



# The GLORIOUS FOURTH



The dawn of the Fourth—the old annual story—  
The nervous man's dread and the small boy's glory,  
The east is yet gray when all the land rumbles,  
And the small cannon pops and the big cannon grumbles,  
And the torrid sun creeps through a blue haze of powder,  
And the torpedoes snap and the cannons boom louder—  
On the Fourth of July—  
The old-fashioned Fourth of July.



## Glorious Victory of TRENTON

The winter night is cold and drear,  
Along the river's sullen flow;  
The cruel frost is camping here—  
The air has living blades of snow,  
Look! pushing from the icy strand,  
With ensigns freezing in the air,  
There sails a small, but mighty band,  
Across the dang'rous Delaware.

A rush—a shout—a clarion call,  
Salute the early morning's gray;  
Now, roused invaders, yield, or fall!  
The worthy land has won the day!  
Soon shall the glorious news be hurled  
Wherever men have wrongs to bear;  
For freedom's torch illumines the world,  
And God has crossed the Delaware!

—Will Carleton.

THE winter of 1776, the year of the glorious Declaration of Independence, found the fortunes of the budding nation at their lowest ebb. Beaten, buffeted and broken, the little army of George Washington had been pushed beyond the Delaware. He had scarce 4,000 men to command, while Cornwallis and Howe, the British commanders, had six times that many scattered over New Jersey and New York.

Many Americans were becoming disgusted with the war. Even Washington's troops were disheartened and he faced the calamity of having all but 1,600 of them quit the service the first of the year, when their enlistment expired. To make matters worse, General Gates and some other high officers in the army were trying to influence congress against Washington. They used every argument they could to discredit their leader.

### Brilliant Strategy.

But while almost the entire country was losing heart, Washington was planning a brilliant stroke to revive the patriotism of the people and the enthusiasm of his troops. He determined to strike a blow at the British forces in New Jersey, a dangerous thing to do, one must admit, when it is remembered that he was outnumbered six to one.

He was too wise a man to risk battle with the main British force. He decided to attack one of the detachments

occupying the various cities of New Jersey. After careful deliberation he selected Trenton as the point to be stormed. It was nearest his own position across the river and the majority of the troops there were Hessians, German soldiers England had hired to fight in America. Cornwallis and Howe had gone to New York with their staffs, where social life and gaiety was at a higher pitch than in the little New Jersey towns.

### Left Trail of Blood.

Washington's plan was to cross the river Christmas night with a body of picked troops, a time when he thought the German commander, Colonel Rahl, and his officers and men would be carousing. He assembled the attacking force quietly on his side of the river.

Some of the troops Washington had ordered to join him failed to arrive at the crossing point in time. But despite that disappointment Washington pushed on. He determined to make the attack with the column he had accompanied. Washington's troops were so poorly clad on the march that day that a courier from General Gates in Philadelphia was able to trail Washington's force by bloody footprints in the snow. When men key their courage to that point nothing can stop them.

### Patriots' Powder Spilled.

Delay at the ferry made an attack before daylight impossible. Washington had hoped to surprise the British and Hessians. The river was filled with floating ice and it looked for a time as if most of the little army might be drowned in crossing. But fortune smiled on them and none was lost.

Once on the New Jersey side, at a point about nine miles from Trenton,



Washington Watching the Last of His Troops Land Before the Battle.

a terrific storm of snow and sleet drove into the faces of the soldiers. It soon ruined what little powder Washington's men had, so the order was passed to rely on the bayonet. Washington

divided his men into two columns, one under General Sullivan and one under General Greene. They were to march by different roads and attack the British outposts simultaneously.

### "Advance and Charge!"

General Sullivan became somewhat dubious about the outcome while on the march and sent a messenger to Washington to ask what should be done. "Advance and charge," was Washington's succinct reply. Washington said in his report the next day that he might have retreated at this time had he thought he could have crossed the river without being discovered by the British.

It was nearly eight o'clock before the American advance met the first British outposts. The latter were attacked quickly and driven back on the town without trouble. A rattle of musketry from the outposts announced the beginning of the battle. Wayne Whipple says in his "Life of Washington" that the Americans were so mad that morning that they would have attacked the British with broomsticks.

Washington's surmise about Colonel Rahl and his officers was correct. They had spent the night at the home of Abraham Hunt, drinking and making merry. Hunt had furnished them an elaborate Christmas supper. While the supper was in progress, late that night, a negro servant entered the room and gave Colonel Rahl a note. The latter thrust it in his pocket without looking at it. It was fortunate for America that he was too drunk to act properly, for that note was from a Tory warning him of Washington's approach.

### Hessian Colonel Killed.

While the officers drank and sang Washington's men had fought their way into the outskirts of the town. The British cannon was captured and trained down the streets on their former owners. The sound of firing brought realization of the danger to Colonel Rahl and he rushed from the Hunt house to form his men. He was a brave man, but he had stayed too long at his merrymaking. More than a thousand Hessians had surrendered already. Colonel Rahl rallied some men and made a show of resistance. Almost the first fire wounded him mortally.

When the Hessians saw their commander fall, some of them started to retreat toward Princeton. But Washington sent a detachment to head them off and they soon surrendered.

Long before noon the Americans were in possession of the entire city and the British and Hessian prisoners were being transported across the river for safe-keeping. Washington sent couriers to congress with the joyful news. It spread quickly over the country and enthused the cause of liberty so well that Washington was able to hold his army together and face the British in the spring with determination and courage.

## FARMS THE SOURCE OF WEALTH

Careful Tillage, Good Management and a Beneficent Soil.

Reading the reports of the managers of the chartered banks in Canada, one is struck by the wonderful showing that they have made during the past two or three years. They are careful in their statements, and while they attribute the success that they have met with, together with that which has followed other lines of business, they are careful to emphasize the fact that the condition of big business may not continue. On the other hand, they point out that the material and fundamental source of wealth is the farm. While other lines of business may have their setbacks, and while care and scrupulous care, will have to be exercised to keep an even balance, there is but little risk to the farmer who on economic and studied lines will carry on his branch of industry and endeavor to produce what the world wants not only today, but for a long distance into the future, with a greater demand than ever in the past.

Speaking recently before a Canadian bank board at its annual meeting, the vice president, once a farmer himself, said:

"The farm is the chief source of wealth. We have now three transcontinental railways with branches running through thousands of miles of the very best undeveloped agricultural land in the world. In the natural course of things, these must attract immigration. The products of the farm are now commanding the highest prices ever known, and in my opinion even after the end of the war, high prices for foodstuffs must continue to prevail. With the mechanical appliances now available for farm work, the farmer needs no considerable supply of extra capital, but should be helped to the extent needed upon good security. The food supply of the world is short, the demand is likely to increase rather than decrease. Development of mines, extension of factories and the reconstruction of devastated Europe must all call for supplies for the workers. On the whole, the farmer has been helped rather than hurt by the war, and will continue to be, at least for a long time to come."

Many men of authority and intelligence support what the vice president has said, and their statements are borne out by the facts that readily present themselves. The different grain-producing countries of Europe have been robbed of the man power that developed their agriculture, the farms have been devastated and laid waste. Full and complete reliance will have to be placed on the United States and Canada, and from what we see today, it will take the combined forces of these two countries to come anywhere near meeting the cry that will go out for food. The warnings and appeals sent out by the heads of these two countries are none too soon nor too urgent. Therefore, it becomes necessary for those who can produce to exert themselves. Secure land, rent it, buy it. Get it somewhere, some way, and have it operated. The Canadian Government, sending out its appeal, is not selfish in this matter. Thousands of acres in the United States await the tiller's efforts, and none of it should be idle. Canada, too, offers wonderful advantages, with its free lands and its low-priced lands, to those desirous of helping the nation, and improving their own condition at the same time. Many are taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity.—Advertisement.

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