

get their differences, unite as one people, and manage their affairs for themselves.

For this purpose the United Colonies must be independent, and now they had so declared themselves.

Samuel Adams' great work was now done. He left it to other leaders, like Washington and Greene, to bring the war to an end and compel England to acknowledge that the United States were free and independent.

Give an account of the general causes of the American Revolution. Tell the story of the Stamp Act and its repeal; of the tea tax and the "Tea Party."

Give an account of Samuel Adams during his earlier actions: in the Old South Church; in the Salem court-room; as he put the key in his pocket.

State what Congress did.

Tell how the idea of independence grew in the colonies.

Describe the different steps taken by Congress in July, 1776.

How did Wolfe aid in preparing the way for the United States? Could the colonies have helped pay the debt without being taxed by Parliament? What is a tax? Is there a Stamp tax to-day? What is a "Non-Importation Association"? Was Boston's destruction of the tea a worse act than those of the other towns? Can you think of any reason why Governor Gage called the General Court to meet at Salem rather than at Boston? Was the signing of the Declaration of Independence in any way a dangerous act?



PAUL REVERE



CHAPTER XVII

Paul Revere

1735-1818

PAUL REVERE, from his romantic story, is one of the most famous of the Revolutionists. His father was a goldsmith. Paul was trained in that business, and became expert in drawing and designing. When the Massachusetts State House was built on Beacon Hill in Boston, he was grand master of the Masonic Fraternity and laid the corner-stone. He was very skilful in working in copper and brass, and cast many church-bells and bronze cannon.

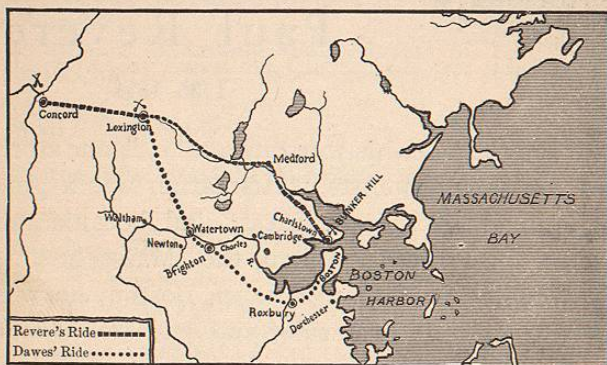
Revere was a very active patriot during the years preceding the Revolution. Together with William Dawes, he was a leader in a secret society of about thirty young men, who watched the movements of the British soldiers and observed the plans of the Tories. These young men took turns in patrolling the streets, and whatever they discovered they reported to John Hancock, Samuel Adams, and other patriots.

During this time Paul Revere went to Philadelphia to learn how to make gunpowder, and on his return he built a powder-mill and put it in successful operation. When the Boston "Tea Party" came off, which destroyed so great an

amount of tea in Boston harbor, Revere was one of the prime movers.

As we have seen in the story of Adams, General Gage determined to send an armed force to Concord to capture military stores secreted there. He also desired to arrest Samuel Adams and John Hancock, and to send them to England to be tried for treason.

These men were in Lexington preparing to go to Philadelphia to join the second Continental Congress. Gage was



HOW REVERE AND DAWES RODE THE NIGHT BEFORE LEXINGTON AND CONCORD.

all ready to send the troops from Boston to Lexington and Concord, when the patriot General Warren was told that they were about to start. This was on the night of the 18th of April, 1775. Warren at once decided to send William Dawes to Lexington by way of Roxbury, Brighton, and Watertown, and Paul Revere by way of Charlestown and Medford.

It was a wise precaution on the part of General Warren to send men to arouse the people and notify Adams and Hancock. Warren was shrewd and sagacious. He sent two men instead of one, so that if the British should capture one of

them, the other might perhaps get through. Then, again, Dawes would notify the people through what is now called Brookline, Brighton, and Watertown, while Revere waked them up along the road through Charlestown and Medford.

Now think of these two men, earnest in purpose and full of interest in the cause they served, galloping their horses along the country roads, stopping at the house of every minute-man, rapping upon the door, and calling upon him to arise, take his musket, powder-horn, and shot-bag, and hasten to Lexington to oppose and dispute the passage of the British soldiers through the country.

The dogs barked, the children were frightened, and a great commotion was stirred up everywhere. On they went, and at each farmhouse you might see the tin lantern hastily lighted, the minute-man buckle on his belt and cartridge-box, take down his musket from the two wooden pins over the door, kiss his wife good-by, saddle and bridle his horse almost as quickly as the story can be told, and ride post haste toward Lexington Green.

In the early hours of April 19th both the young men reached Lexington and gave notice to Adams and Hancock. There they were joined by Samuel Prescott, "a high son of liberty," and the three rode onward from Lexington toward Concord, arousing the people as heretofore. On their way, in the town of Lincoln, they met a party of British officers. Prescott at once put spurs to his horse, leaped over a stone wall, and galloped onward for Concord. Revere and Dawes were taken prisoners and were marched back to Lexington, where they were released.

And now, at about two o'clock in the morning, the bell of the old meeting-house at Lexington rang out in sharp and rapid peals. Its strokes were quick and heavy. It seemed to

say: "Rouse-ye, rouse-ye; wake-up, wake-up; free-dom, free-dom; liber-ty, liber-ty; all-awake, all-awake." This midnight peal soon brought together the people of the village, old and young, with their firelocks and ammunition, ready to defend their town and dispute the advance of the British.

Messages were sent everywhere to all the cross-roads, and the minute-men of the neighborhood were quickly notified. What a hurrying and scurrying was there! What intense anxiety! Men hastily leaving their homes unprotected, their wives weeping, the children scared out of sleep by the cries; the men for the first time in their lives taking arms, without guides, counsellors, or leaders, hurrying together with one common impulse to fight their common foe, the insolent British invaders!

At early dawn the British forces, eight hundred strong, drew up and formed a line of battle at the village of Lexington. They were led by Major Pitcairn, who, finding the minute-men ready to oppose his march, rode out in front of his troops and cried: "Disperse, ye villains! Ye rebels, disperse! Lay down your arms! Lay down your arms and disperse!" But the patriots stood motionless—"too few to resist, too brave to fly."

Pitcairn then drew his sword, discharged his pistol, and with a loud voice cried out, "Fire!" The patriots plainly saw that they could not oppose the progress of Pitcairn's army; so they quietly withdrew and left them to go on to Concord.

Among the most alert that morning was William Emerson, the minister of Concord. He came out gun in hand, his powder-horn and pouch of balls slung over his shoulder. By his sermons and his prayers his flock had learned to hold a defence of their liberties as a part of their covenant with God;

his presence with arms strengthened their sense of duty, though they would not allow him to fight.

The Americans made a stand at Concord Bridge. There the British fired upon them, and Major Buttrick, of Concord,



THE FIGHT AT CONCORD.

leaped up and cried out: "Fire! Fellow-soldiers, for God's sake, fire!"

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood
And fired the shot heard round the world."

The Revolutionary War had begun. All the way back to Boston the redcoats marched in great haste, harassed by the patriots who fired upon them from behind walls and rocks and trees. The loss of the British during this retreat



A MINUTE-MAN HARASSING THE BRITISH.

was very great. They had marched out of Boston, insolent as usual, to the tune of "Yankee Doodle." They returned utterly exhausted, leaving in killed, wounded, and missing nearly three hundred men.

The Continental Congress met and vigorously commenced to prepare for war. It voted an army, and on the 15th of June, 1775, George Washington was unanimously elected commander-in-chief.

Meantime everything in and about Boston displayed intense activity. The British army held the city and the patriot army was scattered around it.

The first great battle was fought at Bunker Hill on the

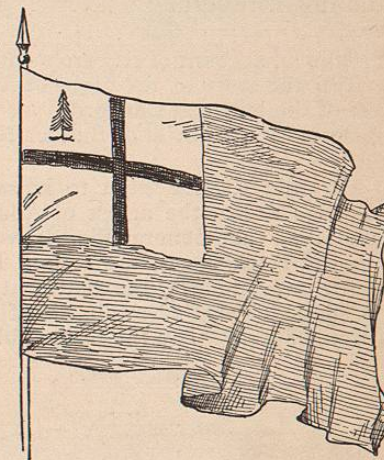
17th of June. During the previous night the hill had been fortified by the patriots, and early in the morning the British opened fire from the deck of a vessel in the channel. Just after midday three thousand British soldiers landed at the foot of the hill and marched straight up toward the American works. They were met by a terrific discharge of musketry and retreated in great disorder.

The officers rallied the troops and they advanced the second time up the hill. The patriots reserved their fire till the British were within five or six rods, and then the slaughter was fearful. A second time they retreated, but British honor was at stake—the fort must be carried. Charlestown had been set on fire and nearly five hundred buildings were burned. Moreover, the Americans had used up their powder and ball. At the third British charge they were therefore obliged to retreat.

They withdrew in good order across the neck to the mainland, but during the retreat General Warren was shot in the head and died instantly. This was a deep loss to the American cause. The battle was over, and the British held the field.

An American recently, in Quebec, was shown an old cannon. The Canadian said:

"We took this cannon from you at Bunker Hill."



Flag used by the New England troops
at the battle of Bunker Hill

"Well," said the American, "you have the cannon, but we have the hill."

This battle showed General Gage that the Americans were not to be easily subdued. Franklin wrote to his English friends: "The Americans will fight; England has lost her colonies forever."

Give an account of Revere's early life.

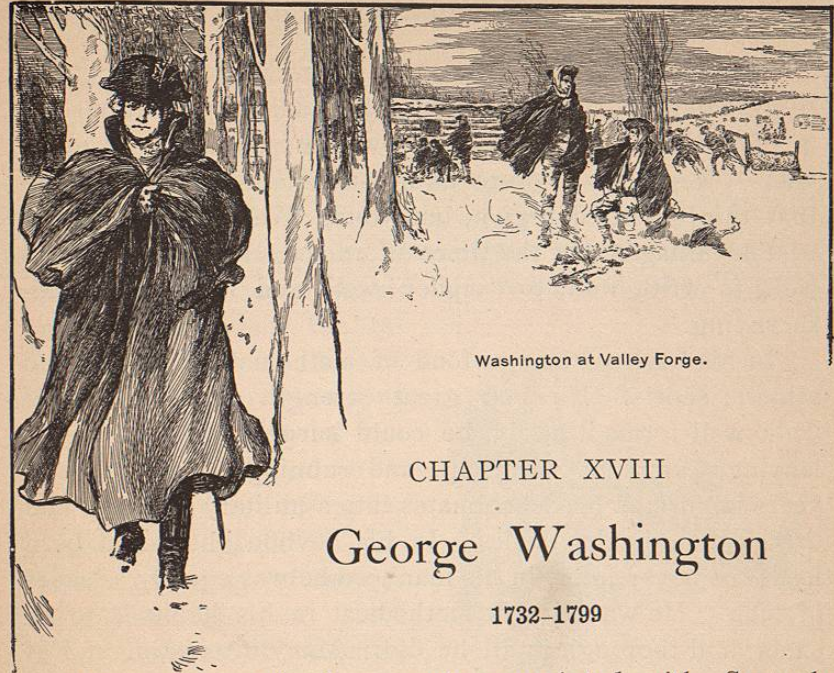
Tell the story of the night of April 18th; of the battle of Lexington; of the battle at Concord.

Describe the battle of Bunker Hill.

Why did Revere want to know how to make gunpowder? Why did Gage desire the arrest of Adams and Hancock? Where do you understand that General Warren was on the night of the 18th of April? Why did Pitcairn call the men at Lexington "rebels"? What did the minute men do after the battle at Concord? Who were the men in the "patriot army" at the battle of Bunker Hill? Who won the battle of Bunker Hill? Did the battle aid the Americans in any way?



A Revolutionary Musket



Washington at Valley Forge.

CHAPTER XVIII

George Washington

1732-1799

WE have already been made acquainted with Samuel Adams and Paul Revere, two Boston boys. We have also heard about Patrick Henry, a native of Virginia. Now we wish to learn about the most distinguished man that Virginia ever produced—George Washington.

George Washington was born February 22d, 1732. His birthplace was not far from the lower Potomac River, at a place called Pope's Creek, in Westmoreland County. His father was Augustine Washington, and his mother was Mary Ball. He was the oldest child of his mother, and his father died when he was eleven years of age. Few sons ever had a more lovely and more devoted mother, and it is certainly true that few mothers ever had a more dutiful and affectionate son.