

ordered forward those of Connecticut. Of all these, however, comparatively few reached the line before the action was decided. Many never reached Charlestown at all; others delayed at Prospect Hill, appalled at the tremendous fire with which the British swept the Neck, while the others came no further than Bunker Hill.

It was nearly 3 o'clock in the afternoon when reinforcements having arrived all was ready in the British line for the attack, and it is time to consider the character of the defences erected, and their position as well as the forces by which they were then manned. The redoubt which would enclose the spot where the monument now stands was upon the crest of Breed's Hill, an eminence about seventy feet in height. It was about eight rods square, with its front towards the south, overlooking the town and Charles River. Its southeastern angle directly faced Copp's Hill, while its eastern side fronted extensive fields which lay between it and Moulton's Point; Moulton Hill, then about 30 feet in height, but now levelled with the surface of the ground, was situated between it and Moulton's Point. The eastern side of the redoubt was prolonged by a breastwork detached by a sally port which extended for about one hundred yards towards a marsh, while the northern side overlooked the Mystic River, from which it was distant about five hundred yards.

For this work the conflict was now about to take place. It had, however, been strengthened upon the side toward the Mystic by a protection without which it would have been untenable, and this addition had been made while General Howe was waiting for reinforcements, by the forethought of Prescott, the skilful conduct of Knowlton, and the fortunate arrival of Stark. Immediately upon the first landing, observing an intention on the part of the British General of moving along the Mystic, and thus attempting to outflank the Americans, Prescott had directed Knowlton with the Connecticut detachment, and with two field pieces, to oppose them. Captain Knowlton, with his men, who, it will be remembered, were of the original command of Prescott, moved about six hundred feet to the rear of the redoubt upon the side toward the Mystic, and took a position there, near the base of Bunker Hill properly so called, finding a fence which extended towards the Mystic, the foundation of which was of stone, and upon it two rails. Rapidly making, with the materials he found, another fence a few yards distant, he filled the interval with grass from the fields which the mower of yesterday had passed over, but upon which the great reaper was to gather to day a rich harvest. While thus engaged, Stark (a part of whose men were detained at Bunker Hill by Putnam on his proposed work there), followed closely by Read, arrived, and perceiving instantly the importance of his position for the defence of the entrenchments, for the way, as he says, for the enemy was "so plain he could not miss it," extended the line of Knowlton by rails and stones taken from adjoining fences, until it reached the river, making on the extreme left on the beach a strong stone wall. As the rail fence was so far to the rear of the redoubt there was of course an interval which some slight attempt had been made to close and where also was posted the artillery of the Americans, which, however insufficient of itself and feebly served was of little importance during the action.

The peninsula where the struggle was to take place was in full view across the calm waters of the harbor, and of the Charles and

Mystic rivers, whose banks were lined with people, who with mournful and anxious hearts awaited the issue, while each house top in the town was covered with eager spectators. From Copp's Hill, General Gage, with Burgoyne and Clinton, surrounded by troops, ready themselves to move at an instant's warning, watches the onset of his forces.

The champions are not unworthy of the arena in which they stand. To those who love the pomp and circumstance of war, the British troops present a splendid array. The brilliant light flashes back from the scarlet uniforms, the showy equipments, the glittering arms, as they move there is seen the effect of that discipline whose object is to put at the disposal of the one who commands the strength and courage of the thousands whom he leads. They are of the best and most tried troops of the British army, and some of the regiments have won distinguished honor on the battle fields of Europe, in the same wars in which the colonies had poured out their blood on this side of the Atlantic in hearty and generous support of the British crown.

Their veteran officers are men who have seen service in Europe and America, and their younger officers, like Lord Rawdon and Lord Harris, bear names afterwards distinguished in the chronicles of British warfare. The second in command is Brigadier General Pigot, slight in person, but known as an officer of spirit and judgment, and their leader Major General Howe bears a name which had been loved and honored in America. The monument which Massachusetts reared in Westminster Abbey to his older brother, Lord Howe, who fell while leading a column of British and Americans at Ticonderoga in 1758, still stands to inscribe his name among the heroes of England, whose fame is guarded and enshrined within that ancient pile.

Above their lines waves the great British ensign, to which the colonies have always looked as the emblem of their country, and with them is the "King's name," which even yet is a tower of strength in the land. As nearly as we can estimate they number about four thousand men. General Gage's report indicates sufficiently that he does not intend to state the number engaged when he is compelled later to acknowledge the casualties of the day.

Upon the other side a different scene presents itself. As the battle is about to open, at the redoubt and upon its flanks are the troops of Massachusetts, at the rail fence are the troops of Connecticut and those of New Hampshire with a few men of Massachusetts. How many there are in all as in reference of the British force has never been ascertained, nor do the means exist of determining with accuracy. Regiments that are frequently spoken of as being present at the engagement were represented by but weak detachments. Towards the close of the battle a few more arrive, but not more than enough to make the place good of the losses that have in the meantime occurred. No judgment can be formed more accurate than that of Washington, who was so soon after called to the command of the army when many of the circumstances were investigated, and whose mature and carefully considered opinion was that at no time upon our side were more than fifteen hundred men actually engaged.

Roughly done, the works they have hastily made are yet formidable, the weakest part lying in the imperfectly closed gap between the breastwork and the rail fence. . .

(To be Continued.)

RIFLE COMPETITION.

THE RIFLE.

The annual competition of the Northumberland County Rifle Association was held at the Chatham Range on 29th ult. The wind was high and blew in such gusts as to make good shooting an impossibility. The number of competitors on the ground was about fifty. Brigadier Major McCulley was in charge of the field.

The first match was open to all members of the Association; Ranges 400, 500 and 600 yards, five rounds at each; Wimbledon targets and scoring. The prize winners were as follows:—

	Pts.
Jas Ferguson	53 \$8.00
Jas Pallen	53 7.00
John McKee	50 6.00
Andrew Hall	49 5.00
Hugh McDonald	47 5.00
Herbert Pallen	46 4.50
Alex McDonald	43 4.50
Alex Forrest	42 4.00
Rich Burbridge	42 4.00
John Pallen	42 4.00
Lt Col McCulley	41 3.50
N Bain	39 3.50
Fred'k Pallen	39 3.50
M J O'Keefe	37 3.00
Capt Wm Fenton	37 3.00
Lt Jas Fraser	35 3.00
Pte Manderson	33 2.50
D G Smith	33 2.50
Allan Cameron	30 2.50
Joseph Forrest	28 2.00
Wm Mather	28 2.00
Jas Perley	28 1.50
M T F Gillespie	28 1.50
F W Russell	27 1.00

The second match was open only to members of the Association who had never won an Association prize previous to the present meeting. The ranges were 400 and 500 yds. five rounds at each. The winners, with their scores and prizes were as follows:—

	Pts.
Donald Cameron	30 \$5.00
Peter McAdam	27 4.50
W N Bain	24 4.00
David Paterson	20 3.50
Chas Carmichael	18 3.50
C O Ericsson	17 3.00
Ronald McDonald	15 2.50
John Simpson	15 2.50
A P Henderson	7 2.50
John Dickson	6 2.50
Donald McDiarmid	6 2.00

THE MITCHELL CUP.

On Thursday of last week the Annual Match for the Challenge Cup presented by Hon. Peter Mitchell to No. 7 Battery of Artillery took place at the Chatham Range. The scores of the Competitors were as follows:

	Pts.
M J O'Keefe	46
Jas Pallen	46
J W Fraser	46
David Patterson	42
H Pallen	36
P McAdam	32

Mr. O'Keefe is, consequently, the possessor of the Cup for this year.—*Chatham (N.B) Advance.*