

SPARTANBURG



Laying Out the Training Camp Streets.

FIT training ground for the New York National Guard is Spartanburg, S. C., in the very heart of the American Sparta.

How Spartanburg came to receive its name recalls the story of that Thermopylae which modern historians recognize as having had much to do in bringing about the effective turning point of the Revolution which gave freedom to the United States, writes John Walker Harrington in the New York Sun.

What is now the county of Spartanburg was part of District 96, a region which in 1755 was purchased from the Cherokee Indians. Its inhabitants were mostly Scotch and Scotch-Irish families who had come down from Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Between the Broad and Saluda rivers, in upper South Carolina, in the region of the Blue Ridge, they had established the three settlements of Upper Fair Forest, Lawson's Fork and Tygers. In their views of life and conduct these pioneers bore many resemblances to the men of ancient Sparta. They were self-reliant and aggressive, and endured toil, hardship and pain without complaint.

When South Carolina cast her lot with the other colonies she had much opposition from the Tories and Loyalists within her own borders. To overcome this opposition delegates were sent out by the South Carolina Council of Safety to explain to the people the situation out of which had grown the first Continental congress. The representatives of the council who went to District 96 were William Henry Drayton and Rev. William Tennant.

On their way they stopped at the house of Col. Thomas Fletchall, commander of a regiment consisting ostensibly of colonial militia but in reality of Tories. They had negotiations with him in the hope of inducing him to join the popular cause. Finding him obdurate, they proceeded further toward the Blue Ridge.

Mr. Drayton later reported that the people of District 96 were capable of resisting the Indians and also of putting a check on Fletchall and that therefore he had taken the liberty of supplying them with ammunition from Fort Charlotte, which was just across the line between the Carolinas as now delineated. Through his influence the region was made into new divisions and he referred to the part where the frontiersmen were strongest and most devoted to the cause of liberty as the "Upper or Spartan district."

Organization of the Spartans.
Mr. Drayton belonged to a race of scholars, and to him the organization of the settlements and the fearlessness of the inhabitants suggested very strongly the people who withstood the Persian might in Greece. When a regiment was organized in the district it was called the Spartan regiment. Its commander was Col. John Thomas, Sr. "The Spartans" were attached to the command of Col. Richardson and took an active part in the snow campaign in which the Tory forces were much harried. The name Spartans was applied in time to all of those in northwest South Carolina, and although it is difficult to trace the history of the regiment itself, the people of the region were continually active in the cause of liberty.

Although South Carolina was for three years without a regularly organized patriot army, the cause was kept alive by such men as Gen. Francis Marion, General Sumner and Colonel Thomas of the "Spartans." On one occasion Thomas and several of his associates surrendered and entered into an agreement that they would not take up arms for the balance of the war. It was understood that if they retired to their homes they would receive protection from the British commanders. Considering, however, that the agreement with them had been violated, they returned to the cause and fought as the annals of the time say "with halters around their necks." One of them, Col. Isaac Hayne, was captured, and after a summary court-martial was hanged at Charleston by the orders of Tarleton.

Broken up as were their military organizations, the Spartans figured extensively in the detached and irregular forces of the patriots under Marion, Sumner and Moultrie.

Major Ferguson was sent by Cornwallis to South Carolina with 1,200 men, of whom five-sixths were native Loyalists. His instructions were to intimidate the rebels and to bring in

as many recruits as he possibly could.

Battle of King's Mountain.
The news of his approach roused the American Spartans to do or die. They left their farms and ranges, armed and came out of the passes of the Appalachians. Sure-footed, quick of eye, deadly in their aim as marksmen and accustomed to deal hand-to-hand with the savages in fights with knife and tomahawk, they constituted one of the most effective fighting forces ever assembled on this continent. Their garb was buckskin. They came like true frontiersmen in hunting shirts, and on their caps were sprigs of hemlock, emblems of their rugged land.

They came 1,300 strong, under the urge of a mighty impulse, and it was not until they were actually preparing to engage the enemy at King's Mountain, about forty miles from the present city of Spartanburg, that they chose as their leader William Campbell. He was one of those patriots who had commanded troops of the irregular light cavalry and, like Marion, had suffered much for the cause of liberty. The result of the battle of King's Mountain depended almost entirely on the personal initiative of the men of this Sparta of the western world.

The American Spartans were accustomed to climbing mountains, and up the steep sides of the heights they went with incredible agility, firing from under cover of shrubs and trees when they could. The British charged down the hillside with bayonets and pressed back the American line. The pioneers formed again and went to the attack with renewed spirit.

The cry was raised that Tarleton was coming in from the rear to the attack. Sevier rode like Sheridan among the patriots, assured them that the report was false and again got them into line. The mountain was taken by the Americans in their fourth assault. The sharpshooting of the pioneers did deadly execution.

Major Ferguson refused to surrender and although one of his men had raised a flag of truce he struck it down with his sword. He made an attempt to get through the American lines and was shot five times and fell dead upon the field. After his death his command surrendered. There were 456 British dead upon the field and of the survivors nearly every man was wounded. Only 28 of the American fighters were killed.

Back to Their Hills.
The battle over the men went back into the strongholds in the hills from which they had so suddenly come. In the words of Elson: "At King's Mountain they turned the tide of the war and insured the ultimate independence of America."

The success of the patriots in this battle emboldened the forces of liberty in South Carolina to concerted action. Gen. Nathaniel Greene, who had succeeded General Gates, reached the state in the December of 1780 and gathered about him an army of 3,500 men. His first move was to send Daniel Morgan, one of the same type as Francis Marion, to make quick dashes into the back or up country and to dislodge the British. With 900 men Morgan met Tarleton, whose command consisted of 1,100 men, about fifteen miles from the present city of Spartanburg. The battle of Cowpens which followed nearly wiped out the entire Tarleton force.

Tracing back the chain of circumstances which had to do with the final defeat of the British arms the finger of history lingers upon the land of the American Spartans. Their action at King's Mountain and Cowpens undoubtedly contributed greatly to the final result.

After the war these pioneers turned their attention to the development of their fertile lands. The county of "Spartanburgh" was formed. The final "h" was dropped early in the nineteenth century and the present spelling was adopted.

The development of the city of Spartanburg was not rapid and even in 1800 there was only a small group of settlers there. The city had only 1,000 inhabitants in 1870, three times as many in 1880 and 5,550 in 1890. At present it has 20,000 inhabitants. It has only been within recent years that the place has come into prominence industrially. Now one of the largest cotton mills of the South is situated in the city, and there has been a great increase in its resources within the last ten years.

Tenth Cavalry To The Rescue

Famous Black Troopers Repulse Mexicans in Fierce Border Fight, in Which Their Intrepid Captain Is Killed at Head of His Troops.

NOGALES, Ariz., Sept. 5.—When the Mexican residents and soldiers of this border town started on a firing rampage last Tuesday, all kinds of trouble seemed imminent, until the tried and true Tenth cavalymen crossed the border line and soon subdued the sniping of the Mexicans.

The trouble is alleged to have started when a Mexican guard shot Corporal Lotz of the American infantry guard. An American custom guard came to Lotz's defense.

As the Mexicans' bullets struck Lotz Barber returned the fire and felled the Mexican guard who had mortally wounded the corporal.

The firing then became general, Mexicans appearing suddenly in the doorways of houses, on the roofs of buildings and in the surrounding hills and shooting across into International avenue, principal street of the twin towns, which forms the boundary line.

American soldiers on patrol duty returned the fire and an appeal for reinforcements was sent to Camp Stephen Little, nearby. Lieutenant Colonel Herman responded at the head of four companies of infantry and two troops of Negro cavalry. As Lieutenant Colonel Herman reached the boundary he fell with a bullet wound in the right knee, but after receiving first aid treatment in the office of a nearby physician, returned to the firing line and directed his troops.

Captain Shot Dead
The first American military unit to cross the line was a troop of Colored cavalry, under command of Captain Hungerford, 23 years old. Captain Hungerford was shot dead at the head of his troops. His mother and sister are in Nogales.

The infantry followed the Colored cavalymen, who, after dismounting on the Mexican side of the boundary line, rushed forward singing, "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here!" The cavalymen scattered into the bush, while the infantry, fighting in the open, were subjected to a withering fire from the Mexican rifles.

According to last reports three Americans—one officer and two enlisted men—were killed and twenty-eight Americans, ten of them enlisted men, were wounded. Three of the wounded Americans are seriously hurt.

Unofficial estimates placed the number of Mexican dead and wounded at from 150 to 200, but the Mexican consul asserted this figure was probably an exaggeration.

LONG SUCCEEDS SCRUGGS

Inspectorship of Weights and Measures Is Retained by Race.

John W. Long has been appointed inspector of weights and measures to succeed Amos P. Scruggs, who is among the last appointments of the Dahlgren administration to be displaced by the Smith administration.

The position of inspector of weights and measures is the only important office held by the Colored people in the city government. The first appointment to this office was made by Mayor Cushing, a democrat, who appointed the late Abram W. Parker. Succeeding mayors continued the custom of giving this recognition to the Colored people. Among those holding this position were the late G. F. Franklin, A. W. White, John W. Long, T. P. Mahammitt, John Grant Pegg and Amos P. Scruggs.

Mr. Long is not new to this position, having served in it most acceptably some years ago. The appointment is a good one and will give general satisfaction.

COUNTY FOOD OFFICIALS GATHER IN OMAHA

County food administrators of Nebraska met in Omaha on September 11, when plans for the winter and a definite program to be followed was outlined by Gurdon W. Wattles, federal food administrator for Nebraska.

Mr. Wattles, accompanied by Deputy A. C. Lau, attended the Washington meeting of state officials, when Herbert Hoover outlined the food situation as it concerns the allies.

Food regulations will not be so drastic as in the past, in the opinion of food experts, unless unforeseen circumstances arise which might necessitate closer supervision. However, the United States has a big job in front of her, for she has to feed her own army of more than 3,000,000 "over there," in addition to furnishing the major portion of the food required by the allies. It's the biggest job the United States has ever undertaken.

In Houston, Texas, 102 Colored women registered so as to participate in the public caucuses July 27.—The Crisis.

THESE THINGS SHALL BE

John Haynes Holmes says in the September Crisis: On my desk today, I find a post card from a beloved friend, bearing the following inscription:

"At Newport, N. H., this morning at seven o'clock, a band and five hundred people escorted the only Negro boy in town to the train. He had answered Uncle Sam's call to war—a sight I shall never forget."

One may imagine all kinds of philosophizing upon this simple village episode. The pessimist might ask if this is to be accepted in compensation for lynchings. The cynic would point out that the popularity of the blacks is in inverse proportion to their density of population. The Yankees would vindicate afresh New England's record of justice for the Negro. The optimist would behold the reconciliation at last, under the beneficent influence of the war, of two great races.

It is doubtful, however, if any of these sweeping generalizations can be regarded as sound. Why try for so much? Why not take this incident for what it is—"a slice of life"—a very lovely example of the possibilities of human nature at its best? The nation is in peril. It calls to each citizen for the noblest service and uttermost sacrifice that he can give. A lone member of a race for ages despised, down-trodden and oppressed, even now bearing the social handicap of prejudice and unequal opportunity, answers the call. And his townsmen of another color, rich and poor, high and low, together, turn out with one accord, to do him honor!

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WEDNESDAY ALL MEALS WHEATLESS
THURSDAY ONE MEAL WHEATLESS
FRIDAY ONE MEAL WHEATLESS
SATURDAY ONE MEAL WHEATLESS