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HISTORY OF

THE STATE OF New York

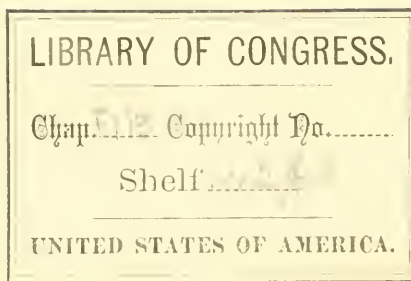
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HISTORY OF NEW YORK

IN WORDS OF ONE SYLLABLE

BY *Jeannette H. Walworth*
JEANNETTE H. WALWORTH

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS



CHICAGO, NEW YORK, AND SAN FRANCISCO
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NEW YORK.

INTRODUCTION TO CHAPTER I.

TWO HUN-DRED AND SIX-TY-FIVE years a-go there was no New York State, no New York Ci-ty, no net-work of rail-roads spread like i-ron cob-webs all o-ver the land, no steam-boats puff-ing and snort-ing all a-bout her bays and streams and lakes, no bridg-es to ex-cite the won-der of the world, no schools nor church-es,—none of the things which the chil-dren who read this book have been used to see and hear a-bout all their lives.

There was on-ly a rock-y is-land, ly-ing be-tween two salt riv-ers and a bay, to be seen by the first white men,—with plen-ty of trees and some dark-skinned sav-ag-es, who lived in huts called wig-wams and did not lay much stress on the cut of coats, as they wore none at all.

These sav-ag-es had small fields of to-bac-co and

corn. They got a-bout in bark ca-noes, which they han-dled with great skill. They lived by hunt-ing and fish-ing and fight-ing. They were not good to the wo-men of their race. No sav-age ev-er is good to a thing weak-er than him-self. But, as this ac-count of the first days of the "Em-pire State" (as New York is called now) is just to coax you in-to read-ing big-ger and bet-ter and full-er books on the same sub-ject, I can-not stop to say more a-bout the In-dians who had full pos-ses-sion of the coun-try be-fore the white men took it from them.

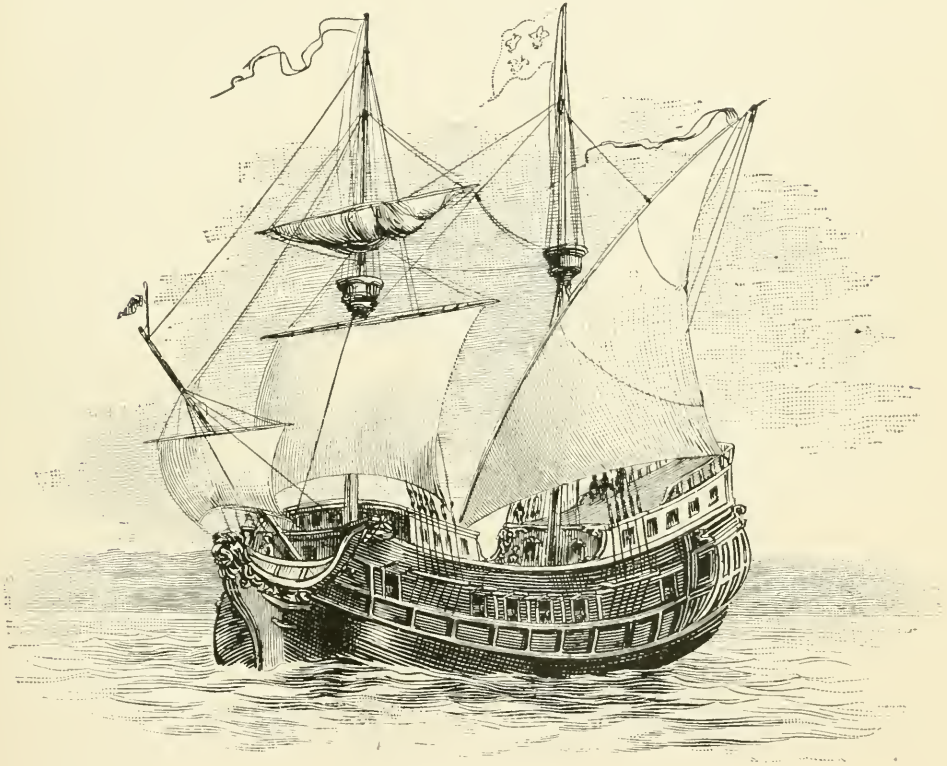
In writ-ing a his-to-ry of New York State for young peo-ple, the chief trou-ble lies in find-ing out what not to say, its sto-ry is such a full and rich one from its ear-li-est days up to the pres-ent.

In a small book like this one, you can on-ly get a slight glimpse of what has been done in and for a State which was with-out towns, roads, ships—with-out ev-er-y-thing that civ-il-ized men need—at the time of its set-tle-ment by Hen-ry Hud-son's men.

While the ac-tu-al set-tle-ment of the State may prop-er-ly be dat-ed from his com-ing, you must know that an I-tal-ian, by name Ver-ra-za-no, who was in the ser-vic-e of Fran-cis I. of France, made a voy-age in 1524, in a ship called the "Dol-phin," and wrote home of the mouth of a "great riv-er," be-yond which he found men who were "dressed in

the feathers of birds," and who met the men of the "Dol-phin" with "great de-light."

The let-ter goes on to say that they took small boats and went up this stream, when all of a sud-



THE "DOL-PHIN."

den, "as is wont to hap-pen to nav-i-ga-tors, con-tra-ry winds forced us to go back to the ship, with-out see-ing an-y-thing more of the land which was so pleas-ant to our eyes."

Some writers put the number of these Indians at 180,000 east of the Miss-is-sip-pi Riv-er in 1650. Perhaps of these New York State had about 30,000 or 40,000, but few as they were in number, they vastly out-numbered the hand-ful of white men who be-gan the tre-men-dous task of re-deem-ing this land from sav-age-ry.

Such a task could not be car-ried on by a few scat-tered groups of set-tlers, each act-ing for it-self; there-fore the Trad-ing Com-pan-ies, of which you will hear a good deal in the com-ing pag-es, held au-thor-i-ty o-ver the Col-o-ny of Man-hat-tan for a good ma-ny years.

All this I will try to make plain to you as we go on to-geth-er.

CHAPTER I.

HENRY HUDSON AND "THE HALF MOON."

LATE in the year 1609 a Dutch ship, by name "The Half Moon," found her way in-to the bay of New York, as it is now known, with a crew of white men on board, the first that had ever been seen in this part of the New World.

The name of the man in charge of that ship is a name well known to an-y child old e-nough to read this book. It was Hen-ry Hud-son.

Hen-ry Hud-son was an Eng-lish-man, who had twice tried to find his way to Ca-thay for his own king, but had not done so; on the strength of which, in a pet, no doubt,—for he was a proud man, and sneers stung him to the quick,—he left his home to make a third tri-al. This time, it was with the Dutch flag at his mast's head and Dutch gold in his purse.

Bold Hen-ry Hud-son had been sent out in "The Half Moon" by some shrewd rich men, who thought much more of gold than of glo-ry. The Dutch East In-dia Com-pa-ny sent him out to look for a north-east or north-west pas-sage to Chi-na; but the ice drove him to-wards the South and sent him

up the bay of New York, to make his own name famous for all time, and to find more wealth for the Dutch than they had ever hoped to see.

In the long run, the accident which made Henry Hudson change his course was a good thing for the Dutch, and for the Red men, whom he found in the State. The Dutch gave the name New Neth-er-lands to the State, and it went by that name up to the time when Charles II. of Eng-land gave it to his broth-er, the Duke of York.

But I am not going to tell you a-bout the Duke of York just yet. We want first to know the fate of that small crew of white men, who found them-selves in a strange land, with strange Red men in it, who could not make out a word they spoke to them.

When "The Half Moon," with those bold Dutch men on board, made her first trip from San-dy Hook to the spot where Al-ba-ny now stands, it took her e-lev-en days. The whole face of the land was wild and strange then.

East-man tells us that they made their first stop at Con-ey Is-land, where they found the soil of white sand (as we do now), with vast plains of plum-trees, load-ed with fruit and grape vines of all sorts (as we do not now).

While the ship lay close to shore the Red men came in crowds to look at the white men. Each, no

doubt, with the wish, to see with his own eyes what sort of strange be-ing the oth-er was.

The In-dians wore loose deer skins, and brought with them such things as they thought might please the "pale fac-es;" such as sweet dried fruits, dried fish, grapes, and some-bod-y adds "baked dog" to the bill of fare of-fered the men from "The Half Moon."

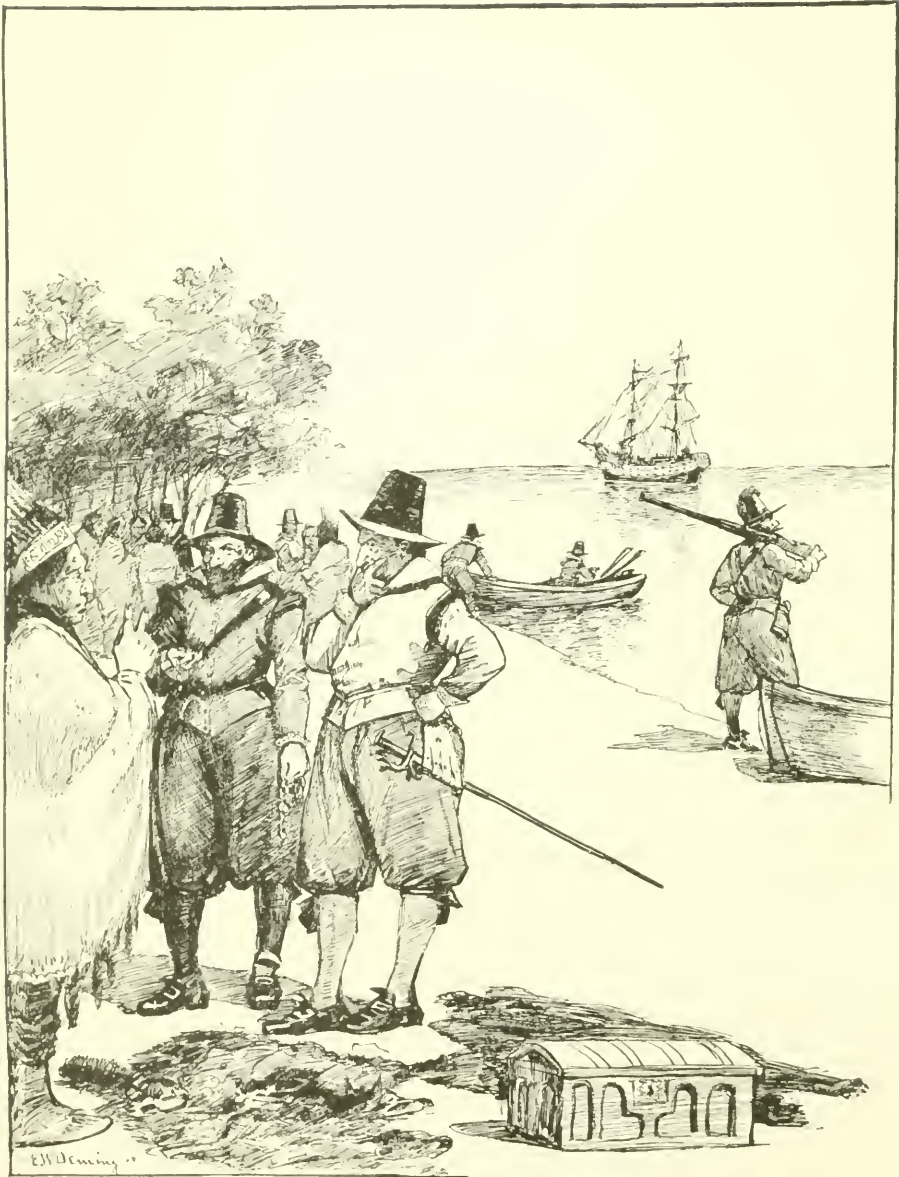
When the small boat was sent out to sound the bay, the shores swarmed with these dark-skinned men and their squaws, as they call their wives. The State was full of them.

Hud-son soon found out that the bay was on-ly the door to vast and rich lands which lay to the north of it, and he spent one month in the task of spy-ing out the land on both sides of the stream which now bears his name.

The crew went on shore, where they found a "good land with grass and flow-ers and grand trees, from which came sweet smells."

The first wish of the In-dians was to make friends of these white men. The white men, with their fire-arms and their ship with its white wings, were as strange to the Red men, as the Red men, with their slight dress of skins, their bright plumes and bows and ar-rows, were to the white men.

They had a good deal to do with each oth-er.



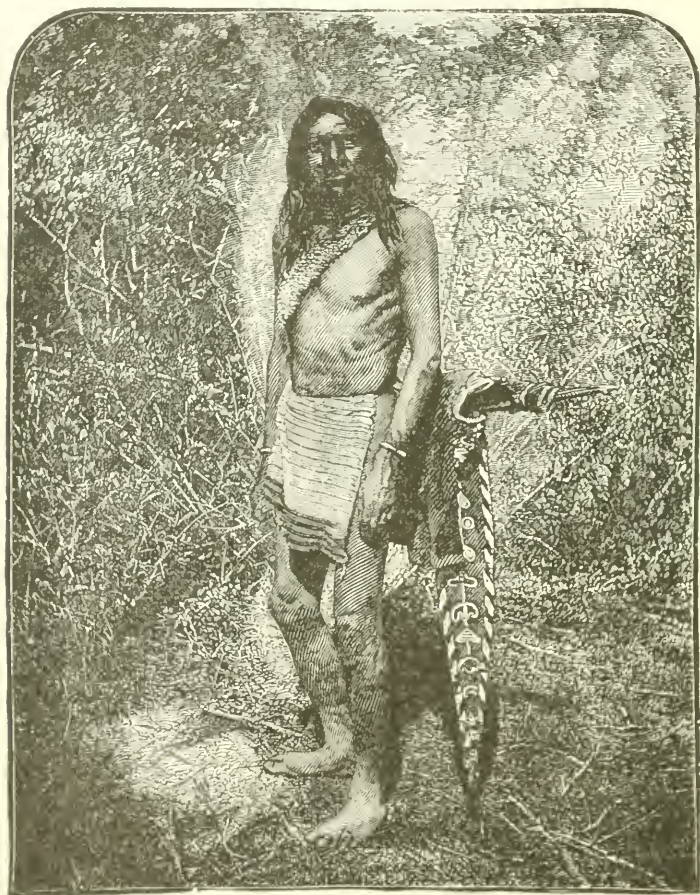
The white men came and went on board their ship in peace. Hud-son bore in mind the fact that trade was the thing he had been sent out to look af-ter, and he made it a rule to deal fair-ly and hon-est-ly by the sim-ple na-tives, who brought their rich furs to trade in ex-change for glass beads and oth-er cheap things.

How long these Red men had been in the State when Hud-son came o-ver the sea, no one can say. No doubt for a long, long time, To be sure they had not done much for it nor with it. They did not, them-selves, know how vast its wealth was. To them its woods were no more than grounds in which to hunt the wild beasts, whose flesh gave them food, and whose skins gave them dress. Its streams were good for the sal-mon, the trout, and the stur-geon that filled them.

It was not un-til the white men came from so far a-way to bring them trink-ets for furs, that they be-gan to wage such fierce war on the er-mine, the beav-er, the ot-ter, and oth-er creat-ures of the fur-bear-ing sort.

The tribes which Hud-son found a-long the banks of the riv-er were the Five Na-tions, or Ir-o-quois, and the Del-a-ware. They were, as all the Red men are, tall, straight, and well made. Their skins were red; their eyes were small, black, and

keen; their hair long, black, and coarse. They were strong of frame, and the out-door lives they led kept them free from sick-ness. The Red men had



THE RED MAN.

no use for drugs. A few herbs of the field were all they made use of to ease a pain or cure an ill.

Their minds were bright, though, of course, they had no schools nor books as you have. They were not quick in wrath, but were proud and brave, and had their own views as to what was due them from the new-com-ers. They were child-like in their love of show in dress, and the glitter of a brass buckle, or of a string of glass beads, far outweighed the cost of the rich furs they brought to the white traders.

We do not like to read that when "The Half Moon" was on her way down the Hudson, for some cause not told, this smooth state of things came to a rude end. A small boat, on its way back to the ship, was set upon by two canoes full of Indians, and John Colman was shot to death.

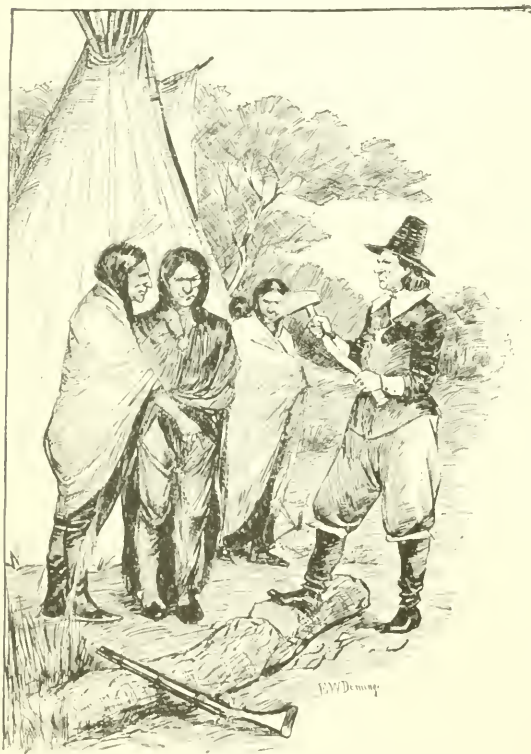
This was the first white man to die here. He was buried somewhere on Sandy Hook.

As soon as the news of Henry Hudson's rich find was spread in Holland, the Dutch sent out a new ship's crew to trade for furs. The Indians were glad to see them, and brought their furs to trade for things whose use they had to be taught.

The hoes, axes, and socks which the white men gave them, were put to queer uses. They hung the hoes and axes about their necks, and took the socks for tobacco bags. When their white friends came

a-gain, and made helves for the ax-es and han-dles for the hoes, they were glad e-nough to ease their necks of them; but the socks they nev-er came to think quite so well of.

Man-hat-tan Is-land, the spot on which the great



SHOW-ING HOW TO USE THE AXE.

ci-ty of New York now stands, was bought by the Dutch, from the Indians, for six-ty guild-ers, a-bout twen-ty-four dol-lars. It is set down to the cred-it of the Dutch, that they paid for it at all. All of the white men who came o-ver to the New World did not deal so fair-ly by the na-tives.

Those were won-der-ful times, when men seemed to stum-ble in the way of get-ting rich and fa-mous with-out plan-ning it all out a-

head. Not that they were not won-der-ful men, too. For it took a vast deal of pluck for men to sail a-cross the storm-y seas in such ships as they had

then, to ex-plore and set-tle the land Co-lum-bus first made known to the world.

While Hud-son was mak-ing his way in the south-ern part of the State, the French were do-ing the same thing, in a small-er way, in the north-ern part.

Sam-u-el de Cham-plain, whose name is still borne by a lake, which, if you will take your maps, you will find in the north-east cor-ner of the State, was a good man, but he was a French-man, and a man of war, who had been brought up to think that the best way to right a wrong was to fight a-bout it.

He did not come as the Pil-grims came to Plym-outh, lat-er on, to be free to wor-ship God in their own way; nor as the Dutch came, to trade peace-a-bly for furs. He came dream-ing of the time when there should be a new French king-dom plant-ed on this soil, and the Pope should hold sway o-ver it. His work lay in Can-a-da, and his be-ing mixed up with the ear-ly days of New York was a sort of ac-ci-dent; but as these first pag-es are meant to give you a clear i-de-a of how and when the ver-y first steps were tak-en to bring this great State un-der the white man's rule, Cham-plain must have a few words, too.

The tribes which he found in the north were the Al-gon-quins and the Hu-rons. No doubt he

would have been glad to have made good Cath-o-lics of all the Red men. Dur-ing the long, hard win-ter he fed them, and they were rea-dy to lay down their lives for him.

The Al-gon-quins and the Hu-rons hat-ed and feared the Ir-o-quois, who dwelt in the south-ern and east-ern part of the State.

The Ir-o-quois was the name giv-en to five na-tions: the Mo-hawks (after whom the rich Mo-hawk Val-ley is named), the O-nei-das, the O-non-da-gas, the Ca-yu-gas, and the Sen-e-cas. A strong band they formed. It was in-to the feud of these Ir-o-quois a-gainst the Hu-rons that Cham-plain al-lowed him-self to be drawn.

Em-bark-ing with his two tribes in ca-noes on Lake Cham-plain, he set forth to meet the Ir-o-quois and to fight them. They met on the wa-ter just be-fore reach-ing the out-let in-to Lake George, and go-ing on shore near Ti-con-de-ro-ga, they met in blood-y con-tact.

The Ir-o-quois had nev-er be-fore seen the ef-fect of fire-arms. They were filled with fear at the sight and sound, and fell an ea-sy prey to their foes, led by the French.

No good can be traced back to this first show of en-mi-ty be-tween the In-dians and the new set-tlers. If Cham-plain had gone on-ly two days' trav-el south-

ward from that bat-tle-field he would have found the In-dians flock-ing a-round “The Half Moon” in their ca-noes, meet-ing kind-ness with kind-ness, and pre-par-ing the way for the Dutch to be-gin a long pe-ri-od of peace-ful com-merce with them. As it was, he gained the un-dy-ing hate of a might-y tribe, but failed to gain an-y-thing for France.

Thus you will see that Eng-land, who came not so ma-ny years lat-er on to own the en-tire State, had no hand in find-ing it, or in plant-ing its first col-o-nies. The Dutch and the French must share the glo-ry of find-ing it be-tween them.

To the Dutch a-lone was left the task of mak-ing it fit for white men and wo-men to live in. How they went to work to do this you shall next hear.

CHAPTER II.

UNDER DUTCH RULE.

You will come a-cross the words “West In-dia Trad-ing Com-pa-ny” so of-ten in this chap-ter that you had best start out with a clear i-de-a of what they mean. Hen-ry Hud-son was in the ser-vice of the *East* In-dia Com-pa-ny when he found the Hud-son Riv-er, but the *West* In-dia Trad-ing

Com-pa-ny was formed for the pur-pose of trad-ing for furs, and as it was a strong and rich com-pa-ny, the gov-ern-ment of Hol-land gave it the en-tire con-trol of all the lands claimed by the Dutch in the New World.

You now know that New Neth-er-lands, as New York was called for the first fif-ty years af-ter Hud-son found it, was set-tled by the Dutch.

It had in all four Dutch Gov-er-nors, who ruled it from 1626 to 1664. And a ver-y good sort of rule it was, on the whole, al-though there were wars with the Red men which need not have been, and some fam-i-ly quar-rels a-mong them-selves, which did not help things for an-y-bod-y.

The names of those four Dutch rul-ers, or, as the Trad-ing Com-pa-ny called them, "Di-rect-ors," were Pe-ter Min-u-it, Wou-ter Van Twill-er, Wil-liam Kieft, and Pe-ter Stuy-ve-sant, whose name is still to be found in parks, streets, plac-es, and halls in New York Ci-ty, and whose one-leg-ged stat-u-e is a ver-y fa-mil-iar sight there.

Hud-son, the man who first saw the great riv-er, did not reap an-y good from it. He died while ex-plor-ing Hud-son's Bay. His men left him; he was fro-zen to death, and oth-ers got the ben-e-fit of his brave ef-forts.

In 1623 two forts were built in the State—Fort

New Am-ster-dam, on the south-ern point of Man-hat-tan Is-land, and Fort Or-ange, on the west bank of the Hud-son Riv-er. These two forts grew to be the ci-ties of New York and of Al-ba-ny, now the cap-i-tal of the State.



FORT NEW AM-STER-DAM.

Un-like the Eng-lish, who were at that time mak-ing homes in oth-er parts of the New World, the set-tlers of New Neth-er-lands de-pend-ed on trade rath-er than on farm-ing, though they did sow some wheat, rye, oats, bar-ley, and beans on patch-es

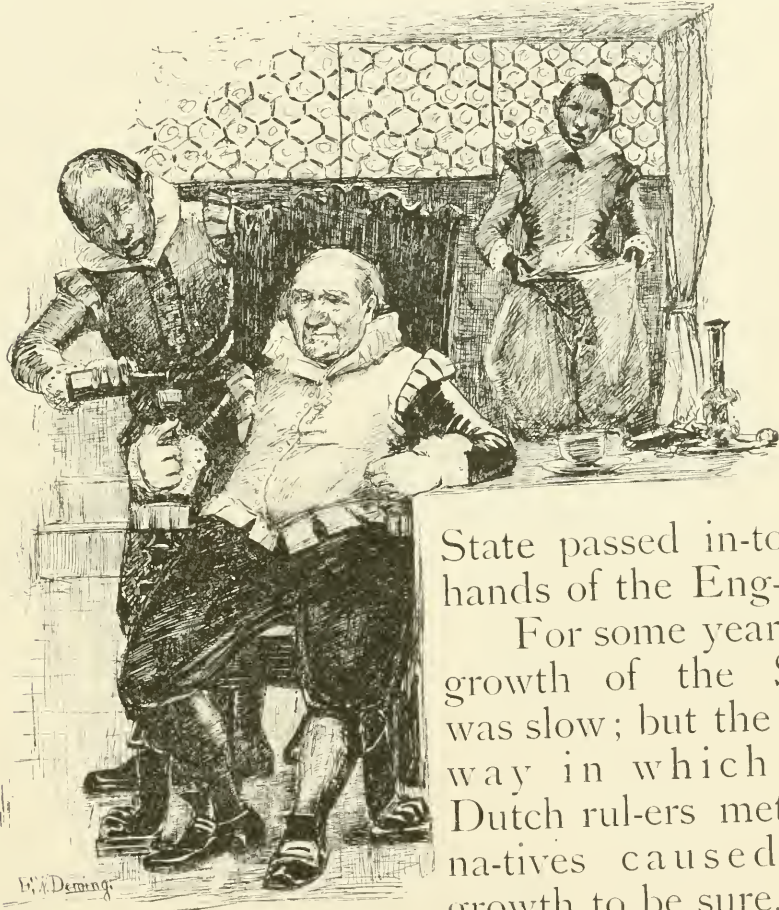
of ground they found cleared, and reaped rich harvests from it. But furs being the main object with them, caused them to spread inland along the banks of the Hudson instead of following the sea-shore, as other settlers did. Small hamlets soon sprung up on Long Island too.

New York State was settled in an odd sort of a way—not by men who came over, each for himself, for better or for worse. The Trading Company sold the land in large lots to men who were called “patroons.” These patroons sent over families in large numbers, and placed them as tenants on the lands they got from the Company. A patroon who sent out fifty settlers might take as much land as he could use. A very good thing for the patroons, but not quite so good for the settlers.

The patroons were to pay no taxes for ten years and the settlers were to be their serfs. The sole right to trade in furs was kept by the patroon. The wives of the serfs were not to spin yarn, weave cloth, or make hats from the furs which were all claimed by the patroons and the Company.

Later on a new plan was adopted. Every one who *went* over to the new State with five other emigrants was given two hundred acres of land, and was *not* to be under the control of the patroons. You can easily see how these experiments

would bring on jeal-ous-y and con-fu-sion. No one but the pa-troons them-selves thought well of that plan, and the sys-tem died out en-tire-ly be-fore the



PE-TER MIN-U-IT.

State passed in-to the hands of the Eng-lish.

For some years the growth of the State was slow; but the kind way in which the Dutch rul-ers met the na-tives caused its growth to be sure.

The first of these Dutch "Di-rect-ors" was Pe-ter Min-u-it, who lived in grand state, with three ne-gro slaves to wait on

him. He came over in 1626, just six-teen years aft-er the State was first known to the Old World. It was he who bought the Is-land of Man-hat-tan from the Red men for twen-ty-four dol-lars. The trade may have been a sharp one on the part of the

Dutch, but it did good by show-ing the Red men that their lands were not to be tak-en from them by force.



COM-ING FROM CHURCH.

Un-der Dutch sway God and the school were not lost sight of. In Min-u-it's time we read a-bout the school-mas-ter and the "con-sol-er of the sick." On Sun-days the school-mas-ter read texts from the Bi-ble and the creed to an-y who would come to hear him. The loft of a horse-mill is the first church we hear of in New Am-ster-dam, which was the Dutch name for the Ci-t-y of New York.

Fort Or-ange (now Al-ba-ny) met with a grave set-back in its first strug-gling days. It grew out of

one of the few wrongs the Red men met with at the hands of the Dutch. It was this way :

The whole face of the land was crowd-ed by In-dian tribes who hat-ed each oth-er. The Mo-hi-cans, from the east side of the Hud-son, crossed o-ver to fight the Mo-hawks, and begged the Dutch com-mand-er of Fort Or-ange to lend them his aid. He fool-ish-ly did so, which so en-raged the Mo-hawks, who had al-ways been on the best terms with the white men, that they did not wait for the at-tack, but fell on the white men, and slew that un-wise com-man-der and three of his men. The rest fled.

This spread such ter-ror through Fort Or-ange that the wo-men and chil-dren were all sent to Man-hat-tan, and men a-lone were left in charge of the fort. For two years, fear of the In-dians kept white set-tlers from re-turn-ing there.

A man by the name of "Krol," one of the "con-sol-ers of the sick," had been left in charge of the fort with on-ly six-teen men. He was a shrewd man, and sent out such bright re-ports of the rich soil and the fine cli-mate and the chanc-es for trade, that one of the chief men of the big Trad-ing Com-pa-ny o-ver there in Hol-land, a man who had grown rich by pol-ish-ing pearls and dia-monds, sent out mon-ey to buy a huge tract of land on the west side of the Hud-son from the Red men.

His name was Van Rens-se-laer; and when he sent out his pa-troons, he sent them well supplied with cat-tle and tools, which, I fan-cy, was the be-gin-ning of the rich farms for which the Mo-hawk Val-ley has al-ways been fa-mous. Fort Or-ange it-self still be-longed to the Com-pa-ny, but af-ter the Van Rens-se-laer pur-chase it once more be-came a place of im-por-tance, and soon came to ri-val Man-hat-tan.

As the coun-try throve and grew rich, men be-came rest-less. The pa-troons grew strong and rich, too, and thought they ought to car-ry on the fur trade in their own names. The Com-pa-ny thought the fur trade ought to be kept in *their* hands. Per-haps Pe-ter Min-u-it sid-ed with the pa-troons, I don't know; but just then he was re-called, and Wou-ter Van Twill-er, who had been a clerk for the Com-pa-ny, was sent out to take his place.

Twill-er's wife was a niece of the rich pa-troon Van Rens-se-laer; and the Dutch Gov-er-nor took much in-ter-est in his un-cle's vast farms. Un-der his rule, much was done to im-prove the state of af-fairs in the Col-o-ny, and the white men kept on the best of terms with the Red men.

Wou-ter Van Twill-er had great hopes and plans for Man-hat-tan. In his time, a plain wood-en church took the place of the loft in the horse-mill,

and oth-er build-ings were put up. He was a vain man, fond of big words and fine clothes; but he kept a sharp eye on the rights of the Com-pa-ny. Some laughed at him, some hat-ed him. He built him-self a house of bricks brought all the way from Hol-land. He was re-called by the Com-pa-ny, who thought he was try-ing to take too much pow-er in-to his own hands. He gave place to the third Dutch "Di-rect-or," Wil-liam Kieft.

Kieft took charge in 1637. A good ma-n-y chang-es were made dur-ing his rule, and he made some great mis-takes in deal-ing with the Red men. It was a storm-y time. The Com-pa-ny were forced to yield up some of their pow-er.

This re-sult-ed in good, for set-tlers came from Vir-gin-ia, from New Eng-land, and from Con-nec-ti-cut as soon as it was known that they could have as much land as they could till, by pay-ing a tenth of all they made as "quit-rent."

An-tho-ny Jan-sen, a French Hu-gue-not, took a tract of land where Brook-lyn now stands. All these new-com-ers a-greed to o-bey the Dutch Di-rect-or, and to fight with him a-gainst all en-e-mies of the Col-o-ny.

Kieft's treat-ment of the In-dians is the blot on his name, and he got things in-to a sad snarl. All the Dutch rul-ers who came be-fore him, had trad-ed

with them as men who had rights of their own. Kieft de-mand-ed "trib-ute" from them. That is, he claimed a share of all the maize they grew, and all the fur they found. He said that the Dutch had pro-tect-ed them from their en-e-mies, and they ought to be paid for it. On the other hand, the In-dians said that they had not on-ly tak-en care of them-selves, but had paid for ev-er-y thing they got from the Dutch, and had brought them food for two win-ters, and giv-en them aid in oth-er ways.

By this time the In-dians had grown quite used to the white men. They went to the hous-es of the Dutch, and some had hired out as help to the set-tlers. Kieft, al-so, tried to put an end to the sale of fire-arms to the na-tives, which they had learned to use, and grown quite proud of. All this brought a-bout a bad state of things in the Col-o-ny.

He sent first to col-lect trib-ute from the Rar-i-tan In-dians. They would not pay it, on the strength of which some of their men were killed, and their crops laid waste. The Rar-i-tans took quick re-venge for this cru-el treat-ment, and from this grew a war that last-ed two years.

In that fight 1600 Red men were slain; the white men could not till the soil, so the col-o-nists were threat-ened with fam-ine, and the small out-ly-ing towns were laid in ru-ins. Long be-fore the end

came, Kieft saw what an aw-ful mis-take he had made, and tried to bring a-bout a peace. Peace was made in 1645. But it is a far eas-i-er thing to get in-to a fight than to get out of one, as he found to his



IN-DIAN AT-TACK.

cost. At the close of this war, Man-hat-tan could count but 100 men be-side trad-ers. The Com-pa-ny re-moved Kieft, and the Col-o-ny be-gan to thrive once more.

Pe-ter Stuy-ve-sant came next, and he met with a warm wel-come. He is a most con-spic-u-ous figure in the his-to-ry of those times. He was full of fight, as all those fierce old Dutch-men were, but he tried to make a good use of his pow-er. He kept him-self in hot wa-ter for the sake of the Com-pa-ny he served.

A-bout this time the Eng-lish set-tlers on Long Is-land gave signs that they did not care to be un-der Dutch rule an-y lon-ger, and sent a plea to Hart-ford to be tak-en un-der the wing of the Eng-lish. Dis-putes be-tween them and Di-rect-or Stuy-ve-sant grew hot, and oth-er Eng-lish set-tlers were drawn in-to it, but the close of Dutch rule, un-der Stuy-ve-sant is too im-por-tant a fact to be told in a few words at the end of a chap-ter.

CHAPTER III.

THE END OF DUTCH RULE.

No one could blame Eng-land for want-ing to claim the rich lands which lay right be-tween the North-ern and South-ern Col-o-nies al-read-y plant-ed by the Eng-lish.

New York had the best har-bor on the coast and

the most a-bun-dant wa-ter cours-es. Nowhere else could such a high-way for trade with the Red men for furs be found. Years be-fore this the In-dians had bur-ied a hatch-et with the Dutch un-der a big tree at Al-ba-ny. That was their way of sign-ing a treat-y of peace; so ev-er-y-thing point-ed to a smooth and eas-y reign for the Duke of York in his new col-o-nies. The Dutch had smoothed the way for him.

James, the Duke of York, said he would like to have this fine piece of prop-er-ty, and his broth-er, Charles II. of Eng-land, gave it to him. Not that they had an-y right to treat the Dutch so, but kings and queens have a way of mis-tak-ing might for right. The claim they put up was, that one hundred years be-fore Hud-son had gone up the riv-er in "The Half Moon," a man by the name of Cab-ot had seen and claimed this part of the New World for Eng-land. But the Dutch had spent fif-ty quiet years on these shores be-fore that claim was set up; and, of course, it did not please them to think of hav-ing to give up their farms and their homes and their trad-ing posts at the com-mand of a strange king.

Those old Dutch set-tlers had come to feel ver-y in-de-pen-dent of kings in their new homes. The West In-dia Trad-ing Com-pa-ny on-ly want-ed to

make mon-ey out of them, and they stood in no awe of its Di-rect-ors, who were no bet-ter, and not so brave, some-times, as they them-selves.

They had brought here with them the man-ners,



DUTCH-MEN AT AN INN.

the style of dress, and the home hab-its which they liked best. No one cared much a-bout the chang-es of fash-ion. Just so—they could put on as much

cloth-ing as this cold cli-mate called for, they were hap-py, if they did look queer.

They had their quaint lit-tle inns, where they went to drink beer and to smoke their pipes filled with the A-mer-i-can weed to-bac-co, which they learned to like ver-y soon. They had their mar-ket days and their church fes-ti-vals. These last were not ex-act-ly like what we call church fes-ti-vals now. They had some queer cus-toms which hurt no one. The New Year was a great day with them for calls. In short, things were in a nice, snug fix, when these slow Dutch set-tlers were thrown in-to a state of dis-may and wrath by the Duke of York's bold claim.

It was in the time of stout Pe-ter Stuy-ve-sant that a fleet of four ships, with a force of four hundred and fif-ty armed men on board, came in sight of New Am-ster-dam.

The cap-tain of this fleet sent a let-ter to the fort with the mild re-quest that it should be giv-en up to the Eng-lish at once. The fleet was un-der the con-trol of a Col-o-nel Nic-olls, who, as far as we can learn, was not a bad man, but was read-y and will-ing to soft-en this hard blow to the Dutch if he could in an-y way.

The town was not in trim to fight. The Com-pa-ny had not spent much of its mon-ey on the

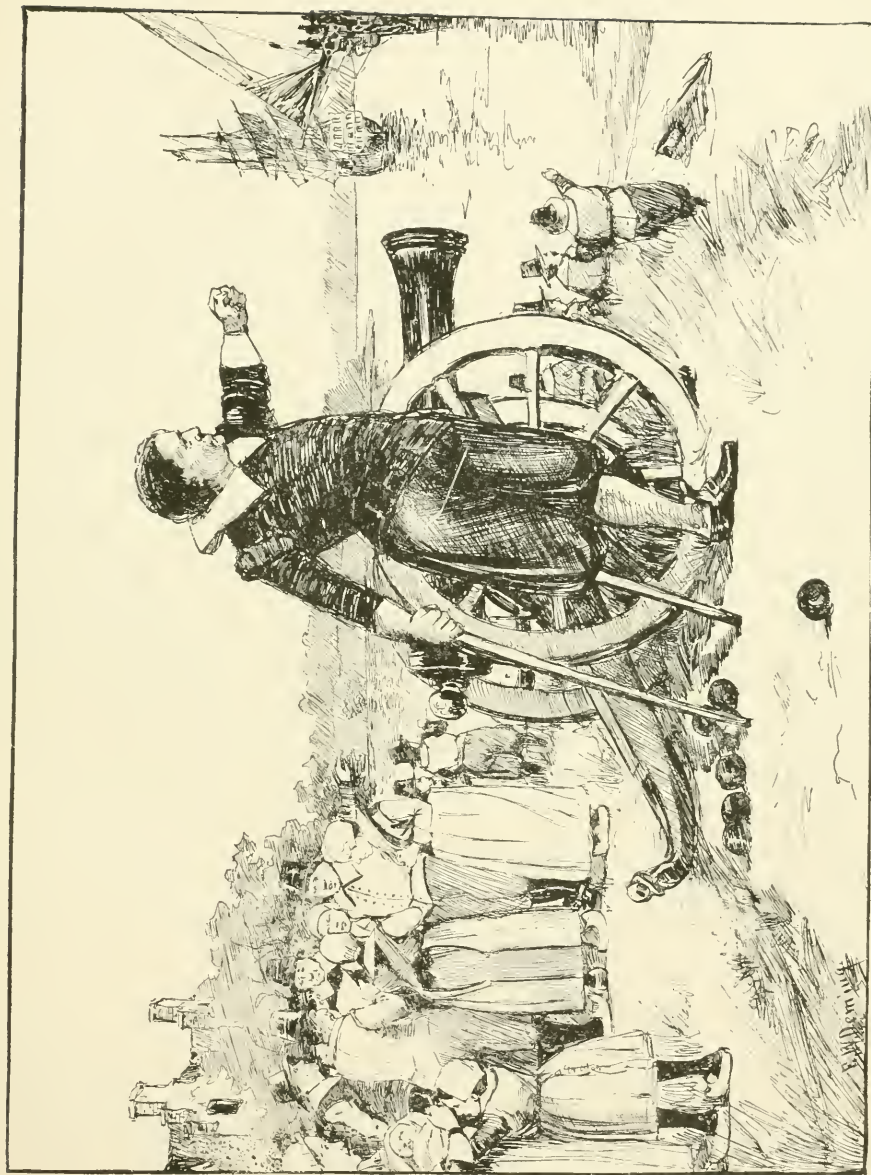
Col-o-ny. In fact, they had looked to it to make mon-ey for them and to take care of it-self at the same time.

The fort had on-ly twen-ty guns and a small sup-ply of pow-der, but Di-rect-or Pe-ter was for try-ing to hold it a-gainst the six-ty-two can-non on the ships. He said he would rath-er die than give up the fort, and, no doubt, he meant just what he said. But when the preach-er came to him and plead with him not to be the first to shed blood, and all the men cried out that there was no help for it, and e-ven his own son joined with them in call-ing him "hot-head-ed" and "mad," stout Pe-ter's brown cheeks grew white, for he found him-self a-lone and in a sore strait.

The Eng-lish cap-tain was will-ing to make good terms with the men in-side the fort. He said they should hold on to their arms and keep their farms; all he asked of them was to call them-selves Eng-lish sub-jects.

When the peo-ple heard these terms they flocked a-round Stuy-ve-sant to make him a-gree to them. They begged him not to risk a fight.

The Eng-lish set-tlers, glad of the chance to live once more un-der their own flag, told him bold-ly they would not fight with him. The Dutch-men, think-ing more of the rich trade and snug farms they



SIUY-VE-SANT AT THE GUN.

would have to give up if they held out, swore that he should yield.

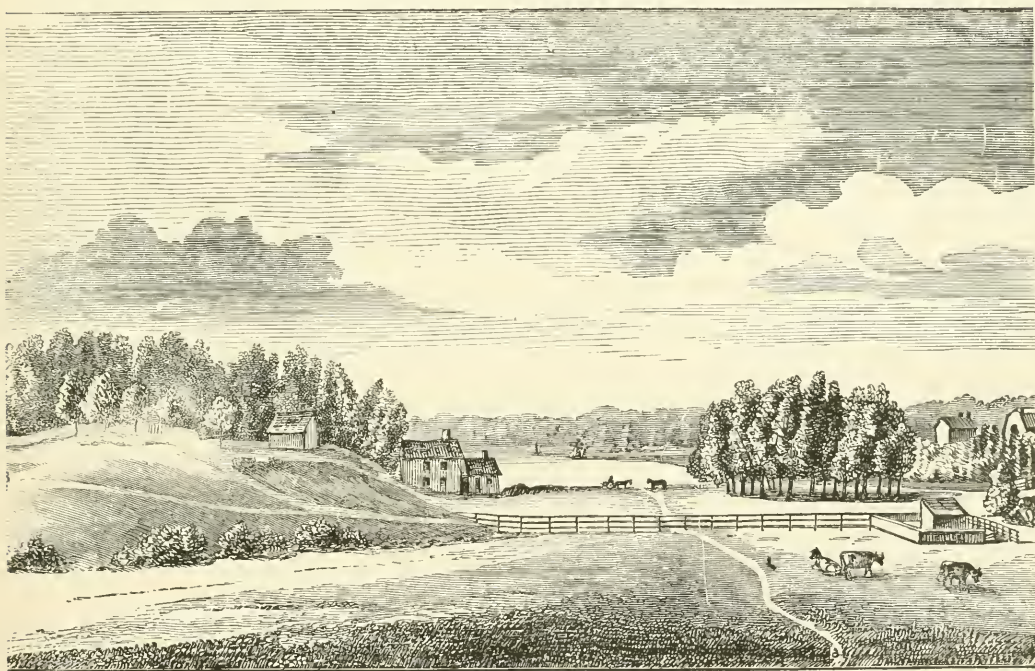
Old Pe-ter Stuy-ve-sant stumped a-round on his wood-en leg, swore big Dutch oaths, tore Nic-olls' let-ter to piec-es, and flung the bits a-way in his rage. Then he went and stood by one of the guns, ready to fire it with his own hand.

One of the men picked up the torn scraps and put the let-ter to-geth-er, so that all the peo-ple should hear what the terms were that the Eng-lish want-ed to make with them. When they found that they would have to give up noth-ing, not e-ven their own sort of church, they shook their fists in Pe-ter's face and brought him to terms. What could he do? He could not fight a whole fleet sin-gle-hand-ed. He gave up the fort. It was a brave man's last pub-lic act.

As soon as Nic-olls took the fort, the flag of Eng-land was run up on the flag pole, and the name of both State and town were changed at once. New Neth-er-lands be-came the *prov-ince* of New York, and New Am-ster-dam be-came the *Cit-y* of New York. Fort Or-ange, or Wil-liams-town, be-comes Al-ba-ny. The State at this time had a-bout twen-ty-four towns in all, and the cit-y not more than three hun-dred and for-ty-three hous-es.

[Per-haps I ought to have told you be-fore that

the name New Neth-er-lands was giv-en to a much larg-er tract of land than what is now known as New York. It took in New Jer-sey and some parts of Del-a-ware; but as the Duke of York soon gave a-way that south-ern part of his large grant, we have



LIS-PE-NARD STREET IN 1721.

on-ly to do with the land on both sides of the Hud-son and up a-bout Lake Cham-plain, in this sto-ry of co-lo-ni-al days.]

As Charles II. of Eng-land had giv-en the Eng-

lish who set-tled Con-nec-ti-cut a char-ter of their own, they thought when Dutch rule came to an end they would have a small king-dom all to them-selves a-long Long Is-land Sound and the "Fresh Riv-er," as they called the Con-nec-ti-cut Riv-er, and did not ex-pect to come un-der the Duke of York's rule in any way. But they soon found out that a king's word may be brok-en as quick-ly as, if not quick-er than, oth-er men's.

Col-o-nel Nic-olls, to whom the fort was giv-en up, be-came Gov-er-nor Nic-olls, and set to work at once to draw the bound-a-ry lines to the Duke's lands. Long Is-land was claimed for the State of New York, and was com-pelled to o-bey the laws known as the "Duke's laws." The State stretched a-long both sides of the Hud-son, as far north as Fort Or-ange, whose name was changed by the Eng-lish to Al-ba-ny; and Schen-ec-ta-dy was the ex-treme out-post of white set-tle-ment. The north-ern and west-ern parts of the State be-ing still un-der con-trol of the na-tives or of the French, who had, from time to time, made in-roads in-to the State from Can-a-da on the North.

In 1672 war broke out be-tween Eng-land and Hol-land, and one of the first things the Dutch did, was to send a strong fleet o-ver to re-take New York.

Gov-er-nor Love-lace, who had come in 1667,

af-ter Nic-olls, was no such man as the old Dutch Gov-er-nor Stuy-ve-sant, and gave the place up at once. It took back its old name; but Al-ba-ny was called "Or-ange." But the Dutch had held the State too short a time to make an-y oth-er chang-es, when it was once more giv-en back to Eng-land by trea-ty, and a-gain named New York.

From that time, up to the date of the Rev-o-lu-tion, which sep-a-rat-ed it for ev-er from the moth-er coun-try, the Col-on-y of New York was Eng-lish in the form of its laws, in its cus-toms, lan-guage, and modes of thought.

The Eng-lish kept up the same friend-ly re-la-tions with the na-tives that the Dutch had start-ed with, much to the gain of both sides. But from the time of that first troub-le of Cham-plain's with the In-dians, on Lake Cham-plain, there was noth-ing but ha-tred be-tween the French and In-dians.

The In-dians whom Cham-plain found in the north-ern part of this State were a ver-y strong and fierce race. At one time they had held full sway on the north shore of the St. Law-rence Riv-er. They had frame huts and stone ax-es, and showed some skill in pot-ter-y when first found by the white men on the site of the Ci-ty of Que-bec.

They had man-y arts that the whites knew noth-ing of. They had been as free as the air

they breathed as far back as their tra-di-tions went. They had no books, but the sto-ry of the tribes was hand-ed down from fa-ther to son, and they were proud of the deeds of cru-el-ty done by their "braves."



IN-DIAN CAMP.

The French erred in think-ing that this fierce, proud race could be fright-ened by their arms and their high-sound-ing words in-to a sort of bond-age that would make them use-ful to their con-quer-ors in man-y ways.

One French-man, wis-er than his com-rades, wrote home : "These A-mer-i-cans think and say that man is born free, and that no one on earth has an-y right to take his free-dom from him, for noth-ing on earth can make up for its loss."

The mis-take the French made was in think-ing they could man-age a set of men who felt and spoke thus, by fire and sword. They thought they were do-ing God and man ser-vice by fol-low-ing the sword with the priest in ef-forts to con-vert the Red men.

The Ir-o-quois (com-posed of the five most power-ful tribes in the State) saw in the French on-ly men who want-ed to rob them of their rich hunt-ing grounds, slay their braves, and ru-in their homes. These same fierce tribes were strong friends of the Eng-lish ; but they hat-ed the French with all their might.

The pe-ri-od of A-mer-i-can his-to-ry, which extends from the be-gin-ning of Eng-lish rule to the war for the in-de-pen-dence of the Col-o-nies, is full of the dark deeds done on its soil in this nev-er-end-ing strife be-tween the French and In-dians.

For ten years the brave Count Fron-te-nac tried to mend mat-ters in the North-ern part of the State ; but the Ir-o-quois were not to be han-dled like chil-dren.

The Eng-lish, who had nev-er been friend-ly with the French, urged up-on the In-dians to drive the



TRAP-PING BEA-VER.

French out of the West, so that they (the Red men) could get all the bea-ver skins they want-ed.

To this the proud Ir-o-quois an-swered: "We

will fight the French as long as we have a brave left."

And so they did.

CHAPTER IV.

DARK DAYS AND DARK DEEDS.

A RICH and great New France in the New World had been the aim and dream of Cham-plain at a time when all the kings and rulers of the Old World were playing a big grab game for the vast country that Co-lum-bus had first made known to the world.

But what between a foolish and ignorant king at home, indiscreet priests over here, and men in control who could not understand the strength and fierce pride of rude savages, New France was at a stand-still, while the whites in the southern parts of the same State were getting along finely.

Louis XV.th was king of France at that time. His sway was absolute. The people had no rights in his eyes; they were all his slaves. Nothing was made in the French colonies. All the clothes, food, and even their tools had to be brought from France. Of course this kept them weak and dis-

cour-aged. But the king of France, too far off to get a ver-y clear no-tion of what sort of men the In-dians were, grew tart and cross be-cause his share of the new lands did not thrive a-pace with those of his foes and ri-vals.

Eng-land and France had nev-er been the best of friends; but at first, the space be-tween the set-tle-ments made by the Eng-lish and the French, and the un-known stretches of land di-vid-ing them, were great e-nough to keep them a-part.

One more cause of weak-ness a-mong the French col-o-nies, was the ex-tent of coun-try they tried to cov-er with their small num-ber. The whole coun-try be-tween the Al-le-gha-ny Moun-tains and the Miss-is-sip-pi Riv-er was claimed by the French who had come in-to it from Can-a-da, and called by them New France. The whole west-ern part of the State of New York was in-clu-ded in their claim. Their set-tlers were scat-tered from Can-a-da to New Or-leans.

At first their troub-le was all with the In-dians, whose ha-tred Cham-plain had in-curred at the ver-y out-set. The Eng-lish, be-ing the al-lies of the Ir-o-quois, were drawn in-to it; but it was still a fight a-mong the col-o-nists in which the home rul-ers did not take much in-ter-est.

In 1755-56 a for-mal dec-la-ra-tion of war was

made by both Eng-land and France, af-ter which the war in the State grew to be a ver-y se-ri-ous af-fair.

Oth-er mat-ters seemed of no im-por-tance in view of a great war be-tween two of the lead-ing na-tions of the world. New York in a large meas-ure bore the brunt of this war as so many of its bat-tles were fought on her soil.

As soon as war was de-clared great prep-a-ra-tions were made for it on both sides. The "As-sem-bly" of New York, as the ci-ty law-mak-ers were called, made lib-er-al of-fers of mon-ey to put the State in a po-si-tion to do it-self cred-it. Men were draft-ed, arms were bought, and the tie be-tween them-selves and their In-dian al-lies was made strong-er in ev-er-y way.

The first of-fi-cers sent out by Eng-land were a rath-er poor set, who had a ver-y slight knowl-edge of the coun-try, and a ver-y wrong i-de-a of the col-o-nists as fight-ers. They were for put-ting the set-tlers in the back ground all the time, while they them-selves scarce-ly knew how to find their way o-ver the wild lands, or how to meet the wild foes who were help-ing the French in this war.

The Eng-lish first sent out Gen-er-al Brad-dock, who was a brave, but a self-willed man. Lit-tle was done the first year. The Eng-lish and pro-vin-cial troops would march first here, then there, fight a

lit-tle, draw back a lit-tle, and con-duct them-selves al-to-geth-er like men who did not know what they were a-bout. Each Eng-lish Gen-er-al act-ed for him-self.

A month af-ter this, New York State sent out



DE-FEAT OF DIES-KAU.

a force a-gainst Crown Point, un-der Sir Wil-liam John-son, who de-feat-ed the French and In-dians, un-der Bar-on Dies-kau, near the south-ern end of Lake George; but the year was a bad one for

English arms, owing to the poor officers they had.

The French, on the other hand, were under the lead of a great soldier—the Marquis de Montcalm. He was only forty-four years old, but he had been in the army since his fourteenth year, and had seen a great deal of fighting among the best drilled soldiers in Europe. He was quick to think, prompt to act, and withal cool and calm at all times. In short, just the very opposite sort of man from the shilly-shally men who led the English at that time.

As soon as Montcalm landed in Quebec he made all possible haste to Lake George, to see for himself how things were apt to go. He soon saw that he had not much to fear from the English Generals, who were taking their ease, while he was tramping through the woods or paddling about in a canoe, laying his plans. He wanted to strike his first blow before they expected it.

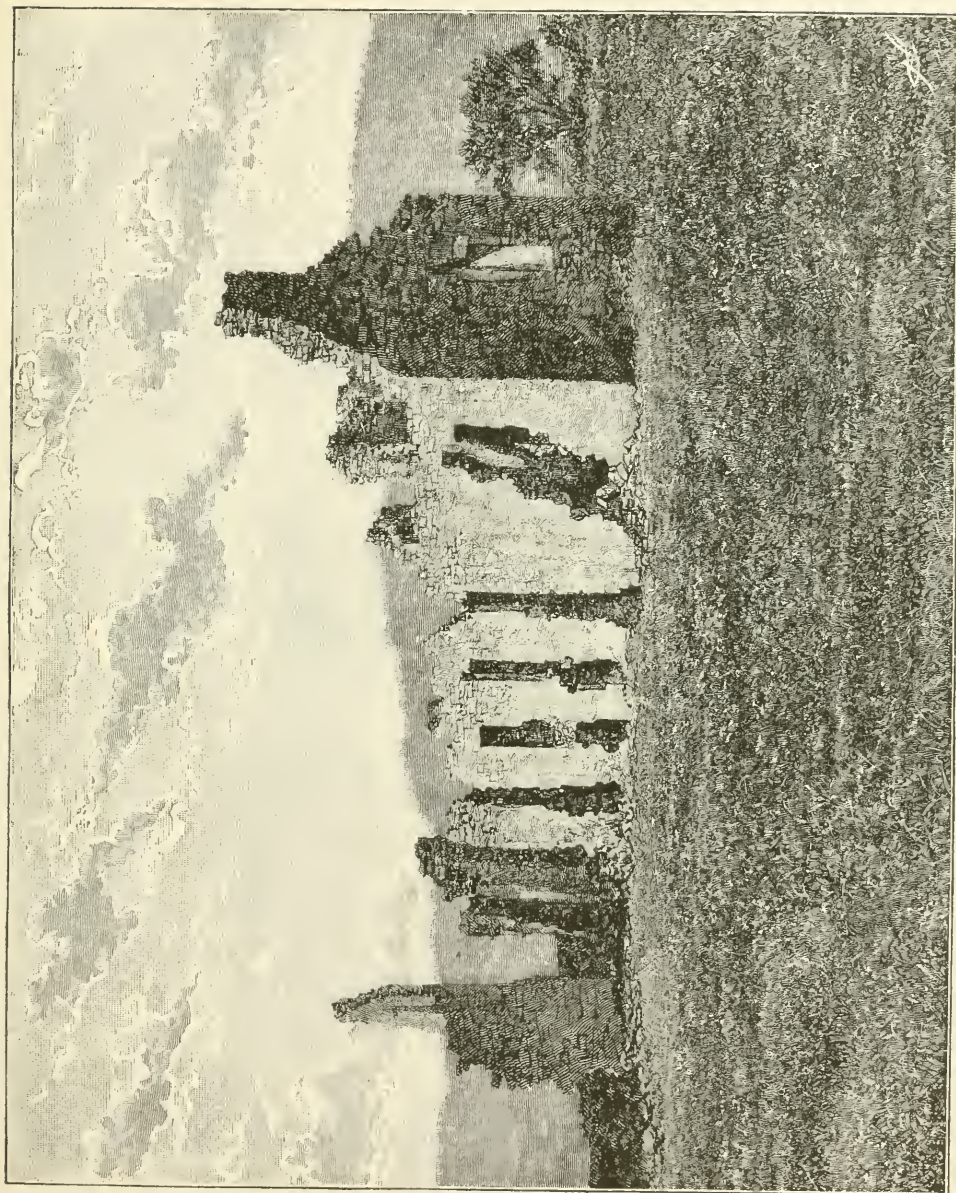
He went back to Montreal, and started three regiments of troops by boat up the St. Lawrence and by land to Fort Frontenac, to Oswego, where there was a fort he thought he would like to have in his own hands. He landed and mounted his cannon in the night, and the fort with all its garrison, one hundred and twenty cannon, no

end of boats, and three chests full of mon-ey be-came the prize of his pluck and en-er-gy.

Acts of brav-er-y like this had a great ef-fect on the In-dians. They came in large num-bers to fight with this brave French-man. He kept all his men—French, Can-a-dians, and In-dians—well to-geth-er, and used them at one point after an-oth-er. For two years he kept the Eng-lish out of the lands claimed by the French by cap-tur-ing and hold-ing the forts they had built on the north-ern bound-a-ry of the State of New York.

[As I shall have to use the words “pro-vin-cial sol-diers” quite of-ten, I must tell you that they mean the sol-diers raised by the col-o-nies or prov-in-ces in A-mer-i-ca.]

Wil-liam Pitt, af-ter-wards Earl of Chat-ham, one of the great-est men Eng-land has ev-er pro-duced, was put at the head of her cab-i-net in 1758, and things were changed for the bet-ter at once in the col-o-nies. Be-fore his time, the Eng-lish Gov-ern-ment at home, and the Eng-lish of-fi-cers in A-mer-i-ca had thrown con-tempt on the pro-vin-cial sol-diers. Pitt saw what good stuff was in them, and had them brought to the front. They took part in ev-er-y bat-tle, and soon came to have more con-fi-dence in them-selves. Pitt al-so got all the first lot of worth-less of-fi-cers out of the way, and in-sist-ed



RU-INS OF FORT TI-CON-DE-RO-GA

up-on the Eng-lish forc-es be-ing brought clos-er to-gether.

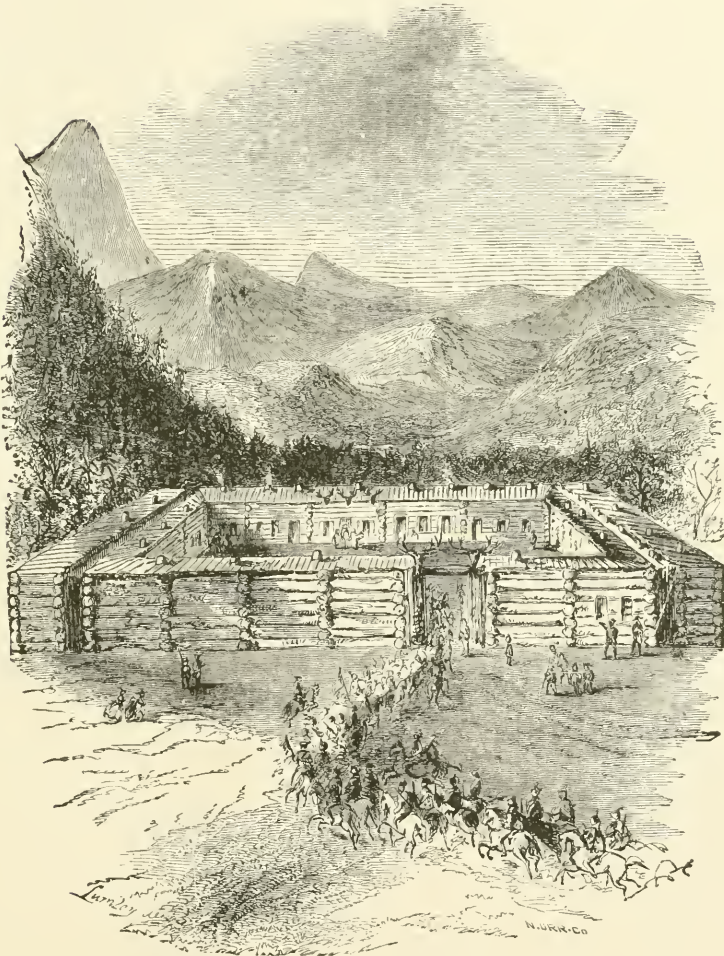
The Eng-lish at-tacked three points this year. In Ju-ly, in a sea fight, they cap-tured Lou-is-burg, on Cape Bre-ton Isl-and. In No-vem-ber Gen-er-al Forbes took Fort Du Quesne, and in hon-or of Pitt changed the name to Fort Pitt (now Pitts-burgh), and made an at-tack on Ti-con-de-ro-ga, which Mont-calm led in per-son a-gainst them. Here they met with de-feat, but a part of the Eng-lish force drove the French out of the north-west-ern part of the State, which was do-ing a good deal.

Pitt al-so sent out a fleet of ships to take the ships of France which were car-ry-ing sup-plies of food and arms to Can-a-da with such suc-cess, that soon Mont-calm had but half a pound of bread a day to give each man.

There were but a few sheep and head of stock in the coun-try, and the men had been so bus-y fight-ing that no grain had been raised. Now that the ships of Eng-land were cut-ting off his sup-plies, brave Mont-calm be-gan to de-spair.

He wrote to the French Min-is-ter of State at home: "New France needs peace. With-out such good for-tune as I can-not hope for, or un-less the Eng-lish make blun-ders they will soon take Can-a-da from us." He was too far-sighted not to see the

end a long way off, but too brave not to fight to the end.



A FRONTIER POST.

Suc-cess and the spir-it of Pitt fired ev-er-y

breast in the Eng-lish Col-o-nies. In ev-er-y town of New Eng-land and New York men were ea-ger to en-list. The peo-ple paid war tax-es cheer-ful-ly; any-thing to cap-ture Can-a-dia, and drive the hat-ed French-men from A-mer-i-can soil.

When Mont-calm learned that the Eng-lish were a-bout to at-tack Que-bec, he was o-bliged to draw all his men in-side the walls for its de-fence. In this way, all the out-ly-ing French posts fell in-to the hands of the Eng-lish with-out any more blood-shed.

From Lou-is-burg, the Eng-lish, un-der Gen-er-al Wolfe, sailed up the St. Law-rence Riv-er to at-tack the French who had shut them-selves in be-hind its strong walls

Wolfe had com-mand of the riv-er, but the ci-ty he want-ed to take, was a ci-ty set up-on a hill. This cliff was high, sharp, and steep. At its ver-y top was a lev-el spot called the "Plains of A-bra-ham."

Gen-er-al Wolfe had ten thou-sand men in the boats which glid-ed so qui-et-ly past the Ci-ty of Que-bec to land at a point be-low it. As they stole down the riv-er at night-fall, they talked in low tones of the task set them by their res-o-lute chief. Wolfe had de-ter-mined to scale the cliff, and force the French to meet him on the Plains of A-bra-ham.

It was no slight thing to do. They had to grasp the roots of trees to climb up by, while the men behind gave a lift to those in front.

The rising sun saw ten thousand Englishmen standing on the plains ready to fight. The drums beat on Quebec, and the soldiers of France came out to meet them. The battle lasted scarcely more than a quarter of an hour. When it ended Quebec belonged to England, but two brave Generals lay dying—Wolfe and Montcalm. Wolfe's last words were: "God be praised; I die happy." Montcalm's were: "I shall not live to see Quebec in English hands."

The struggle between France and England for the control of the Western Continent lasted but a short while after this. Montreal fell into English hands in 1760, and the other French forts were manned by English soldiers.

Peace came in 1763, and the citizen soldiers of New York gladly turned from the conquest of Canada to the comfort and quiet of their own fire-sides.

CHAPTER V.

PEACEFUL DAYS FOR THE COLONY.

BE-FORE go-ing an-y far-ther let us see what was the state of af-fairs in the prov-ince of New York at the close of the French war. What were her men do-ing in the way of im-prov-ing their State dur-ing the ten or fif-teen years that came af-ter that con-flict, and what had they done by way of mak-ing them-selves strong and self-sup-port-ing? At the time of Que-bec's fall the men of A-mer-i-ca had no thought nor wish to ev-er be freed from their ser-vice to the moth-er coun-try, as Eng-land was called.

Up to the year 1764 Eng-land had no sub-jects in all her wide-spread do-main, who were more loy-al to her in thought, in word, and in deed than the thir-teen A-mer-i-can Col-o-nies, which had by that time strug-gled through the hard-est times of their in-fan-cy, and were grown to a lus-ty youth, full of fresh life, new i-de-as, and brim-ming o-ver with en-er-gy, all of which they were will-ing and ea-ger to spend in the cause of the moth-er coun-try.

They were proud of her, as big boys are apt to

be proud of a moth-er whose gra-ces and great-ness are plain to all the world. They want-ed no bet-ter guide in dress, man-ners, re-li-gion, or laws than she was to them. Eu-rope sent o-ver all the need-y and for-lorn ones that she did not know what to do with (pret-ty much as she is do-ing to-day), and A-mer-i-ca o-pened wide her arms to them, pret-ty much as *she* is do-ing to-day. Some one said such was their love for the land that gave them birth, that they could be led by a thread.

The pop-u-la-tion of all the Col-o-nies a-bout this time was 2,000,000. New York's share of this was not more than 100,000. The State was di-vid-ed at that time in-to the coun-ties of Suf-folk, Queen's, King's, Rich-mond, New York, West Ches-ter, Dutch-ess, Or-ange, Ul-ster, and Al-ba-ny. The set-tle-ments, how-ev-er, were al-most con-fined to New York (coun-ty), Stat-en and Long Isl-ands, and strung a-long the banks of the Hud-son and the Mo-hawk, or in the near neigh-bor-hood. Scho-har-ie Creek was the west-ern lim-it of the set-tle-ments on the Mo-hawk.

The cause of this slow growth of a State which of-fered such im-mense at-trac-tions to set-tlers, lay in the fact that New York, of all the Col-o-nies, had the most to dread from the sav-a-ges on the Can-a-da side. For this rea-son the con-quest of Can-a-da

had been a mat-ter of great im-por-tance to it for sev-en-ty years. And great was the joy o-ver its fall.

No soon-er did the men of New York feel se-cure from troub-le from that source, than they set themselves to work in hard earn-est to show what they could do with the rich lands that were be-gin-ning to feel like home to them.

At this time the sto-ry of one of the Col-o-nies is pret-ty much the sto-ry of all of them. There was a cer-tain like-ness in the rules they made for con-troll-ing pub-lic af-fairs, be-cause one and all they cop-ied them from the moth-er coun-try.

In all of these laws the peo-ple held fast by the right to e-lect men from a-mong their own num-ber to rep-re-sent them in what was called "The As-sem-bly." They were in-clined, at first, to o-ver-look some harsh meas-ures on the part of the home Gov-ern-ment, nev-er once dream-ing that a sep-a-ration would ev-er be forced on them.

The Eng-lish Par-lia-ment passed an act to pre-vent the Col-o-nies from mak-ing cer-tain things for them-selves. They want-ed to force them, you see, to buy all these things from Eng-land.

The Col-o-nies were all thriv-ing. They had in plen-ty all things that were real-ly need-ful; but few lux-u-ries found their way o-ver here at first. The plain way in which e-ven those who were a-ble to live

bet-ter, lived, is shown in some let-ters writ-ten by Ben-ja-min Frank-lin from Eng-land to his wife. He speaks of the ta-ble cloths he sends o-ver, as if ta-ble cloths were by no means com-mon things on A-mer-i-can break-fast ta-bles in those days.

The French and In-dian war had done much to give the Co-lo-ni-al sol-diers con-fi-dence in them-selves. They had fought side by side with the trained troops of the grand-est ar-m-y in the world. In fact, they had held their ground of-ten, when the "Brit-ish-ers" had run a-way.

At first, the Col-o-nists were too bus-y plant-ing hunt-ing, fish-ing, and trad-ing to think of train-ing for sol-diers. As they grew rich-er, they be-gan to make things for them-selves. Why should they not, with the raw stuff for so man-y things read-y to hand?

They be-gan to build ships, and to think of com-merce for them-selves. Their As-sem-blies (as their bod-ies of law-mak-ers were called) of-fered to grant mon-ey to per-sons who would take up such pur-suits. Com-merce means trade be-tween dif-fer-ent coun-tries.

This the Eng-lish mer-chants did not like. They wished to keep the trade of the Col-o-nies in their own hands. They got Par-lia-ment to pass an act for-bid-ding the Col-o-nies to trade with an-y



oth-er coun-try than Eng-land, or to let ships from an-y for-eign port an-chor in A-mer-i-can wa-ters.

It is true, this act, which is called the “Nav-i-ga-tion Act,” was aimed more at the New Eng-land Col-o-nies, where peo-ple had gone ea-ger-ly in-to com-mer-cial life; but as the Col-o-nies were bound to stand or fall to-gether, I tell you of it here, as be-ing one of the first of Eng-land’s man-y un-just acts to-wards the Col-o-nies which she ought to have helped and en-cour-aged in ev-er-y way. They were also told they should not make an-y-thing out of their wool, i-ron, pa-per, and leath-er—no hats, no an-y-thing. They were to send all their raw stuff to the old coun-try, and they were to buy of her all they want-ed, in re-turn.

In one way and an-oth-er the peo-ple found means of dis-o-bey-ing these un-just laws. The “Nav-i-ga-tion Act” caused pi-rates to be ver-y plen-ti-ful and ver-y troub-le-some in those ear-ly days. These made nav-i-ga-tion so un-safe, that in 1697 Cap-tain Rob-ert Kidd, a New York ship mas-ter, was sent out a-gainst them. Not with ver-y good re-sults though, for he turned pi-rate him-self, and ran a-way with the ship. He was bold e-nough to come back home af-ter three years of this law-less life, was ta-ken to Eng-land, tried, and hung. Cap-tain Kidd is sup-posed to have bur-ied great wealth

some-where on Long Isl-and shore, and man-y sil-ly peo-ple have wast-ed much time and la-bor try-ing to find it. Pi-ra-cy in A-mer-i-can wa-ters is not heard of af-ter the year 1720.

News-pa-pers and books were ea-sy to get in the Col-o-nies af-ter the set-ting up of the first print-ing press, at Cam-bridge, in 1639. And when King's Col-lege (now Co-lum-bi-a) was found-ed in New York Ci-ty, in 1754, it brought the num-ber of col-



CAP-TAIN KIDD BUR-Y-ING TREAS-URE.

le-ges up to six. So you will see that in the midst of all else they had to do—clear land, build hous-es, fight sav-a-ges, and con-tend with a se-vere cli-mate in an un-known land, those grand old first set-tlers did not

once lose sight of the ne-ces-si-ty for train-ing the minds of the young men who were to be the act-ors in the great e-vents which were e-ven then cast-ing their shad-ows be-fore.

In 1763 New York and New Hamp-shire had a dis-pute o-ver their bound-a-ry lines, which led to a great deal of con-fu-sion and bit-ter-ness, but which, at last, end-ed in the west-ern bank of the Con-nec-

ti-cut Riv-er be-ing es-tab-lished as the right bound-ary line be-tween the two States ; and the Gov-ern-ment of New York took con-trol of all the set-tle-ments made with-in that line.

It was not to be ex-pect-ed that thir-teen col-o-nies, peo-pled by men from all parts of the Old World, serv-ing dif-fer-ent rul-ers and con-trolled by such dif-fer-ent de-sires, should work to-geth-er at first as smooth-ly and nice-ly as piec-es of the same ma-chine. But af-ter the French and In-dian war, the col-o-nists knew each oth-er bet-ter, and had a more broth-er-ly feel-ing for each oth-er. They had come to see that their in-ter-ests were one, and that, what was good or bad for one, was good or bad for all.

Dur-ing that war, which last-ed sev-en years, they were called “pro-vin-cials;” but dur-ing the days of peace that fol-lowed, they be-gan to call them-selves “A-mer-i-cans.” They were no more mere New York-ers or Vir-gin-ians or New Eng-land-ers. They were one peo-ple, and, as one peo-ple, they were read-y to act in de-fence of A-mer-i-can rights.

It seems strange that Eng-land could not see in time that these far-off chil-dren of hers had grown to be such strong stur-dy fel-lows, that it would not be safe to pro-voke them too far. In-stead of tak-ing

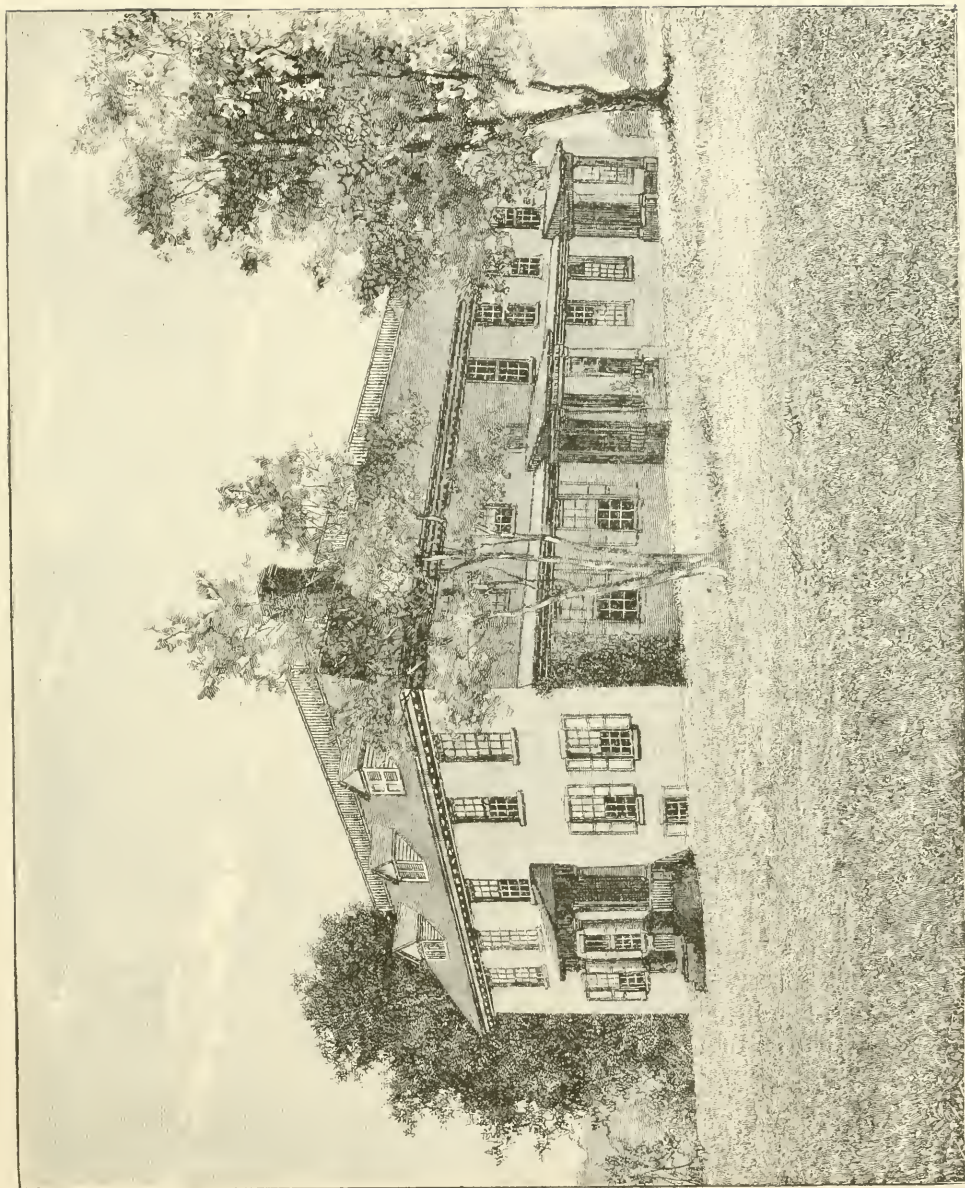
a moth-er's pride in their growth and in-creas-ing wealth, she saw in it all on-ly the means of pay-ing off some of her own old debts.

Just sup-pose, now, you had spent a great deal of time, say days and weeks and months, fill-ing a lit-tle sav-ings bank, that you looked on as your ver-y own; and sup-pose your moth-er got in-to debt, and with-out your con-sent helped her-self to the con-tents of your bank, what a shock-ing bad sort of a moth-er you would think her; and would you not cry out in re-sent-ment?

While the Col-o-nies shared pret-ty much a-like the tri-als and hard-ships of those first days, there were some rea-sons why the State of New York had to bear a ver-y large share of them.

New York State was the chief cen-tre of im-ports. New York Ci-ty took the lead in ques-tions of state, of so-cial dis-play, and of learn-ing. The Gov-er-nor lived there, and the As-sem-bly met there, un-less some ur-gent cause a-gainst it a-rose. The on-ly Brit-ish gar-ri-son kept up in the Col-o-nies af-ter the close of the French war had its head-quar-ters there.

Men of broad views and lib-er-al ed-u-ca-tion were nu-mer-ous there, and these men were quick to see and to point out signs of dan-ger to the grow-ing State.



A PA-TROON'S MAN-OR HOUSE.

The vast es-tates of the pa-troons had come down with al-most prince-ly pow-er to the sons of the first pa-troons. While such a class of men kept out small farm-ers, they brought in bet-ter stock, hors-es, cows, and sheep; and bet-ter seed and modes of farm-ing than were to be found else-where.

The man-or hous-es on these grand es-tates were the homes of men who felt them-selves to be the peers of the ver-y men in the old coun-try who tried to keep them un-der with such a high hand, and they were not to be dis-mayed. We read of one of these land-lords, Sir Wil-liam John-son, who had, be-fore 1762, one hun-dred fam-i-lies a-bout him, and who made strong ef-forts to ed-u-cate the In-dians, who were a-mong his ten-ants. These things made of New York the lead-ing Col-o-ny.

All this time the Brit-ish Min-is-ters were lay-ing their plans to ex-tract mon-ey from the Col-o-nies, and New York held a ver-y im-por-tant place with them. The strife be-gan o-ver the pay of the Chief Jus-ti-ces. Eng-land said she would se-lect the Jus-ti-ces, but New York must pay their sal-a-ries. This was but one of man-y acts which forced New York in-to a po-si-tion of di-rect and o-pen op-po-si-tion to the moth-er coun-try. She de-mand-ed, as a right, that New York State should be left free from the load of un-just tax-es which would drive men

a-way from their homes, and bring in dis-cord and pov-er-ty. She asked for her rights, du-ti-ful-ly, at first. But Eng-land was bent on not heed-ing the out-cry from the Col-o-nies, as we shall see.

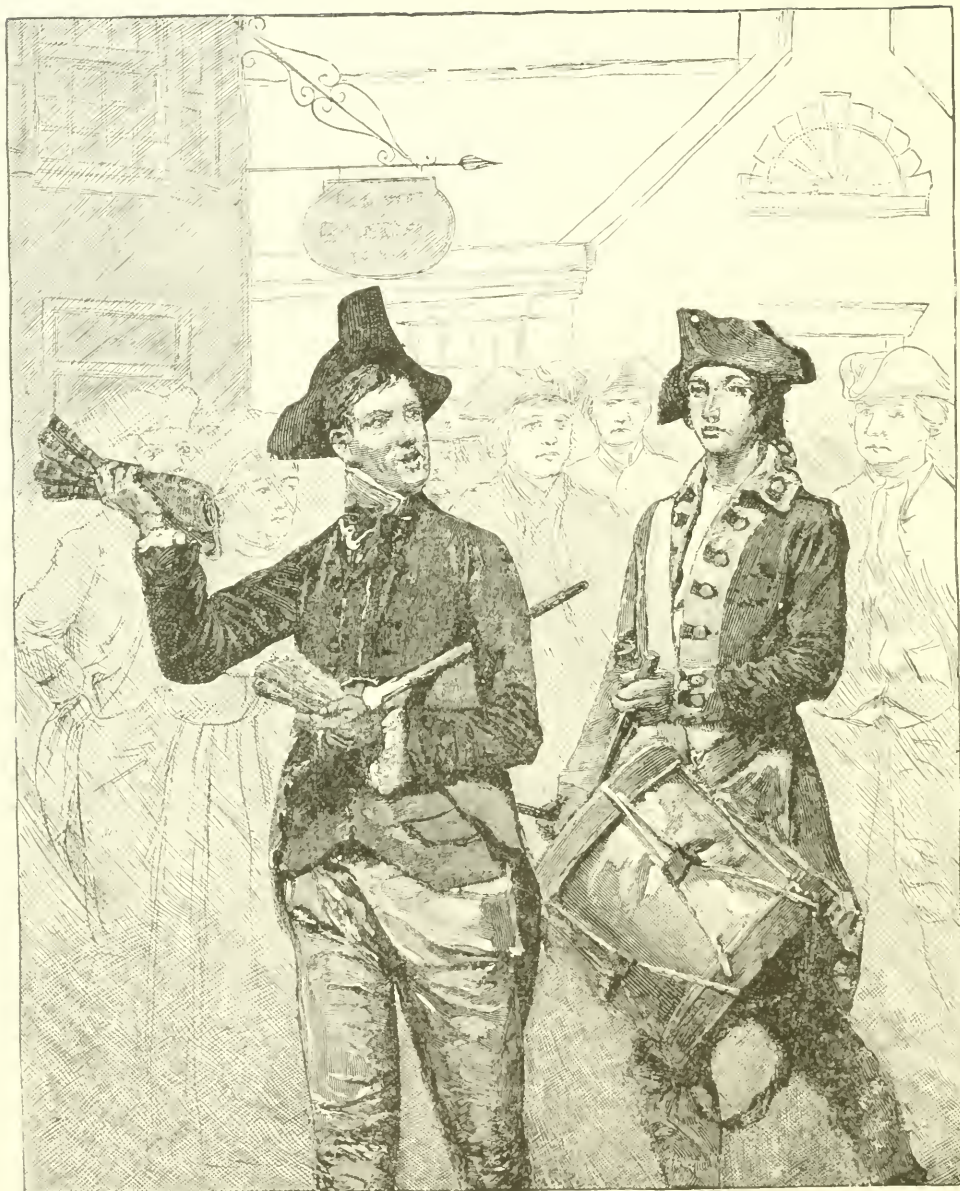
CHAPTER VI.

THE FOLLY OF ENGLAND.

REAL trou-b-le be-tween the Col-o-nies and their moth-er coun-try be-gan ver-y soon af-ter the peace of 1763.

Laws to con-trol af-fairs in A-mer-i-ca had of-ten been passed by the Eng-lish law-mak-ers, and meek-ly sub-mit-ted to by the peo-ple who looked up to the King of Eng-land as their true head. Some of these acts, such as the one reg-u-lat-ing the post of-fi-ces, were for the good of the Col-o-nies, and they saw as much. Oth-ers, which were not for the good of the coun-try, they were too bus-y with their own af-fairs to think much a-bout un-til the time came to en-force them; then by fierce re-sist-ance to them they showed that they had some views, and a good deal of will of their own.

The first act which most thor-ough-ly an-gered the col-o-nists is known as the Stamp Act. The

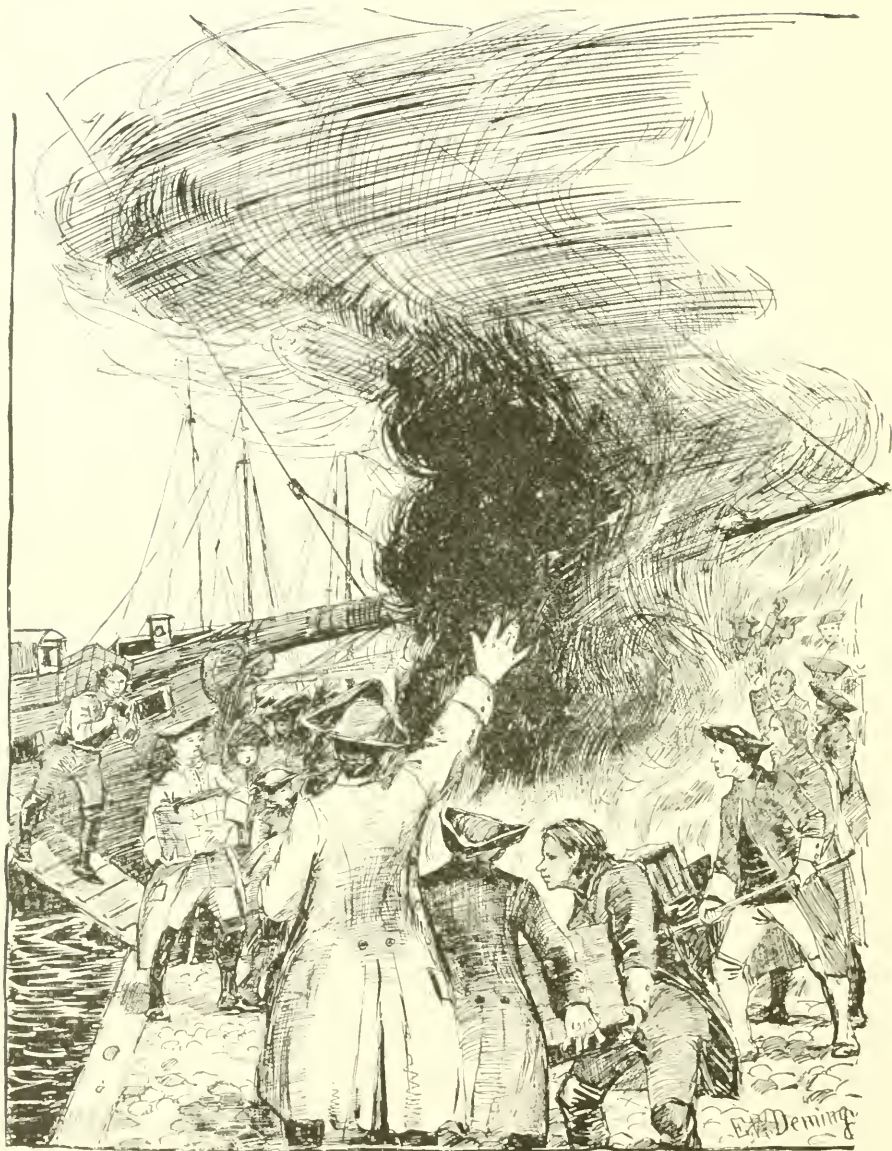


Eng-lish Par-lia-ment passed it in the spring of 1765, and it was to go in-to force the No-vem-ber af-ter. From that date the law said all le-gal pa-pers, such as wills, bonds, notes, and deeds, must be print-ed on stamped pa-per, sent o-ver here by Eng-land, for which the peo-ple must pay some-thing to the Crown of Eng-land. If they did not use this stamped pa-per in A-mer-i-ca, their wills, bonds, notes, and deeds would be “null and void.” That was, they would not be good for any-thing.

This Stamp Act caused great ex-cite-ment on both sides of the o-cean, for there were some men in the Eng-lish Par-lia-ment wise e-nough to see what a false step Eng-land was tak-ing, and just e-nough to want to pro-tect the Col-o-nies from such a great wrong.

A-mong these was Mr. Pitt, who al-ways stood up for the Col-o-nies a-gainst the peers who want-ed to wrong them. Mr. Pitt op-posed the Stamp Act ver-y bold-ly, on the ground that Eng-land had no right to tax the Col-o-nies at all, and told the peers as much to their fac-es.

When the stamped pa-pers, which it was meant to force the Col-o-nies to use, got to New York, they were “cried” (that is called) a-bout the streets un-der the ti-tle “The Folly of Eng-land and the Ru-in of A-mer-i-ca,” and the mob tried to get at them and



burn them up. The first lot was put a-way in the Ci-ty Hall for safe-ty. The next lot that came o-ver, ten box-es in all, was burned at once.

On the 6th of No-vem-ber, six days af-ter the Eng-lish Par-lia-ment had ex-pect-ed to see its child-like col-o-nists be-gin to do all their writ-ing on the stamped pa-per sent out for that pur-pose, the same child-like col-o-nists met in the fields a-bout New York to ap-point men to cor-re-pond with the oth-er Col-o-nies on this sub-ject, which was to them so grave as to call for u-nit-ed ac-tion.

This call for u-nit-ed ac-tion brought on what is known as "The Stamp Act Con-gress," which met in New York Ci-ty, Oc-to-ber 7, 1765.

All of the Col-o-nies ap-proved of it, and near-ly all of them sent men to it to say so. It was a bold thing for the Col-o-nies to do. It was the first sign that they were read-y to act to-geth-er to op-pose the moth-er coun-try; but as she was still their head she could pun-ish them for such acts.

They could not make laws, but they could u-nite in say-ing what they thought their rights were; and this they did in words which were ver-y firm, and yet as mild as pos-si-ble. Eng-land was not look-ing for the Stamp Act to make such a stir in A-mer-i-ca. It took her quite a-back. The Eng-lish mer-chants and man-u-fact-ur-ers were ta-ken aback also, and

bad-ly scared, for the first thing the A-mer-i-can mer-chants and peo-ple did in their Stamp Con-gress was to say that they would not buy, nor wear, nor eat an-y more Eng-lish goods un-til the hate-ful Stamp Act should be re-pealed. Those Brit-ish mer-chants were quick to send pe-ti-tions to Par-lia-ment, beg-ging for the re-peal of the Stamp Act. Mr. Pitt and oth-er friends of the col-o-nists pressed it too.

Par-lia-ment did re-peal it ear-ly in 1766, but said that it still held the *right* to tax the Col-o-nies when-ev-er it should want to.

In 1770 they put this right to the test, but did not come off an-y bet-ter than they had with the Stamp Act. They tried a new plan. The tax was ta-ken off ev-er-y thing but tea. And the tax on tea was made so ver-y low, and so nice-ly ar-ranged with the tea mer-chants, that the tea drink-ers in the New World could get their tea, e-ven af-ter pay-ing the tax, at a price no great-er than they had al-ways paid for the tea a-lone.

Par-lia-ment must ei-ther have thought the men of the Col-o-nies ver-y stu-pid not to see through this trick, or had not yet come to un-der-stand that the men of A-mer-i-ca were fight-ing for a great prin-ci-ple of right, which was of far more worth to them than a few pence more or less on ev-er-y

pound of tea. England did not meet this difficulty in a brave, or even an honest, way. It only excited the Colonies to a still greater pitch of resentment to see she meant to trick them into paying the tax.

In South Carolina, at Charleston, they put the first tea that came over after this away in damp holes, and let it spoil. At New York and some



A ROOM IN CO-LO-NI-AL TIMES.

other places they would not let the tea ships land at all, but forced them to take their cargoes back where they came from. At Boston they disposed of it in very lively fashion by throwing it all into the sea; and by the time all the Colonists had thus prevented the landing of the taxed tea, the English Government began to wake up to the fact that

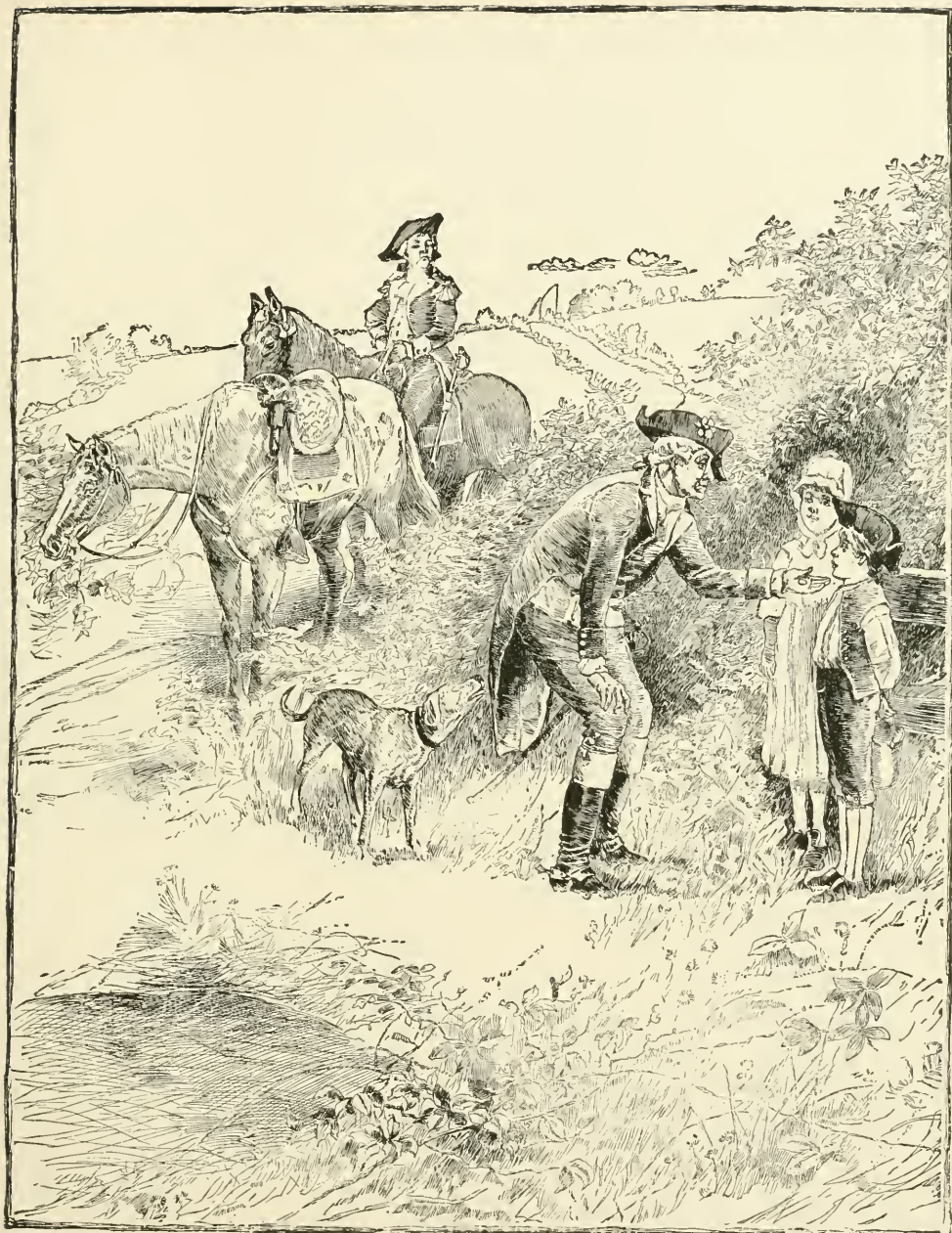
she had a ver-y bold and stub-born set of chil-dren on this side of the wa-ter.

New York all this time was an ob-ject of keen in-ter-est. She did not seem to wait for ad-vice or lead-er-ship from an-y source. Her po-si-tion was not to be mis-un-der-stood, for her men and her press were fear-less and out-spok-en on all oc-ca-sions, as they had a right to be.

A bold speech was print-ed in one of the pa-pers o-ver the name of "Free-man," which said that "if the in-ter-ests of the moth-er coun-try and her Col-o-nies could not be made one, if the same laws could not hold good for both, if the good of the moth-er coun-try called for the sac-ri-fice of the most pre-cious rights of her Col-o-nies, their rights of mak-ing their own laws and dis-pos-ing of their own prop-er-ty by men of their own choos-ing, then the soon-er they part-ed the bet-ter;" and a good deal more was said by "Free-man" to prove that A-mer-i-cans *meant* to be free men in truth as well as in word.

Par-lia-ment was by this time pret-ty well out of tem-per with the col-o-nists, and rushed for-ward the fin-al acts that com-plet-ed the es-trange-ment be-tween Eng-land and her Col-o-nies.

These acts are called the "four in-tol-er-a-ble acts," and al-though they do not bear on New York par-ti-cu-lar-ly, they are treat-ed of here as nec-es-



IN-FANT PA-TRI-OTS.

sa-ry to ex-plain the fi-nal out-break be-tween the two coun-tries.

The first of these was called the "Bos-ton Port Bill." No ships were to go out of or in-to the har-bor of Bos-ton. This was meant to pun-ish the Bos-ton folks for wast-ing all that good tea; but it on-ly served to en-rage *all* the Col-o-nies still more a-gainst Eng-land, and to band them to-geth-er more close-ly.

The sec-ond was the "Mass-a-chu-setts Bill." This aimed to give the en-tire con-trol of that Col-o-ny into the hands of the king's a-gents by tak-ing a-way the char-ter from the Col-o-ny. As none of the Col-o-nies knew which one would next meet with the same in-sult, it on-ly brought them clos-er to-geth-er in re-sist-ance. The third was the "Trans-por-tation Bill," which or-dered that an-y A-mer-i-can who should kill a man in re-sist-ing the laws must be sent to Eng-land for tri-al.

The fourth was the "Que-bee Act" which would have un-done a-bout all the Col-o-nies had fought for in driv-ing the French out of the coun-try north of the O-hi-o, and east of the Miss-is-sip-pi, if it had ev-er gone in-to force.

All of these acts were to be forced up-on the Col-o-nies by a stand-ing ar-m-y of Brit-ish troops sta-tioned in the Col-o-nies to awe the peo-ple. You

can fan-cy that no ver-y kind feel-ings ex-ist-ed for the “red coats,” as the Brit-ish sol-diers were call-ed by the en-raged col-o-nists.

Gov-er-nor Col-den wrote back to Eng-land: “What-ev-er hap-pens in this place (New York Ci-ty) it has the great-est ef-fect on the oth-er Col-onies, who are read-y to act in all things just as New York may lead.”

The Brit-ish men-of-war were in her har-bor, and Brit-ish sol-diers were quar-tered on her peo-ple; but she was read-y to make ev-er-y sac-ri-fice for lib-er-ty, as she did when the time came. A large part of this sad state of things was, no doubt, due to the fact that the Eng-lish Gov-ern-ment de-pend-ed for its knowl-edge of the wants and feel-ings of the col-o-nists up-on what was told it by the co-lo-ni-al Gov-er-nors. Most of these men were ei-ther bad men, or weak men—some-times both, and told things in which-ev-er way would make it smooth-est for them-selves.

George III. was king of Eng-land at this time; and while he was not a bad man, he was an ex-treme-ly hard-head-ed and fool-ish one, and was so ig-no-rant of the char-ac-ter of the men he had to deal with, that he was still bent up-on forc-ing them to sub-mit, and real-ly thought he could do it, too.

After the pas-sage of the Bos-ton Port Bill, the

ex-cite-ment ran high-er than ev-er, and a Con-ti-nen-tal Con-gress was a-greed up-on. That means that men from *all* the Col-o-nies were called up-on to meet, and to ex-press them-selves boldly and o-pen-ly on the sub-ject of these op-pres-sive acts, and of re-sist-ance to them.

The men of New York at this cri-sis were not all of one mind. So bold a thing as to de-fy Eng-land, and to say that they would set up rul-ers of their own a-gainst her, seemed to some of them a thing too bold to do. They were for stand-ing a lit-tle more; wait-ing a lit-tle long-er, in hopes that things would work back to the old kind foot-ing. But to the more clear-head-ed a-mong them, those who had watched this dis-pute as it grew hot-ter and fierc-er ev-er-y day for the ten years it had been go-ing on could see no good in long-er sub-mis-sion.

The kill-ing of some mi-li-tia men by the Brit-ish troops at Lex-ing-ton, in Mas-sa-chu-setts, on the 9th of A-pril of the year 1775 was the act which brought ev-er-y true A-mer-i-can to the point of re-sist-ing cru-el-ty and op-pres-sion, e-ven though that bru-tal blow had been struck by a hand they had been taught to love and o-bey.

CHAPTER VII.

THE FIRST SHOT.

THE first Con-ti-nen-tal Con-gress met at Phil-a-del-phi-a Sep-tem-ber 5, 1774.

It met to say in words that no one could mis-take that the Col-o-nies had the right to rule and to tax them-selves, and would not yield that right to any pow-er on earth. They asked that Par-lia-ment should not tax them for any-thing un-less they were re-pre-sent-ed in that bod-y. The way in which they said all this was so mild that the King and his blind cour-tiers, who saw in the A-mer-i-can peo-ple on-ly a lot of poor, rude farm-ers, who could eas-i-ly be scold-ed or coaxed back to their al-le-gi-ance, re-fused to be warned.

The peo-ple of the Col-o-nies were much hot-ter in tem-per than the mild words of their Con-gress would have made one think. They went to work to get to-geth-er all the arms they could find, be-gan to make gun-pow-der, and, in place of the As-sem-blies by which they had been gov-erned, they called Pro-vin-cial Con-gress-es. The As-sem-blies were all full of men who were read-y to act for the King

a-against the col-o-nists, as they were of-fi-cers sent out by the King, but the col-o-nists had to pay their wa-ges.

In one part of the mes-sage sent by that first Con-gress to the King were these words: "You have been told that we are anx-ious to free our necks from your yoke. This is not so. Let us be as free as you are, and we will al-ways look on a un-ion with you as a boon and a great joy."

But George III. did not love the Col-o-nies, and he ei-ther could not or would not see the bold spir-it that lay un-der these mild words.

There were a good man-y rea-sons why New York should have been more slow to take fire at the in-sults heaped on the col-o-nists than some of her sis-ter Col-o-nies; and the Eng-lish Gov-ern-ment bent all its ef-forts to get her to act with it a-against the oth-er Col-o-nies.

New York was the most im-por-tant place in ev-er-y way. She stood a-bove her sis-ters in point of strength and of rich-es. In all her coun-ties were men who had got-ten large grants of land from the King, and who, fear-ing to lose these lands, took part with the moth-er coun-try, and vi-o-lent-ly ob-ject-ed to an-y move for sep-a-ra-tion. These men were called To-ries, and were a source of grief to the col-o-nists in war times.

In New York Ci-ty was a char-tered col-lege which taught that the peo-ple should bow to the King, as they did at home, where the King and the Church of Eng-land were the high-est pow-ers.

A-part from all this, New York had a pop-u-la-



A TO-RY FAM-I-LY AT BREAK-FAST.

tion scat-tered o-ver a re-gion close to the bor-ders of Can-a-da, from whence sav-age foes might be let loose up-on them in case of war. All this helped to make her cau-tious.

Of so much im-por-tance did it seem to King George III. to keep this rich and pow-er-ful Col-o-ny on the side of the crown, that he stooped to coax the men of New York in-to a good hu-mor. He went so far as to pro-pose to ex-empt this State from some of the laws which bore so hard up-on all the Col-o-nies. But that New York would not hear of.

It would have been hard for Great Brit-ain to know just ex-act-ly what to do with such Col-o-nies if they had been right un-der her own eye. They were so un-like her home sub-jects. These Col-o-nies were full of men from all parts of the world—men who were free of speech, free of thought, and ver-y quick to act in all things that touched that new-found free-dom of theirs.

As it was, a wide and storm-y o-cean lay be-tween Eng-land and her an-gry sub-jects. There were three thou-sand miles of wa-ter o-ver which troops had to be car-ried in slow sail-ing-ves-sels, which some-times took months to cross, and which made it all just that much hard-er to ad-just.

The fact that the Eng-lish Par-li-a-ment was read-y to show New York great fa-vor, and that New York was a tri-fle slow in act-ing with the first Con-ti-nen-tal Con-gress, caused some bad feel-ing a-mong the oth-er Col-o-nies, for which they soon had cause to feel sor-ry.

New York, at heart, was one with the rest of the A-mer-i-can Col-o-nies, as she showed when the time came for her to bear the brunt of the war.

It was a-greed, in the first Con-gress, that no goods of an-y sort should be brought from Great Brit-ain, or the West In-dies. This re-solve brought on a sharp dis-pute be-tween the To-ries and the pa-tri-ots. The To-ries were not will-ing to give up the com-forts they were used to, and the pa-tri-ots were not will-ing they should im-port them an-y long-er. These last were bent up-on put-ting New York on the same foot-ing of re-sist-ance to in-jus-tice with her sis-ter Col-o-nies.

The As-sem-bly, full as it was of the King's of-fi-cers, could not be re-lied on to give the true sen-ti-ments of the Col-o-ny; so in New York Ci-ty a com-mit-tee was formed of one hun-dred men, "to di-rect such meas-ures as may be thought best for the good of the Col-o-ny." This was called the "Pro-vin-cial Con-gress;" and thus, as you will see, be-fore a gun was fired, or a drop of blood shed, King George's pow-er o-ver his A-mer-i-can sub-jects had be-gun to tot-ter to its fall.

Gen-er-al Gage was at the head of the roy-al troops in the Col-o-nies at the time of these ex-cit-ing move-ments on the part of the dif-fer-ent Pro-vin-cial Con-gress-es. He felt so un-safe in Bos-ton, that

he be-gan to e-rect for-ti-fi-ca-tions on the neck of land which joins that place to the main-land, and to send out spies to find out what the A-mer-i-cans were do-ing by way of car-ry-ing out their threats of re-sist-ance. He was told that guns and pow-der were be-ing stored in Con-cord, a vil-lage a-bout twen-ty miles from Bos-ton.

He sent eight hun-dred men out to de-destroy these stores, mean-ing they should do it with great se-cre-cy.

But word of it was sent out from Bos-ton to all parts of the Col-o-ny by men who rode all night to give warn-ing to the co-lo-ni-al troops. If you have nev-er read Long-fel-low's beau-ti-ful vers-es called the "Mid-night Ride of Paul Re-vere," do so now, and you will learn how the "Min-ute men," as they were called, got that warn-ing.

Lex-ing-ton lies on the road be-tween Bos-ton and Con-cord. Gen-er-al Gage's men, who had been sent to de-destroy the arms at Con-cord, marched in-to it be-fore sun-rise, and, to their sur-prise, found a-bout six-ty half-armed men drawn up in a line on the vil-lage green. As Ma-jor Pit-cairn was at the head of the roy-al troops, he gave a quick or-der. His men fired. Eight of the min-ute men were killed, some were hurt, and the rest fled.

This was the first blood shed in the Rev-o-lu-

tion ; this, as some one says, was “ the shot that was heard round the world.” After fir-ing it, the roy-al troops marched on to Con-cord and de-stroyed the arms they had been sent out to de-stry ; but to re-turn to Bos-ton was not so sim-ple a thing to do.



THE WARN-ING.

By this time the news of that shot had spread like wild-fire ; the church bells were rung, and all a-long the road by which those rash troops had to re-trace their steps were men burn-ing to pun-ish them for that bru-tal act. The min-ute men poured

hot shot in-to them from ev-er-y fence, and ev-er-y house, and from be-hind the rocks that lay a-long the road-side. Be-fore they got back to Lex-ing-ton, the Brit-ish troops were in full re-treat. The whole Brit-ish force was sent out from Bos-ton to meet and pro-tect them, but the A-mer-i-cans kept up the pur-suit un-til they found safe-ty un-der the guns of their ships of war.

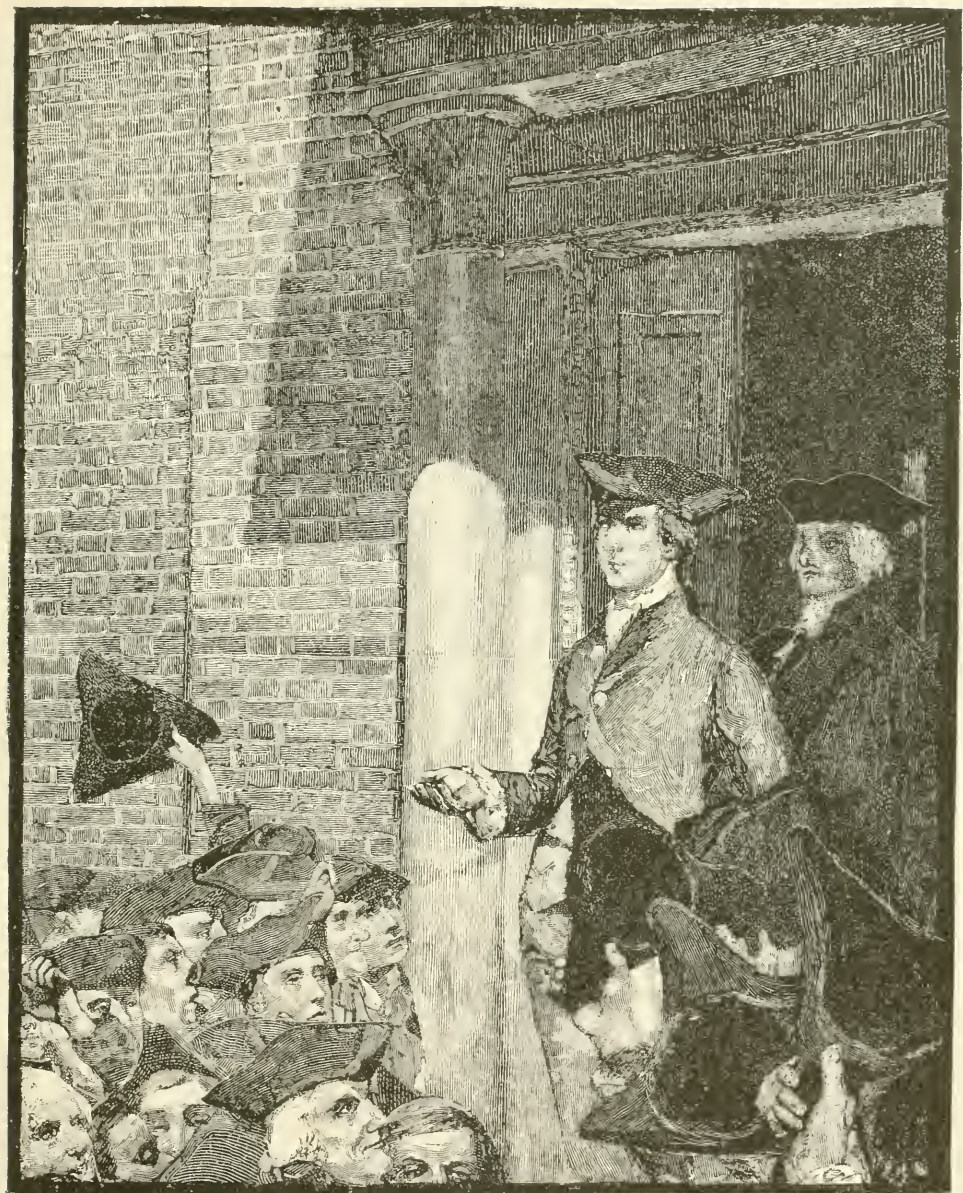


MIN-UTE MEN.

Thus be-gan the war of the Rev-o-lu-tion, in which all the Col-o-nies were to take part, and which was to end in mak-ing of them great, u-nit-ed, and free States.

When it was de-cid-ed to put the coun-try on a war foot-ing, the

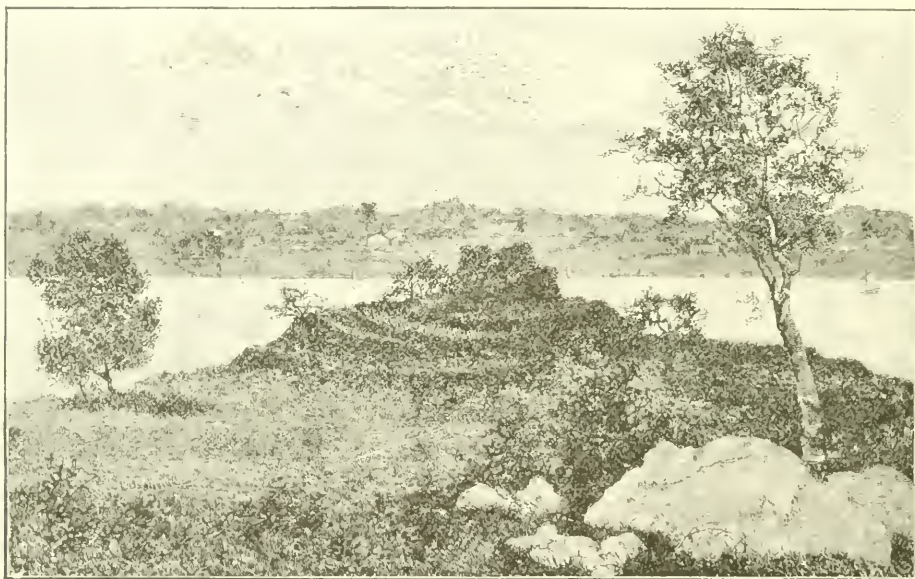
Sons of Lib-er-ty (as the A-mer-i-can pa-tri-ots were called) in New York act-ed with prompt en-er-gy. They would not let a ship leave port with food or arms for the Brit-ish troops shut up in Bos-ton. A man by the name of I-saac Sears, at a pub-lic meet-ing, urged ev-er-y man to get twen-ty-four rounds of am-mu-ni-tion. He was put in jail for his bold speech, but the peo-ple soon got him out a-gain.



I-SAAC SEARS AD-DRESS-ING THE PEO-PL E.

The Com-mit-tee of One Hun-dred took con-trol of all the arms, and for-bade the sale of them to persons not known to side with the col-o-nists.

With a view to what might come, it was thought best to make sure of the points by which troops and



RU-INS OF FORT AT CROWN POINT.

pro-vi-sions for the roy-al ar-my could be brought in-to the coun-try from Can-a-da.

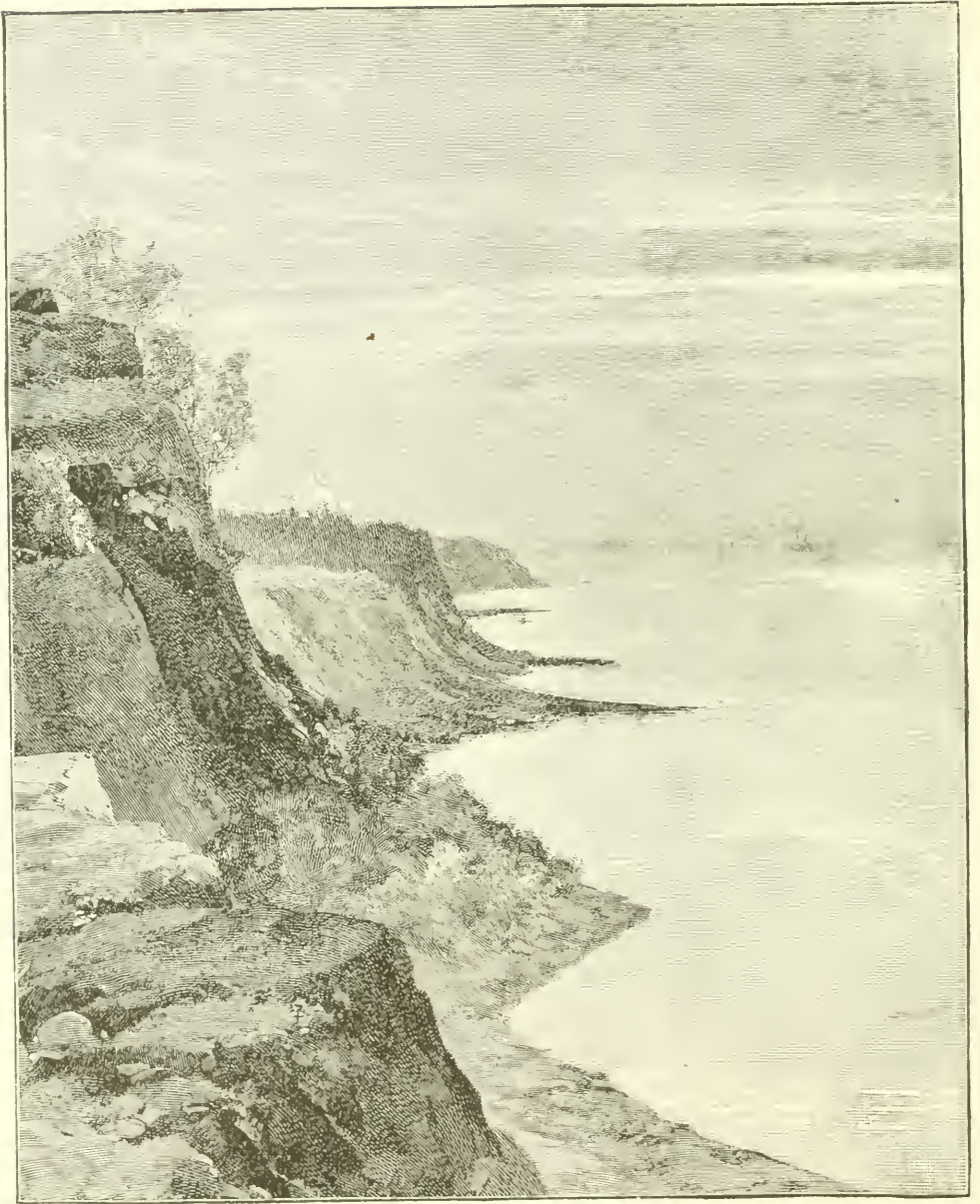
Ti-con-de-ro-ga which had once be-fore played an im-por-tant part in the his-to-ry of New York, must be se-cured in the first place. May 9, 1775, eigh-ty-one Green Moun-tain boys and men from

Mass-a-chu-setts crossed Lake Cham-plain, under the guidance of E-than Al-len; and rushing in-to the fort, with an In-dian war-whoop, de-mand-ed it to be giv-en up. When asked in whose name he made this bold de-mand, he said: "In the name of the great Je-ho-vah and the Con-ti-nen-tal Congress." Ti-con-de-ro-ga was giv-en up to him. Crown Point was next ta-ken by Col-o-nel War-ner, and the A-mer-i-cans soon held the keys to all the coun-try be-yond Lake Cham-plain.

The co-lo-ni-al Gov-er-nor of New York at that time, was named Try-on. He was in Eng-land when the bat-tle of Lex-ing-ton was fought, and on his re-turn was so a-larmed at the looks of things in the Col-o-ny, that he took shel-ter on board a ship in the bay where he took up his a-bode.

When the fact that the troub-les be-tween the moth-er coun-try and them-selves could on-ly be set-tled by war was es-tab-lished in the Col-o-nies, George Wash-ing-ton, of Vir-gin-ia, was put at the head of the co-lo-ni-al troops. Phil-ip Schuy-ler, of New York, was made Ma-jor-Gen-er-al, and Rich-ard Mont-gom-er-y Brig-a-dier-Gen-er-al. You will see, af-ter a while, what a wise choice of lead-ers this was.

The his-to-ry of the *U-nit-ed States* real-ly be-gins with that fight at Lex-ing-ton. For more than



a year, though, after it was fought, the Col-o-nies still called them-selves sub-jects of the king of Eng-land—sub-jects in noth-ing but name, they be-gan to think, when they found that all their just re-quests were met with harsh scorn.

The sec-ond Con-ti-nen-tal Con-gress met at Phil-a-del-phi-a, May 10, 1775. The first one had met just to ex-press the views of the Col-o-nies a-bout the way Eng-land had treat-ed them, and to pass some res-o-lu-tions. This one met to make laws for gov-ern-ing the Col-o-nies; and, as the King re-fused to gov-ern them with the help of their own Con-gress, they de-cid-ed to be gov-erned by their Con-gress with-out the King's help.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE WAR IN NEW YORK.

IT was not long af-ter the news of that out-break at Lex-ing-ton reached Eng-land, that three Gen-er-als, Howe, Clin-ton, and Bur-goyne, were sent o-ver with fresh troops to add to the roy-al force al-read-y shut up in Bos-ton, under com-mand of Gen-er-al Gage. With these fresh troops his force reached ten thou-sand men.

A-bout twice that man-y A-mer-i-cans, new to arms, poor-ly pre-pared in an-y way to op-pose them, lay a-round the point of land on which Bos-ton was built.

These men made up their minds to seize and to hold one of two or three hills, which would give them con-trol of the ci-ty in-to which King George's well-fed, well-dressed, and well-drilled troops had been driv-en by a lot of raw pa-tri-ot troops.

To this end one thou-sand men were sent out one night un-der a Col-o-nel Pres-cott to throw up earth-works on Bun-ker Hill, which had been chos-en for the fort. Throw-ing up earth-works was just to the hand of the A-mer-i-can sol-diers, a good man-y of whom were farm-ers, and had nev-er worked with an-y-thing more dan-ger-ous than a shov-el or a spade.

All night long the pa-tri-ots worked like beav-ers. On the morn-ing of June 17, 1775, the roy-al troops in Bos-ton o-pened their eyes to the a-maz-ing sight of long lines of earth-works on the hill which o-ver-looked their camp, and saw be-hind them the farm-er sol-diers still hard at work, mak-ing their fort strong-er each mo-ment.

Three thou-sand of those roy-al troops, men who had nev-er known what it was to be beat-en in an e-ven fight, were sent out to climb that hill, and

scat-ter those bold pa-tri-ots to the four winds. Those of the Brit-ish who did not go out to re-take Bun-ker Hill, crowd-ed the roofs and win-dows to see the fun. Of course, it could not last long. The pa-tri-ots would fire a few shots and run.

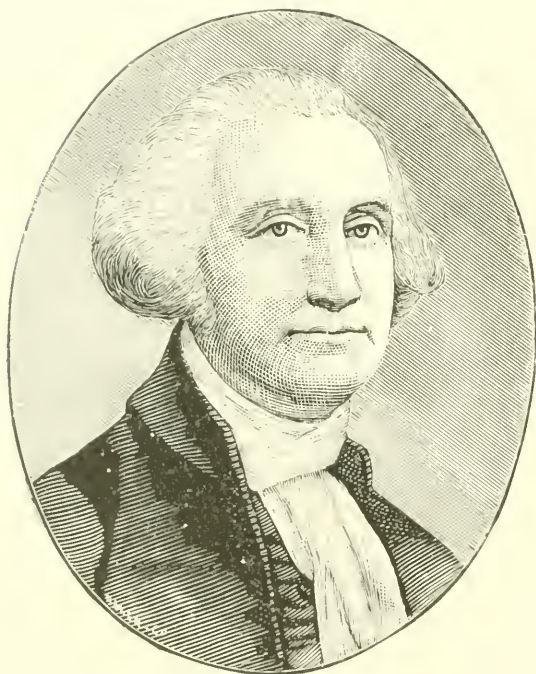
That was what the peo-ple in Bos-ton looked to see. What they did see, was that fine line of the King's reg-u-lar troops march up the hill, un-til they were with-in one hun-dred and fif-ty feet of the fort, be-hind which the pa-tri-ot sol-diers stood grim and mute. At a word, a sheet of fire flashed from be-hind the earth-works. When the smoke that fol-lowed that flash cleared a-way, some of the roy-al troops were ly-ing dead, some were hurt and bleed-ing, and the rest were run-ning back down the hill at a ver-y brisk gait.

Three times the King's well-drilled troops marched up that hill be-fore they gained an-y ad-van-tage o-ver the brave men be-hind those earth-works. The third time they gained the fort. The pow-der of the co-lo-ni-al troops was all gone, and they had fought with gun-stocks and stones un-til they were ex-haust-ed, and had to yield.

This, the bat-tle of Bun-ker Hill, the first pitched bat-tle of the war, be-longs to the his-to-ry of all those Col-o-nies who were try-ing to teach a les-son of wis-dom to their moth-er coun-try. The A-mer-i-

cans lost, at the bat-tle of Bun-ker Hill, four hun-dred and for-ty-nine out of fif-teen hun-dred men. The roy-al troops lost a full third of their num-ber.

Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton soon came to take com-



George Washington

mand of the pa-tri-ots who had col-lect-ed a-bout Bos-ton to re-sist the roy-al troops; and then and there be-gan the ver-y hard task of form-ing a real ar-my, with which to cope with Eng-land's great force, out of men who had no i-de-a of camp life, who were not will-ing to leave their homes and their farm work for an-y length of time, and who were so much in love with the i-de-a of man-ag-ing their own af-fairs that they could hard-ly be brought to see the

stern ne-ces-si-ty for strict mil-i-ta-ry dis-ci-pline e-ven at such a grave time.

A man less tru-ly great than George Wash-



THE WASHINGTON ELM.

ing-ton would have giv-en the task up in de-spair. When he had got-ten this raw ma-te-ri-al in-to good fight-ing trim, he made read-y to do what the he-roes of Bun-ker Hill had *tried* to do—get com-mand of Bos-ton by for-ti-fy-ing Dor-ches-ter Heights, which he seized by night.

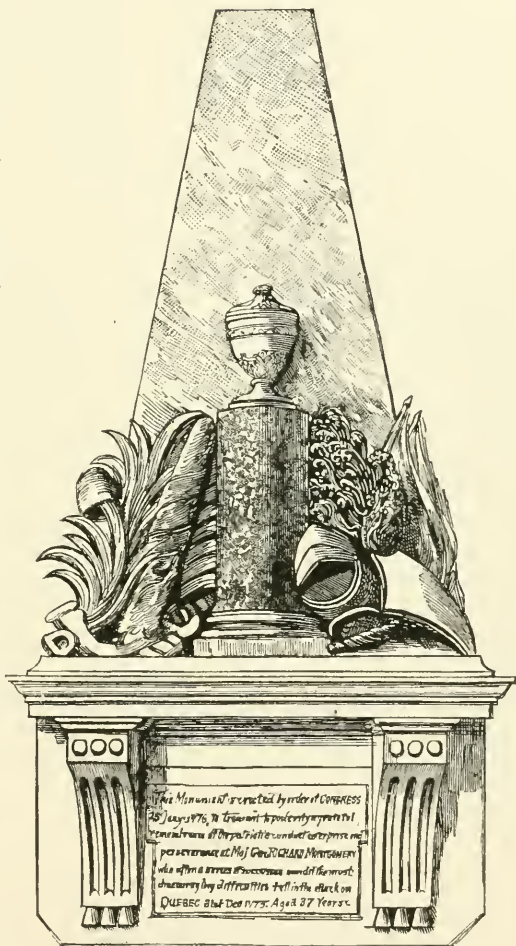
Gen-er-al Gage had been suc-ceed-ed by Gen-er-al Howe as com-man-der of the King's troops. When he saw what Wash-ing-ton had done in the night he de-cid-ed to leave Bos-ton rath-er than at-tack the ver-y strong for-ti-fi-ca-tions on Dor-ches-ter Heights. He or-dered his men on board the fleet, and set sail for Hal-i-fax. The A-mer-i-can ar-my en-tered the town of Bos-ton in tri-umph.

Fort Ti-con-de-ro-ga, as you know, had been ta-ken from the Brit-ish by some Ver-mont men un-der E-than Al-len; but this did not give the Col-o-nies that en-tire con-trol o-ver Can-a-da, which it was im-port-ant they should have.

Dur-ing the sum-mer of 1775 the two New York of-fi-cers who had been giv-en such prom-i-nent po-sitions in the A-mer-i-can ar-my, Schuy-ler and Mont-gom-er-y, un-der-took the in-va-sion of Can-a-da. On the call for troops by the Con-ti-nen-tal Con-gress, New York's share had been put at three thou-sand men, who were read-y to be used where-ever most need-ed.

Schuy-ler and Mont-gom-er-y pushed with a large pro-portion of these troops in-to Can-a-da. They took Mon-tre-al, where Ben-e-dict Ar-nold joined them with fresh troops; but when, with their force of one thousand men, they at-tacked Que-bec, it was found to be too strong for them.

The brave A-mer-i-can Gen-er-al Mont-gom-er-y, lost his life in this at-tempt. His re-mains were brought to New York Ci-ty in 1818, and buried with mil-i-ta-ry hon-ors. In the rear wall of the old-est church build-ing in New York Ci-ty you may see a tab-let to this brave man's mem-o-ry. (St. Paul's Church, on Broad-way, New York.)



MONT-GOM-ER-Y'S MON-U-MENT.

This fail-ure to take Que-bec set-tled the fate of

Can-a-da, which has re-mained at-tached to the Brit-ish crown from that day to this.

You see in this con-test with Eng-land the Col-onies had a great stretch of coun-try to pro-tect, which was a hard thing to do with their scat-tered forc-es. But after the bat-tle of Bun-ker Hill, and the fail-ure to oc-cu-py Can-a-da, the line of war-fare was drawn tight-er and clos-er, un-til it be-came cer-tain that the real strug-gle was to be fought in the Mid-dle States, which bore the brunt of it be-tween the years 1776 and 1778.

It was not un-til the col-o-nists were forced to see that the Eng-lish Par-lia-ment in-tend-ed to act with the King a-gainst them in all things, that they took the fi-nal bold step known as the Dec-la-ra-tion of In-de-pen-dence.

This dec-la-ra-tion was made on the 4th of Ju-ly, 1776, and the news of it was sent at once to the State Con-ven-tion of New York, then be-ing held at White Plains. The mem-bers made haste to give it their most heart-felt ap-prov-al, and to de-clare that they were read-y to risk their lives, and to give free-ly of their means in sup-port of it.

It was now to be ex-pect-ed that both sides would stop talk-ing of, or hop-ing for, an-y heal-ing of the breach, and pro-ceed to prove which was in the

right by the strength of arms a-lone, which was the case.

After their de-feat at Bos-ton, the Brit-ish made no fresh at-tempts in New Eng-land. The cli-mate was too cold and storm-y. New York of-fered them a much bet-ter point of at-tack ; be-sides which



HOWE'S HEAD-QUAR-TERS.

they thought they would get aid in that State from the To-ries : these were the rich men a-bout New York who sid-ed with the King, more from fear of los-ing their wealth, than be-cause they thought the

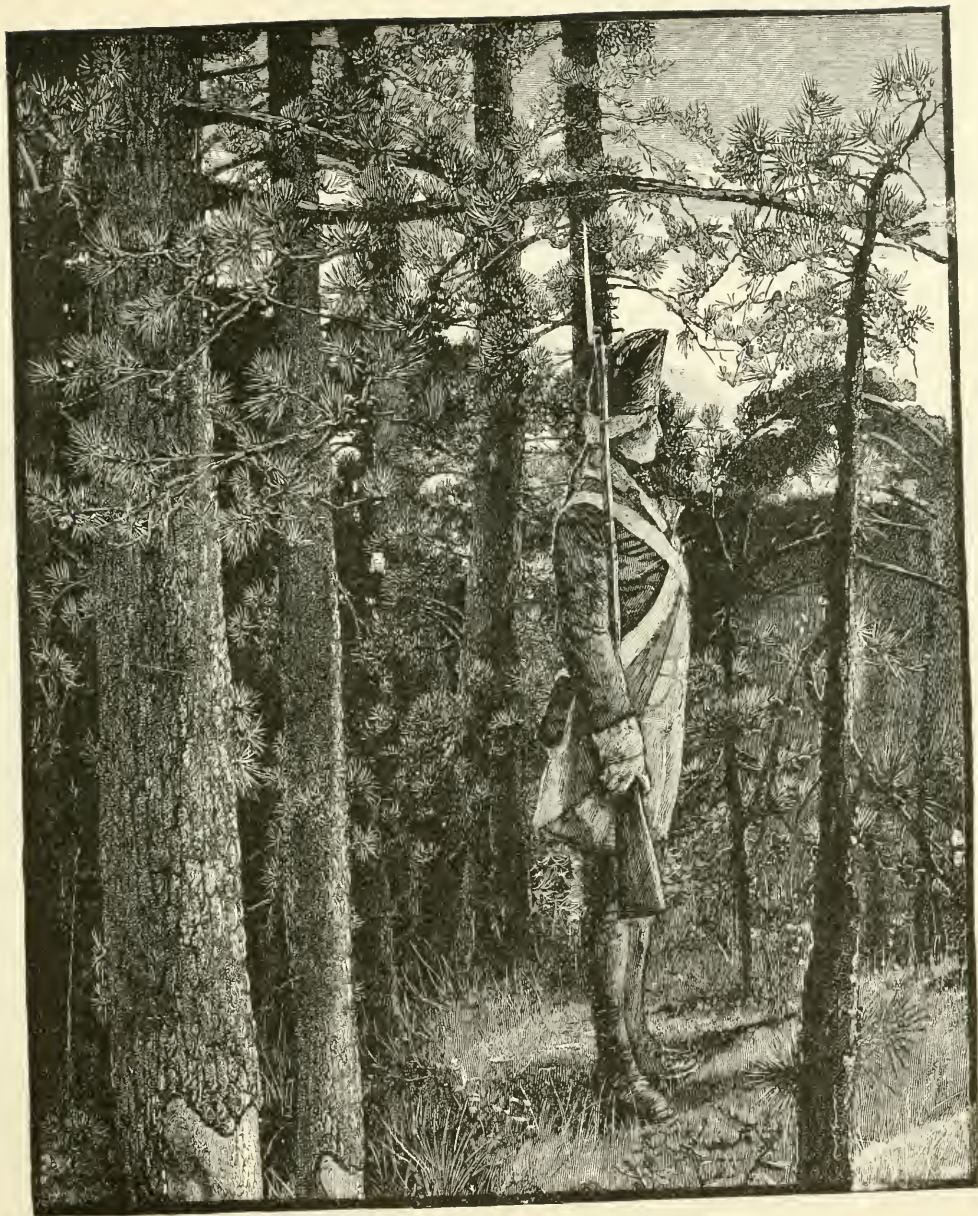
King was right in treat-ing the A-mer-i-cans as he did.

It was deemed of great im-por-tance that New York should be put in a po-si-tion for de-fence. Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton made haste to bring troops to that point as soon as he could spare them from Bos-ton. He had in all twen-ty thou-sand men—brave and res-o-lute men—but much had to be done for and with such an arm-y be-fore they could meet the fin-est troops in the world in the o-pen fields. Some hard blows were struck the co-lo-ni-al troops be-fore they came to be-lieve in them-selves.

The roy-al force of a-bout twen-ty-four thou-sand men was un-der com-mand of Lord Howe and his broth-er, Sir Wil-liam Howe. Then troops had been brought back from Hal-i-fax and en-camped on Stat-en Isl-land.

The A-mer-i-cans were en-camped on Long Isl-land, near Brook-lyn, which was at that time no more than a small fer-ry sta-tion.

On the 27th day of Au-gust, 1776, Lord Howe came o-ver from Stat-en Isl-land with a-bout half his strong force, and sur-round-ed five thou-sand of the pa-tri-ots who had been placed as a sort of out-post near Brook-lyn. He de-feat-ed them com-plete-ly. On-ly three thou-sand of them ev-er got back to the fort at Brook-lyn. This, the bat-tle of Long Isl-land,



A RED-COAT STAND-ING ON GUARD.

did not tend to raise the spir-its of the A-mer-i-cans, you may de-pend.

While Lord Howe was try-ing to make up his mind, wheth-er he ought to fol-low up this vic-to-ry by an at-tack on the fort it-self, Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton was qui-et-ly mov-ing his troops o-ver the East Riv-er in-to New York Ci-ty. He was aid-ed in this big task by a thick fog, which lay on the riv-er and hid his move-ments. It was not un-til the sun came up to melt this fog that Lord Howe knew what had be-come of the foe he meant to have cap-tured.

He went af-ter them to New York. Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton was too wise to trust his raw troops in an o-pen fight with Lord Howe's well-dis-ci-plined ar-my. Once more he with-drew be-fore the Brit-ish, tak-ing his force as far as Har-lem, and leav-ing New York Ci-ty in the hands of the Brit-ish, who held it un-til peace was made be-tween the two coun-tries.

As soon as Lord Howe en-tered the ci-ty, he sent a fleet up the Hud-son Riv-er to cut off sup-plies from the A-mer-i-can troops. His ships had no troub-le as-cend-ing the riv-er, al-though for weeks past ef-forts had been made to ob-struct the chan-nel to pre-vent this ver-y dan-ger.

Be-fore fall-ing back once more be-fore the

en-e-my, the A-mer-i-cans had a sharp but short en-count-er with them, which end-ed bad-ly for the roy-al troops. It was an ir-reg-u-lar sort of bat-tle, but Mrs. Lamb, in her full his-to-ry of New York, which I hope you will all read some day, calls it, "one of the most bril-liant and im-por-tant of



WASH-ING-TON'S HEAD-QUAR-TERS.

an-y fought in the Rev-o-lu-tion-a-ry War in its re-sults."

I sup-pose that is be-cause the bat-tle of Har-lem Heights was fought when the A-mer-i-cans were gloom-y and dis-cour-aged on ac-count of re-peat-ed re-treats and dis-as-ters.

Mrs. Lamb de-scribes this af-fair ver-y ful-ly:—
“They fought in scouts and squads, in bat-tal-ions
and in bri-gades. . . . They fought in the woods,



BAT-TLE OF HAR-LEM HEIGHTS.

from be-hind trees, bush-es, rocks, and fenc-es, and
they fought on the plain and in the road. . . . The
suc-cess of this day turned the cur-rent of e-vents.

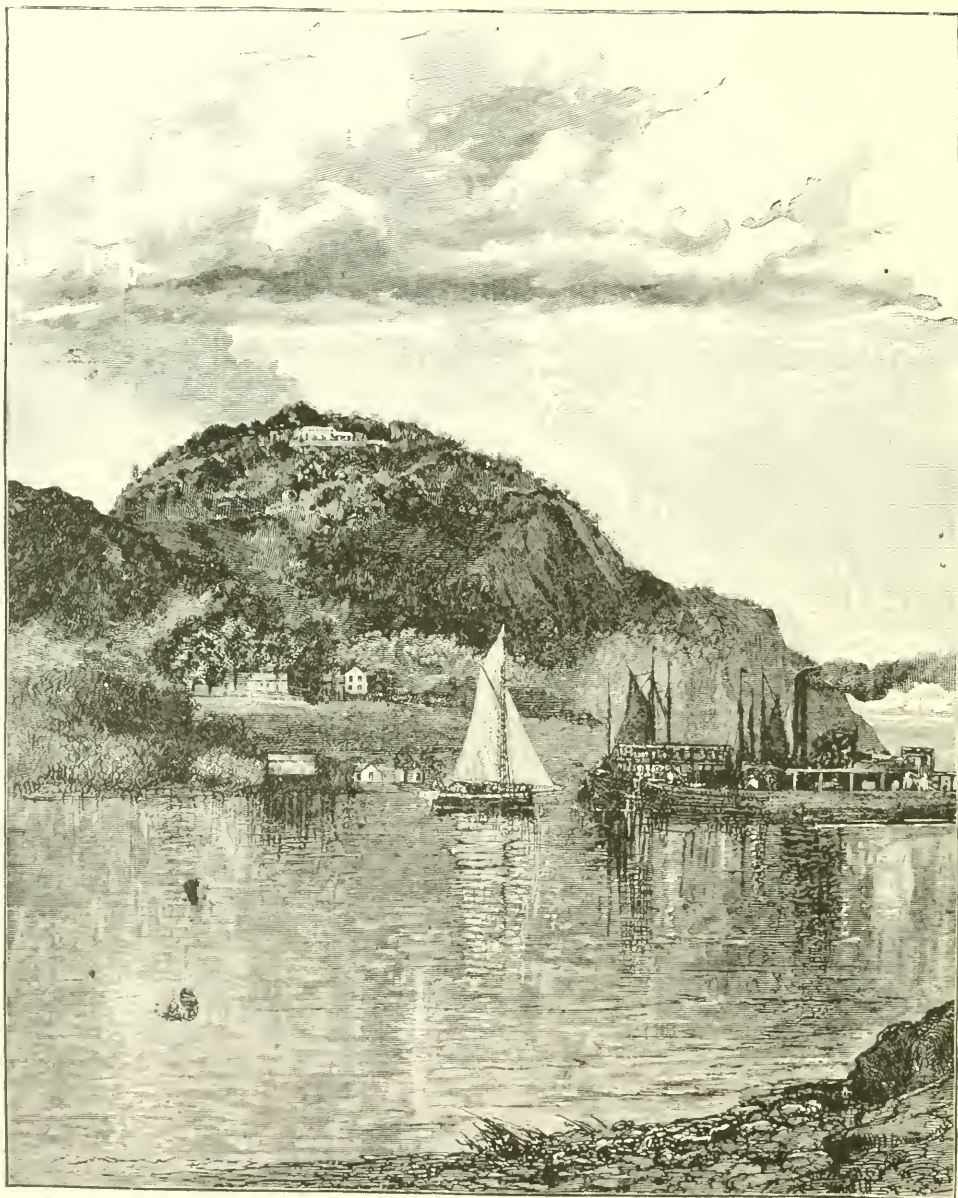
Hence-forth the A-mer-i-cans be-lieved in themselves."

But in spite of this spark of en-cour-age-ment the A-mer-i-can Gen-er-al was forced to go still farth-er a-way from the ci-ty, in or-der to pre-vent Lord Howe from cut-ting off his sup-plies. He fell back to White Plains this time. There an-oth-er sharp en-count-er took place. In this bat-tle the A-mer-i-cans lost near-ly four hun-dred men, and were once more worst-ed.

There was noth-ing for it but to fall back, and to keep fall-ing back be-fore Lord Howe, whose troops, su-pe-ri-or in num-ber and flushed with suc-cess, were furth-er helped on by trai-tors to the A-mer-i-can cause. Wash-ing-ton fell back un-til he got to the hills east of where now stands the town of Peek-kill. There he turned and stood at bay with his brave but dis-cour-aged men.

Lord Howe, who seems nev-er to have been quite sure of what he did want to do, moved off in the di-rec-tion of New Jer-sey, tak-ing, on his way back, three hun-dred men whom Wash-ing-ton had left in Fort Wash-ing-ton, while Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton was cross-ing his troops o-ver in-to Jer-sey, op-po-site Peek-kill.

By this stroke the Brit-ish for a while got com-plete con-trol of Man-hat-tan Isl-land, and the King's



ships could go up and down the Hud-son Riv-er, the East Riv-er, and the Bay, with no one to say them "nay."

CHAPTER IX.

BURGOYNE'S EXPEDITION.

WHILE Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton in the south-ern part of the State had been fall-ing back with his raw troops from place be-fore Lord Howe's splen-did ar-my, un-til he brought up a-cross the riv-er, in New Jer-sey, things were go-ing some-what bet-ter with the A-mer-i-can sol-diers in the north-ern part of New York.

The Brit-ish com-man-ders had laid out a plan of ac-tion in that di-rec-tion which would have brought a-bout great things for them, if they could on-ly have car-ried it out. This plan was to cut the New Eng-land States off from New York, so that the Col-o-nies, thus pre-vent-ed from giv-ing each oth-er help of an-y sort, could soon be brought to terms. To do this, the King's troops must gain en-tire con-trol of the great wa-ter way made by Lakes Cham-plain and George, and the Hud-son Riv-er. It was a bright scheme.

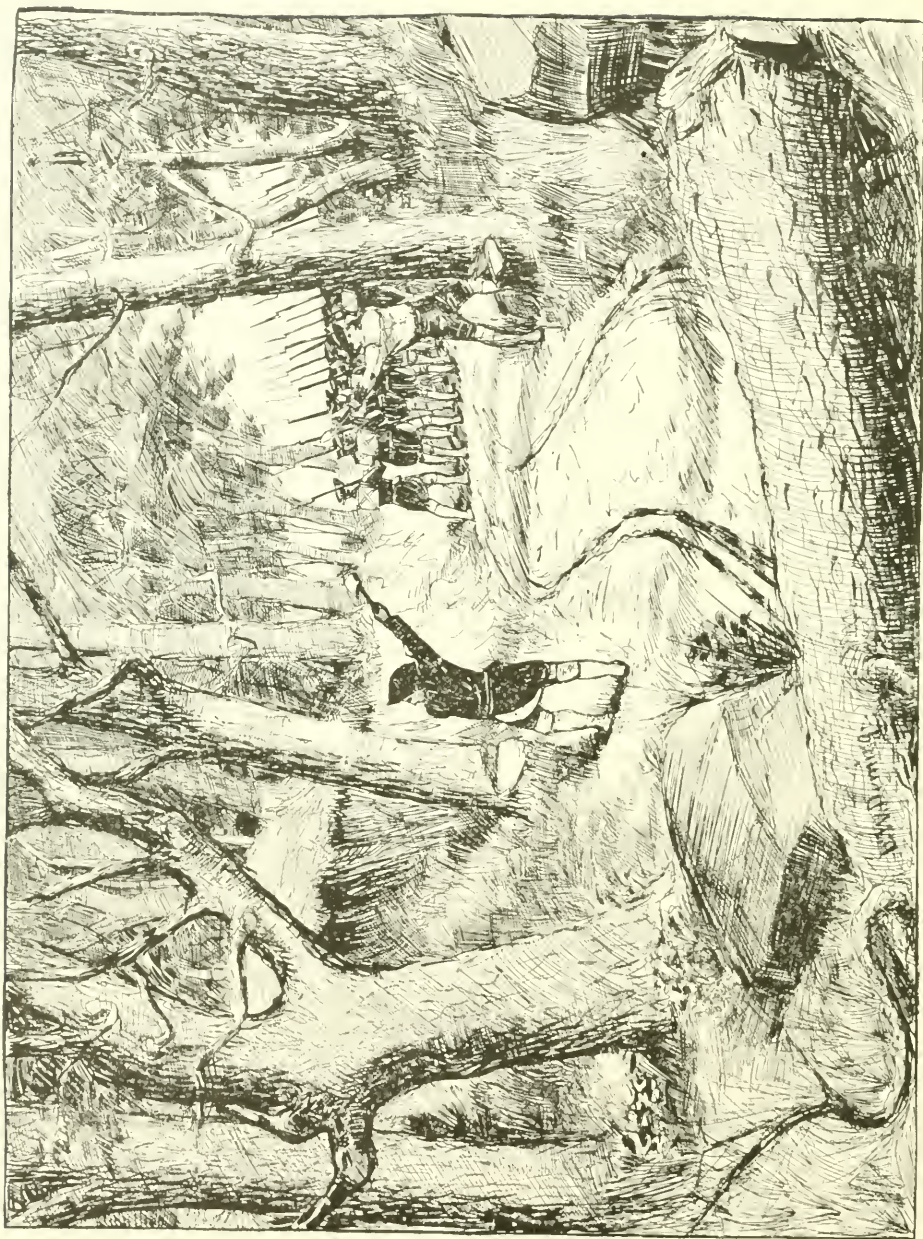


Lord Howe was to go up the Hud-son Riv-er to keep it free from such pa-tri-ot troops as might try to cross to aid the ar-my in the North. A Col-o-nel St.-Le-ger, with a large force of In-dians and To-ries (To-ries were the men of A-mer-i-ca who took part with the King a-against the col-o-nists), was to go up the St. Law-rence Riv-er, and come down in-to New York by way of the Mo-hawk Riv-er, while Gen-er-al Bur-goyne, with an ar-my of sev-en thou-sand men was to go down the Hud-son to-wards Al-ba-ny, where he was to be joined by Gen-er-al Clin-ton, with roy-al troops from New York Ci-ty.

The pa-tri-ot ar-my in the north-ern part of the State was un-der Gen-er-al Schuy-ler. He had but four thou-sand men with which to meet Bur-goyne's ar-my of Brit-ish sol-diers, Ca-na-dians, and In-dians. This was the first time in the War of the Rev-o-lution that sav-ag-es had been used as reg-u-lar troops, and the A-mer-i-cans, who knew on-ly too well what cru-el and un-ru-ly foes they were, were much in-censed at the Brit-ish for us-ing them.

At first things went so smooth-ly with Gen-er-al Bur-goyne that his troops were in the best of spir-its.

When he reached Ti-con-de-ro-ga, one of the strong forts on Lake Cham-plain, the A-mer-i-can Gen-er-al (St. Clair) left it with-out strik-ing a blow, and took his small force to in-crease Gen-er-al Schuy-

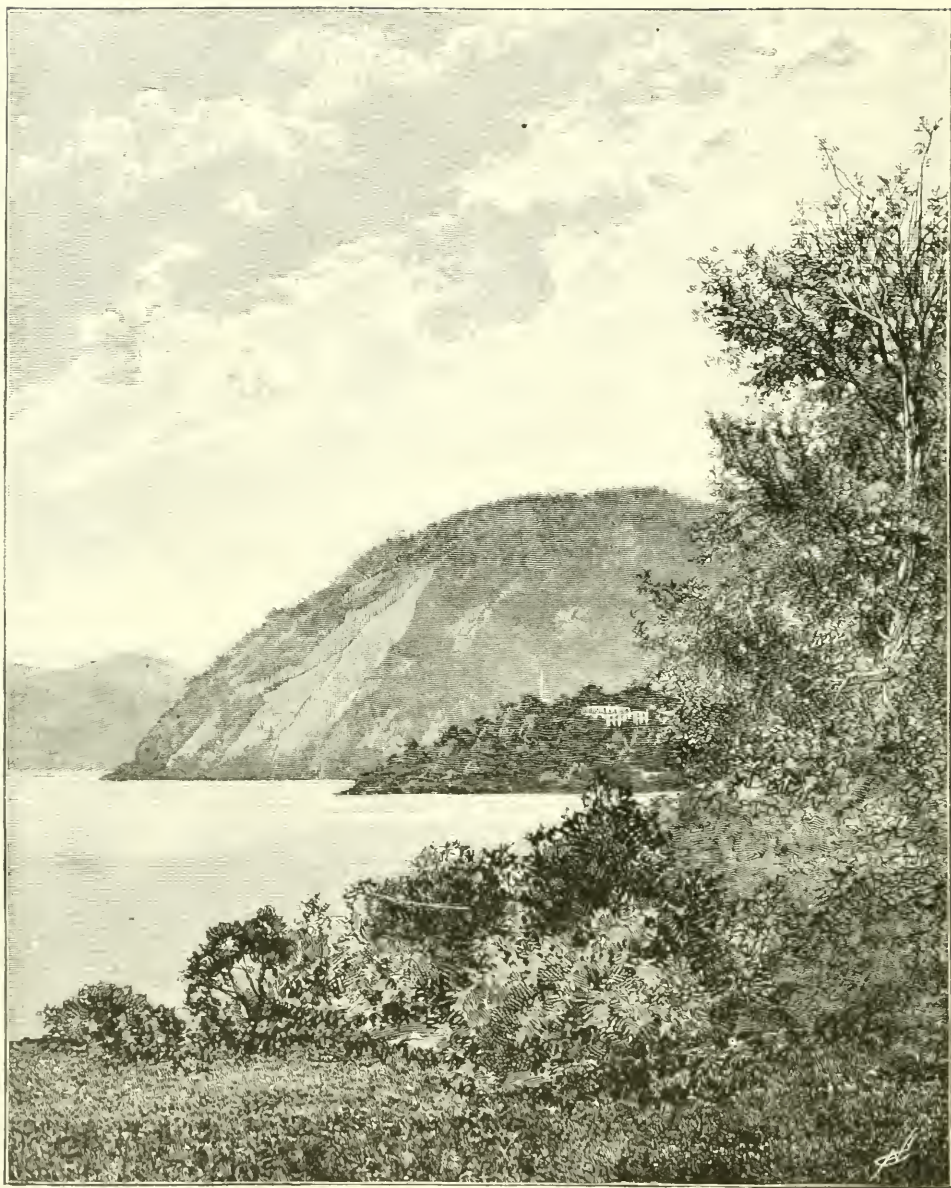


ler's small force at Fort Edward. Gen-er-al Schuyler, with his four thou-sand men, thought it most pru-dent to re-treat be-fore Bur-goyne's ar-my of ten thou-sand, but in do-ing so tried to hurt his en-e-mies as much, al-most, as if he had met them in o-pen bat-tle.

The A-mer-i-cans knew ev-er-y foot of the ground o-ver which they had to re-treat. As they went, they cut down trees, so that they should fall a-cross the road ; they set fire to bridg-es as soon as they had gone o-ver them them-selves, and af-ter hav-ing done all they could do to har-ass the foe, they took up their stand near the mouth of the Mo-hawk Riv-er, where it flows in-to the Hud-son. Here Gen-er-al Schuy-ler came to a halt to wait for fresh troops.

Bur-goyne came slow-ly on his trail. He found this a hard thing to do in view of the work Schuy-ler's men had done to ob-struct his march. The King's troops had to tramp through dense woods and deep swamps, where no food could be got for love or gold.

They had to take their sup-plies a-long with them. This march was a wear-ing one to the men ; and when Bur-goyne at last came in sight of Schuy-ler once more, he found him-self too weak to at-tack him.



He, too, came to a halt to rest his men and to look a-bout him for food, of which his ar-my be-gan to stand in sore need.

The A-mer-i-cans had some sup-plies stored at Ben-ning-ton. Bur-goyne sent some men to try to take them. They were beat-en back with great loss. They met with a still worse fate when they made a move on Fort Schuy-ler. The A-mer-i-cans held out un-til Gen-er-al Ar-nold came to their aid with fresh troops, and drove Bur-goyne's men back in a pan-ic.

These two suc-cess-es gave the pa-tri-ot troops fresh cour-age, and cheered them in more ways than one. The peo-ple of the coun-try a-round, who had been stay-ing at home in gloom-y dis-trust of them, now be-gan to flock to their aid. They be-gan to think it pos-si-ble to drive the roy-al troops back, and were read-y to take up arms in the at-tempt.

Ev-er-y man be-tween six-teen and six-ty years of age was urged to take up arms in de-fence of his home, and to help the brave troops who had made such head-way a-gainst the King's strong forc-es. They had been slow to move, those stur-dy farm-ers of the Mo-hawk Val-ley, but they made a strong force when they did move.

By this time, the Brit-ish com-mand-ers found them-selves in grave troub-le. Man-y of Gen-er-al

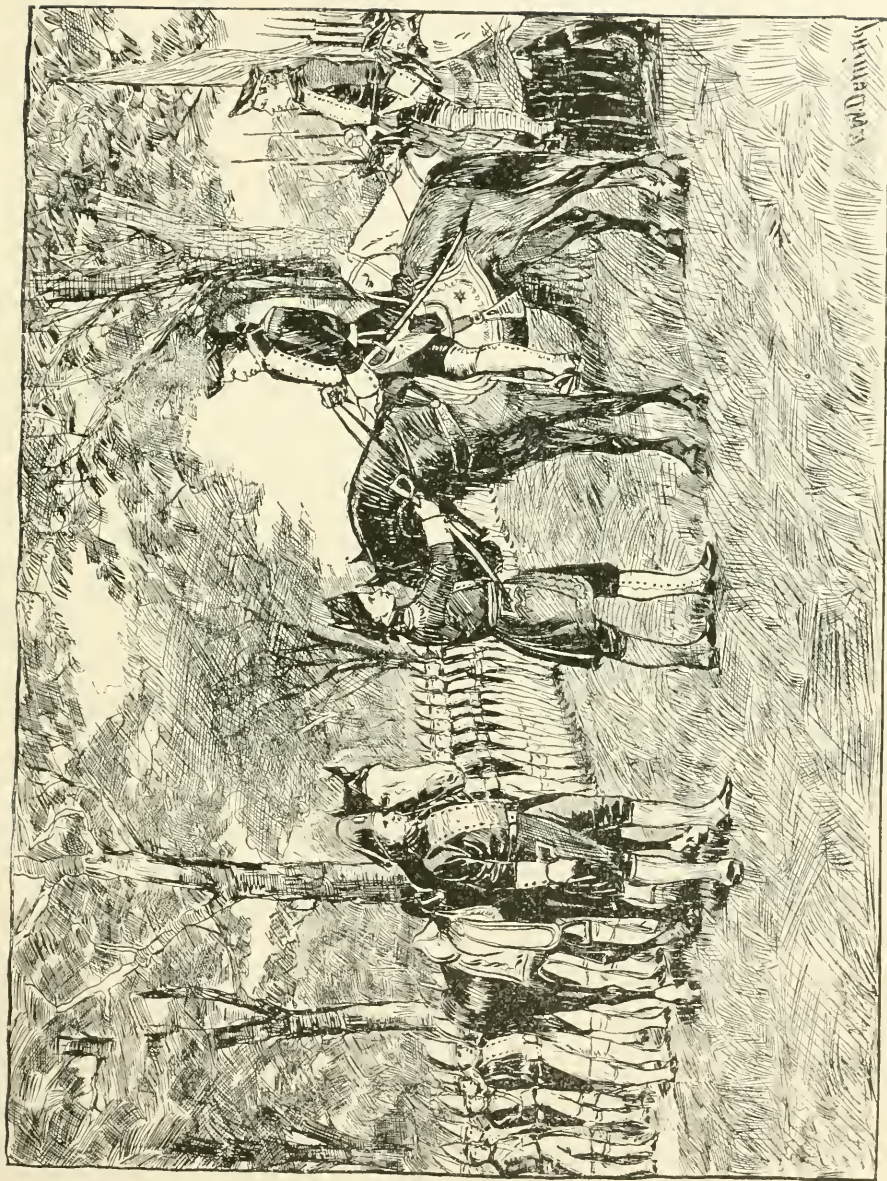
Bur-goyne's best men had been killed; his ar-my was in want of food, the In-dians not on-ly left him, but, in their sav-age rage at the bad turn af-fairs took, did as much harm to his own troops as lay in their pow-er.

Bur-goyne saw that while he was los-ing strength ev-er-y day, his foes were gain-ing it. Con-gress was send-ing troops up the Hud-son, and the ar-my op-posed to him was in-creas-ing day by day. The troops which were to have been sent from New York to his aid did not come. There was but one chance left him. If he could cross the Hud-son and force his way through the A-mer-i-can ar-my, he might yet get to New York with his worn and hun-gry men.

He crossed the Hud-son, and took his slow way a-long its west bank to-wards the plains of Sar-a-to-ga, where he pitched his camp.

A-bout this time Gen-er-al Schuy-ler was re-moved from the com-mand of the pa-tri-ot forc-es to give place to Gen-er-al Gates, who came in-to pow-er just in time to reap the glo-ry he had no just part in.

The two ar-mies came face to face at a place called Be-mis Heights, a point on the road from the Hud-son Riv-er to Sa-ra-to-ga Lake, and had a fight which no one could call a vic-to-ry. The Brit-ish held their ground, but the A-mer-i-cans showed



BUR-GOVNE'S SUR-REN-DER

them they could not force their way through, which was the one thing they wanted to do.

Bur-goyne tried it a-gain—a lit-tle south of Be-mis Heights this time. Here he was badly beat-en. He now tried to turn a-bout and go back to Can-a-da. But he was like a mouse in a trap. The A-mer-i-cans were on all sides of him. There was noth-ing left but sur-ren-der. At Sa-ra-to-go, on the 17th of Oc-to-ber, 1777, Gen-er-al Bur-goyne gave up his sword to Gen-er-al Gates, and with it his ar-m-y of six thou-sand men. Gen-er-al Gates gave his sword back to him, and made ea-sy terms for the pris-on-ers of war.

Thus end-ed the plan the Brit-ish had laid to cut the A-mer-i-can Col-o-nies in-to two parts; but these brave deeds on the soil of New York led to still great-er re-sults than de-feat-ing this plan. France, be-liev-ing that by her aid, those strug-gling Col-o-nies might yet throw off the yoke of Eng-land, re-solved to help them.

But of that I will tell you in the next chap-ter. We are not yet through with the trou-bles in New York State.

Bur-goyne's sur-ren-der did not end the war by an-y means; and New York, of all the Col-o-nies, had the most to con-tend with at that time. Her chief town was the head-quar-ters of the Brit-ish

ar-my, from which point they could keep con-trol of Long Isl-and, the Bay, and the low-er Hud-son.



WAR DANCE.

The Six Nations, who had at one time been the best

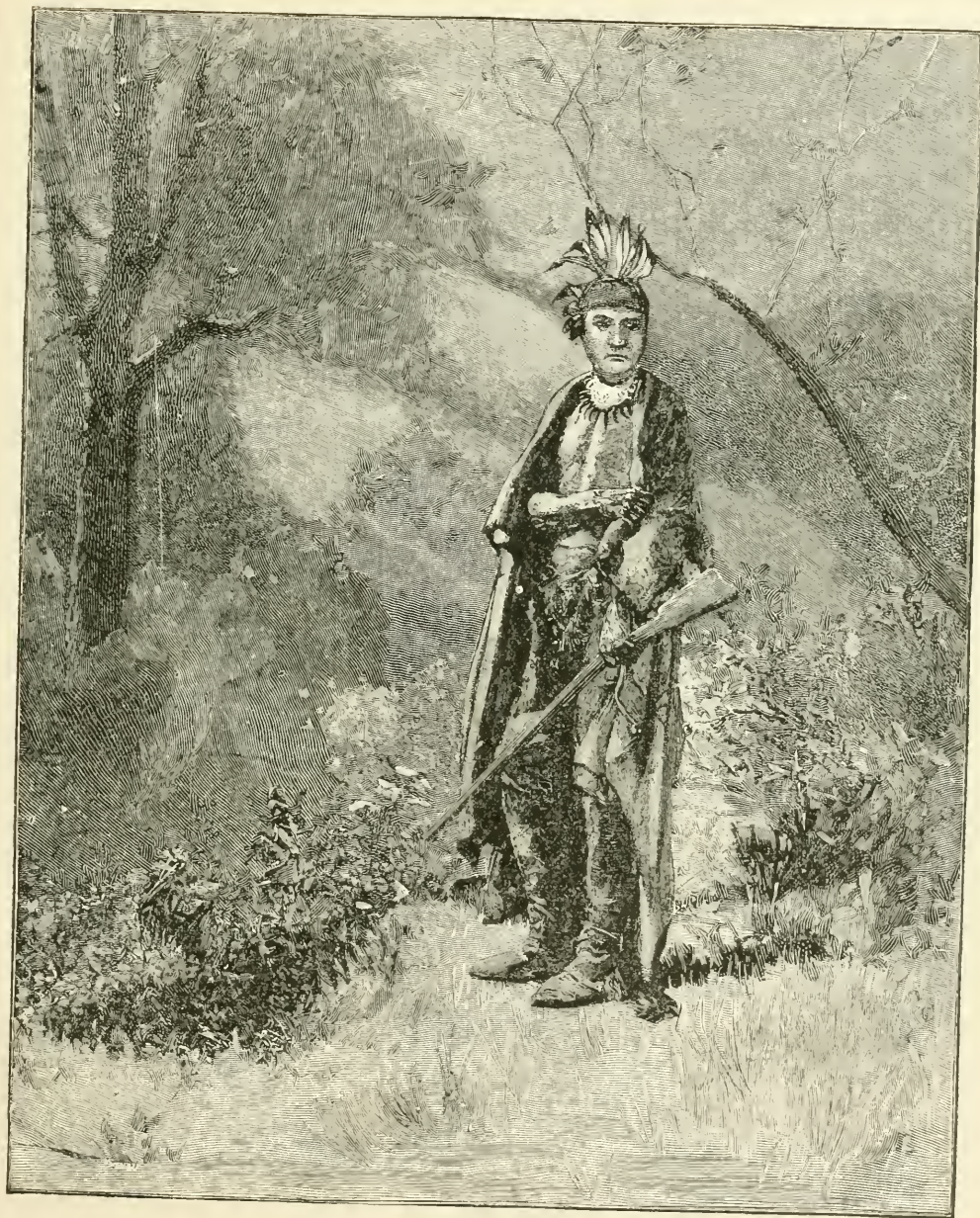
sort of friends to the 'col-o-nists, had been stirred to bit-ter ha-tred of them by Sir John John-son, a To-ry, and the Mo-hawk chief, Jo-seph Brandt. Since the Brit-ish had seen fit to use these blood-thirst-y sav-ag-es in their ar-my, it be-came need-ful that the A-mer-i-cans should strike such ter-ror in-to their hearts that they would not be so will-ing to take up arms a-gainst them at an-y fu-ture call.

At the out-set of the strife the In-dians had prom-ised to take no part in the war; but a-mong oth-er things the white men had taught them, they had learned to be greed-y of gain. You will not have for-got-ten how the ear-ly set-tlers, both Eng-lish and French, had made use of these bar-ba-rous war-riors.

After their ha-tred for the pa-tri-ots had been nursed in-to a fierce flame by the To-ries, the peo-ple in all the small out-ly-ing towns were in dan-ger of their lives at all times. The To-ries had no sense of hon-or.

Church-es, mills, barns, and hous-es were burned, and, on some oc-ca-sions, the most shock-ing deeds of blood were com-mit-ted. No one knew when or where they would strike next.

Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton sent out a force to break their pow-er. These forc-es were com-mand-ed by Gen-er-als Sul-li-van and James Clin-ton. They



JO-SEPH BRANDT.

struck tell-ing blows at the To-ries and at the Red men.

They went in-to the coun-try a-bout Sen-e-ca and Ca-yu-ga Lakes bent on the work of pun-ish-ment and de-struc-tion. They laid waste or-chards and corn-fields, set fire to whole vil-la-ges, and, wher-ever they could find a To-ry or an In-dian pun-ished them se-vere-ly.

At New-town (near El-mi-ra) they met Brandt, the Mo-hawk chief, with John-son the To-ry, who had col-lect-ed eight hun-dred In-dians and To-ries to op-pose them. The A-mer-i-cans put them to flight ea-si-ly. But they could not put to flight the spir-it of treach-er-y that lurked in the To-ry breast.

In this way all through the War of the Rev-o-lu-tion, New York had more to con-tend with from foes with-in her own bor-ders than an-y of the oth-er Col-o-nies. The pow-er-ful Red men, who had been shorn of their homes and fields, be-came lurk-ing, sneak-ing foes, who struck when-ev-er they could with-out dan-ger to them-selves, while the To-ries were all the time on the a-lert to aid the King's forc-es, e-ven when not fight-ing o-pen-ly in the ranks of the roy-al troops.

It seems odd to read that, in the midst of all these stir-ring scenes, when men's lives were at stake and their homes at the mer-cy of each day's



LURK-ING RED MEN.

e-vents, the men of New York found time to at-tend to the work of form-ing a State Gov-ern-ment.

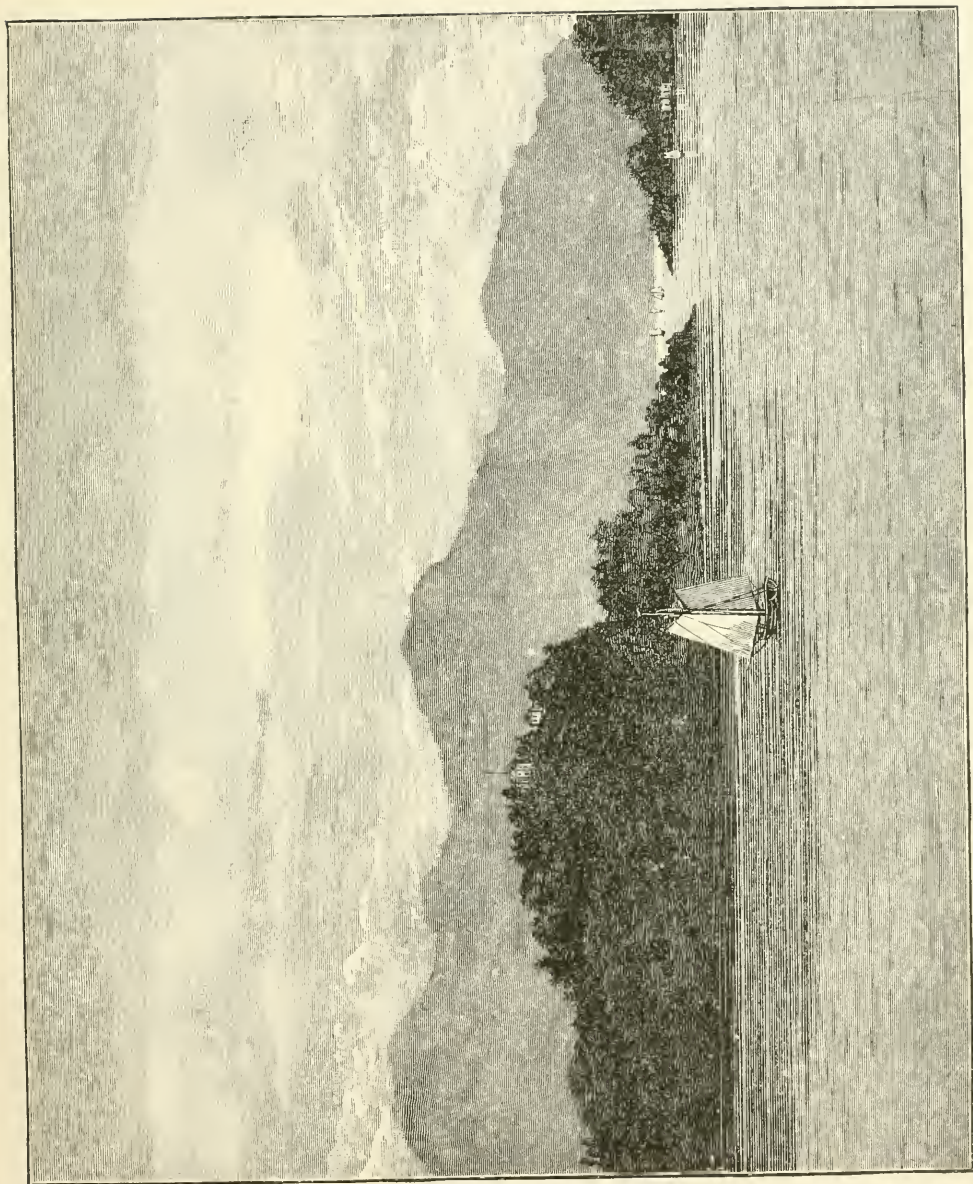
Ev-er since they had thrown off King George's yoke, they had been un-der the con-trol of the State Con-ven-tion and of the "Com-mit-tee of One Hun-dred," or "Coun-cil of Safe-ty," as some writ-ers call it. Ear-ly in the year 1777, del-e-gates e-lect-ed for the pur-pose were sent to Kings-ton to form and a-dopt a State Con-sti-tu-tion. At this con-ven-tion it was a-greed that the "free-hold-ers" of the State should have the e-lec-tion of the State's of-fi-cials. And soon af-ter this the free-hold-ers e-lect-ed George Clin-ton to the of-ice of Gov-er-nor.

Clin-ton was the first Gov-er-nor the peo-ple of New York had e-lect-ed for them-selves.

CHAPTER X.

CLOSE OF THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE.

IF I were to stop to write of all the brave deeds and the stir-ring e-vents that took place in New York State, while that fierce fight for their rights was be-ing fought by the col-o-nists, I fear we should nev-er get past those days, writ-er or read-er.



STONY POINT, ON THE HUDSON.

As it is, we must make haste to the close of this war.

The French were not sor-ry to see the col-o-nists make such strong head-way a-gainst the King's forc-es. There was no love lost be-tween France and Eng-land at that time. France had been slow to come to the aid of the A-mer-i-cans, be-cause she thought the troops she might send o-ver, would have to do all the fight-ing; and she was not sure that it would be worth her while to take an-y part in the quar-rel. The de-feat of Gen-er-al Bur-goyne made her change her views, and soon af-ter that e-vent France formed a trea-ty with the " U-nit-ed States of A-mer-i-ca." This was what Ben-jam-in Frank-lin had been try-ing to bring a-bout for two or three years. He had been sent to Par-is for that pur-pose.

By this trea-ty France a-greed to send o-ver a fleet of six-teen war ships with four thou-sand men un-der one of her own Gen-er-als—D'Es-taing. You may de-pend this was good news for the A-mer-i-cans.

One re-sult of this trea-ty was to scare Great Brit-ain in-to of-fer-ing the Col-o-nies all they had plead for in vain, three years be-fore. But it was too late now to tell them they need pay no tax-es; they were get-ting in-to po-si-tion to make their own terms.

Lord Howe had been re-moved from com-mand of the Brit-ish troops, and Sir Hen-ry Clin-ton put in his place. You know when Wash-ing-ton had re-treat-ed be-fore Howe he had gone back and back o-ver in-to New Jer-sey, then south-ward a-cross the Del-a-ware, draw-ing the foe after him.

Both ar-mies had done lit-tle dur-ing the win-ter. Howe went in-to win-ter quar-ters at Phil-a-del-phi-a, and Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton at Val-ley Forge, where he could keep his eye on him.

The news of the trea-ty with France sent Sir Hen-ry Clin-ton back to-wards New York Ci-ty in a great fright. He was bent on get-ting the roy-al forc-es safe in that strong-hold be-fore the French fleet should sail up the bay and cut him off.

Wash-ing-ton broke up his win-ter camp and moved north-ward at the same time. He, too, thought the French fleet would sail straight for New York Ci-ty, and his plan was to keep Clin-ton fight-ing in New Jer-sey un-til the French could cut him off from New York.

In this he did not suc-ceed. Clin-ton was soon once more snug-ly fixed in the ci-ty, where his men were quar-tered in the homes of the col-o-nists, who were shut out from them un-til peace came a-gain.

Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton moved up the riv-er and took up his old stand at Peek-kill. From there he

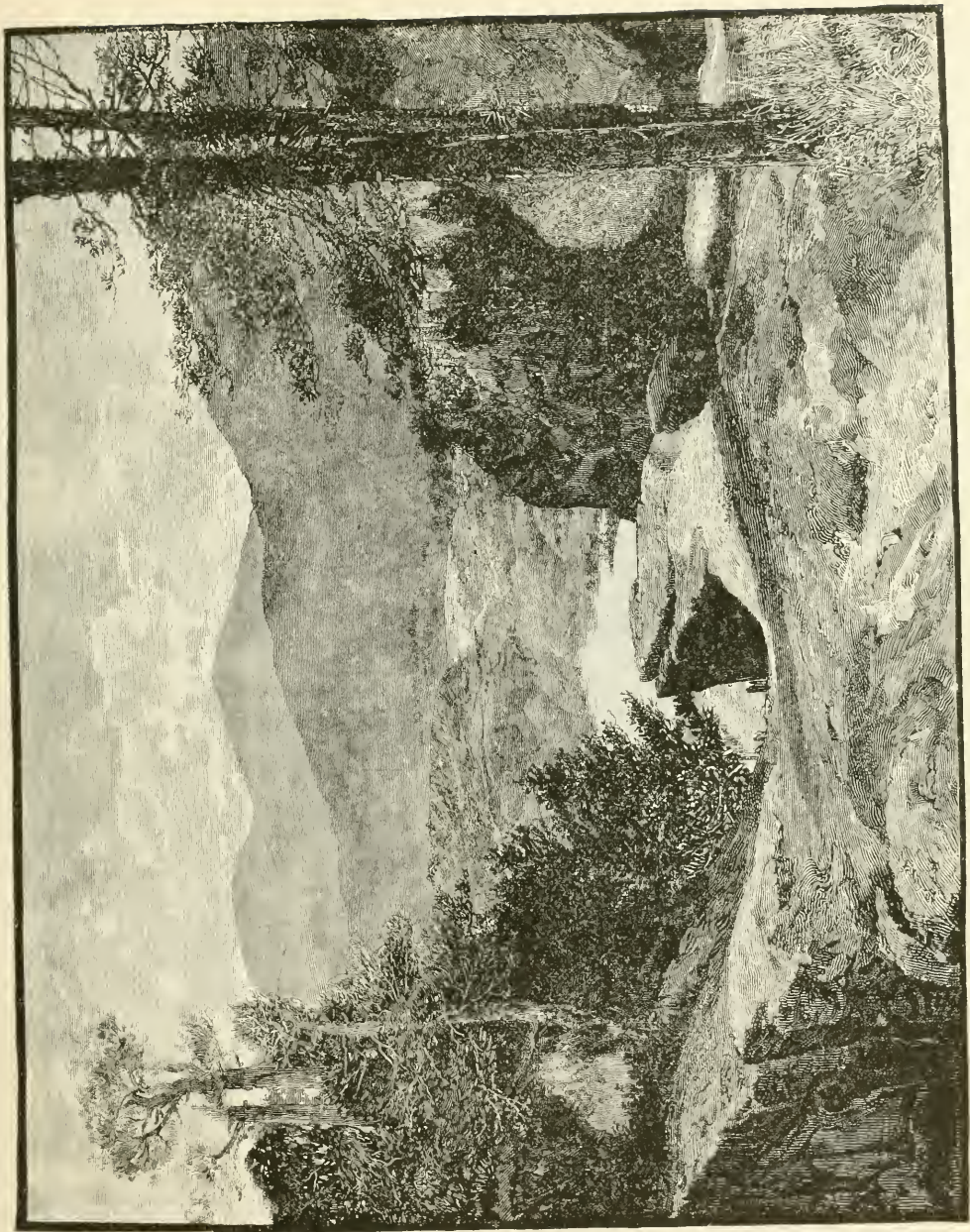
could watch Clin-ton and keep him shut up in the ci-ty, while he sent troop af-ter troop off to help on the war in the South, where the most of the fight-ing was done to-wards the close.

In point of fact, ver-y lit-tle fight-ing was done in New York af-ter Bur-goyne's sur-ren-der. The Brit-ish seemed to hope more from car-ry-ing the war in-to the South. They did not yet re-al-ize that one spir-it nerved ev-er-y A-mer-i-can arm, North, South, and East.

When the French fleet did fi-nal-ly reach the bay, it was found that her big men-of-war could not get in-to the har-bor; so it sailed a-way, with a view to take New-port from the Brit-ish. A storm drove them off that coast, so they turned a-bout and sailed for the West In-dies to look af-ter the French pos-ses-sions there.

Dur-ing the year 1780 the A-mer-i-cans came ver-y near be-ing bad-ly hurt through the wick-ed treach-er-y of a man who had been one of her brav-est and most trust-ed of-fi-cers. Gen-er-al Ar-nold, who, you will rec-ol-lect, had fought so well at Que-bec, and a-gain, when Bur-goyne was try-ing to take Fort Schuy-ler had done good work in the A-mer-i-can cause.

Gen-er-al Ar-nold had asked to be put in com-mand at West Point, one of the most im-por-tant



THE HUD-SON RIV-ER FROM WEST POINT.

posts the A-mer-i-cans held, as it com-mand-ed the Hud-son Riv-er.

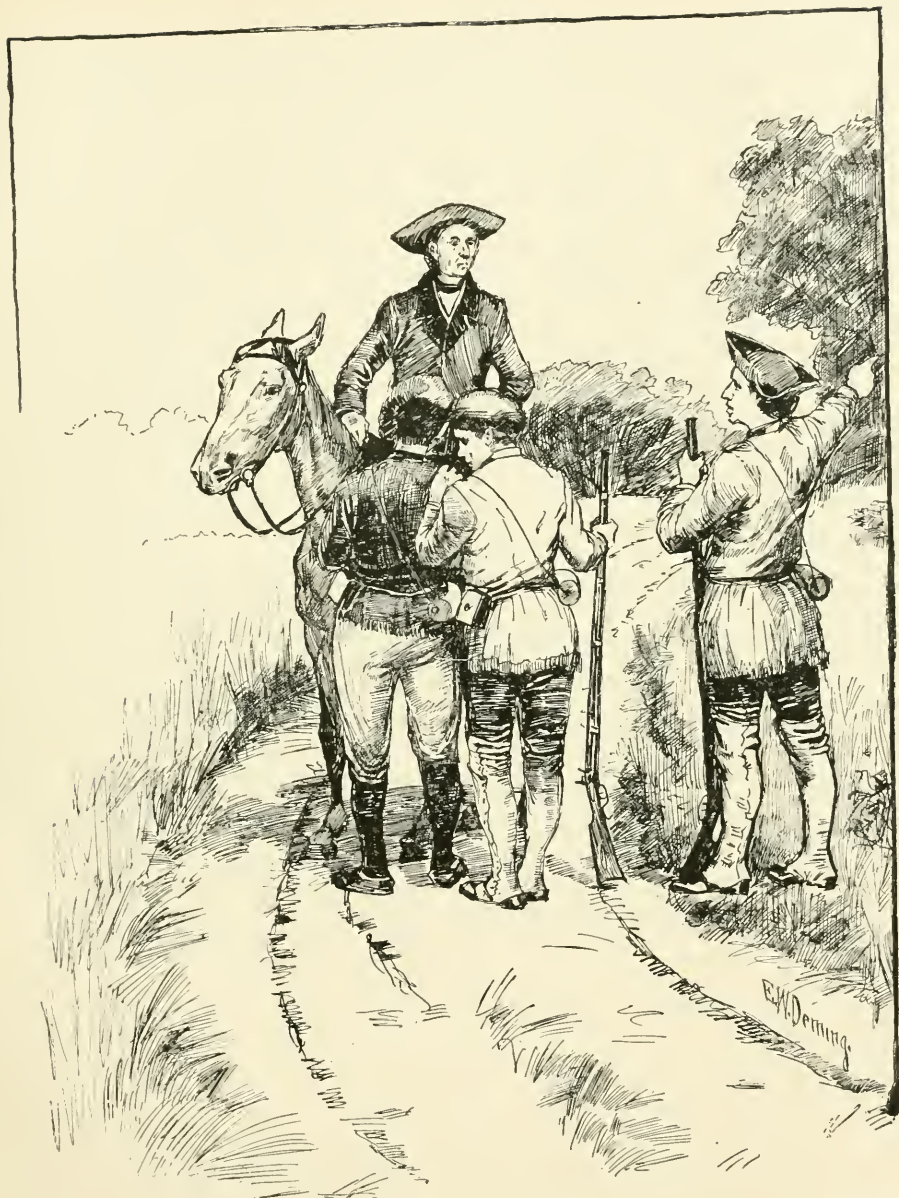
No soon-er was the con-trol of this post giv-en to him, than he be-gan to plot with the Brit-ish for its de-liv-er-y to them. In or-der to car-ry on a cor-re-spon-dence with him for this pur-pose, the Brit-ish sent a ship called the "Vult-ure" up the Hud-son, as near to West Point as she dared go.

On the night of Sep-tem-ber 21st, Ar-nold was to meet the a-gent of the Brit-ish at the beach, to com-plete his act of treach-er-y.

The Brit-ish sent a splen-did young of-fi-cer named An-dre on this dan-ger-ous er-rand. He and Ar-nold stayed so long ar-rang-ing mat-ters that night, that he did not dare go back to the "Vult-ure," but lay hid-den with-in the A-mer-i-can lines all the next day. Dur-ing the day some-thing fright-ened the "Vult-ure" from her po-si-tion in the riv-er, and there was no way left for Ma-jor An-dre to get back to the ci-ty of New York, but by land.

Ar-nold gave him a pass; and he, call-ing him-self An-der-son, start-ed for New York by land, bear-ing hid on his per-son the pa-pers which were to give the fort of West Point in-to Sir Hen-ry Clin-ton's hands.

At Tar-ry-town, thir-ty miles from New York, three A-mer-i-can sol-diers, by name John Pauld-ing,



CAP-TURE OF AN-DRÉ.

Da-vid Wil-liams, and I-saac Van Wart met him, and asked for his pass. He gave it and they let him pass on.

We can well im-ag-ine how the poor fel-low's heart must have leaped for joy when they gave him back his pass, and told him he could go on his way. And we can al-so well im-ag-ine how it must have sunk with-in him when the men called him back, and be-gan to ask him some more ques-tions. He asked them where they were from; and when they said "from be-low," he, think-ing they meant New York, and that, af-ter all they were his friends, said: "So am I."

They took him in charge at once. When Andre saw that he had made a mis-take he told them that he was a Brit-ish of-fi-cer, and tried to bribe them with his watch and some gold to let him go on his way; but poor as they were, they did not care as much for his gold and his watch, as they did for their own good names and the safe-ty of A-mer-i-ca. They pro-ceed-ed to search him.

In his boots they found the pa-pers in which Ben-e-dict Ar-nold had giv-en mi-nute di-rec-tions to the Brit-ish for tak-ing West Point. They took him to the of-fi-cer in com-mand of the A-mer-i-can out-posts, where the ill-fat-ed young man was put un-der ar-rest as a spy.

Ar-nold got wind of his ar-rest in time to es-cape to the Brit-ish on board the "Vult-ure." The A-mer-i-cans would have glad-ly ex-changed An-dre's per-son for that of Ar-nold the trai-tor, who had gone



AR-NOLD'S ES-CAPE TO THE "VULT-URE."

to the en-e-my, but this the Brit-ish would not hear to. An-dre was hung for a spy.

Ar-nold served out the rest of the war in the Brit-ish ar-my, while years af-ter the three sol-diers

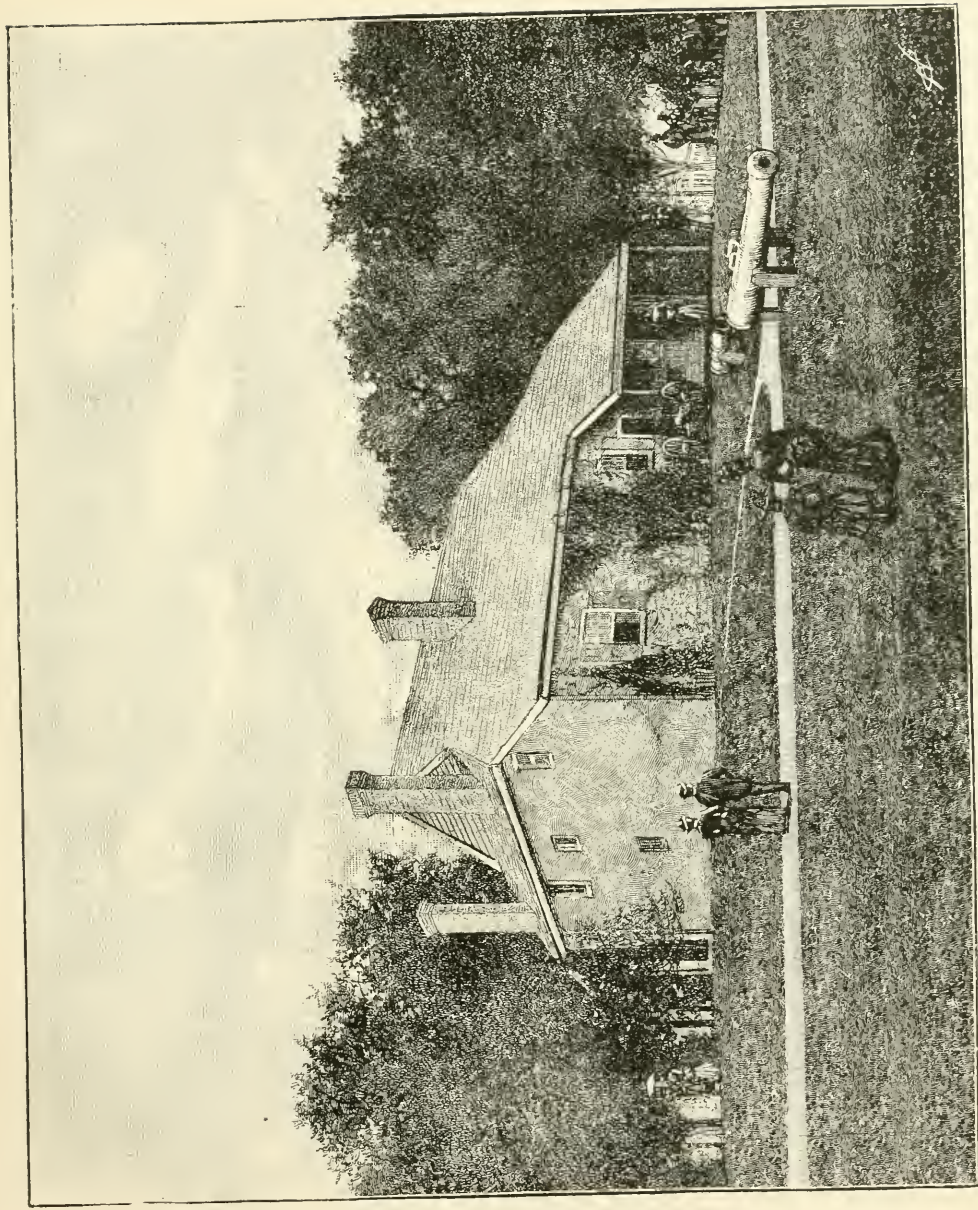
who had saved A-mer-i-ca from the ter-ri-ble blow planned be-tween Ar-nold and An-dre were hon-ored by a hand-some mon-u-ment, which you may see at an-y time by driv-ing a lit-tle way out of the pret-ty town of Tar-ry-town.

The scope of this book does not take in the stir-ring times that came with the close of the war in the South. It was at York-town, in the State of Vir-gin-ia, that the fi-nal blow was struck at the King's forc-es.

Wash-ing-ton, ear-ly in 1781, be-gan a se-ries of moves a-round New York, which threw Sir Hen-ry Clin-ton in-to a great fright, think-ing he was to be at-tacked; but on learn-ing that fresh troops had come from France, and would soon en-ter the Ches-a-peake Bay, Gen-er-al Wash-ing-ton changed his plans, and at once went South to at-tend to af-fairs in per-son. He had been gone some days, be-fore Clin-ton (look-ing hour-ly for the at-tack on New York Ci-ty), knew an-y-thing a-bout it.

Lord Corn-wal-lis was in com-mand of the Brit-ish ar-m-y in the South. He found him-self sur-round-ed by the French and A-mer-i-can troops. He was cut off from all hope of help from Clin-ton, in New York; so af-ter three weeks of siege and of hard fight-ing he gave up the strug-gle as hope-less.

Oc-to-ber 19, 1781, Lord Corn-wal-lis sur-ren-



WASHINGTON'S HEAD-QUARTERS AT NEW-BURGH.

dered his ar-my in an old field near York-town, which act real-ly end-ed the war.

By this time the Eng-lish Gov-ern-ment be-gan to think of mak-ing terms of peace with the sub-jects she had driv-en from her by harsh-ness, al-though King George was for fight-ing on.

To bring them to this point, the A-mer-i-cans had for eight years en-dured a war which laid waste their lands, thinned their num-bers, and brought their com-merce to a stand still.

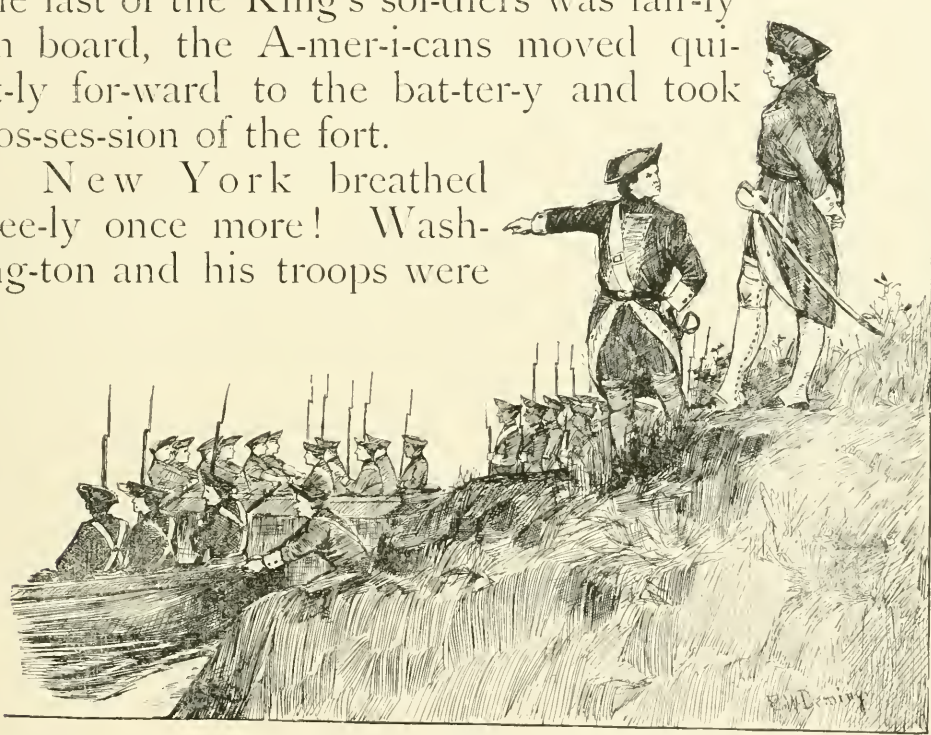
Ar-ti-cles of peace were signed be-tween the two coun-tries, by men sent to Par-is for that pur-pose, on the 30th of No-vem-ber, 1782 ; but it was not un-til No-vem-ber 25, 1783, that the men of New York had the great joy of see-ing the Brit-ish troops, which had all been drawn in-to New York Ci-ty, Long Isl-land, and Stat-en Isl-land, go on board their ships and set sail for their homes.

Im-me-di-ate-ly af-ter the sur-ren-der of Corn-wal-lis, the Eng-lish, al-ways will-ing to blame some-bod-y for their bad luck, re-called Sir Hen-ry Clin-ton and put in his place Sir Guy Carle-ton. Sir Guy Carle-ton was a much bet-ter man than Clin-ton, and for the short time left be-fore the sign-ing of the trea-ty of peace the peo-ple of New York Ci-ty were far more kind-ly dealt with.

Carle-ton had ver-y lit-tle to do but to find ways

and means of send-ing home twelve thou-sand of King George's bad-ly beat-en troops. He asked that the A-mer-i-can troops should guard the rear of his ar-my while he was em-bark-ing it. As soon as the last of the King's sol-diers was fair-ly on board, the A-mer-i-cans moved quiet-ly for-ward to the bat-ter-y and took pos-ses-sion of the fort.

New York breathed free-ly once more! Wash-ington and his troops were



THE E-VAC-U-A-TION.

wel-comed in-to the ci-ty with loud cries of joy. Church-es were re-o-pened. Men came a-gain to live in peace in the homes the foe had so long kept them out of. The stars and stripes were flung to

the breeze from the tall staff on the City Hall, and fresh life ran through ev-er-y man's veins.

A-mer-i-ca was free !

CHAPTER XI.

PEACE AND GROWTH.

ALEX-AN-DER HAM-IL-TON, of New York, one of the wise and good men to whom this coun-try owes so much of its early strength, once said : " A nation with-out a na-tion-al gov-ern-ment is an aw-ful spec-ta-cle."

That is just what the U-nit-ed States was, at the close of the war for in-de-pen-dence ; a brand-new na-tion that had thrown off an old yoke, and had no new yoke read-y to try on.

Con-gress had been look-ing af-ter the in-ter-ests of the Col-o-nies while they were bus-y fight-ing. No one had ev-er giv-en this right to Con-gress. Some one had to do for the time what the King's of-fi-cers had been in the hab-it of do-ing ; and no doubt the pub-lic af-fairs of the coun-try were pret-ty well or-dered, all things ta-ken in-to ac-count.

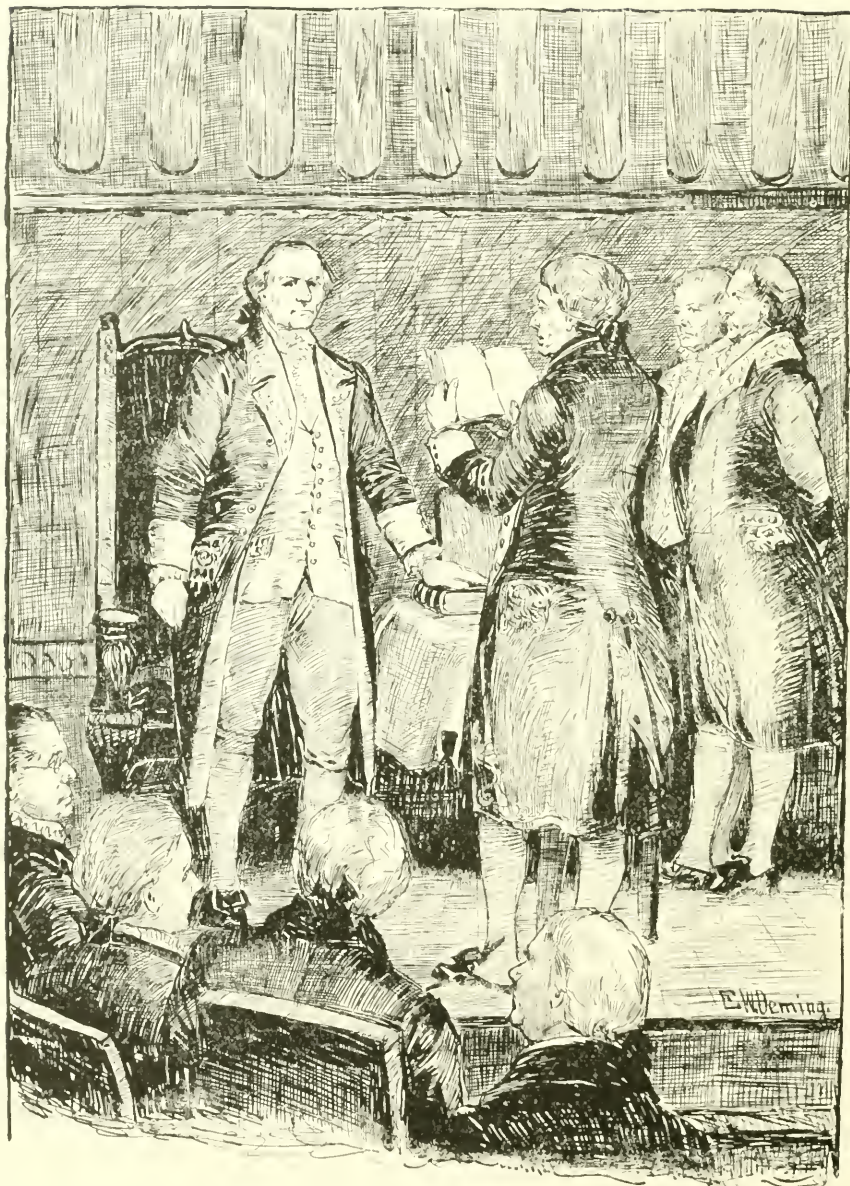
The State of-fi-cers had strong-er hold up-on their of-fi-ces. The peo-ple of each State had put its pri-

vate af-fairs in-to the hands of men cho-sen for their good names. But Con-gress was an-oth-er thing. They o-beyed its or-ders on-ly when they saw fit.

Of course things could not go on in this way un-less the new States were will-ing to see their public af-fairs get in-to a worse snarl than they had been when King George was at the head of them.

So long as the fear of a com-mon foe kept them bound to-ge-th-er, and they had no time for squab-bles o-ver land or debts or small lo-cal ques-tions, this some-what loose form of gov-ern-ment had not been so bad. But the time had come when the States must have some set of laws which all must o-bey a-like, and there must be some one to make them o-bey. We, who live to-day un-der the Con-sti-tu-tion which has been the ac-cept-ed and hon-ored law of the land for near one hun-dred years, can nev-er do full jus-tice to the wise men who framed it, nor ev-er know what it cost them, to think out a set of rules which would meet all the wants of all the new States and give of-fence to none.

The Con-sti-tu-tion could on-ly be-come the law of the land by the con-sent of the States. New York was one of the States which held out a-gainst it at first. Some of the States were a-fraid the new Gov-ern-ment would want too much pow-er in its own hands; but one af-ter an-oth-er they "rat-i-fied,"



as it was called, and in 1791 the Con-stitution was a-dopt-ed.

George Wash-ing-ton was e-lect-ed the first Pres-i-dent, and New York Ci-ty was cho-sen as the seat of the new Gov-ern-ment. The Pres-i-dent was sworn in-to of-fice in a house on Wall Street, called Fed-er-al Hall.

In no State of the new Un-ion was peace more sore-ly need-ed, or more glad-ly wel-come than in New York.

Some writ-ers claim that in the Mo-hawk Val-ley a-lone, one third of the men had lost their lives in the war; one third had fled, or been driv-en off, so that but one third was left to do the work of re-build-ing. Some say there were but one or two house-holds left in some of the town-ships. Man-y of the new set-tle-ments had been wiped out; but with the same force of will and pluck that had just car-ried them in tri-umph through a long and cost-ly war, they set a-bout the task of build-ing their homes a-gain, and mak-ing good their loss-es.

Those To-ries who had not fled when their Brit-ish friends left the coun-try, had rath-er a hard time of it at first. The priv-i-lege of vot-ing with the pa-tri-ots was ta-ken from them at first, but giv-en back la-ter on. The more hot head-ed-a-mong the cit-i-zens were for driv-ing them out



of the State al-to-geth-er. But cool-er coun-sel pre-
vailed.

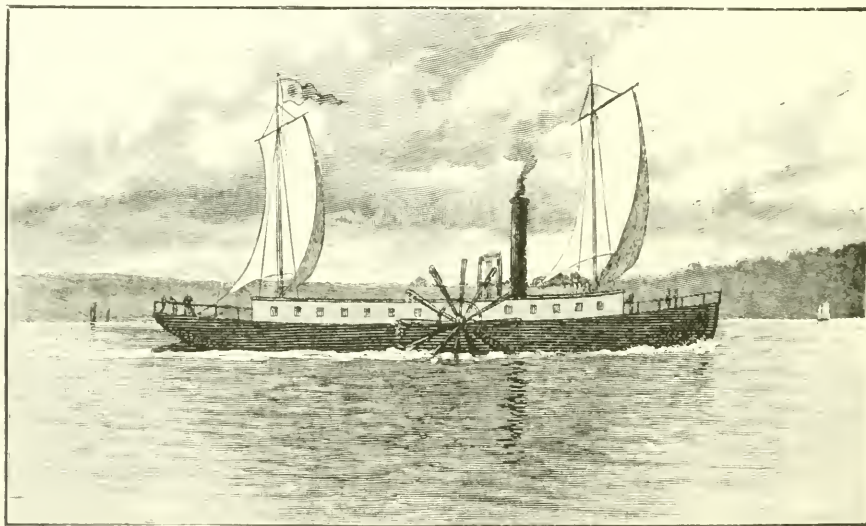
New York was the fifth State in pop-u-la-tion at this time. The pop-u-la-tion of the whole State was 233,896. Vir-gin-ia had more than twice that number, while Penn-syl-va-ni-a, North Car-o-li-na, and Mass-a-chu-setts all had more than that; but owing to the nat-ur-al claims of the State, and to the wise course fol-lowed by her lead-ing men, she soon sprung to the first rank, and has kept it ev-er since.

With a view to re-plac-ing the men she had lost in the eight years' war, New York passed a law in 1791 which led to a great waste of her rich lands. The "Com-mis-sion-ers" (men who had pow-er to sell the State lands) were giv-en per-mis-sion to sell them for just what they could get. In this way vast tracts of the best lands in the State were sold for eight pence an a-cre.

The mid-dle and west-ern parts of the State re-ceived the great-est rush of new set-tlers. Up to that time set-tlers had clung close to the coast. The whole State of New York be-yond Sche-nec-ta-dy still fur-nished good hunt-ing for the sav-ag-es. The fur trade, which since the days of Hen-ry Hud-son had been of great val-ue to the State of New York, was car-ried on in a new way af-ter the war, the furs be-ing packed like oth-er sorts of freight, and ta-ken

to Buf-fa-lo, where the Brit-ish, in spite of the trea-ty of peace, bought them. This drew one great source of wealth a-way from Al-ba-ny, and forced her people to turn to oth-er ways of mak-ing mon-ey. Al-ba-ny soon built up a great trade in grain.

State roads were cut, and be-fore man-y more years there was a reg-u-lar post road from Al-ba-ny



FUL-TON'S STEAM-BOAT.

to New York. But trav-el on the best of these State roads was slow and tire-some. The coach-es were heav-y, and it took per-haps as man-y days then, as it does hours now, to go ei-ther to Phil-a-del-phia or to Bos-ton from New York.

It was not much bet-ter on the wa-ter. There

were no great steam-ships in those days to whisk people a-cross the seas in eight or ten days. On the coasts there were only slow sail-boats, which were at the mercy of every wind that blew. On the rivers there were ugly flat-boats, and few bridges. It was not until the year 1807, when Robert Fulton's great discovery of the fact that steam could be made use of to turn the wheels of a boat, that matters in this respect changed much.

This first steam-boat was called the "Clermont," and it took her thirty-two hours to make the trip of one hundred and fifty miles, from New York to Albany. This queer little craft, however, gave the settlers on river banks advantages they had never thought of possessing, and in that way helped to fill up the country.

England, you will remember, had not wanted her Colonies to manufacture their own goods. She had done all that she could, in fact, to keep them from it. But now home industry of all sorts was encouraged and fostered by the Government of the United States. New York took the lead in this activity. Iron was worked into shape from the ore found in the State; linen and cotton looms were set a-whirling; paper mills were put up; glass was made; in short, anybody who

could get mon-ey or con-trol la-bor, put it in-to some sort of fac-to-ry.

More schools and col-leg-es were add-ed to the list of those start-ed by the Dutch and Eng-lish in co-lo-ni-al days. One of Gov-er-nor Clin-ton's first acts was to lay a school tax on the peo-ple. A-mong oth-er ways of rais-ing mon-ey for these schools, we read that a lot-ter-y was start-ed, to raise \$100,000 for the pur-pose.

There were not so man-y news-pa-pers in those days. But those that did ex-ist were well got-ten up, and bet-ter read than now. A-mong the New York pa-pers was one called the *Ad-ver-tis-er*, ed-it-ed by No-ah Web-ster, the man who got up the big dic-tion-a-ry.

Of course, the com-merce of the State had been the first thing to suf-fer from the war. It sprung now in-to more vig-or-ous life than ev-er. So fast did it grow, that we are told six hun-dred and eigh-ty-three for-eign ships, and one thou-sand three hun-dred and eigh-ty-one coast-ing ves-sels came in-to the port of New York in the year 1793.

One old troub-le came to the front as soon as men had time to turn their thoughts to it. It was the ques-tion of bound-a-ry lines. The King had fixed the west-ern bound-a-ry to six of the Col-o-nies, but New York was not one of the six. When the

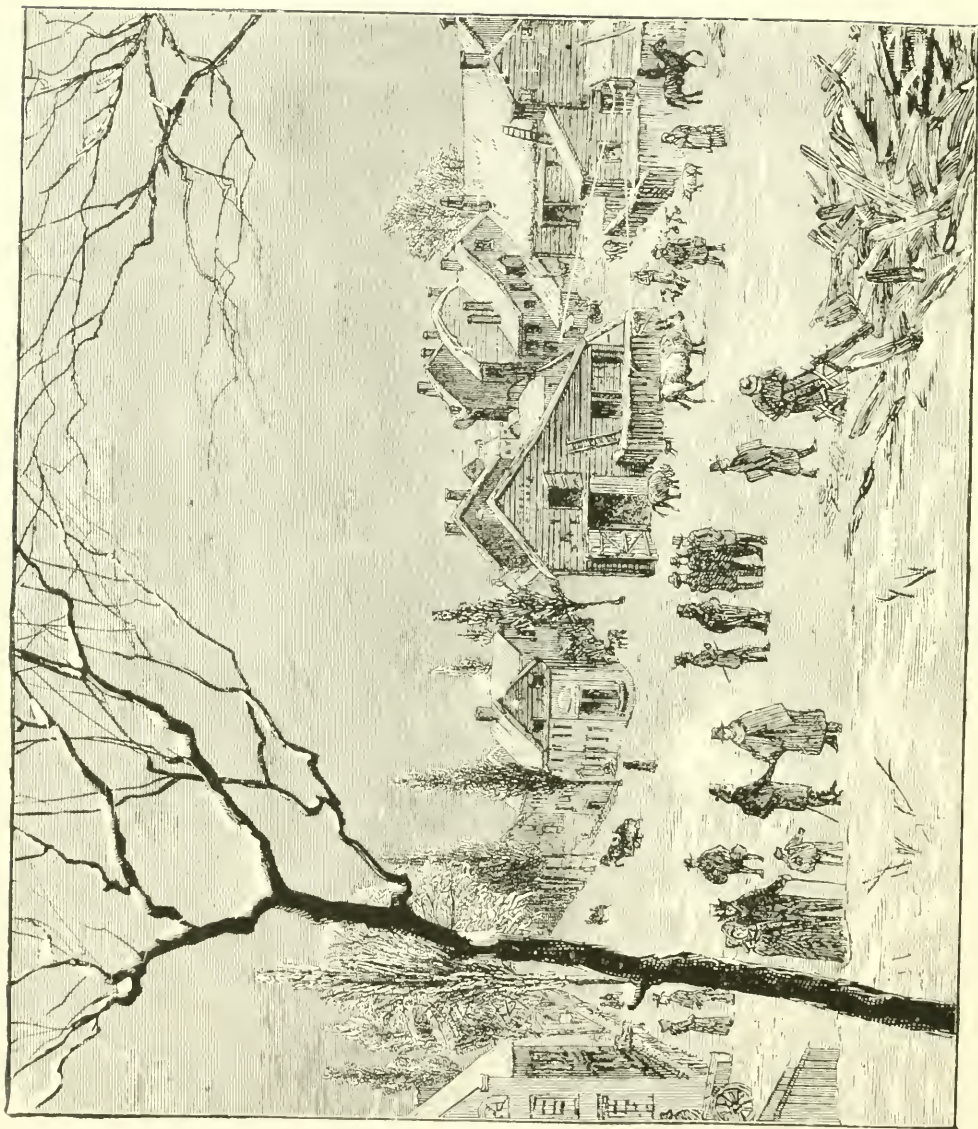
call for Gov-ern-ment lands was made on the va-ri-ous States, New York gave up her west-ern claims to the U-nit-ed States, and Con-gress urged the oth-er States to fol-low her good ex-am-ple. But the dis-pute a-bout her east-ern bound-a-ry still went on. This troub-le was at last closed by an act of leg-is-la-ture, which formed the land in dis-pute in-to a sep-a-rate State, by the name of Ver-mont.

By this a-gree-ment, Ver-mont, on the pay-ment of \$30,000 to the State of New York was freed for-ever from her con-trol. The new State was re-cog-nized by Con-gress, and ta-ken in-to the sis-ter-hood of States in 1791.

New York was the seat of Gov-ern-ment un-til 1790, when Phil-a-del-phi-a was cho-sen as the cap-i-tal of the na-tion for ten years. From there it was moved to Wash-ing-ton Ci-ty, where it has ev-er since re-mained.

New York's first Gov-er-nor (Clin-ton) held of-fice for eigh-teen years. In that time the State's peace-ful growth was sure and stead-y. It was in Gov-er-nor Lew-is's time that an act was passed look-ing to the im-prove-ment of the in-land trav-el.

It was thought that to join the wa-ters of the Hud-son Riv-er with those of the great lakes by a ca-nal would be the best way to de-vel-op the wealth



of the State. It was a great i-de-a, but it was al-so a great task.

Hav-ing tried in vain to get the Gov-ern-ment to take the work in hand, the State re-solved to build this huge ca-nal with her own funds and for her own use. But be-fore it could be be-gun fresh trou-ble with Great Brit-ain came to swal-low up all oth-er in-ter-ests.

This ca-nal, the E-rie Ca-nal, was fi-nal-ly built at an im-mense cost, but New York reaped still great-er ben-e-fits from it. It was be-gun by Act of Leg-is-la-ture in 1817, and fin-ish-ed in 1825 with great re-joic-ings. It is three hun-dred and six-ty-three miles long.

Some writ-ers date New York's great-ness from the o-pen-ing of the E-rie Ca-nal.

CHAPTER XII.

THE WAR OF 1812.

As we look back to it now, it does seem as if the sec-ond war that A-mei-i-ca had with Great Brit-ain was a war which might just as well as not been ward-ed off for all the gain this coun-try got from it. Though grow-ing ver-y fast, the States

were as yet like weak chil-dren be-side such na-tions as the French and Brit-ish, out of whose quar-rel this war grew.

The war be-tween Great Brit-ain and France had been go-ing on for quite a while when Great Brit-ain passed an act which touched A-mer-i-ca's trade ver-y close-ly.

This act for-bade an-y ship sail-ing in-to French ports to trade with that coun-try, on fear of be-ing seized by the Brit-ish men-of-war. France said two could play at that game, so she for-bade an-y ship to sail in-to Brit-ish ports on fear of be-ing seized by French men-of-war, which was a blow at A-mer-i-can com-merce.

This long stand-ing feud be-tween France and Eng-land had at first been a help to A-mer-i-can com-merce. It had thrown the car-ry-ing of stuff from one for-eign port to an-oth-er in-to the hands of A-mer-i-can ship-own-ers.

More ships and more men were need-ed as this trade on the high seas grew larg-er and larg-er. A-mer-i-can cap-tains did not ob-ject to tak-ing desert-ers from the Brit-ish na-vy to make up their crews.

Out of this grew the "right of search" which was one of the chief caus-es of the fi-nal break be-tween the two coun-tries. The right of search gave Brit-

ish of-fi-cers the right to search A-mer-i-can ships for men who had run a-way from their own. Of course such a right as this put in-to the hands of men who did not care ver-y much for the feel-ings of the ship's cap-tain or crew gave rise to no end of mis-chief and mis-takes.

The Brit-ish of-fi-cers as of-ten as not would take A-mer-i-cans and force them in-to ser-vice in the Eng-lish na-vy. Some claim that be-fore the war end-ed thou-sands of A-mer-i-can-born sail-ors were thus treat-ed. Out of this right of search a fight sprung be-tween the Brit-ish ship "Leop-ard" and the A-mer-i-can ship "Ches-a-peake," which add-ed fu-el to the flames.

A-mer-i-ca met the em-bar-go laid by France and Great Brit-ain by say-ing that no ships should leave her own ports on this side, which was a sore tri-al to the mer-chant ships thus forced to lay a-side their work and their mon-ey mak-ing.

On the 18th of June, 1812, the bit-ter feel-ing a-gainst Great Brit-ain which had grown out of all this reached the point of an o-pen dec-la-ration of war. The A-mer-i-cans charged up man-y wrongs a-gainst their old en-e-my.

At this time the coun-try was in no way read-y for a con-test with a great na-val pow-er. The Brit-ish na-vy claimed one thou-sand ships, while

(John-ston says), "the A-mer-i-can na-vy num-bered twelve, none of them of a large size, with a number of cheap, small, and use-less ves-sels called gun-boats."

The em-bar-go act, by which all ships had been for-bid-den to leave A-mer-i-can ports, had dealt a hard blow at New York, which, by right of her im-por-tance and po-si-tion, was doomed to get the full force of ev-er-y blow struck at the grow-ing States. Noth-ing would have been eas-i-er for New York ship-pers than to slip out to sea by way of Lake Cham-plain and the St. Law-rence Riv-er; but no at-tempt to e-vade the law, hurt-ful and un-wise as it seemed to be, was made by them.

A few of the states-men of New York were in fa-vor of this act. They said it hurt Great Brit-ain quite as much as it did A-mer-i-ca, and that as long as the ports were all closed it would ward off the war for which the coun-try was not read-y, and from which, when it did come, New York would suf-fer more than an-y oth-er State.

The "war par-ty," how-ev-er, car-ried the day; and when the call for troops and for ships was made, New York was be-hind none of the States in do-ing her part.

(I spoke of the "war par-ty" just now. Ev-er since New York had been a State, pol-i-tics had

run high. Her chief men were men who read and thought and act-ed, and no end of "views" of all sorts, a-bout how the new gov-ern-ment was to be made to work well, of course came up. It would on-ly con-fuse you to try to tell you much a-bout these par-ties. The two most prom-i-nent ones were the Fed-er-al par-ty and the Re-pub-li-can par-ty. The Fed-er-als want-ed the Gov-ern-ment at Wash-ing-ton to hold the larg-est share of pow-er. The Re-pub-li-cans want-ed the State Gov-ern-ments to have the most pow-er. Both said they want-ed what was best for the whole coun-try, but both, just as they do to-day, thought their own way was the on-ly good way.)

James Mad-i-son was Pres-i-dent of the U-nit-ed States when this sec-ond war with Great Brit-ain broke out. Mr. Mad-i-son was a good and pure man, but too slow and tim-id to suit the times.

The war men tried to put a New York-er, in whose en-er-gy and pluck they had full faith, in-to that im-por-tant po-si-tion, but failed to e-lect him. I mean Mr. De Witt Clin-ton. No man ev-er made a strong-er mark on his own times.

Mr. Clin-ton was may-or of the Ci-ty of New York dur-ing the en-tire war. He was at first op-posed to the em-bar-go act, which would shut up the ships in the har-bor of New York, but came to look

at it from a new stand-point, and set to work with a will to sus-tain the Gov-ern-ment.



RE-CRUIT-ING.

When the war broke out, of course ev-er-y-bod-y thought that the Brit-ish would once more sail in-to

the bay, and try to oc-cu-py their old snug quar-ters in New York Ci-ty. Ev-er-y ef-fort was bent to-wards pre-vent-ing this.

Mil-i-ta-ry com-pa-nies were formed, and set to drill-ing right off. Rich men gave free-ly from their own purs-es funds to car-ry on the war. Men of all ag-es and all call-ings and trades worked side by side on the de-fenc-es of the ci-ty.

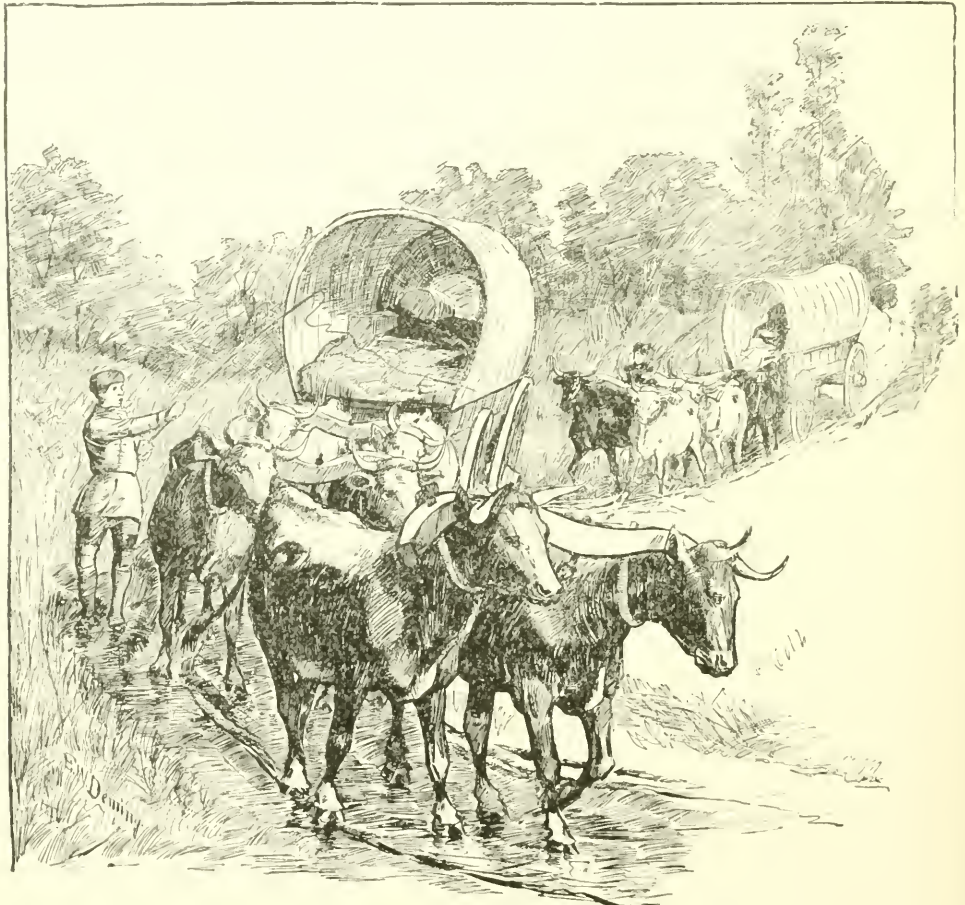
With-in four months af-ter the war be-gan New York a-lone had fit-ted out and sent to sea from her port, twen-ty-six pri-va-teers, with two hun-dred and twelve guns, and two thou-sand two hun-dred and thir-ty-nine men.

As ear-ly as 1808, there had been sev-er-al forts e-rect-ed in the har-bor of New York. Gov-er-nor's Isl-and was sur-round-ed by a wall of ma-son-ry, and was pret-ty well fixed in oth-er ways for an at-tack. Oth-er isl-ands in the bay were al-so for-ti-fied.

Af-ter all though, as things turned out, New York was not called on to meet the first shock of bat-tle. The seat of war was prin-ci-pal-ly on the line which di-vides Can-a-da from the U-nit-ed States. This por-tion of our coun-try was scarce-ly more than a wil-der-ness at that time.

“There was not a town of an-y size in the whole west-ern half of the State of New York, or on the lake shore; and the maps of the time do not show

such places as Buf-fa-lo, Roch-es-ter, or Syr-a-cuse, even as vil-lag-es." This de-scrip-tion of Mr. John-ston's will show you how far A-mer-i-can troops



CAR-RY-ING FOOD TO THE TROOPS.

had to march to meet the foe, and his ac-count of the state of the roads, serves still more to show how

great the task was; "there were hardly any passable roads here or north and west of the O-hi-o River. Food for the troops was carried to them with great difficulty, and at a cost sometimes, of five or six times its value."

The first plan of the British in this war was to "distress the coast all the way from Maine to New Orleans; to invade New York State by way of the lakes in the North, and to strike at New York City by way of the sea."

The plan of the American Generals was to invade Canada, and in this way do the fighting on British ground. William Hull, Governor of Michigan Territory (not yet a State), was ordered to cross the river and carry the war into Canada at once. He did so, but turned back and shut himself up in Detroit as soon as the British troops, under General Brock, came out to oppose him. Brock threatened to give his Indian troops full freedom to kill if Detroit was not given up. Hull gave up the place without striking a blow, which gave the British control of all the country northwest of the O-hi-o.

The American land forces were either badly handled or very unlucky in the North at this time. Early in 1813 General Dearborn went over into Toronto from Sackett's Harbor, took it, and burned

the sup-plies; re-turned to the A-mer-i-can side, near Lew-is-ton, and made an-oth-er dash in-to Can-a-da, but his troops were bad-ly beat-en in two small en-count-ers.

The A-mer-i-cans had made the mis-take of putting their forc-es un-der men who had been good sol-diers in the Rev-o-lu-tion-a-ry War, but young-er and fresh-er men had to be put in-to their place and the ar-my drill had to be im-proved, and oth-er chang-es made be-fore the A-mer-i-can sol-diers got back the good name they had near-ly lost through poor lead-ers.

The bat-tles of Chip-pe-wa, Lun-dy's Lane, and Fort E-rie, all showed of what good stuff the new Gen-er-als, Brown, Win-field Scott, and Rip-ley were made, but came too late to have much ef-fect on the war. These vic-to-ries gave great de-light to the coun-try at large.

The most brill-iant fight-ing of the war of 1812, how-ev-er, was done on the wa-ter, which was where the A-mer-i-cans at first had felt weak-est. The na-val vic-to-ries were man-y and re-mark-a-ble. They a-roused the most in-tense ex-cite-ment on both sides of the o-cean. For twen-ty years Great Brit-ain had been mis-tress of the seas; and yet in six months, A-mer-i-ca's fee-ble na-val force had ta-ken five of her ships, and had not lost a sin-gle bat-tle



GEN-ER-AL BROWN'S SCOUTS NEAR-ING FORT E-RIE.

by sea. The na-val of-fi-cers of A-mer-i-ca were cov-ered with glo-ry, and the whole coun-try ex-pressed the ut-most con-fi-dence in them.

There were fif-teen "ship-du-els" as some one called them dur-ing this war, three on-ly of which were lost by the A-mer-i-cans. One of the lost bat-tles took place in 1815, when one of the larg-est ships in the A-mer-i-can na-vy, the "Pres-i-dent," tried to get to sea from New York. She was ta-ken by a Brit-ish fleet off Long Isl-land.

In 1814 New York Ci-ty was lit-tle bet-ter than one big camp. The Gov-er-nor of the State, Gov-er-nor Tomp-kins, had put near-ly for-ty thou-sand men in-to the field to de-fend this ci-ty, Sack-ett's Har-bor, Buf-fa-lo, and oth-er threat-ened points.

Great Brit-ain had sent o-ver a large force of fresh troops to in-vade north-ern New York, pret-ty much on the same line Bur-goyne had failed on. By the way of Lake Cham-plain the Brit-ish would force their way down the Hud-son and in-to the ci-ty.

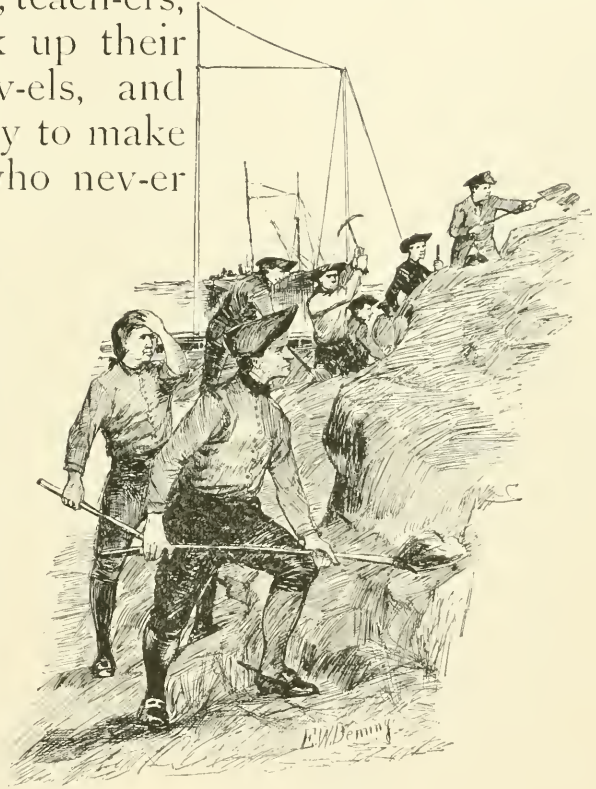
But there was an A-mer-i-can fleet on this lake un-der Com-mo-dore Mac-don-ough, which set-tled the fate of this ex-pe-di-tion in the har-bor of Platts-burgh, af-ter a two hours' fight, in which the Brit-ish were bad-ly beat-en.

At the oth-er end of the line ru-mors of at-tack

on the Ci-ty of New York kept the peo-ple wide a-wake and on the a-lert.

De Witt Clin-ton, the may-or, stirred the peo-ple up to the high-est pitch of zeal. Trades-men, man-u-fact-ur-ers, schol-ars, teach-ers, and law-yers all took up their pick-ax-es and shov-els, and worked night and day to make read-y for the foe who nev-er came.

Held at bay by land, and badly crippled at sea by the na-vy of the U-nit-ed States, the tide of bat-tle grad-u-al-ly ebbed, un-til the fi-nal blows were struck in the south-west, where, in point of fact, the best fighting of the War of 1812 was done.



FOR-TI-FY-ING.

Gen-er-al An-drew Jack-son, in one of the most brilliant and un-e-ven bat-tles on rec-ord, struck the last blow of this war at New Or-le-ans on the 8th of Jan-u-a-ry, 1814. In this bat-tle the Brit-ish were

once more de-feat-ed, and their lead-er, Gen-er-al Pack-en-ham, slain.

The war was real-ly o-ver, so far as a treat-y of peace went, be-fore this bat-tle was fought. But good news could not be flashed a-cross the world then quite as fast as it can now.

By this time Great Brit-ain was heart-i-ly sick of a war she had gained noth-ing by, and Pres-i-dent Mad-i-son sent five men o-ver to Ghent, a lit-tle town in Bel-gi-um, to meet her Com-mis-sion-ers and ar-range for peace.

The news of this treat-y (which, by the way, left things, so far as the right of search-ing A-mer-i-can ves-sels went, just where they had been be-fore) reached New York a week af-ter the bat-tle of New Or-le-ans had been fought, and the coun-try went went al-most wild for joy.

Com-merce on the seas had been brok-en up. There was lit-tle or no bus-i-ness of an-y kind do-ing. Farm-ers had not been a-ble to sell their crops. The price of all things had gone up, and there was no mon-ey to buy with at that.

CHAPTER XIII.

FRESH GROWTH.

ONCE more the men of New York found time to turn their thoughts on plans for im-prov-ing the roads and the wa-ter ways which have had so much to do with the swift growth and vast wealth of the State.

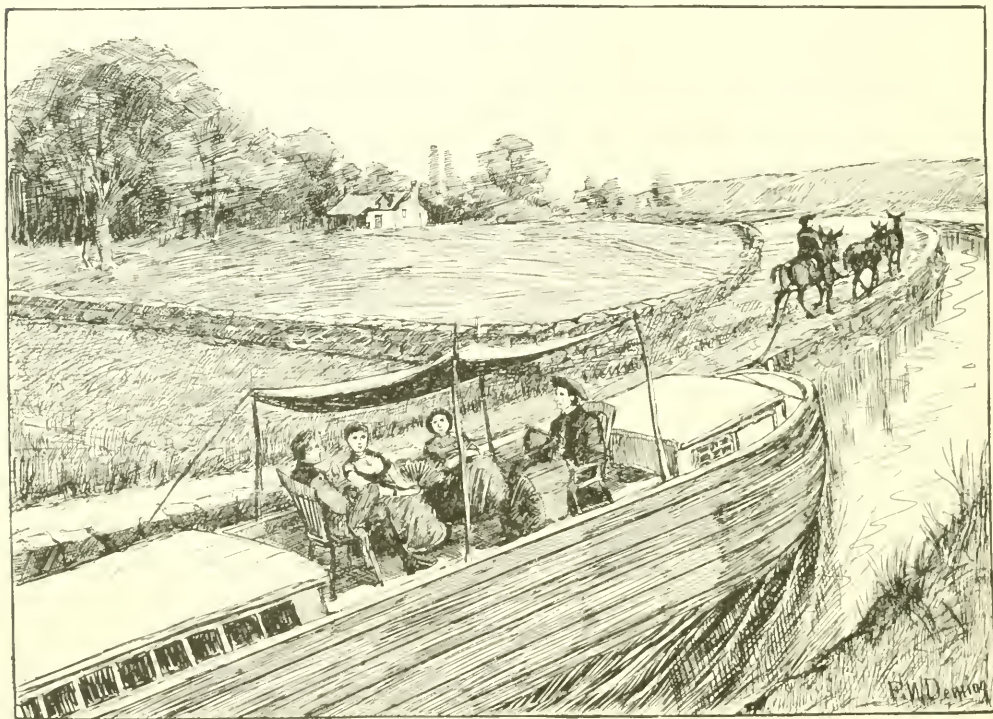
I have al-read-y said a few words a-bout the E-rie ca-nal which is one of the great-est piec-es of work of its sort, that the world has ev-er seen.

Not e-ven the men who had done most to have it dug, and were the most sure of its suc-cess, could form an-y i-de-a of how great that suc-cess was to be.

Men be-gan at once to flock to the rich lands thus made ea-sy of ac-cess. Now that they could get things to mar-ket by way of the ca-nal, farm-ers raised ev-er-y-thing in im-mense quan-ti-ties. The price of land a-long the wa-ter ways went up, up, up, while fac-to-ries of all sorts sprung up where wa-ter pow-er was to be found.

For years a trip on the ca-nal boats was looked up-on as a pleas-ure trip. The boats were nice-ly fit-ted up, and went at the rate of some five or six

miles an hour—as fast, that is, as three or four horses, driven tandem a-long the tow-path, could take them. There was no hard, swift rushing from point to point in those days. In the day time one glided slowly between banks beautiful with nature's own beauty,



ON THE CA-NAL.

and at night, in the snug cabin, where berths were curtained off, as they are now in the “sleep-ers,” on the rail-road cars, one could sleep as quietly as in bed at home.

There are man-y oth-er im-por-tant ca-nals in this State. In point of size and cost the Cham-plain and the Os-we-go ca-nals rank next to the E-rie. New York is main-ly in-debt-ed to De Witt Clinton for this great work. But we must now pass on to oth-er modes of trav-el.

As the State be-gan to fill up with set-tlers from all parts of the globe, and her trade grew too great for the slow modes of get-ting a-bout on the in-land streams, at-ten-tion was turned to-wards se-cur-ing bet-ter modes.

Rob-ert Ful-ton's "Cler-mont" which had made the trip from New York to Al-ba-ny at the rate of five miles an hour in 1807 had been the start-ing point of the new e-ra in wa-ter trav-el, but it was a long time be-fore the coun-try be-gan to reap the full ben-e-fit of it.

Un-til 1810 barg-es with long oars, or horse-boats with a wheel in the cen-tre, which was turned by horse pow-er, were the fer-ry boats on all the streams. It was a na-tive of New York Ci-ty, Col-o-nel John Ste-vens, who put a steam fer-ry in place of those slow boats.

In 1811 he took some friends of his from New York to Ho-bo-ken on the first steam fer-ry boat that was ev-er used in an-y part of the world. He was a pow-er-ful ri-val to Ful-ton.

While Ful-ton was not the first man to think of ap-ply-ing steam to such us-es (Watt's steam en-gine



Engraving by J. D. Deming.

FUL-TON SHOW-ING HIS MOD-EL.

had been known of for years), nor yet the first man to try to move a boat by steam, one John Fitch

hav-ing made the ver-y first tri-al as far back as 1793, he was more in ear-nest o-ver this great i-de-a than an-y one else, and took the lead in mak-ing it known to all the rest of the world.

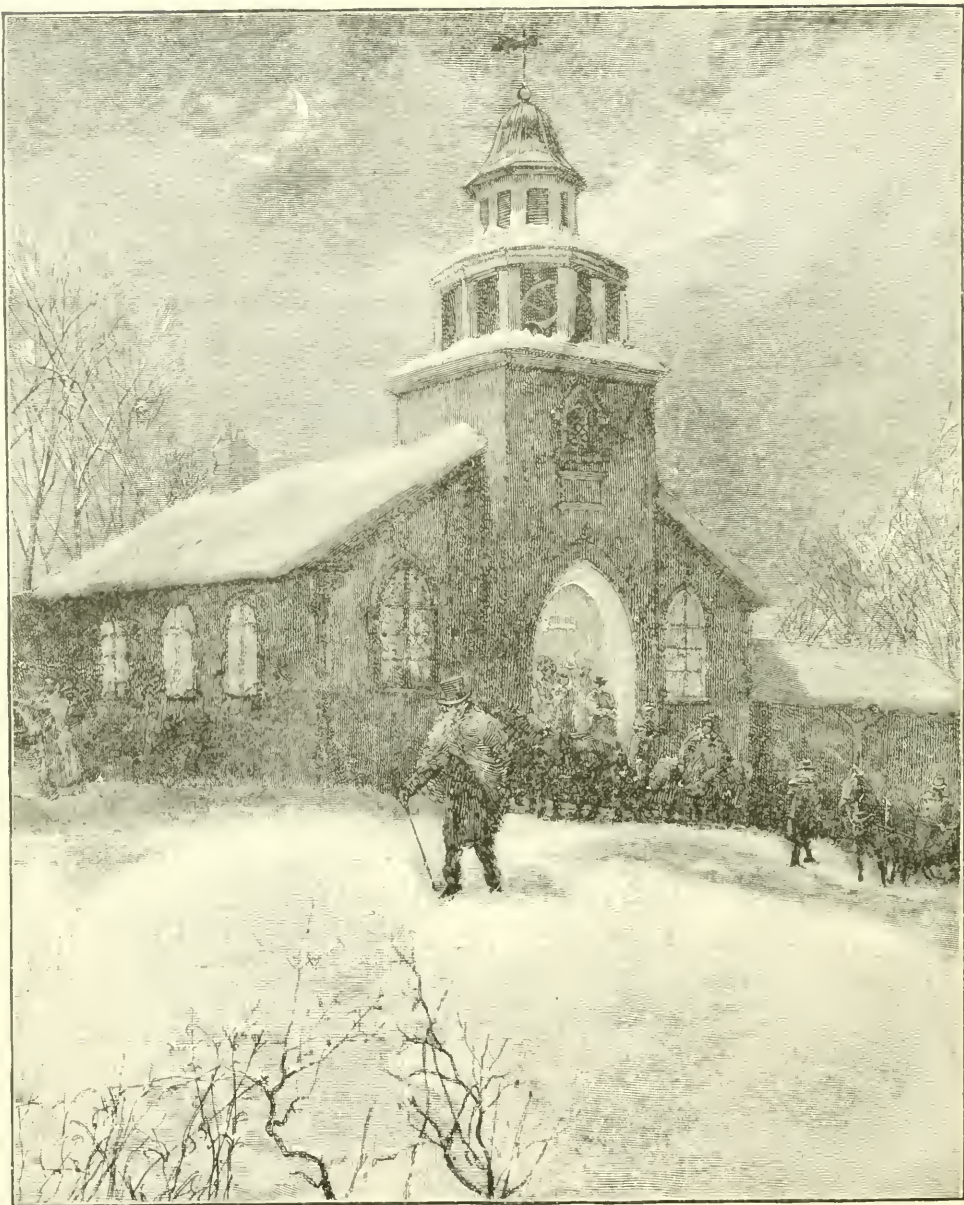
In point of fact he gave up his life to it. He ex-posed him-self in an o-pen boat, in i-cy weath-er, on the Hud-son, while mak-ing some of his ex-per-i-ments with steam, which led to his death.

The first rail-road that was built in the State was sev-en-teen miles long, and ex-tend-ed from Al-ba-ny to Sche-nec-ta-dy. It was o-pen-ed in 1831. Af-ter the o-pen-ing of that first short line they be-gan to spread like a huge cob-web all o-ver the State, un-til now the State has four great trunk lines, and branch-es too man-y to count.

You have not for-got-ten, that as soon as the State of New York threw off King George's yoke, its men called a State con-ven-tion to form a set of laws of their own, by which things might be kept in some sort of shape while the war for in-de-pen-dence was go-ing on.

Their first piece of work must have been pret-ty well done by those new law-mak-ers as it was found good e-nough for for-ty-four years.

In 1821 this State con-sti-tu-tion was gone all o-ver, and made to suit the new needs of the pop-u-la-tion which had grown so fast.



It gave to ev-er-y white man from his twen-ty-first year, the right to vote ; gave to ev-er-y-bod-y free-dom to wor-ship God in the way that seemed best to him-self ; pro-vid-ed fair tri-al for him by a ju-ry in case he got in-to trou-b-le ; made laws to pro-tect his prop-er-ty, and gave the press all the lib-er-ty it need-ed.

To con-coct a set of laws which should hold un-der firm and peace-ful con-trol a pop-u-la-tion made up, as that of New York was, of em-i-grants from Hol-land, Great Brit-ain, France, and Ger-man-y, was no slight task, and it took bright minds and stout hearts to run the new ma-chin-er-y of the State gov-ern-ments in those ear-ly days.

The State took charge of the ed-u-ca-tion of its youth as far back as 1795, and in 1812 an act was passed in aid of a reg-u-lar school sys-tem. This act, of course, did not stand just as it does to-day, but, af-ter man-y chang-es, it be-came a mod-el of its sort : The com-mon schools are free to all from five to twen-ty-one years of age, and ev-er-y child, be-tween the ag-es of eight and four-teen must go to school at least four-teen weeks of each year if not pre-vent-ed by sick-ness or men-tal in-ca-pac-i-ty.

New York out-ranks ev-er-y State of the Un-ion in the num-ber of its man-u-fac-to-ries and the vast wealth in-vest-ed in them. They are to be found in all parts of the State, and they in-clude al-most

ev-er-y-thing you can think of. I-ron, steel, wool, silk, leath-er, and wood, are all worked up from the crude stuff in-to things of beau-ty and use-ful-ness.

It was a-bout this time in the his-to-ry of this whole coun-try that the great ques-tion of slav-er-y be-gan to be brought for-ward on all oc-ca-sions, un-til it grew to be *the* ques-tion of the times.



W. Van Buren

By the trea-ty of Ghent both na-tions had a-greed to try to sup-p-ress the slave trade. The peo-ple of New York were in fa-vor of let-ting slav-er-y a-lone in the States where it al-read-y ex-ist-ed, but not of let-ting slaves be ta-ken in-to an-y new State.

Nor would they a-gree to send slaves back to mas-ters from whom they had fled.

No oth-er State had as man-y ties bind-ing it to the South as New York had ; and it took some firm-

ness for the people to declare positively as they did, after 1854, at the polls, through the press, and from their pulpits, that all the new States must be free. But the State took this bold step, which, of course, made it probable that she would lose the friendship and the rich trade of the South, without flinching; and when the time came to sustain her position in the field she was found ready.

The old Dutch patroon system by which vast tracts of land were put into the hands of a few men, and the large grants by which the royal Governors took up more of the best lands in the State, gave rise to much trouble in the matter of rents and titles to land.

The large land owners and the heirs of the old patroons in this way held the small farmers in their grasp. Tenants found that they had no rights of their own. The landlord could even claim the house built by his tenant's labor. The lands which they had taken on long leases bound them to a sort of feudal service, which free-born Americans would not hear to. In some cases, the heirs of a patroon would go so far as to make attempts to collect arrears of rent and seize farm products to secure them.

So hot grew the feeling of resistance to such acts that a band of the outraged renters of these lands

rose in a mob and killed one man in Rens-sa-lacr Coun-ty.

The troub-le at last found its way in-to the courts, and as soon as the ar-ro-gant claims of the land-lords were set a-side, the cur-rent of ag-ri-cult-ur-al life ran smooth-ly once more. The large tracts have been cut up in-to small farms, and peace-ful thrift is the nat-ur-al re-sult of se-cure ti-tles.

The ci-ties and towns of New York have multi-plied with mag-i-cal swift-ness, but the north-east-ern part of the State can still boast of its fine for-ests that re-tain their first beau-ty. In the re-gion of the Ad-i-ron-dacks are to be found pine, fir, and pop-lar—in oth-er parts of the State, oak, ma-ple, elm, etc.

Dur-ing the pe-ri-od of time be-tween the war of 1812 and the war for the Un-ion, of which I will tell you in the next chap-ter, the growth of the State was stead-y in point of num-bers.

In 1860 there was a pop-u-la-tion of 3,880,735 scat-tered o-ver its a-re-a of 47,620 square miles. New York State is 412 miles long (from east to west) and 311 miles wide. When I speak of the State, I mean Man-hat-tan Isl-and (which is ta-ken up by New York Ci-ty), Stat-en Isl-and, Long Isl-and, and a num-ber of small-er ones.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE LATE WAR.

THE late war, as no doubt ev-er-y child who reads this book has al-read-y been told more than once, had for its chief re-sult the free-ing of the slaves in the South-ern States of the Un-ion.

Slaves had been owned in the North be-fore they found their way South, and per-haps would have been held there just as long if it had not been that the Af-ri-can race can on-ly thrive and la-bor in a mild cli-mate.

The warm cli-mate of the South-ern States and the lines of work there pur-sued led to the u-ni-ver-sal use of slave la-bor long af-ter the North had freed all of hers.

As far back as the days of Wash-ing-ton and Jef-fer-son, both of whom owned slaves, wise men knew and said that some day or oth-er slav-er-y would cease to ex-ist in an-y part of the coun-try; but their hope was to see it die out nat-ur-al-ly and peace-ful-ly.

In 1808 it was made il-le-gal to bring an-y more slaves in-to the coun-try in slave ships. But the

South was by that time the own-er of large num-bers which in-creased ver-y fast in that mild cli-mate.

From the ver-y out-set these slaves were the source of dis-cord and bit-ter feel-ing be-tween the North and the South, and led to hot words and high hand-ed acts, when-ev-er the mat-ter came up for dis-cus-sion.

Slav-er-y came in for the first sharp at-tack as far back as 1831, when Wil-liam Lloyd Gar-ri-son, a Bos-ton news-pa-per man, cailed for the free-ing of the slaves *at once*.

Those who joined in this has-ty hue and cry a-gainst the South were called Ab-o-li-tion-ists, and, like all re-form-ers whose zeal sweeps them a-way, they did more harm than good at first.

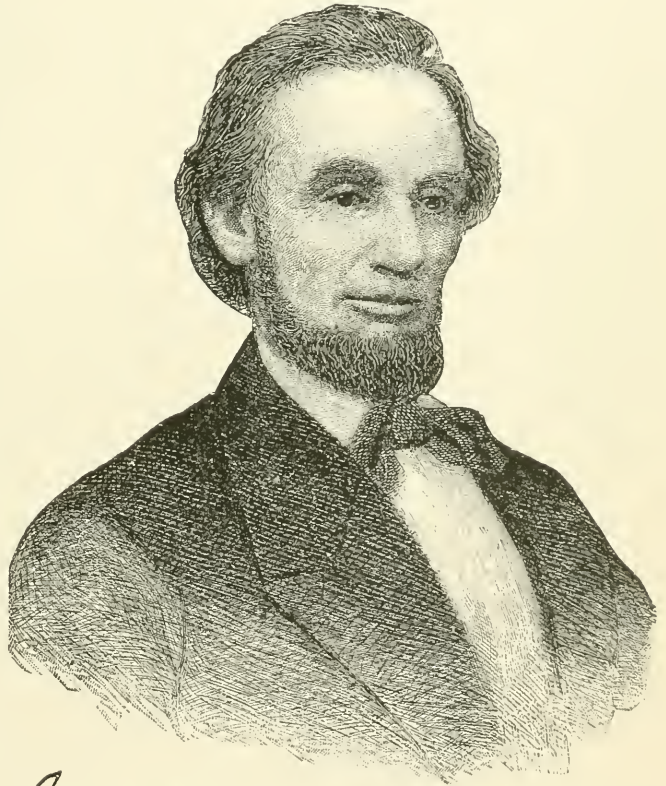
The way the men of the South looked at it was that the slaves which had been hand-ed down from fa-ther to son, in their midst, from the ear-ly days of the coun-try, and who, take it all in all, were hap-py and well cared for, were theirs to take wher-ev-er it suit-ed them to take them. The main point which ar-rayed the two sec-tions a-gainst each oth-er was wheth-er the South should or should not be per-mit-ted to take its slaves in-to an-y of the new States. And the dis-pute o-ver this point last-ed for years.

John Brown's raid in-to the South, where he put arms in-to the hands of Vir-gin-ia slaves and

stirred them up to murder white men and women, although the act of a fanatic, did more to inflame the South than ever-y-thing that had gone before.

Much that was not just, nor true, nor kind, was said on both sides; and when Lincoln was elected President on a platform which said plainly that it was the right and duty of Congress to forbid slaves being taken into any of the new States, the smouldering fire burst into an open blaze.

South Carolina called a State convention, which declared the State had the right to go out of the Union, and it did so. The



Yours for peace & order

A. Lincoln

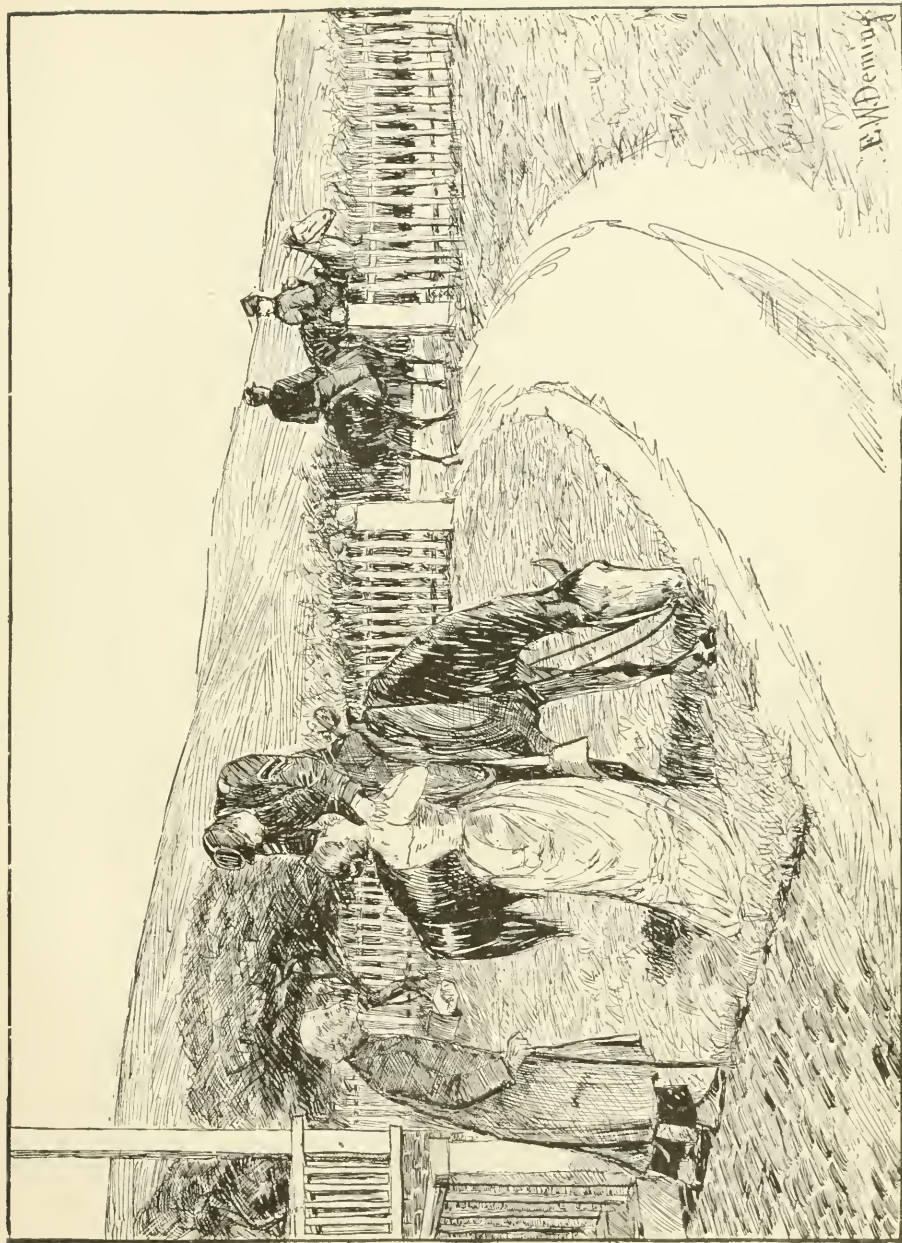
oth-er South-ern States fol-lowed her ex-am-ple, one by one.

Ear-ly in 1861 South Car-o-li-na be-gan to pre-pare for the war which all now saw must come. Her troops at-tacked Fort Sum-ter and took it April 13th. The fall of Fort Sum-ter cre-at-ed as much ex-cite-ment all o-ver the land as the bat-tle of Lex-ing-ton had at the be-gin-ning of the Rev-o-lu-tion. Fort Sum-ter is in the har-bor of Charles-ton, South Car-o-li-na.

When Fort Sum-ter fell, Pres-i-dent Lin-corn made a call for sev-en-ty-five thou-sand men, with which to de-fend the Un-ion. They were on-ly asked to en-list for three months at first.

In an-swer to this call for troops, New York sent thir-teen thou-sand men, said she would give \$3,000,000 to help pay the ex-pens-es of the war, and made a fresh call of her own for thir-ty thou-sand men, to en-list for two years, in-stead of for the three months which the Pres-i-dent had thought would be long e-nough for the Un-ion men to quell the trou-b-le. Near-ly one out of ev-er-y six men in the State who were a-ble to car-ry arms was en-rolled for a short or long term.

In no State of the Un-ion was there more zeal shown in all ranks of life. Pub-lic com-pa-nies, banks, and rich men in pri-vate life, all made of-fers



of funds to the Gov-ern-ment. Arms were bought in large quan-ti-ties in Eu-rope. Wives got their hus-bands read-y to go to the war with ea-ger zeal, daugh-ters helped fa-thers and broth-ers off. Old men and boys, rich and poor, caught the ex-cite-ment of the hour, and rushed to of-fer them-selves as sol-diers. This white heat zeal did not last long.

The de-feat which the Un-ion forc-es met with at the fight of Bull Run, brought out some sharp news-pa-per crit-i-cism. The mass of men are eas-i-ly swayed by such things. It had been ta-ken too much for grant-ed that the troops of the South, got-ten to-geth-er in haste, and com-posed most-ly of men who had nev-er been trained to hard-ship of an-y sort, could be crushed by one or two hard blows. When it be-gan to look as if a long war was a-head of them, and that trade was go-ing to suf-fer great-ly by it, the ar-dor to en-list cooled sud-den-ly.

In the fall of 1862 it was found nec-es-sa-ry to be-gin to *draft* men in-to the ar-my. To draft sol-diers, means to se-lect them from the peo-ple at large wheth-er they want to go or not.

This draft gave rise to one of the worst ri-ots New York Ci-ty has ev-er seen. It is known as the "Draft Ri-ot," and it raged for two or three days with bru-tal strength.

More than once be-fore mobs had giv-en the ci-ty

trouble. In 1788 there had been what was called the "doctor's mob," the full story of which you can read in Mrs. Lamb's splendid history of New York. In the year 1834 there had been more than one, among them the stone cutters' riot, in short, several times that large class of unruly men which is always to be found in a crowded city, had taken their stand against law and good order; but for mad fury and brute force the draft riot must be put at the head of this dark list.

It so fell out that the draft for soldiers was begun on the eve of an election for State officers. The ring-leaders of the mob made use of this fact to declare that the draft was gotten up to beat the Democrats by sending voters out of the State. Other charges no less false and foolish were brought against the State officers.

It was a time when idlers were many, when speech was freer than ever, and when the discomfort and suspense that hung over the land made men only too ready to listen to who-so-ever was ready to talk. The times were ripe for deeds of disorder, and the men to do them were not hard to find.

The first act of open violence was the throwing of a paving stone into the building where the men had to go to be drafted into the army. The sound

of that break-ing glass was the sig-nal for the mob to be-gin its work.

The ri-ot-ers rushed in-to the draft of-fice, broke the desks to piec-es, tore up the draft pa-pers, bad-ly beat one of the draft of-fi-cers, poured tur-pen-tine o-ver the floor, and set fire to the house.

From this point the mob spread o-ver the whole town burn-ing hous-es, beat-ing of-fi-cers, rob-bing and kill-ing at its own wild will. Whole blocks were set on fire, and the fu-ry of the ri-ot-ers grew as their num-bers swelled.

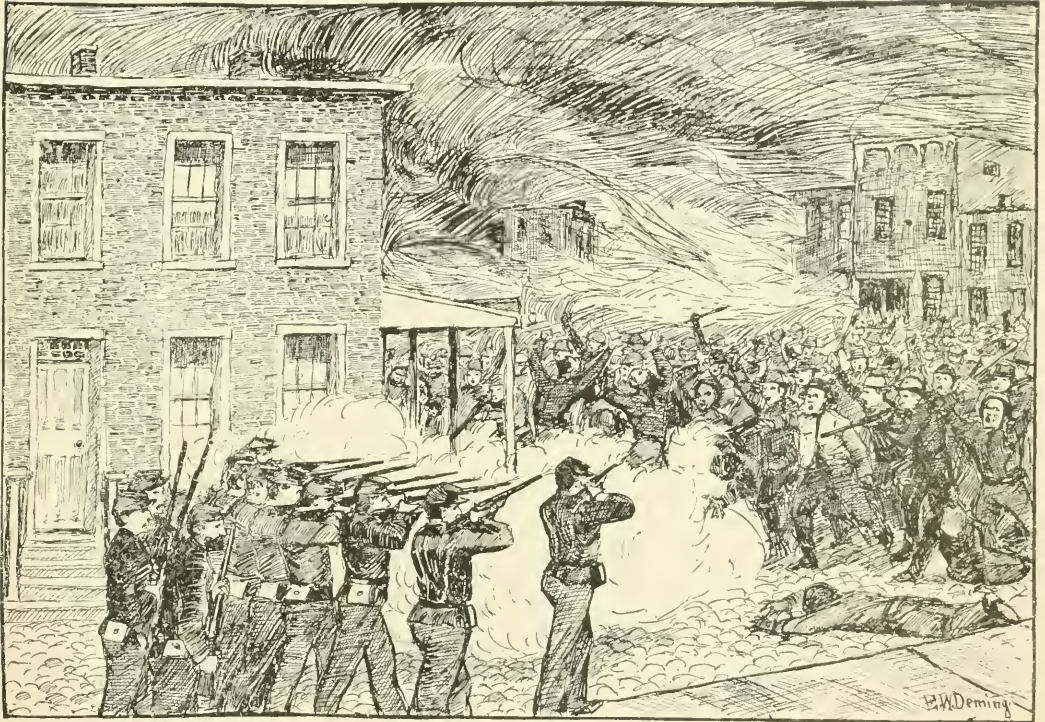
The col-ored peo-ple were the ob-jects of its blind-est fu-ry. Men and wo-men and chil-dren were beat-en wher-ev-er they showed them-selves; and, in one case, a poor wretch who had been kicked to death, was hung to a tree and set fire to.

The half-or-phan a-sy-lum for col-ored chil-dren on Fifth Av-e-nue was burned. Col-ored wait-ers in ho-tels had to flee for their lives. The at-tacks on these poor wretch-es was main-ly from the mob of for-eign-born ri-ot-ers, who ig-nó-rant-ly re-gard-ed them as the chief cause of all the troub-le that had come up-on the land, and sought to take ven-geance for it.

The ci-ty po-lice fought hard to put down this ri-ot, but were not e-qual to it. Gov-er-nor Sey-mour called for help from the reg-u-lar troops, and

some reg-i-ments which were on du-ty in Penn-syl-va-ni-a were sent to the aid of the cit-i-zens who were fight-ing to save their homes.

The num-ber of killed and wound-ed dur-ing the



THE RI-OT.

three days that this ri-ot last-ed is put at one thou-sand, and the loss of prop-er-ty at \$2,000,000. Nor was this spir-it of dis-loy-al-ty con-fined to New York Ci-ty a-lone. Brook-lyn suf-fered by it, and in

Troy some deeds of dis-order were done, such as wreck-ing a news-pa-per of-fice, etc.

It was thought by a great man-y that these Draft Ri-ots meant more than a dis-like to be-ing draft-ed in-to the ar-my; that, un-der it all, was a deep-laid plot to aid the South in car-ry-ing her point of se-ces-sion from the Un-ion. But if such a plot real-ly did ex-ist, the suc-cess of the North-ern arms soon wiped it out.

The of-fi-cers and men which New York sent to the ar-my were not-ed for their zeal and de-vo-tion to the cause of the Un-ion; and their names ap-pear in man-y of the most strik-ing sto-ries of those stir-ring times. Be-fore the war closed, New York had sent 448,850 men in-to the field, and the first cen-sus ta-ken af-ter the war showed a loss in her pop-u-la-tion of 48,958.

CONCLUSION.

THERE is not much more to tell you a-bout the State of New York that does not be-long to the news-pa-pers of the day.

At the close of the Civ-il War her men glad-ly turned once more to their homes and the tasks of

peace, which, in God's own good Prov-i-dence, it is to be hoped will not soon a-gain be in-ter-rupt-ed.

It has al-ways been the pol-i-cy of the State to in-crease the ways of trav-el and thus help on her in-land trade. New

proj-ects, look-ing to the im-prove-ment of the E-rie Ca-nal (al-ways an im-por-tant sub-ject to the peo-ple of this State) were set a-float soon af-ter the war. The State tax for schools was made larg-er, parks were laid out, the State's banks were mul-ti-plyed, new rail-roads proj-ect-ed, and the vast re-sourc-es of the State in all di-rec-tions en-cour-aged in ev-er-y way.



Amos A. Phelps

The State, as a whole, has more va-ried man-u-fact-ures and a larg-er com-merce with for-eign lands than an-y oth-er State in the Un-ion.

Of her great men I have said but lit-tle. New

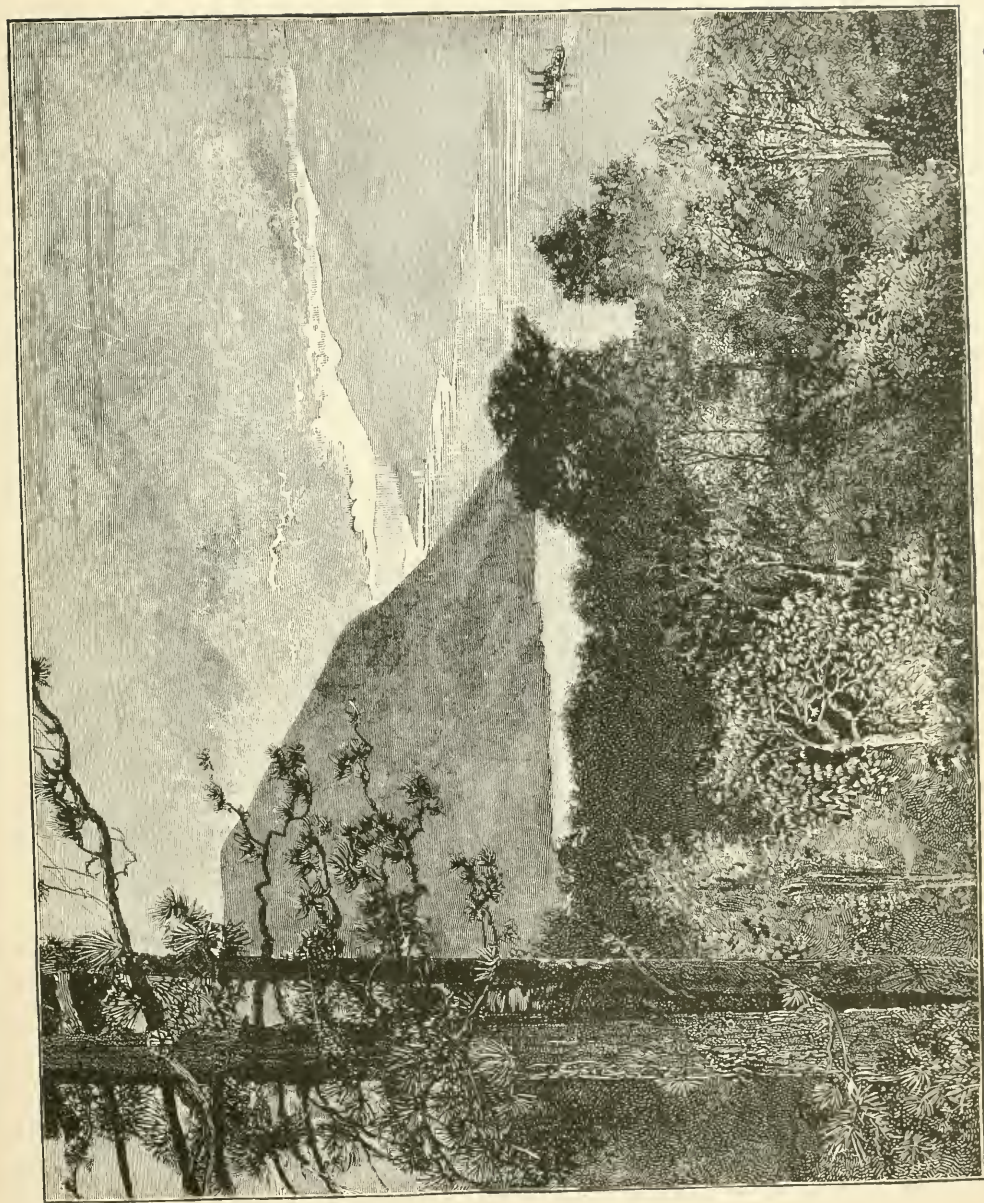
York has been built up by men of too man-y sorts, and of too man-y dif-fer-ent na-tion-al-i-ties to have had an-y mark-ed lead-ers in this line. But bright names stand on the list of her states-men, chief a-mong which shines the name of Al-ex-an-der Ham-il-ton, the fore-most states-man of his day.

But bet-ter than a few great names are the vast num-ber of her stur-dy, thought-ful, pro-gres-sive men, who have the best in-ter-ests of the Em-pire State at heart, and who are year-ly add-ing to her wealth and great-ness by ev-er-y art known to civ-il-ized man.

The pol-i-cy of New York has been one of o-pen-hand-ed wel-come to the stran-ger from ev-er-y quar-ter of the globe; and if this free hos-pi-tal-i-ty has brought her some cares and anx-i-e-ties, it has al-so giv-en her strength and num-bers.

I have tried to trace the State's prog-ress for you from the land-ing of Hen-ry Hud-son's hand-ful of ad-vent-ur-ous Dutch-men up to the pres-ent time of her splen-did pros-per-i-ty; and no fit-ter words with which to close this lit-tle vol-ume come to me than some which I bor-row in sub-stance from Mr. Robert's Com-mon-wealth se-ries:

“In the cen-tu-ry and a half past, the ten-der plant which those old Gov-er-nors” (the Dutch Gov-er-nors) “nursed so care-ful-ly has grown to such



SCENE IN THE AD-I-RON-DACKS,

pro-por-tions that ev-en their Dutch phlegm might gath-er in-spi-ra-tion from the scene, and they might gath-er cheer from the rec-ord, which shows that the men who have come af-ter them have, in the main, met the tasks and du-ties im-posed on them with pru-dence, cour-age, and fore-thought."

THE END.

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