially received and assigned a place in the procession upon notice of their intention prior to November 6, 1884.

JAMES S. YARD,  
*Secretary.*

THEODORE W. MORRIS,  
*Chairman.*

18 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

Three hundred and fifty (350) seats were occupied at the banquet provided by the committee for the invited guests. The caterers were Mr. Thos. C. Hill, of Trenton, and Mr. W. H. Davis, of Freehold; and the banquet was under the supervision of Mr. John Wright, of Trenton, who kindly volunteered his services to the committee.

THE PROCESSION.

The procession formed on Broad street and marched through the principal streets. It was reviewed by Governor Abbett, who, with his staff and a number of dignitaries and distinguished visitors, occupied the reviewing stand erected by the county in front of the court house. After the review, Governor Abbett and staff, and all the officials on the stand, joined the procession as it marched up Court street to Monument Park. The complete procession was composed as follows:

Grand Marshal, Major JAMES S. YARD.

MARSHAL'S AIDS.

William S. Throckmorton,	William Hartshorne,	David S. Crater,
Charles H. Butcher,	J. Nelson Conover,	*Herman Leibenthal,
Samuel R. Forman,	Maj. Alexander A. Yard.	

PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, N. G. N. J.,

Bt. Major-Gen. WILLIAM J. SEWELL, Commanding.

BRIGADE STAFF.

Lt.-Col. Thos. S. Chambers, A. A. -Gen.,	Maj. William M. Palmer, Quartermaster,
Lt.-Col. Daniel B. Murphy, Inspector,	Maj. Kenneth J. Duncan, Paymaster,
Lt.-Col. Franklin Gauntt, Surgeon,	Maj. James E. Hays, Judge Advocate,
Captain Edward A. Gillett, Captain	Hamilton Markley, Aides-de-Camp.

---

\*Volunteer aid, representing J. B. Morris Post, G. A. R., of Long Branch.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 19

**FOURTH REGIMENT, N. G. N. J.,**

Col. DUDLEY S. STEELE, Commanding.

FIELD AND STAFF.

Lt.-Col. Samuel D. Dickinson,	Paymaster Frank J. Matthews,
Major P. Farmer Wanser,	Assistant Surgeon Mathew Lampson,
Adjutant Benjamin M. Gerardin,	Chaplain Henry W. Spalding,
Quartermaster John A. Parker,	Judge Advocate Charles Boltwood,
Inspector Rifle Practice Abram P. Bush,	
Fourth Regiment Drum Corps and Fourth Regiment Band, H. F. Wagner, Leader,	
Co. A, Captain Apelles, Jersey City,	Co. D, Captain Hering, Jersey City,
Co. B, Captain Derrom, Passaic,	Co. E, Captain Briggs, Jersey City,
Co. C, Captain Vansyckle, Jersey City,	Co. F, Captain Mason, Jersey City.

**FIRST REGIMENT, N. G. N. J.,**

Col. EDWARD A. CAMPBELL, Commanding.

FIELD AND STAFF.

Lt.-Col. Ebenezer W. Davis,	Paymaster Enos Runyon,
Major Edward E. Starrs,	Surgeon Aaron K. Baldwin,
Adjutant James L. Marsh,	Chaplain Hannibal Goodwin,
Quartermaster George W. Church,	Judge Advocate Frederick S. Fish,
Inspector Rifle Practice Reginald H. Brientnall,	
Voss' Band and Drum Corps, Fred. Voss, Leader,	
Co. A, Captain Berry, Newark,	Co. D, Captain Williams, Newark,
Co. B, Captain O'Donnell, Newark,	Co. E, Captain Champlin, Newark,
Co. C, Captain Leonard, Newark,	Co. F, Captain Schenck, Newark.

**SEVENTH REGIMENT, N. G. N. J.,**

Col. RICHARD A. DONNELLY, Commanding.

FIELD AND STAFF.

Lt.-Col. John C. Patterson,	Surgeon H. Waldburg Coleman,
Major Michael Hurley,	Assistant Surgeon Nelson B. Oliphant,
Adjutant Charles H. W. Vansciver,	Chaplain Henry M. Barbour,
Quartermaster George T. Cranmer,	Judge Advocate Francis C. Lowthorp, Jr.,
Paymaster William H. Earley,	Inspector Rifle Prac. Chas. Y. Bamford,
Winkler's Band, of Trenton,	
Co. A, Captain Skirm, Trenton,	Co. D, Captain Walsh, Trenton,
Co. B, Captain Bilbee, Trenton,	Co. E, Captain Buck, Freehold,
Co. C, Captain Slack, Lambertville,	Co. F, Captain Merritt, Mount Holly.

**GATLING GUN COMPANY B,**

Captain ROBERT R. ECKENDORFF, Commanding.

Two guns drawn by horses.

**THIRD REGIMENT, N. G. N. J.,**

Col. ELIHU H. ROPES, Commanding.

## FIELD AND STAFF.

Lt.-Col. Morris N. Oviatt,	Surgeon Wilmer Hodgson,
Major Benjamin A. Lee,	Assistant Surgeon Victor Mraylag,
Adjutant John C. Rose, Jr.,	Chaplain Joseph K. Manning,
Quartermaster Ira J. Hall,	Judge Advocate George B. Munn,
Paymaster Frank L. Sheldon,	Insp. Rifle Prac. Benjamin P. Holmes,
Third Regiment Band and Drum Corps, Frank Alston, Leader,	
Co. A, Captain Ormerod, Asbury Park,	Co. D, Captain Stroud, New Brunswick,
Co. B, Lieutenant Morris, Long Branch,	Co. E, Captain Palmer, Elizabeth,
Co. C, Captain DeHart, Elizabeth,	Co. F, Captain Stanhope, Keyport.

## The Committee of Arrangements,

The Monument Association,	The Monument Commission,
The Senators and Representatives and Representatives-elect of the Congress of the United States,	
The Society of the Cincinnati,	The Grand Lodge of Free Masons.

Hon. LEON ABBETT, Governor of New Jersey.

## GOVERNOR'S STAFF.

Adjutant-General Stryker,	Inspector-General Weston,
Quartermaster-General Perrine,	Inspector-Gen. Rifle Practice Spencer,
Surgeon-General Varick,	Judge Advocate-General Ackerson,
Assistant Adjutant-General Dickinson.	

Major-General GERSHOM MOTT, Commandant of National Guard of New Jersey, and Staff.

## DIVISION STAFF.

Col. Benjamin F. Chambers, A. A.-Gen.,	Lt.-Col. Chas. V. C. Murphy, Paymaster,
Col. and Bt. Br.-Gen. Wm. Ward, Insp.,	Lt.-Col. J. Blanchard Edgar, Quartermaster,
Col. Edward L. Welling, Surgeon,	Lt.-Col. Jas. N. Stratton, Judge Advocate,
Major John C. Owens, Major Daniel Elmer, Major Townsend B. Baldwin, Aides-de-Camp.	

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 21

Bt. Major-General JOSEPH W. PLUME, Commandant Second Brigade, N. G. N. J.

BRIGADE STAFF.

Lt.-Col. Marvin Dodd, A. A.-Gen.,	Maj. Isaac R. Denman, Quartermaster,
Lt.-Col. George E. P. Howard, Inspector,	Maj. Samuel Meeker, Paymaster,
Lt.-Col. George E. Terribery, Surgeon,	Maj. Frederick Frelinghuysen, Judge
Lt.-Col. A. Judson Clark, Insp. Rifle Prac.,	Advocate,
Captain William Strange, Captain William S. Righter, Aides-de-Camp.	

Ex-Governors of New Jersey and Governors of other States,	
The Judiciary of New Jersey,	The State Officers,
Members and Members Elect of the New Jersey Legislature,	
The Reverend Clergy,	Other Distinguished Guests,
The Board of Chosen Freeholders,	The Sheriff and County Officials,
The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Freehold,	
The Township Officials of other Townships,	
	Knickerbocker Lodge, I. O. of O. F., Matawan,
	Washington Engine Company, Matawan,
Other Civic Societies,	Citizens and Strangers.

THE CEREMONIES.

As soon as the procession reached Monument Park, the ceremonies of unveiling were proceeded with.

Mr. Theodore W. Morris, President of the State Commission, announced that the ceremonies would open with an invocation of the Divine blessing by Right Reverend Bishop Scarborough.

INVOCATION BY BISHOP SCARBOROUGH.

Bishop Scarborough first read a portion of the 4th chapter of Joshua, showing God's sanction of the setting up of memorial stones; then in eloquent language supplicated the blessing of God, substantially as follows: He repeated the Lord's Prayer and then continued—

Oh God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared to us the noble works which Thou didst do in their days. We bless and

## 22      *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

magnify Thy holy name. We lift up our voices in praise to Thee, because Thou hast enabled the people to build this beautiful monument. Guard it, we pray Thee, from desecration and all harm, and grant that it may stand here for all time, an enduring monument of our faith in Thee, the God of Battles, and a perpetual memorial of the valorous achievements of our ancestry. We offer unto Thee praise for Thy mercy and goodness to us. May we prove ourselves worthy guardians of the treasures which Thou hast committed to our keeping. May the Lord God be with us as He was with our fathers. We render unto Thee thanks for this goodly heritage which Thou hast given us. May we live in holy obedience to Thy righteous will. May we enjoy the blessings of peace, prosperity and good government. Bless, we pray Thee, the President of the United States, the members of his cabinet, his confidential advisers, the judiciary of our land, our legislative bodies and all in official authority, that they may rule wisely, in Thy fear and for the welfare of the nation. Save us from our sins. Keep us from all degrading practices and from prostituting our civil and religious liberties. Teach us that our only safety is by humble submission to Thee. Give us grace always to do Thy will. Defend our liberties. Preserve our unity as a nation. Save us from all tendencies to discord, disintegration and disunion. Make us a Christian people, a nation in all things serving Thee, and walking before Thee in the beauty of holiness. Let Thy blessing descend upon the assembled thousands here to-day. Direct us in these ceremonies, and in all our undertakings this day, that we may glorify Thy holy name and may finally obtain a heavenly home. All of which we ask only through the mediation of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

At the close of the prayer, President Morris formally presented the monument to the State of New Jersey.

### PRESENTATION OF THE MONUMENT BY PRESIDENT MORRIS.

*Your Excellency :*

The work committed to the Commission, of which I have the honor to be President, has been so far completed as to warrant the formalities of this occasion.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 23

While not released from the responsibilities of our trust, we look with confidence for the approbation of the State for that already accomplished. I deem it proper at this time to testify to the zeal and fidelity of the gentlemen who have been associated with me on the State Commission. They have given to the work cheerful and unremitting time and thought, and have zealously guarded the interest of the State.

In discharge of the agreeable duty devolving upon me I have the honor to present to your Excellency the Monmouth Battle Monument.

At the conclusion of this address the cord was drawn by the President, releasing the drapery of the bronze bas-reliefs, the military presented arms and a cannon on an adjoining hill fired a Continental salute of thirteen guns.

SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE BY GOVERNOR ABBETT.

Governor Abbett, on behalf of the State of New Jersey, accepted the monument in the following speech :

*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission :*

It is my pleasant duty, as Governor of this State, to receive from your hands this monument commemorative of the success of the American army on the 28th day of June, 1778.

New Jersey is rich in Revolutionary memories. Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth, Morristown, Red Bank and Springfield all awaken patriotic recollections. Among the most glorious achievements in the early days of the Revolution was the battle of Monmouth.

To fully appreciate this victory, we must recall the winter scenes at Valley Forge. Scarcely one hundred days before this memorable battle, the American army lay in their intrenchments on the banks of the Schuylkill, in miserable huts, where, for months, there had been a daily struggle for bare existence; with thin and tattered clothing, shivering in the daylight and huddled at night around their camp fires, nearly four thousand of their number were, at one time, too naked to appear on duty, for want of shoes, hats, shirts and other necessary clothing. During all these long,

24 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

dreary days, however, that splendid German veteran, Baron Frederick William Von Steuben, trained the old soldiers and raw recruits into an effective body of troops, fit to cope in military drill and discipline with the trained soldiers of Great Britain. With unremitting devotion he labored to create a force familiar with all the grand movements of battle; and it was greatly owing to his skill that the victory at Monmouth was made possible. The Council and General Assembly of New Jersey, deeply impressed with the many and signal services rendered by him, passed an act December 23, 1783, appropriating a certain forfeited estate at New Bridge, in Barbadoes township, Bergen county, to his use during his life.

In striking contrast to the scenes at Valley Forge, a little more than twenty miles distant, the British army was quartered in the city of Philadelphia. There the British officers led a gay life—crowding the ball-room of the City Tavern, spending their nights in gambling at the Indian Queen, and strutting across the amateur stage at the Old South Theater, spending a winter of feasting and revelry. Secure in their sense of superior discipline and equipment, they gave no time to thoughts of an aggressive campaign for 1778. General Howe was too eager in the pursuit of his own personal pleasure to interest himself in the drill of his men, and felt secure in the strength of his well-equipped forces.

These two armies left their encampments on the 18th day of June, 1778; the British army crossing the Delaware at Gloucester Point, and marching thence through Haddonfield, Mount Holly, Bordentown, Crosswicks and Allentown, reaching Freehold June 26; the American army marching to New Hope, crossing the Delaware at Lambertville, thence through Hopewell, Rocky Hill and Cranbury, reaching Englishtown June 27. The battle commenced on the next day, Sunday, June 28.

I will not attempt to give the details of that eventful day, for you will hear them from your distinguished fellow-citizen who has been repeatedly honored by his native State. He will eloquently recall Dickinson's skirmish with Simcoe's men, Lee's unaccountable retreat, Washington's meeting with and his stern rebuke of Lee, his rally of the retreating division, the fighting of Wayne at the hedge fence, the attack on Stirling's line, the firing on Greene's division, the scenes around the old meeting-house, the parsonage and Carr's house, the weary men, the sultry day, the

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 25

night shrouding the flight of the British army, and all the thrilling incidents of that memorable occasion.

This hour will recall the names of the brave Irish woman, Molly Pitcher, and the many gallant men associated with the scenes of that day. There was General Greene, that splendid soldier whose heart was ever true to the holy cause, and of whom Lord Cornwallis said he never felt safe when he was in camp near him; there was the brave Lord Stirling, whose English title could not chill the warm beatings of his heart for liberty; there was that stubborn fighter, Mad Anthony Wayne; there was the brave and accomplished Baron Steuben; there was General Knox, directing the greatest cannonade ever before heard in the Revolutionary struggle; there was the chivalrous Frenchman, Lafayette, filled with fervent zeal; there was the gallant Scott, ever eager to punish the foes of American liberty; there was the resolute Colonel Grayson, of Virginia; the able Harry Jackson, of Massachusetts; there were the three youthful Majors of the New Jersey troops, Richard Howell, Joseph Bloomfield and Aaron Ogden, who greatly distinguished themselves in the fight, and subsequently became Governors of this State; there was the gallant Colonel Ramsey, of Maryland, who fought hand-to-hand with the British troopers; there was the intrepid Livingston, of New York, and Colonel Walter Stewart, of Pennsylvania; and, towering above them all, conspicuous for his brilliant soldierly qualities, calm in danger, cool and firm, meeting every turn of fortune, was the immortal Washington, who proved to the world that the hungry Continentals, in their ragged uniforms, could give battle in the open field, and repulse the trained British forces. It was to his genius that the unfortunate and bad beginning of that day was turned into a glorious victory.

This noble granite shaft—beautiful in its artistic design—has been erected to perpetuate the brave deeds of the sturdy patriots engaged in battle on that hot Sabbath day. The men of that age had no time to build monuments; it was left for us, their descendants, to commemorate their glorious deeds. We but follow the custom of all civilized nations in rearing monuments to the immortal dead. No memorial shaft in Greece or Egypt, no triumphal arch in Rome, recalls more glorious deeds or more brave and valiant men than this granite column. It will ever be associated with the struggle for liberty, the success of which gave birth to

26      *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

this mighty nation; great not only in its millions of people, but in its grand achievements, and greatest of all in demonstrating that millions of men can govern themselves without a kingly ruler.

In accepting, on behalf of this State, this beautiful piece of workmanship, I deem it proper to recognize the generous gift of the ground on which this monument stands. It is right also to acknowledge the contributions of the citizens of this State, and especially of this county, and the appropriations of the United States and of New Jersey, to secure the \$40,000 with which to erect this memorial. I also desire to express my official satisfaction with the labors of the Commission charged with this work. It is entitled to commendation for the taste displayed in the selection of the design, for its successful completion, and for the careful manner in which it has watched every expenditure of public and private funds.

The State receives this monumental shaft, and plants it in the march of the centuries, to remain a perpetual memorial to coming ages. The driving rains, the shock of the tempest, the corroding fingers of time will not dim its glories so long as liberty and freedom reign supreme in this land.

Upon the conclusion of his speech, Governor Abbett introduced Judge Joel Parker, ex-Governor of the State of New Jersey, as the orator of the day.

ORATION BY EX-GOVERNOR JOEL PARKER.

Ex-Governor Parker then delivered the following oration:

*Fellow-Citizens:*

The monument which has just been unveiled in the presence of this vast assembly has been erected to commemorate the heroic deeds of our forefathers who fought at Monmouth on the 28th day of June, 1778.

To the liberality of the people, aided by the general and State governments, we owe the consummation of this patriotic work. It is true that this memorial has been long delayed. More than a hundred years have passed since the American troops, under Washington, met on these fields, in deadly conflict, the flower of the British army. But the descendants

of the men who fought for liberty here have never ceased to feel an honorable pride in their achievements on that day. The thrilling incidents connected with the battle, rehearsed at the fireside by father to son, have come down to the present generation, keeping alive the spirit of patriotism until the opportune time arrived to place on the spot where the first gun was fired on that quiet Sabbath morning in June, a monument worthy the event.

The war between Great Britain and France, which closed in 1764, was chiefly waged upon American soil. The colonists had borne the brunt of hostilities. Thirty thousand of their best men had been slain or died in the service, and a public debt of ten millions of dollars had been contracted by the colonies. Notwithstanding this, England determined to tax America to aid her in paying the debt she had incurred in the prosecution of a war undertaken by her to extend her possessions and enhance her own glory.

This the colonists resisted. They protested against taxation unless they were given a voice in Parliament. No taxation without representation was their insistent, but their protests were in vain. In 1765 the stamp act was passed. Then followed, in quick succession, writs of assistance and the billeting of troops on the people. Duties were laid on various articles in common use. In less than four years, no less than twenty-nine acts of an arbitrary nature, which Burke termed "an infinite variety of paper chains," directed against the colonies and seriously affecting them, were passed by Parliament.

Each act of oppression produced renewed protest and resistance. The stamps were destroyed and the stamp officers compelled to resign. The people refused to use the articles on which duties had been laid by Great Britain to fill her empty coffers. Cargoes of tea, shipped to Boston, were thrown into the harbor, and Jerseymen made a bonfire of the cargo landed from the brig Greyhound on the banks of the Cohansey.

Then came the closing of the port of Boston, and the enforcement of martial law in that city. Other colonies sympathized with Massachusetts, and sent her people provisions. Then it was that the inhabitants of Monmouth county sent to the sufferers in Boston twelve hundred bushels of rye and fifty barrels of rye meal, with a letter, exhorting them to stand firm and not recede while the blood of freedom ran in their veins.

28 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

Lexington and Bunker Hill soon followed, and the American Revolution had commenced. The thirteen sparsely populated and feeble colonies, not yet recovered from the exhausting effects of the French war but recently closed, found themselves in armed hostility to the mother country, then the most powerful nation on the globe.

The war progressed without decided result through the campaigns of 1776 and 1777. During the year last named, the Americans had been successful at Saratoga, but had been worsted at Germantown and Brandywine; and at the close of that year, the American army went into winter quarters at Valley Forge under the most discouraging circumstances, while the enemy, under Sir William Howe, confident of ultimate success, occupied the city of Philadelphia.

No tongue can describe the privations and sufferings of the men at Valley Forge during that intensely cold and inclement winter. Both officers and soldiers were in huts, on straw, without blankets, and almost without clothing. Whole regiments were barefoot. The rounds of the sentries and the route of foraging parties were marked by blood upon the snow and frozen earth. For days together there was no meat, and often no bread.

The families of the men were clamoring for food, and beseeching them to come home to provide for wife and children; and yet there was no mutiny, no desertion, and but little murmuring, for the soldiers loved their country and loved Washington, and knew that he shared with them their misfortunes in a sympathetic spirit, and was doing all in his power to relieve them. These were the troops who soon after fought at Monmouth. No power on earth could overcome such men when properly officered and directed.

It requires stout hearts to stand unmoved in the forefront of battle when flying shot and shell deal almost certain death; but the men who, at Valley Forge, endured for months such terrible privations, exhibited greater evidence of fortitude and devotion to country than they did in any or in all the battles in which they were engaged. Valley Forge was the school of discipline for Monmouth, and thus the events that occurred there during that dreary winter, which was the crucial period of the American cause, are so connected with our theme as to deserve special notice.

To add to the difficulties and dangers that at that time threatened

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 29

America in her struggle for freedom, a conspiracy to undermine the confidence of the people and of the troops in Washington, with the ultimate object of superseding him in the command of the American forces, was discovered: It was known by the name of the Conway Cabal, because General Conway, a foreign officer, was its chief promoter. In the army this conspiracy was confined to a few officers, but, through the secret intrigues and machinations of the cabal, dissatisfaction had spread to some of the local Legislatures, and even to some members of Congress. An act was passed by Congress creating a Board of War, the object of which, although concealed, was to cripple Washington in the conduct of the war, so as to prevent his success, and thus produce greater dissatisfaction. The time was considered favorable by the conspirators. It was hoped by them that the army would ascribe its sad condition at Valley Forge to the inefficiency of the commander; but they found, when the intrigues of the cabal were exposed, that the troops cried out with one accord: "No army without Washington! Long live Washington!" and the conspirators were compelled to retire from the army in disgrace.

On the 27th day of February, 1778, there arrived at Valley Forge an officer to whom, next to Washington, America is indebted for the success of her arms at Monmouth. Baron Steuben, a Prussian by birth, was a thoroughly educated soldier and of great experience. He had been Adjutant-General on the king's staff. When he resigned that position his services were sought by other European powers, through inducements, promising fame and fortune; but, declining all propositions, he came to America and joined the army as a volunteer, without pay, unless independence was secured.

Steuben was a believer in the efficiency produced by military discipline. His long and varied experience had taught him that men who could fight well behind fortifications, could not, without discipline, stand before an enemy in the open field.

Appointed inspector of the army, with the rank of Major General, he commenced schools of instruction, and faithfully continued them throughout the winter and spring, and when the army started for Monmouth every regiment was able, as subsequent events proved, to form in line of battle and execute the most difficult movements in the open field, under fire.

In the early spring another officer of high rank joined the army at

30      *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

Valley Forge. He had been a prisoner of war since December, 1776, and, at the time of his exchange, was the senior Major-General, ranking next to the Commander in-Chief. As this officer was destined to play an important part in the battle which was soon to follow, a brief sketch of him is proper in this connection.

Charles Lee was not connected with the Lee family of Virginia. He was an Englishman by birth, and for many years served in the British army, attaining the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Forty-fourth Regiment of foot. He was with that regiment in the French war, and was at Fort Duquesne, at Braddock's defeat. He afterwards served in Portugal, against the Spaniards. Subsequently he was a Major-General in the Polish army. He came to this country a second time about the commencement of the Revolution, and soon received from Congress a Major-General's commission.

Lee was of a petulant disposition, insubordinate, ambitious and vain. From the first he aspired to the chief command of the American forces. In short, Charles Lee was a military adventurer, a soldier of fortune, thoroughly versed in the profession of arms, but devoid of principle, and ready to fight without regard to the cause he espoused.

In the fall of 1776, when Washington was marching across New Jersey toward the Delaware, pursued by a superior force of the enemy, Lee, with three thousand men, remained for a long time on the New York side of the Hudson, refusing to obey repeated orders from Washington to join him; and when at last he did move, he loitered in Northern New Jersey until he managed to have himself captured by a company of British Dragoons, at a farm house near Baskinridge, more than three miles from his camp. As a prisoner, he had in New York City the largest liberty, and possessed peculiar facilities to obtain information concerning American affairs, knowing of, and, as was afterwards proved, sympathizing with the Conway Cabal. In 1857 a document, in the handwriting of Charles Lee, dated March 29, 1777, (while he was a prisoner,) was discovered, in which he submitted to the military authorities of Great Britain a plan to conquer America.

In May, 1778, after he had been exchanged and had reached Valley Forge, in consequence of the exposure of the then recent conspiracy, Congress instructed Washington to administer the oath of allegiance to all the

officers. When Lee was about to take the oath he suddenly withdrew his hand from the Bible. On being asked for an explanation, he said that as to King George he was ready to absolve himself from all allegiance, but he had some scruples about the Prince of Wales. Although he afterwards kissed the book, the remark excited the contempt of all present.

The character and previous conduct of General Lee have been given at some length, because much that took place at Monmouth is thus explained. There is no doubt that Washington and other officers suspected his fidelity, but they did not have all the evidence we now possess.\*

Another event occurred in the winter of 1777-78, which so controlled the movements of the armies of the belligerent powers, in the next campaign, as to here demand notice. On the 6th day of February, 1778, a treaty of amity and armed alliance with France was concluded. The French government at once began warlike preparations to send ships of war and troops to America. The news of the French alliance reached the camp at Valley Forge early in May, and was received with great rejoicing. The whole army was assembled, the treaty read, and prayer and thanksgiving offered in presence of the troops. Cheers were given for France, for the Republic of America and for Washington. No American can forget how much we owe to France for aid in that emergency. Had it not been for that alliance in the hour of our deepest gloom, it is doubtful if independence would have been secured.

A fleet of twelve ships of the line, of immense size and weight of guns, together with four large frigates, soon sailed from France for the capes of the Delaware. As soon as intelligence of the fitting out of this powerful fleet was received in London, the evacuation of the city of Philadelphia by the British was determined upon. It became a military necessity. There were no transports to remove the troops to New York by water, and a march across the Jerseys was inevitable. Admiral Howe, who commanded the British fleet in the Delaware, weighed anchor and sailed for

---

\*From an account of the battle of Monmouth, translated from a French publication, entitled "Historical and Political Essays on the North American Revolution, by M. Hilliard d' Aulertaul, published at Brussels and Paris, 1782," the following extract is taken: "Washington had accomplished all that his valor and skill could effect, but the fate of the day was compromised before he reached the field. There was great complaint against Gen. Lee; he was even accused of having bargained with the English while he was their prisoner; his conduct was examined by a court-martial, whose decision being confirmed by an act of Congress, obliged him to leave the service."

32 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

Sandy Hook. Ten days after he left, the French fleet, which had been detained by adverse winds and tempestuous weather, entered the mouth of Delaware bay.

Sir William Howe, who had command of the British army when it went into winter quarters in Philadelphia, had resigned in the early spring, leaving Sir Henry Clinton in command. Clinton was an able General, who had the full confidence of his government.

The army in Philadelphia, numbering about twelve thousand men, had been quartered in that city during the entire winter and spring, living in luxury and indulging in dissipation, in marked contrast with the privations and suffering at Valley Forge. The balls, fetes and assemblies given, in style and magnificence of appointment have never been surpassed. So notorious did these become that the wise Franklin, alluding to the threatened demoralization of the British army, remarked that "General Howe had not taken Philadelphia, but Philadelphia had taken General Howe."

On the evening of the 17th of June a part of the army, with the baggage train, crossed the Delaware to Cooper's Point, and early the next morning the remainder of the troops crossed to Gloucester. At first their objective point was New York City, by way of New Brunswick. One wing of the army, under General Knyphausen, passed through Haddonfield, Mount Holly and Imlaystown. The other wing, under Lord Cornwallis, with which was Sir Henry, marched by way of the Black-Horse (now Columbus), Bordentown, Crosswicks and Allentown. When at the town last named, in consequence of information of the movements of the American army, Sir Henry changed his route of march further to the east, which brought the two wings in conjunction, and thus they passed to Monmouth Court House, destined for Sandy Hook, there to embark for New York, under guard of the ships of war with which Lord Howe had escaped from the Delaware.

On the 27th day of June, the whole British army encamped for the night in a strong position in and around the little village then called Monmouth Court House.\* Their right extended a mile and a half northeasterly from the village, on the old road to Middletown, while their extreme left was at a distance of three miles from the village, on the road leading

---

\*The division under Knyphausen reached the vicinity of Freehold on the 26th of June, and the other division on the 27th.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 33

to Allentown. There were here encamped over twelve thousand men, consisting of two battalions of light infantry, two regiments of light dragoons, five brigades of British guards, two battalions of British grenadiers, Hessian yagers, Hessian grenadiers, and two brigades of Hessian infantry, besides a number of organizations of Loyalists, among which was the celebrated squadron of Queen's Rangers, commanded by Colonel Simcoe. The troops composing the army encamped here on the night of the 27th of June were among the best soldiers Great Britain, or any other nation, ever put into the field. The most of them were veterans, thoroughly disciplined and splendidly uniformed and equipped.

How beautiful is the description of the scene here on that night, from the pen of a gifted young orator, to be found in the printed oration he prepared for the ceremonies at the laying of the corner-stone of this monument on the 28th of June, 1878, but which he never delivered, because in the providence of God the hand of death was laid upon him.\* "It was the night of Saturday, the 27th day of June. Imagine, if you can, the scene. The little village about the wooden court house, full of soldiers in scarlet, the neighing of many horses picketed along the road, here an officer riding by, there a guard marching to its post, the innumerable voices of the camp growing fainter as the evening draws on, and at last the quiet of the summer night broken only by the steady footfalls of the sentinels and the barking of a dog at some distant farm-house. Who can foresee that on the morrow a deed shall be done that shall consecrate for all time this quiet Jersey village, and that the benedictions of a grateful people shall descend forever upon Monmouth Court House?"

Having followed the enemy to the place where the battle was to be fought, let us now inquire where the American army was, and what it was doing. Washington had anticipated the evacuation of Philadelphia, and had made his preparations to march at a moment's notice. Before noon of the 18th of June a messenger on a foaming horse came dashing into

---

\* Henry Armitt Brown, an eloquent young member of the bar of Philadelphia, who had attained well-deserved reputation as an orator. He delivered the oration at the Centennial Celebration at Valley Forge, June 19, 1878. He had accepted an invitation to speak at the Centennial of Monmouth, June 28, 1878. In consequence of the extreme heat, he became very sick soon after he returned home from Valley Forge, from which sickness he never recovered, and died on the 21st of August, 1878. He wrote the oration he expected to deliver at Monmouth while in bed, but was too sick to take the journey to deliver it.

34 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

camp at Valley Forge, with the intelligence that the whole British army had crossed the river to take up their line of march across New Jersey.

Before night, the American army was put in motion. The river was crossed at Coryell's ferry (now Lambertville), and the next day reached Hopewell, where a council of war was held. Thence the army moved by way of Kingston and Cranbury, and on the night of the 27th day of June, the advance, consisting of five thousand picked men, with twelve pieces of artillery, under General Lee, was at Englishtown, only five miles from the British camp. Washington, with the main army of about eight thousand rank and file, was three miles in the rear of the advance body, but within supporting distance.

At the council of war held at Hopewell, already mentioned, and also at a previous council held just before leaving Valley Forge, Lee had strenuously opposed bringing on a general engagement, and presented his views so adroitly and persistently as to induce a majority of the council to agree with him. But other officers, including Greene, Wayne and the Marquis de Lafayette, in all of whom Washington reposed great confidence, advised a different policy; and agreeing with them, he determined to risk battle at the first favorable opportunity. The British were now within a few miles of the hills of Middletown, where the contour of the ground would not permit attack on anything like equal terms.

As second in rank, Lee had the right to command the advance, but at first he petulantly declined, giving as a reason that the movement was against his advice, and he said he did not propose to take any of the responsibility of an attempt which would prove a failure.

To Lafayette was then given the leadership, and although he was a mere youth, not yet twenty-one years of age, had the command been retained by him, the battle of Monmouth would have been wholly fought in and easterly of the village. There would have been no retreat on the part of the Americans. But Lee, whether he supposed it would militate against his military record to finally decline so important a position, or whether he concluded he could better contribute to make the attack a failure, by taking command, on the night before the battle withdrew his declination, and the gallant young Frenchman generously yielded.

Lee was requested by Washington to hold a conference with his general officers, as to a plan of battle. He promised to do so, and fixed a time and

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 35

place for the conference, but he neglected to appear at the time appointed, and led the troops the next day to the field of action without any plan and without even knowing many of the brigade and regimental officers assigned to him. His orders from Washington on that morning were to put his column in motion at daylight, and attack the enemy as soon as he moved from his position, so as to bring on a general engagement, unless there were very powerful reasons to the contrary, and that he would bring up the main army to support him.

It was after sunrise when Lee left Englishtown, and after eight o'clock when his advance column, under General Wayne, emerged from the woods then standing just in the rear of the place where we are now assembled, and came in full view of the Court House.

Knyphausen's division, with a long train of baggage, had moved at sunrise, and was already half way to the hills of Middletown, and the other division, under Lord Cornwallis, comprising the flower of the army, had just descended from the high ground here into the plain northeasterly of the Court House, and in the direction of Sandy Hook.\*

The Queen's Rangers, with some infantry, had remained behind as a covering body, and were formed on an eminence just behind the Court House. As Wayne emerged from the woods with his command, he ordered Colonel Butler to open on the Queen's Rangers with two pieces of artillery, which he did, and within a hundred yards from where we stand, the first gun of the battle of Monmouth was fired.† The Queen's Rangers retired into the village, and riding down the street towards Middletown, with the foot assigned to support them, joined the British rear, then nearly a mile away.

In referring to the place where we are now assembled, the same gifted young orator said: "Long has that spot been neglected, but the time shall come when the sons of America will build, with pious services, upon that sloping field, a monument to mark forever the place where the first shot was fired and the battle of Monmouth was begun." To-day this prophecy is fulfilled.

---

\* This plain commenced near Freehold, northeasterly of the east ravine. The railroad between Freehold and Marlboro runs through it.

† At the time of the battle, woods extended from Hartshorne's pond almost to the house where Mrs. Schanck resides. The Queen's Rangers, when the artillery of Colonel Butler opened on them, were formed on the rising ground near where the late Aaron R. Throckmorton resided, over which the street from the Court House to Monument Park now passes.

36 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

It is not my purpose, nor will time permit, to describe in detail the movements of the troops in the engagement which followed. The Americans crossed the ravine which forms the easterly boundary of this farm (and which can now be distinctly seen at my left), a little more than half a mile northerly from the village, and followed the British into the plain. Here General Wayne ordered Colonel Butler to attack the British rear. Sir Henry Clinton knew that the Jersey militia, under Generals Dickinson, Maxwell and Morgan, were hovering on his flanks, and when Wayne attacked, fearing the capture and destruction of his train, he ordered the division of Lord Cornwallis to about face and drive the Americans back to the Court House. The Light Dragoons made a furious charge on Butler's regiment, and were received with the bayonet, and following up the advantage gained, Butler, with musketry, drove the horse back upon the foot, and scattered them also. General Wayne then made disposition of all the troops under his command to bring on a general engagement, but Lee countermanded, and directed him to make only a feint.

In order to better understand the movement of troops and the fighting which occurred on that morning in and northeasterly of the village, I will give the substance of the testimony of General Anthony Wayne, given by him a few days after the battle, before the Lee court-martial. He says: "Colonel Butler formed the advance guard. His troops took up the line of march from Englishtown. When we arrived near the edge of some open ground in view of the Court House, we observed a body of the enemy's horse drawn up on the northwest side, between us and the Court House. Their horse seemed so much advanced from their foot, that I could hardly perceive the movement of the foot, which induced me to order Colonel Butler to drive back their horse. Butler drove the horse into the village. I then advanced with the troops and crossed the east ravine about three-quarters of a mile northeast of the Court House."

After crossing the ravine, the testimony of Wayne continues: "There were three hundred horse and two hundred foot to cover them. The horse charges Butler's detachment. He broke the horse by a well-directed fire, which drove the horse among the foot, which broke them and ran them off likewise. The enemy then opened with three pieces of artillery on us, before we had advanced two hundred yards, and our artillery answered

them." The fight, so graphically described in the evidence of Wayne, occurred on the adjoining farm to this just over the east ravine.\*

General David Forman, of the New Jersey militia, after the enemy's horse had charged Colonel Butler's detachment, rode forward to discover the number and situation of the enemy, and then rode to General Lee and offered to take a detachment, by a road on the left, to double their right flank; to which proposition General Lee answered in a morose and surly way, "I know my business." At this juncture, while Lee was vacillating in the face of the enemy, the Marquis de Lafayette, who had the right of the American line, and held the ground below the village over which the Shrewsbury road now passes, saw some British troops separated from the main body, whom he thought could be cut off, and galloping his horse up to Lee, asked liberty to attack them; upon which Lee said, "You do not know British soldiers; we cannot stand against them." To which the gallant Marquis replied, "British soldiers have been beaten, and may be again. At all events I wish to make the trial."

There was fighting, principally with artillery, in and around the village that morning for upwards of three hours, for it was after eleven o'clock when the Americans began to retire towards the west. At first Lee ordered that a stand be made at the village, but that order was countermanded, Lee giving as a reason that he had supposed the houses in the village were built of stone, but he found they were only of wood. That the retreat on that occasion was entirely unnecessary, was the opinion of nearly every officer sworn before the court-martial. Lee had five thousand of the best troops, independent of militia, and most of them were of the Continental line. They were in fighting humor and anxious to try their mettle against the enemy. Except in a few instances, where regiments or brigades became separated in the woods, the retreat was not disorderly. The men retired slowly and sullenly, angry because not permitted to bring on a general engagement.

It was more than an hour after leaving the village before the troops arrived on the grounds where they were rallied and made a stand, a distance in a direct course of not much over a mile. The officers were

---

\*This fight, described in the evidence of General Wayne, took place on the farm now owned and occupied by Andrew Perrine. Numerous cannon balls, bayonets, ramrods, &c., have been ploughed up on this farm.

indignant. Many said, "We are fleeing from a shadow;" and Wayne remarked, "I have this day seen a very select body of troops drawn off from a body inferior in number."

When Washington heard the artillery firing at Monmouth Court House, he put the main army in motion towards the scene of action. He had passed Englishtown and the old Tennent Church, and was approaching the parsonage farm on the west side of the west ravine, when a straggler was seen coming rapidly down the road. He was stopped and questioned as to the cause of his flight. He said that the Americans were retreating, and the British, under Clinton, with large reinforcements from Knyphausen's division, were pursuing, and were close on the rear of our retreating regiments. At first, Washington could not credit the information, for Lee had sent no such dispatch. Could it be possible that an officer of such experience would omit that, which no General had ever before omitted, and allow a large body to fall back on the reserve, without notice, and thus endanger the whole army?

Suspicion flashed across the mind of Washington, and he resolved at once to go to the front in person and stop the retreat. Leaving behind the white horse he had been riding, because exhausted by the heat, he mounted a favorite thoroughbred chestnut mare, and with his staff sped towards the retreating troops. Putting spurs to the fleet animal, he soon left his staff behind, and alone, on a full run, rode up the rising ground of the road in front of the parsonage farm, where he met the first of the retreating troops. As he rode on with undiminished speed the soldiers raised their hats and cheered for Washington. This scene is vividly portrayed by the bronze tablet on the front of the monument just unveiled. The presence of Washington restored confidence, and stopped the retreat.

When he passed to the rear of the retreating troops, he met Colonels Ramsey, Stewart and Oswald, with artillery, every gun of which they had brought off. He ordered Colonel Ramsey to make a stand there, and hold the position to the last extremity, so as to give time to form the line of battle and bring up the main army. The grenadiers and guards would be up in ten minutes. Every second was of great importance. There Ramsey stood, and defended the guns by hand-to-hand fighting, until he was wounded and taken prisoner. But the time to form the second line was gained. This scene is represented by the tablet in bronze on the

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 39

westerly side of this monument, and is a most spirited picture. Because of the heroic bravery of Ramsey on this occasion, which came under the eye of Sir Henry himself, he was, the next morning, released on his parole.

As Washington was leaving Ramsey, Lee came up. The interview on that occasion will go down in history as one of the dramatic incidents of this battle, so full of exciting scenes.\*

There is some difference in the accounts given of this interview, but the general features are the same. There is no doubt that Washington was very angry. One writer says: "His wrath was sublime." His manner, as well as his language, betokened great indignation--and Lee cowered before him, as much from the expression of his eye as from his words. It has been said that he called Lee a "poltroon," and used an oath as a prefix to the word; but, in examining carefully the evidence taken at the court-martial of Lee, I do not find that any witness says that profane language was used. Weems states that Washington said, "For God's sake, General Lee, what is the cause of this ill-timed prudence?" and that Lee thereupon replied, "No man can boast a larger portion of that rascally virtue than your Excellency." The best authenticated account of the interview, and the one generally received, is as follows, viz.: Washington said: "I wish to know, General, what is the meaning of all this; why this disorder and confusion?" For a moment Lee was confused and could scarcely answer, but when he did recover his self-possession, he said: "My orders have been misunderstood and disobeyed. I did not choose to beard the whole British army with troops in this condition, and besides, the whole thing was against my opinion." To which Washington replied: "Whatever your opinion may have been, I expected my orders to have been obeyed, and you should not have undertaken it if you did not intend to carry it through." Lee then said: "These men cannot face the British Grenadiers." To which Washington answered: "They can do it, and they shall."

At this moment, Colonel Alexander Hamilton, one of the Aids of Washington, afterwards the great statesman and financier, then only twenty-two years of age, rode up, and dismounting, exclaimed in the

---

\* This interview is said to have taken place in or near the road from Freehold to Englishtown, opposite the parsonage farm.

40 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

ardor and excitement of youth: "General, you are betrayed; this army is betrayed, and the moment has arrived when every true son of America must be ready to die in her defense." To show the noble character of Washington and his perfect self-control and equanimity when his indignation had subsided, he made no reply, except to say: "Colonel Hamilton, take horse and follow me."

The line of battle of the Second Division was then formed with General Greene on the right, Lord Stirling on the left, and Washington in the center, with the rear line under the Marquis.\*

It is said that on no other occasion did Washington appear to such advantage as on the field of Monmouth. Wrought up to the very extreme of excitement, with the fate of his country depending on his action at that crisis, a man of splendid figure and presence, of noble countenance, a magnificent horseman, no one ever beheld (as Lafayette afterwards said) so superb a man. His presence stopped the retreat; his disposition of the troops gained the victory.

And here the services of Steuben, at Valley Forge, bore fruit. The troops so lately in retreat, as soon as confidence was restored, halted, wheeled into line, and under fire took position as if on parade. After encountering Ramsey, and taking the position he occupied, the British attempted to turn the American left, and next the right, but were defeated in both efforts. The most desperate fight that thus far had occurred, was on the American right, at or near a hedge-row or brush-fence, being on the line which then was and still is the southerly boundary of the parsonage farm.† Here bayonets were crossed, and the Americans were for a moment driven back by the Grenadiers under Colonel Monckton (Viscount Galway's son), but they soon rallied, and with the aid of six pieces of Knox's artillery stationed on the extreme right, upon Combs' Hill,‡ which opened an enfilading fire on the enemy, were soon masters of that part of the field.

---

\*The line of battle of the main army was formed just northerly of the west ravine, towards the old Tennent Church; the center on the farm formerly occupied by Jacob Herbert, Esq.; the left, under Lord Stirling, extending on the farms now of Dr. Joseph C. Thompson and Enoch L. Cowart, and the right, under General Greene, on the parsonage farm; the rear line, under Lafayette, on the farm now owned by Mrs. John M. Perrine.

† This hedge-row, or brush fence, stood on the line between the parsonage farm and the farm then of one Peter Wyckoff, and in history called the Wyckoff farm, subsequently belonging to Major John Gordon, and now to Tunis Denise.

‡ On the farm formerly belonging to Aaron R. Combs, to whom it came from his father, and now the property of Dr. Sherman.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 41

But the fiercest of the conflict was now to come. Colonel Monckton rallied his men, and with both battalions of Grenadiers again crossed the hedge-row and advanced towards the parsonage house and outbuildings, where Wayne was stationed. The British made two several charges, but each time were repulsed with great slaughter. Before the third charge Monckton was seen haranguing his men, and as they advanced with their gallant Colonel in the lead, he received a death-wound, fell from his horse, and his body was borne off by the Americans. This is another of the exciting incidents of the battle which will be represented in bronze on this monument.

The Americans, under Wayne, mostly farmers, then advanced in their shirt-sleeves with sleeves rolled up, when the British retired behind the middle ravine.\*

While the fighting was going on at the hedge-row, an incident of a still more dramatic character occurred, which will ever make the battle of Monmouth memorable. It has formed a theme for the poet, and a subject for the pencil of the artist, and at last has been pictured in bronze, that will on this monument represent to future generations one of the most daring deeds of woman that history records; certainly without a parallel in this country.

A cannoneer at one of the guns of Knox's artillery was killed, and there was no one to take his place. An order was given to move the gun from the field, because there were not artillerymen enough to man it. The wife of the dead cannoneer had been to the spring in the edge of the west ravine on the parsonage farm for water, for the use of her husband and his comrades, and to keep the sponge wet. As she returned, she saw her husband lying dead on the ground near the wheel of the cannon. Hearing that the gun was to be moved off, she dashed forward, exclaiming, "I

---

\* This middle ravine was on the farm now belonging to D. Demarest Denise. It was then swampy, but now, in consequence of underdraining, not much evidence of swamp remains, except depression in the ground. This farm belonged to the Rhea family, who resided in Freehold, and the tenant on the farm was named Carr, and hence the house thereon was called, in the accounts of the battle, the "Carr house." This farm extended nearly up to the village, and between it and the parsonage farm was the Wyckoff farm, so there were only two farms between the village and the parsonage farm. On the Rhea farm, in the line of the retreat, is an old family burying-ground of the Rhea family. The oldest tombstone therein marks the grave of Janet Rhea, who died in 1715, aged 90. Of course, she was a Scotch immigrant.

42 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

will avenge his death," seized the rammer, drove home the load, and continued to serve the gun throughout the battle. The troops, who saw Captain Molly at the gun, were aroused to the highest pitch of enthusiasm and rushed on the foe.

Capt. Molly was the *nom de guerre* of the heroine of Monmouth, and by this name she will go down in history to future ages. General Greene complimented her on the field, and the next morning conducted her to Washington. The French officers were so charmed with the bravery she exhibited, which appealed so strongly to their chivalric nature, that they made her valuable presents.\* The pay of a Sergeant (the rank of her husband) was given her for life by the government.

A New Jersey poet † thus describes this scene:

"As we turned our flanks and centre in the path of death to enter,  
One of Knox's brass six-pounders lost its Irish cannonier.  
And his wife, who 'mid the slaughter had been bearing pails of water  
For the gun and for the gunners, over his body shed a tear.  
'Move the piece!' but there they found her, loading, firing that six-  
pounder,  
And she bravely, till we won, worked the gun.

\* \* \* \* \*  
Though like tigers fierce they fought us, to such zeal had Molly brought us,  
That though struck with heat and thirsting, yet of drink we felt no lack;  
There she stood, amid the clamor, swiftly handling sponge and rammer,  
While we swept with wrath condign on their line." ‡

It was now too late to renew the fight, but the American troops laid upon their arms on the field of battle.

In the darkness of the night the enemy moved off so silently that the troops nearest them heard no sound. They took the road to Middletown, and in their retreat again passed over the ground on which we are now assembled. In the morning it was too late for pursuit, as the British by that time had reached the hilly country, and without cavalry pursuit would have been in vain.

In his official communication to the home government, Sir Henry gave as a reason for leaving when he did, that he desired the light of the moon.

---

\*There were no French troops in the battle of Monmouth. There were, however, several French officers who had volunteered in American regiments.

†Dr. Thomas Dunn English.

‡The place where Captain Molly served the gun was on the parsonage farm, about half way between the hedge row and the buildings.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 43

In his dispatch he wrote as follows: "Having reposed the troops until ten at night, to avoid the excessive heat of the day, I took advantage of the moonlight to join General Knyphausen, who had advanced to Nut swamp, near Middletown."

It so happened that on that night the moon set a little before eleven o'clock, and as it was subsequently ascertained that Sir Henry did not move until midnight, the moon was not of much advantage to him.

In allusion to this circumstance, Trumbull wrote:

"He forms his camp with great parade  
While evening wraps the world in shade,  
Then still, like some belated spark,  
Steals off, on tiptoe, in the dark;  
Yet writes the King, in boastful tone,  
How grand he marched by light of moon."

Thus ended the battle of Monmouth. The troops had been under arms for twelve hours, and during much of the day the thermometer stood at ninety-six degrees. In considering the question of success it is to be observed that in the morning, for reasons already stated, the advantage was with the British, but in the afternoon the American troops achieved a decided victory. The enemy left the field in the night, without burying his dead or caring for the wounded. The next morning a letter was found in a sack from Sir Henry to Washington, commending the wounded to his humanity.

The loss of the Americans in killed, wounded and missing, was over three hundred. The British loss must have been more than double that number, although Sir Henry acknowledged a total of only three hundred and fifty-nine. Fifty-nine of the dead Sir Henry reported as dying from fatigue, having been found on the field without a wound. The number reported by Sir Henry was evidently an underestimate, because at least two hundred and fifty of the British dead were left behind unburied, and were buried the next day by the Americans, and there were also there at the time numerous fresh graves. Many wounded were left on the field, and the court house and several dwellings in Freehold were filled with the maimed and dying. There were numerous desertions, especially among the Hessians, so that the loss of the British army, from the time it left Philadelphia up to the end of the battle of Monmouth, must have been fully one thousand men.

What was thought of the result at the time may be seen from Washing-

44 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

ton's congratulatory order, dated at Headquarters, Freehold, June 29th, 1778, in which is the following :

"The Commander-in-Chief congratulates the army on the victory obtained over the arms of his Britannic majesty, and thanks most sincerely the gallant officers and men who distinguished themselves upon the occasion. General Dickinson \* and the militia of this State are also thanked for their nobleness in opposing the enemy on their march from Philadelphia, and for the aid which they have given in embarrassing them and impeding their motions, so as to allow the Continental troops to come up with them. It is with peculiar pleasure that the Commander-in-Chief, in addition to the above, can inform General Knox and the officers of the artillery that the enemy have done them the justice to acknowledge that no artillery could have been better served than ours."

In a letter subsequently written by Washington he used this language :

"From an unfortunate and bad beginning it turned out a glorious and happy day."

Hamilton wrote :

"Our troops, after the first impulse from mismanagement, behaved with more spirit and moved with greater order than the British troops."

Wayne said :

"Tell the Philadelphia ladies, who attended Sir William Howe's assemblies, that the heavenly, sweet, pretty red-coats, the accomplished gentlemen of the grenadiers and the guards, have been humbled on the plains of Monmouth."

Horace Walpole wrote :

"The royal army has gained an escape."

Congress passed the following resolution, viz. :

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of Congress be given to General Washington for the activity with which he marched from the camp at Valley Forge in pursuit of the enemy—for his distinguished exertions in forming the line of battle, and for his great good conduct in leading on the attack and gaining the important victory at Monmouth over the British Grand Army, under the command of General Sir Henry Clinton, in the march from Philadelphia to New York.

---

\* There was on the stand, just behind the speaker, a great-grandson of General Dickinson, Colonel S. Meredith Dickinson, of Trenton, at present Assistant Adjutant-General on the Governor's staff, and during the late war Private Secretary of Governor Parker.

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 45

*Resolved*, That General Washington be directed to signify the thanks of Congress to the gallant officers and men under his command, who distinguished themselves by their valor at the battle of Monmouth."

There are other features of this battle that claim attention. It was a fight between the main armies of the belligerent powers, under the respective Commanders-in-Chief, supported by the leading officers on either side. Besides Sir Henry Clinton, there were with the British, Lord Cornwallis, Knyphausen, Leslie, Grant, and Sir Wm. Erskine; and with Washington were Lafayette, Greene, Knox, Lord Stirling, Wayne, Steuben, Scott, and our own Dickinson, Maxwell, Morgan and Forman. There were also many young men of inferior rank, who subsequently attained to high position, among whom were Colonels Hamilton, Burr, Ogden and Frelinghuysen. James Monroe, the fifth President of the United States, was here on Lord Stirling's staff, with the rank of Major. And there was also here John Marshall, afterwards the Chief Justice of the United States, the most distinguished jurist this country has produced. He was then a Captain in the Eleventh Virginia Regiment, in the Continental line, and was in the advance under Wayne.

The consequences resulting from the battle were most important. It strengthened and sealed the French Alliance. It established Washington and the cause of America securely in the hearts of all the people. It also proved that the American soldiers, when disciplined, could stand before any troops on earth, in the open field or elsewhere.

The battle of Monmouth is peculiarly of national importance. Here were troops from each of the old thirteen. The north and the south stood on the field of Monmouth, shoulder to shoulder, for the achievement of victory and the establishment of independence. Who can doubt that the battles of the Revolution had a powerful influence over the combatants in the late Civil War in their hours of reflection? The story of those battles, in which their ancestors had together participated, had not only been recorded on the historic page but had come down to them through tradition. They were brethren of the same common ancestry, whose forefathers had unitedly established our freedom and cemented the Union with blood. They had read and heard of Bunker Hill, of Saratoga, of Guilford Court House, of King's Mountain, of Cowpens, of Bennington, Trenton, Princeton, Yorktown, and of Monmouth, and when not engaged in active

46      *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

hostilities their hearts warmed toward each other. How else can we account for the fact that when opportunity offered the soldiers of the Union and Confederate armies were found heartily fraternizing, and when the war closed, met each other with open arms? Who believes that if this government had been established without first gaining our independence through the battles of the Revolution, by the united efforts of our forefathers, that the Union would have been restored after the Civil War, except in name—held together by the power of bayonets? In his first inaugural address, President Lincoln, in alluding to the fraternal feelings produced by the knowledge that our forefathers fought in the American Revolution in and for a common cause, expressed the idea in one of the most beautiful and touching sentences in the language, when he said: "The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle-field and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Fellow-citizens, of all who fought here on the 28th day of June, 1778, not one survives. American, Briton, Hessian, all now mingle with the dust. Such is the common lot of man. In less than a hundred years none who are here to-day will be living on earth. Our joys, our cares, our sorrows, our toilings for livelihood, for fortune or for fame, will be over. But so long as life lasts may the love of country burn brightly in our hearts. On this spot, made sacred by the blood of our ancestors fighting for the freedom of our land, may we drink new inspiration, and resolve to stand by our country and maintain the Union in every crisis.

"Oh God! look down upon the land which thou hast loved so well,  
And grant that in unbroken faith her children still may dwell;  
Nor while the grass grows on the hill, and streams flow through the vale,  
May they forget their fathers' deeds or in their covenant fail.  
God keep the fairest, noblest land that lies beneath the sun,  
Our country, our whole country, and our country ever one."

And now, my friends, my duty is performed. The dream of youth, of manhood and advancing years is realized. A monument stands on the battle-ground of Monmouth. It is built of enduring granite and bronze. When century after century shall have passed away, there it will stand, with its shaft pointing toward heaven, crowned with "Columbia Triumph-

ant," its base portraying the heroic deeds of those who fought here and helped to achieve our national independence—the whole teaching all future generations the cost of liberty, and the value of our institutions.

When the oration of Judge Parker was finished, Governor Abbett announced that the ceremonies would be closed with the benediction, pronounced by Rev. George C. Maddock.

BENEDICTION BY REV. GEORGE C. MADDOCK.

Rev. Mr. Maddock pronounced the benediction :

May grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, in all their fullness and richness, rest upon all here assembled, upon our State and its officers, upon the President of the United States, upon his Cabinet, upon all who occupy official positions and upon the people of our beloved land, now and forevermore, Amen.

At the close of the ceremonies at the monument, a national salute of thirty-eight guns was fired.

THE ORATORS.

United States Secretary of State Frederick T. Frelinghuysen and Attorney-General John P. Stockton, who were invited to speak at the celebration, but were unable to do so on account of pressing engagements elsewhere, are both descendants of noted Revolutionary ancestry. Frelinghuysen is a grandson of Colonel Frelinghuysen, who commanded a battalion of New Jersey militia, under General Dickinson, at the battle of Monmouth. Stockton is a great-grandson of Hon. Richard Stockton, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Letters of regret that they were not able to participate in the unveiling ceremonies were received from these gentlemen.

48 *Monmouth Battle Monument.*

Ex-Governor Parker, the orator of the day, is also connected by blood with heroic patriots who fought at Monmouth. On his mother's side, he is a grandson of the brave Captain Joseph Coward, who was one of the officers in the regular Continental army. On his father's side, there were several relatives who fought in the battle among the State militia.

TELEGRAM FROM HON. S. S. COX.

The following telegram was received from Congressman S. S. Cox:

NEW YORK, November 13, 1884.

*To Hon. Joel Parker:*

Circumstances, the nature of which you may surmise, prevent my witnessing the grand unveiling. As a grandson of General James Cox, of Upper Freehold, who fought at Monmouth, and who was honored by New Jersey as her Congressman eighty years ago, every fiber of my being pulsates in sympathy with the patriotic memories your monument immortalizes.

S. S. COX.

ATTENDANCE.

It has been estimated that from twenty-five to thirty thousand people were in attendance at the ceremonies.

The special thanks of the committee are due to General William J. Sewell and Colonels Chambers and Murphy, of his staff, these officers reaching Freehold the day before the celebration, and taking charge of many important details.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county of Monmouth provided a commodious platform for the reviewing officers.

The Sub-committee of Arrangements issued the following:

*Monmouth Battle Monument.* 49

CARD OF THANKS.

FREEHOLD, N. J., November 20, 1884.

The Committee of Arrangements for the Unveiling of the Monmouth Battle Monument desire herewith to return their sincere thanks to the following organizations and individuals for the cordial and gratuitous co-operation that, in various ways, contributed so largely to the success of the ceremonies on November 13, viz.: The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county of Monmouth; the Board of Commissioners, the Citizens' Committee and the several soliciting committees of the town of Freehold; the Board of Directors of the Freehold Lyceum; the Aids to the Committee of Arrangements and to the Grand Marshal; the Corps of Institute Cadet-Aids to the Reception Committees; the Press Reception Committee and the proprietor of the rooms given them as headquarters; the Police Boards of New York and Philadelphia and the skilled detectives representing them here; the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Freehold and New York Railway Companies. Also, to the citizens generally, for their uniform helpfulness, courtesy and enthusiasm; and finally, to the military and other visiting organizations and individuals in procession and upon the platform, as well as to the many guests and strangers, from near and far, whose genial observance of the strict requirements of the day vitally conducted to the coveted success of those ceremonies in which the combined labors and anxieties of all actively concerned so happily culminated.

Very respectfully,

THEO. W. MORRIS,

*Chairman.*

JAMES S. YARD, *Secretary.*