

1650-1894

In February and March, 1776, occurred the siege of Boston. During the bombardment on the night of March 4th, Col. Phinney's regiment occupied Lechmere Point (East Cambridge) and Cobble Hill (Somerville), from which were fired sixty-four twenty-four and eighteen pound shots, and two ten-inch shells. Under cover of this fire Dorchester Heights were fortified. Afterwards Col. Phinney's regiment was marched to Cambridge Common to take part with four thousand selected troops in an assault on Boston, under command of Generals Sullivan and Greene; but on March 10th the British began preparations to evacuate, and on the 20th the regiment entered the city with other troops.

Here the Eighteenth remained until August 8th, when it was ordered to reinforce the Northern Army, then at Lake Champlain. It reached Mount Independence, opposite Fort Ticonderoga, on September 2d. The British were present in force, but early in November withdrew to Canada, leaving Lake Champlain and the country in possession of the Americans. On November 20th the Eighteenth Regiment moved to Fort George where Col. Phinney took command, and where, on the last day in December, the regiment was mustered out.

"The story of the suffering, the zeal, the patience, the patriotism, the perseverance, and the valor of the men who won the victory at Ticonderoga," says Charles H. Jones, in his 'History of the Northern Campaign of 1776,' "should be held in grateful remembrance by their countrymen to the latest generation. Like the story of Valley Forge, it is not told in startling deeds of blood. Though but few perished by the sword, yet *five thousand* who had gone out at the call of their country never returned. More than one out of every three became victims of