

PREFACE

During the past few years, we Americans have become history-conscious. We have learned much of the part played by our people of an earlier time—especially in connection with National affairs. The life and achievements of George Washington—our first President—have furnished the themes for splendid pageants. Books by the score have been written about brave and heroic deeds performed by patriots in Philadelphia, Boston, Morristown and many other places during the Revolutionary War.

We have read many of these books, have learned of the exploits of American patriots of other places, and we have asked ourselves: "Did not Scotch Plains have any part in the events of those stirring times? Did our little village sleep through the thundering of the cannon, and the galloping of horses carrying messages to and from General Washington?" We know, now, that our townspeople in that time of need did all in their power to aid their new government. Men and boys enlisted, in both the Militia and the Continental Army.

Much sorrow and suffering were experienced by the people in our community. In the old burying-ground many are quietly sleeping, who carried to their last resting place, hearts torn by devotion to the new government, and reverence for