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BROCHURE

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Brochure of Bunker Hill.

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JAMES R. OSGOOD & CO., 131 Franklin Street, Boston.



THE BATTLE.

A FTER the battle of Lexington, troops began to assemble around Boston; and before long there were some 15,000 men collected, poorly equipped, and each body commanded by an independent officer. The Mass. Committee of Safety, learning that Gen. Gage, shut up with his troops in Boston, was planning to extend his lines, and include Dorchester Heights and Bunker Hill, issued the following order.

In Commillee of Sofity le amb nage dune 15: 1775 of this Golony, that possession of the Kill balled Bunkin hills in north town be deculy hept and defended and alls o some one hills on Donkula be likewise I leaved. Thenford Unanmously a recommended to the Council of Wars that the abovementioned Buntons hill be maint etalned by afficient force being posted there and as the particular Sittuation of Dorchester man is unknown to this tomm itselling advise that the Council of war porsus such It spi respecting the Same us to them Shall appear to be for the Sunty of this clony. Benze. White Chairman,







CHARLESTOWN FROM BEACON H LL. IN 1775.

So a force of 1,000 men was sent one night, under command of Col. Prescott, to erect some earthworks for the protection of Bunker Hill. His men were mostly farmers: they had no uniforms, and carried fowling-pieces without bayonets. They formed on Cambridge Common, and, after a prayer by Pres. Langdon of Harvard College, marched at nine, P.M., June 16, 1775. Col. Prescott was at the head, preceded by two sergeants carrying dark-lanterns; and the intrenching-tools, in carts, brought up the rear. They marched so silently, that they were not heard; and the bells of Boston had struck twelve before they turned a sod. It was finally decided to fortify Breed's Hill, as being nearer to Boston, instead of Bunker Hill. The work was soon begun. As they worked, they could hear the sentinels from the British men-of-war cry, "All's well!" As day dawned, the newly-made earthworks, which had been raised about six feet during the night, were seen from the ships, which began to fire on them, as did a battery on Copp's Hill in Boston. The Americans, protected by their works, were not at first injured by the balls, but kept steadily at work, strengthening the intrenchments, and making, inside of them, platforms of wood and earth, upon which they could stand when ordered to fire. Early in the day, a private was killed by a cannon-ball, when some of the men left the hill. To inspire confidence, Col. Prescott mounted the parapet, and walked leisurely around it, inspecting the works, giving directions to the officers, and encouraging the men by approbation, or amusing them with humor. This had the intended effect; and the men became indifferent to the cannonade, or received the balls with repeated cheers.

Gen. Gage, with his telescope, watching Col. Prescott as he moved about the works, asked Councillor Willard, who stood near, "Will he fight?" Willard, recognizing the tall, commanding form of his brother-in-law, replied, "Yes, sir, to the last drop of his blood."—"The works must be carried," was the reply. It was now the 17th of June. The day was intensely hot. Three thousand British soldiers were embarked in boats, and sent across to Charlestown. Prescott placed his men as he best could, behind the

half-finished mounds; and a detachment was stationed at a rail-fence,* on the edge of Bunker Hill, to keep the British troops from flanking the redoubt. This rail-fence was afterwards filled in with newmown hay, to screen better those behind it. Without food, without water, and with very little ammunition, the Americans awaited their opponents. There were from 2,000 to 3,000 behind the breastworks, and 4,000 British to attack them; and the Americans were almost without drill or discipline, while the British troops were veteran regiments. On the other hand, the British were obliged to advance in open field, while the Americans were behind their earthworks, - a far safer position. There they waited as quietly as they could, while Putnam, Prescott, and others moved about among them, saying, "Aim low." "Wait till you can see the whites of their eyes." The British soldiers marched forward slowly; for they were oppressed with the heat, and were burdened with their knapsacks of provisions. But they marched with great regularity, and entire confidence. They fired as they went; but only a few scattering shots were fired in return. On, on, they came, till they were within some ten rods of the redoubt. Then the word, "Fire!" was given; and, when the smoke cleared away, the ground was strewed with the British soldiers, and the survivors had already begun to retreat. A great cheer went up from the forts; and the shout was echoed from the rail-fence. The Americans behind the fence were next attacked by the right wing of the British. The Americans withheld their fire till the last moment; and three-fourths of the advancing soldiers fell, and the rest faltered. Twice the British advanced, and twice they were driven backwards: while very few of the Americans were hurt. In the mean while, a carcass (a kind of bomb-shell), and hot shot were thrown from Copp's Hill into Charlestown, which set the village on fire; † and the dense smoke arising from the burning buildings shrouded the heights in the rear. Beneath this veil the British hoped to rush unobstructed up to the breastworks, scale them, and drive the Americans out at the point of the bayonet. At that moment a gentle zephyr, the first that had been felt on that sultry day, came from the west, and swept the smoke away seaward, exposing to the full view of the Americans the advancing columns of the enemy. A third attack was now made upon the main fort. The British officers were seen threatening the soldiers, and even striking and pricking them, to make them advance; but they were very unwilling. Prescott passed round the ranks, telling his men, that, if the British were once more driven back, they could not rally again; and his men shouted, "We are ready for the red-coats again," But Prescott knew that their powder was almost gone, and told them to reserve their fire till the British were

^{*} See map on page 13.

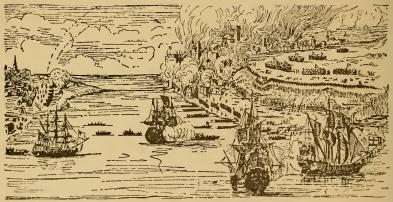




within twenty yards. Once more they awaited their assailants, who now advanced with fixed bayonets, without firing, and under the protection of batteries of artillery. Most of the Americans had but one round of ammunition left, and few had more than three. Scarcely any had bayonets. Their last shots were soon fired; and there was nothing for them but to retreat as they best could. They fell back slowly, one by one, losing far more men in the retreat than in the battle. Putnam used every exertion to keep them firm. He commanded, pleaded, cursed, and swore like a madman, and was seen at every point in tne van, trying to rally the scattered corps, swearing that victory should crown the Americans. "Make a stand here," he exclaimed; "we can stop them yet! In God's name, fire, and give them one shot more!" The gallant old Pomeroy, also, with his shattered musket in his hand, implored them to rally, but in vain. Prescott, among the last to leave, was surrounded by the British, who made passes at him with the bayonet, which he skilfully parried with his sword. "He did not run, but stepped along, with his sword up," escaping unharmed, though his banyan and waistcoat were pierced in several places.* Among the slain was the brave Gen. Warren, president of the Provincial Congress, who was there only as a volunteer, not in command. "Not all the havoc and devastation they have made has wounded me like the death of Warren," wrote the wife of John Adams, three weeks afterward. "We want him in the senate; we want him in his profession; we want him in the field. We mourn for the citizen, the senator, the physician, and the warrior." Gen. Howe declared his death was equal to the loss of 500 men to the Americans.

The battle was not claimed as a victory by the Americans; and yet it roused their enthusiasm very much. The ranks of the Continental army were filled up, and the troops were in high spirits. On the other hand, the greatest surprise was felt in England at the courage shown by the Americans in this contest, and the great number of killed and wounded among the British troops. By the official accounts, the British loss in killed and wounded was 1,054, including an unusually large proportion of officers; being one in four of the whole force engaged. The Americans loss was not more than 450.

This battle was of the greatest importance to the colonies. First, it settled the question that there was to be a war, which many people had not before believed. Secondly, it showed that inexperienced American soldiers could resist regular troops. It is said, that, when Washington heard of it, he only asked, "Did the militia stand fire?" And when he was told that they did, and that they reserved their own till their opponents were within eight rods, he said, "The liberties of the country are safe." "Americans will fight," wrote Franklin to his English friends. "England has lost her colonies forever."



A flight of shells, fraught with destructive flame!

A flight of shells, fraught with destructive flame!

A scene ensu'd might fill the brave with dread;

From house, to house, the conflagration spread:

Ear-piercing shrieks; heart-rending groans, and cries;

And terrifying shouts of victry rise:

A midst the desolating wild uproar,

Forth rush'd th' inhabitants from ev'ry door:

To sex, nor age, no place an azyle yields;

In crouds they ran, and sought th' adjacent fields:

Swifter than they, the rapid bullets flew,
And some ill-fated persons overthrew:
From hope exc'uded, in a wi d dismay,
The town untenable, the troops gave way:
To Bunker's hill they fled, and in their rear,
In close pursuit, the regulars drew near:
The trenches gain'd, they fac'd, and made a stand,
And intermix'd with Warren's chosen band;
Follow'd by Pigot with a martial frown,
Wrapp'd in the vapour of the burning town."

This illustration and extract are from "The American War," a poem by George Cockings, published in London in 1781.







PLAN OF REDOUBT. EXPLANATION.—A A, two strong fences, of stones and rails; a and b, two well-contrived flanks, so arranged that their fires crossed within 20 yards of the face of redoubt; c, another well-arranged flank; d, a bastion, with its flanks e and b; m, a examl portion of a trench, extending from eastern side of redoubt bough at foot of hill, toward Mystic River. On south-east side of redoubt was a deep hollow. Two cannons were placed in embrasures at the front of redoubt, in the two salient angles of which were large apple-trees. This plan appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine, London, and is printed here as a curious memorial of the battle.

John Stark Findel Butnam In Thomas War Trescoth Asternas Ward Ji Nixon Tho: Gages Gesheid Johnsoyne Mieth Meus Right Moroday Sollamen







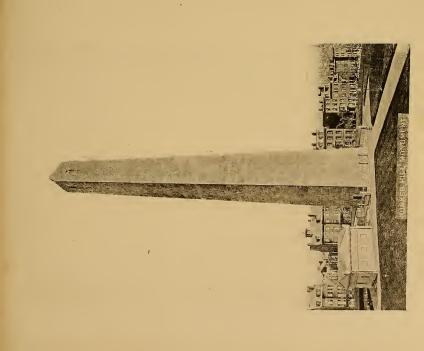


BUNKER-HILL MONUMENT.

THIS monument stands in the centre of the grounds included within the old redoubt on Breed's Hill, and its sides are precisely parallel with those of the redoubt. It is built of Quincy granite, and is 221 feet in height. The foundation is composed of six courses of stone, and extends 12 feet below the surface of the ground and base of the shaft. The four sides of the foundation extend about 50 feet horizontally. There are in the whole pile 90 courses of stone, 6 of them below the surface of the ground, and 84 above. The foundation is laid in lime-mortar; the other parts of the structure, in lime-mortar mixed with cinders, iron-filings, and Springfield hydraulic cement. The base of the obelisk is 30 feet square; at the spring of the apex, 15 feet. Inside of the shaft is a round, hollow cone, the outside diameter of which, at the bottom, is 10 feet, and at the top, 6 feet. Around this inner shaft winds a spiral flight of stone steps, 295 in number. In both the cone and shaft are numerous little apertures for the purposes of ventilation and light. The observatory, or chamber at the top of the monument, is 17 feet in height, and 11 feet in diameter. It has four windows, one on each side, which are provided with iron shutters. The cap-piece of the apex is a single stone, 31 feet in thickness, and 4 feet square at its base It weighs two and one-half tons, and was raised to its place by a pair of shears. rigged directly over the monument, one leg on each side, resting upon timbers projecting from four windows. The shears were sloped towards the city. As no holes could be drilled into the block, projections were left on two sides, like ears. o which the ropes were attached. It was then raised, and deposited in its place, without any trouble, or the slightest accident. Almost fifty years had elapsed from the time of the battle, before a movement

was made to erect a commemorative monument on Breed's Hill. An association for the purpose was founded in 1824; and to give éclat to the transaction, and to excite enthusiasm in favor of the work, Gen. Lafayette, then "the nation's guest," was invited to lay the corner-stone.

Accordingly, on the 17th of June, 1825, the 50th anniversary of the battle, the corner-stone was laid under the direction of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge of Masons. Lafayette assisted in the interesting ceremony; and the Hon. Daniel Webster pronounced an oration on the occasion, in the midst of an immense concourse of people. The day was every thing that could be desired. The military and civic bodies appeared to great advantage, while the presence of Lafayette gave an added eclat to the pageant. Some forty survivors of the battle appeared in the ranks of the procession, and one aged veteran stood up in the midst of the multitude, and exhibited the simple equipments he wore when a soldier of Prescott's Spartan band. Not Webster, not even the noble Frenchman, so moved the hearts of the people, as did these old men, with their white hairs, their bowed forms, and their venerable aspect. The plan of the monument, by Solomon Willard of Boston, having been approved, the present structure was commenced, in 1827, by James Savage of the same city. After a year, the work was suspended, on account of a want of funds, about \$56,000 having then been collected and expended. The work was resumed in 1834, and again suspended, within a year, for the same cause, about \$20,000 more having been expended, In 1840 the ladies moved in the matter. A fair was announced to be held in Boston; and every female in the United States was invited to contribute some production of her own hands to the exhibition. The fair was held at Faneuil Hall, in September, 1840. The proceeds, \$30,000, amounted to sufficient, in connection with some private donations, to complete the structure; and, within a few weeks subsequently, a contract was made with Mr. Savage to finish it for \$43,000. The last stone of the apex was raised at about six o'clock on the morning of the 23d of July, 1842. Edward Carnes, jun., of Charlestown, accompanied its ascent, waving the American flag as he went up, while the interesting event was announced to the surrounding country by the roar of cannon. On the 17th of June, 1843, the monument was dedicated, on which occasion the Hon. Daniel Webster was again the orator, and vast was the audience of citizens and military assembled there. The President of the United States (Mr. Tyler) and his whole cabinet were present. "Mr. Webster was himself on that day; and his apostrophe to the gigantic shaft was as grand and noble as the subject was lofty and sublime. Waving his hand toward the towering structure, he said, 'The powerful speaker stands motionless before us.' He was himself deeply moved. The sight of such an immense sea of upturned faces, - he had never before addressed such a multitude, - he afterwards spoke of as awful and oppressive. The applause from a hundred thousand throats surged in great waves around the orator, completing in his mind the parallel of Old Ocean."





The following is the speech delivered by Daniel Webster, at the banquet on the occasion of laying the corner-stone of the monument, June 17, 1825. It is a reduced copy of the original manuscript, in Mr. Webster's own handwriting, now in the possession of Mr. Francis C. Whiston, who was the toast-master on that occasion, to whom it was handed by Mr. Webster after the delivery.

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The Masonic apron here sketched was the one worn by Lafayette during the ceremony of laying the cornerstone. It was of heavy white silk, with a deep purple border, and is now in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts, to whom it was presented on the 9th of June, 1875, by Mr. Whiston, who had carefully preserved it during the half-century. It will be worn on the Centennial by the Deputy Grand Master.

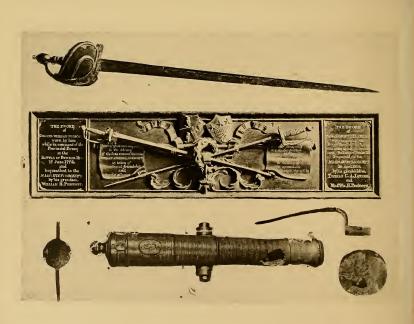
The Masonic apron worn by Joseph Warren, as Grand Master, has also come into the possession of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and will be worn on the Centennial by Mr. Percival L. Everett, G.M., through whose courtesy the illustration on second page of cover has been obtained.

The following is the reply of Gen. Lafayette to Mr. Webster's speech, the original of which is in Mr. Whiston's possession:—

General Nafayeth Note and expressed himself in the following should

In Gentlemen I swill not began traspett on your time. than to thank year in the name of my hovolationers Congranions in arms and myself, for the listinonies of estern and affections I may say, of filial affection Which have been bestowed upon us on the memorable alchation of this arriversery day, and to offer our favent prayers for the preservation of that Regullian freedown, Equality, and self government, that blessed union Notition the states of the confederacy for Which we have fought and soler, and on which lest the loyer of markind. Persuit we to propose the following sentiment: -

Braker-hill, and the holy heistane to opposion withink has already laftened the anceian temple, The ment half century bubile's tout shall be, to a franchised larger



RELICS OF THE BATTLE.

ON the opposite page are shown Gen. Brooks's sword, an Engil h bayonet, cannon-ball, and a curious shot, supposed to have been fired red hot, so that the points, piercing wooden buildings, set them on fire; the three latter were dug up in Charlestown some years ago. The following beautiful poem, witten by the late Rev. Dr. N. L. Frothingham, was read when the Prescott and Linzee swords were presented to the Massachusetts Historical Society:—

THE CROSSED SWORDS.

Swords crossed, — but not in strife!
The chiefs who drew them, parted by the space
Of two proud countries' quarrel, face to face
Ne'er stood for death or life.

Swords crossed, that never met
While nerve was in the hands that wielded them;
Hands better destined a fair family stem
On those free shores to set.

Kept crossed by gentlest bands!
Emblems no more of battle, but of peace;
And proof how loves can grow and wars can cease,
Their once stern symbol stands.

It smiled first on the array
Of marshalled books and friendliest companies;
And here, a history among histories,
It sail shall smile for ave.

See that thou memory keep,
Of him the firm comman er; and that other,
The stainless judge; and him our peerless brother,
All fallen now asleep.

Yet more: a lesson teach.
To cheer the partiot-so dier in his course,
That Right shall triumph still o'er insolent Force:
That be your silent speech.
Oh, he prophetic toa!

Office propieties too!

And may those nations twain, as sign and seal Of endless amity, hang up their steel,

As we these weapons do!

The archives of the Past,
So smeared with blots of hate and bloody wrong,
Pining for peace, and sick to wait so long,
Hail this meek cross at last.

The cannon, the Adams, and its companion, the Hancock, now at the top of the monument, were two of four brass cannon which the General Court, in November, 1766, purchased for the use of the Boston Artillery, and were kept in a gun-house, corner of West and Tremont Streets. Early in 1775, when Gen. Gage was about to seize them, they were taken off their carriages, carried into a schoolhouse, in the same yard, and placed in a large wood-box under the master's desk. The gun-house, yard, and schoolhouse were searched; but the master placing his foot, which was lame, on the box, the officer, with true courtesy, on that account excused him from rising. After a fortnight, they were taken, one night, in a large tunnk, on a wheelbarrow, to Whiston's blacksmith-shop, at the South End, and hidden under the coal, from whence they were put into a boat in the night, and safely transported within the American lines. The guns were in actual service through the whole war; and after peace, at the request of the State, they were returned, by order of Congress, with the arms of the State, and this inscription chiselled upon them in bold re'ief: "The Adams: Sacred to Liberty. This is one of four cannon, which constituted the whole train of Field Artillery possessed by the British Colonies of North America at the commencement of the war, on the 19th of April, 1775. This cannon and its fellow, belonging to a number of citizens of Boston, were did many engagements during the war. The other two, the property of the Government of Massachusetts, were taken by the enemy. By order of the United States in Congress assembled, May 104, 1783." These two cannon were for a long time in charge of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, and by them the Adams was burst in firing a salute.

MONUMENTS TO WARREN.



The Freemasons have the honor of taking the initiative in a structure to commemorate the heroic death of their Grand Master, Joseph Warren. In 1794 King Solomon's Lodge of Charlestown erected a Tuscan column of wood, elevated on a brick pedestal eight feet square, and surmounted by a gilded urn, bearing the age and initials of the illustrious dead, encircled with Masonic emblems. The whole height of the pillar was twenty-eight feet. The face of the south side of the base bore the following inscription:—

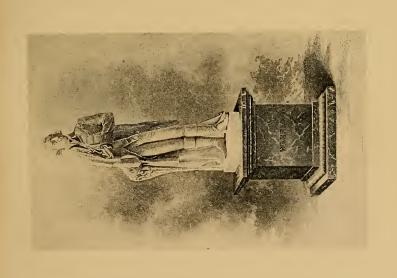
Erected, A.D. MDCCXCIV. by King Solomon's Lodge of Freemasons, constituted in Charlestown, 1783, in Memory of Major General Juseph Warren, and his A-sociates, who were slain on this memorable spot, June 173, 1775. None but they who set a just value on the blessings of Liberty are worthy to enjoy her. In vain we toiled; in vain we fought; we bled in vain; if you, our offspring, want valor to repel the assaults of her invaders. Charlestown settled, 1628. Burnt, 1775. Rebuilt, 1776. The enclosed land given by the Hon. James Russell.

A beautiful marble model of this monument, which stood 30 years, may still be seen within the present obelisk, with the following inscription:—

This is an exact model of the first Monument erected on Bunker Hill. Which, with the land on which it stood, was given, A.D. 1825, by King Solomon's Lodge, of this town, to the Bunker-Hill Monument Association, that they might erect upon its site a more imposing

structure. The association, in fulfilment of a pledge at that time given, have allowed, within their imperishable obelisk, this Model to be inserted, with appropriate ceremonies, by King Solomon's Lodge, June 24th, A.D 1845.

At a meeting of the Bunker-Hill Monument Association, July 1, 1850, Col. Thomas II, Perkins offered \$1,000 towards a monument in honor of Warren. This amount, with other subscriptions, purchased the beautiful statue, executed by Henry Dexter, a picture of which appears on the opposite page. The base, of verd-antique, was furnished by the heirs of John C. Warren. "The statue is seven feet high, of the best Italian marble, and weighed in the block about seven tons. The right hand rests upon a sword, the left being raised, as in the act of giving emphasis to his utterance. The chest is thrown out; the head, which is uncovered, is elevated; and upon the broad brow, and the firm, manly features of the face, thought and soul are unmistakably stamped." It was dedicated June 17, 1857, with magnificent ceremonies.





The following note is the last word from Joseph Warren, under his own hand, and was written on the day before he was killed. The original is among the Heath Papers belonging to the Mass. Hist. Soc. : -



Mr. E. N. Coburn of Charlestown has in his possession a cannon-ball, which, he supposes it may be fair to presume, was the one which partially demolished a gravestone, situated in the old Phipps-Street Burial-Ground, of which the cut is a very accurate representation. The tradition preserved, and which Mr. Coburn has often heard repeated by numbers of the old inhabitants in years gone by, is, that it was struck on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill by a cannon-ball fired from a British vessel. It is located very nearly in a line with the redoubt, and the position occupied by the "Falcon," a British sloop-of-war, on that day, which was so stationed as to cover the first landing of the British troops. The irregular dark lines upon the face indicate cracks produced by the concussion. This cannon-ball, now considerably corroded, was taken out of the ground in his presence, in 1858, from a depth of twelve to fifteen inches, and within eight feet of the face, which is opposite the side struck.

In the compilation of this brochure, extracts have been freely made from Thomas W. Higginson's "Young Folks' History of the United

States," published by Messrs. Lee and Shepard; Richard Frothingham's "Siege of Boston" and "Life and Times of Joseph Warren;" "Lossing's Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution," in which the illustrations on pages 13 and 28 first appeared; and S. A. Drake's "Historic Fields of Middlesex." The heliotype on page 4 is copied from the steel engraving in Irving's "Life of Washington," through the courtesy of the publishers, Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons of New York. The heliotype on page 7 is a copy of the large painting, "Prescott's Defence of the Redoubt at the Battle of Bunker Hill." The officer on the left, with uplitted sword, is Gen Howe. In the centre appears Gen. Prescott, wearing his banyan and three-cornered hat, and parrying the bayonets thrust at him by the regulars. On the right is the brave Pomeroy, with his broken musket, trying to stop the retreat; also Gen. Putnam on horseback, striving to bring up re-enforcements, and uttering imprecations on the retreating soldiers.*

^{*} Heliotypes of this fine painting, beautifully printed on heavy plate paper, 22 x 28, are mailed, post-paid. on receipt of \$\(\)^4 Address A. O. Crane & Co., 95 Kingston Street, Boston. Trade supplied by James R. Osgood & Co., 131 Frankin Street.

LIBERTY TREE.

THERE is no spot is Boston of greater historical interest than the Southerly Corner of Essex and Washington Streets, where stood the celebrated Liberty Tree of Revolutionary Days. Lafayette said, when in Boston, "The world should never forget the spot where once stood Liberty Tree, so famous in your annals." The inscription on the building now

there, with the picture of the old elm, shows that the injunction has been heeded. This tree was used on the first occasion of the resistance of the patriots to the odious Stamp Act, the effigies of King George's officials being hung from its branches. In August 1775 it had become so obnoxious to the British and Tories, that they furiously assaulted it with axes, and cut it down. The grounds about it became known as "Liberty Hall." From a flag-staff above its branches was unfurled the first flag that was the signal for the assembling of the Sons of Liberty. A second pole was placed in the old stump in 1826, and Judge Dawes wrote some patriotic lines beginning.

"Of high renown here grew the tree, The ELM so dear to LIBERTY,



LIBERTY TREE.

Your sires beneath its sacred shade, To Freedom, early homage paid."

"Liberty Tree Tavern" occupied the spot where the Tree stood, in 1833, and now a large, handsome block is there, in which the EAGLE CLOTHING COMPANY enjoy the liberty of selling Clothing at prices that defy competition. Their establishment is one of the most extensive in Boston, and the stock of ·Men's and Boy's Clothing which they have constantly on hand, enables them to guarantee satisfaction to all who visit them. If, in former days the old Liberty Tree was a famous spot to the patriots, Liberty Tree Block is to-day also made popular by the low rates of the EAGLE CLOTHING COMPANY. They have but One Price, and they never put a Tax upon their merchandise to

bring upon themselves the STAMP of public indignation. Thus all loyal citizens rally around the spot where Liberty Tree once stood, and where they know that instead of a fight, they are sure to find handsome treatment and satisfactory bargains.

$WASHINGTON'S \quad HEADQUARTERS.$

OFFICE OF

Daniel Webster

1838

TO

1852,



OCCUPIED BY

S. S. PIERCE

1831

TO

1875.

WASHINGTON'S LODGINGS.

S. S. PIERCE & CO.

Grocers, Importers and Wine Dealers,

Cor. Tremont and Court Sts.

BOSTON.

Franklin Press, Rand, Avery & Co., Boston.













