

WALLIS moved north, re-establishing British supremacy as he marched. He dispatched Major FERGUSON, with a battalion of about six score regulars, to stir up and recruit the Tories of the mountain regions, which that officer did with so much ease that he had soon swelled his forces to over a thousand men, some of whom are accused of committing great atrocities on their countrymen. But if Tories were abundant in the Carolinas, patriots were more so. They rose in the rear of CORNWALLIS, when that commander had pushed on to Charlotte and Salisbury in North Carolina, and SUMTER and MARION again found themselves in command of large bodies of rangers. In the mountain regions they were no less vigilant, and at length, under Cols. WILLIAMS and CAMPBELL, enough volunteers were collected to outnumber FERGUSON and compel his retreat. A picked column of nine or ten hundred men, pushing on in advance, found him posted at King's Mountain on the afternoon of Oct. 7, and began the attack on all sides. Placing himself at the head of his handful of regulars, on whom he had his main reliance, FERGUSON charged his assailants, and drove them at first, but was quickly caught by cross-fire. In an hour more the Americans had gained the advantage of position, FERGUSON was killed, and his Tory allies demoralized. When the firing ceased, 456 of FERGUSON'S forces are said to have been dead or severely wounded. The rest were spared, except that ten were hanged the next day. The total loss of the Americans is said to have been less than a hundred killed and wounded.

The effect of this victory was decided. Lord CORNWALLIS at once retreated south-erly, and the patriots of the mountain region, who had rallied from both Carolinas, Georgia, Virginia, and what are now Tennessee and Kentucky, were greatly in-spirited. The cause at the South received a new impetus, and the good result of King's Mountain, reaching beyond the immediate destruction of FERGUSON'S forces, were plainly seen in the next battle of the war, the defeat of TARLETON by MORGAN the following January, in the same region, at Cowpens. The people of Charlotte and its vicinity, who have undertaken to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of King's Mountain, do not err in claiming for it historic importance: it ranks among those battles in which the numbers engaged do not indicate the full moral value of the results achieved.

THE KING'S MOUNTAIN CENTE-NARY.

Few of the minor battles of the American Revolution are more worthy of centennial commemoration than the action at King's Mountain, fought Oct. 7, 1780. The victory there won by the patriot forces struck terror to the Tories, who, under the protecting presence of CORNWALLIS, were swarming in the Carolinas; it gave the first check to the proposed march of CORNWALLIS through North Carolina, near whose border it was fought; above all, coming directly after the rout of GATES'S army, at Camden, it revived the disheartened fragments of that army, and turned the tide of colonial disasters at the South.

In 1780 the war which, breaking out in Massachusetts, had been successively transferred during a five years' struggle from the New-England and the Middle States to the Southern, had now definitely found its chief sphere of operations in the latter. During the year previous the British had overrun and reduced the inhabited parts of Georgia and Florida, and a considerable part of South Carolina, while a combined attack of the French and American forces upon Savannah was repulsed with great loss, PULASKI being killed, D'ESTAING and other high officers wounded, and the attacking forces utterly broken up. In the Spring of 1780, Sir HENRY CLINTON besieged and captured Charleston, with all its garrison, while a force of Virginia troops under BUFORD, who had been marching to its relief, but retreated on news of its surrender, were overtaken by TARLETON'S cavalry and cut to pieces. Save for the operations of partisan rangers under SUMTER and MARION, active hostilities had almost ceased by the Summer of 1780, in the Carolinas and in Georgia, and CLINTON reported that "the inhabitants from every quarter declare their allegiance to the King, and offer their services in arms." CORNWALLIS, who succeeded him in command on his return to New-York, reported that he had no opposition worth speaking of.

Meanwhile, WASHINGTON, aroused to the needs of the Carolinas, dispatched thither all the Maryland and Delaware troops of his own army, under DE KALB, and these were reinforced by Virginia troops, the command of the entire Southern forces being vested by Congress in Gen. GATES. CORNWALLIS promptly marched from Charleston to meet GATES, and the two armies encountered each other at Camden. The American forces, who largely outnumbered the British, consisted of two Maryland brigades, and the Delaware troops on the right, the North Carolina brigades in the centre, and the Virginians on the left. DE KALB made something of a stand, but the whole of GATES'S army was swept from the field, in irreparable rout, with the loss of all its artillery and most of its baggage, many surrendering as prisoners, and the rest dispersing. DE KALB was mortally wounded. To crown the disaster, a few days later, Aug. 20, TARLETON routed the forces of SUMTER, capturing about three hundred of them, and so breaking up coherent opposition in South Carolina.

Only by thus sketching the overthrow of the American forces in the South can the true value of King's Mountain to the patriot cause be appreciated. The village is in North Carolina, but the mountain, the scene of the battle, a few miles distant, on the other side of the boundary. To reap the full fruits of his triumph at Camden, CORN-