

Henri Amitt Brown

Classics in the Grades

THE BATTLE  
OF MONMOUTH

AN ORATION

COMPOSED TO BE DELIVERED AT FREEHOLD,  
NEW JERSEY, JUNE 28, 1878, THE ONE HUN-  
DRETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE

BY

HENRY ARMITT BROWN

WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO TEACHERS,  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

BY

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## PREFATORY NOTE TO THE TEACHER

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BEFORE the reading of this oration is taken up for class work the teacher should make a careful study of that period of our history known as the "Formation of the Nation," which includes the controversy with England, resistance leading to independence, in order to give a correct interpretation of this great masterpiece. While this oration will appeal to the ordinary reader, yet for a study of it, such as may be required for the class-room, some preliminary work is essential. This critical study should be of a twofold character: first, the historical foundations upon which the orator built his framework; second, references to orations of others, similar in character, with which portions of this oration may be compared and contrasted.

### OUTLINE FOR CLASS READING

The appreciation of a classic improves with each reading, and this oration should be read at least three times.

### FIRST READING

The first step in the reading of any classic is to read it as a whole, for the purpose of permitting the student to get the thread of the discourse. This can best be done by a single rapid reading. In no sense should this reading be used as a formal reading lesson. We shall make an inevitable failure if we attempt to teach reading in connection with literary appreciation of a classic. The first lessons, then, should require merely an intelligent reading. It should be read aloud in a pleasing manner to get a good under-

standing of the discourse. Do not stop to look up words or to refer to the notes. Each day's reading should be so planned that it will stop at some interesting place, in order to keep up sustained interest on the part of the class. When we have read and have grasped the oration as a whole, we are ready for the second reading.

#### SECOND READING

In reading this oration a second time, we should aim to study the mechanical means by which the orator secured his effects. In this detailed study the teacher should do all the reading, planning each day's lesson so that it will stop at some logical place in the discourse. During the second reading the student should form clear conceptions of—

(a) *The Characters*.—Are the descriptions of the characters vivid? Can you see them? Can you call up a clear mental picture of them? Contrast the Revolutionary army at Valley Forge—poverty and patriotism, rags and resolution, bold, determined men writing upon the snow and ice of winter as their parchment, in their own blood, their deeds of valor and renown—with the British army in Philadelphia, flushed with victory, fearless of defeat, wearing the winter away with feasting and revelry. How and why came Washington and his army to Monmouth? Show that Valley Forge was the "school of discipline" for Monmouth. Emphasize the fact that, next to Washington, America is indebted to Baron Steuben for the success of her arms at Monmouth. General Washington was the central figure in this battle—show his noble character, his perfect self-control, and equanimity—how his presence stopped the retreat and his disposition of the troops gained the victory. Trace step by step the previous actions of Charles Lee, his singular conduct at Monmouth, his disrespect to his Commander-in-Chief and to Congress, his conviction and sentence.

Call the roll of the heroes of Monmouth: "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 a greater cannonading than any ever before heard in the Revolutionary struggle; there was the chivalrous Lafayette, filled with fervent zeal; there was the gallant Scott, ever eager to punish the foes of American liberty; there was the resolute Grayson of Virginia; the able 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 the State of New Jersey; there was the patriotic General Maxwell of New Jersey; there was the gallant Colonel Ramsay 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." And on this occasion we should not overlook the brave Molly Pitcher, the heroine of Monmouth, whose name will go down in history to future ages. Emphasize the fact that there is another class of heroes, worthy of all honor and praise—not the men who bore commissions and wore epaulets—the private soldiers, the rank and file, the noble men who died unknown to fame, who sleep in unmarked graves.

(b) *The Setting*.—Where is the scene laid? At what time of the year? Is there enough description to give a clear idea of the situation? Select the best descriptive passages. Can you see the lines of the two armies converging at Monmouth—the three skirmishes of the American army, resulting in confusion and

retreat due to the vacillation of General Charles Lee—the arrival of Washington—the meeting of Washington and Lee—the reorganization of the army under Washington, resulting in the fourth skirmish, which developed the battle of Monmouth.

(c) *The Structure of the Oration.*—Every well-constructed oration has an introduction. Is the introduction of this oration clearly marked? Where does it end? Does it properly introduce the subject? What is the purpose of an introduction? Does it arouse an interest in the subject? The body or framework of an oration is called the discourse or discussion. What is the central theme of the discussion? State it clearly in a sentence. Is there more than one theme? If so, are they closely related? Does the oration possess unity? Are there any digressions? Does Mr. Brown appeal to the intellect or to the emotional nature, or both? The conclusion of an oration is called the peroration. The purpose of the peroration is to sum up the main points of the discussion; to restate some points with emphasis; or to make a favorable impression at the conclusion. Where does the peroration begin? Does it serve the purpose or purposes of a peroration? Is the style different from the introduction or the discussion?

(d) *The Style.*—Select words that are strong and terse; expressions that are highly polished or ornamental. Read the best passages aloud and note the rhythm of the sentences. Does it possess individuality? Is the work characterized by accuracy of statement? sincerity? sympathetic appreciation? keen analysis? Of the three qualities of style—clearness, force, and beauty—which is most marked here? Are the sentences clear, short, long, or of average length? Are the paragraphs short, medium, or long? Does he use words precisely? Which of the following words best describe his diction: clear, simple, polished, ornate, terse, idiomatic, obscure, colloquial, verbose?

(e) *Memory Gems.*—The pupils should be encouraged to select choice passages for memorization and to state their reasons for their selection.

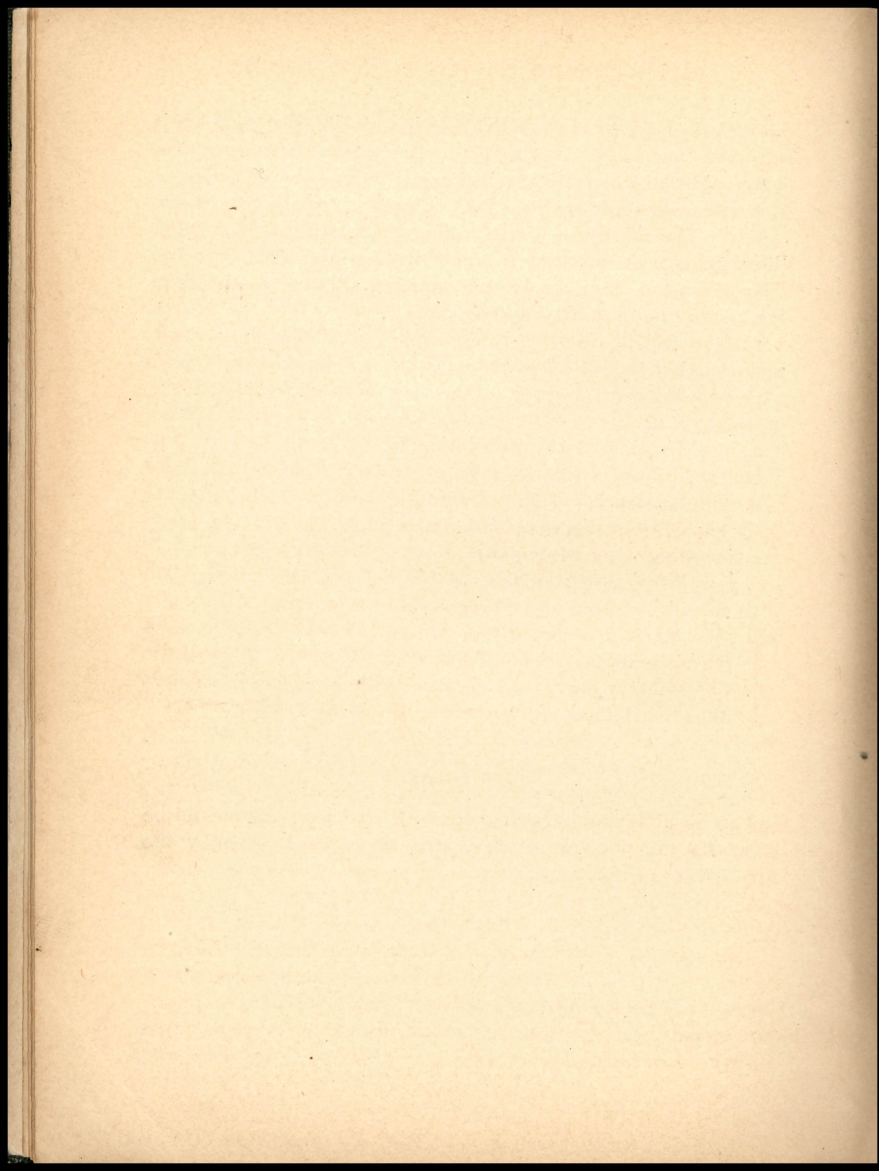
(f) *Collateral Reading*.—Select another oration and compare it with this one in the chief points of the outline. Note particularly points in which there is a marked difference. To what is this difference due—the time, the subject, or to the men themselves? The number of great orators whose orations survive as literature is very limited. Burke, Pitt, Sheridan, Fox, Calhoun, Clay, Webster, Everett, Lincoln, Sumner, Phillips, and Grady are among the most distinguished.

(g) *Composition Work*.—Brief compositions may be written upon selected topics. The following list of composition subjects may be profitably used in connection with the study of the oration:

- a. The Heroines of the Revolution.
- b. The Perfidy of Charles Lee.
- c. The Battlefields of New Jersey.
- d. The Military Services of Baron Steuben.
- e. Washington at Monmouth.
- f. Lord Stirling, the Patriot, vs. Charles Lee, the Traitor.
- g. Pursuit of Clinton by Washington.
- h. The Story of Molly Pitcher.
- i. The Evacuation of Philadelphia.
- j. The Military Services of General William Maxwell.
- k. Was the Retreat of Charles Lee Justifiable?

### THIRD READING

This reading should be free from all criticism, and should be given for the purpose of permitting the student to enjoy the revealed beauty of the oration.



# BATTLE OF MONMOUTH

An Oration Composed to be Delivered on the Hundredth Anniversary of that Battle

BY HENRY ARMITT BROWN

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IT is your fortune, men of Monmouth, to dwell upon historic ground. Yonder by the sea are the hills on which Hendrik Hudson gazed before he beheld the great river which still bears his name. Around you are the

Why is it the good fortune of the men of Monmouth to dwell upon historic ground? Name towns and villages that recall the days of Carteret and Berkeley. Why is this one of the most famous fields in the long struggle for liberty? Give instances to show that the men of Monmouth were a patriotic race.

MONMOUTH: A county in the eastern part of New Jersey; bounded on the north by the Raritan and Sandy Hook bays; on the east by the Atlantic Ocean; is drained by the Neversink and Manasquan rivers. The battle referred to was fought on June 28, 1778, at Monmouth Court House.

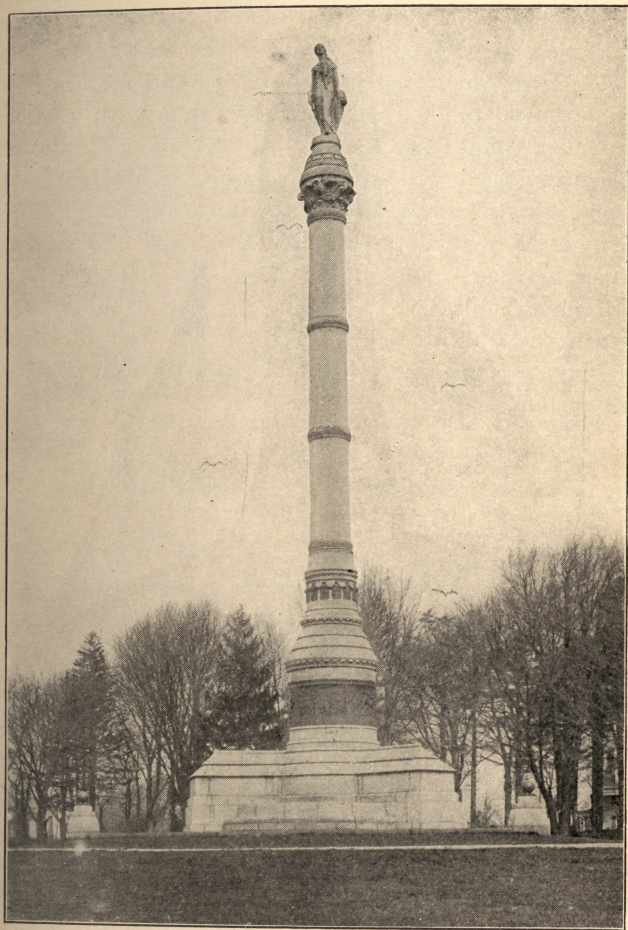
THE HILLS: The Atlantic Highlands.

HENDRIK HUDSON: An eminent English navigator. He made several unsuccessful attempts to find a northwest passage to India. In 1609, in the employ of the Dutch East India Company, he entered New York Bay and sailed up that noble river, which to-day bears his name.

towns and villages whose settlements recall the days of Carteret and Berkeley. The name of your pleasant country takes the imagination back to the gay court of Charles the Second and his favorite and ill-fated son—and year after year you gather the ripened grain from one of the most famous fields in the long fight for Liberty. Your sires were a patriotic race. When the struggle with Great Britain had begun and the

**CARTERET AND BERKELEY:** In 1664 the Duke of York gave the whole of the territory between the Delaware and Hudson rivers to his friends, Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. It was called New Jersey because Carteret had been governor of the island of Jersey in the English Channel. While Governor of Virginia Berkeley once said, "I thank God there are no free schools nor printing-presses in Virginia."

**CHARLES II** (King of England) was born May 29, 1630. When but twelve years old he was present with his father at the battle of Edgehill, and in 1646 escaped to France. In 1650 he landed in Scotland, was crowned at the Scone, and with 10,000 Scots marched into England, but was defeated and his army put to rout by Cromwell. For six years he wandered about a fugitive, with a price of £1000 set on his head, now hiding in an oak and now disguised as a serving man. On the fall of the Protectorate he was recalled to the throne. "The King shall enjoy his own again" was the refrain of an old Royalist song, and Charles tried to make the prediction come true. He had no sense of duty to his people, and spent enormous sums of the government money on his pleasures. He had not enjoyed life during his exile, and now, with his courtiers, indulged in all kinds of vice and depravity. His reign was called the worst in English history, yet he was always popular and enjoyed the nickname of the "Merry Monarch."



MONMOUTH BATTLE MONUMENT, FREEHOLD, N. J.

gallant town of Boston lay suffering and in chains, the men of Monmouth County sent on October 12, 1774, twelve hundred bushels of rye and fifty barrels of rye meal to their suffering brethren, with a letter in which I find these words: "We rely under God upon the firmness and resolution of your people, and earnestly hope they will never think of receding from the glorious ground they stand upon while the blood of Freedom runs in their veins." So wrote the Jerseymen of Monmouth in the beginning of the trouble, and when the war broke out they did not wait for their enemy to come, but armed themselves and went to meet him.

Recount briefly the causes of the struggle with Great Britain. What part did Boston take in these early struggles? What is meant by the expression "lay suffering and in chains"? What is meant by the expression "while the blood of Freedom runs in their veins"? What was the beginning of the trouble with Great Britain?

JAMES SCOTT (Duke of Monmouth) was born in 1649, the natural son of Charles II. His mother was Lucy Walters. He married Anne Scott, Duchess of Buccleuch, said to have been the richest heiress in the kingdom, and assumed her name. His personal advantages and agreeable manners made him very popular. He was in Holland when Charles II died. With a party of armed exiles he invaded England and raised the standard of rebellion. He was completely defeated at Edgemoor and captured a few days later. Having been taken into the presence of the king, he threw himself at his feet, and, with abject spirit, begged for his life at any price, but in vain. He was beheaded in July, 1685.

Sons of such sires, in full enjoyment of all they gained for you, you can celebrate with a light heart to-day, the 28th of June. The glory of that day belongs to all your countrymen alike, but the place that witnessed it belongs to you. The place—the time—this inspiring throng, would stir colder blood than his who speaks to you; and even if all else were calm within me, here and now I must still feel tingling within my veins the drops of blood which I inherit from one whose patriotic heart boiled within him at the hedgerow on the Parsonage farm an hundred years ago. And I must not forget that my duty is chiefly introductory. My task to-day is to describe the battle. It is hard to describe a fight, especially one so full of strange and contradictory stories, nor is it easy to cram into an

Why celebrate the 28th of June "with a light heart"? Why does the glory of that day belong to all countrymen alike?

**THE DROPS OF BLOOD WHICH I INHERIT:** The mild strain of Quaker ancestry was mingled in Henry Armitt Brown with Revolutionary blood. His great grandfather, Colonel Benjamin Hoppin of Providence, Rhode Island, passed through the Seven Years' War of Independence as a captain of the Rhode Island Continentals, and was present at Princeton, Red Bank, Monmouth, and other battles of the Revolution; while another maternal ancestor, Thomas Weld Philbrook of Rhode Island, served at Ticonderoga, and also suffered incredible hardships on board the "Jersey prison-ship."

**HEDGEROW:** A group of locusts known as the hedgerow.

**PARSONAGE FARM:** It is a mile and a half distant from the church; here the hottest fight of the battle occurred.

hour's speech the deeds of a day so long and glorious. With me you shall fight that battle over again. Others shall follow me to charm you with their eloquence, but for the hour that I stand here to-day, the Battle of Monmouth shall be the orator. I pray you, then, my countrymen, to listen, and to give me your attention and your patience.

### VALLEY FORGE AND PHILADELPHIA

The British and American armies during the winter of 1777-78 presented the most extraordinary contrast in military history. The troops of Washington were encamped in huts at Valley Forge, without clothes, or shoes, or blankets, and some of the time without food

Why is it hard to describe a fight? Why is the history of this battle "so full of strange and contradictory stories"? Recount some of the glorious deeds of Monmouth. In what sense was the Battle of Monmouth to be the orator? Why should this battle be commemorated? What is the purpose of this anniversary? What is the spirit of this hour? Name the introduction to this oration. Compare this introduction with the introduction to Webster's Bunker Hill Monument oration; Lincoln's Gettysburg Oration; Brown's Oration at Valley Forge.

Does this introduction prepare the way for the discussion? Does it serve to arouse an interest in the subject? Does it indicate the manner in which the subject is to be treated? What purpose or purposes does the introduction accomplish? On what subjects are orations usually delivered? An orator always has some definite aim—what is the aim in this oration? State in your own language the purpose of an introduction or exordium.

even of the simplest kind. The army of Howe lay snugly ensconced in Philadelphia, protected by strong entrenchments, thoroughly equipped, well fed, well clothed, and in direct communication with New York and England. At one time the hardships of the winter had reduced the Americans from eleven or twelve thousand to five thousand and twelve men. The British marched into Philadelphia with more than

Contrast the British and American armies during the winter of 1777-78.

"At no period of the war," writes Chief-Justice Marshall, "had the American army been reduced to a situation of greater peril than during the winter at Valley Forge. More than once they were absolutely without food. Even while their condition was less desperate in this respect, their stock of provisions was so scanty that there was seldom at any time in the stores a quantity sufficient for the use of the troops for a week. The returns on the first of February exhibit the astonishing number of three thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine men in camp unfit for duty for want of clothes. Of this number scarcely a man had a pair of shoes. Although the total of the army exceeded seventeen thousand men, the present effective rank and file amounted to only five thousand and twelve."

"What matters it to Sir William Howe and his victorious army if rebels be starving and their ragged paper currency be almost worthless? Here is gold and plenty of good cheer. What if the earth be wrinkled with frost? The houses of Philadelphia are snug and warm. What if the rigorous winter had begun and snow be whitening the hills? Here are mirth and music and dancing, and wine and women and play, and the pageants of a riotous capital! And so with feasting and with revelry let the winter wear away!"—HENRY ARMITT BROWN.

nineteen thousand, and at no time had less than twelve ready for the field. "Two marches on the fine Lancaster road," said Lafayette, "by establishing the English in the rear of" the American "right flank, would have rendered their position untenable, from which, however, they had no means of retiring. The unfortunate soldiers were in want of everything. . . . From want of money they could neither obtain provisions nor any means of transport." They "frequently remained whole days without" food. "The sight of their misery prevented new engagements—it was almost impossible to levy recruits." From

SIR WILLIAM HOWE served under General Wolfe at Quebec in 1759. In 1775 he succeeded General Gage as commander-in-chief of the British forces in America. He commanded the British troops at Bunker Hill; was victorious in the battles of Long Island and White Plains. He defeated Washington at Brandywine, and then entered Philadelphia. After repulsing the American attack at Germantown, he went into winter-quarters at Philadelphia. He was removed from his command in 1778, and was superseded by Sir Henry Clinton. He was a well-educated and successful general, but was indolent or perhaps indifferent.

MARQUIS DE (MARIE JEAN PAUL, JOSEPH ROCHE YVES GILBERT DU MOTIER) LAFAYETTE, the distinguished soldier and statesman, was born at Chavagnac, France, 1757. He died in Paris at the age of seventy-seven years. As a boy he was page to the queen. He was but nineteen years old when he embraced the cause of liberty in America. Against the command of the King of France he freighted a ship at his own expense, and landed in America in 1777 to offer his services as a simple volunteer. He

December till the middle of March their situation continued to be desperate, and at any time during that period resistance to a vigorous attack by Sir William Howe would have been impossible. But that which rendered their sufferings so severe, protected them.

quickly won the favor of Congress and the lifelong friendship of Washington. He was made a major-general and showed considerable ability as a commander. He was wounded at Brandywine while rallying the retreating Americans. He was engaged in various battles during the Revolution, and it was largely through his efforts that the army of Rochambeau was sent to America in 1780. He assisted materially in cutting off the retreat of the British at Yorktown, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. For his services he was publicly thanked by Washington on the day after the surrender. He was one of the board of judges that tried Major Andre. He visited America in 1784, and was everywhere received with great affection and respect. He again visited the United States in 1824 as the guest of the nation. Congress voted him \$200,000 and a township of land for his losses and expenses in the Revolution.

In what way did the severe winter protect the American army at Valley Forge? Give reasons for Howe's delay.

The situation of the camp was so eminently critical on the 14th of February that General Varnum wrote to General Greene that "in all human probability the army must dissolve." On the 16th of the same month Washington wrote to Governor Clinton, "For some days there has been little less than a famine in camp. A part of the army has been a week without any kind of flesh, and the rest for three or four days. Naked and starved as they are, we cannot enough admire the incomparable patience and fidelity of the soldiery that they have not been ere this excited by their sufferings to general mutiny and desertion."

The weather was extremely cold, the ice immensely thick, the highways blocked with snow. Philadelphia furnished attractive quarters—it would be as easy to disperse the rebels next week as to-morrow. They had been often beaten in the field, and could be at any time—their submission was simply a question of a few months—it would be best to wait till spring. So reasoned the English commander, and the opportunity slipped by forever. Little did he understand the value to the rebels of those winter days. Little did he know while

Give reasons why Howe let the opportunity slip by forever.

\* While the British army was feasting and rioting in Philadelphia, how was the time improved by the Continental army at Valley Forge?

NATHANIEL GREENE, a native of Rhode Island, was a farmer and blacksmith. He educated himself while working at the forge. He studied Euclid, Cæsar's Commentaries, Marshal Turenne's works, Sharp's Military Guide, Blackstone's Commentaries, etc. He possessed excellent qualities, and gave much attention to the study of military matters, for which he was gifted with a special aptitude. He was commissioned brigadier-general in 1775. He fought at Trenton, Princeton, and saved the army from defeat at Brandywine by a rapid march and skilful management. He presided at the trial of Major Andre. He succeeded Gates in command of the Southern forces. His celebrated retreat from South Carolina across North Carolina into Virginia won for him a high rank in the estimation of military men. Congress presented him with two pieces of ordnance taken from the British as a public testimony of his skill in managing the Southern department. By his skill in military movements he

his officers feasted and gambled and rioted in Philadelphia, that yonder up the Schuylkill those ragged, half-starved rebels were drilling and practising and growing into an effective and veteran army. January and February went by while the British were amusing themselves and the Americans working hard; March and April came and went, and still there were feasting and frolic in Philadelphia, and fasting and labor at Valley Forge.

#### IMPORTANT CHANGES IN THE AMERICAN ARMY

But the change had come. Greene had been appointed Quartermaster, Steuben Inspector, the in-

proved himself one of the most brilliant generals of his time. He died in 1786 from the effects of a sunstroke.

BARON STEUBEN, the disciplinarian of the American Revolutionary army, was born at Magdeberg. He had fought in the War of the Austrian Succession and also through the Seven Years' War. He became an aide-de-camp to Frederick the Great. He came to America to assist the patriots in their struggle for independence. Congress appointed him inspector-general, and his services in drilling the troops were invaluable. He was a fiery-tempered soldier, and, when his imperfect knowledge of English would not permit him to berate the troops that he was drilling to the extent he felt they deserved, he would turn to some officer and beg him to scold the "awkward rascals." He commanded the left wing at the battle of Monmouth and took part in the siege of Yorktown. He was a member of the board that decided the fate of Andre. At the close of the war he settled in New York and received a grant of land from Congress. He died in 1794.

trigues of Mr. Conway and his friends been exposed and brought to naught, the last attempt at conciliation without independence had been rejected by the Congress, and with the early days of May had arrived the news of the alliance of America and France. It was a rude awakening for the British army after its winter's debauch to find itself master solely of the ground it occupied, the King respected only where his army was—the rebels stronger and better disciplined than ever, and encouraged by the news from Europe that seemed to loyal ears so distressing. The campaign of 1777 had accomplished nothing—the victories of Howe had been fruitless—the defeats of Burgoyne disastrous—the winter in the rebel capital fatal to the royal cause. Not one prediction of loyal prophets had come true. Defeat had neither disheartened nor destroyed the rebel army—the loss of the capital had transferred to a distant village instead of dispersing the Continental

THOMAS CONWAY came to the United States in 1777 and was made a brigadier-general. He was leader of the conspiracy against Washington, known as the "Conway Cabal," on account of which he was wounded in a duel with General John Cadwalader.

Why a rude awakening for the British army? What European news encouraged the American army? How did the news affect the British? Outline the campaign of 1777. Show how the victories of Howe were fruitless. Show how the defeats of Burgoyne were disastrous. In what way was the winter in the rebel capital fatal to the royal cause? Why call Philadelphia the "rebel capital"?

Congress—the power of the Rebellion remained unbroken, its heart alive, its limbs more vigorous than ever. In a word, Philadelphia had proved a second Capua, and the saying of shrewd Franklin had come

**CONTINENTAL CAPITAL:** In 1683 Philadelphia was chosen as the capital of the colony, and continued to be such for 117 years. During the earlier part of the Revolution the city was the capital of the colonies. The occupation of the city at this time necessitated the removal of the Continental Congress to Lancaster, and, subsequently, to York, Pennsylvania. In Philadelphia the preliminary Congress of 1774 met, the Continental Congress sat, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States were adopted, and from 1790 to 1800 it was the capital of the nation.

**CAPUA:** An ancient city of South Italy, fifteen miles north of Naples. After the battle of Cannæ, B. C. 216, the popular party opened the gates to Hannibal, whose army rapidly degenerated here under the new corrupting surroundings.

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN:** One of the greatest of American statesmen, philosophers, and writers, was born in Boston in 1706, and was the son of a tallow chandler and soap boiler. He was apprenticed to his brother, who was a printer, but he ran away to Philadelphia, where he established a paper in 1729. His ability brought him wealth, while his talents as a writer and his scientific discoveries made him famous on both sides of the Atlantic. He was sent to London as agent for several of the colonies when the Revolution broke out, but he immediately returned to America. He was one of the committee of five to draft the Declaration of Independence. He went to France in 1776 as ambassador, and it was his skilful hand that negotiated the treaty with that country, without which the Revolution could hardly have succeeded. He assisted in making the treaty of peace with England

true: "Sir William Howe had not taken Philadelphia—Philadelphia had taken Sir William Howe."

The announcement of the treaty between France and the Americans, followed by the news of a declaration of war against Great Britain, was of sinister importance to the British in Philadelphia. Threatened by a hostile army, and surrounded as they were by an enemy's country, a French fleet at the mouth of the Delaware would put them in great peril. The time for conquest had gone by; it had become now a question of escape

in 1782, and took part in preparing the Constitution of the United States in 1787. He died in Philadelphia in 1790, aged eighty-four years. It was said of him that "he wrested the thunder from the sky and the sceptre from tyrants."

"Fronting the river, near the present navy-yard, stood Wharton's mansion-house, with broad lawns and stately trees around it. There, on Monday, the 18th of May, 1778, was given a great entertainment in honor of Sir William Howe on the eve of his departure from America. It was called the *Mischianza*, an Italian word signifying a medley. This entertainment was probably the most magnificent exhibition of extravagance and folly ever witnessed in America. It very properly drew forth the indignant comments of not only the Whigs in America, but of the true friends of government here and in England, as an appropriate finale to the sensualities of the British army during its winter encampment in Philadelphia. The loose discipline of the army during those six months of idleness did more to weaken the power of the enemy than all the battles they had yet experienced here, and fully justified the remark of Franklin, that 'General Howe had not taken Philadelphia—Philadelphia had taken General Howe.'"

and safety. The season was too far advanced for an attack on the camp at Valley Forge. The army of Washington had been largely increased, and his natural strong position strengthened since the winter ceased. The country swarmed with scouts and partisans and spies. The vigilance of the Americans was untiring: McLane and Harry Lee kept the neighborhood of the city in constant agitation—the banks of the Delaware might at any time intercept the shipping—the French fleet would perhaps soon arrive—to remain in Philadelphia would increase the danger. What was to be done? An escape to New York across the Jerseys seemed the only chance, and the sooner that was attempted the better.

Explain how the British were surrounded by an enemy's country. What French fleet was expected at the mouth of the Delaware? Why had the time for conquest gone by? Why a question of escape and safety? In what way was Washington better prepared to resist an attack by the British?

Show the untiring vigilance of the Americans. Explain why it was dangerous for the British to remain in Philadelphia. What was their only chance of escape?

ALLAN McLANE joined the army under Washington in 1776; discovered the weakness of Stony Point and assisted at its capture; also discovered the weakness of Paulus Hook and took part in its capture.

HENRY LEE was born in Virginia in 1756, and was a graduate of Princeton College. He was a member of the distinguished Lee family of that state. He had enlisted in the Revolution before

## THE EVACUATION OF PHILADELPHIA

On the 11th of May Howe announced to the army his departure for Europe and the appointment of Sir Henry Clinton to the command. On the 14th it was ordered that the heavy baggage should be made ready. On the 20th the "several corps were directed to put on board their transports every kind of baggage they could possibly do without in the field," and five days

he had attained his majority. He was a dashing officer, who, in the latter part of the war, was in command of "Lee's Legion," which fact, and his numerous brilliant exploits, caused him to be known as "Light Horse Harry." He was rewarded by Congress with a gold medal for his daring capture of Paulus Hook (now Jersey City) in 1779. He effectively covered Greene's retreat in 1781. He was governor of Virginia in 1792-95. He suppressed the Whiskey Insurrection in 1794. He was author of the oft-quoted expression, "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," which was used by John Marshall in his eulogy upon Washington. He died in 1818.

Who became commander of the British forces in America? Name some faults of General Howe as a commander. Who was regarded as the most competent British general in this war?

SIR HENRY CLINTON, who was born in 1738, was a major-general when he came to Boston in 1775 with Howe and Burgoyne. In 1778 he succeeded Sir William Howe as commander-in-chief of the British forces in this country. In May, 1778, he captured Charleston and the whole of Lincoln's army, and in the following month fought the battle of Monmouth. He planned with Benedict Arnold, the traitor, the surrender of West Point; failed to relieve Cornwallis at Yorktown; returned to England in 1782; died in 1795.

later—"to send on board their baggage-ships the women and children and the men actually unfit to march." The preparations for departure were rapidly and well made, and on the 17th of June, at four in the morning, Lieutenant-General Knyphausen and General Grant crossed the river with a large division and all the wagons and baggage. At daybreak on the 18th the remainder of the army followed them. The departure was hurried and almost noiseless. The troops marched down toward League Island and were ferried over to Gloucester Point. "They did not go away," wrote an eye-witness, "they vanished." It must have seemed

BARON WILHELM KNYPHAUSEN came to America as second in command of the Hessians in 1776. In 1777 he was placed in command of the German auxiliaries. He fought at Long Island, White Plains, Fort Washington, and Monmouth. During the absence of Sir Henry Clinton he was in command of New York City.

GENERAL JAMES GRANT was born in Scotland in 1720; was governor of East Florida in 1758; fought in the battle of Long Island in 1776, and was made major-general in 1777. He was with Howe in New Jersey and Pennsylvania in 1777. He fought the Americans at Monmouth, and in November sailed in command of troops against the French in the West Indies. It is said he was such a notorious gourmand in later life that he required his cook to sleep in the same room with him. He died April 13, 1806.

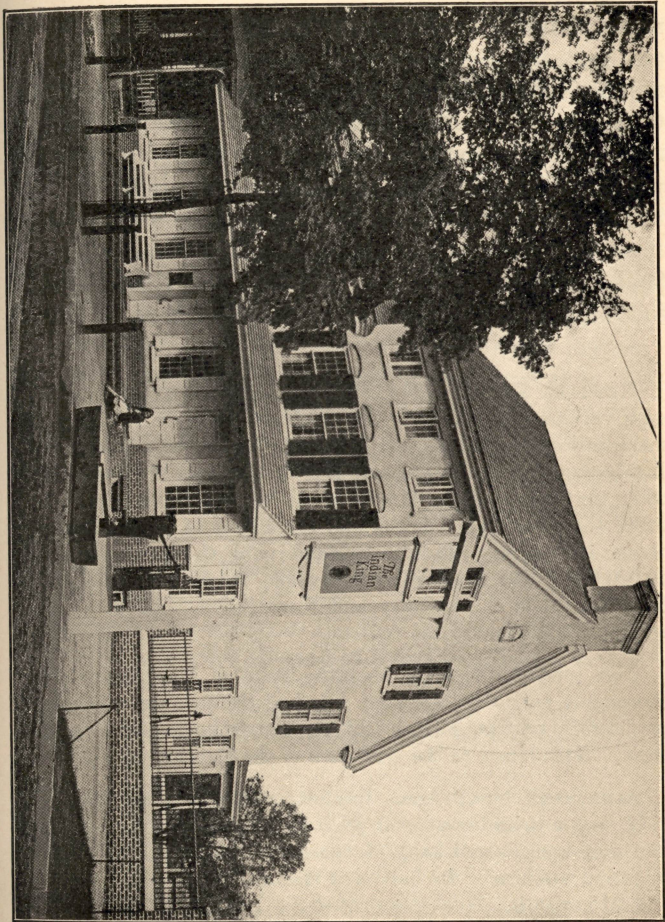
LEAGUE ISLAND, an island in the Delaware River, opposite Philadelphia, Pa.

GLOUCESTER POINT is on the Jersey side of the Delaware, three miles below Camden and Philadelphia.

so to some of them who came near being left behind. The Hon. Cosmo Gordon, on that memorable morning, rose for an instant into the notice of posterity, as he sprang out of bed, belated, and hurried to the wharf in search of a boat to take him into Jersey. Hardly had he found one and started for the other side when Allen McLane's light-horsemen came galloping into town. That night the British army encamped at Haddonfield. It consisted of about fourteen thousand

COSMO GORDON (1737-1813) was Colonel of the 3d Regiment Foot Guards; tried by court-martial in August and September, 1782, for neglect of duty at Springfield, N. J., on 23d of June, 1780; killed Colonel Thomas, who was a witness against him at this trial, in a duel in 1783. "The Honorable Cosmo Gordon stayed all night at his quarters, and lay in bed so long the next morning that the family thought it but kind to awaken him and tell him that his friends, the rebels, were in town. It was with great difficulty he procured a boat to put him over the Delaware. Perhaps he and his man were the last that embarked."—Watson's *Annals of Philadelphia*.

HADDONFIELD: A village in Camden County, seven miles southeast of Philadelphia. Here the Assembly of New Jersey held parts of three sessions in 1777. On September 20, 1777, an act was passed which substituted the word "State" for the word "Colony" in all public writs and documents. The Council of Safety of New Jersey was created by Act of March 15, 1777. The Great Seal of the State was formally adopted in May, 1777. The "Indian King," an inn in Haddonfield, built in 1750, in which these interesting events occurred, is now owned by the State. Upon the main street still stand two but-tonwood trees under which the British Army passed.



THE INDIAN KING AT HADDONFIELD

men. A few of the Hessians, the sick, the camp-followers, and the Tory refugees, of whom there were a number, had embarked on the ships in the river destined for New York. Notwithstanding the strict and repeated orders to the contrary, the camp-followers were numerous, and the train of baggage nearly twelve miles long. On the morning of the 19th Clinton moved with three brigades to Evesham, eight miles from Haddonfield, Leslie commanding the advance, and Knyphausen following with the Hessians and two brigades of Brit-

**HESSIANS:** Early in 1776 the British Government made treaties with various German petty principalities by which it obtained mercenaries for the war in America. Under this treaty the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel sent 17,000; the Duke of Brunswick, 6000; the Count of Hesse-Hanau, 2400; the Margrave of Anspach, 2400; the Prince of Waldeck and the Prince of Anhalt-Zerbst, about 1000 each. In all, England paid the princes about \$9,000,000. The Hessians, on the whole, fought well. Some of them settled in this country and Nova Scotia. About 17,000 returned to Germany.

Give instances to show that the State of New Jersey was thoroughly patriotic. In what way had the Jerseymen become proficient in partisan warfare? Write a short composition on the topic, "New Jersey as the War-path of the Revolution."

**ALEXANDER LESLIE** came to Boston with General Howe in 1775; was a brigadier-general when he came to America; in the battle of Long Island in 1776, where he commanded the light infantry; was also in the battles of Harlem Plains, White Plains, and Monmouth. He accompanied Sir Henry Clinton against Charleston in 1780; was in command of Charleston at the close of the hostilities; died in England, December 27, 1794.

ish. The country had by this time become alarmed. The militia had sprung to arms in all quarters of the State. Familiar as they had been with the presence of the enemy from the beginning of the war, the Jerseymen had become proficient in partisan warfare. The State was thoroughly patriotic. It had suffered more perhaps than any other from the depredations of the enemy. Beginning in 1776, the armies had crossed and re-crossed from the Hudson to the Delaware, and at no period of the struggle was the soil of New Jersey destined to be free from the irruptions of the British. The wise and patriotic Livingston, who was then the governor, had forseen the danger of a new invasion, and prepared to meet it, and the tramp of Clinton's army was the signal at which the armed yeomen sprung as it were out of the very ground. Philemon Dickinson,

In what way had Governor Livingston prepared for the new invasion of the British?

GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON, an American jurist, was born in New York in 1741. Having removed to New Jersey, he was elected to the first Congress from that State. He became Governor of New Jersey in 1776, which office he filled for fourteen years. He was a member of the convention which framed the Constitution in 1787.

PHILEMON DICKINSON, a patriot of the American Revolution, was born in New Jersey about 1740. He took an active part in the struggle for independence, and at the battle of Monmouth displayed great gallantry in command of the New Jersey militia. He was delegate to the Continental Congress in 1782 and 1783, and United States Senator from 1790 to 1793. He died in 1809.

of Trenton, their commander, prepared to harass the enemy at every point, and detached bodies were ordered to break the bridges in their way and hang upon their flanks and rear. Hardly had the advance-guard left Haddonfield, on the 19th, before it was attacked by a body of militia, and a sharp skirmish followed. On the 20th Clinton reached Mount Holly, on the 22d the Black Horse, seven miles farther on. At five in the morning of the 23d he moved to Crosswicks. A lively skirmish delayed him at the bridge across the creek; but the next day he arrived at Allentown. Up to this point the British commander had been uncertain whether to push to New York by the way of Brunswick or turn eastward and seek the protection of the fleet at

**MOUNT HOLLY** is the county-seat for Burlington County. It is situated on the north branch of the Rancocas Creek, about 19 miles from Trenton.

**THE BLACK HORSE** (now Columbus), 7 miles north from Mount Holly and about 5 miles south from Bordentown.

**CROSSWICKS**: A village of Burlington County, on Crosswicks Creek, 4 miles east of Bordentown.

**ALLENTOWN**: A village located in Monmouth County, about 12 miles E. S. E. of Trenton.

**BRUNSWICK (NEW)**: A city, the county-seat of Middlesex County, N. J., on the right bank of the Raritan River, at the head of navigation. Sir Henry Clinton intended to march from Haddonfield directly to Brunswick and embark his troops on the Raritan River. He moved slowly on by way of Mount Holly to Crosswicks and Allentown. When at Allentown he perceived that Washington was almost on his front, and rather than risk a

Sandy Hook. The information which he gained at Crosswicks decided him. The whole American army had crossed the Delaware and was advancing in his front.

#### WASHINGTON'S PURSUIT ACROSS JERSEY

Washington had lost no time. Convinced that the British would soon evacuate Philadelphia and try to cross the Jerseys, he had issued orders to prepare for the contingency nearly three weeks before. For the past fortnight he had everything in readiness. On the 18th of June, at eleven A. M., the news reached him that the enemy had gone. At three o'clock Charles Lee, with Poor's, Huntington's, and Varnum's brigades,

general action, with all his encumbrances, he took the road on the right leading to Monmouth County Court House and Sandy Hook, with the determination of embarking his troops at the latter place.

What induced General Clinton to change the plan of his retreat across Jersey? Make an outline map, and on it trace the route of the retreat of the British army; the American army.

CHARLES LEE: See page 38.

ENOCH POOR, of New Hampshire, accompanied Schuyler's expedition to Canada in 1776; led the attack at Saratoga; served under Lafayette at Monmouth, and led a brigade against the Six Nations in 1779; in 1780 was placed in command of two brigades; was killed in a duel with a French officer near Hackensack, New Jersey, September 8, 1780.

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON, a Harvard graduate, joined the Continental army near Philadelphia in the fall of 1777; was on the

crossed the Schuylkill in full march for Coryell's Ferry, and at five Wayne followed with three brigades of Pennsylvanians. The Jersey brigade of Maxwell had already been ordered to join General Dickinson and co-operate in his efforts to detain the enemy. On the 19th Washington followed with the whole army. The heat was intolerable, the weather rainy, and the roads bad. It was not until the 21st that the army was safely over the river and encamped in Jersey. The British were approaching Crosswicks. The country was alive

Court-martial that tried General Lee; was a member of the first board of foreign missions; died at New London, Connecticut, September 25, 1813.

JAMES VARNUM commanded a regiment at White Plains; led the troops at Red Bank; served under Lafayette; represented Rhode Island in the Continental Congress.

CORYELL'S FERRY (now Lambertville) is a short distance above the place where Washington crossed the Delaware to the attack of the Hessians, eighteen months previously.

ANTHONY WAYNE was one of the most active and conspicuous generals. He was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1745. His bravery gained him the sobriquet of "Mad Anthony," but he was discreet and cautious, quick in action and prompt in execution. His most notable exploit was the storming of Stony Point on the Hudson. This formidable work he carried at midnight by a bayonet charge, the soldiers' guns being empty. For his brilliant achievement at Stony Point Congress gave him a vote of thanks and a gold medal. In his eventful life he was a farmer and land surveyor. He served in the Pennsylvania legislature, and was a member of the convention that ratified the Constitution of the United States. He died in 1796, aged fifty-one.

with rumors and excitement. The enemy were reported to be in force, with an immense baggage-train and a host of followers, who committed all sorts of depredations as they marched. Accounts of plundered farms and burned homesteads came thick and fast. Their slow advance led Washington to think that they wished a general action and sought to draw him into the low country to the south and east. Detaching Morgan with six hundred men to reinforce Maxwell and watch them

WILLIAM MAXWELL was a native of Ireland. He joined the army at the commencement of the war. In 1776 he was appointed colonel, and raised a battalion of infantry in New Jersey. He was with General Schuyler at Lake Champlain, and in October, 1776, was appointed a brigadier in the Continental army. After the battle of Trenton he was engaged in harassing the enemy, and during the winter and spring of 1777 was stationed near the enemy's line at Elizabethtown. In the autumn of that year he was engaged in the battles at Brandywine and Germantown, and during the succeeding winter he was with the suffering army at Valley Forge. He was active in pursuit of Clinton across New Jersey, and sustained an important part in the battle of Monmouth. After that engagement he was left with Morgan to annoy the enemy's rear in their retreat toward Sandy Hook. In August, 1780, he resigned his commission and quitted the service. He was highly esteemed by Washington, who, in transmitting his resignation to Congress, said, "I believe him to be an honest man, a warm friend to his country, and firmly attached to its interests." He died in November, 1798.

DANIEL MORGAN was born in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, in 1736. At the age of seventeen he was a wagoner in Braddock's army, and next year he received five hundred lashes for knocking down a British lieutenant who had insulted him. In less than

close at hand, he marched to Hopewell, where he remained until the 25th. Summoning a council of war, he put the question whether a battle should be fought.

a week after he had enrolled 96 men, the nucleus of his famous rifle corps, and marched them to Boston. He accompanied Arnold in his march to Quebec and was made a prisoner. As Colonel of a rifle regiment he bore a conspicuous part in the capture of Burgoyne. He joined the defeated remnant of Gates' army in North Carolina. He served under Greene; helped to suppress the Whiskey Insurrection; was member of Congress from 1795-99. He died July 6, 1802.

HOPEWELL: A town within five miles of Trenton.

A COUNCIL OF WAR was held on the 17th, the day before the Americans left Valley Forge, and among other questions proposed was, "If the enemy march through Jersey, will it be prudent to attack them on the way or more eligible to proceed to the North River in the most direct and convenient manner to secure the important communication between the Eastern and Southern states?" Nearly all the officers were opposed to an attack on account of the inequality of force, but some thought it depended on circumstances. Washington was anxious to attack the enemy, but was obliged to yield to the force of circumstances. Another council of war was held at Hopewell. General Lee was strongly opposed to any interference with the movements of the enemy, and, being next in command to Washington, his opinions had considerable weight with the other officers. Yet six general officers were in favor of continued annoyance, and four of these (Greene, Lafayette, Du Portail, and Wayne) declared in favor of general action. Washington was at first embarrassed by these divided opinions, but, relying upon his own judgment, he asked no further advice, but proceeded to make arrangements for a battle.

Greene, Lafayette, Du Portail, and Wayne urged, as one of them has told us, "that it would be disgraceful and humiliating to allow the enemy to cross the Jerseys in tranquillity"—that his rear might be attacked without serious risk, and that he ought to be followed closely, and advantage taken of the first favorable opportunity to attack him. But the majority held other views. It was argued that much was to be lost by defeat and little gained by victory. That the French alliance in-

What is meant by the expression to allow the enemy to cross the Jerseys "in tranquillity"? What American generals "held other views"? What were their arguments? Which general influenced the council to vote against a battle?

LOUIS LÈBEGUE, CHEVALIER DU PORTAIL, was born in France in 1736; came to America in the early part of the Revolutionary war, and was appointed brigadier-general in the Continental army in November, 1777, and major-general, November, 1781. He was directing engineer at the siege of Yorktown in 1781. Returning to France, he was named *maréchal-de-camp*; and in November, 1790, was made minister of war. In December, 1791, he resigned; and, when engaged in military service in Lorraine, he received a warning of the designs of the Jacobins and sought safety in America. He died at sea in 1802, when returning to France.

FRENCH ALLIANCE: The King of France concluded a treaty February 6, 1778, acknowledging the Independence of the United States, forming reciprocal relations, and agreeing that neither should treat with Great Britain without the consent of the other. This treaty was drafted by Benjamin Franklin. Congress ratified the treaty on the 2d of May.

sured the final triumph of the cause, and it would only be a risk to attempt a battle with the British army, which several declared had never been so excellent or so well disciplined. This view prevailed chiefly because of the earnest eloquence and great reputation of him who urged it on the council.

#### GENERAL CHARLES LEE

Charles Lee, the second in command, was a native of England, and about forty-seven years of age. An ensign in the British army at twelve, he had risen to be lieutenant-colonel. He had served in the old French war, and in Portugal against the Spanish, and at one

CHARLES LEE was born in England in 1731; served as an officer at Braddock's defeat; served through the French and Indian War. He came to America in 1773, and so impressed the authorities that he was appointed second in rank of the major-generals. He accompanied Washington to Cambridge, and from that period until his capture in December, 1776, he was engaged in very active service, particularly in the South. At the time of his capture at Basking Ridge it is believed that Lee lagged behind on purpose that he might fall into the hands of the British, for a few years since Dr. George H. Moore, of New York City, brought documents to light which proved beyond question that Lee offered to betray the American cause to the Howes at the time he was a prisoner. The Howes did not buy him, probably because Lee held himself at his own valuation. After his disgraceful conduct at Monmouth he was suspended for disobedience, misbehavior, and disrespect, and was dismissed from the army. He finally went to Philadelphia, where he died in 1782 in poverty and obscurity. General Lee was a brilliant man in many things, but

time had been a major-general in the Polish service. Of unquestioned bravery, he had distinguished himself by several exploits, which his excessive vanity would not suffer to be forgotten. Taken at his own estimation rather than at his real value, as such a man is apt to be, he had won without a stroke of his sword the most exaggerated reputation among the Americans for military genius and experience. A soldier of fortune, he cared little at heart for the principles for which the colonies were contending, as the selfish terms on which he entered their employment showed, but he had rendered the cause essential service, and enjoyed a reputation second only to that of Washington. Indeed, there were many who, a little while before, would

his life exhibited a most perfect specimen of antithesis of character. He was bad in morals and manners, profane in language, and neither feared nor loved God or man. He wrote his will a few days before his death, in which he bequeathed his soul to the Almighty and his body to the earth.

Write a sketch on the character of Charles Lee; his military services. Why did Mr. Brown call him a "soldier of fortune"? Produce facts to show "that he cared little at heart for the principles for which the colonies were contending." Name the principles for which the colonies were contending. Name the selfish terms on which Charles Lee entered the American army. Give instances in which he had rendered the cause essential service. What was his military reputation? Who were the people who would have been glad to have seen the names of Washington and Lee reversed? When, where, and under what circumstances was Charles Lee captured by the British? What British officer was exchanged for Lee?

have been glad to have seen the names reversed, and some who still felt with an anonymous writer when at the moment that Washington's virtues were keeping the army together at Valley Forge, he cried for "a Gates, a Lee, or a Conway." Accustomed to be revered as an authority, Lee spoke with earnestness and even eloquence. He had lately returned from more than a year's captivity. He was acquainted with the charac-

CRIED FOR "A GATES, A LEE, OR A CONWAY": The Conway Cabal was an intrigue by Gates, Lee, Mifflin, and others of Washington's officers in 1777 for the promotion of brigadier-general Conway, contrary to Washington's judgment. Washington was accused of incompetency and partiality, and finally Congress was prevailed upon to promote Conway to major-general and inspector-general. In 1778 Conway was wounded in a duel. He afterward apologized to Washington, confessing his wrong.

An anonymous letter to Patrick Henry, dated June 12th, from Yorktown, says, among other things, "We have only passed the Red Sea, a dreary wilderness is still before us, and unless a Moses or a Joshua is raised up in our behalf we must perish before we reach the Promised Land. . . . The Northern army has shown us what Americans are capable of doing with a general at their head. The spirit of the Southern army is no way inferior to the spirit of the Northern. A Gates, a Lee, or a Conway would, in a few weeks, render them an inestimable body of men."

HORATIO GATES was born in England; educated to the military profession; was an officer under Braddock; in 1775 was appointed adjutant-general in the Continental army; accompanied Washington to Cambridge in 1775; and in June, 1776, the chief command of the Northern army was conferred upon him and he was promoted to major-general. In the summer of 1777 he was

ter of Clinton. He knew the efficiency of the British army—he had had great experience in war. His courage was known, his character trusted, his fidelity unquestioned, his arguments ingenious, his language eloquent. His views prevailed, and it was decided only to harass the enemy. Charles Scott of Virginia was

unjustly placed in command of the Northern army in place of General Schuyler, and the victory over Burgoyne at Saratoga by the army under his command gave him great *eclat*. The glory of that achievement was not due to him, but to the previous operations of Schuyler and the bravery and skill of Arnold and Morgan. In the winter of 1778 he was involved in attempts to wrest the supreme command from Washington. His position as President of the Board of War enabled him to throw obstacles in the way of the chief, nor were they withheld. From that period until appointed to the command of the Southern army his military operations were of little account. When Congress gave him command of the Southern forces, General Charles Lee said to Gates, "Take care you do not exchange Northern *laurels* for Southern *willows*." He proved an utter failure in the South, and was superseded by General Greene. He died April 10, 1806, at the age of seventy-eight years.

CHARLES SCOTT was a native of Cumberland County, Virginia. He raised the first company of volunteers in that State south of the James River. So much was he appreciated that in 1777 the shire-town of Powhatan County was named in honor of him. Congress appointed him a brigadier on April 1, 1777. He served with distinction during the war, and at its termination went to Kentucky. He was with St. Clair at his defeat in 1791; in 1794 he commanded a portion of Wayne's army at Fallen Timber; was governor of Kentucky from 1808 to 1812. He died October 22, 1820, aged seventy-four years.

sent forward to join Dickinson, and the army marched to Kingston. But after the council had dissolved Hamilton, Lafayette, and Greene urged more vigorous measures; some of the others changed their minds—the chief himself inclined to run the risk, and it was decided to seek battle. Accordingly, on the 25th, three thousand men were ordered to join Scott and approach

KINGSTON: A village of Somerset County, N. J., on the Millstone River, 14 miles northeast of Trenton.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON was one of the most efficient statesmen and founders of the Republic. As a leader of the Federalist party, and with a firm conviction in a strong government, he made use of his opportunity, as Secretary of the Treasury, to place the finances of the young nation on a firm basis. To him, more than to any other, is due the stability of the government, its honorable dealings with its creditors, and the business-like methods of conducting its finances. In 1774, while the Revolutionary fever was at its height, he made a speech in behalf of the colonists, which was marvelous for a lad of seventeen. He followed this up by a vigorous war of pamphlets. When hostilities began he organized a cavalry company, and so distinguished himself at White Plains that Washington made him an aide-de-camp on his staff. After the surrender at Yorktown he studied law, and rose to eminence at the New York bar. He was a member of the Federal Convention in 1787, and his great work lay in his efforts to persuade the American people to adopt the Federal Constitution. As First Secretary of the Navy he held Congress firmly to the duty of paying every dollar of the national debt at its face value. He also prevailed upon Congress to assume the debts incurred by the States in carrying on the war, and thus established the credit of the nation. He was mortally wounded in a duel with Aaron Burr, then Vice-president, and died July 12, 1804.

the enemy. The command of this body naturally belonged to Lee. But disgusted at the altered plan, that officer declined to undertake it, and it was given to Lafayette. Hardly had the latter marched, however, when Lee changed his mind. The detachment was a separate command—he would be criticised if he allowed a junior to assume it—he besought Washington to let him have it after all. Disturbed by this and anxious not to wound Lafayette, the Commander-in Chief settled the difficulty by giving Lee a thousand men, with orders to overtake the former, when his seniority would give him command of the whole.

This was on the 26th of June. On the morning before, the British march at five o'clock had revealed what

“This force properly fell under the command of General Lee. As he was totally opposed to the movement, it placed him in an unpleasant situation. This embarrassment was mentioned to Washington by Lafayette, who offered to take command of that division. Washington agreed to give it to Lafayette if General Lee would consent to the agreement. That officer readily consented and Lafayette was placed in command. Lee afterward changed his mind and applied to Washington to be reinstated. He could not, with justice or propriety, recall the orders given to Lafayette, and the commander-in-chief endeavored to preserve harmony by giving Lee the command of two brigades, with orders to join the advanced detachment, when, of course, his rank would entitle him to the command of the whole. He ordered Lee to give Lafayette notice of his approach and to offer him all the assistance in his power for prosecuting any enterprise he might have already undertaken. Washington wrote also to Lafayette, explaining the dilemma and counting upon his cheerful acquiescence.”

Sir Henry Clinton had decided to do. Finding Washington approaching, he turned eastward and made for Sandy Hook. Sending the baggage forward under Knyphausen, he followed slowly with the main part of his army. On the 27th he encamped at Monmouth Court-House. Meantime the Americans had not been idle. All the way from Crosswicks, Dickinson and Morgan had hung upon the British flanks. The main American army had been detained at Cranberry by rain, and the advance retarded by want of provisions (Wayne's detachment obliged to halt at mid-day on the 26th because it was "almost starving"), but on the

SIR HENRY CLINTON intended to march from Haddonfield directly to Brunswick and embark his troops on the Raritan River. He moved on slowly, by the way of Mount Holly, to Crosswicks and Allentown. There being a single road, his long train of baggage-wagons and horses, together with his troops, made a line nearly 12 miles long. He was obliged to build bridges and causeways over the streams and marshes, and his progress was consequently very tardy. When at Allentown, perceiving Washington almost in front, Clinton changed his course rather than risk a general action. Turning to the right, he took the road leading to Monmouth Court-House and Sandy Hook, with the determination of embarking his troops at the latter place. The American army had now reached Kingston on the Millstone River.

The army under Washington crossed the Delaware River at Coryell's Ferry (Lambertville) and passed through Hopewell, Princeton, Kingston, Cranberry, and Englishtown, and met the enemy near Freehold.

morning of the 27th Lafayette and Lee effected a junction between Cranberry and Englishtown.

#### THE LAST MOMENT FOR A BATTLE HAD ARRIVED

The two armies were now less than five miles apart. It was evident to the commanders of both that the last moment for battle had arrived. A few miles beyond Monmouth the British would reach the high ground of Middletown, when it would be impossible to cut them off and dangerous to follow. If a blow was to be struck now or never was the time. The orders of Washington were explicit. On the afternoon of the 27th he sent for Lee and the brigadiers of his command, told them he wished the enemy to be attacked next morning, and desired General Lee to concert with his subordinates

**CRANBERRY:** A village of Middlesex County, about 15 miles E. N. E. of Trenton.

**ENGLISHTOWN:** A village of Monmouth County, N. J., 5 miles northwest of Freehold.

**MIDDLETOWN:** A village in Middlesex Township, Monmouth County, N. J., 25 miles southwest of New York City.

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 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.

some plan of action. Five o'clock was named as the time for a conference, but when the officers called, Lee dismissed them with the remark that it was not possible to make a plan beforehand. The advance lay for the night at Englishtown, the main body of the Americans three miles farther to the westward. The British were encamped along the road, their right resting on the forks of the roads to Middletown and Shrewsbury, the baggage in charge of the Hessians placed near the Court-House, the left extending toward Allentown about three miles.

#### MONMOUTH COURT-HOUSE

The little village of Monmouth Court-House had grown up at the intersection of three roads—that on which the British were marching, another which led northward toward Amboy, and a third which came from Englishtown and Cranberry. A few houses clustered about the wooden Court-House, which stood on the spot where we are gathered to-day. Long settled as the country had been, much of it remained uncleared. The undulating plain through which the road ran north-eastwardly to Middletown was open, but the way to Cranberry soon after leaving the Court-House plunged into the woods, which lined it for several miles.

#### THE NIGHT BEFORE THE BATTLE

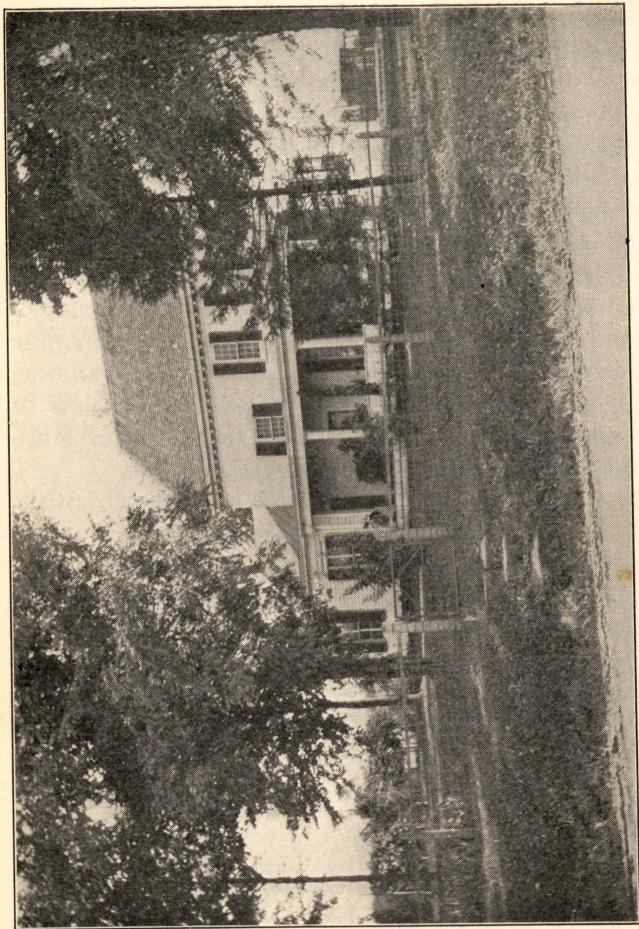
It was the night of Saturday, the 27th of June. Imagine, if you can, the scene: the little village about

the Court-House, full of soldiers in scarlet—the baggage wagons drawn together in the open ground to the southward—the crackling of the fires as the troops get supper—the neighing of many horses picketed along the road—here an officer riding by, there a guard marching to its post—the hum of voices—the innumerable noises 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 or the stamping of some restless horse. Who can foresee that to-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!

By ten o'clock all is hushed. It is a hot night, without a breath of wind. The woods in the northwest are as still as death, their leaves drooping and motionless, and the summer sky is unobscured by a single cloud. A sharp lookout is kept down the road and on the edge of the woods towards Englishtown, for in the afternoon a deserter has come in with the information that "the rebels are extended along our left flank, and are very numerous." But the darkness passes without the sign of an enemy.

#### CLINTON ATTEMPTS TO STEAL AWAY

At the early dawn there is bustle and noise in the camp about the Court-House. The reveille sounds and the Hessians are astir. The air is full of the noise of



GENERAL CLINTON'S HEADQUARTERS

neighing horses and chattering men. The baggage-wagons begin to move into the road to Middletown, the line of march is formed, and as the sun rises, about half-past four, Knyphausen's division has begun to move. Five o'clock comes, and with it daylight. The fresh breath of the morning is pleasant after the hot night, but the cloudless sky and the heavy air promise a trying day. All along the road the camp is stirring, the different regiments forming into line—the Light Infantry and Hessian Grenadiers on the right, the Guards, the First and Second Grenadiers, the Highlanders, the loyal battalions, and the Queen's Rangers each in turn. At six the hot day has begun, but it is nearly eight before the column has started. It is a splendid sight, and one that this quiet county will never see again, this perfectly-appointed army moving with its long train of artillery and baggage along the road. Here is the Hessian: "a towering, brass-fronted cap, mustaches covered with the same material that colors his shoes, his hair, plastered with tallow and flour, tightly drawn into a long appendage reaching from the back of his head to his waist, his blue uniform almost covered by the broad belts sustaining his cartridge-box, his brass-hilted sword, and his bayonet; a yellow waistcoat with flaps, and yellow breeches met at the knee by black gaiters—thus heavily equipped," he moves "like an automaton" down the road. See the British Grenadier, tall and stalwart, with smooth-shaven face and powdered hair, on his head a pointed cap of black leather fronted with a gilded ornament—

his coat of scarlet, with collar and cuffs of buff trimmed with red—a broad, white leather strap over the left shoulder carrying his cartridge-box—one over the right bears his bayonet-saberd which hangs at his left thigh, and where they cross on his breast there is a plate of brass with the number of his regiment. His breeches of white are protected by long black leggings. The accoutrements of all are in perfect order, their equipment complete, and one after another the regiments break into column and march toward the east. The sun has already risen above the high ground near the sea, the birds that have been twittering in the branches have ceased to sing—Knyphausen with the long train of heavily lumbering baggage has crossed the open plain, and still the lines of scarlet are passing by the little Court-House. Where are the Americans?—the chance to fight a battle is almost gone.

#### WASHINGTON ORDERS LEE TO ATTACK THE ENEMY

Somewhere in that still and silent wood Dickinson's militia have been watching through the night. With the first noise in the British camp they are alert. No movement of the enemy escapes them, and as Knyphausen begins his march a messenger gallops off at full speed through the woods. He dashes into camp at five o'clock. An order is at once sent to General Lee to follow and attack "unless there should be very powerful reasons to the contrary," and the main army is ordered under arms. Meantime Lee has his detachment ready. Butler of Pennsylvania with two hundred

men marches first; Scott's brigade and a part of Woodford's, about six hundred, follow; Varnum's brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Olney, six hundred strong; Wayne's detachment of one thousand; Scott with another of fourteen hundred, and Maxwell with about one thousand bringing up the rear. Distributed among these are twelve pieces of artillery. At seven o'clock the advance has reached the old Presbyterian Church on the side of the road, east of Englishtown, and is

PERCIVAL BUTLER was born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, April 4, 1760. He was commissioned first lieutenant in the Third Pennsylvania regiment, 1777, when he was only eighteen years old. He wintered at Valley Forge, served in the battle of Monmouth, and was at the capture of Cornwallis. He went south with General Wayne, and remained there until the close of the war; emigrated to Kentucky in 1784, where he was appointed adjutant-general in 1812.

GENERAL WILLIAM WOODFORD was born in Virginia; early distinguished in the French and Indian Wars. When the Virginia troops assembled at Williamsburg in 1775, in consequence of the hostile attitude assumed by Lord Dunmore, Woodford was appointed colonel of the Second Regiment. Patrick Henry was colonel of the First. In the battle at Great Bridge, on the Elizabeth River, in December, 1775, he was distinguished for his bravery. Congress promoted him to brigadier, and placed him in command of the first Virginia brigade. He was in the battles of Brandywine and Monmouth, and was made a prisoner at Charleston, in South Carolina, during the siege of 1780. He was taken to New York by the British, where he died on the 13th of November, 1780, in the forty-sixth year of his age.

JEREMIAH OLNEY was born in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1750; was made lieutenant-colonel at the beginning of the Revolu-

distant from the British about three miles. A road nearly straight leads from this point to the Court-House.

#### THE BATTLEFIELD OF MONMOUTH

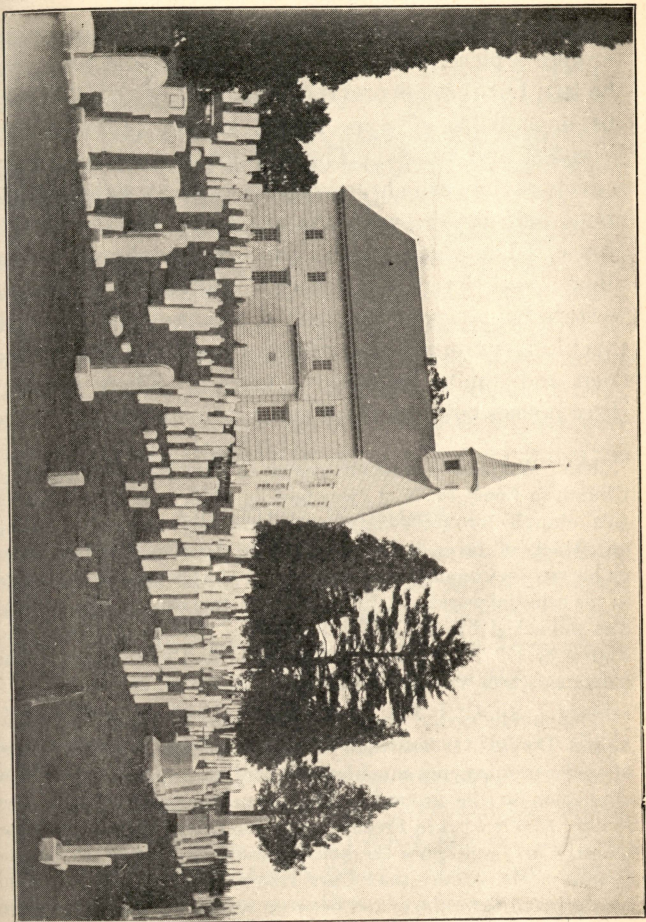
Let us take a look at the country that lies between. It is a rolling country, well covered with timber. Just beyond the Church, as one goes towards Monmouth, the road descends a hill and crosses a morass, through which a stream of water flows toward the south and west. A long causeway of logs has made the place passable, and on the eastern side the hill rises quickly

tionary War, and was often the chief officer of the Rhode Island forces. He fought conspicuously at Red Bank, Springfield, Monmouth, and Yorktown, and after the war he was collector of the port of Providence and president of the Rhode Island Society of Cincinnati. He died in Providence, November 10, 1812.

VARNUM: See page 34. WAYNE: Page 23. MAXWELL: Page 24.

OLD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: It is situated a short distance from the road leading from Freehold to Englishtown, and about midway between those places. It was erected in 1752 on the site of a former and smaller one; hence it was called the new church. It is of wood, shingled and painted white; at present a very dingy color. Here Whitefield, Brainerd, the Tennents, and Woodhull preached.

This causeway was near the parsonage. The morass, which was then a deep quagmire and thickly covered with bushes, is now mostly fine meadow land, coursed by a clear streamlet, spanned by a bridge.



OLD TENNENT CHURCH

to a considerable elevation. The road now continues through a piece of timber, which is large and heavy on the left, but just beyond the edge of it, on the right, are the open fields of three farms, known as Tennent's, Wikoff's, and Carr's. The two latter are divided by a deep ravine, which crosses the road at right angles, about half-way between the causeway and the Court-House. The wood on the left extends almost to the village, and covers the side of a bluff which forms the western boundary of the plain of Monmouth. Beneath this bluff, running due north from the Court-House, is a deep and almost impassable morass. There are but three houses between the Church, at which the advance

REV. WILLIAM TENNENT, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Freehold, N. J., was born in 1705. He was pastor of this church for forty-three years and six months. During an attack of fever, he lay for three days in a trance, and on his recovery again gave a description of what he saw and heard in the celestial world. A full account of this extraordinary event was published by Dr. Elias Boudinot. William Tennent died March 8, 1777, aged seventy-one years and six months. The parsonage farm was one and one-half miles from the church.

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 Wikoff farm, so there were only two farms between the village and the parsonage farm.

has halted, and the village, the first called the Parsonage, in the open field, just after one ascends the hill, and the second and third, known as Wikoff's and Carr's, on the western and eastern sides of the ravine that separates them. The morass westward of the Parsonage begins more than a mile to the northeast, and, following the stream which makes it, sweeps around between the hills to the southeast, where it joins another that runs westwardly. It is a bog a couple of hundred yards in width, deep and impassable, save at the causeway. The distance from the Court-House to the ravine between Carr's house and Wikoff's is about a mile; to the causeway, across the large morass, a trifle more than two miles. Such is the country that separates the armies.

#### THE FIRST SKIRMISH

As the advance under Lee approaches the long causeway, a few scattering shots are heard and it is halted. Scott's brigade have advanced up the morass, the rest formed upon the western hill. A few of Dickinson's militia, down the road toward the Court-House, have encountered a flanking party of the British. As the troops halt, a stout, ruddy-faced officer rides up. It is Anthony Wayne, whom Lee has summoned to command the advance. There is a report that the enemy are near. Wayne takes his spy-glass, but can discover only a party of the country people. Dickinson comes in haste to Lee. He is sure that the enemy are marching from the Court-House. Lee doubts the story, but orders a brigade to form at the left, facing a road by

which Dickinson expects the enemy. But the intelligence is contradictory, and, after a few minutes delay, Lee in impatience pushes the troops forward across the causeway.

Down the road toward the Court-House they move rapidly, marching briskly in spite of the heat, which by this time has become oppressive. They are a sad contrast to the well-equipped enemy they go to meet. They have no uniforms. Linen shirts and coats of butternut, home spun, and made, and dyed, are the best among them, and few have these. "They are so nearly naked that it is a shame to bring them into the field," says Major Jameson of Maryland, and Lee complains

JOHN JAMESON, of Maryland, was made a captain of dragoons June 16, 1776; major of first Continentals, March 31, 1777; wounded near Valley Forge, January 21, 1778.

THE DAY: "The 28th of June, a day memorable in the annals of the Revolution, was the Christian Sabbath. The sky was cloudless over the plains of Monmouth when the morning dawned, and the sun came up with all the fervor of the summer solstice. It was the sultriest day of the year; not a zephyr moved the leaves; nature smiled in her beautiful garments of flowers and foliage, and the birds carolled with delight, in the fulness of love and harmony. Man alone was the discordant note in the universal melody. He alone, the proud "lord of creation," claiming for his race the sole mundane possession of the divine image, disturbed the chaste worship of the hour, which ascended audibly from the groves, the streams, the meadows, and the woodlands. On that calm Sabbath morning, in the midst of paradisaical beauty, twenty thousand men girded on the implements of hellish war to maim and destroy each other—to sully the green grass and fragrant flowers with human blood."

that they have no uniforms, colors, or marks to distinguish the regiments from each other. But they march well and with a soldierly air, thanks to the training of Steuben at Valley Forge. About half-past eight o'clock they approach the Court-House. The rear-guard of the British has passed through it, but a party of both infantry and horse are drawn up in the open ground to the northwestward. The Americans halt under cover of the woods, and Lee and Wayne ride forward to reconnoitre. A messenger stops Lee, and Wayne goes on alone. There appear to be about five hundred foot, and in front of them three hundred horsemen—the famous Queen's Rangers Hussars, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Simcoe. Wayne orders Butler out of the woods into the open close to the Court-House. The enemy slowly retire as the Americans approach. A few of Butler's men fire, and the Rangers fall back with the infantry precipitately into

JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE was born near Exeter, England, February 25, 1752; enlisted in the army in 1770; came to America with a company of foot, with which he fought in the battles of Brandywine and Monmouth; raised a battalion which he called "The Queen's Rangers," trained them for light and active service; and with them performed important services, especially in the South. In June, 1779, Clinton gave him the local rank of lieutenant-colonel. His light corps was always in advance of the army and engaged in gallant exploits. His corps was disbanded after the war and its officers were placed on half-pay. Simcoe was governor of Canada in 1791-94. He was governor of San Domingo in 1796-97. He died in England, October 26, 1806.

the village. Long shall that spot be neglected and forgotten, but the time shall come when, on another 28th of June, the sons of America, beneath peaceful skies, shall 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! And now, as the enemy are apparently moving rapidly off into the plain, Butler files to the left of their left flank, and sends word to Wayne that the enemy are retreating. The General, in reply, gallops up and halts the Pennsylvanians in the edge of a wood, close to the Court-House, from which they can see the British in regular order, horse, foot, and artillery, retreating toward the eastward. It is evident that they are leaving the ground in haste. Meantime the detachments of Scott, Grayson, and Varnum have halted on the side of the morass which bounds the plain of Monmouth, half a mile or more to the northward of the position

SCOTT: See page 41.

VARNUM: See page 34.

WILLIAM GRAYSON was born in Prince William County, Virginia; was appointed one of the commissioners to treat with Sir William Howe respecting prisoners while the army was at Valley Forge. In the battle of Monmouth he commanded a regiment in the advanced corps and behaved with valor. At the close of the war he returned to his native state, and was elected to Congress in 1784. In 1788 he was a member of the Virginia Convention to consider the adoption of the Constitution, and, with Patrick Henry, he opposed the ratification of that instrument. He died March 12, 1790.

of Wayne and Butler. From all these points the enemy can be seen moving rapidly out of the village across the open plain. Hot-headed Wayne grows impatient. At the edge of the wood he has found a place where the morass can be crossed, and orders Butler forward. At the same moment a swarthy man on horseback gallops up to Lee. He has been near the enemy, and is sure they are a rear-guard of only one thousand men—considerably separated from the main body. He offers to take a detachment and double their right flank. It is black David Foreman—commander of the Monmouth County militia—the terror of the Tories.

#### GENERAL LEE'S INCOMPETENCY

Lee spitefully replies, "I know my business," and Foreman retires in disgust. But what is that business? Surely not to let the enemy move away under his guns as if upon parade. The precious moments are flying—the Rangers in the rear-guard are half a mile out of the village already, continuing their march, when Captain Mercer, of Lee's staff, rides up to him. He has been down the road toward the Court-House and has seen a large encampment of the enemy, which they have just left, for the chairs are standing and water lies there

DAVID FORMAN (OF FOREMAN) was born near Elizabethtown, New Jersey. He commanded the New Jersey militia at Germantown, and was known by the nickname of "Black David" among the Jersey loyalists, owing to his excessive cruelty toward those who did not favor the Revolution. After the war he was judge

freshly spilt; a countryman tells him that there is a strong force, about two thousand, still behind the Court-House. "Then I shall take them," says Lee, and orders the detachments on the left to march into the plain, to turn their right. They quit the woods, descend the bluff, cross the morass, and advance nearly half a mile into the plain—Grayson's in advance, Jackson's a hundred yards behind, Scott's next to Jackson's, and Maxwell's Jersey men in the rear, on the outer edge of the morass. Wayne is now far in front in the open ground. On his right, on a little elevation, he has posted Eleazer Oswald, with two guns. Varnum's

of the county court and a member of the Council of State. He was also one of the original members of the Order of Cincinnati. He died about 1812.

CAPTAIN JOHN F. MERCER, of Virginia, was made first lieutenant of the Third Virginia Regiment February 26, 1776; was wounded at Brandywine September 11, 1777; made captain to the rank June 27, 1777; made major June 8, 1778, and assigned as aide-de-camp to General Charles Lee; resigned in October, 1779; died August 30, 1821.

ELEAZER OSWALD was a native of Massachusetts, and was among the earliest patriots of the Revolution. He exhibited great bravery at the siege of Quebec, where he commanded the forlorn hope after Arnold was wounded. In 1777 he was commissioned a lieutenant-colonel in Lamb's regiment of artillery and soon after distinguished himself with Arnold, at Compo, at the head of recruits raised in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. For his bravery at the battle of Monmouth he was highly commended by generals Knox and Lee. Being outranked, soon after

brigade, of the Rhode Island line, is on the left, Butler's regiment in front, in the rear of all Wesson, Livingston, and Stewart. Suddenly the enemy halt and form in line of battle. A regiment of cavalry supported by infantry advance towards Butler, and several guns to the eastward open fire. Oswald replies effectively with his two pieces on the height, and Butler prepares to receive an attack. Down come the British cavalry in full charge. Butler reserves his fire till they are near, when a well-directed volley breaks them, and they retire in disorder through the infantry, throwing them into confusion. At this the British suddenly turn back and march towards the Court-House. They appear

this engagement he resigned his commission and left the service. He entered into the printing and publishing business at Philadelphia and was soon appointed public printer. He fell a victim to a fever which desolated New York in 1795, and was buried in St. Paul's churchyard on the 2d of October of that year.

JAMES WESSON (Massachusetts), major of Gerrish's Massachusetts regiment from May 19th to December, 1775; lieutenant-colonel of the Twenty-sixth Continental infantry, January 1, 1776; Colonel of the Ninth Massachusetts Regiment, November 1, 1776; wounded at Monmouth; died October 15, 1809.

WALTER STEWART was born about 1756; recruited a company in Pennsylvania at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War; was appointed captain in 1776, and later in the same year aide-de-camp to General Gates; was commissioned colonel of Pennsylvania Regiment of Foot in June, 1777; served with distinction throughout the war; breveted brigadier-general in 1783; later became major-general of Pennsylvania militia. He died in Philadelphia, June 14, 1796.

very strong; it is evident that the whole rear division has returned to prevent a demonstration against the baggage. Wayne sends to Lee for more troops. Lee answers that it is a feint, and that he does not wish the enemy to be vigorously attacked until his flank is exposed. The British approach the Court-House in great force. Lee directs Lafayette to fall back to the Court-House with the brigade of Varnum, and Stewart's and Livingston's regiments. Wayne, meantime, is chafing with impatience. The enemy are crossing his front—he cannot get troops enough to strike them with effect, and Oswald's ammunition has given out. Just at this moment General Scott rides up—a hot-headed Virginian, as gallant and full of fight as Wayne himself. From his command on the left, far out in the plain, he has seen the troops under Lafayette apparently retreating toward the Court-House. Alarmed at this, and having tried in vain to get his cannon across the morass, he has ordered his men to retire behind it and form in the woods beyond, from which they came. Here he has left them, and galloped down to learn what is the matter. Wayne is in equal wonderment. One of his aides has just come from General Lee with the startling information that the whole right is falling back in haste from the Court-House; but he brings no orders. Together Scott and Wayne ride there. The troops have already left. Wayne sends an aide to Lee to beg that they might be ordered back to the place from which they retired, the enemy being still a mile away. Major Fishbourne returns. He has found General Lee, whose

only answer is that he will see General Wayne himself. It is now about eleven o'clock. Furious with disappointment, Wayne sends a third time. Will not General Lee halt the main body to cover the retreat of General Scott? His aides return without an answer; the troops are still retiring in some confusion nearly a mile in the rear, in front of the ravine by Carr's house. The enemy are close at hand. Wayne orders Butler out of the plain in haste, while he and Scott watch in the orchard near the village.

#### A DISORDERLY RETREAT

At this moment up gallops Richard Meade. He is an aide of Washington's, and has ridden forward by the General's orders at the first sound of the cannon-ading. He has met the troops retreating in disorder near the defile by Carr's House. There he has found General Lee, who tells him that they are all in confusion, but has no message for the Commander-in-Chief. Meade gallops to the village; the enemy are there, and

WILLIAM FISHBURNE (or FISHBOURNE) was born in 1760; died at Walterborough, South Carolina, November 3, 1819. He was on the staff of General Anthony Wayne, to whom he was aide-de-camp at the capture of Stony Point, and afterward attained the rank of major-general. He was a member of the convention that framed the Constitution of South Carolina, and was subsequently a member of the legislature.

RICHARD KIDDER MEADE, an American soldier of the Revolution, was born in Nansewood County, Virginia, about 1750. He was one of General Washington's aides. He died in 1805.

already the head of their column appears this side the Court-House. Scott hurries to his command, while Wayne retires slowly with Meade toward Carr's House, pursued by the enemy's horsemen. The British advance is now between Scott and the retreating troops with Lee and Lafayette. A rapid march through the woods to the northward alone enables the former to rejoin the army. He comes out into the large morass, and crosses it far to the north and eastward of the old Presbyterian Church. Meantime, what has become of General Lee? When the enemy first turned back in force he was on the left, watching, with the intention of turning their right flank. Observing them to approach in force, he directed the troops on the right to retire and form near the Court-House. Arrived there, and finding the position less strong than he supposed, he gave orders to fall back. Confusion followed. The heat was intense. The men were nearly fainting with fatigue. The horses of the aides-de-camp could hardly stand. Orders that were given were not delivered, and orders were delivered that had never been given by the General. Contradictory directions made matters worse. Near Carr's House a regiment was posted at a fence, and presently withdrawn. Du Portail insisted that the position here was a strong one. Lee declared that it was execrable, and commanded by an eminence on the British side. Back the troops kept falling—forming

*Note.*—The troops had been under arms for twelve hours, and during much of the day the thermometer stood at ninety-six degrees.

now in line, and the next minute ordered to retire. No one knew why or whither, nor did Lee take pains to check the disorder. The officers were furious, the men dejected. There had been no fighting to speak of—the enemy did not seem dangerously strong—the chance to fight him on good terms had appeared so favorable; it was inexplicable. It is now nearly twelve o'clock. In front of the ravine near Carr's House there is a temporary halt. General Lee himself orders Jackson's Massachusetts regiment to form behind a fence, but hardly has it done so when he commands it to retire beyond the ravine. A part of Varnum's brigade halts for ten minutes in an orchard, but the enemy is coming on rapidly, they too retire beyond the ravine. As the troops are falling back a countryman rides up to General Lee. It is Peter Wikoff, who lives in the farm-house between the Parsonage and Carr's. He knows the country well—what can he do? Lee asks him where there is a strong position to which the army can retire. He points to the west and south. But there is an almost impassable morass in the way. It can be crossed on logs. Too late to make a bridge. Beyond the causeway then there are high hills. Lee urges him to ride back and halt some regiment on the ground. He gallops off at speed. All is disorder, the troops retiring

HENRY JACKSON (Massachusetts) was colonel of one of the sixteen Continental regiments January 12, 1777; his regiment was designated as the Sixteenth Massachusetts July 23, 1780; transferred to Ninth Massachusetts regiment January 1, 1881; breveted brigadier-general September 30, 1783; died January 4, 1809.

rapidly, so fagged with the heat that many faint. Here is Olney, with the Rhode Islanders, crossing the ravine; yonder, near Carr's House, is Stewart of Pennsylvania, keeping his panting men together; the gallant Ramsay is close at hand; Maxwell has crossed the ravine, and is forming his Jerseymen in the woods on the north of the road; while Oswald tries to get his guns across the defile.

All is uproar and confusion; shouts of go back! go back! drive on! drive on! are heard above the din, and all the while the dropping fire of musketry in the rear shows that the enemy is close at hand. Five thousand men have fallen back in disorder nearly two miles, in the face of a constant and vigorous pursuit. It is extraordinary that there is no panic. But both men and officers are too angry to be frightened; there is no breaking of the ranks; no running among the troops—it is a sullen retreat. The men halt at the first order, form like veterans, and only retire when commanded to do so. Some faint with heat and fall. All are panting for water—the sweat streaming from them, their tongues dry and swollen, their faces flushed, their eyes blood-shot. The horses are completely broken down. Many refuse to carry their riders, and half of the officers are on foot. And so through the hot wood and beneath the blazing sun, down one side of the ravine and up the other, the regiments of Lee's command fall back in disorder along the road and through the fields of Wikoff's farm, towards the long causeways across the wide morass, on the way to Englishtown.

The day that promised so well has begun in disaster. The Americans are in full retreat without a fight. Grayson's Marylanders and Patton's North Carolinians are about to cross the causeway—a part of Jackson's Massachusetts regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, are close behind them. Ogden's and Shreve's Jerseymen are descending the hill—the heights are covered with the retreating regiments. When suddenly down the western hill, toward the causeway, come at full speed two horsemen. They are

JOHN PATTON (North Carolina) was made major of the Second North Carolina Regiment September 1, 1775; lieutenant-colonel of the First North Carolina Regiment May 7, 1776; colonel of the Second North Carolina Regiment November 22, 1777; taken prisoner at Charleston May, 1780; retired from service June 1, 1783.

AARON OGDEN was born in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, December 3, 1756; graduated at Princeton in 1773; entered the Revolutionary Army in 1777 as captain under his brother Matthias and fought at Brandywine. He was brigade-major under Lee at Monmouth, and assistant aide-de-camp to Lord Stirling; aide to General Maxwell in Sullivan's expedition; in 1781 was with Lafayette in Virginia; led the infantry in storming a redoubt at Yorktown, and received the commendation of Washington. After the war he practised law and held many civil offices; was United States Senator from 1801-03, and governor of New Jersey from 1812-13. In the War of 1812 he commanded the militia of New Jersey. He died in Jersey City, N. J., April 19, 1839.

ISRAEL SHREVE was a distinguished officer in the Continental army; was assigned to the New Jersey line during the entire period

Fitzgerald and Harrison, of the Commander-in-chief's staff. Riding with him, near the Presbyterian Church, they have met a countryman on horseback. He has come, he says, from near the Court-House, and has heard that our people were retreating. General Washington refuses to believe him, for he has heard no sound except a few discharges of cannon more than an hour before. The man points to a fifer, who has come up breathless. Yes, says the fifer, in affright, the Continental troops are in retreat. Vexed at the story, which he cannot believe, the General orders the man into a light horseman's charge and hurries forward. Fifty paces down the road he meets some stragglers—one of them has come from the army. All the troops, he says, are falling back. The thing looks serious, but still the General will not believe it true. He sends Harrison and Fitzgerald forward to ascertain the facts. As they

of the war. He commanded the Second Regiment; was wounded in the thigh at the battle of Brandywine, September 11, 1777; after the war he settled in Ohio.

JOHN FITZGERALD (Virginia) was assigned to the Fifth Virginia Regiment March 1, 1776; made an aide-de-damp to General Washington; served to the close of the war.

ROBERT H. HARRISON was born in Maryland in 1745; read law and became chief-justice of the general court of Maryland. He was on the staff of General Washington from 1775-81. He is described as having been a man of distinguished talents, who enjoyed in a high degree the confidence of his fellow citizens. He died April 2, 1790.

descend the hill they encounter Grayson's men. Captain Jones declares that the troops behind are in the same condition as his own. Lieutenant-Colonel Parke's men are in disorder. William Smith, of Jackson's regiment, cannot imagine why they have retreated; he has lost but a single man. Beyond the causeway is Aaron Ogden, "exceedingly exasperated," declaring with an oath that "the troops are fleeing from a shadow." Shreve, of the next Jersey regiment, smiles bitterly; he has retreated by order, but knows not why. Rhea, his lieutenant-colonel, cannot understand it, nor where to go. Howell, his major, has never seen the like; and on the height General Maxwell confesses that he is wholly in the dark. The aides push on toward Carr's House. Here Mercer, of Lee's staff, says with warmth to Harrison, that if he will ride to the Court-House he will find reason enough in the numbers of the enemy; but Wayne declares that it is impossible to tell the cause of the retreat, for a very select body of men

DAVID RHEA was born in New Jersey; was made major of the Second New Jersey Regiment November 28, 1775; lieutenant-colonel, November 28, 1776; transferred to the Fourth New Jersey Regiment June 1, 1777; died June 4, 1821.

MAJOR RICHARD HOWELL (1754-1802) was made captain of the Second Battalion of the first establishment November 29, 1775; brigade-major, September 4, 1776; major of the Second Battalion, November 28, 1776; an efficient officer; clerk of the New Jersey Supreme Court from 1788-93; governor of the State of New Jersey from 1794 to 1801.

have this day been drawn off from troops far inferior in number. And all this while General Lee sits for twenty minutes by a fence, without giving an order or making an attempt to stop the enemy. One of the French engineers comes to Fitzgerald—the ground he thinks very advantageous for stopping the enemy; he begs for two pieces of cannon. Oswald has but four pieces left, the others have retreated with their brigades, and his men are so fatigued with heat that they are dropping beside the guns. But he will post them here, and open on the enemy as they approach from the village. On come the British through the open fields, in perfect order, marching in two columns, their artillery and horse between them, and Lee retires hastily with some scattered troops beyond the ravine. They are within quarter of a mile—the American rear just crossing the ravine. The case is desperate. “The most sanguine hope,” says young Laurens, who has seen it all, “scarcely extends . . . to an orderly retreat.” It is an awful moment for America. Was it for this that these gallant fellows bore the dull tortures of the winter? Was it for this that they have trudged through pouring rain and torrid sun—now ankle-deep in mud and now with their feet buried in the burning sand? Was it for this that they have covered Charles Lee

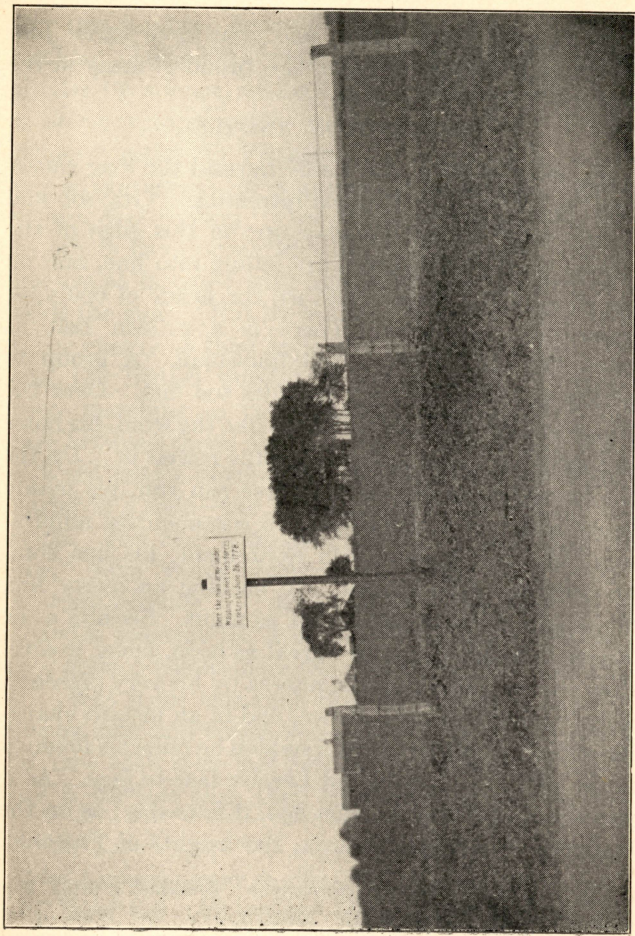
JOHN LAURENS became an aide to Washington at the outbreak of the Revolution. He fought at Brandywine, Monmouth, Germantown, Charleston, and Savannah. He also fought at Yorktown, and while serving under Greene was killed in a skirmish.

with confidence and honor, and gone forth under him from happy homes to meet the proudest army in the world?

## WASHINGTON AND LEE

But see yonder in the west—beyond the long causeway the troops have stopped retreating! Grayson and Patton have halted half-way up; on this edge of the morass Ogden and Shreve are falling into line, and on the crest of the distant hill are the heads of columns, apparently advancing. There is a sudden halt as down the hill dashes a tall horseman. A group of officers try to follow, but he rides too fast. Over the bridge and up the road he rushes like the wind, his horse in a lather of sweat as he drives the rowels in. Up the hill he comes as fast as his horse can run, his manly figure and perfect horsemanship commanding admiration; his face flushed with excitement, his lips compressed, his often languid eye flashing an angry fire, his usually white brow as black as night. See him as he dashes through the lines—great as he is, never greater than to-day—checking the retreat by his very presence, arresting disaster by a glance, and in an instant changing defeat to victory! On a sudden he reins his foaming horse, and Washington and Lee are face to face. As it was three-and-twenty years ago, it is to-day; as on the banks of Monongahela so on the heights of Freehold.

ON THE BANKS OF MONONGAHELA: Braddock's army was defeated on the banks of the Monongahela, and Washington covered the retreat with the remnant of the colonial troops and saved the flying regulars from destruction.



Here is the place where  
WASHINGTON AND LEE  
MET IN 1776.

MEETING-PLACE OF WASHINGTON AND LEE

It is the Englishman that shall be beaten and the American that shall cover his retreat; it is the Regular that shall run and the Provincial that shall stand his ground; it is Lee that shall lose the day; it is Washington that shall save the army! And what a contrast!—the one thin as a skeleton, his features plain, his eyes prominent, his nose enormous, his whole appearance singular and unprepossessing; the other broad, with an open countenance and manly air, his figure that of an accomplished gentleman, his gestures graceful, his presence strangely commanding and impressive. They are almost the same age, but Lee looks old and wrinkled, while Washington appears in the prime of unusual health and vigor. And thus for the last time they sit looking at each other. But for a moment only, for the indignation of Washington has burst restraint. “What, sir, is the meaning of all this?” he asks, in a tone of thunder. “Sir, sir,” stammers the other, and is dumb. “I desire to know, sir, the meaning of this disorder and confusion,” repeats Washington, his aspect in his anger really terrible to see. Lee answers confusedly—his orders have been misunderstood or disobeyed,

The testimony of Lafayette, Knox, and twenty-seven officers at the Court-martial of General Lee simply indicates one fact—that the division was never concentrated, received no definite orders, and *handled itself*. The apology for these facts will be found in the record of the battle.

“The question involved is this: Did General Lee have *no* knowledge of the purpose of Washington in sending more than five thousand men to the front, with the entire army in light marching order, under pledge to support the advance? Doctor Griffiths

particularly by General Scott. He did not choose to be heard the whole British army with troops in that condition, and finally that the whole thing was against his opinion. "Whatever your opinion may have been, sir, I expected my orders to have been obeyed." "These men cannot face the British grenadiers."

stated, upon the trial of General Lee, that 'about one hour and a half after the action began, General Lee stated that all was going as he had expected; that his advice had ever been contrary to a general action; that it had been determined upon in a council of officers not to risk anything by an attack,' *notwithstanding that he had received that morning positive orders from Washington to attack.*"—*Battles of the American Revolution*, by Carrington.

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 eyes 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: "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

“They can,” cried Washington, as he spurred away—  
“they can do it, and they shall!” Indeed there is not  
a moment to be lost. Harrison comes up from Carr’s  
House with the news that the enemy are but fifteen  
minutes off, in great strength, approaching rapidly.  
Washington hurriedly examines the ground as Tilghman

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.’”

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL TILGHMAN, one of Washington’s aides-  
de-camp, rode express to Philadelphia to carry the despatches  
of the chief announcing the joyful tidings of the surrender of  
Cornwallis. It was midnight when he entered the city. Thomas  
M’Kean was then President of the Continental Congress and  
resided in High Street near Second. Tilghman knocked at the  
door so vehemently that a watchman was disposed to arrest him  
as a disturber of the peace. M’Kean arose, and presently the  
glad tidings were made known—Cornwallis is taken.

NATHANIEL RAMSAY, a soldier of the Revolution, was born in  
Pennsylvania May 1, 1751, and, after graduating at Princeton  
College, was admitted to the bar and practised law in Cecil  
County, Maryland. He entered the army very early in the Revo-  
lutionary War, and was in command of a Maryland regiment  
at the battle of Monmouth, when General Lee’s retreat seemed so  
likely to result in the rout of Washington’s entire command.  
When Washington re-formed the troops Ramsay rendered highly  
important service in holding the British in check, although at the

goes for Lieutenant-Colonel Rhea, who knows it well. It seems fit to make a stand upon, and the British must be stopped till the main army can be formed. Yonder are Walter Stewart and Nathaniel Ramsay coming out of the ravine. The General hastens to them. On them, he says, he shall depend to give the enemy a check; and under Wayne's eye, who arrives at the moment, the two regiments are formed in the woods on the left. Washington calls for artillery. Oswald's pieces have gone by. He orders them back and at once posts them on the right, with Livingston's regiment to support them. By this time the British have entered the wood in front of Stewart and Ramsay; their guns open from the centre and their cavalry are beginning to traverse the ravine.

#### THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH

The Battle of Monmouth has begun. Having made this hurried disposition of his troops, Washington hastens to the right. Here, close to Oswald's cannon, Lee and stout Henry Knox are watching the movements of

loss of nearly all his command, for which he was highly commended and gratefully remembered by Washington. He died at Baltimore October 23, 1817.

HENRY KNOX was born in Boston in 1750. He was educated at a common school, and at the age of twenty years commenced the business of bookseller in his native town. He was a volunteer in the battle of Bunker Hill, and for this and subsequent services Congress commissioned him a brigadier, and gave him com-

the British. "Will you command here, or shall I?" the Chief demands of Lee. "If you will, I will go to the rear and form the army." "I will," is the answer, "and will be one of the last men off the field." With a word to Knox for more artillery, Washington gallops to the rear. The sharp fire of musketry on the left, with the skilful practice of Oswald's cannoneers, have checked pursuit. The British halt and bring their guns to the front. A precious ten minutes has been gained. Meantime, in the rear, the army is coming up. The General is already across the causeway and is forming the men rapidly upon the height. It is a splendid position, the hills in semicircle rising steeply from the marsh in front, which can only be crossed by the narrow causeway. Greene is on the right, Stirling well posted on the left; the practised eye of Steuben places the cannon skilfully, while Lafayette, on the crest of the ridge,

mand of the artillery department of the army, which he retained during the whole war. He was always under the immediate command of Washington, and was with him in all his battles. After the capture of Cornwallis Congress commissioned him a major-general. In 1785 he succeeded Lincoln in the office of Secretary of War, which position he held for eleven years, when he retired to private life. He died in 1806, at the age of fifty-six years. To General Knox is conceded the honor of suggesting that noble organization, the Society of the Cincinnati.

The line of battle of the second division was formed just northerly of the west ravine, toward the old Tennent Church, with General Greene on the right, Lord Stirling on the left, Washington in the center, and Lafayette with the rear line.

commands the second line. The Frenchman, Duplessis de Manduit, is sent with six pieces to Comb's Hill, more than half a mile on the extreme right, whence he can enfilade the enemy as they advance. The troops move into place with the precision of trained soldiers, better even, says Hamilton, who watches them, than the British themselves; the guns are posted, and it is just in time. For the light-horse have crossed the ravine and threaten Oswald's guns, and on the left Stewart and Ramsay's men come slowly out of the woods fighting inch by inch, Americans and British mixed up together as they come. By Knox's order

WILLIAM ALEXANDER, of New York, called Lord Stirling, was born in New York City. In 1757 he laid claim before the House of Lords to the earldom of Stirling, but in vain. In 1775 he became a colonel in the Revolutionary Army, a brigadier-general in 1776, and a major-general in 1777. He distinguished himself at Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth.

DUPLESSIS DE MANDUIT was born in France and espoused the American cause. He was made captain of the Continental artillery April 15, 1777. In January, 1778, Washington recommended to Congress that this efficient officer be promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, adding that the gallant conduct of this young gentleman at Brandywine, Germantown, and his distinguished services at Fort Mercer, where he united the offices of engineer and commandant of artillery, entitled him to promotion. November 5, 1778, Congress gave him a written testimonial for his zeal, bravery, and good conduct during his services in the cause of America. He died in 1791.

COMB'S HILL: On the farm belonging to Aaron Comb, to whom it came from his father, and now the property of Dr. Sherman.

Oswald falls back a hundred yards, repeatedly unlimbering his guns and firing as he retreats. The crackling of the musketry is heavy, like a thousand bonfires, and every now and then a discharge from the artillery checks the red-coats and throws them into confusion. Wikoff's fields are spotted with dead men; brave Ramsay is down wounded and a prisoner; Fitzgerald has been hit, and John Laurens slightly, as his horse falls dead beneath him. Slowly the Americans recede, and as slowly the British advance. And now they have reached the line between the Wikoff and the Tennent farms—a fence grown up with weeds and bushes and small trees that runs right across the line of the retreat. A small man rides up to Olney, who commands Varnum's brigade, and points to the hedge-row. He is a youth of two and twenty, with sharp features and a brilliant eye. His manner is earnest, and he speaks with an authority far beyond his years. It is Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Hamilton. The Rhode Islanders throw themselves behind the hedge-row, while Knox, without a minute's delay, posts two guns on a little

COLONEL ALEXANDER HAMILTON, one of the aides of Washington, afterward the great statesman and financier, then only twenty-two years of age, rode up, and, dismounting, exclaimed in the ardor and enthusiasm 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 perfect self-control and equanimity when his indignation had subsided, he made no reply except to say, "Colonel Hamilton, take horse and follow me."

knoll a few paces in the rear. The British are within a dozen rods, advancing to the charge. A volley cracks from the hedge-row, and the guns behind open at short range. The enemy recoils; the infantry give place to the light-horsemen, who charge up within forty yards, but are driven back with heavy loss. On come the foot again, when suddenly the guns of Duplessis on Comb's Hill open a cross-fire upon the right, and they stagger and fall back. The hedge-row is still held—the field in front strewn with dead, the rattle of musketry is incessant, the cannon shake the very earth. But the left is turned—Olney's men have begun to fall behind the hedge—Hamilton is down, his horse shot dead, but he gathers himself up, bruised and hurt. The enemy have the woods on the left—their cavalry are threatening the right—their front line is nearly at the hedge—they outnumber the Rhode Islanders ten to one. Knox withdraws the guns; the Continentals leave the hedge-row; and, covered by the heavy cannonade from the hills in the rear, the whole body descends in pretty good order and crosses the long causeway. It is after two o'clock. The British are masters of the woods on the right and the open fields up to the hedge-row.

But where is Wayne? The old Tennent Parsonage and barn lie in a hollow about a hundred yards westward of the hedge-row. Behind them ascends a ridge, which

This hedge-row, or bush-fence, stood on the line between the parsonage farm and the farm of one Peter Wikoff, and in history called the Wikoff farm, subsequently belonging to Major John Gordon.

presently falls rapidly to the morass in front of Greene. Here in an orchard behind the barn and Parsonage, about three hundred yards in advance of the main army, Wayne awaits attack. He has a few hundred Pennsylvanians under William Irvine and Thomas Craig, a Virginia regiment, and several pieces of artillery. Clinton has now brought up the flower of his army, and while his batteries engage the Americans on the distant heights he orders the grenadiers to dislodge Wayne. In splendid array his veterans advance, their scarlet coats in perfect line, their bayonets gleaming in the sunshine. Down they come toward the exposed position where the Pennsylvanians lie. A terrific fire opens on them, and they stagger and fall back. They rally, re-form, and advance again to the attack. A second volley greets them, and they are driven back blinded

WILLIAM IRVINE was born near Enniskillen, Ireland, about 1742; emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1763. He became a colonel in 1776 and a brigadier-general in 1779. From 1781 to 1783 he commanded the troops stationed at Fort Pitt for the defense of the western frontier. He was chosen a member of Congress in 1787 and again in 1793. He died in 1804.

THOMAS CRAIG was born in 1740. He was a captain in the Revolutionary War and participated in the Canadian campaign, after which he was appointed colonel of the Third Pennsylvania Regiment. He participated in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth. In the battle of Monmouth his regiment distinguished itself, being in the thickest part of the engagement. He was also at the surrender of Cornwallis. He served through the entire war. He died at Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1832.

and broken toward the cover of the woods. And all the while the cannon on both sides is thundering away. Daniel Morgan hears it yonder at Shumais Mills. He has sent to Lee for orders, but can get none, and there, useless, he passes the long afternoon pacing like a lion in a cage. Clinton now tries to turn the left. The Highlanders attack Lord Stirling furiously, but his batteries check them, and his infantry advance and drive them back. Lieutenant-Colonel Aaron Burr pursues them into the meadow, but an order halts him in the open ground; his brigade suffers heavily—his horse is shot, and Rudolph Bunner, lieutenant-colonel of the Pennsylvania line, is killed. Attempting to turn, the right meets with no better fate. Wayne must be driven from his ground or the King's army must retire.

On the ridge, behind the orchard, Wayne has two cannon posted. Their fire is most effective, but the men who serve them are fearfully exposed, and have

AARON BURR, the grandson of Jonathan Edwards, joined the army at the outbreak of the Revolution, and served in Arnold's expedition through Maine to Canada and afterward rose to the rank of colonel. He was one of the leading lawyers at the New York bar. In the presidential contest of 1800-01 Colonel Burr and Thomas Jefferson each received 73 electoral votes, and the House of Representatives chose Jefferson for President and Burr for Vice-president. A bitter political controversy between Burr and Hamilton led to a duel between the two at Weehawken, July 11, 1804, in which Hamilton was mortally wounded. Burr spent many years in exile, and when he returned to America he was shunned by his neighbors.

fallen one by one; they are worked now with half the requisite force, and still the men are dropping.

#### THE HEROINE OF MONMOUTH

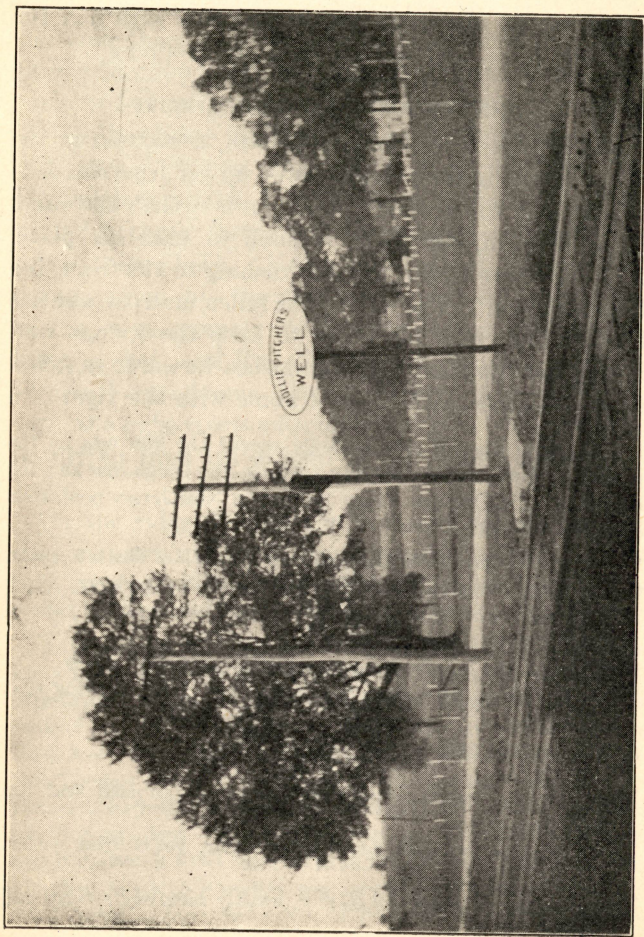
Suddenly as the British approach, a matross in the act of ramming the charge throws up his arms and falls headlong to the ground. The gun is useless and must be withdrawn, for there is none to take his place. Aye, but there is, for, yonder, rushing to the front, behold a woman! The wife of the fallen matross, she has been to the creek for water to keep the sponge wet. Seeing her husband fall, she dashes forward, snatches up the rammer, and drives it home with the vigor of a

The place where Captain Molly served the gun was on the parsonage farm, about half-way between the hedge-row and the buildings. Dr. Thomas Dunn English, 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 cannoneer,  
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 has  
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.”



SITE OF MOLLIE PITCHER'S WELL

veteran. A moment and the priming is ready—another and the gun belches forth in the very faces of the British. There she stands, black with powder, in the blinding smoke, the shot raining about her, the dead and wounded at her feet, plying the rammer with a furious energy, and keeping that heated gun busy at its deadly work! And there in the midst of that conflict, the figure of Molly Pitcher, the woman cannoneer of Monmouth, goes down to history. But see, Sir Henry is ready for his final effort. From the woods on the northeast across the open ground before the hedge-row, in the face of a heavy cannonade from the Americans on Comb's Hill, the grenadiers advance. Veterans of many a well-won field, they move steadily to the attack. The picked men of the Royal army, perfect in equipment and in the practice of arms, and never more magnificent or better handled than to-day, they sweep onward towards the little Parsonage and barn. It is a moment of dreadful suspense to the patriots upon the heights. Surely the Pennsylvanians will be swept

MOLLY PITCHER'S right name was Mary McCauley. The venerable widow of General Hamilton has described her as a "red-haired, freckle-faced young Irish woman, with a handsome piercing eye." The scene of her loading and firing the cannon at the battle of Monmouth is depicted in bronze relief on the battle monument at Freehold. There has been an impression for many years in many quarters that proper honor was not done this remarkable woman for her action in this famous engagement, but this is an error. She died in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in January, 1833, at the age of seventy-nine years, her days having been spent in comparative comfort.

like chaff before them. Nearer and nearer they come, in "magnificently stern array" of glowing scarlet and glittering steel, their bayonets fixed, advancing silently without a shot, while the cannon on the distant hills shakes the earth beneath their feet. Who is there to resist them? A few hundred Pennsylvanians drawn up in a little orchard and behind a wooden barn and farmhouse—a handful of yeomen in their shirt-sleeves, armed with old-fashioned muskets, awaiting the charge of the British grenadiers. The odds against the Americans are fearful, as the well-trained enemy sweeps down. But not a man among them moves. Somewhere in that orchard is Anthony Wayne himself, watching the foe with steady glance, his teeth set, his cheek flushed. "Wait," he tells his men, "till they are close at hand, and then pick off the king birds."

On comes the unbroken column, apparently resistless, in the full blaze of the afternoon's sun. In front,

HENRY MONCKTON, called Colonel Monckton, was one of the most honorable officers in the service of the British. He was accomplished, brave, of splendid personal appearance, and of irreproachable moral character. He was in the battle of Long Island, 1776, where he was shot through the body and lay for many weeks at the point of death. He recovered, and for his gallantry on that occasion was promoted to be lieutenant-colonel, and was in command of the battalion at the Battle of Monmouth in which the First and Second Grenadiers bore a conspicuous part, and in a charge the heroic Monckton was mortally wounded. The spot where he was killed is said to be about eight rods north-east of the old parsonage of the Tennent Church, and he was buried about six feet from the west end of the church.

in the splendid uniform of a lieutenant-colonel, is their commander, Henry Monckton, the Viscount Galway's son, waving his sword and calling on the grenadiers to "charge." They have swept through the open field, they have passed the hedge-row, they have begun to descend the slope beyond, their paces quicken, the front rank has almost reached the barn—the whole column is in full charge. There is a moment of suspense. And then, with a crash, a sheet of flame from Parsonage and barn and fence and orchard leaps forth to meet them, and in an instant a dense cloud of smoke has hidden them from view. A moment later the cloud has broken, and here and there glimpses can be seen of men in deadly combat—red-coated grenadiers and yeomen in shirt-sleeves mixed in inextricable confusion. See as the smoke lifts, Wayne's men have leaped the fence coatless, their sleeves rolled up, and dashed into the *mêlée*, and yonder in the hollow of the field they are fighting hand to hand with bayonet thrust and clubbed guns over a lifeless body. It is his who a moment ago cheered on his men to victory—his breast bloody with wounds, his scarlet coat stained and torn as the fight rages about him. Now his men press forward, and again are driven back, as the Americans from barn and orchard throw themselves headlong into the struggle. The cracking of the musketry is incessant—the cries of the combatants can be heard, and all the while, above the din, the guns upon the heights keep up "the heaviest cannonading ever heard in America." And now beyond the rim of smoke the grenadiers are falling back in groups to-

gether, broken and confused. The Americans have Monckton's body and are driving his men before them in retreat. Back up the sloping field—through the broken hedge-row—across the open ground—toward the woods beyond, faster and faster go the British—in confused mass, their ranks broken—their battalions shattered—their leader killed! At last—at last—in open ground and hand to hand the ragged rebels have withstood and beaten the British grenadiers!

The day is now spent; the American position can neither be turned nor taken; the British left is threatened, and the whole army cooped up on the right—there is nothing for Clinton to do but to retire. Already his troops have left the woods in front of Stirling—the centre has repassed the ravine in front of Carr's House—the horsemen have turned their backs—the whole army is retreating. Down from the heights come the Americans in pursuit, and over the hot fields filled with the bodies of the dead. The word goes back to Steuben to bring up fresh men, for the enemy are retreating in confusion, and though Lee, then at the rear, declares that it cannot be true, the old veteran hastens to obey. Before he has arrived the enemy are strongly posted on the ground beyond the ravine; and it is nearly seven o'clock. Washington prepares to resume the offensive, but both sides are tired out.

#### A DRAWN BATTLE

And there through the sultry twilight the two armies lie watching each other, panting and exhausted, with

only the defile between them. The fields are strewn with coats, cartouch-boxes, and guns, the ground torn up with shot, the trees shattered with the marks of cannon-balls. The Americans hold the field of battle, but the British present a sullen and threatening front. The shadows creep out of the west—the steam rises from the hollows—the sun, like a ball of fire, has disappeared—the sultry twilight has faded—the hot night has begun. The dead lie where they fell, the wounded groan and gasp for air—in the woods, by the hedge-row, in the marsh, on the trodden field—and the tired living sink on their arms to sleep. Poor's sentinels, close to the enemy, are watching their right—Woodford's guarding their left. Beneath a tall tree Washington and Lafayette, wrapped in a single cloak, lie down to rest. A solemn silence has followed the tumult of the day, and so the long hours of the night pass by.

With the first streak of dawn the men are under arms. Poor pushes his brigade across the ravine, Woodford advances on the left, and the whole army awaits the signal for attack. But still no sound comes from the British camp. And look, for the sun is up, the fields in front are deserted; the cannon that frowned across the ravine at nightfall have disappeared; the red-coats have vanished in the night. Four of their officers and forty men lie wounded in their empty camp. In the darkness, in the shadows of the night, the Royal army has stolen away. The Battle of Monmouth has been fought and won!

## CLINTON STEALS AWAY IN THE DARKNESS

During the midnight hours Clinton has withdrawn in stealth to join his baggage in the hills of Middletown. Without cavalry, pursuit is useless. The British reach Sandy Hook on the 30th, and Washington advances to Brunswick and White Plains.

With the events that followed I have not to do. We all know the result: how the allied attack on Rhode Island was a failure, and how the British remained quiet

Sir Henry Clinton, with the royal army, had arrived at the Highlands of Navesink, in the neighborhood of Sandy Hook, on the 30th of June. He had lost many men by desertion, Hessians especially, during his march through the Jerseys, which, with his losses by killed, wounded, and captured, had diminished his army more than two thousand men.

General Washington marched from Monmouth to Brunswick, where he rested his troops; thence to Paramus and Haverstraw Bay on the Hudson, and finally re-established his headquarters at White Plains on the 22d of July.

The Battle of Rhode Island occurred August 29, 1778. Newport, R. I., had been seized and garrisoned by the British with 6000 men under Pigott. Sullivan and Lafayette on land and Count D'Estaing on sea concerted an attack. Butt's Hill on Rhode Island was seized by Sullivan. D'Estaing was forced to meet Howe and the English fleet, but a terrible storm averted battle, and D'Estaing retired to Boston to refit. The Americans were obliged to evacuate by the arrival of Clinton with 5000 reinforcements.

The battle of Monmouth was the last important battle in the Northern States. For the remainder of the war the chief seat of conflict was in the South.

in New York until December, when they departed to invade the South.

#### CONSEQUENCES RESULTING FROM THE BATTLE

But the excitements of the affair of Monmouth ceased not with the battle. The singular conduct of General Lee—his disrespectful letters to the Commander-in-chief—his trial—the confused and conflicting testimony—his able and ingenious defence (often inconsistent and based on after-thought though it was)—his conviction and his sentence—gave rise to bitter controversy for years to come. Many were convinced that he was guilty of greater offences than those with which he had been charged; some held him innocent,

“Washington was directed by a resolution of Congress to administer the oath of allegiance to the officers of the army before leaving Valley Forge. The oath was administered to several at one time, each officer placing his hand upon the Bible. Just as the Commander-in-chief began to repeat the oath, General Lee withdrew his hand. This movement was repeated, to the astonishment of all. Washington inquired the cause of his strange conduct, when he replied, ‘As to King George, I am ready enough to absolve myself from all allegiance to him, but I have some scruples about the Prince of Wales.’ Lee eventually took the oath with the rest and subscribed his name.”

CONDUCT OF LEE: “The conduct of Lee throughout the day was very strange, and gives a coloring to the conjecture that the thorn of envy was still rankling in his bosom, and that he preferred seeing the Americans disgraced by a defeat rather than Washington honored by a victory. Lafayette, who had watched with the eyes of ardent affection the progress and termination of the conspiracy against Washington a few months previously as

and even deserving of high praise. It is probable that he was in some degree innocent, and, at the same time, in greater measure guilty. It is clear that Washington's order to attack left him full discretion. It is evident that an engagement in the plain would have been unwise, and that Lee's opinion of the position near the Court-House was a sounder one than Wayne's. It is probable that a well-managed retreat, drawing the British into the ground they finally occupied, and providing for the main army to receive them there, might have resulted in a battle disastrous to the enemy; but nothing before, or during, or after his retreat suggests

his proposed successor, was properly suspicious. Soon after his application to Lee for permission to attempt to gain the enemy's rear, one of Washington's aides arrived for information; and Lafayette took the occasion to inform his excellency through the aide that his presence upon the ground was of the utmost importance. He felt convinced that Lee's movements were governed either by cowardice or treachery, and he was anxious to have Washington controlling the movements of the day."

"It was evident that after the first vent of his indignation, on seeing Lee making a shameful retreat before the enemy, Washington was willing to overlook the act, and forget and forgive Lee's harsh words, spoken in anger. Had the latter been actuated by the same noble and generous spirit, all would have been well. But the rebuke of the Commander-in-chief struck deep into his pride, and he could not rest satisfied with the retort he had given to his general. On the day after the battle he wrote a letter to Washington, in which he demanded an apology for his remarks on the battlefield. Washington replied that he conceived his letter to be expressed in terms highly improper, and asserted his conviction that the words which he used when he met him retreating

that any such plan had entered the mind of General Lee. He made no plan of action in advance. He communicated none to his brigadier's at any time. He withdrew his right in haste when the enemy approached, but gave his left no orders. He fell back to Carr's House in confusion, which he saw, but did not try to check. His directions to those about him were contradictory; to those at a distance he had none to give. His talk with Wikoff showed that he thought to make a stand, but knew neither when nor where to do it, and from the beginning to the end he sent no word to Washington of what was taking place. It was his fault that

were warranted by the circumstances. He charged Lee with a breach of orders and misbehavior before the enemy, in not attacking them and in making an 'unnecessary, disorderly, and shameful retreat.' Lee wrote an insulting reply. In a second letter, dated June 30th (two days after the battle), Lee demanded a court of inquiry immediately, accompanying that demand with offensive remarks. Washington immediately sent Colonel Scammel, the adjutant-general, to put Lee under arrest, on the following charges:

"First: Disobedience of orders in not attacking the enemy on the 28th of June, agreeably to repeated instructions.

"Second: Misbehavior before the enemy on the same day by making an unnecessary, disorderly, and shameful retreat.

"Third: Disrespect to the Commander-in-chief, in two letters, dated the 1st of July and the 28th of June.

"The court-martial was convened at Brunswick on the 4th of July, consisting of one major-general (Lord Stirling, who was president), four brigadiers, and eight colonels. General Lee was found guilty on all the charges, and was suspended from the army for a term of twelve months."—Spark's *Washington*.

his command acted without a head; it was his fault that the enemy had to be stopped at a disadvantage to get time to form the main army even for defence; and if it was his plan to draw Clinton into a trap, as he asserted, and in the same breath denied, in his defence, he took no pains to make that plan successful or avert the disaster which every moment, under his eyes, threatened to be more complete and overwhelming. And it is certain that his subsequent conduct cannot be excused. His behavior to Congress was undignified and weak; his attacks on Washington ill-natured and contemptible; and his death—sudden and speedy as it was—was too tardy for his fame.

The generation that knew Charles Lee was too much interested in the events in which he was an actor to form an accurate estimate of his character or sit in judgment on his life. The century that has intervened has cooled forever the passions that stirred the bosoms of his friends and enemies. We can judge him with

**HIS BEHAVIOR TO CONGRESS:** The term of suspension had expired when a rumor reached him that Congress intended to take away his commission. He was then in bodily pain; the intelligence ruffled his temper beyond all bounds. In his hurry and heat, without attempting to ascertain the truth of the report, he scrawled the following note to the President of Congress: "Sir, I understand that it is in contemplation of Congress, on the principle of economy, to strike me out of their service. Congress must know very little of me if they suppose that I would accept of their money since the confirmation of the wicked and infamous sentence which was passed upon me." This insolent note occasioned his prompt dismissal from the service.

calmness and impartiality; for to us he is simply a figure in our early history. And we know him better than our fathers did. They may have seen that, like Gates, he feared the British grenadiers, and could not persuade himself that the raw levies of Congress could stand up against them. They may have thought that, like others besides Gates, he was jealous of Washington, and did not wish him victory. They may have suspected that he was annoyed that his advice had been overruled, and did not wish an attack, made in spite of it, to be successful. But they did not understand, in the face of many signs, that his heart was not in their struggle; and they did not know, as we do, that when a prisoner in New York, on the 25th of March, 1777, this second in command of their armies had written and submitted to the British general an elaborate plan for the subjection of America. Side by side with that paper, in Lee's unmistakable handwriting, and endorsed by Howe's secretary "Mr. Lee's Plan," the most elaborate defence of his conduct here at Monmouth falls broken to the ground. His motives may have been humane, his desire to prevent bloodshed earnest, his wish to reunite the

"MR. LEE'S PLAN": That Lee was a traitor to the cause which he pretended to support has been proved beyond question. Some years since, George H. Moore, LL.D., of the city of New York, secured possession of the letter written by Lee while he was a prisoner, and addressed to General Howe. It was penned March 29, 1777, and the offer of his services to the British commander was made in unmistakable terms. That they were not accepted was probably because Howe rated them at their true value.

mother-country and the colonies sincere; but the act was that of a traitor, and on this spot, identified with the last scene of his career, it is more charitable than just to grant to a name and memory associated with such a deed the mercy of oblivion.

#### WHY THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH WAS FAMOUS

The battle of the 28th of June was famous for many things. It was there that Charles Lee ended his career. It was there that the last great battle of the war was fought—from this to Yorktown the conflicts were on a smaller scale. And it was there that the American first showed himself a finished soldier. Courage he had exhibited enough already, but for the task which he had undertaken untrained valor was not enough.

#### EXAMPLES OF HEROISM

The audacious spirit which led the half-armed farmers of Massachusetts to seize the hill beyond Charlestown neck, at night, and throw up a rude breastwork within half a cannon-shot of a British fleet and army—the

Name the various things for which the battle of the 28th of June was famous.

**YORKTOWN:** A city of Virginia, on the York River, 10 miles from its mouth and about 60 miles from Richmond. Yorktown is noted for the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and his army to Washington in the year 1781, which was the virtual close of the Revolutionary War.

headlong daring of Arnold at Quebec and Behmus's Heights—the splendid gallantry of Christopher Greene behind the intrenchments at Red Bank—the intrepidity of Wayne leading his forlorn hope up the heights of Stony Point—the rash valor of Ethan Allen in the gates

**ARNOLD AT QUEBEC:** Colonel Benedict Arnold with a crowd of half-famished men, who had ascended the Kennebec and then struggled through the wilderness, united his force with the army of General Montgomery in an assault upon Quebec. In the midst of a terrible snowstorm they led their forces in a gallant attack, but the attempt failed. Montgomery fell at the first fire and Arnold was severely wounded in the leg.

**BEMUS (BEHMUS) HEIGHTS:** A post village of Saratoga County, New York, on the Hudson, 24 miles north of Albany. Here were fought the two battles of Stillwater between the forces of Gates and Burgoyne, September 19 and October 7, 1777. The first is often called the battle of Bemus Heights.

**CHRISTOPHER GREENE,** a colonel in the American army, was born in Warwick, Rhode Island, in 1737. He commanded Fort Mercer at Red Bank on the Delaware River, in 1777, and repulsed a strong body of Hessians who attacked that fort. He died in May, 1781.

**WAYNE AT STONY POINT:** At this place the British held a fort on a rocky promontory on the Hudson River at the King's Ferry. It was garrisoned by some grenadiers and artillery under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Johnson. General Anthony Wayne took the fort by storm on the night of July 6, 1779. This was one of the most brilliant exploits performed in the Revolutionary War.

**ETHAN ALLEN** (1738–89) a brigadier-general in the Revolutionary army. In 1775, after the battle of Lexington, he gathered a company of his "Green Mountain boys" and marched

of Ticonderoga—the reckless bravery of Sergeant Jasper on the ramparts of Fort Moultrie, were but examples of an almost universal courage. But even this, splendid as it was, would not have availed alone through seven years of constant and often disastrous fighting. It was the calm and reflecting courage of the soldier trained in the school of trial—that could fall back without disorder, retreat without panic, endure suffering without a murmur, and bear defeat with patience. It was the long-suffering Valley Forge, bearing its fruit in the veteran-like courage of Monmouth, that saved Civil Liberty for both continents alike.

#### WASHINGTON'S SOLDIERLY QUALITIES

And never were the soldierly qualities of Washington displayed more brilliantly than here. "I never saw

against the fortresses of Ticonderoga and Crown Point. Landing with 93 men just before daylight, he surprised the fort. The British commander rushed out in his night-clothes and asked: "What does this mean?" He was ordered to surrender. "In whose name?" he asked. "In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress," replied Allen, and the fort was surrendered.

WILLIAM JASPER, known in history as Sergeant Jasper, was born in South Carolina about 1750. When the American flag was shot away in the attack on Fort Moultrie, June 28, 1776, he leaped outside the walls of the fort, amidst a perfect storm of cannon-shot, replaced the flag, and returned to his post without injury. He was killed at Savannah in October, 1779.

the general to so much advantage," wrote Hamilton to Boudinot; "his coolness and firmness were admirable." "His presence stopped the retreat," said Lafayette; "his dispositions fixed the victory—his fine appearance on horseback, his calm courage, roused to animation by the vexations of the morning, gave him an air best calculated to arouse enthusiasm." The general voice of his countrymen confirmed the judgment of Hamilton when he wrote: "America owes a great deal to General Washington for this day's work—a general rout, dismay, and disgrace would have

ELIAS BOUDINOT (1740–1821), of New Jersey, was a delegate to Congress most of the time from 1777 to 1784. He was president of Congress in 1782, and as such signed the Treaty of Peace with England. He was a member of Congress from 1789 to 1795; director of the mint from 1795 to 1805; was deeply interested in the education of the Indians and in missionary enterprises.

WASHINGTON'S REVOLUTIONARY WAR RECORD: Elected Commander-in-chief of the American army June 15, 1775; took command of the army at Cambridge July 2, 1775; was at the evacuation of Boston March 17, 1776; at the battle of Long Island, August 27, 1776; invested by Congress with dictatorial powers December 27, 1776; at the battle of Trenton December 26, 1776; at the battle of Princeton January 3, 1777; at the battle of Brandywine September 11, 1777; at the battle of Germantown October 4, 1777; at the battle of Monmouth June 28, 1778; at the siege of Yorktown October 19, 1781; made his farewell address to the army November 2, 1783; last meeting with his officers December 4, 1783; resigned his commission December 23, 1783.

attended the whole army in any other hands but his."

From this time forward there was no longer question who should be Commander-in-chief. One after another of his enemies disappeared—Lee was suspended from command, Conway returned to France, Mifflin left the service. Gates was overthrown at Camden. It was he alone who had kept the army together at

Explain what is meant by the following: "his dispositions fixed the victory"; "by the vexations of the morning." Show America's debt to Washington for this day's work. Justify the statement that "a general rout, dismay, and disgrace would have attended the whole army in any other hands but his." What one great thing did the battle of Monmouth settle? What happened to Washington's enemies? Who kept the army together at Valley Forge? Who saved the day at Monmouth?

THOMAS MIFFLIN (1744-1800) had served in the Pennsylvania Legislature before he entered the first Continental Congress. In the war he was at first aide-de-camp to Washington and then quartermaster-general. He covered the retreat of the army in the evacuation of Brooklyn in 1776, and soon afterward was appointed major-general and a member of the Board of War. With Conway and Gates he was associated in the intrigues against Washington, and in 1778 he was retired from the office of quartermaster-general. He was president of Congress in 1783, member of the Federal Convention of 1787, and a signer of the Constitution. He was governor of Pennsylvania from 1790 to 1799.

"With great exertions a new American army was collected in North Carolina, but the command of it, unfortunately, was given to Gates, and on the 16th of August, 1780, Cornwallis nearly destroyed it at Camden. It was, perhaps, the worst defeat ever inflicted upon an American army."

Valley Forge—it was he alone who had saved the day at Monmouth—it is he alone that shall win the liberties of this struggling people. Soldier and statesman, for five-and-twenty years the central figure in his country's history, he shall appear to posterity as he did to Lafayette that day, who thought, as he watched the splendid figure dashing along the forming lines, that never before or since had he beheld "so superb a man." The affair of Monmouth was in some respects a drawn battle. The report which Clinton wrote conveyed the idea that he had accomplished all he wished—beaten the provincials and continued on his way to take advantage of the moonlight, although the fact was, that the moon on that night was but four days old. Many in England recognized the truth about the battle, for we find Horace Walpole writing shortly afterwards, "The undisciplined courtiers speak of it in most dismal terms."

SIR HENRY CLINTON, in his official dispatch to Lord George Germaine, wrote, "Having reposed the troops until ten at night to avoid excessive heat of the day, I *took advantage of the moonlight* to rejoin General Knyphausen, who had advanced to Nut Swamp, near Middletown." This assertion was the cause of much merriment in America, for it was known that the event took place about the time of new moon. 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."

“If I guess right, Washington was ill served, and thence, and by violent heats, could not effect all his purposes; but an army on a march through a hostile country that is twice beaten back—which is owned—whose men drop down with heat, have no hospitals, and were hurrying to a place of security, must have lost more than three hundred and eighty men”; and he adds later, with a sneer, “The Royal army has gained an escape.” But the Americans claimed it with enthusiasm as a victory.

#### OPINIONS OF THE BATTLE

It was true that the enemy had escaped. It was true that the fruits belonged rather to Clinton than to Washington, for the purpose of the one had failed, and that of the other been accomplished. But it was evident to all men that the days of the superiority of the British army were over. The Continentals had encountered the grenadiers in the open field, and under disastrous circumstances, and had withstood and even repulsed them. After a whole day's fighting it had been the British who fell back, and the Americans who kept the field—and this time it had been the Rebels who had wished to renew the battle, and the Regulars who had refused it. The fact that the enemy had escaped made little difference to the enthusiastic Americans. He had been

Justify the statement that Washington was ill served. Name obstacles that were placed in Washington's way. Was the battle of Monmouth a victory for the Americans?

beaten fairly and that was glory enough. The Congress was in ecstasy—the Whigs jubilant. Wrote Washington himself, “From an unfortunate and bad beginning it turned out a glorious and happy day.” “The behavior of the officers and men in general was such as could not easily be surpassed. Our troops, after the first impulse from mismanagement, behaved with more spirit and moved with greater order than the

What object had been accomplished by Washington? In what way did the Continental soldiers show superiority over the British regulars? Who wished to renew the battle? What effect did this battle have upon Congress? How did it affect the Whigs? How did Washington view the results of the battle? What comment did he have to make upon the behavior of the officers and men?

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 William Erskine; and with Washington were Lafayette, Greene, 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 them 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, afterward 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.

British troops," were the words of Hamilton. Said General William Irvine, "It was a most glorious day for the American arms." "Indeed," wrote Knox, "it is very splendid. The capital army of Britain defeated and obliged to retreat before the Americans, whom they despised so much." "The effects of the battle will be great and lasting. It will convince the enemy that nothing but a good constitution is wanting to render our army equal to any in the world." As for Wayne, whose "good conduct and bravery," in the words of Washington, "deserve particular commendation," he could not contain himself. "Tell those Philadelphia ladies," he wrote to a friend, "who attended Howe's assemblies and levees, that the heavenly sweet, pretty red-coats, the accomplished gentlemen of the guards and grenadiers have been humbled on the plains of Monmouth. The Knights of the Blended Roses and of the Burning

What comment did Hamilton make upon the American soldiers? Who was General Irvine? Name the comments of Knox. Enumerate the military services of General Knox. In what particulars did the good conduct and bravery of Wayne deserve particular commendation? What services were rendered by the virtuous daughters of America to the cause of liberty?

**KNIGHTS OF THE BLENDED ROSES:** A feature of the programme of the *Mischianza* given in honor of General Howe on the eve of his departure for England. The Knights of the Blended Roses proclaimed that the ladies of the Blended Roses excelled in wit, beauty, and every accomplishment those of the whole world; and if any knight or knights were so hardy as to deny it, they were ready to enter the lists with them and maintain their assertions by deeds

Mount have resigned their laurels to rebel officers, who will lay them at the feet of those virtuous daughters of America, who cheerfully gave up ease and affluence in a city for liberty and peace of mind in a cottage."

#### TIME AND ITS CHANGES

Such, my countrymen, is the history of this famous fight. The years that have gone by have left no trace of it upon your soil. The fields are changed, the morass has become a pleasant meadow, the woods have fallen, the ancient Parsonage has gone. And they who struggled here, grenadier and Continental, veteran in scarlet, and yeoman in rags, have all passed away forever; they who fought against us and they who fought to make us free, old and young alike, great man and humble, he whose fitting sepulchre is his country's heart and they who, in unmarked graves in yonder field, have long since mouldered into dust—the nameless dead, who died for you and me. Father, son, and grandchild, they have

of arms. The Knights of the Burning Mountain presented themselves to disprove by deeds the vain-glorious assertions of the Knights of the Blended Roses. During the fourth encounter the marshal of the field rushed in, and declared that the ladies of the Blended Roses and the Burning Mountain were perfectly satisfied with the proofs of love and fidelity and commanded them to desist from further encounter.

In your own language write a sketch of this famous fight.

What is meant by the expression, "he whose fitting sepulchre is his country's heart"? Where is Washington buried?

descended to the grave, and of all that knew and loved them in their prime, not one survives. The peaceful plough passing through your fields may uncover rusted ball, or broken bayonet, or mouldering skull, or crumbling skeleton. But the wild fury of the fight has gone; the struggling host has vanished; the loud-mouthed cannon are forever dumb. Another sound is rising in the land. It comes from town and hamlet, from marts of commerce and from haunts of trade, from workshop and from forge, from field and mine, from forest, hill, and stream. It tells of joy and gladness, of content and peace, of well-stored granaries and happy homes. It tells of a people virtuous and free, a government rooted in the hearts of men. It is a nation's prayer, a people's cry, a song of Hope and Prophecy.

And from these hills to-day a voice goes forth to meet it. Americans, it seems to say, as with your fathers shall it be with you. Faith, Courage, Fortitude, Virtue, and Love of Country can win you battles now as well as then. Defeat may still lead the way to Victory and Suffering to Happiness. And when the night cometh and the shadows fall, remember that the sun that went down at Valley Forge was the same that arose above the Heights of Freehold.

What is meant by "well-stored granaries"? a "government rooted in the hearts of men"? "a voice goes forth to meet it"? What elements are needed to win future victories? In what way may defeat lead to victory? suffering to happiness?

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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### I. HENRY ARMITT BROWN

HENRY ARMITT BROWN'S oration at Valley Forge, June 19, 1878, demonstrates the fact that as an orator he was the peer of Webster, Philips, Patrick Henry, and Edward Everett; and, like the great French orators, his speech was finished, classic, evenly sustained, and within an elegance of style. He had four qualities of an orator—a masterful will, personal magnetism, a flexible and musical voice, and an exquisitely finished elocution. At a little over thirty years of age he held, as it were, entranced thousands by his great reasoning and eloquence. Looking around among the orators of the day, we see but a few who have not gained a good ripe age before they attained that great sublimity of mind and character which seemed bound up in him.

“The young men of our country should make his life a study; no more perfect model can be found, for in him they see what a young man has done and what other young men can do. His example should serve to stimulate the young and noble-minded to exalted aims.

“The young men in our American colleges, we think, ever look forward to becoming public men, the recognized servants of the republic; and they should act upon the principle that, from the very talents intrusted to them, they are expected to become the strong stays and helpers of the commonwealth. By so doing they will follow in his footsteps whose life is imperfectly set forth in these pages, and who fell on the ‘high places of the field’ to make room for them to follow.”

## HIS CHILDHOOD AND EARLY LIFE

HENRY ARMITT BROWN was born in the city of Philadelphia, December 1, 1844. His father was a representative business man; his mother was Charlotte Augusta Hoppin, from whom he inherited his literary tastes.

"Harry was a sweet tempered child, delicately strung and extremely sensitive to the touch and sight of harsh things, as if unfit to be stretched on this rough world, imaginative, curious in his questionings, sympathetic and affectionate, but stubborn of will, and apt to see things in a very independent and ludicrously odd light."

"When an older boy, his favorite pastime was studying the histories of great battles, especially those of Napoleon, and in arranging and moving companies of tin soldiers and parks of artillery according to the changing plans of the battles. This play was carried on on so large a scale as to attract the attention of the neighbors and of older people to the extent of the combinations. One whole portion of the garden thus employed would become the scene of a wide and hurrying conflict, platoons of soldiers shifting across the field, forts blowing up, dwellings in flames, rivers crossed, and discharge of artillery from the flying batteries."

He became so absorbed in his military plans that until he was fourteen years of age his one great ambition was to become a great captain. He was so bent upon a military career that he impertuned his father time and time again to be permitted to go to West Point Military Academy, but was each time refused. As his biographer has said, "This throws some light upon his character, which, as it sometimes happens, beneath an almost feminine delicacy of organization, hid a nature of sinewy ambition fitted to leadership." He was prepared for college at the Burlington Academy and at Dr. Lyons' School in Haverford, Pennsylvania.

## HIS COLLEGE LIFE

He entered Yale College in 1861, and it was not long before he cast himself into the current of student life with all his youthful enthusiasm. Here he found a congenial field for his varied talents, identifying himself with every social and literary effort. In resolutions drafted by class committees; in speeches delivered at class suppers; in Delta Kappa, Alpha Sigma Phi, and Psi Upsilon lyrics; in debates and war songs of the Brothers of Unity; in the organization and carrying out of the Thanksgiving jubilees of sophomore, junior, and senior years, his pen and voice were foremost. He was soon recognized as a ready and acceptable speaker and was in constant demand. During his college career he had not only developed a talent for acting, but the college songs from his pen are sufficient evidence of his talent in this line. Honors were being constantly heaped upon him, but, it must be remembered, that they were won by the sheer force of his intellect. He read much, but not along any definite lines. He was passionately fond of the classics, especially the Latin poets. His independent reading included history, political economy, and philosophy.

Harry Brown was chosen to be class-poet, a deserved tribute to his popularity and ability. "His class-mates were satisfied that a great poet had spoken, and what more could be asked?" His college life was irreproachable and his sense of honor exquisite. It was at Yale that he acquired the power to think, to reason, to write, and to speak—four great acquisitions for any man. What college education could do more?

## SETTLING DOWN TO WORK

Soon after graduation he entered Columbia Law School in New York City, and in the following July, 1866, he sailed for the Continent, where he spent sixteen months visiting all the countries of Europe, with the exception of Russia, Sweden, Norway, and Spain. Upon his return from Europe he resumed his study of

law in the office of Daniel Dougherty, Esq., of Philadelphia, and was admitted to the bar as an attorney December 18, 1869. He devoted himself faithfully to his legal business, but in April, 1870, he sailed once more for Europe. Upon his return home he settled down to his professional studies. "He shook off the slight diletantism which was the mingled product of a fondness for society and the cherishing, in a time of life betwixt the ideal and the actual, of something of a Hamlet-like spirit of thoughtful inaction. He was a dreamer, though an earnest one. As in college, while ever pondering it, he had not found his work. He had not heard the bugle-call. The associations of early years clung about him, and he was more of a loiterer in those green imaginative meads than a laborer in the real field. He had begun to appreciate the sensible words of another, 'Of all the work that produces results, nine-tenths must be drudgery.'"

Mr. Brown became an active member of the Philadelphia Shakespeare Society, and his friends claim that the influence of his study of Shakespeare is perceptible in its power upon his oratory, giving it elegant finish, condensation, and tactical dexterity in dealing with mind.

#### A PUBLIC DISCOVERY

On the 19th of December, 1872, a complimentary dinner was given to the Hon. Ex-Chief Justice Thompson. The best legal talent of the city was present. The eighth and last toast of the evening was "The Juniors of the Bar." This toast was assigned to Henry Armitt Brown. This announcement caused some surprise, due to the fact that he was so recent a member of the bar. But these feelings were soon dispelled as his exquisitely finished elocution fell upon the ear. "The Public Ledger" characterized the effort as "one of the marked orations of the evening." And so it was discovered that Harry Brown could speak. From now on his oratorical career was onward and upward. Ever and anon he was called to the lecture field and the political stump. He had every qualification for the public lecture field, and would

have rivalled the most shining names upon the public platform if he had followed out this career.

In the meantime he was married, December 7, 1871, to Miss Josephine Lea, of Philadelphia—a union of rare happiness and congeniality of mind.

A new field presented itself to his claims and oratorical powers. It was the Centennial Epoch of memorializing the great events of the country's history. Harry Brown had not yet won his greatest triumph. He was invited to deliver the oration in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, on the one hundredth anniversary of the meeting of Congress of 1774. Of this address the "Philadelphia Press" said, "As the exercises continued, and the oration of the day was being delivered, the whole aspect of the assembly changed. Those there seated were no longer men of business, but sons of liberty, who had suddenly realized the grandeur of their birth-right. The thrilling oration fanned into a white-heat the long-smothered embers of patriotism, until the air seemed heavy with the magnetic influence of deep emotion and mental excitement. The scene was one never to be forgotten. Old men whose years overlapped the nineties stood erect with a renewed youth, and waved their hats in the air, and the young men, to whom the word liberty had long been so familiar as to have become an empty sound, seemed suddenly to realize the deep significance of the term, and to long for some way of proving their devotion to a government which had cost such precious blood to gain."

His next oratorical triumph was won at the old Quaker town of Burlington, New Jersey, December 6, 1877, on the occasion of its two hundredth anniversary of its formation. The style of this oration, while finished, was not highly rhetorical. It was in quaint good taste, as befitting the peaceful old Quaker town about which its loving memories linger.

Near the beginning of the last year of his life Mr. Brown had been asked to deliver an oration on the anniversary of the evacuation of Valley Forge. The delivery of this oration on June 19, 1878, was the last and most brilliant of Mr. Brown's public efforts. From this celebration Mr. Brown went home, it might be

literally said, to die. Low in strength and using up all his physical energy he had in speaking, he contracted a fever at or about the time of the celebration. For eight weeks there was a succession of hopes and fears. He died August 21, 1878, at the age of thirty-three years.

#### AS AN ORATOR

"Henry Armitt Brown, though a man of uncommonly varied gifts, was a born orator."

"With the exception of Patrick Henry, Henry Clay, and Daniel Webster, no speaker in the land ever had moments of completer triumphs than he over the mind and feelings of his hearers."

"He was not unlike Edmund Burke, ever espousing the cause of justice, and had he lived he would have ranked with that eminent essayist and statesman."

#### HIS METHODS

"He always read in advance of his writing, and would search indefatigably in any direction for matter bearing upon the subject. He went to first causes. He spared himself no pains. The result was something of rare and permanent value. He liked to read what he had collected to his wife or to a friend, and their interest would stimulate him, and, while talking it over, his mind would become thoroughly aroused. The committing to memory never seemed to give him the least uneasiness, and one day usually sufficed for that, no matter how much matter there was. He thus filled his mind with the subject, and spoke, though from memory, with the inspiration of the theme."

#### HIS STYLE

"Not in a massive style, like Bright's oratory, nor in cumulative epithet, like Sumner's, nor in epigrammatic brilliancy, like Beaconfield's, nor in broad philosophic discussion, like Gladstone's, nor in the magnificent marshalling of fact and phrase, like Ma-

caulay's, nor in the coarse, passionate vigor, like O'Connell's. He did not have all forces combined—who does? His speech was more like that of the great French orators, finished and classic, without display of violence or undisciplined imagination. He had an elegance of style not incompatible with the highest vigor. He won by a forceful but steady pressure."

#### AS A MAN AMONG MEN

"Young, gifted, vigorous, above all, pure, such was Henry Armitt Brown."

"Whatever he undertook he did to some purpose. As a politician, he was of the highest stamp; as an orator, he had already ranked among the greatest; as a writer, he was forceful, graceful, and scholarly; as a private gentleman, he was modest and unassuming, courteous and chivalric—ever forgetful of self and thoughtful of others."

"Though he labored in different fields, like Burns and Byron, his young life ended ere it had scarcely begun, but, to his perpetual glory be it said, the sun of his life set without a cloud upon it."

"Politics did not lower in him the standard of high morality and honor. His ambition was founded upon his patriotism. Nothing could have tempted his integrity, and no partisanship could have made him subservient to mean or narrow purposes. How safe would be the Republic and how glorious its destiny, were all its sons like him."

#### II. THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH MONUMENT\*

"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 of June, 1778.

\* Selections from an address by Ex-Governor Joel Parker at the unveiling of the Monmouth Battle Monument, Nov. 13, 1884.

“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 of 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 million 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 insistence, 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 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 protests 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 Mas-

sachusetts, 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.

“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 the 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 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 could fight well behind fortifications, but 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 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 and Indian War, and was at Fort Duquesne at Braddock's defeat. He afterward 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 farmhouse 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 afterward 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 afterward 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 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 Sandy Hook. Ten days after he left, the French fleet, which had been detained by adverse winds and tempestuous weather, entered the mouth of the Delaware Bay.

“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. On the 27th 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.

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“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 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."

### III. THE OCCASION—THE MONMOUTH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

"The Battle of Monmouth" oration by that gifted young orator, Henry Armit Brown, was prepared for the ceremonies at the laying of the cornerstone of the "Monmouth Battle Monument" on the 28th of June, 1878, but was never delivered because in the providence of God the hand of death was laid upon him. In consequence of the extreme heat he became very ill soon after he returned home from Valley Forge where he had delivered that

remarkable oration at the centennial of the departure of the army of the Revolution from winter-quarters at that place. After one day's rest, he commenced writing the Monmouth address and finished it in bed on the 28th of June. He had been taken with typhoid fever from which he never rallied. After fifty-eight days of steady fight between natural strength and science and the fever, he died the 21st of August, 1878.

On November 13th, 1884, the Monmouth Battle Monument was formally dedicated with impressive ceremonies. "This beautiful 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 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."

Let us indulge the hope that when century after century shall have passed away, this monument shall continue to stand on the battle-field of Monmouth, with its shaft pointing toward heaven, crowned with "Columbia Triumphant," its base portraying the heroic deeds of those who fought there and helped to achieve our national independence—the whole teaching future generations the cost of liberty and the value of our institutions.

### SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS

1. What is an oration?
2. Name the parts of an oration and the purposes of each.
3. Name five American orators in the order of their standing.

4. Name the soldiers at the battle of Monmouth who were destined to become presidents of the United States.

5. Which soldier at Monmouth was destined to be the most illustrious judge of the Supreme Court of the United States?

6. Which soldier at Monmouth was destined to announce a doctrine that has kept the American continent free from the touch of European politics; to debase his talents and afterward to be tried for treason?

7. Why was France interested in the American struggle?

8. Name three consequences resulting from the battle of Monmouth.

9. Name five prominent British generals who were engaged in this battle; ten American generals.

10. Who was Molly Pitcher?

11. In what sense was Valley Forge a "school of discipline" for the battle of Monmouth?

12. Describe the sufferings of the soldiers at Valley Forge.

13. What relation did the French and Indian War have to the American Revolution?

14. Show that New Jersey was the "war-path of the Revolution."

15. Show the effects of the French Alliance.

16. Which soldiers at Monmouth were destined to become governors of the State of New Jersey?

17. To whom, next to Washington, is America indebted for the success of her arms at Monmouth? Write a sketch of his life.

18. Show how the unfortunate and bad beginning at Monmouth was turned into a glorious victory.

19. Why do Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth, Morristown, Red Bank, and Springfield awaken patriotic recollections?

20. What noted foreigners joined the Continental army and took part in the battle of Monmouth?

21. What made the British abandon Philadelphia in 1778?

22. Contrast the American and British armies during the winter of 1777-78.

23. In what sense had "Philadelphia taken Sir William Howe"?

24. Show how Washington saved the army at Monmouth.

25. In what way did the "excitement of the affair at Monmouth cease not with the battle"?

26. In what way were the soldierly qualities of Washington displayed in this battle?

27. Why did the Americans claim this battle as a decisive victory?

28. What did Mr. Brown mean when he said, "Another sound is rising in the land"?