

the sides of the hill. The Saxons poured down arrows and other missiles upon them, and for a long time drove them back. But Arthur would not be repulsed, and at last, after a desperate struggle, the Britons gained the summit of the hill. They now fought their enemy hand to hand. They had a difficult task, for the Saxons gave them a warm reception, and made a most vigorous defence. All through the day the fighting went on, and towards evening it still seemed uncertain which side would gain the victory.

Arthur was provoked to see the little advantage the Britons had gained. He was determined that the fate of the day should no longer remain uncertain. He drew out his good sword Caliburn, and calling upon Christ to help him, he rushed forward into the thickest of the enemy's ranks. He seemed possessed of more than human power. No Saxon who felt the fury of his sword escaped alive. His Caliburn killed four hundred and seventy men.

The Britons seeing this, followed their King. The whole body of them fell upon the Saxons with terrible fury, and made great slaughter amongst them. Colgrin and all the Saxon leaders were slain. Many thousands of the common soldiers lay dead upon the field. The