

true Knickerbocker in the fullest sense of the word, bred and trained on its battle-fields which constituted this colony, as it has been appropriately styled, the "Cock-pit of America." Yes, New York was to the Thirteen Colonies, that which Belgium or Flanders or the old Netherlands had and has been for centuries in Europe, the battle-field between France and England. During our embryo condition, New York was to France and England exactly what Sicily became in the prophetic language of Pyrrhus, for Rome and for Carthage, the training-ground for British and French soldiers and generals, their regulars, provincials, and Colonial militia.

In a similar school to that of Schuyler, and among many of the principal actors on the fields of 1776 and 1777, Washington prepared himself for his extraordinary station, and with such experience, Schuyler made himself the eminently useful man he turned out to be—sufficiently practical to ruin so renowned a professional as Burgoyne, to whom all the world imputed genius.

He was the second Major General nominated by the Colonial Congress, second only in *grade* to Washington, and second to no man in the virtues which constitute one of nature's nobility—second in nothing that is requisite to complete and make up the Christian gentleman.

To whom, of all our continental major generals, excepting Washington, would such language as this be applicable unless to Major General Philip Schuyler.

To those present, who may not be intimately acquainted with the history of the American Revolution, such language may appear like exaggeration. No one will esteem it so when he hears the following attest from the pen of one of our most truthful, judicious, learned and reliable men—the venerable Chancellor James Kent:

"Among the patriots of the American Revolution who asserted the rights of their country in council, and equally vindicated its cause in the field, the name of Philip Schuyler stands pre-eminent. In acuteness of intellect, profound thought, indefatigable activity, exhaustless energy, pure patriotism, and persevering and intrepid public efforts, he had no superior."

Again, this distinguished man remarked in a discourse before this very Society in 1828: "If the military life of General Schuyler was inferior in brilliancy to that of some others of his countrymen, none of them ever surpassed him in fidelity, activity, and devotedness to the service. The characteristic of all his