

TRADITIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

Colonel Winslow had ample opportunity to study the progress of the war, which he followed with the most intense interest from the time of its inception at Lexington, where he acted as guide to the relieving party under Lord Percy whose opportune arrival saved the British expedition to Concord from capture or annihilation. He was at Boston when the battle of Bunker Hill was fought and the following year went with the army under General Howe to New York. There he received the appointment of Muster Master general of the Provincial, or Loyalist troops, and served in that capacity until the peace in 1783. The observations that follow are decidedly apropos at the present juncture. They were written by Colonel Winslow in the year 1781:—

“The nature of the present war in America is so peculiar, so different from what British armies have been formerly accustomed to, that experience acquired in other countries avails very little in this. Veterans who served campaigns in Germany, and are perfectly acquainted with the manœuvring of armies in regular sieges and defences, find themselves novices when engaged against an enemy like the present, and, bold as the assertion may appear, I venture to affirm that the British have gained near as much from their observations of the Provincial and American Troops as the latter have acquired from them. I will only mention one circumstance by way of illustration which does not in any way derogate from the honor of the British—God forbid that I should say or write any thing that did. When the British Light Infantry began their operations