

perly or impartially set forth by the historian, and many are entirely passed over in silence; whilst eulogies are spoken and peans sung to the glory of other States, the name of Maryland in connection with them is rarely heard. Yet, when the time for action had come in that great struggle, Maryland boldly and defiantly stepped forth into the lists, the blast of her trumpet gave no uncertain sound.

Her people acted openly, boldly, defiantly and when conscious of right never weighed expediency in the balance with it. One circumstance in our Revolutionary history will illustrate this. "In the year 1774, a vessel named the Peggy Stewart brought a large quantity of tea into the harbor of Annapolis, on which the owners of the vessel "made haste to pay the duty." The people regarded this act of the owners of the vessel as likely to call in question the fidelity and honor of the Province, and without *disguising themselves* they compelled the owners of the vessel to ask forgiveness in the most humiliating language, nor did their resentment stop here; the penitent owners were compelled to go on board of the vessel, and with her sails and her colors, (the Cross of St. George,) flying in the presence of a large multitude, they, themselves set fire to the packages of tea all of which, together with the vessel and every appurtenance thereof was consumed. Moreover, the authors of this act, did not clandestinely sign a petition asking that they should not be punished for the act, and promising to pay the value of the tea with the objectionable duty added.

When the war had once begun, Maryland immediately filled her allotted quota, and so much in advance of some of her sister States, that she, with great delicacy, officially explained the cause of her superior celerity, lest they should feel mortification in appearing tardy, and when her own quota was filled, her "free companies" enlisted in the service of the neighboring States, ready to fight under any banner that was engaged in the cause of their common country.

To the old Maryland line belongs truly the honor of fighting the battles of freedom in almost every State; for its blood moistened the soil on Long Island, where under General Smallwood, its bravery saved the army, and the bones of its heroes to-day are mingled with the glorious dust of the battle fields of Cowpens of Eutaw Springs, and of every other field of renown, lying between these extremes. Her troops fearlessly marched against the common enemy wherever and whenever the common good required. She never refused to let them go beyond her territorial limits, never had a less object than liberty and independence; whilst the voice of her sons were heard amongst the first in the council proclaiming the principles of liberty, their arms were foremost in the fight defending it.

The distinctive traits of her early population have been