

# A Thrilling Story of the Days of the American Revolution

BY MARTHA J. LAMB.

**CHAPTER II—Continued.**  
General Washington was at that moment presiding over a council of officers and committees assembled to discuss burning questions. The British were preparing for action. Troops were enlisting secretly, swears to hostile acts for co-operation with the enemy. It was discovered that they were to blow up the magazines, spike the guns and massacre Washington and his officers. A terrible plot was partially unfolded. Governor Tryon, from his safe retreat on shipboard, was offering bounties, through agents, to those such as would engage in the conspiracy. Some of Washington's own servants had been tampered with. A private meeting had been surprised the evening before, and broken up in great confusion. The British were escaping death by hanging, among whom was Harry Shipton, son of the eminent Col. Shipton, who, it was reported, was one of the most hot-headed of the young men of the army. This man disappeared mysteriously, and a large price had been offered for his capture. He was considered the most dangerous, as he had a brother and a sister in the army, and was thus in a position to obtain news for the enemy that would ruin the American cause. Some one inquired the whereabouts of the father, Col. Shipton, and it was safe somewhere under British colors. The council adjourned until next morning, and as the gentlemen before parting were engaged in excited conversation, a messenger came from Washington, with these words written on his feet and stood in the attitude of listening—cannons were indeed booming with terrific rapidity.

It was not a cheerful situation. Edith, who had been bravely and wisely, did not presume that she was in any personal danger. The days slipped by one after another until the memorable afternoon of the 12th of July. Dinner had been served for that night, but the soldiers in the pursuit of some chickens in the morning, had been hindered at a farmyard through the absence of the farmer. The table had now been cleared, and Ursula had just contrived from the branches of a tree and was rocking it to slumber, while Edith, lolling on the grass in the shade nearby, was reading an interesting book. All of a sudden, however, a low rumbling was heard in the direction of the city. Edith sprang to her feet and stood in the attitude of listening—cannons were indeed booming with terrific rapidity.

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# FIFER'S LAST WORDS.

## FINAL MESSAGE READ TO THE LEGISLATURE.

The Governor Says Prosperity Prevails Throughout the State and State Institutions—The Contract-Convict Labor Question Discussed—The School Question.

Gov. Eifer delivered his final message to the Legislature at the opening of the second day's session.

"I congratulate you," the message reads, "and congratulate you, the whole people of the State, upon the material prosperity that has prevailed since the meeting of the last General Assembly. Never before have the people had greater cause to rejoice in their industrial and commercial progress. Agriculture has prospered, while every industry and calling have felt the stimulating influence of peace and order have reigned throughout the State. These conditions have been conducive to the happiness, contentment and prosperity of our people.

The Governor then referred to a review of the history of the finances of the State showing the variations in the public debt during the past year. He also mentioned the Governor's report on the public debt, and the fact that the State is now free from public debt, and that the State treasury, October 1, 1912, contained \$1,024,808.86.

The Governor then discussed the contract-convict labor system, and the fact that the State is now free from public debt, and that the State treasury, October 1, 1912, contained \$1,024,808.86.

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work under contracts that had been entered into by the State. It may be added that he has not at any time provided for the State, since October 1, 1912, any law for the purpose of carrying out the contract-convict labor system, and that the State is now free from public debt, and that the State treasury, October 1, 1912, contained \$1,024,808.86.

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