

BATTLE OF COWPENS.

Glorious Event in Revolutionary Struggle.

January 17th is the anniversary of the battle of Cowpens, which was one of the most important battles fought during the Revolutionary war. The winning of this battle, together with the battle of King's Mountain, made possible the victory at Yorktown, which resulted in the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, thus breaking the power of the English government on this continent. The people of Spartanburg erected a monument on Morgan Square in that city, to commemorate the victory; in this they were assisted by the thirteen original States. This monument was unveiled in 1881. The Daughters of the American Revolution of Gaffney and Spartanburg are the custodians of the battlefield, and from time to time they have had celebrations there. It is about twelve miles from Gaffney to the scene of the battle and the people who live in the neighborhood are descendants of some of those who fought there and it is a pleasure for them to recount what has been handed down to them of actual happenings which took place while the battle was being fought:

It is extremely interesting from a variety of standpoints to recall at this time some of the circumstances attending the victory at Cowpens. The world is so used to the terminology of a world war that details of one of the greatest battles of the Revolution seem quaint and tolylike, and yet in its significance to the United States the battle of Cowpens is comparable to the significance of the victory of Verdun for France.

There are twelve times as many men at Camp Wadsworth as were engaged on both sides at the Battle of Cowpens.

Up to the time of the battle, which took place in 1781, the British had been entirely victorious in the South and Cornwallis had established himself at Ninety-six, and was allowing his men to abuse and harry the people at will. He hoped to increase Tory sentiment, which had at first been so strong that the continental armies had had almost no support in the South by the arrogance of victory. In those days an army had to live largely off the country and the sentiment of the people was an important factor. But Cornwallis, instead of adding sentiment in favor of England, destroyed all loyalty and volunteers for the continental armies and the co-operation heartened Americans to begin again.

The immediate occasion of the battle was this: General Daniel Morgan had been placed in command of the 11th Virginia infantry, and had been joined by several other bodies of troops who had small success. Cornwallis became apprehensive of his post at Ninety-six and despatched Tarleton with 1,000 regulars to do away with Morgan.

Morgan had slightly over 800 men, two-thirds of whom were militia, and some of them were greep. However, he was able to plan his resistance and arranged his troops. Col. Pickens, with the Southern militia, formed the first line. These were to form the right of the second line, three hundred yards behind, if forced to retreat. The second line was the light infantry, including Morgan's riflemen, under Lieut. Col. Howard, Lieut. Col. Wm. Washington, who commanded the cavalry and 45 militiamen, was some distance in the rear. This arrangement was extremely wise.

Tarleton attacked with confidence, his men rushing forward with shouts and hot musketry fire. Morgan ordered his men to wait until the enemy was within 40 to 50 yards, and then to fire. The men were cool and obeyed, but were unable to withstand the onslaught. The second line then met the British and retreated also, after an obstinate fight. Just then, Washington charged, and Howard, rallying his men, charged with fixed bayonets. Nothing could exceed the astonishment and confusion of the British, says an eminent historian, and they fled or surrendered ingloriously. Their killed and captured amounted to nearly as many as all the American force, while Morgan lost only 12 men with 60 wounded.

The qualities of bravery, coolness and generalship exhibited by the American forces were praised all over the country, and Morgan was voted a gold medal and the thanks of his country by congress, the other commanders also receiving rewards. The battle of King's Mountain a little later, and the battle of Guilford court house, which, though not a victory, operated like one, soon forced Cornwallis into Virginia and to Yorktown, where he surrendered.

It is interesting to note that it was intrepid and unyielding bayonet fighting that turned the tide at Cowpens. Another detail interesting because it is so archaic, was that the

PEACE AFTER VICTORY.

Prussian War Minister Says He Will Fight it Out.

"I do not know the Americans nor do I know what they are capable of doing in this war," said General von Stein, Prussian minister of war, in an interview in a recent issue of the Budapesti Hirlap. The general is quoted, however, as declaring that the central powers were well prepared for meeting America.

The war minister said he did not regard air fighting as a decisive factor. He had heard of extensive American plans in this connection. "But," he said, "much depends upon what the American engineers can do, and still more depends upon whether efficient, experienced crews can be obtained by them."

Speaking of the present situation, General von Stein said:

"All humanity desires peace, and naturally so do I. As a soldier I know only one possibility for ending the war, and that is victory. Every renunciation is only a sign of weakness and an acknowledgement of defeat. He who renounces the fruits of his success on the battlefield puts the enemy in a position to consider himself a victor and helps him in his plans of destruction. There is no sign of a desire for an understanding on the part of our enemies. Their entire attitude shows their only aim still is to push us from our place in the sun.

"In reality a military decision has already been obtained. When our enemies recognize that they cannot drive us off the occupied territory, they will thereby admit that they have been defeated."

General von Stein asserted that the "moving and decisive power is the individual man," and he declared the Germans were not afraid of the wonders of technical science.

"There are for instance," he said, "the tanks which made their first appearance in the Somme battle. At first we naturally did not know how to destroy them. My soldiers even climbed on top of them and tried to blow them open with hand grenades. But we soon learned that there was only one deadly weapon against them namely, our guns."

British counted greatly on the help of two field pieces, known as "grass-hoppers." These were captured by the Americans. They had first been taken from Burgoyne at Saratoga, retaken by the British at Camden, and now fell into the hands of the Americans again.—Gaffney Ledger.

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The treasurer's office will be open for the collection of State, county, school and all other taxes from the 15th day of October, 1917, until the 15th day of March, 1918, inclusive.

From the first day of January, 1918, until the 31st day of January, 1918, a penalty of one per cent. will be added to all unpaid taxes. From the 1st day of February, 1918, a penalty of 2 per cent. will be added to all unpaid taxes. From the 1st day of March, 1918, until the 15th day of March, 1918, a penalty of 7 per cent. will be added to all unpaid taxes.

THE LEVY.

For State purposes.....8 1/2 mills
For county purposes.....7 1/2 mills
Constitutional school tax.....3 mills

Total 19 mills

SPECIAL SCHOOL LEVIES.

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Midway, No. 2.....2 mills
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Three Mile, No. 4.....2 mills
Fish Pond, No. 5.....2 mills
Hutto, No. 6.....2 mills
Buford's Bridge, No. 7.....2 mills
Olar, No. 8.....9 mills
Salem, No. 9.....4 mills
St. John's, No. 10.....2 mills
Govan, No. 11.....8 mills
Binnaker's, No. 12.....3 mills
Lemon Swamp, No. 13.....4 mills
Bamberg, No. 14.....9 mills
Oakland, No. 15.....8 mills
Hunter's Chapel, No. 16.....8 mills
Colston, No. 18.....4 mills
Clear Pond, No. 19.....2 mills
Oak Grove, No. 20.....4 mills
Denmark, No. 21.....6 1/2 mills
Ehrhardt, No. 22.....13 mills
Lees, No. 23.....4 mills
Heyward, No. 24.....2 mills

All persons between the ages of twenty-one and sixty years of age, except Confederate veterans and sailors, who are exempt at 50 years of age, are liable to a poll tax of one dollar.

Capitation dog tax 50 cents. All persons who were 21 years of age on or before the 1st day of January, 1917, are liable to a poll tax of one dollar, and all who have not made returns to the Auditor are requested to do so on or before the 1st day of January, 1918.

I will receive the commutation road tax of two (\$2.00) dollars from the 15th day of October, 1917, until the 1st day of March, 1918.

G. A. JENNINGS,
Treasurer Bamberg County.

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