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PAPERS

OF

THE MARYLAND LINE

OF

REVOLUTION

EDITED BY THOMAS BALCH

OF THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PHILADELPHIA

PUBLISHED FOR THE SEVENTY-SIX SOCIETY

BY G. COLLIER, PRINTER

1851

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Balch

P A P E R S

RELATING CHIEFLY TO

THE MARYLAND LINE

DURING THE

R E V O L U T I O N .

EDITED BY THOMAS BALCH.

One Hundred and Fifty Copies Printed.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED FOR THE SEVENTY-SIX SOCIETY.
T. K. AND P. G. COLLINS, PRINTERS.
1857.

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ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

P A T E N T

These papers are printed under the title of "Washington Papers" because most of them are written by or to George Washington and others of the first American Revolutionary War. A few of them concern the operations of Virginia. Of these the most interesting are the letters which passed between George Washington and Gen. Philip. It will be remembered that Mr. Jefferson in his letter to the Virginia Delegates in Congress under date of May 17th 1775 (see page 13) stated that Gen. Philip's correspondence was not intended to reach the British but that Gen. Philip's letters were both obliged to be sent to him with a detachment of troops, and passed the route which he (Mr. Jefferson) described in the British account to "swallow a pill of retaliation" and the letters were to be sent back to him in all answer to the correspondence of Gen. Philip. These letters are printed in a very interesting and an amusing light, and the one of Gen. Washington's remarks—a good, high-spirited man, usually as Lafayette or Egan to Gen. Philip's "insolence"—his previous interchange of civilities, and "the general" which expressed for each other by the two gentlemen, Gen. Philip's indignance concerning the loss of Gen. Philip's resignation of his office as Gen. Washington's resignation of his office, and the manner in which they were received from Mr. Jefferson, and the manner in which they were sent to Gen. Philip; still doubtless contribute to show the character of the British officer from the correspondence preserved by Mr. Jefferson.

The paper part of these papers are from the collection of the gentleman who graciously showed the Society to print the Washington Papers from his MSS.



THESE papers are printed under the title of "Maryland Papers," because most of them are written by or relate to the officers and soldiers of the justly famous Maryland Line. A few of them concern the operations in Virginia. Of these, the most interesting are the letters which passed between Gen. Weedon and Gen. Phillips. It will be remembered that Mr. Jefferson, in his letter to the Virginia Delegates in Congress, under date of May 10, 1781 (*Randolph's Jefferson*, i. 220), states that Gen. Phillips' correspondence was conducted in such a style that Steuben and Lafayette were both obliged to threaten him with a discontinuance of intercourse, and narrates the mode in which he (Mr. Jefferson) compelled the British general to "swallow a pill of retaliation;" and the charges made in his letter have more or less reappeared in all subsequent writers concerning this period of American history. These letters place Gen. Phillips in a very different and an amiable light; and the tone of Gen. Weedon's remarks—a proud, high-spirited man, as unlikely as Lafayette or Steuben to tolerate "insolence"—the previous interchange of civilities, and "the personal esteem expressed for each other by the two gentlemen, Gen. Phillips' forbearance concerning the flag-of-truce, his retention of prisoners at Gen. Weedon's request, his complaint concerning "the barbarous letter" which he had received from Mr. Jefferson and the manner in which Gen. Weedon responds to that complaint; will doubtless contribute to relieve the character of the British officer from the accusations preferred by Mr. Jefferson.

The larger part of these papers are from the collections of the gentleman, who so kindly allowed the Society to print the Massachusetts Papers from his MSS.

DANIEL M^cCURTIN.

JOURNAL

OF THE TIMES AT THE SIEGE OF BOSTON

SINCE OUR ARRIVAL

AT

CAMBRIDGE, NEAR BOSTON.

Boston, August 9, 1775.

BRITISH MUSEUM

1851

1852

1853

PRELIMINARY NOTE.

No colony responded more promptly or with more hearty zeal than Maryland to the resolutions of Congress, passed 14th June, 1775, asking for soldiers to serve against the British army in Boston. The two companies, assigned as her quota, were raised with the utmost alacrity and spirit, and the following Journal kept by a private in one of them, gives some account of their services on that occasion.

The particular part of the State required to furnish these companies was Frederick County. As then constituted, it embraced besides the territory now known by that name, the present Washington, Montgomery, and Alleghany counties, and a part of Carroll, within its limits; and a word may not be out of place concerning the origin and character of its inhabitants, whose patriotism and martial spirit were quenchless and who sent forth certainly as many, and perhaps more "regulars," in proportion to population than any corresponding district in the country.

Most of the humbler settlers in the upper district were of German birth or parentage; a few were of Scotch or Irish extraction. They were people of industrious and thrifty habits, themselves and families tilling their small farms, independent, hardy, and frugal; pious withal, carefully preserving the old, russetbound, Dutch Bibles, which contained the records of their honest though humble homesteads, and, as even at this day, religious services were mostly performed in that which was the language of their forefathers, and was still dearest to their simple-minded descendants.

The wealthier classes were composed chiefly of gentlemen from either side of the Chesapeake, who, tempted by the fertility of the soil, fixed their homes beneath the blue hills of the Catoctins or along the banks of the Monococy. These carried with them frequently the accomplishments of an European education, and always the graces and information of a society which in its aristocratic refinement was unsurpassed by any in the Colonies. The tolerant government of the Province had attracted to the shores of the Chesapeake English Cavaliers, Irish Catholics, Scotch Presbyterians, who had unsuccessfully resisted Cromwell at Dunbar, Highlanders, whom penal statutes had rendered nameless,* in a word, many of all classes which felt oppressed by British rule or legislation upon their native soil. Scions of these various stocks settled in the County of which we are speaking.

Thus the sources of life which mingled in this romantic and fertile region were in their elemental character respectively of the best. A requisition upon such a people for men to fight the battles of liberty could meet with none other than an eager response. Accordingly in one short week after the resolutions of Congress were passed the following proceedings were had :—

“FREDERICK COUNTY, (*Maryland*) COMMITTEE.

“At a meeting of the Committee of Observation of *Frederick* County, at the Court-House, on the 21st day of June, 1775.

JOHN HANSON, Esq., Chairman.

“A letter from the Delegates of *Maryland*, and a Resolve of the Congress enclosed therein, were read, requiring two companies of expert Riflemen to be furnished by this County, to join the army near *Boston*, to be there employed as Light-Infantry, under the com-

* Col. Ninian Beall, for whose services against the Indians, “an act of gratitude” was passed (*Bacon's Laws*) by the Legislature commanded, as is said, a Scotch regiment at Dunbar; and the Magruders, a family of distinction in the Province and State, were originally, I believe, Macgregors, who were by a Privy Council Act of 1603, “commanded, on pain of death, to adopt other Surnames.” *Burke's Landed Gentry*, S. V. *MacGregor*.

mand of the Chief officer of that Army, and proposed that the pay of the Officers and Soldiers be as follows :

Captain, per month, . . . \$20	Corporal, per month, . . . \$7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Lieutenant, " . . . 13 $\frac{1}{4}$	Drummer, " . . . 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Sergeant, " . . . 8	Privates, " . . . 6 $\frac{2}{3}$

"That they find their own arms and clothes; that each company consist of a Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a Drummer, and Sixty-eight privates; that the form of Enlistment be as follows ;

"I, A. B., have, this —— day of —— voluntarily enlisted myself as a Soldier in the *American* Continental Army, for one year, unless sooner discharged. I do bind myself to conform, in all instances, to such rules and regulations as are, or shall hereafter be, established for the government of the said Army."

"Resolved, That, agreeable to the requisition of the Congress, and on the terms by them proposed, two Companies of expert Riflemen be forthwith raised, and officered by the following gentlemen.

Of the first Company,—*Michael Cresap*, Captain: *Thomas Warren*, *Joseph Cresap*, Jun., *Richard Davis*, Jun., Lieutenants.

Of the second Company—*Thomas Price*, Captain: *Otho Holland Williams*, *John Ross Key*, Lieutenants—another Lieutenant to be chosen by Captain *Price*, and approved by the Committee."

The character and appearance of "the Riflemen," their skill as marksmen, and their discipline as soldiers, their costume, which excited so much remark among their New England comrades,* and the conduct of one of their commanding officers, are described in the following "Extract of a letter to a gentleman in Philadelphia, dated Fredericktown, Md., August 1, 1775."

"Notwithstanding the urgency of my business, I have been detained three days in this place by an occurrence truly agreeable. I have had the happiness of seeing Captain *Michael Cresap* marching at the head of a formidable Company of upwards of 130 men, from the mountains and backwoods, painted like Indians, armed with

* *Thatcher's Military Journal*, 37.

tomahawks and rifles and dressed in hunting shirts and moccasins, and though some of them had travelled near eight hundred miles from the banks of the *Ohio*, they seemed to walk light and easy, and not with less spirit than at the first hour of their march. Health and vigour, after what they had undergone, declared them to be intimate with hardships and familiar with danger. Joy and satisfaction, were visible in the crowd that met them. Had Lord *North* been present, and been assured that the brave leader could raise thousands of such to defend his country, what think you, would not the hatchet and the block have intruded upon his mind? I had an opportunity of attending the Captain during his stay in Town, and watched the behaviour of his men, and the manner in which he treated them; for it seems that all who go out to war under him do not only pay the most willing obedience to him as their commander, but in every instance of distress look up to him as their friend or father. A great part of his time was spent in listening to and relieving their wants, without any apparent sense of fatigue and trouble. When complaints were before him he determined with kindness and spirit, and on every occasion condescended to please without losing his dignity."

"Yesterday the Company were supplied with a small quantity of powder from the magazine, which wanted airing, and was not good for rifles; in the evening, however, they were drawn out to show the gentlemen of the town their dexterity at shooting. A clap board, with a mark the size of a dollar, was put up; they began to fire at it off hand, and the by-standers were surprised, few shots being made that were not close to or in the paper. When they had shot for a time in this way, some lay on their backs, some on their breast or side, others ran twenty or thirty steps, and firing, appeared to be equally certain of the mark. With this performance the company were more than satisfied, when a young man took up a board in his hand, not by the end, but by the side, and holding it up, his brother walked to the distance, and very coolly shot into the white; laying down his rifle, he took the board, and holding it as it was held before, the second brother shot as the former had done. By this exercise I was more astonished than pleased. But will you believe me, when I tell you, that one of the men took the board, and placing it between

his legs, stood with his back to the tree while another drove the centre. What would a regular army of considerable strength in the forests of *America* do with one thousand of these men, who want nothing to preserve their health and courage but water from the spring, with a little parched corn, with what they can easily procure in hunting; and who wrapped in their blankets, in the damp of night, would choose the shade of a tree for their covering, and the earth for their bed."*

Col. Thos. Cresap emigrated from Yorkshire, at the early age of fifteen years, and settled at first in Pennsylvania, but in consequence of the unpopularity which he incurred for the part that he took in the disputes between the Penns and Lord Baltimore, disputes as to the boundary line, he removed to that part of Frederick county, Maryland, now known as Alleghany. Here was born his youngest son Michael, June 29, 1742. It was this Capt. Cresap who obtained an unfortunate notoriety as the person upon whom Logan was said to have charged the murder, "in cold blood, of all his women and children." From this aspersion, his good name has been defended by Mr. Mayër, in an address before the Maryland Historical Society. The address is in fact a memoir of Capt. Cresap as well as of Logan, and gives moreover a lively picture of the struggles and sufferings of the Maryland frontiersmen. "Capt. Cresap, although in bad health, proceeded with his Company of Riflemen to Boston, and joined the American army, under the command of General Washington. Admonished, however, by continued illness, and feeling perhaps some dread forebodings of his fate, he endeavored again to reach his home in the mountains, but finding himself too sick to proceed, he stopped in New York, where he died of fever, on the 18th of October, 1775, at the early age of 33. On the following day his remains, attended by a vast concourse of people, were buried with military honors, in Trinity Churchyard. Let us deepen and not deface the meritorious inscription on his humble and forgotten grave!"†

* *American Archives*, 4th Series, Vol. iii., page 2. 1775.

† Tah-Gah-Jute, or Logan, and Captain Michael Cresap. A discourse, by Brantz Mayer. Delivered in Baltimore, before the Maryland Historical Society, on its Sixth Anniversary, 9th May, 1851. Baltimore.

“Lieut. Otho Holland Williams was born in Prince George Co., Md., in 1748. He was an accomplished gentleman and distinguished soldier in the American Revolutionary Army. His parents, Joseph and Prudence Williams, were born and married in South Wales, and emigrated to America between the years 1740 and 1745, and settled soon afterwards at the mouth of the Conococheague, which empties into the Potomac river at the place where the town of Williamsport now stands, where the pioneers erected a Fort to protect them from the Indians. Of their two sons, the elder, Genl. Otho Holland Williams, was born in the year 1748. After receiving what was then considered a liberal education, he received an appointment in the Clerk’s Office of Baltimore County, of which he had the principal direction, in which he continued until just before the war of the Revolution. Anxious to draw his sword in defence of his oppressed country, he received the appointment of Lieut. in a Company of riflemen, commanded by Capt. Price, which marched, in 1775, and joined the American Camp before Boston. In 1776, a rifle regiment was formed, of which Stephenson was appointed Colonel, Rawlings Lieut. Col., and Williams, Major.”

“Stephenson soon dying, the command devolved upon Rawlings, and it formed part of the garrison of Fort Washington, in the State of New York, at the time it was assailed by Sir William Howe. In this attack the rifle regiment opposed the Hessian column, and behaved to admiration, holding for a long time, victory in suspense, and severely crippling its adversary. The Fort was, nevertheless, carried by capitulation, and its garrison became prisoners of war. After the surrender of Burgoyne’s army, Col. Wilkinson, Adjt.-Genl. to Genl. Gates, who was personally attached to Major Williams, procured his exchange for Major Ackland. While in captivity, Major Williams became entitled to the command of a regiment, and as soon as exchanged was placed at the head of the “6th Maryland.” The Maryland and Delaware lines having been detached to South Carolina, soon after the reduction of Charleston, Col. Williams accompanied Baron de Kalb, and after Genl. Gates took command of the army, he was called to the important post of Adjt.-Genl. to the same. Gen. Williams bore a distinguished part in the battle of the 16th August, displayed great military ability in command of the rear

guard at the battle of Guilford C. H.; and shared with the commanding Genl. in the bitter and trying adversity of that disastrous period."

"When Genl. Greene took command of the Southern army, Col. Williams was retained in the station he then occupied, which he held to the close of the war, enjoying the uninterrupted confidence of the commander and the esteem of his fellow soldiers. History shows the distinguished part borne by him in the battles of Guilford, of Hobkirk, and Eutaw, in particular. After the war he was appointed, as some reward for his distinguished services, to the collectorship of the port of Baltimore, which post he filled until his death. His health had for many years before been delicate, in consequence of the hardships of his military life, increased in his case by the severe treatment experienced while a prisoner in New York, which was peculiarly oppressive at that period, when Sir William Howe commanded the British forces in America. He fell a victim to pulmonary disease in 1794. He was buried at Williamsport, of which he was the founder, and where a monument is erected to his memory. He left four sons, who have all since died."

"Genl. Williams was nearly 6 feet high, elegant in form, and one of the handsomest men of that day. His countenance was expressive and the faithful index of his warm and honest heart."

"Pleasing in his address, he never failed to render himself acceptable in whatever circle he moved, notwithstanding a sternness of character, which was sometimes manifested with some asperity. As a soldier he was a rigid disciplinarian, possessing that range of mind which entitled him to the highest military station. There was a loftiness and liberality in his character, which forbade resort to intrigue and hypocrisy, in the accomplishment of his views, and he rejected the contemptible practice of disparaging others to exalt himself. During the Campaigns of Genl. Greene, he was uniformly one of his few advisers, and held his unchanged confidence."

"Previous to the disbandonment of the army, Congress manifested their sense of his merit and services, by promoting him to the rank of Brigadier General."

"Col. Eli Williams, only brother of Genl. Otho Williams, was born in 1750, and educated in Frederick County, Md., and was commis-

sioned in the staff, with the rank of Colonel. He was also attached to St. Clair's army, along with Genl. Harrison, between whom an intimacy subsisted during the remainder of their lives. He was afterwards appointed to the Clerkship of Washington (Md.) County Court, which he held until his resignation, in 1800. He was highly esteemed for his many excellent qualities, and died in Georgetown, in 1823, in the 73d year of his age."*

Notices of some of the other officers of these companies will be found in the foot notes. The MS. of McCurtin's Journal is in the possession of Mr. L. Clark Davis of this City.

* From the MS. of Col. J. S. Williams (son of Col. Eli Williams), of Washington, D. C. There is also a biographical notice of Genl. Williams in *Lee's Memoirs, Appendix, i. 410.*

M^cCURTIN'S JOURNAL.

During our journey we met nothing to date that was worth notice. 4 of our men deserted on the way. 5 fell sick, of which one died, and one returned home. We had a _____ at Bethlehem. At some convenient time I shall insert it. The barrenness of New Jersey, the rocks at the beginning of New England, the populousness of New E., the unfair number of fine ladies,* the stones and walls of stone; fruit ——— † The 18th day of July our Company set off from F. Town‡ and travelled a quick but long journey in the space of 22

* Mr. Robert Hare, an Englishman by birth, but at this time and subsequently, a citizen of Philadelphia, made memoranda of a tour through a part of North America, in 1774, and under date of July 19th of that year, thus expresses himself:—

“I proceeded early, breakfasted at a beautiful village called Westfield, and thence to dinner at Springfield, a small town on the banks of Connecticut River, and afterwards to Kingstown, in all thirty-four miles. The whole of this day's ride was through one of the finest countries in New England. One observation struck me very forcibly already—namely, the extraordinary beauty of the women of this part of America, exceeding not only every part of the Continent I had seen, but even New England. At Springfield I had a very favorable opportunity of observing this, for I met the whole town in procession to a funeral. Never did I see in so small a collection of women so many beauties. I found myself strongly disposed to stay here a few days for the pleasure of conversing with them, and should certainly have done so, if my affairs had not made it necessary to proceed with all possible dispatch.”

† Here is a break in the MS.

‡ Now Frederick City, Maryland.

days, containing nearly 550 miles. We have had a pleasant march during our journey. On the 9th day of August we arrived at Cambridge lying on the N. West side of the City of Boston within 2 miles of the corporation, but nearer by crossing the ferry. This Cambridge is a beautiful town, it has a University in it of a very elegant building and several other buildings for the Collegians use which makes the town appear very beautiful to the eye and makes me to believe that it was a very flourishing town in the time of peace.

About one and a half miles from Cambridge lays Prospect Hill where there is a fine large Fort containing several pieces of fine cannon with fort spears and other implements fitting for war, upon another small hill, named Plowed Hill, distance nearly one mile, where we have erected another Fort and have placed a few pieces of fine cannon. This Hill is near to Bunkers Hill so that our men can play upon them with great ease and they cannot hurt our men. We were encamped in a church for three days, which church lays opposite to the College in Cambridge. All our men in health, only much fatigued with our journey here. Upon the 13th August we marched from Cambridge in company with Captain Morgan's* Company to a small village named Roxbury about six miles from Cambridge, and about two miles from Boston, situated on the S. side of the city and fairly exposed to their fortifications. This village has been a pleasant place, but the Regulars have spoiled it much with their cannon balls, and it is now in a manner desolate, the people having left their houses and given them to the Soldiers for to make Barracks of them for to protect their rights and libertys. The 14th day, being Sunday we had to stand Centry at a place called Lambs Dam while party of our musket men were erecting a fort. 15th. We had a most amaz-

* Afterwards Gen. Daniel Morgan: "He marched his men from Frederick County, in Virginia, a distance of six hundred miles, in three weeks."—*Sparks' Washington*, ii. 100, note.

ing shout of cannon thunders which at this time seemed strange and shocking to our young soldiers, during this our first alarm. We were fired at with balls, bombs and Granade shells.

16. During this day they gave us a shot every now and then, but we had the honor of firing the first and last. Three Companies of our riflemen were marched from Cambridge to Cape Ann to prevent the Regulars from landing there.

17. This day early in the morning, we were fired at from the Neck with balls and bombs, seven at a time.

18. *This morning as I was at breakfast in the former dwelling house of Dr. Williams they fired four 32 pounders at the house, one of which rushed through the room and dashed one side out of the chimney, broke 2 partitions and filled our dishes with plastering, ceiling and bricks.* Geo. Switcher, Sergeant Torrel and William Johnson were in the room when this happened. Any man may judge whether or no this did not surprise us four young heroes, however as I cannot say for the minds of them who were in company with me, but I know, to the best of my thinking, that I went down two pair of stairs of three strides without a fall and as soon as I was out of doors ran to the Brestwork in great haste, which is our place of safety, without the least concern about my breakfast, to James McCancie's amazement.

19. Being a Sunday, last night, we had all the Riflemen to stand picquet to keep the Regulars from building a fort. Early in the morning they fired from Castle William at us. William Johnson deserted, like another noted villian, into Boston. We stood picquet while our men continued building the fort aforesaid. The firing being too continual, and the work not sufficient to cover our fatigued men, they were obliged to run a trench in the night for the men to cover themselves in the day time from the cruelty of the cannon balls. From this morning unto Thursday they have wrought continually day and night though much exposed to the cannon balls, without the loss of one man or even one wounded. The same day being

the 25th, at 12 o'clock we had an alarm at a small distance from us, the place is called Dorchester, where (we suppose) they were going to make an attempt to come ashore in boats, expecting to drive us—upon hearing this we got all in readiness for battle and prepared to place in use the alarm port—this alarm port is a breastwork in which we can lie with all security and not be hurt by a cannon ball, then we marched from the alarm port to Dorchester Point, but the musquetteers had drove them off from the shore so great a distance that our guns would not reach them. Our Captain seeing they were gone off wheeled about and marched us far into the country for to supple our joints and make us healthy. Just as we were returned home, they threw a bomb in Roxbury which accidentally fell upon the fuze in soft ground, and sunk in so far that the fuze could not get air, which made it die out, then our men went to the place and dug it out, which they weighed, and it was 190 pounds. It fell $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from where the Regulars threw it from. Nothing more but clear fair weather, cool nights, but very windy.

26. This day nothing very remarkable, only one cannon ball which they fired at us when we were paraded and exercising in an orchard, but the ball bounded before it came to where we stood and went through an apple tree and cut one of the large boughs through so far that it broke down to the ground, which caused the shaking of a great quantity of apples that was not ripe, and scared two of our men so that they ran for shelter. Fine clear weather. They have begun a firing from Bunker's hill at the men on Prospect hill, but did no damage to us. This night sixty of our Riflemen went down to Lamb's dam to lie, but in the night went down lower than the dam for to fire upon the Regulars' Sentries. The night being clear, and the Regulars seeing our men advancing up to them they then fired upon us, but did no damage to us. Our men then returned the compliment, and so retreated back again to said Lamb's dam in great haste (N. B. we went up within ten rods of

them), and there lay for the remaining part of the night. Our men supposed there was about 200 of the Regulars by the appearance of the different ways of shooting at us. Afterwards came Captain Cressep up accompanied with [great] Thunder and lightning, which than the firing we had before. No more alterations this night at Roxbury, but they have a great throwing of bombs from Bunker's hill at our men.

29. A heavy rainy day, all over here that made our men keep in their quarters. I took the opportunity of writing a letter to Mr. Keyser in Hagerstown. No firing on either side this day nor nothing remarkable, only a flag of truce coming near several times to our side.

30. Wet rainy weather, one of our men named Wm. Norris died with a long sickness, and was buried in as genteel a manner as we could get it done.

In the night two of the Regulars deserted from them and came over to us. After they came into our guard house the Regulars fired thirty cannon balls at us, and killed two of the Musketeers dead on the spot, and slightly wounded one of the Riflemen. The Soldiers say there was another one of the Musketeers killed, but I did not see him, therefore I cannot certify to the truth, but the other two I saw with my eyes. The firing caused a great alarm amongst the Soldiers. A very long rainy night from the time of the firing until near daylight, and then it cleared up.

September.

1. No alteration this day, being all quiet.

2. At nine o'clock in the morning our men fired six cannon at once at them and three field pieces, and upon our firing they returned 12 cannon balls and one bombshell, but we continued, they firing the whole day. Very cold nights, we find them to be here.

3, 4, 5, 6, 7. We had no great noise amongst us on any subject; fair weather, but still cold nights. But on the seventh

their flags came out to our side several times, but I heard no account or news from them.

8. This day in the afternoon they fired several bombs and balls at us, but our lot, blessed be the Lord, being so good and merciful that not one of our brave men was in the least hurted ever since our arrival till now.

9. This day on account of some of our riflemens' misbehaviour we were stopped by the Sentries, but had a free pass until now. Nothing else remarkable during this day, but Sam. Mance deserted. Finby and Smith were confined. Captain Morgan's Co. sott off for Quebec with several more.*

10. This morning early the enemy fired three cannon at us. This being Sabbath day our Rifle Company were marched to Dorchester Meeting house, where we had a fine sermon, but the appearance of us as well as many other Companys seemed something strange to me, when I could see nothing else but men loaded with the ministers of death, going to hear God's word; every company had their whifers and drums, and marched into the House of God under arms. This and every day as they fired off their Sunsett guns, like other false tyrants, they fired another in among us, but did no damage. We also took six of their men prisoners. Very much camp news but nothing serious.

11, 12, and 13. Quiet times and fair weather. The 13, Jacob Smith was released, very fine weather day and night these three days.

14. Nothing happened this day worth inserting, one of their men came to us last night with his gun &c.

15. The above having left his Brother in Boston, and upon his finding that his brother left him, he also and 15 more found some means to come this night to Cambridge.

* Arnold's Expedition. Mr. Graham, in his recently published life of Gen. Morgan (p. 61), says: "The troops left Cambridge on the 13th of September."

16. This morning early our men were ordered to work, nothing more new this day.

17. This morning early our men fired about 15 cannon, the fire killed 2—wounded five mortally, and broke down a large portion of their breastwork.

18. This morning being a dark foggy morning and our men taking their opportunity of the fog, worked very thick, but the fog clearing up we were directly spied upon which they fired 15 cannon at once at us and continued firing the whole day, but hurted none. Last night 5 of the Regulars deserted to us. This day we sent in our flag of Truce with some letters, but when the enemy met the flag they asked what they wanted, our men answered nothing, but had something for them, upon which they told our men to be gone for damned rebellious sons of Bitches. Some change suspected, our men are ordered to all duties.

19. This day continually we had cannon discharges at us from our enemies, and we likewise kept firing at them. Last night four of our own men came to us, from that Crocodile, and second Pharoë, namely Tom: Gage. Not one of our men hurted.

20. This day we have had a heavy but warm rain the whole day. This day also our army is computed to be above 60,000, and that we have taken and killed of the Regulars 2500.* We had six Regulars come to our side last night.

21. Last night 5 Regulars came to us. Nothing else of note this day.

22. This day at sunset we had thunders of cannon round our ears, but had none hurted. We fired some few, there came 11 men to us last night. This day the Regulars had fine sport firing powder, it being the King's Damnation day, or Coronation day, as they call it. In the afternoon they fired three

* Of course, this computation was not "official."

cannon at us; very rainy weather. Great suspicion of war, or what I may call a field battle.

23. This day we fired 5 eighteen pounders, in return they gave us 108, but hurted not one of us, though they concluded that they killed 100 of us.

24. Nothing remarkable. Cold frosty night and fair days. Gaber and Dasy sott off for home.

25. Last night was a most unaccountable cold frosty night. This morning we fired 3 7-pounders, but got no return. Wm. Long wrote his first letter to Natt. Morgan.

26. This day I was ordered by the Captain to the Room Fort to work, it being my first days work. No cannonading at either side. 300 of our men went out on the scout to Governor's Island in whale boats. They began to cut turf on the Commons of Boston this day.

27. This day high blustering winds and mighty heavy rains. In the afternoon our men returned and brought 17 head of horned cattle, two fine horses, killed one steer, drowned an elegant fine mare, burnt down one dwelling house and two boats. As soon as our men landed on this Island the Regulars fled for it.

28. This day we had no alterations, but had the honor and pleasure to see troops of ladies and gentlemen coming to view our forts.

29. This day the Arabian Ann, Man of War, removed from Bunker hill channel to Dorchester hill, but her place was supplied by another larger vessel. This day I was on the mean guard over cattle. This night I was at Judge Hutchinson's fine house, guarding steers and sheep above. But O my! the piercing coldness of this night.

30. This morning I being relieved of the mean guard, I sott off, but before I reached our cabin, our men fired two 18 pounders, but was paid back by 28 of the like kind. We had not one man hurt. This day our men found a Regular dead

and rotten on our shore, this poor body we supposed to have been coming to us, but as we supposed to have been tired in crossing the neck and drowned near our coasts.

October.

1. From this day until the 4th we had nothing of note save that of the coldness of the weather.

5. The evening of this day they discharged 9 cannon at our Meeting House where about 2000 men were collected, but hurted not one man. This morning the Regulars came out very civilly with their flag.

This morning they came out again with their flag. Had no account of note.

This was the first time we got our account of a Man of War from England, bound for Boston, which was loaded with provision &c. This ship our men took and made a prize of. The ship and cargo is appraised or more properly valued at 13,000 pounds sterling. Last week our men also took a ship and cargo on the River Providence, loaded with fruit and sea turtle. The aforementioned vessel was loaded with flour and ammunition, also three days ago at Cape Ann was taken one ship laden with black cattle, sheep and hogs. Those three prizes our brave men has made with the loss of one man only, which like other enterprises is very amazing, but being governed by the Hand of the Almighty, when exposed to the thunderings of their cannons in slight fishing boats not an inch thick. But how amazing is it, this first ship that we took, all the hands on board killed, 15, and wounded many more. The others were taken without killing many, but made them all prisoners.

6. This morning our Artillery having spied a party of Regular Soldiers collected together on the neck, among whom they fired a cannon, and made a street right through their body, in return they discharged 89 cannon at us, killed two cows and shot off one of the musket men's arms from the

elbow, it being his right hand. This day one of Captain Stenson's* and one of Crissip's Company died of the flux.

Elegant fine weather, day and night these few days past. It is much talked that Tom. Gage is for setting off for England soon. It is also thought that we will soon sutt off for storming Boston, though I am of opinion as well as many of our old warriors that it will prove a difficult task, it being almost surrounded with cannon and fortifications.

7. Nothing remarkable this day.

8. Last night as one of their Grenadiers was standing sentry at Brown's Chimnies, together with more Regulars and the night being a wet dark night he took some opportunity to make his escape to us, but being missed soon by his party they fired about twelve guns at him, but he made his escape to us with joy and huzzas.

A wet rainy day, but warm in the evening. There came one of the light dragoon horsemen to us, he says that a comrade and him, made up in the stable for to go swim, which they immediately agreed upon and so attempted for to come, but the sentries spied them and hallowed them for to stop, but they did not mind them, they then fired upon them the floating battery. Observing that they were firing sent out a boat down the channel to see if they could spy any thing, they then observed this man's comrade and catched him, but did not observe this man, by which he arrived safe on our shore, he was received with a great deal of joy. He says there is a ship going out soon from this place, with nearly 200 Rangers for to forage in the back settlements, all well armed for to fight their way amongst the woods, but I hope they will not get their designs accomplished, if our brave heroes hear where they intend to strike.

9. This morning one of our Riflemen, belonging to Captain Stenson's* Company, received 39 lashes well laid on for desert-

* Qu.?

ing and stealing a twenty dollar bill, and after his having had his number he was drummed out of the camp by fifty and two drums and as many whifers. This was the first time that ever I heard such a number of drums beat all together, they made such a report in my ears, when accompanied by such screaming of whifes that I could not hear the next man to me, or however could not hear what he said. Last night was a fine moonlight clear night and not very cold. But this during the day blew very high wind, but warm. Our men watched this whole day to give them a shot, but got no opportunity. Nothing else remarkable.

10. This morning we were informed that Tom. Gage is sott of for England, but no certainty of it. This very day about 11 o'clock a ship set sail from Boston, and as she sailed off they fired several cannon, loaded with powder which makes us to believe that General Gage was aboard of her, or some other man of note among the English. This day being windy and fair, we had no more news. I got a heavy headache. We expect firing of cannon to-morrow at both sides, but our men are determined to begin.

About the first day of this month Inst. one Doctor Church being our general Doctor was discovered to have kept correspondence with General Gage by letters, a large quantity of letters from that Dam: G: was found with him and several copies of his own.* Also on the 7th of this month Inst. our men had a battle at Newport in Rhode Island. But we don't know yet how it happened or ended.

11. This day though much expected we had no firing at either side. Our flag went in with letter, but we received no account. This day about 11 of the clock came Doctor Williams to take away a Corn house belonging to him, which

* A hearsay account. For a biographical notice of Dr. Benjamin Church, of his correspondence with the British, trial, &c., see *Sparks' Washington*, iii. 502; see also *Bancroft*, vi. 409-431; *Chandler's Crim. Trials*, i. 417, note.

stood adjacent to our house. This corn house was 13 ft long and 11 Broad and very strongly made. He brought a cart, 6 oxen or steers, and two horses, first the House was lifted upon the cart and balanced evenly then our men conveyed him for about a mile off, at which time we met a hill, which made us think that the house could never be hauled up, we halted a little and this Doctor Williams went into an orchard and fetched a hat full of apples and came out on the hill top and spilt the apples and expressed himself in these words to the steers: "come up and you may eat apples." At which words the cattle strained and pulled for life untill they got up which caused us to laugh very heartily and wonder much. My headache still continues pretty sore. A fine day.

12. A droll affair happened at Kinderhook last week. A young fellow who hated liberty, took much pains wherever he went in villifying the measures of America—going one evening to a quality frolic where a number of young women were collected and where he was the only man in company he began his aspersions upon the Congress as usual and entertained the girls a good while on the subject, till the girls exasperated at his impudence laid hold on him, stript him naked to his breeches and instead of tar covered him with molasses and for feathers took the downy tops of flags that grew in the garden and coated him well, then let him go.

He has prosecuted every one of them and the matter was tried before one Justice Sullivan, but we have not heard the sentence yet.

Last night was a wonderful night of thunder, Lightning and rain.

We have been informed that four of our friends in Boston having got liberty from G. G.* to go in company with two Tories, as they were supposed tories too, those six sailed off untill they got out of the Capes and when they found them-

* Genl. Gage.

selves at a convenient distance from the seat of despotism, our 4 friends obliged those two real-Tories to accompany them into Salem, where the vessel arrived last Tuesday safe.

This whole day I have been very sick of my headache.

13. This morning we have been informed that our men having grappled the King's packet boat, and seized it, as also the hands. We read the packets and then sent them into Boston to let them read them after us.

This being a fair day but last night very cold. I have had a physic to day which I believe occasioned my head to get better.

14. I'm almost got well. Nothing of note this day. This morning we had ice on the water. A fine day.

15. I got quite well. Nothing else remarkable.

16. Nothing of note. I wrote to Jno. Collins.

17. This day I got a little better. A fine fair day but nothing of note. Geo. Huddle deserted out of our Company.

18. This day four or five ships came into Boston. But they coming late in the evening we had no account from them. Also last night two new floating batteries belonging to us went out a coasting, it being their first night fitted out.

They fired in Boston about 16 guns, and by accident splitted or busted one of the cannon, two of our men were killed on the spot and 7 wounded. The floating battery sunk, but we saved the loading and the living and wounded crew.

19. This day we had nothing remarkable, a foggy day but warm.

20. This day we had nothing of note among us. A heavy foggy day.

This morning two of the Regulars (or else three) but I know not which number, came out from Boston to Cambridge and one of our Riflemen who ran in there some time ago. I have heard nothing of what they say, or have said. This same day one of our musket men falling at variance with one of his comrades shot him on the spot for which he is to be shot by

order of a General Court Martial, but on what hour or day I cannot say, but when it happens I shall insert it.

This day being wet and foggy, I have heard nothing of note. But morning, towards daylight our sentries and the Regular' Centries began to fire at each other like hail, but our Sentries received no hurt. This night was a surprising dark and rainy Night untill day light.

(Turn over this day.)

This day one of our men in Boston and a sister of his took a boat and pretended to go oystering. This sister of this young man dressed herself in man's cloathes and her brother and her rowed the boat ashore.

She was a fine young lady, and looked very plump in her dress and stout withal, she brought a bundle of fine cloaths along.

This morning also one of our men belonging to the mean guard was missed. We dont know nor cant tell, whether this man was killed, or whether taken by the Enemy, or else went to them, but it is supposed that he is not gone to them of his own will as he has his father and brother in the same Company where he was.

21. This day I have heard nothing of note from either side, being obliged to keep close quarters, it being an inundation almost, it poured rain so hard, and last night in like manner it rained and blew.

One of the Regulars came over to us last night.

22. This day being a Sunday I heard nothing of Note. Their flag of truce came out this morning. By the flag we learn that some ships are sailing soon from Boston to Old England. Since the 6th of this month Inst. we have not been fired upon as appears by the Journal, neither do we see or hear any signs of their firing from either side. This day blows very hard, but dry and moderate.

23. This day I went on the Mean Guard for George Switcher's sake and a little before dark our flag was sent in. They hailed

our men and told them to halt, and that before they were at the line, though I was very close to them I heard nothing, because they said nothing, but delivered their letters or papers. There is more and more noise about our going into Boston and various other accounts.

This day was a fine day, but looked much snow like, and pretty pinching.

24. Last night hailed very fast for some time, and this morning I got up at the gun shot which is generally fired at day break. I have seen a vast number of men and though I am well acquainted with seeing large numbers of men at this time, yet I wondered much at the infinite number which I see this morning collected together. It was a dry serene morning until about 10 o'clock at which hour it began to hail very thick.

General Gage is gone to England without doubt, also Adml. Greaves. Gen. Howe is in the place of Gage, and the other is succeeded by ———.

25. This 24 hours I have nothing of note to insert, having no alterations among us, excepting the general conjecture which always remains—i. e. being compelled to keep a sharp look out in the day time and have many hundreds under arms every night. The Regulars exhausted a vast quantity of powder this day in honor of George the third, it being his consumption day, O no! his assintion day.

26. Last night I stood Picquet, and though I am well acquainted with vast numbers, or at least am no stranger to seeing large collections of people, yet the immense number of armed men which marched this night to the alarm posts, really drew my attention and surprised me much. I was one of the number and had to stand the whole night, cold and piercing as it was. We had ice this night to the surprise of many of our southern climate men, it was so solid as not to have been thawed untill about one o'clock in afternoon. Falmouth is

lately burnt. The People of Newport in Rhode Island is lately removing out in expectation of having that town burnt.

27. I have had an account this day, which actually assures from good authority that the Indians and Canadians are in our favour. We have been very silent here these times but it is believed that we shall have it soon hot and heavy. The enemy's silence is much suspected for a plot. This day was a moderate day, but the coldness of the night I can't describe. The 18th Inst. Captain Crissop died at New York.* I heard nothing else of any account.

28. This twenty four hours we have no account of note. This day is a cold rainy day.

29. Last night tho' very cold, our men seized a fine boat, belonging to our infernal enemy which lay at anchor close to their floating battery, in which boat was six oars and other materials. We took the boat and its contents without opposition, and carried it to the General's door, when we went to the boat there was none in or about it but it's much suspected that they fled from it.

This day being a Sunday, is a fair, but a very cold north west wind. Our men work this day as well as every other day in the week to get their Barracks ready and accomplish their forts.

Last Wednesday one of the Regulars Sergeants came out to us, and brought one of our rifle guns along. Also this evening met a friend of ours and a particular acquaintance of mine who came lately out of Boston. He informs me that the Enemy is drawing a cannon through the town of Boston in order to incompass that town corporally and lay snare for us in case we should attempt to go in.

30. This day was a fine fair day, and last night a cold frosty night. This day I was on the fatigue party.

* Capt. Cresap.

31. An elegant fine day. Nothing material happened these two days.

Some of our men went out on the scout this day.

November the first, 1775.

1. This day we had nothing of note. A fair day, But frosty nights.

2, 3, & 4. We had no material occurrence.

5. Being a Sunday the Regulars fired off all the cannon they had in memory of the Gunpowder plot. When this farce begun I thought that heaven and earth was coming together, the firing came so thick and heavy. Captain Price* set off for Maryland.

6. A fine day. Nothing remarkable.

7. This day at 12 o'clock 3 women and one man with all their baggages were sent to us from Boston, they being advised that all our friends there, are to be let out in a few days.

8. This day we have nothing remarkable. Daniel Stull is made Sergeant.†

We had a warm fire on our men at Winter's hill from the enemy, who received from our side a fire. Their floating batteries went out close to our side and fired cannon and small arms: in return our men fired at them. This action continued for about 2 hours. But we received no account.

9. A fair moderate day. We received accounts that the Regulars yesterday came out at Prospect Hill first to take some live cattle, and as they sailed out the enemy fired at our men from the fortifications, ships, tenders and batteries. Yet

* Afterwards, 1776, Major of the Maryland Battalion; and, March 27, 1777, Colonel of the Second Battalion, Maryland Regulars.—*McSherry's History of Maryland, Appendixes A and C.*

† Daniel Stull was subsequently promoted to a Captaincy in the Seventh Maryland Battalion (Regulars), Lt. Col. Peter Adams, commanding. McCurtin's MS. has Capt. Stull's name written in it, as though it had passed into the hands of the latter. In *Lee's Memoirs* (Appendix), i. 410, for *Steel* read *Stull*.

our men in the middle of all their firing went down on the open shore and attacked them. We killed six dead and can't account for the Number we wounded, and that without the loss of one man, and wounded but two. One was grazed on the breast, another slightly wounded with a stone which flew from a stone wall at the impulse of a cannon ball. Our men are at work this night and last night at the Peninsula where they came out. We suspect that this will breed some trouble soon.

10. Last night two Regulars came out to Cambridge. This morning four Regulars were found dead on the ground where yesterday's battle was. One Rifleman was killed after the fray by one of their large plums.

11. Nothing of note happened this day. A dry moderate day and very cold nights.

12. A very blustering cold frosty day, but no accounts of note.

13, 14, 15, 16 and 17. We had no account of note, excepting some Regulars coming out in the nights to all quarters and monstrous deep frost. This day its as good as 5 inches deep and very blustering winds. Last night I stood Picquet, I never yet felt such cold. St. John's was surrendered last month. I am much indisposed after last night's cold.

18. Cold frosty weather and snow.

19, 20, 21, 22, & 23. Still continues frosty and cold. No account worth inserting. This day is a day of thanksgiving in England.

19. Desperate cold weather, snow, frost and high winds.

20. Great talks of the Regulars making an attempt soon.

21. The above rumor still prevails. No picquet, but a very strong guard and far more so than common.

22, 23, 24, & 25. Still continues colder and colder. No accounts.

26. Being a Sunday we have had no news, it being a severe cold day, frost, snow, high winds, and rain sometimes. Our

men entertains a strong thought of the Regulars making an attempt soon.

27. This day I heard nothing material. Very cold weather.

28 & 29. Nothing occurred worthy my notice. Some flags came out and brought some goods and a Chaise to one of our friends from Boston here.

30. We received information that our Privateers took a Transport loaded with small arms and belonging to the enemy.

December 1st, 1775.

1, 2, 3. I have seen nothing of note, but it is reported that our men on the Coasts took a great prize, but I can't tell it for certainty. Yet those 3 days were fine days and clear weather.

10. From the 3rd untill this day I heard nothing material excepting the ship Nancy taken by our men at Cape Ann in which was the remarkable 13 inch Mortar pounder called the Congress. In this ship were various other Artillery and War-like stores: During this time the weather has been very favourable.

11. Nothing of note this day.

12. Jno. Collins came into the Camps, and visited me.

13. Jno. and I went to Cambridge to see the noble brass Mortar pr. called the Congress which weighed 27 cwt. 2. 16.

14. No material occurrence.

15. Nothing material this day.

16. The Regulars fired several cannon at our men, at Copple Hills, in return of which, our men, there returned many shots at the vessel at Bunker Hill channel.

17. She left her place and is much suspected to be hurted and much damaged.

18, 19, 20, 21, 22. They continued firing at both sides from Bunker's Hill side, but no damage done to us. Those two days past and this day are pronounced to be the coldest three days that ever happened, to the knowledge of many of the

inhabitants here, however they certainly are remarkable in my eyes. The bay was frozed up in two nights.

23. Very cold and frosty.

24. Last night it rained and snowed heavy, and continued the whole day. I went in company with another young man about three miles out of our camp this day, and never felt such cold in my living days. We bought some fruit and fowl for Christmas day.

25. This is a fine day, though the snow is very high, but it shined the whole day, in a clear sun. In the afternoon I enlisted at a fencing school just by our Camps.

26. Was a fine clear day and desperately cold. This evening Jno. Collins came to see me. I took a walk with him in company with Sergeant Stull and Corporal Teas and after we drank some together I conveyed Jonny home and got my left hand four fingers frozed up, but were brought to again, by the family's procuring some stuff for that purpose. John got one of his frosted, but it swelled up before he got any thing applied to it.

27 & 28. Fair sunshine day. No news.

29. This day is a fine sunshine day and remarkable for its warmness. Great talk that we shall soon storm Boston.

This day five Regular soldiers skated over the Bay on the ice to us, and landed on Brookline, there were several small arms fired after, but they came safe to us.

30. A moist day but not very cold. No occurrence.

31. A rainy day and cold. No news.

January 1st, 1776.

1. This day blew desperate cold, but ceased in the night. No material occurrence.

2. A fair sunshine day but no news.

3. A fair day. No news.

4. I was on Qr. Guard. No news. A fine day.

5. I received 1£. 16s. No news but fine weather. A monstrous windy day, but dry.

6. A fair day, but somewhat smart. There is great talk that we shall soon make an attempt on Bunker's Hill.

7. A fine dry day, but no material occurrence.

8. Last night we had a fine sight here, or more intelligibly speaking, from here. When our men or a part of them went over across the neck and set the remains of poor Charlestown in a flame of fire, which the Regulars held for Barracks. This caused the hue and cry among the Regulars, then bursted out their thunders of cannon from their ships, forts, batteries and all other places. Begun battering with field pieces on the streets of Boston. We also got ourselves ready for an engagement and just as we got to our alarm posts the Regular troops fired a volley of small arms, which caused the whole company to turn out on our side. Our men while the Regulars took to thus preparing themselves made free enough to purchase five or six Regulars with some few small arms.

9. This day went down to New York a number of Artillery men.

10. No material occurrence this day. We have information that seventeen carpenters were consumed on the night of the 8th inst., in the flames of the conflagration at Charlestown.

11. No news this day. Very cool frosty weather.

12. Still frost and snow but no news.

13, 14, 15, & 16. No material occurrence, but still cold weather with frost snow and rain.

17. This day being a fine moderate day and I being unwell, I was sent out to a place called Jamaica Plains, about three miles back in the country to St. Thomas' Hospital. But O Good God, what was my surprise and astonishment when I entered this deplorable house of pangs and misery where nothing was heard but sobs and sighs, some crying to their Lord for relief, others with a tremendous and shivering tongue, blaspheming his August holy Name. Some would start up from their little

couches, sometimes seizing the adjacent afflicted by the eyes, or attempt to jump out at a window, if not interrupted. Some with shrilling voice attempted to express some emotions of the mind but could not perform his designing task for the want of the use of them faculties necessary to human beings, but what was most striking in my eyes, was this, that the most part of the whole were blistered, some of whom got eleven patches on their bodies at once. This faint relation of the Hospital was all that I could gather material during this interval of time. But an extreme deep frost and continues desperate cold. Our men prepares exceeding fast for Dorchester hill. The duty now is desperate hard. This day Lieutenant Williams* got his Commission for Captainship, being February 5th, 1776.

21. Since the first to this date we had nothing of note, excepting this, viz, About three days ago, about 300 of the Regulars came out from Castle William to Dorchester Hill and sot five or six houses on fire but being interrupted by our men, who put out some of the houses, however the villains took care to seize six of our men in their chase. Very high frosts, but little or no snow.

March the 1st, 1776.

From the 21st ult. untill this date we had nothing material. Great preparations making for our going on Dorchester hill which we believe will very soon happen.

2. Last night our men begun a very heavy fire from several parts on Cambridge side and Roxbury lines. The Regulars played from the West side of Boston. But we fired several shells which they answered not.

3. Last night also the same firing was kept going from both sides.

* Of whom some notice has been already given; subsequently, March 27, 1777, Colonel of the Seventh Maryland Battalion and Brig. Genl.

4. Those other two nights which I have mentioned I thought was bad enough. But O my God the wonders of last night. Just as it was dusk our people let fly at them from all sides and corners. I can't, it's impossible I could describe the situation of this town and all about it. This night you could see shells, sometimes 7 at a time in the air and as to cannon the continual shaking of the earth by cannonading dried up our wells. We lost 2 men this night, but I heard no certainty from Boston's loss, it must be great, for our Cannon balls went Bang, every shot through the houses, besides most of our bombshells broke about their barracks and in the streets, it is reported however that one of our shells happened to fall in Boston hospital and killed near a hundred of both sick and well.

This very night as was suspected we entrenched on Dorchester hill, made two strong Forts and seven small breastworks. I cant tell how many men there was on the hill, but this I am certain that there were between 5 & 6 thousand, though I have been informed by authority that there were 11 thousand. This night our Riflemen at Roxbury and 2 Companies from Cambridge went and lay in ambush close by the water side expecting every moment that the Butchers belonging to the Tyrant of Great Britain would be out among us.

5. This morning about 5 o'clock, they spyed our works to their immortal grief, at which the fire ceased a little, but then begun a weak fire from the Block house on us, which soon ceased again, in short they did not attempt to come out to us this first day.

6. Last night we had a violent storm of wind and rain. I never before felt such cold and distress, as I did this night and I believe it was the case in general with our men.

7. This morning at 10 o'clock we, viz. the Riflemen, left the hill and went back again when we had some provisions cooked. No firing those two nights.

8. Last night we came home and slept a little, which really

was needful to the whole of us, being five nights successively without rest. We had to go and come to & from the hill this day again in order to be there at high water.

9. No material occurrence this day. Still attend the hill at high water.

10. Last night about 8 o'clock in the evening the Red Lobsters* spied a little fire which a party of Centry made on a small hill adjoining the water and very close to Boston. I believe it is about 300 yards from the Town, being a point shooting out of Dorchester hill and upon seeing the fire on this hill, they suspected as we suppose that we were going to entrench on this point and that they must be certainly Caught, but to prevent our working on this little summit they drew up [I don't know how many ships of war] and let fly at the whole hill at large, but more particularly at the point. Our men in like manner fired from the Forts at all sides into Boston, But no bombs from either side. It's needless to specify a word about the enormous thunders they kept going, and as to giving any account of the number they fired at the hill, no man on earth could do it, however there was a watch kept for half an hour where I was and in that space of time there was 200 cannon fired at the hill, which makes in 14 hours, they continued firing 5600. At clear daylight they stopped, there were about 400 fired from us.

We lost this night but 4 men but they were cruelly massacred.

Another was found dead. This day there set sail from this harbour 24 sail 5 of which were put back by contrary winds before they were far from the wharfs. It's thought those Canabals will soon set off from here.

11. Last night there was no firing from either side. There has been a report to day that his Majesty's sheep are gone and exiled from Bunker's hill (Amen) sacked by Yankees.

* British soldiers. So called from their uniforms.

12 & 13. We stopt from going on the hill. We got orders to get ready for a march to-morrow.

14. In pursuance to yesterday's orders we marched off at 2 o'clock and went to Cambridge. We were stationed this night in the College among other soldiers.

15. This morning at 9 o'clock we sot off on our march to Watertown. Got six days bread to take along on our backs. The cakes we got were so hard that indeed I did well know what to do with my share as I could not chew, and to pound them would be spoiling of them. We continued our march to about 6 miles. We slept in barns, cooked some meat and had very bad fare.

16. This was a wet foggy day. We marched and bad marching it was. When we marched about 9 miles we stopt at one Colonel Bennisters, here lay 12 twenty-four pounders, 5 twelve-pounders 2 Howitzers 8 inch-pounders and one small mortar piece. Yesterday I fetched 6 biscakes for my 6 days and threw them away at this house.

17. This day we cooked—in morning at Captain Bekers Grafton Township—we drew provisions at his Commissary store and took his wagon along, and about 5 miles off it broke, then we got chains and tacked it up and marched on to Sherman's Tavern in the Town of Grafton. We had confounded bad walking this evening. We are exactly 40 miles from Cambridge.

18. We marched to Sutton, 6 miles from Grafton. A fine day. No breakfast for the men. We continued our march 9 miles to Oxford. I had bad rest this night. Our intire march is 56 Z miles. We lodged at one Bomans.

19. We sott off pretty early went through Dudley and rested at Woodstock, that night exceeding good road. Our march this day was 16 miles.

20. We marched to Southard 16 miles. Good road.

21. We marched through Bolton and rested to feed. Here is a huge rock and a surprising artificial cave in it. I went up

about 40 feet to view this arch and found it to be full of rooms, stairs and entries. We continued on to Harford and had good road, but in crossing Connecticut River was very dangerous. Such bad flats and high winds which caused the water rough. Here our Company stayed this night it having turned out cold and wet. I met Mr. Connor returning from Quebec after deserting the Regulars.

22. We marched through Weathersfield and continued to Wallingsford where we breakfasted at little Harford.

23. This was a fine travelling morning. Bad stony ground. We came into New Haven. This is a beautiful town and a fine seaport. It has 4 churches in it and several grand buildings, besides a large University. Here also were a vast number of iron field-pieces.

24. Thence through Stratford to Fairfield 25 miles. We crossed a fine navigable river named Housatonock and passed through fine low lands.

25. This day we came up to the Green sounding along the north side of Long Island, in the evening the land got Blake and rocky. We put up at Stanford after crossing Milford 39 miles from Fairfield.

26. Lands very poor. We still go along the green soundings. At 10 miles from Stanford, we came into N. York Government.

27. We traveled from East Chester pretty slow and got no breakfast, but what little we took along with us.

28. We marched on about 10 o'clock. When we came to King's Bridge we saw on one side of the road 184 pieces of iron cannon, all marked and numbered. I also saw a most amazing Rock on a ridge like as if it went due N. I could not see the end of it, but I thought it to be 100 ft. high, E. side of Bridge I saw it.

Here is the first place I heard a cow bell since I left Boston. About 2 o'clock we came into N. Yk. Barreck to ourselves for this night.

29. This day I travelled through the town and see about 18 Cannon from 12 to 32 pounders mounted at and about the wharfs. In all the town I believe there are 300 Cannon.

30. We were ordered to get ready for a second march but where I don't know.

31. We still remain in town. Nothing else of note.*

[April, 1776], New York.

We took their colours and none was in the engagement but ourselves and Stinson's Company. The first party of our men that reached the place took the prisoners. There was 3 killed, one of what we took was wounded. We marched home at 3 o'clock with the colours flying. None of our men was in the least hurted. One of the farmers near this place was slightly wounded in the side with Grape shot, as he was driving off cattle back of us.† Last night came 4 men from the ships to us.

8. This day I was on the Mean Guard. We caught a Tory carrying Sauce to the enemy.

9. No material occurrence. There were some forts laid out this day on our Islands adjacent to the rivers North and Killmiculler.‡

10. No material occurrence. I heard that Adam Ott was in N. Yk and bound for Quebec.

11. No material occurrence. Last night was a desperate cold night.

13. Nothing material. Adam Ott and Company came into this Island. I see him and all the boys from Hagers Town.§

* Several pages of the MS. are missing here.

† This fragment of an entry probably refers to some small skirmish about one of the fortifications constructed for the defence of New York, by Gen. Lee's orders. Mr. McSherry does not mention it.

‡ Killmancull.

§ In Washington (formerly part of Frederick) County, Maryland. It was from this town, I doubt not, that McCurtin came.

14. We had an alarm, but nothing happened.

15. The Asia went down to the Narrows to the ship Phoenix. This place called the Narrows is about 8 or 10 miles from New York right at the Harbour's mouth.

16. Nothing material.

17. Adam Ott and Co. went to N. York and are supposed to be intended for Quebec. The ship Betsy & Polly was launched out in the river Killmakull yesterday, prepared for a privateer.

18. We had nothing material, excepting scarcity of allowance, but this was the first time we ever had it. The ships are cleared out of the Harbour.

19. No material occurrence. Our Armies keep continually passing and repassing to and from this Island.

20. No material occurrence.

21. Nothing of note.

22. Nothing at all material.

} Be it known and kept in
 { memory that happy day
 { we got possession of Bos-
 { ton. • March 17, 1776.

Nothing at all material untill the month's end, excepting our great men having various changes in their proceedings relating to the general moving of the Soldierys from one place to another. Several gone up to Quebec and great noise about Independency. The people seem to quiver at the word, I mean the inhabitants of this Island.

May 1st, 1776.

1st, 2nd, & 3rd. No material occurrence.

4, 5, 6, & 7. Nothing worth my inserting.

8 & 9. No news nor occurrence.

10. One Wm. McClue of Captain Stinson's Co. shot off his own hand accidentally upon Main Guard, its supposed that he did not ram down the bullet and as he was somehow pokey,*

* *Pokey*—a provincialism for awkward.

the following day his hand was cut off above the wrist. Some think he did over load.

11 & 12. Nothing new.

13. This day I went to N. York. The strength of this place at this time is actually wonderful to behold. I could see nothing there that is otherwise than warlike.

14 & 15. No material occurrence.

16. This day all the cannon there were proved with a double charge and two balls. One broke, but did no damage as I heard of.

17. This few days cloathing has raised here to an uncommon price, as for instant one skein of silk is sold at 3 shillings, and in proportion for other articles. This particular point confounds the Privates very much. The Lord relieve our distressed country.

18. We had no material occurrence here.

19, 20, 21, & 22. Nothing material happened, but on the latter we were informed that a fleet was here on the coast.

23. Nothing material.

24. Last night a party of us went out about 4 miles from our Station to a Country frolic 8 in number, among whom I happened to be and in the course some one of our men began a toast and drank success to our Honorable Congress. There happened to be an old fellow in company, and when he got the bowl, he drank success to the King and all his proceedings. We all still kept neutre, and the first that got the bowl belonging to our party drank Damnation to the King and all his proceedings and gave the bowl around untill it came to this fellow again. And as soon as he got it drank Damnation to the Congress and all theirs. We would not have heard so long, but the house being full of people and none of us but only 8. Yet notwithstanding our dread and the fewness of our numbers, against upwards of 30 who were then in the house, We all 8 started up and laid hold on the fellow and as soon as we seized him not one soul staid in the house to our inexpressible joy, in

short we paid off the reckoning and dragged this fellow through thick and thin, untill we came to Head Quarters, then it was no better with him. The Guard took one end out of a hogshead and compelled him to dance Yankee Doodle in it untill next day.

25. The Captain let the above fellow go home* for having been instrumental in that horrid act of assassinating his Excellency and other Generals and Staff Officers, &c. &c.

28. No material occurrence.

29. This morning as I was up stairs in an outhouse I spied, as I peeped out the Bay, something resembling a Wood of pine trees trimed. I declare at my noticing this that I could not believe my eyes, but keeping my eyes fixed at the very spot, judge you of my surprise, when in about 10 minutes, the whole Bay was as full of shipping as ever it could be. I do declare that I thought all London was in afloat. Just about 5 minutes before I see this sight I got my discharge.

December 7th, 1775.

Then settled with Lieut. Wm's for the months July and August

Rested in my debt	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	£ 6.9.0
9th. One pair stockings	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4.6

George Switcher's Acc. Date as above

One gun	.	.	.	.	.	L: M:	.	£ 3. 8.0
Blanket and Leggings	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.18.3
Napsack	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0. 3.0
Hoppers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0. 0.8
Cash	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.14.0
One pair shoes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0. 8.0
One Jacket	.	.	party.	.	.	.	.	0.10.7
The cloath for one Coat and Trimmings	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1. 5.1
								<hr/> 7. 6.7
One pair stockings	£ 0. 4.6	}	.	.	.	.	.	0.13.6
One shirt	0. 9.0		.	.	.	.	.
To Cash Recd.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0. 4.0

* A gap occurs here in the MS.

SIEGE OF BOSTON.

41

Danl. McCurtin to Capt. Price

Dr.

Nov. 7th, 1775.

Then settled with Lieut. Williams Balance due to me as per

Ledger of the first 2 months	£.6.9.0.
Received since one pr. stockings	4.6
Nov. 28 One do. shoes	6.0
In cash	3.0
Dec. 21. One Coarse shirt	8.0
	<hr/>
	19.6
	6.9
	<hr/>
	12.8
Bl. Bugg	2.3
	<hr/>
	4 10.5
	<hr/>
	12
Jan. 4th. Ballance due me	7. 9.7
By cash received	4. 5.3
Jan. 5. By cash received in part	1.16.0
By cash in N. Yk	1.10

[My researches as to McCurtin's subsequent history have obtained no information concerning him. There seems to be nothing pertinent in the records of the Pension Office. It is quite probable that he, along with most of his fellow soldiers, joined the famous Rifle Battalion under Gen. Morgan, or enlisted in "the Maryland Line" throughout the war. Of the many battles in which those regiments participated and to the successful result of which they contributed so much, it is unnecessary to speak, as their victories are household words. But as adding in a measure to accessible materials for history, more particularly of those who least often receive their just reward of praise—the common soldiers—it has been thought fit by the Council of the '76 to print here, by way of note, a sketch of the life of Lawrence Everheart, a Maryland soldier, who joined the army at New York a few weeks after the date at which McCurtin's Journal ends. This sketch is understood to be from the pen of Mr. Lewis P. W. Balch, of Jefferson County, Virginia. It was originally printed in the *Southern Literary Messenger* for 1838 (p. 590), and is frequently referred to by Mr. McSherry and others.]

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE EVERHEART.

"EVERHEART was born of German parents, in Middletown Valley, Frederick County, Maryland, May 6, 1755; and enrolled himself as a common soldier at Taney Town, on the 1st of August, 1776, in a company of the First Battalion of "the Flying Camp" commanded by Capt. Jacob Goode. He was then in the twenty-second year of his age, tall of stature, and of powerful, brawny limbs, capable of enduring fatigue and hardship; of noble, manly countenance, and an eye beaming with the lustre of genuine courage; with a heart beating high and strong to redress the wrongs of his country. He left behind the lovely beauties of his native residence, the endearments of home, and all the relations of social life; preferring the perils of camp, the tumult of battle, and the hazards of war, to inglorious and unsatisfying ease. On the 2d of August, he set out for Annapolis, thence through Philadelphia to New York, where, being united to Beall's regiment, he fought at Long Island, August 27th, 1776. The disasters of that unfortunate day created universal gloom and despondency. The city of New York was evacuated, and at once passed into the possession of the enemy. On the 28th of October of that year, the

battle of White Plains took place, in which our young recruit displayed a gallantry worthy of his name, and of the cause in which he had perilled his life. Chief Justice Marshall tells us that the engagement was very animated on both sides. The loss of our army was between three and four hundred. Among the wounded was the intrepid Col. Smallwood, one of the noblest sons of Maryland, who, in the subsequent stages of the mighty struggle for independence, acquired for himself never fading laurels.

From this place, Everheart, with part of the army, retreated to Fishkill, on the Hudson, and thence to Fort Washington. It was situated on a high bluff of land on the river, and difficult of ascent. On the 15th November, the garrison was summoned to surrender, on pain of death, by a numerous and well-disciplined force, commanded by Howe and Cornwallis. Col. Magaw, an intelligent and tried officer, replied that his place should be defended to the last extremity. Gen. Washington was now at Fort Lee, immediately opposite, and could see all the operations of the British. How full of anxiety must his bosom have been, when on the bank of the river he beheld the unequal contest; heard the roar of artillery and small arms, the lines and redoubts carried, and the banner of his country struck to a haughty foe! The capitulation was obtained at the point of the bayonet. While it was progressing, the General sent a billet to the Colonel, requesting him to hold out until evening, when he would endeavor to bring off the garrison; but the preliminaries had been signed, and it was now too late. Our loss was estimated at 2,000, that of the British at 800. Everheart was not included in the capitulation, having fortunately escaped with some of his comrades in a boat, after the surrender, and arrived at Fort Lee. Cornwallis resolved on surprising this place, crossed the river with six thousand troops, below Dobb's Ferry, and endeavored to inclose the garrison; but the characteristic caution and foresight of our chief thwarted this scheme by a timely retreat to the narrow neck of land lying between the Hudson and Hackensack. Miserable and forlorn in the extreme, was now the condition of the little army of patriots; in a level country, without a single intrenching tool, exposed to inclement weather, without tents, provisions, or forage; in the midst of a people in no wise zealous in the cause of liberty; troops undisciplined, desertions frequent, and deep, general depression and gloom arising from these combined causes. Here Everheart saw and conversed with the general-in-chief. Driven from this last position, Washington took post at Newark, on the south side of the Passaic, whence he retreated to Brunswick on the Raritan, Nov. 28, 1776. The period had now arrived when the troops composing the flying camp were discharged, their term of service having expired. To the extreme mortification of the general, his army was much enfeebled from this cause, even in sight of the enemy, led on by the accomplished Cornwallis. Not so with Everheart: he still remained to share the fate of the Americans. The retreat through Jersey has ever been con-

sidered, by military men, a masterly performance. The sufferings and perils of our troops during that period are almost beyond description. It is true, however, in the moral, as in the natural world, that the darkest hour is just before the dawn of day. Literally was it verified in the unexpected and extraordinary change of affairs which occurred at Trenton, on the 26th Dec., 1776, when the tide of war was turned in our favor. One thousand prisoners, six pieces of artillery, a large amount of arms, were the trophies of this memorable night. The sun of prosperity once more lighted up the countenance of the successful chief; drops of grief gave place to smiles of joy. Remaining with the army until the spring of '77, Everheart returned to his birthplace; but his ardent spirit would not allow him to remain long inactive. Accordingly, in the summer of 1778, he enlisted at Frederick, in the regiment of horse, of which Col. Washington was commander. Between this period and March '79, he remained there with the corps, actively engaged in daring feats of horsemanship, in acquiring a thorough knowledge of tactics, and in making preparations for the arduous duties of a southern campaign. His virtues, as a soldier, caught the eye of the colonel, and he was soon commissioned a sergeant. Arriving at Petersburg, Va., they were placed in charge of Captain Stith, by whom they were, at proper seasons, disciplined and drilled until Christmas of that year, when Col. Washington returned from the north, where he had been on service. In April, 1780, the regiment arrived at Charleston, Carolina; and soon after, near Stony Church, seven miles from Dorchester, the regiments of light dragoons of Pulaski, Bland, and Baylor, led by the lieutenant-colonel, attacked for the first time the celebrated Tarleton. He retreated with loss. The Americans, retiring to Monk's Corner, were soon after attacked before day by that enterprising British officer, who had concealed himself for some time in a swamp. Major Vannier, of Pulaski's corps, was killed, and about fifty of our men were taken. Collecting our scattered forces, our troops pressed on to Murray's ferry, subsisting for several days on parched corn and a little bacon. Crossing the Pedee on the 3d of May, every effort was made by forced marches to overtake Tarleton, but in vain, in consequence of the numerous Tories infesting that neighborhood, who proved constant and liege subjects, and friends to the devastating foe. On the 6th of May, they captured one company of the British dragoons, consisting of forty persons, and retired back again to the ferry; Buford then lying on the northern side of the river. In vain did the colonel insist on crossing the Pedee, but was overruled by White, who had recently arrived to assume the command of Bland's regiment. Tarleton at once took advantage of this impolitic movement, and not only recaptured the prisoners recently taken, but also forty Americans. Two days afterwards, the scattered regiments were once more collected together, below Leneau's ferry, where the heavy baggage lay. On the 29th of May, Tarleton tarnished his laurels at the Waxhaws, in his

attack on Buford, by an indiscriminate massacre of one hundred and thirteen Americans; the wounding of one hundred and fifty in a barbarous and inhuman manner, after quarter had been demanded: fifty-three were taken prisoners. "In the annals of Indian war, nothing is to be found more shocking; and this bloody day only wanted the war dance and the roasting fire to have placed it first in the records of torture and of death in the west." After encountering many perils and hardships, parrying the onsets of foreign and intestine enemies; harassed with all the accidents and trials of warfare, in a country infested with traitors, whose business it was not only to aid the British, but to burn, devastate, and overwhelm in ruin the property of their neighbors, and deliver it up almost to indiscriminate ruin—Everheart, with his regiment, arrived at Halifax on the first of June, where they remained until September, recruiting their exhausted ranks with men and horses from the north. Being now in fine order, they set out again for the scene of war in South Carolina. At Rudgeley's mill, the lieutenant-colonel, putting a painted pine log on a cart, induced Rudgeley to believe it a piece of artillery; and being summoned by a corporal with a flag, or, on failure, he would be blown to atoms, that officer, with more than one hundred prisoners, capitulated without firing a gun. Washington, with his cavalry, being now placed under Morgan, by direction of Gates, he resumed his accustomed active service, and was essentially useful in the important trust confided to Morgan. Greene succeeding Gates, after the ill-fated catastrophe at Camden, Morgan was detached with the corps to which Everheart belonged, to hang on the enemy's flank, and to threaten Ninety-Six. After various vicissitudes incident to the life of a soldier, Morgan halted near the Pacolet River, on the 1st of January, 1781. Washington set out for Hammond's store, so notorious for being the rendezvous of Tories (leaving the sergeant in charge of the baggage), whence he returned in two days, after killing several, and taking fifty or sixty prisoners. From this period until the 17th of the month, the Americans were continually engaged in reconnoitring the British. That was, indeed, a day full of glory to our country. On the heights of Cowpens, the unyielding valor of men determined to be free shone with unrivalled lustre. With his characteristic ardor, Tarleton pressed hard on his adversary through the night of the 16th, and passed over the ground on which the American general had been encamped a few hours after the latter had left it.

The following letter of Lieutenant Simons to Colonel (afterwards General) William Washington, will prove what part Everheart bore on that glorious occasion.

"CHARLESTON, Nov. 3, 1803.

"DEAR GENERAL:

"In reply to your letter of the 23d ultimo, and to the letter which you inclosed for my perusal, I do hereby (not only from recollection, but from a journal now in my possession, which I kept at the time) certify, that about

the dawn of day, on the 17th of January, 1781, you selected Sergeant Everheart from your regiment, and thirteen men, whom you sent to reconnoitre Lieut.-Col. Tarleton's army. The advanced guard of his army were mounted, as we understood and believed, on some of the fleetest race horses, which he had impressed from their owners, in this country, and which enabled them to take Sergeant Everheart and one of the men; but the other twelve men returned and gave you information of the approach of the enemy. Immediately after the battle of the Cowpens commenced, you well recollect that your first charge was made on the enemy's cavalry (who were cutting down our militia), and whom, after a smart action, you instantly defeated, leaving in the course of ten minutes eighteen of their brave 17th dragoons dead on the spot, and whom, you will recollect, were deserted by Col. Tarleton's legionary cavalry. The former wore an uniform of red and buff, with sheepskin on their caps; the latter wore an uniform of green with black facings. In pursuit of their cavalry, you overtook their artillery, whom you immediately made prisoners; but the drivers of the horses who were galloping off with two three-pounders, you could not make surrender until after repeated commands from you, you were obliged to order to be shot. After securing these field pieces, your third charge was made upon the right wing of their army, composed of legionary infantry, intermixed with the battalion of the brave 71st, under the command of Major McArthur; and who, under the operation of an universal panic, having been successfully charged on the left of their army by our friend Colonel Howard, instantly surrendered. Immediately after securing the prisoners, your fourth charge was in pursuit of their cavalry, who, finding they could no longer keep Everheart a prisoner, shot him with a pistol on the head, over one of his eyes (I cannot remember which). Being then intermixed with the enemy, Everheart pointed out to me the man who shot him, and on whom a just retaliation was exercised, and who, by my orders, was instantly shot, and his horse, as well as I recollect, given to Everheart, whom I ordered in the rear to the surgeons. It was at this period of the action that we sustained the greatest loss of men, Lieutenant Bell having previously taken off with him, in pursuit of the enemy on our left, nearly a fourth part of your regiment. The enemy were obliged to retreat, and were pursued by you twenty-two miles, taking several prisoners and wounded. To the best of my recollection, Sergeant Everheart was so disabled from his wounds that he received a discharge from you, and he retired from the army. That Sergeant Everheart was a brave soldier, there is no better proof than your selecting him at such an important moment for such important service. That Everheart would have been promoted to the rank of an officer, had he been able to remain with our regiment, your practice in several similar instances leaves no room to doubt, as the meritorious was certain of promotion from you. To recompense, therefore, in the evening of his days, for past services, an old, gal-

lant, and meritorious wounded soldier, will, I am persuaded, be a great satisfaction to all with whom the decision of this question can rest.

"I am, dear General,

"Your old brother officer, and sincere friend,

"JAMES SIMONS.

"Brig. Gen. WASHINGTON."

"Personally appeared before me, Major James Simons, who, being duly sworn, doth declare, that the circumstances stated in the foregoing letter are, to the best of his recollection, true.

JAMES SIMONS.

"Sworn to before me, at Charleston, November 8, 1803.

"ABM. CROUCH, *Notary Public.*"

On the back of the above document is the following:—

"I believe the circumstances detailed in the certificate of James Simons, relative to Lawrence Everheart, are strictly just; and can with truth aver, that Sergeant Everheart was a brave and meritorious soldier during our revolutionary struggle.

"W. WASHINGTON.

"SANDY HILL, *Nov. 13, 1803.*"

The following letter, in the handwriting of his colonel, constitutes part of the documents on which a pension was recently obtained, under the act of Congress of June 7, 1832:—

"SANDY HILL, *Nov. 11, 1803.*

"DEAR SIR: I should have answered your favor of August 4th long since, but the certificate of James Simons could not be obtained till a few days ago. Such a length of time has elapsed, that all the circumstances relative to the services and discharge of Lawrence Everheart are not so fully within my recollection as to justify my making an affidavit of the same; but doubtless the certificate and affidavit of James Simons, who was a lieutenant and adjutant in our regiment, fully meets all the requisitions of the law of Congress. It gives me much pleasure that you and my old friend Howard are about to advocate the pretensions of that brave and meritorious soldier, Lawrence Everheart; and I cannot be induced to believe that Congress will reject the just claims of an old soldier, who was instrumental in accomplishing that independent situation which they now enjoy; and who, in consequence of his bravery, was unfortunately deprived of the means of supporting himself comfortably in old age.

"I am, dear sir, with much respect and esteem,

"Your very obedient, humble servant,

"W. WASHINGTON.

"Inclosed herewith, you will receive the certificate and affidavit of James Simons."

In order fully to understand these documents, it will be necessary here to recapitulate some of the events in which Everheart participated. It was not until after a severe and bloody contest between the advance of Tarleton and his party that he was captured. On his left hand are now to be seen the wounds received on that morning from the sabres of the enemy. Even with this disadvantage he would have escaped, but his favorite charger, to his great sorrow, fell dead under him by a shot from the enemy. At this moment our army was about three miles in the rear. He was taken by quartermaster Wade, with whom he had accidentally formed a slight acquaintance at Monk's Corner (and who was slain on that very day), to Col. Tarleton. That officer dismounting, the following conversation occurred: "Do you expect Mr. Washington and Mr. Morgan will fight me to-day?" "Yes, if they can keep together two hundred men." "Then," said the former, "it will be another Gates defeat." "I hope to God it will be another Tarleton's defeat," replied the gallant son of Middletown Valley. "I am Col. Tarleton, sir." "And I am Sergeant Everheart, sir." It was a reply worthy of Roman or Spartan courage. Suffering intensely from his wounds, they were speedily dressed by the British surgeon, and he was treated with distinguished kindness. Now a prisoner of war, he was taken with the enemy's army to the scene of action. At eight o'clock in the morning, Morgan, halting near the Broad River, awaited the approach of his adversary. The ground about the Cowpens was covered with open wood, allowing the cavalry to operate with ease, in which the British trebled our forces. The detachment of Tarleton numbered one thousand; that of Morgan eight hundred. Although the plan of battle on the part of the American brigade was, in the estimation of some military men, rather injudicious, yet it was impossible that the issue could have been more fortunate. The first line was composed of militia under Major McDowel, of North Carolina, and Major Cunningham, of Georgia, who were ordered to feel the enemy as he approached, then to fall back on the front line, and renew the conflict. The main body of militia composed this line, under Gen. Pickens. In the rear of the first line was stationed a second, composed of the continental infantry and Virginia militia, under Captain Triplett and Taite, commanded by Howard. Washington's cavalry, reinforced by a company of mounted militia, was held in reserve, convenient to support the infantry, and to protect the horses of the rifle corps, which, agreeably to usage, were tied in the rear. "The gloomy host" now advanced, sure of conquest. At this solemn period, Morgan, who had fought at Quebec under Montgomery, and fully established his fame at Saratoga, addressed his troops in a style worthy of Hannibal or Scipio Africanus. Uneducated as he was, his eloquence was from the heart, and thrilled through every bosom. He exhorted the militia to the exercise of firmness and zeal, and declared his entire confidence in their valor and patriotism. He pointed them to the fields of his exploits; to his fortune and expe-

rience ; to the destructive fire of his unerring riflemen ; to the mortification he had experienced at being hitherto forced to retire before the enemy ; and that now was the time to strike for their country. To the continentals he said little, except to remind them that *they* needed no exhortation to do *their* duty. He took his station. The situation of Everheart, when the first line fell back, and the shout of the enemy was heard in all directions, must have been truly appalling, because he knew not that this movement formed part of the plan of battle. But rushing on the front line, which held its station, they instantly poured in on the British a destructive fire ; but continuing to advance with the bayonet on our militia, the latter retired and gained the second line. Here, with part of the corps, Pickens took post on Howard's right, and the rest fled to their horses. Tarleton pushed forward, and was received by Morgan with unshaken firmness. Each party struggled hard for victory ; the enemy ordered up his reserve. McArthur's regiment animated the whole British line, which, outstretching our front, endangered Howard. That officer defended his flank by directing his right company to change its front ; but by mistake it fell back ; the line began to retire, and they were ordered to retreat to the cavalry. This manœuvre being quickly performed, the new position was immediately resumed. The British line now rushed on with impetuosity, but as it drew near Howard faced about, and delivered a close and severe fire. The enemy recoiled ; the advantage was followed up with the bayonet, and the day was ours. At this instant Washington charged, as Major Simons has stated, on the enemy's cavalry, who had gained our rear, and were "cutting down" our militia. He proved himself the "thunderbolt of war." What language can paint the emotions which then filled the bosom of his friend, a captive in the hands of that enemy whom the colonel was destroying ; himself liable at any moment to fall by the hands of his countrymen ? His beloved chief was then in the prime of life, six feet in height, broad, strong, and corpulent, courting danger, impetuous and irresistible. In proof of this, Marshall, in his 4th vol., page 347, says : "In the eagerness of pursuit, Washington advanced near thirty yards in front of his regiment. Observing this, three British officers wheeled about and made a charge upon him. The officer on his right was aiming to cut him down, when a serjeant came up and intercepted the blow by disabling his sword arm. At the same instant, the officer on his left was about to make a stroke at him, when a waiter, too small to wield a sword, saved him by wounding the officer with a ball discharged from a pistol. At this moment the officer in the centre, who was believed to be Tarleton, made a thrust at him, which he parried, upon which the officer retreated a few paces, and then discharged a pistol at him, which wounded his knee." The *serjeant* here spoken of was Everheart. Under Providence, he was his shield and buckler. How great the benefit conferred on his country ! Had Washington fallen, we should not only have lost his all-important

services on that day, when victory settled on our banner, but also his valor and skill at the subsequent actions of Guilford and Eutaw, at which last place he was, to the great grief of the whole army, thrown from his horse while charging the enemy, and carried away a prisoner to Charleston. Morgan now pressed his success; the pursuit became general. The British cavalry were covering the retreat; but, according to the evidence of Major Simons, nothing could restrain the ardor of the colonel. He pursued them twenty-two miles, within a short distance of Cornwallis's camp, at Fisher's Creek, where the British under Tarleton retreated. Some time after this affair, the British colonel observed in company, that he should be pleased to see Mr. Washington, of whom he had heard so much; to which a lady very significantly replied, that he might have been gratified had he only looked behind him at the Cowpens!

In this action, of the enemy there were one hundred, including ten officers, killed; twenty-three officers and five hundred privates were taken. Their artillery, 800 muskets, two standards, thirty-five baggage wagons, and one hundred horses fell into our hands; while our loss was only seventy, of whom twelve were killed. Everheart informs me that, while the dragoons were making the charges described by Major Simons, he could hear them distinctly cry out as their watchword, "Buford's play," referring to the odious massacre perpetrated on the detachment commanded by that officer, as before detailed. Yet, for all this, although the innocent blood of their companions, shed contrary to the laws of civilized warfare, yet remained unavenged; and the very persons who did the foul deed were now in the open field of honorable combat, or held as prisoners fairly vanquished; no instance occurred on the part of our troops in which the dreadful precedent was followed. Washington now returning from the chase, with joy embraced his wounded friend, and sent him, under the care of two dragoons, three miles distant from the Cowpens, where his wounds were dressed by Dr. Pindall, formerly of Hagerstown, Maryland, then surgeon of the regiment. He remained at this position until the last of February, and then set out for Catawba River. Passing through Salem, he arrived at Guilford Court House immediately before the battle fought there, March 15, 1781. Here it is expedient to explain a part of the affidavit of Major Simons, where it is said that the subject of this memoir had retired from the army. That officer, not being at Guilford, did not, of course, see Everheart there; and no doubt thinking that his wounds were so very severe as to compel him to retire from service, and not hearing anything to the contrary, he took for granted that it was the fact. At this place, the interview between the colonel and sergeant was truly joyous. He apprised Washington that his debility would prevent his participating in the coming conflict, and he was requested by that officer merely to take charge of the baggage wagons. Yet such was his love of battle, that he took his station on

a hill where he could distinctly see every movement, and hear every shock of both armies. He was, during the whole time, within range of the enemy's shot. I cannot forbear relating a singular event detailed to me by Charles Magill, Esq., late of Winchester, Virginia, who was aid-de-camp to Greene during the engagement. A captain was under arrest for cowardice. As the enemy displayed their columns and formed their line, the unfortunate man, after protesting his innocence of the charge, desired the major to gallop to the general, and ask a suspension only during the action, that he might retrieve his character. It was done, and he was placed at the head of his company. On the first fire he fled from his station, and sheltered himself behind an apple-tree. Magill invoked him in the strongest terms to reflect on his conduct and situation, and urged him to resume his command. At the first step he took from behind the tree, a ball from the enemy laid him dead at the feet of his friend. It was his opinion that the captain was born a coward; but that he would have been in less danger at his command than in the situation he had assumed. As Everheart did not participate in the battle of Guilford, I shall notice only a few of its particulars, connected with the part his colonel performed on that occasion. At the most important crisis, Washington charged the British guards with tremendous fury, and perceiving an officer at some distance surrounded by aids-de-camp, whom he supposed to be Cornwallis, he rushed on with the hope of making him prisoner, but was prevented by accident. His cap fell on the ground, and, as he dismounted to recover it, the officer leading the column was shot through the body, and rendered incapable of managing his horse. The animal wheeled round with his rider and galloped off the field. The cavalry followed, supposing that this movement had been ordered. But for this circumstance, it is highly probable that the amiable and accomplished Cornwallis would have been spared the pain of surrendering his whole army shortly afterwards at York, in Virginia. Greene, it is true, retreated—but only after such an obstinate contest as induced Charles Fox, in the House of Commons, to tell the ministry, with his usual sarcasm, that such another victory would destroy the British army. The official accounts estimate our loss in killed, wounded, and missing at fourteen commissioned officers, and three hundred and twelve non-commissioned officers and privates of the continental line. In the militia, there were four captains and seventeen privates killed; and besides General Stephens, there were one major, three captains, eight subalterns, and sixty privates wounded. The loss of the British was five hundred and thirty-two men; among them several officers of distinguished talents. Cornwallis retired to Ramsay's mills, and Greene set out in pursuit of him. The sergeant remained for several weeks in the vicinity of the court house, that he might have the benefit of the professional skill of Dr. Wallis in the healing of his wounds. During the summer, being once more ready for service, he was, by the order of Greene,

employed in collecting horses in North Carolina for the use of the army; and on the 18th of October, 1781, was present at the capitulation of the British army at Yorktown. Here his acquaintance with Lafayette commenced, which, to the satisfaction of both parties, was renewed at Baltimore in 1825, when the patriot revisited our shores. He now returned to his county; but in November following, at the request of Col. Baylor, who had been exchanged and restored to the command of his regiment, he repaired to Petersburg. With him he remained during the succeeding summer, and, in the fall of 1782, was honorably discharged, and once more returned to his lovely valley. With him "the sword was converted into the ploughshare." Embarking in agricultural pursuits, the sternness of the warrior was now subdued. Having married, and become the father of several children, his time was chiefly employed in providing for their wants by honest industry and toil. After some years, he became a preacher in the respectable denomination of Christians called Methodists. Even here, as I am informed, "the ruling passion" would at times follow him; and when in the pulpit was a soldier still. He would sometimes introduce his discourses by informing his hearers that, in his youth, he drew his sword in behalf of his country, but now in behalf of his Saviour! Washington frequently wrote to Everheart, offering to make him wealthy if he would emigrate to Carolina, but he declined his solicitations. When the troops of the United States were stationed at Harper's Ferry, in 1799, his colonel, then holding a distinguished rank in that corps, passed through Middletown, and inquired for his old and faithful friend, desiring that he would pass with him the next day in Frederick. A large collection of citizens assembled to witness the interview. On approaching, they rushed into each other's arms, kissed, and gave vent to their feelings in tears of joy. This was the last time they ever met. Everheart tells me that, on this occasion, they walked together over those fields where, in 1780, the regiment was disciplined for service; and that the feelings and scenes of those days were again revived; that he was urged by his chief to remove to Carolina, where wealth, ease, and happiness awaited him. It was in vain. The colonel wrung the hand which had saved his life at Cowpens, and disappeared forever.

Admired and beloved by all, this venerable man yet retains uncommon vigor and elasticity of body and unbroken health. Florid in countenance, erect in gait, with every mark of military deportment; possessing great decision of character, and a name unsullied by a single stain; he is the delight of the neighborhood in which he resides. Not far from the place of his birth he passes the evening of his days in peace and tranquillity, awaiting with Christian humility the awful summons of that Almighty Being who was his tower of defence in the day of battle. ["Everheart died in 1839, and was buried with every testimony of respect and affection, and with the honors of war."—*McSherry's Maryland*, 280, *not.*]

MARYLAND PAPERS.

PRELIMINARY NOTE.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD was descended from a highly respectable Maryland family. His father, Bayne Smallwood, Esq., was both a merchant and planter upon a large scale, and filled the various offices of justice of the peace (being at one time the presiding officer in the Court of Common Pleas) and for many years a member of the House of Burgesses. His mother was a Miss Priscilla Heaherd, of Virginia, a lady of family and fortune. Gen. Smallwood was sent at a very early age to England to be educated. The first school that his descendants have any account of his being at was that of Thomas Rebank, in Kendale, Westmoreland. He was, as soon as prepared, sent to Eton, where, it is believed, he completed his education. He returned to his native land, and is said to have taken part in the French and Indian war. No authentic record of the position he held or the services which he rendered, if any, have fallen into my hands. It is barely possible that he may have been confounded with Smallman, of Pennsylvania, who served under Forbes, and is also mentioned in the account of Bouquet's expedition.

Of Gen. Smallwood's gallant services during the Revolution, it is unnecessary here to speak. Whatever I have found, not already in print, relating to them, or to his personal history, is given in the following pages. It may be as well to remind readers that he was elected Governor of Maryland in 1785, and died in February, 1792.

LEEDS, 6th 3mo. 1757.

WILLIAM SMALLWOOD:

MY DEAR FRIEND—If, as I hope, thou enjoys a good state of health, have not I reason to call thee unkind for never writing as thou promised? In the private capacity of a friend I can't but think so. Yet how do I know but thou mayest have wrote and the letter miscarried? Or perhaps thy Country's cause calls for all thy care and thy generous heart forgets every other connexion—when thou beholds thy native land in such alarming circumstances. If so, I forgive it, though I must lament the cause; being not only deprived of hearing news from thee but am under a kind of anxiety for thy safety, as I think I am too well acquainted with that heroic ardour which forces thy reason to believe thou canst remain an idle spectator of thy country's woes. I wish it might please Providence to restore peace to all the world, but alas such is the infatuation of mankind that it's doubtful many thousands of lives must be lost before that happy period arrives. The ensuing spring is likely to be very bloody in Germany, whatever it may be in other parts. It's said the King of Prussia will have 3, some say 400,000 men to oppose him. Most shocking thought that so many men called Christians should assemble for so inhuman a purpose as the butchery of one another! But leaving this subject which will be nothing new to thee, I apprehend, I shall tell thee some private news. As to myself I left Kendal last spring—have begun a school at this place where I meet with pretty good encouragement. Andrew Brown I hear is married with a girl of no fortune—went into Scotland to get the ceremony over and now I suppose is gone for Antigua. Thomas Gandy, too, is married to a Protestant. Cornet Steele took a trip to Scotland with a young lady of pretty good fortune—from Lancaster I think she was. I got a letter from Kendal yesterday, all are pretty well. Doctor Walker has begun business and does pretty well. Hannah Rebanks has been very poorly for a long time, since last summer, but is now recovered. Molly Wakefield is married to James Frodson and lives at Manchester.

I got a letter a few days ago from Barbadoes—one from English

and one from Benoni Waterman, they and all friends there were well. Walcott is a great Beau and is going to be married. These lasses have spoiled the Philosopher. English desired me to inform him how to direct to thee that he might write, but I really cannot tell myself; this I write must take its chance, tis by a friend going to Virginia who I doubt not will endeavour to get it to thee, and if it comes safe, it would be an agreeable surprise, if from this information thou would be so obliging as send Thos. English a letter the first opportunity. He is an honest heart and deserves that regard from thee. It would also be some proof of my desire to oblige him which I have hardly any power to do in my present situation so far from the sea coast.

If thou hast opportunity I desire a line from thee to know how thou hast fared since left England, and the present state of American affairs. Nothing further occurs to acquaint thee with, therefore sincerely wishing thy happiness and prosperity, I remain

Thy real friend

JOSEPH TATHEM.

N. B. May direct for me School Master in Leeds, Yorkshire, inclosed in a cover to some of thy acquaintances in White Haven.

LEEDS, 4th 6mo., June, 1757.

MY DEAR FRIEND:

The above should have come as mentioned above, but he happened to go away a day sooner than I expected, so disappointed me at that time, but I send it now to the same person and hope it will get safe. I have nothing material to add to what I wrote above as to private affairs, and as to public I suppose you have papers over from England which will give you fuller satisfaction than I can pretend to. The campaign has begun warmly in Bohemia, the King of Prussia beat the Austrians near Prague, took a great number of cannon and prisoners and t'is thought will be master of Prague before this time and battle is shortly expected likewise between the French and the Hanoverians under the command of the Duke of Cumberland, &c. We hear nothing from America now, though I have good hopes from

the abilities of Lord Loudon that our affairs will take a better turn than formerly. There's a pretty large embarkation made for America though rather later than was wished. May Heaven preserve thee my dear friend amidst the horrors and dangers of War or whatever station in life thou chocest to be employed in.

I remain as above

JOSEPH TATHEM.

GOV. PENN, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO THE OFFICERS COMMANDING
THE MILITIA OF THAT STATE.

SIR:

General Smallwood has accepted the command of the militia of this State in consequence of an application made to him by the Assembly; you are therefore to look upon him as your superior officer and of course accountable to him for your conduct. It is with pleasure that I give you this information as I have a high opinion of the General as a soldier and a gentleman and make no doubt but that you Sir; as well as the other officers belonging to this country will do all you can to make this command pleasing to the General as well as honorable to yourselves. I am with Respect Sir,

Your Ob't Serv't

J. PENN.

HILLSBOROUGH, Oct. 2, 1780.

TO GEN'L BUTLER OR BRIG. GEN'L SUMNER.

CHARLES COUNTY, 23 Jan. 1780.

DEAR HYDE:*

I shall not attempt to apologize for omiting to answer your letter for which with the enclosed paper I was much obliged to you, being sensible of my fault I must promise to make atonement hereafter and have only to request that you would not attribute the neglect to want of regard and attention but rather to the difficulties and embarrassments I was under in the horrid service I was embarked in.

If not immediately I intend shortly to see you and my other friends in Annapolis. I need not tell you that after so much distress

* The address of this letter is lost; but, as it gives an insight into the writer's feelings, it is here preserved.

the being restored to life and my friends again will heighten the satisfaction I ever felt in their company.

I refer you to Captain Jones for intelligence respecting our army, resources, military views and operations in the Southern Department and shall wait with impatience the time of my arrival in Annapolis and in the interim remain with very sincere esteem and regard,

Your most Obed't
and very H'ble Serv't
W. SMALLWOOD.

ALEXANDRIA, March 14, 1782.

SIR:

Agreeable to your request I have made a very diligent enquiry to know the price and quality of the wines in this place. I find Mr. Josiah Watson has fourteen pipes of Madeira, some Lisbon and a small quantity of Port—he has tried the whole and six of the fourteen pipes of Madeira are very good, his price is £50, this currency pp. pipe—his port and Lisbon is at 7 | the gallon—he will take tobacco at 15 | per ct., but will rather prefer the specie. If you like the price and think proper to purchase, send directions and I will with pleasure do any thing in my power to serve you. Colo. Fitzgerald has also some pipes of Madeira wine and some quarter casks of Port—his Madeira he says is not of the first quality but his Port he can recommend as very good—the price £15 per quarter cask. Osnabriggs you can get from 1 | 6 a 2 | per yard by the piece.

Mr. Watson desires me to acquaint you that he has 96 stand of very good arms which he wishes to sell to the State of Maryland, if they are in want. He requests that you will mention it to the Governor and Council. Colo. Stone desired that I would let him know the price and quality of the wine in this town, which I must request the favor of you to do as I have not time by this post.

I am with respect

Sir,

Your very

Hu'ble Servant

HENRY SYLES.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

ALEXANDRIA, March 25th, 1782.

DR. SIR:

I received your favor of the 23d this day and immediately set out to taste Mr. Watson's wine, and as I cannot think myself a good judge of wine in an unfin'd state I got the favor of Mr. Herbert, Colo. Syles and Major Peers to go with me. They are of opinion it is not good. I think he has two pipes that are tolerable. I will taste them tomorrow again, and write you by next post. Lund Washington got a pipe of Mr. Calvert's choosing for him, he has fin'd it and tells me it is very good, but I am afraid it is too much pick'd. Hollinsworth was here on Saturday last, bought 7 pipes of it and no doubt got the best. I shall be very happy in seeing you at Alexandria, and have the honour to be

Dr. Gen'l

Yr. most ob't Sev't

R. HOOE.

Capt. Conway has some fine Bordeaux Claret arrived.

ALEXANDRIA, March 28, 1782.

DR. SIR:

Agreeable to what I wrote by Capt. Conway, I have this day taken a more serious view and taste of Mr. Watson's wine—I do not think it such as would do for your immediate use, but I am of opinion it is good new wine and I believe of the York quality or extraordinary good Virginia, if below York. I had Mr. Lund Washington, Mr. Lomax and Duvall with me to taste it to day. Mr. Washington is of opinion it is as good as that which Mr. Calvert chose for him, or of the same quality and says he finds it will be pretty wine. The other two, who are tolerable good judges, think it will prove to be very good when fin'd down. Mr. Watson declares that Hollinsworth never chose out of these nor did he see them. I have marked 6 pipes and have offered him £40 per pipe payable in tobacco on the Rappahannock a 16 | 8 p. ct.

He refuses taking it, but I am of opinion if you will give me leave I can get it at that rate for tobacco, Falmouth, Fredericksburg

and so on to Port Royal if it is not old and light. On the whole I think you would get an exceeding good bargain at the prices I have mentioned, and if you will give me an answer by Sunday morning he has promised to wait and I do not doubt but that I shall be able to secure it at what I have mentioned. He expects to get £50 V.* Curr'y, but I think I can secure it for you at £40. Be pleased to write by post, and believe me to be,

Dr. Gen'l

Yr. Most ob't Serv't

R. HOOE.

If you do not care to take 6, I think them a good bargain and will take 1 or 2.

Post.

ALEXANDRIA, April 7, 1782.

DR. SIR:

Mr. Josiah Watson now waits on you in person, agreeable to my information by post, on Wednesday last, though he and I could not agree for the wines, I do not doubt, but on meeting, you and he will bargain to mutual satisfaction.

I am

Dr. Gen'l

Y'r most obd't Sev't

R. HOOE.

FROM CO'L HOOE.

ALEXANDRIA, 3d May, 1782.

DEAR SIR:

Your much esteemed favor of the 1st Ins't by Sergeant Gray came duly to hand, and agreeable to your instructions I have sent one pipe of your wine as the Sergeant thought it unadvisable to take the two pipes. The other three pipes I will take proper care of until convenient for you to send to your estate, or Annapolis. I shall take care of the two pipes which I apprehend the best agreeable to your request, to go down the Potomack. I generally fine Madeira wine

* Virginia.

with the whites of eggs and fine, white sand, about a quart of sand and one dozen eggs will be sufficient, beat up together, after which the pipe must be rolled over several times and then placed where you propose it to stand, and in a day or two have six or eight sheets of writing paper put into the wine, which will carry down all the sediment—or should you think the wine too high colored, about a quart of new milk will answer as well as the eggs and sand. I shall be exceedingly happy at seeing you in Alexandria,

and am very respectfully

Dear Sir

Yr ob't Sev't

JOSIAH WATSON.

THE HONB'BLE MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS, 16 April, 1784.

DEAR GENERAL:

When we talked about my farm at Monococy I could not give you an answer with respect to its sale till I had spoken with old Devilbiss. I am now extricated from any engagement to him and disposed to let you have it on reasonable terms. If we can agree upon the sum I would take the one half down and the other half in a reasonable time. Of course if you want it you will write me by the return of post and mention what you think it is worth.

Congress are talking about adjournment to Trenton, which is likely to take place in May.

With great regard I am

Dr. Gen'l—Your ob' S't

JAMES McHENRY.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD,
CHARLES COUNTY, MD.

SIR:

We are directed by the General Assembly to inform you that they have this day appointed you a Delegate to Congress for the ensuing year.

We have the Honour to be

Sir

Your Most obed't Serv'ts

GEO. PLATER, Presid. Sen.

THOS. COCKEY DEYE,

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

ANNAPOLIS, D. 4th, 1784.

GEN'L SMALLWOOD, CHARLES COUNTY, MD.

ANNAPOLIS, November 10, 1788.

DEAR SIR:

I most sincerely congratulate you on your being appointed this day Governor of the State of Maryland—from an impression that your abilities and experience enabled you to render more essential service to the Public than any other person. It seems to be the general wish of all classes of men that you should accept the appointment—and I am persuaded you will meet with every countenance and support in the station which your most sanguine wishes could inspire from all the virtuous and patriotic characters in the State. Allow me therefore my dear Sir, amongst others of your real friends to solicit you to step forward once more to aid and support your drooping country, and if possible, by your abilities and our united exertions to save her from impending ruin.

There was an opposition in favor of Captain Howard founded on an impression that you would not accept; otherwise I am well assured that there would not have been one dissenting voice to your election.

I am with very sincere regard and esteem

Your most obed't Hu'ble Sev't

W. SMALLWOOD.

HIS EXCELLENCY THOMAS JOHNSON, Esq.

LETTER FROM DAN OF ST. THOS. JENIFER TO COLONEL WILLIAM
SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS, Aug. 24, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR:

Yesterday the convention appointed Captain Rezin Beall, Brigadier General of the Maryland part of the Flying Camp. The commission was offered to Major Price, who declined accepting of it, because the convention would not secure his rank as major in the regular service. Should you and Beall act together, you are to command. I believe that two continental battalions will be raised in our province. I think that great part of the men may be recruited out of the Flying Camp militia. You will perhaps ask me what has become of General Dent. He resigned in a fit of the sullens on the Council of Safety preferring Price's judgment to his.

Major Fish I hear has wrote to a member of the Convention complaining of the Council of Safety's employing a Mr. Allcock as an engineer in constructing a fortification on Herringpoints. The Major infers that this man is disaffected to the cause. If he is so, it's more than the Council knew, and from the recommendation he brought the Council, there is no room to believe that he is so. Mr. Franklin is his friend. We engaged him only for one month, but if he executes with judgment, we must employ him from necessity—for if we cannot get those we would choose, we must take such as we can get.

Mr. Tilghman, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Chase, Mr. Paca, Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. Carroll, of C. and Col'l Plater are appointed a committee to frame the constitution of our State. Johnson and Stone are left out of convention because they would not stoop to rascals. Jno. Dent, Col'l Hare, John Parnham and Tom Semmes are Convention men from Charles. Luke Mar-

bury, Walter Bowie, Osborne Sprigg, and Thos. Sim Lee, for Prince Georges. Baker, Johnson and Beatty are out. Prince Georges [———]. Fred. Keats. Queen Ann's and Worc[ester] elections set aside. I wish you health and success and am with my compliments to your worthy General,

Dr. Sir,

Your affectionate friend

DAN OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

To COLONEL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD,
OF THE MARYLAND REGULAR FORCES, NEW YORK.

COL. TENCH TILGHMAN TO COLONEL WM. SMALLWOOD.

DEAR SIR:

We are in the most painful suspense imaginable about you and our Maryland officers and if you can get as much leisure as will afford an opportunity to write, we beg to be favored with a line. I wrote you and requested an answer directed to me on the Eastern Shore; since then I have been called over to the Council and am now in Annapolis. But as our body are so very anxious to hear something from you, and as I have doubt of your scarcity of time I shall readily dispense with your not answering me upon your writing a letter to the Council. We feel ourselves deeply interested in your welfare. We lament your loss on Long Island but glory in the honor you have brought to our province and yourself.

A letter would be well received. We have a report by the post that New York was taken by the English on Sunday evening, but have no letters. This makes us the more desirous of hearing from you—indeed every day must be important, and if you cannot, perhaps some of your officers may.

Don't direct to our body generally, but to one of us individually.

Your friend and affectionate
H'ble Sev't

T. TILGHMAN.

ANNAPOLIS, Sept. 20, 1776.

COL. WM. SMALLWOOD,
COMMANDER OF MARYLAND FORCES, NEW YORK.

IN CONGRESS, Dec. 31, 1776.

Resolved, That General Smallwood be directed to exert his utmost endeavours and give the necessary orders and instructions to expedite the raising the levies in the State of Maryland and that it is earnestly recommended to the legislature and Council of Safety, the several committees of observation, the civil, military and militia officers of the said State and every friend of liberty and the United States to give General Smallwood every assistance in their power.

Extract from the Minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secr'y.

IN CONGRESS, Feb'y 1st, 1777.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition from the inhabitants of Somerset and Worcester Counties, Maryland, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon

Resolved, That the said memorial with the depositions accompanying the same, be forthwith transmitted to the General Assembly of the State of Maryland.

That the said General Assembly be earnestly requested to send a sufficient number of their artillery and militia effect-

ually to suppress the tories in the counties of Somerset and Worcester, and to seize and secure the persons mentioned in a list to be transmitted with these resolves and all others in the said counties who shall appear to have been the leaders of the tory faction there.

That it be recommended to the General Assembly aforesaid to direct, that a day be given to all the inhabitants of the said counties to assemble at appointed places and take the oath of allegiance required by the said State, and that all who shall refuse or neglect so to do be disarmed.

That General Smallwood be, and he hereby is required to assist in executing the order of the said Assembly for the purpose aforesaid.

That this Congress will afford one battalion, or more, if requested by the said Assembly for the said purpose.

That the said Assembly be requested to cause all offenders as aforesaid to be brought to immediate trial agreeable to laws of the said State.

Resolved, That the President write to General Smallwood and inform him it is the direction of Congress, that he call to his assistance any continental officers and troops he shall think proper.

By order of Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK, Pres.

BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND.

A PROCLAMATION:

WHEREAS sundry inhabitants of Somerset and Worcester counties, through the sinister arts of wicked and designing men have been betrayed into dangerous and highly criminal offences against the government of this State, justly founded on the authority of the people, in opposing the power and measures of Congress, in supporting by word and deed the dominion of the British Crown, and authority of parliament,

obstructing the recruiting service, and holding a traitorous correspondence with the open enemies of this, and other the United States, and forgetful of the duties, which they owe to themselves as freemen, to the state as citizens, have even threatened with impious and unnatural war their countrymen and brethren, and for this purpose have actually collected an armed force, and by erecting the standard of the King of Great Britain have invited the common enemy into their Country; in compassion therefore to those unhappy and deluded people, and to prevent the effusion of kindred blood, the General Assembly have issued this Proclamation, exhorting them to return to a due obedience to the laws of their Country, and requiring them to disperse immediately, and within forty days from the date hereof, to repair to the commanding officer at such times, and places in the counties of Somerset and Worcester, as he shall direct, and then and there deliver up to the persons appointed to receive them, all their fire and side arms, and take the oath of allegiance and fidelity to this State, prescribed by the form of Government. Upon a strict compliance with these conditions, it is hereby declared, and the PUBLIC FAITH SOLEMNLY PLIGHTED, that the offenders aforesaid shall not only be pardoned for all the above offences and for all others of the like nature heretofore committed against this State, but be protected by the laws, authority, and power thereof, and secured in the full and ample enjoyment of their religious and civil rights, as any of its other inhabitants, and moreover that their grievances (if any) shall be heard, and speedily redressed; but as an example to others, and to prevent such dangerous and unwarrantable combinations in future, the persons, whose names are hereunto annexed, are excepted from every benefit or advantage which they might otherwise have claimed by virtue of the proclamation.

Andrew Francis Cheney, Hamilton Callallo, Wittington Lurpin, Thomas Moore, Stoughton Maddox, Thomas Malcolm, Levy Langford, Josephus Beall, Thomas Pollett, Junior, Angelo

Atkinson, Jesse Gray, William Pollet, John Odell Hart, and
rev. Mr. Bowie.

*Read and assented to by the House of Delegates this thirteenth
day of February, in the year of our Lord 1777.*

T. SPRIGG WOOTTON, Sp. Ho. Del.

By the Senate. Read and assented to.

DAN. OF ST. THO. JENIFER, P. S.

JOHN HANCOCK TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 1st, 1777.

SIR:

The enclosed resolves of Congress I transmit to you, and to
inform you, that it is their order, you should call to the assist-
ance of the State of Maryland such continental officers and
troops, as you shall judge necessary, on their application to
you. The dangerous tendency of the insurrection of the
tories in the counties of Somerset and Worcester requires
the most vigorous and immediate measures to suppress it.
You will therefore hold yourself in readiness to execute such
orders as you shall receive from the Assembly of this State for
this important purpose. I have the honor to be

Sir, Your most obt. Servt.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD

JOHN HANCOCK, Pres.

DAN. OF ST. THOS. JENIFER TO BRIGADIER GEN. SMALLWOOD.

IN COUNCIL OF SAFETY, Feb'y 15, 1777.

SIR:

We are directed by the General Assembly to desire you to
dismiss from the service of this State the Virginia regiment

and the two companies of regulars on the continental establishment.

We are Sir,
Your Obed. Servt.

By order
DAN. OF ST. THOS. JENIFER, P. S.

BRIGADIER GENERAL SMALLWOOD.
CAMBRIDGE.

By Express.

If the General be on his march from Cambridge an express must be sent after him.

SECRETARY PETERS TO BRIGADIER GEN. SMALLWOOD.

WAR OFFICE, Feb. 25, 1777.

SIR:

I send you a circular letter written by the Board in virtue of the enclosed resolve of Congress and request your assistance in the business, as the occasion is pressing. The letters to Col's. Gist and Richardson are sent in course and not meant as countermands to any orders you may have given them as to the Tory expedition, Congress meaning to adhere to their engagements in assisting this State; but the Board request you will be pleased to forward the troops employed against the insurgents as soon as you can possibly spare them.

I have the honor to be

Your very obdt. Servt.

RICHARD PETERS, Secr'y.

BRIGADIER GENERAL SMALLWOOD.
ANNAPOLIS.

CAPT CAMPBELL OF THE MARYLAND NAVAL FORCES TO GEN.
SMALLWOOD.

ENTERPRIZE, HOOPER'S HEIGHTS,
28 Feb. 1777.

SIR:

I have received your several favours by Mr. Dove, and am glad to hear you are successful in apprehending the tories, and make no doubt you will put an end to that business. I have been down the Bay but saw nothing of my men of war and believe there are none this side of Hampton. Some say they are gone to sea, but others say (which is more probable) they are gone to Portsmouth to water. Some tories went through this place to the men of war, three days before I got here. I would have been in the Sound before now but for want of water, which is occasioned by the N. W. wind having nipped the tides. My people and myself have suffered very much in the late bad weather, two are dead and three more are dying and myself very unwell. Have made a trial to pass into the Sound this tide in consequence of your letters, but am obliged to desist for want of water, have therefore taken a small sloop into the service that draws little water, and manned her with twenty men well armed with orders to ransack all the islands from this to the Tangiers and apprehend those mentioned in your letters, and all other suspected persons. This I suppose will answer better than the Enterprize going down if it could be effected, as I am pretty sure the Islanders have intelligence of her being in these parts. I have sent notifications to all the islands that I am to cruise in these parts all this season and that I will hang up every person that I catch holding any correspondence with or giving succor to the enemy which will, I am apt to believe, have the effect intended. If I should be able to apprehend any of the persons you mention, shall send you word and carry them to Annapolis, as I

shall (unless there be a pressing occasion for my stay) proceed up the Bay, my men being all sick and in want of every necessary. My compliments to Col. Gist and the rest of our friends.

I am Sir your very h'ble Serv't

JAMES CAMPBELL.

Have dispatched the Montgomery up the Bay with the transports, there being no further occasion for her stay, as there are no tenders to be seen.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WM. SMALLWOOD,

At PRINCESS ANN,

Recommended to the Care of Mr. G. Ballard who is requested to forward this immediately by express or otherwise.

CAPT CAMPBELL TO GEN. SMALLWOOD.

HOOPER'S HEIGHTS, 2 March, 1777.

SIR:

Seeing no ships of war when I was down I was led to conclude they had gone out of the Bay or down to Hampton, but I am inform'd by a sloop, that came in this morning, that the Phoenix and her tender lies directly opposite this place in the middle of the bay, the sloop I sent down is returned and brought up Levin Evans only. Callallo went on board with about ten others some days ago. My people heard of a party sent by you to the Tangiers and did not proceed there. I am under a necessity of going up the Bay for necessaries, have ordered all the vessels here to remain and with all trading vessels to lie still for the present. It was fortunate that I stopt five sail here that were bound up the Bay. My crew are very sickly and myself confined to bed these three days, shall see the situation of the ship to-night, shall carry Evans up the

Bay though he pretends to be very innocent. You'll please to collect what proof may be had against him. I have published among the people here that I am gone on a cruise round the Islands, and will remain here for some time. I wish the inhabitants of these Islands were entirely removed. Wister run off before my men could get to the house, he is undoubtedly guilty, but believe he would be glad to be out of the scrape if he knew how.

I am Sir,

Your very obt. Sevt.

JAMES CAMPBELL.

BRIGADIER GENERAL SMALLWOOD,

PRINCESS ANNE.

Mr. G. Ballard is requested to forward this immediately by express or otherwise.

GEN. WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

PRINCESS ANNE, 3 March, 1777.

SIR:

Having an opportunity by Mr. Crockett, I embrace it to acquaint you that agreeable to your last requisition, the 2nd Virginia regiment and the Continental regular companies, under the command of Deane and Goodman were discharged on the 16th February, but I have understood, they were detained by contrary winds some days at Cambridge. Our small party arrived the 19th, at Salisbury, and on the 23rd, here. At those posts and on our march we found people generally quiet and peaceable though much alarmed, particularly such, who were under guard upon accusations. They seemed disposed to accept the terms offered in the Proclamation, which induced me to discharge all the militia and procure 20 light

horsemen, who have rendered essential services upon detached duty, under regular officers, having all the suspected persons under guard except Callallo and Moore, after whom I have had three parties for some time out and directed Capt. Campbell to cruise in the sound, hang out British colours, and hover about the mouth of the rivers in order to decoy and intercept them, should an escape be attempted that way. I am apprehensive, they have escaped, having this day received a letter from Campbell, informing that several Tories escaped through the sound three days before he arrived at his station. I deferred distributing and publishing the Proclamation, till every exertion had been used to apprehend the persons suspected, and upon supposition that the whole would be secured, have hitherto declined sending to Annapolis such as have been in custody, with a standard and drum taken from the insurgents, and should be glad to know the pleasure of the Assembly respecting their being sent up immediately, or longer detained until further testimony might be adduced against them, and other steps taken to apprehend the two others; should they not have escaped to the British ships. I find myself under some difficulty respecting the Proclamation, the terms of which in some degree appear repugnant to my instructions, in rendering it optional in the offenders to comply with it within the forty days limited for that purpose, when the latter part of the first requisition in my instructions require me to publish, distribute and enforce the same without any limitation, and the last requisition therein requires (if I apprehend right) that I should give the necessary orders for securing the arms of the Insurgents in Somerset and Worcester counties in the like unlimited manner. However, though my instructions and the proclamation bear the same date, and I conceive the former should determine my conduct, yet the public faith being plighted in the latter, has induced me to wave exercising force, or complying with the above mentioned requisitions, till the limitation in the proclamation expires, or till I should know the pleasure

of the General Assembly and I receive their further direction on that head: though I must confess I have exercised a power, not clearly derived from either, in summoning and bringing under guard here such persons, whose conduct has been most exceptionable, and whose testimony might ascertain the original cause of the insurrection and set in a clear light the conduct of those who have been most active against their country. If I have erred in this, I have erred, I must beg, it may be imputed to generous motives in being anxious to check such conduct in future, and promote the public good. It shall be discontinued, if disapproved. However those persons have been treated with lenity and suffered no other inconvenience but their attendance here. I am sorry to observe, that some of the exceptions are extended against persons, who are objects of pity, rather than resentment, and it would appear have been deluded, whilst others better educated, and whose offences have been more artfully concealed, will avail themselves of the benefit of the proclamation. Nor can it be expected that their designs and views will terminate here, unless they are brought into public light and made examples of. I would not be understood to show a disposition to disparage any man's conduct, but I submit to your superior judgment if it would not have answered better purposes had the commanding officers proceeded to disarm (which I am well assured might have been effected without bloodshed) rather than treat with those Insurgents, which was dishonoring not only their Commissions, but the power that conferred them, and if I may presume to judge, this transaction I am afraid, has prevented such a finishing stroke being put to this affair as otherwise might have been, and at the same time equal lenity and mercy might have been extended, and it does not appear to me from the complexion of the people (though I sincerely wish it) that the Proclamation will have the desired effect, any longer than till a favourable opportunity offers.

This business is irksome because time is pressing and I find

myself inadequate to it, and am apprehensive, as it is a new department to me, I shall not afford the public that satisfaction, which may be expected. I am well satisfied, it would have been much better accomplished by some gentleman in the civil line, supported by a small military force, which, if this still could be done, I think the general good would be better promoted by my attention to, and forwarding the recruiting service. But the commands of the General Assembly shall be as law to me. Pray, would it not absolve and wash away the offences of the young fellows who are excepted should they enlist, which I believe they would readily come into? I have inclosed nine depositions which I judged might now be wanted at Annapolis. I have a number more taken, but have really neither paper nor clerks to enable me to send copies thereof. Dr William Dashiell, who was with me last campaign and is a very deserving and well qualified young gentleman in his department, desires an application may be entered for his becoming Surgeon to Col. Gist's regiment, which will fall in the line, if chirurgical rank is admitted and Wallace and Briscoe succeed to the 1st and 2nd regiments. Also Dr. Johnson of Frederick, a young gentleman of equal merit, who served in the General Hospital, and attended myself and the wounded of my late regiment, is desirous and I believe him well qualified to act in a like department. And Dr Griffiths, who acted in the Flying Camp, desired me to enter his application, but as he is a stranger I cannot undertake to recommend him. Col. Dove desired an application might be entered for his brother William, who supports a very clear character, and is represented to be spirited, for an Ensign's Commission, he having served on board a privateer some small time. I should be obliged, should Mr. Duvall be directed to transmit a list of the appointments, as there are many young gentlemen here desirous to know what situation they stand in, particularly Mr. Richard Waters, brother to John Waters, who behaved so bravely at the White Plains. This young gentle-

man has enlisted nearly his compliment of men and can get more. I hope he has not been neglected.

With much regard, I have the honor to be,

W. SMALLWOOD, B. G.

P. S. I have just received intelligence that the Phoenix and her tenders are now at anchor in the middle of the Bay opposite Hooper's Heights, and that Callallo returned to Smith's Island about 2 hours after Capt. Steward and his party came off from there. So that he may yet, it's probable, be taken. I make no doubt you have heard the enemy's having received a reinforcement in New Jersey, which has occasioned Congress to issue a resolve requiring the troops raised on the Continental establishment, in the several states to march by companies and parts of companies. This will make my party very weak, as I shall be obliged to send off Gunby's and Long's companies, the latter of which I had ordered here, but have not yet arrived to relieve the Baltimore Independents who are very anxious to get home. Being chiefly men of business, the State as well as themselves must suffer. However I shall endeavor to discharge them in a short time as I don't imagine there will be any opposition, and if there should, I think I shall be enabled to call in militia to answer every purpose, but we are at present hardly able to make out two guards which will scarcely afford the necessary redress.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF SENATE.

MANN PAGE, JUN. TO BRIGADIER GEN. GEORGE WEEDON.

DEAR SIR:

I wrote to you by Col. Spotswood, but by accident my letter did not fall in his way. I now enclose it to you to let you see

I had not forgot you. We have nothing worth telling you of in this place, except that Congress has been so mad as to return to Philadelphia. I am left prettily in the lurch. Expecting that we were fixed at this place, I sent back our chariot and now do not know how to move my baggage. Wives are sometimes sad incumbrances. I have not heard for some time from Virginia, but hope all are well. Why need you think the lustre of the Virginia arms is tarnished by Buckner's misconduct? True, he is a Virginian, but compare other Virginians with him, and they will appear in brighter colours. It is by comparison only that we judge of men and actions, therefore a few bad men or actions make good men and actions show more conspicuously. I am still in the small pox, therefore cannot write more than that I am,

Your affectionate friend,

MANN PAGE, JUN.

BALTIMORE, March 5, 1777.

BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE WEEDON.

GEN. WASHINGTON TO BRIGADIER GEN. SMALLWOOD.

MORRISTOWN, March 8, 1777.

SIR:

The present weak state of our army, and the appearance of a speedy movement being intended by the enemy, makes it necessary that I should use every resource to augment our number in the most expeditious manner possible. You will therefore immediately call upon the commanding officers of all the regiments of your state, and order them without delay to repair to camp with such men as they have already collected; leaving a proper number of officers to prosecute the business of recruiting, which must, by no means, be impeded or retarded. I am sensible, that the drawing troops into real

service, before the regiments are properly completed and arranged, is injurious in many respects; but the urgency of our affairs, makes it, at this time, indispensable; and I must urge it upon you to take every method in your power to hasten their armies forward.

I must also request you will immediately send me exact returns of the number of men, which have been raised in your state.

I am sir,

Your most obedient Servant

G. WASHINGTON.

BRIG. GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

In the Service of the United States.

TO THE HONORABLE

BRIGADIER GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

DAN OF ST. THOS. JENIFER TO BRIGADIER GEN. SMALLWOOD.

IN COUNCIL OF SAFETY, 11th March, 1777.

SIR:

Your favor of the 13th instant came to hand, and was immediately laid before the House of Delegates, who reported it back to this Board with directions, that we should take such order thereon, as we should judge necessary.

We have no doubt, but you have taken such steps in this business as you thought most conducive to the general good, and we hope you'll soon have it in your power to have your post in such circumstances as will secure peace and quietness in future.

You mention your having some prisoners in custody, and wish to know whether you are to send them up immediately, or detain them longer, until you can take more depositions:— in answer to this we can only say, that if the depositions

already taken are conclusive, it might be proper to send up the prisoners; if not, you would do well to detain them, until you can obtain such depositions, if in your opinion they can be had within a reasonable time.

You would do well to publish the Proclamation immediately, as in our opinion no decisive measures can be taken with the insurgents, until the expiration of the forty days therein mentioned. The arms of all should be instantly taken.

If any of the excepted prisoners, or others, will enlist into our service you are empowered to inform them, that this will wash away their offences, and the Council would rejoice at their taking this step to reinstate them fully in the good opinion of their injured country.

We shall take care to lay a list of the several applicants, you mention, before the General Assembly.

We are, Sir, with regard

Yr. mo. obt. Sev't.

By order

DAN OF ST. THOS. JENIFER, Prest.

BRIGADIER GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

SOMERSET COUNTY.

GEN. WASHINGTON TO BRIGADIER GEN. SMALLWOOD.

HEAD QUARTERS, MORRISTOWN,

12 March, 1777.

DEAR SIR:

I have taken the liberty of inclosing and recommending to your particular care five circular letters to the gentlemen commanding continental battalions in your State; one of which I have left unsealed for your perusal. Be so good as to direct the three that want it, and send them by express.

In them you must discover my opinion of the pressing

necessity we have for troops immediately; this consideration alone will call forth a continuance of your utmost exertions at this important period. In hopes of seeing you soon with a respectable force from your State,

I am

Dear Sir

Yr. most ob. Hb. Sev't.

G. WASHINGTON.

THE HONORABLE

BRIGADIER GEN. SMALLWOOD.

CHARLES COUNTY.

BRIGADIER GEN. SMALLWOOD TO CAPT. STARETT.

SNOW HILL, March 14, 1777.

SIR:

I have just received yours of the 10th instant, informing me of the behaviour of most of your company in refusing to deliver up your fifes and drummer to the officer and guard which I have expressly ordered after them, and am sorry that my duty obliges me to lay their conduct before the General Assembly and to remark, if they have not disobeyed orders, they have descended to a degree of petulance which in this instance as gentlemen and well wishers to their country they ought to have held themselves above. At the same time allow me to return you my thanks for your conduct on this occasion and I flatter myself, you are conscious, I made it my particular duty to treat with politeness, and extend every indulgence to your company, as gentlemen, whilst under my command, and from a consideration of their respective circumstances and situation in trade, and to oblige them, discharged them, before it was consistent with my duty or the exigency of the State.

If these gentlemen held my orders in contempt, they certainly ought not to have suffered their own caprice, or the con-

already taken are conclusive, it might be proper to send up the prisoners; if not, you would do well to detain them, until you can obtain such depositions, if in your opinion they can be had within a reasonable time.

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If these gentlemen held my orders in contempt, they certainly ought not to have suffered their own caprice, or the con-

venience of a paltry drummer and fifer to have influenced their conduct to the prejudice of their country, for it's very clear your company could have had no use for them. I have inclosed your letter to the Assembly, and should be obliged would you transmit me a list of the names of such who refused to let the officer comply with his orders.

I am with much regard, Sir,

Your Obedt. Hble. Servt.

W. SMALLWOOD, Brig. General.

CAPT. STARETT.

(*A Copy.*)

P. S. I wish Lieutenant Campbell may have acquitted himself on this occasion in a manner becoming a regular officer.

BRIGADIER GEN. WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO PRES'DT. JENIFER.

SNOW HILL, March 14th, 1777.

SIR:

I have waited some time in expectation of receiving an answer to my letter of the 5th instant, and of being favored with the commands of the General Assembly respecting any further operations or measures, which might be thought expedient to be adopted, the better to protect the Whigs, and secure the peace of these two counties; for I am better satisfied than when I before wrote that the proclamation will not have the desired effect. Nor indeed would any measures avail here, unless similar ones should be adopted in the Delaware States. Such is their* confidence in each other from their communication and vicinity, and from their particular situation and intercourse with the British Navy, that unless this intercourse, and the principle and spirit of disaffection can generally be removed, the purpose of any particular post will not be

* "The insurgents."

effected. I am daily discovering persons who are not only now disaffected, but whose conduct has been more criminal, and from their influence have injured the common cause much beyond what has been in the power of many of the excepted persons; yet I've the strongest assurances that such, without altering their principles, will avail themselves of the benefit of the proclamation and will view it in no other light than as a compulsory act (which some already have insinuated) whilst others more conscientious, cannot renounce their *beloved King*, and therefore several have already absolutely refused to take oath of allegiance to this State. What have you to expect from those who have cut down Liberty poles, and in direct opposition thereto, have erected the King's standard, and in an avowed manner drunk his health and success, and destruction to Congress and Conventions? Of those who have advised and actually signed General Howe's Proclamation? Of militia officers who have embodied with and headed the Insurgents? Of persons under bond and security to the State, who have forfeited the penalty, by commission of most of the within mentioned crimes? Of those who have supplied the King's ships with provisions, and kept up a constant intercourse with them? Of those who knowingly aided and conveyed the public prisoners on board? Of those enrolling in the King's service, during the war under Callallo? Of those advising the soldiers of this state and the continent to desert, and not only harboring, but supplying them with arms to defend themselves against being taken? And lastly, what can be expected from the inhabitants of a place, which becomes the reception of deserters, escaping prisoners and most of the disaffected who have been expelled the neighbouring states? These facts being unquestionably proved, and in many instances admitted, would not demonstrate that religion was the original cause of these events. Yet this is urged as the principal motive in every instance, though there are some exceptions, wherein ignorant men from their religious attachments have been deluded (those

are readily distinguished and to be pitied) yet by far the greater number conceal their real motives, and make religion a cloak for their nefarious designs and you may rely on it, there are few circles of the like extent in New York or the Jersey States which abound more in disaffected people.

I have been flattered that it will be in my power to collect 1500 blankets in those two counties, for which purpose I have appointed proper persons to receive and pay for them, and to facilitate this and other purposes, have required the militia regiments to meet on different days at their usual places of rendezvous to be reviewed and bringing what blankets can be spared. This will afford a better opportunity of making such discoveries as may be necessary respecting their numbers and sentiments, the state of their arms and discipline, and may probably pick up some recruits, which was a great inducement for this order. But I am afraid that my design in this last instance will be in some measure frustrated by the conduct of some gentlemen of the Baltimore company, who in general behaved well till they were discharged. After which, they have not only disobeyed orders, they have descended to a degree of petulance which in this instance as gentlemen and well wishers to their country they ought to have held themselves above. Whilst under my command, I made it my particular duty to treat them with politeness and gave them every indulgence, as gentlemen, and from a consideration of their respective circumstances and situation in Trade, and to oblige, discharged them the 10th instant before it was consistent with my duty, or the exigency of the state, at the same time informing Captain Starett, and others of his company, that as the militia regiments were to meet I should keep their fife and drummer, who would contribute much (by the music) in procuring recruits, and promoting that service, which he not only very politely agreed to, but ordered the fife and drummer to continue. The drummer then applied to me to go to Baltimore, which I expressly refused, urging the reason of his being de-

tained and that as soon as the musters were over, he should be discharged. However they went down to the company's boat about seven miles below Princess Ann. I then ordered Lieutenant Campbell who was also going in this boat to take with him a file of men well armed to take the fife and drummer, and send them back to me under this guard, which from the inclosed letter of Captain Starett you'll observe he was prevented by some of the company from doing. I should not have taken up your attention with this circumstance but to point out, that I am sorry your *Independents* had not a stronger sense of their duty, both as soldiers and as gentlemen well affected to the public good, and to acquaint you that unless proper notice is taken of it, I shall decline in future the command of your *Independents* or Militia, upon any occasion unless under better regulation. I wish Campbell had acquitted himself on this occasion becoming a regular officer. I have wrote to Captain Starett for the names of those who refused to let him comply with his orders.

No persons as yet have brought in their arms or claimed the benefit of the proclamation except such who have been under examination, and some of those have refused swearing allegiance to this State, nor do I think they will generally come in till towards the last day. I shall not presume to judge or draw conclusions, but I am often shocked and concerned for the manner in which this class of men conduct themselves under oath and I sincerely wish it may not be productive of many perjuries. The excepted persons are still under guard. Callallo and Moore not yet taken. 15 deserters, some Gunby's, but most mostly Long's and two of Fleming's Virginia Regiment have been taken and I have now detachments out after near thirty more, who have deserted from the Navy and Army and are skulking among the people. Captain Shockley, an officer of spirit, and who on this occasion rendered many services, being the other night in quest of deserters was fired on and received one drop shot in his leg, and his horse was

wounded with seven, but the party being in the woods, and it being dark, escaped upon our men returning the fire. Inclosed is of depositions and have taken upwards of 100 which shall hereafter be transmitted.

With respect

I have the honor to be

Your very obedt. Hble Servt.

W. SMALLWOOD, Brig'r General.

(A Copy.)

GENERAL SMALLWOOD TO SPEAKER HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

March 20, 1777.

SIR:

In answer to yours of the 14th Instant I beg leave to inform you that the requisitions of his Excellency, General Washington, transmitted by this opportunity, have in a great measure been complied with by my orders issued to 5 of the commandants of the regiments in this State. In consequence of the late resolve of Congress, transmitted by the Board of War, for the express purpose of forwarding the troops raised for this State upon the continental establishment, and such of his orders as were not comprehended in that resolve, are now complied with by the necessary orders being included in the enclosed statements which I beg the favor of your forwarding immediately. Please direct the blankets to the officers appointed to command the 6th, 7th and 8th Regiments as I am not informed who have been appointed to those commands, and, in obedience to the request of the Honorable House of Delegates, you'll please inform I shall wait on them next Sunday at farthest, and from the following considerations hope they will be induced to excuse my not complying with their requisition in setting off immediately. One of the regiments of this county

was reviewed yesterday and from the transactions of the day and appearances I flatter myself it will be attended with good consequences, and by appointment the other meets to-morrow, and on Thursday and Friday following the two meet in Somerset. As these musters will fall in my way and may be productive of good purposes, I declined setting out upon receipt of yours, being sensible, I shall be at Annapolis before the com'ts of the reg'ts can have complied with their orders. With much regard I have the honor to be,

Yo'rs &c.

WM. SMALLWOOD.

To SPEAKER OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

(A Copy.)

JOHN PAGE* TO BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON.

ROSEWELL, March 21, 1777.

MY DEAR GENERAL:

I sincerely congratulate you on your late promotion and on the glorious success of our arms in the Jerseys. I am much

* "The earliest settlers in Gloucester County, Virginia, were from Gloucestershire, in England. They transferred not only the names of places, but the streams also; hence they have here their Severn and other rivers and local denominations.

"Rosewell, the seat of John Page, Esq., Governor of Va., in 1802, is on the York, nearly opposite the mouth of Queen's Creek. It is, perhaps, the noblest old mansion in the State, and is a most venerable relic of antiquity. It is a cube of ninety feet, is four stories high, and its appearance strikingly massive. The roof is flat and leaded. It has been said, that Mr. Jefferson and Gov. Page, in the summer evenings sometimes enjoyed conversation and the moonlight scene there. From the top of Rosewell house, the view stretches nearly ten miles up and down the river York, which is there about three miles wide, a superb and lovely sheet of water, as bright, as pure, and as sparkling blue as the waters of the ocean. Before the house spreads a fair lawn; around the house are a few trees. This enhances its simple grandeur, standing, as it were, in the dignified solitude of some antique castle. Gov. Page was dis-

obliged to you for the several letters you have written me and had I time I should make a thousand apologies for writing so seldom to you as I have. I am confined by domestic affairs at home at present and have written 7 letters to send over to Williamsburg—so that I must be now as laconic as ever with you—but hope soon to be able to give you a folio sheet well filled. You shall not laugh again at my *poor little tickets*.

Have you ever tried my spiked rollers? I think Harlaem Heights must have been a fine place for them. In proportion to my esteem and veneration for our great and immortal General rises my contempt of American spirit. Good God! When he had done so much, and was so near finishing the war by a single stroke! that he should be still left with so few troops as to be inferior to an handful of the enemy! I am shocked too at the desertions which happen. Numbers of them come strolling through our country to its eternal reproach—and Buckner is enjoying himself at home! Oh! that he had been shot. For God's sake desire the General to station a company under its full and proper officers somewhere on the road to intercept deserters. A few stoped in this manner and executed would put an immediate stop to that scandalous practice. I have long been of opinion that the different States will not complete their quotas of regiments unless they order a draft to be made out of the militia to supply their deficiencies. This draft to serve as regulars till relieved by regulars. If this step had been taken every lazy coward in the 13 States would have turned out as a recruiting officer—least it should fall to his lot to be drafted. I wish the General would recommend it to the neighbouring States, to name a short day, on which if their battalions are not completed there shall be such a draft.

tinguished for his talents and patriotism, and fulfilled his numerous trusts as Governor of the State, Representative in Congress, &c. with honor. He died, at Richmond, Oct. 11th, 1808, in the 65th year of his age."—*Howe's Virginia and its Antiquities*, p. 281.

I am next to advise our Govern^r to do so here immediately. Present my love, thanks, compl'ts &c. &c. to our glorious General, and believe me to be your sincere friend and most obedient servant

JOHN PAGE.

To BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON
At MORRISTOWN.

By Post.

RICHARD PARKER TO BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE WEEDON, ESQ.

DEAR SIR:

I sincerely congratulate you on your late preferment. It ever gives me pleasure to find merit rewarded, and I have no doubt of your distinguishing yourself in the post you now enjoy, as well as you have hitherto done in that you formerly held.

Mr. Purdie has given me a good deal of uneasiness by killing my son Major Parker, but that is now relieved by a letter I have received from him since his death dated the 13th Feby. However, this is a long while to be without hearing from him, and you will greatly oblige me in letting me know what you can of him, if you left him well and when: I have two other sons in the Second regiment who, the last time I heard from them, were at Philada. under inoculation. I should be glad to hear something of them if possible. Wishing you every happiness, I am

Dr Sir
Your friend and very obdt. Servt.

RICHARD PARKER.

March 30th, 1777.

GOV. PATRICK HENRY TO BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON.

WILLIAMSBURG, April 5, 1777.

SIR:

Within these few days arms have been delivered to all Col'l Mason's regiment that rendezvous here. I expect Col. Lewis will apply for arms for his regiment, having written him for a state of his recruits, for that purpose.

But, while these efforts are making to arm as many of the Continental troops as possible, I've the pleasure to read in the last paper that 10000 arms are arrived at Philada. I have written to Congress to know the certainty of this. In the mean time I must suspend the delivery of the guns you mention. Indeed I doubt we shall be a little puzzled to find enough for our own three regiments and the two Continental ones I mention above. I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your humble Servant,

P. HENRY.

TO BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON.

FREDERICKSBURG.

COL. RICHARDSON TO GEN. SMALLWOOD.

GILPIN'S POINT, 12 April, 1777.

SIR:

This covers my letter to General Washington inclosing a state of my regiment, which I must request your favour to send with your next dispatches to him. I observe that the General has ordered Major Smyth and myself up with the troops. I have wrote him that I am going into the small pox, that I have no Lieutenant Colonel, that by order of our State I am inoculating the regiment in Chester Town, and that it appears to me necessary that the Major should stay with the regiment while under inoculation and to take care of the

recruiting service during my confinement, but that I would consult you on the propriety of his going up, and if you should be of opinion that the General will expect him under the present situation of the regiment, I would send him forward on hearing from you. I therefore pray your direction on this point by the express, whom I have ordered to wait at Broad Creek for your letter.

If it is finally determined who are to be the officers of my regiment I wish to have the commissions—as in justification to the few in commission. I have been obliged to inform General Washington that I do not know who are to be the officers, and that we have but 12 in commission that will act. Capt. Henry, with 80 privates, marches on Monday for Philadelphia as Major Smyth writes. Out of about 200 we have 63 sick—have lost eight by death, and I wonder that they don't die much faster being almost naked and without blankets. I imagine that our men are by this time all inoculated. I had that operation performed on myself yesterday.

Pray sir, did Lieutenant Burkit Falcon deliver you 660 dollars when at Cambridge? He had that quantity of me to recruit with.

It would make me very happy that Major Smyth should succeed Col. Hindman, as I would prefer him to any other man. But as I have not had influence enough to make a single officer in the regiment and strangers are put in that have never seen service, perfect novices, and but few removes from idiots, in preference to those that have served and behaved well, I suppose I shall not be gratified.

I am very respectfully,

Sir,

Y'r mo. obed. Servt.

W. RICHARDSON.

HON WM. SMALLWOOD, ESQ.,
BRIGAD. GEN. OF THE CONTINENTAL FORCES
RAISED IN MARYLAND, ANNAPOLIS.

JOHN PAGE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON.

W'NSBURG, Nov. 20, 1777.

MY DEAR GENERAL:

I had the pleasure this evening to receive yours of the 31st ult. and 6th instant, and was happy to find that our forts on the Delaware had held out so gloriously, and was much pleased to find that you concluded your letter of the 6th abruptly on hearing another cannonade begin in that quarter, as this seemed to confirm the account which last night came to town, that on that very day another most violent attack began from the ships and lasted till the 8th, when Cornwallis having assaulted Fort Mifflin and being repulsed with a great loss it ended. But I was much disappointed when Fitzhugh read your letter of the 8th, mentioning no such thing. We have been amused here too with a story of retaking Rhode Island, and taking there fifteen hundred prisoners, and taking the eagle and I know not what. However I am satisfied, as the forts have already done wonders, and as I make no doubt they will hold out till Howe can hold his post no longer, and may be reduced to Burgoyne's terms. I shall be obliged to you if you will tell me in your next, what route Howe's detachments take when they go against the forts? whether the same is not open to him for a retreat? but I hope in God in your answer to this you will be able to give a better account of him. What a fine figure Burgoyne and his troops will cut in England. Ought they not to destroy the authors of their disgrace when they return? They may be fine tools in the hands of the minority. Pearce's letter was foolish enough and the Governor was very thoughtless to give it to Pard as he did. I was not in Council when Pearce was sent to camp, or might possibly have proposed a more prudent person,—however I proposed his recall and effected it, and am surprised he is not yet re-

turned. As it is now very late I must conclude, wishing you all success and happiness,

I am

Your most obdt. Servt.

JOHN PAGE.

P. S. Pray how did Capt. Rowland's rifle scheme please the General?

BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON,
At HEAD QUARTERS NEAR PHILADELPHIA.

By Post.

JOHN WEEMS TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CALV'T COUNTY, MARYLAND, 10 Aug., 1778.

HIS EXCELLENCY GEN'L SMALLWOOD:

DEAR SIR—I take the freedom to address myself to you and to acquaint you of my fears about my son who holds a Sergeant's mate's birth in Col. Jackson's Regiment of New England troops, who has lately informed me that his cash runs low, and that he has not received one penny of his monthly wages since he has been in the service, and that he is under great uneasiness for fear of being in want before I can see him, or get a safe opportunity of sending him a supply, as a safe opportunity from our department seldom happens at this season, and by little rather hazardous. I shall ever acknowledge it as a favor, if he should be in want before I can see him, if you would relieve him, by advancing such a supply as you may think will be sufficient for his support, which will be returned with interest and thanks, as soon as the weather becomes a little cooler that I can travel. From the very great obligations I received from you when last had the pleasure of seeing you I have taken this freedom, and hope you will readily

excuse it, and be assured that if the case was quite the reverse, I would do ten times as much for you or yours if I had it in my power, with the greatest cheerfulness and pleasure. The kind treatment I received from you and your officers when at camp induces me to take such another expedition this fall. I shall make bold to inquire for your little cottage, where I hope to meet with you enjoying high health and spirits and hope you enjoy no less at this time. I am in hopes from the present report that there is a great prospect of an end being put to this cruel and unnatural war this campaign, which will be the means of enabling you to return to your own country and home, there to spend the remainder of your days in that splendor and happiness which is so justly due to one of your rank and character in life. I now conclude with my best wishes for your health and safety.

My Dr. Friend,

Your much obliged and most

Obed't Humble Serv't,

JOHN WEEMS, JUN.

ANNAPOLIS, 6 Ins't.

HIS EXCELLENCY

GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

To the care of Dr. James Weems per Post.

[NOTE.—The following notes, relating to Gen. Weedon personally, are found among these papers.]

MANN PAGE, JUN. TO GENERAL WEEDON.

Feb. 23d, 1777.

MY DEAR SIR:

I yesterday received your favour of the 16th, and lament the loss of the one, two days before, which has never come to hand. I am under inoculation for the Small Pox, which makes it painful to my eyes to write more than to congratulate you upon your being appointed a Brigadier General, and to offer you my services upon any

other and every other occasion. Salute Major General Stephen in my name. God bless you, let me hear from you, and when I get well I will repay all your letters. Farewell.

Your affectionate

MANN PAGE, Jun'r.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 23, 1777.

GEORGE WEEDON, Esquire,
Brigadier General in the Continental Army.

WM. BLODGET TO GENERAL WEEDON.

HEAD QUARTERS, Nov. 25, 1777.

DEAR GENERAL:

I am directed by General Green to acquaint you that he has received intelligence of Genl. Glover's Brigade who will be within a few miles of this place to-night. As he has ordered the troops to be in motion by eight o'clock to-morrow morning, wishes you would be here with the Marquis, if not too much fatigued to-night. Should the Marquis be fatigued the General thinks he had better join us in the morning.

I am with respect

Yr very H'ble Sevt.

WM. BLODGET, Aid De Camp.

GENERAL WEEDON,
At or near Morristown.

(*Per Express.*)

Permit the bearer being express to pass to Morristown.

By General Green's order,

WM. BLODGET, Aid De Camp.

Nov. 24, 1777.

CHARLES TOOKE TO GEN. WEEDON.

VIRGINIA, Aug. 27, 1781.

DEAR SIR:

I received yours of the twenty-second instant, where you desire I will write you by the bearer of yours.

I've a little more to acquaint you with than what you have received from me. As to what I wrote of my conduct being disapproved of, you mistake the matter altogether. I never understood you had faulted it, but was informed some of your family had said that myself, as well as English, was looked upon as barbarians amongst negroes, which was the occasion of their absconding, but must say that I rather think it owing to their being countenanced and put to work, when they got over on the other side; instead of meeting with correction and sent back immediately. It's true Posey did vouchsafe on the 10th instant to bring Job, Bob, and Tom over. Job took a canoe from the Quarters-landing and went back the same night. Bob and Tom also went the night following, and now should they be got again, shall be at a loss to know what method to fall upon to keep them.

Cain and Moll have been out almost all the year until lately, that Moll was taken and brought to a meeting we had with the militia, where Jones put her into English's care, who brought her to my house that night. I confined her until next morning and then sent her over the river, as Jones considers it was no use to correct or keep her any longer unless to run you to further expense taking her up. Am apprehensive the fodder will be lost by those rascals slaying out and of course the stock also.

Was I to act for you another year, should be under a determination of having nothing more to do with Major Stoddart's and as to one overseer looking after both places, find it will not answer, though thought it would when I agreed with English and you.

I can now, Sir, inform you upon what terms Cloth [?] proposes letting the Globe at, as he sent me word by English the other day. He asks £50 specie for it, to be paid for in beef and pork for which he will allow the highest prices given formerly, but its more by £20 than Mr. Moncure got from Marmion when it was in its prime. It is also a doubt with me whether there could be beef and pork enough procured from the plantation to satisfy the Beast* and for use of the plantation and overseer, the beef being reduced very low by having all the best taken this summer for the army and expect more will shortly, that what there is now left is quite young and poor.

There is not the least probability of getting spinning done on this side, so that if Posey can accomplish it, you would do well to write

* The owner.

him for to send the boat down for the wool, as the season that the cloathing will be in need of is advancing fast.

I've now stated matters as fully as I can, so that you may judge how to act with the Rev. Sir, &c. As I have and am willing to do the best for you that my feeble abilities will admit of until you come in, you'll please to write me by first opportunity your determination in regard to the Parson.

If convenient, and to be had, shall be obliged to you to bring with you a couple quires of writing paper, as I've not any for myself, or Tom to go to school with.

You'll please accept the compliments of your family with,

Sir

Your very h'ble Servt.

CHAS. TOOKE.

GEN. GREEN TO GENERAL WEEDON.

HEAD QUARTERS, Feb. 23, 1783.

DEAR SIR:

I will only write you a line of remembrance as May or Forsyth can give you all the news. I would not write this but to convince you that you hold the same esteem and regard with me that you ever did. Mrs. Green is very unwell and what is very uncommon with her is rather low spirited. She talks of going to the Northward this Spring. I hardly think she will but her children begin to urge her return. She desires her kind compliments to you and Mrs. Weedon and all others of her acquaintance. Please to add mine also.

I am dear Sir

Your most obedient

humble Serv't

N. GREEN.

GENERAL WEEDON, VIRGINIA.

The following fragment of a letter from Mrs. Green to Gen. Weedon, will show the character of the relations existing between those two gentlemen and their respective families.

MRS. GREEN TO GENERAL WEEDON.

I intended doing myself the pleasure of writing to my good friends, but a pain in my head must excuse me. Your letter to the General made me happy; but had it been addressed to me, it would have made me more so, because it would have pleased and flattered one of my darling passions *vanity*. Be pleased Sir to present me most affectionately to Mrs. Weedon and General Spotwoods' family and all my friends at Fredericksburg. I like this country, but wish to return again to the country of rosy cheeks, and to throw off the yellow mask, for every body wears one here. You know I detest masks of any kind. Remember, I engage you for a partner to dance with on my return which must be next spring. I am Sir, with every mark of esteem your affectionate friend and

Serv't,

CATY GREEN.

GEN. WEEDON was, as will be remembered, an innkeeper at Fredericksburg, Virginia; but he seems to have possessed not only the confidence of his fellow-citizens and the authorities of his State, but also that of Lafayette—in fact, of all the continental officers with whom he was brought in contact. An English physician, Dr. Smyth, says of him: "I arrived in Fredericksburg, and put up at the inn kept by Mr. Weedon, who is now a general officer in the American army, and was then very active and zealous in blowing the flames of sedition."

COL. WILLIAM GRAYSON OF THE REVOLUTION AND THE GRAYSON
FAMILY OF VIRGINIA.

"It has happened to the memory of this gentleman, as it has to that of many others, who like him took an active and distinguished part in the war which resulted in our national Independence, and died soon after its close, that their services have been comparatively unnoticed. The historians of that struggle who succeeded them, either out of a special interest in the fame and advancement of those who were still living, or from a natural desire to impart interest and attract attention to their works, have preferred to enlarge upon the achievements and sacrifices of the then living worthies of the Revolution, and have passed over with little recognition the equally brilliant and patriotic efforts of other actors in that drama, who, when they wrote, had passed from the stage of life. Col. Grayson died in the year 1790. Another difficulty in his case, and one too which has been the principal reason why no sketch of his life and character has yet been given to the public, is, that his family, soon after his death, having removed to Kentucky, the family papers were thereby lost or dispersed, and there was, therefore, no ready means of obtaining for a memoir the full and accurate details which those papers would have supplied. And yet, notwithstanding that but little has been written of Col. Grayson since the days of the Revolution and since his eloquence, his statesmanship, and his patriotism were displayed in the congress of the old confederation, in the convention of Virginia, called to decide upon the adoption of the Constitution, and in the Senate of the U. States, of which he was a member for its first session, there was not one of that illustrious body of men, whose genius and exertions rescued us from foreign domination and laid the foundations of our national prosperity, whose memory is held by his native State in greater veneration and gratitude. Col. Grayson, like Washington, was distinguished both in the cabinet and the field, and yet he seems to have been so well content with simple well-

doing for its own sake and the sake of his Country, as to have taken no pains to put himself into notice, to mould history for his future fame, or to transmit the memorials of his military and civic virtues.*

The father of Col. Grayson, Benjamin Grayson, was a Scotchman, who emigrated to Virginia and settled in Prince William County; doing business as a merchant at Dumfries, then a shipping port of some note on Quantico creek. He resided generally at "Belle Air," a beautiful estate of about a thousand acres, nearly half way between Quantico and Occoquan Creek, which last divides the Counties of Prince William and Fairfax. It was furnished with a large and stately mansion on the brow of a fine hill, which overlooks the Potomac for many miles.

Benjamin Grayson married Susan Monroe, an aunt of James Monroe, the fifth President of the United States, and had by her four children, viz: Spence, William (the principal subject of this sketch), Benjamin, and a daughter, who married another Scotch gentleman, Col. Alexander Dalrymple Orr. The late Benjamin Grayson Orr, at one time Mayor of Washington City, and the present Col. A. D. Stewart, of St. Louis, Mo., are descendants of this lady.

Spence and William, the first and second sons of Benjamin Grayson, were sent, according to a common practice at the time with the wealthy colonists, to England for their education. They both graduated at Oxford, upon which the elder returned to Virginia and the younger remained in England to study law.

Spence inherited the estate of "Belle Air," and having married Elizabeth Waggoner, daughter of Col. Peter Waggoner, of Fairfax County, settled on it. After being married several years and having several children, he again went to England, studied divinity and taking orders as a minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church, returned to Virginia and preached in the parishes of Loudon and Prince William Counties, to the day of his death. It is no small evidence of the salubrity of Belle Air, as well as of the sound constitutions and regu-

* In the sketch we are about, therefore, to write of this gentleman, we must resort chiefly to the only documentary and official notices of him to be found in our early annals and to the traditions preserved by his family and others.

lar lives of that period, that this couple had seventeen children, and raised thirteen of them to be men and women. Most of the sons emigrated to the West and Southwest. Peter Grayson, one of them, settled in Tennessee, was Adjutant General of the troops of that State, under General Jackson, and distinguished himself for his military skill and courage before and in the battles at New Orleans. His son, William S. Grayson, is now Cashier of one of the Banks of that City. Benjamin, the eldest son, settled in Kentucky. His eldest son, Frederick W. Grayson, was an eminent lawyer, and was successively Attorney General of that State and Judge of the Court of Appeals. The youngest, Peter Waggoner Grayson, removed from Kentucky to Texas at an early period of its settlement, contributed largely in shaping its laws and institutions, took an active part in its struggle for independence, was Attorney General during Houston's administration, and was proposed as President of the Republic before its annexation to the United States, but unhappily died before the contest was decided. Fred. W. Grayson, Editor of the Evening Journal, published in Philadelphia, is the grandson of Benjamin, and the nephew of Fredk. W. and Peter Waggoner Grayson.

Of the descendants, now alive by the female line of the Reverend Spence Grayson, may be mentioned Major George Frederick Lindsay, Quarter Master of the Marine Corps, and Peter Grayson Washington, late Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Col. William Grayson, upon completing his studies in the Temple and being admitted to the bar, returned to Virginia, and established himself at Dumfries, in the practice of the law. He married the only daughter of Major General Smallwood, of Maryland, of the continental line, by whom he had several sons and one daughter. William Grayson Carter and Alfred G. Carter, of Kentucky, are sons of this daughter. Alfred, the second son of Col. Wm. Grayson, married Miss Breckenridge, afterwards Mrs. Peter B. Porter, and aunt of the present Vice-President, and left a son by her, Col. John Breckenridge Grayson, who distinguished himself as head of the Commissary Department in Mexico during the late war.

It may be mentioned as a curious proof of the continuance of the old monarchical law of entail, that notwithstanding Maryland, soon after the Revolution, passed an act authorizing entails to be broken

by a simple transfer, as late as the year 1827, William, the eldest son of Col. William Grayson, was found entitled to the whole landed estate of General Smallwood, his maternal grandfather, no transfer having taken place.

At what time Col. Grayson returned from England and commenced the practice of the law at Dumfries, is not certainly known, but it is supposed to have been about the year 1765. There is in the possession of a member of the family an original deed, dated the 6th Nov., 1767, for a tract of land (opposite Washington) in Fairfax Parish and Fairfax County, which contains his, amongst other signatures, as attesting witnesses. The deed is from Philip Ellis and Frances, his wife (illiterate people, for neither writes his or her name), to George Mason, the grandfather of James M. Mason, now in the Senate. From the number of the witnesses and the promineney of most of them, we give their names in the order in which they are affixed.

George Washington,
Geo. Wm. Fairfax,
John West,
John Carlyle,
Wm. Ellerey,
Francis Dade,
Daniel McCarty,
Robert Adams,
William Grayson,
Cumberland Wilson.

Two witnesses would, of course, have made the execution valid, and from the greater number, it is likely that when the grantors (probably poor neighbors of Col. Mason) came to execute the deed, he had these gentlemen at his house, at Gunston Hall, and they all, for some reason or other, subscribed their names.

Neither is it certainly known at what time Col. Grayson entered the army of the Revolution. But living, as he did, not far from Mount Vernon, and being a frequent visitor there and intimate with General Washington, George Mason, and other patriots of that portion of the State, who entertained the earliest notions and took the earliest steps towards resistance to the Mother Country, it is reason-

able to conclude that he shared their sentiments from the beginning and was amongst the first who embarked in the contest. We have at hand, however, no earlier notice of his connection with the army, than is given by general order, dated at New York on the 24th August, 1776, appointing him Aid-de-Camp to General Washington. Several of his letters as Aid-de-Camp, extant, are dated at Harlaem Heights, in September and October of that year, and it is a tradition in the family, that he distinguished himself in the battle of White Plains, fought on the 25th of the latter month.

Col. Grayson continued with General Washington in his operations in, and retreat across, the Jerseys, and was in the battles which closed the campaign of that year, of Trenton and Princeton.

On the 1st January, 1777, he was appointed Colonel of a regiment to be raised in Virginia, and soon after proceeded to that Colony for the purpose of recruiting it. On the 21st January, 1777, Congress passed an order to supply 200 suits of clothing to expedite the raising of Grayson's and Mason's regiments. On the 19th March, '77, a further order was passed to advance to Col. Grayson \$10,000, "according to his request, in his letter of the 7th, to the Secretary of the Board of War."

On the 22d March, '77, an order was passed to advance \$400, to Lt. Col. Levin Powell, "for the use of that part of the Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. Grayson, now on their march to join the main army."

From these it is probable that the first battalion of the Regiment had already, at the date of the last order, been raised, and, under the command of Col. Grayson in person, had joined General Washington. In either case it is supposed the whole regiment had joined before the 21st July, '77, and took part in the battle of Brandywine of that day, and in the battle of Germantown, in October following.

In the pursuit of the British army, under Sir Henry Clinton, in its retreat from Philadelphia, in the summer of 1778, Col. Grayson's regiment formed part of the detachment which was placed in advance under Lafayette. In some of the histories of the battle of Monmouth, he is called "General Grayson," and is presumed, therefore, to have been temporarily in command of the leading Brigade of that detachment, which consisted of 4000 men. Capt. Thomas Washing-

ton, who died in Washington city about the year 1809, was a Lieutenant in Grayson's regiment, and it so happened that on that occasion he commanded the leading platoon. He and Col. Grayson were, therefore, both at the head of the column, when General Washington rode up and upbraided General Lee for his dastardly retreat. He was frequently heard to repeat the very words used. General Washington demanded of General Lee the reason of the retreat, to which General Lee replied: "Sir, these troops are not able to meet British Grenadiers." "Sir," said General Washington, much excited, "they are able, and by G—d they shall do it," and immediately gave the order to countermarch the column.

Col. Grayson's regiment being much reduced by the casualties of the campaign, he was offered at the close of it the situation of one of the Commissioners of the Board of War, but in a letter to Congress of the 22d December, 1778, he expressed his desire to decline the appointment. At the close of the succeeding campaign the appointment was again tendered to him, and he continued to hold it until the 10th of September, 1781. At this period, the surrender of Cornwallis, at Yorktown, was impending, and, in the judgment of every one, was to close the war; and Col. Grayson then addressed a letter to Congress, requesting "that Congress would now be pleased to accept his resignation.

Thus ended the military services of Col. Grayson.

On the 22d June, 1784, Col. Grayson was elected a delegate to the Congress of the Confederation, for the State of Virginia, and took his seat on Friday, March 11th, 1785. During his whole term of service, he was, as will be seen upon reference to the journals of that body, an active and diligent member, participating largely in its deliberations. On the 4th of July, 1787, we find him chosen its chairman, in the absence of the President, whose attendance was prevented by ill health. It was about this period that he distinguished himself not only by his speeches in favor of securing from Spain the free navigation of the river Mississippi, but by the leading part he took in certain confidential interviews with the French representatives, Otto and De la Forest, with the design of interesting their government in an effort to effect a measure then deemed so important to the people of our Western territories, as well as to the whole

country. On one occasion, when addressing a very earnest argument to Congress upon this subject, he is said to have expressed the opinion that, at no very remote day the waters of the Mississippi, in their whole course, would be embraced within the limits of the States. A member here interrupted him by asking if he could be speaking seriously. Yes, he replied, and however visionary some here may regard it, I will go further and declare, as my deliberate conviction, that those now living will see the Republic extended far beyond that boundary, both to the South and to the West. The prophecy then spoken has not only been since entirely realized, but so rapid has been its process of fulfilment, that it seems strange to this generation that a fact, which is now so familiar and natural, should, in its prediction sixty odd years ago, have been ridiculed as absurd.

On the 12th of March, 1786, while the Ordinance "for ascertaining the mode of locating and disposing of the public lands in the Western Territory," was under consideration in the Congress of the Confederation, Mr. Grayson, with that far seeing practical statesmanship for which he was eminent among the remarkably matter-of-fact and sagacious public men of the time, moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Rufus King, of New York, and adopted: "Resolved, That the navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and the St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same be, and are hereby declared to be, common highways, and to be forever free, as well to the inhabitants of said Territory, as to the citizens of the United States, and those of any other State that may be admitted into the Confederation, without any tax, duty, or impost therefor." This resolution, so inestimably valuable in its present commercial bearing and as a bond of union among the States, as well as of kindly social intercourse and neighborhood between the people thereof, was subsequently introduced, without the change of a letter, into the celebrated Ordinance of 1787, for the government of the territory North West of the Ohio river, and now forms a part of it. It is a fact highly honorable to the character of Mr. Grayson, and one which may be appropriately mentioned in this place, that he separated from his colleagues, and voted *aye* on the anti-slavery resolution of Mr. King, which is, in substance, the famous *proviso* in

favor of freedom afterwards embodied in the act regulating the North Western territory.

In 1788, Mr. Grayson was a member of the Virginia Convention, called for the purpose of considering the present Constitution of the United States, and in that body, rendered illustrious by men of the highest talents, he ranked among the foremost in learning, wisdom, and eloquence. The debates, though meagrely reported, attest not only the large part he took in the discussions, but also the great power with which he, together with Henry, Mason, Monroe and others, opposed those features of the Constitution which they deemed objectionable, and which, in a measure, have been since modified by amendments.

He was afterwards chosen, with Richard Henry Lee, to represent Virginia in the Senate of the United States, and took his seat May 21st, 1789. His health began to fail him about this period, and on August 7th, of the same year, he requested and was granted leave of absence from the Senate, in order to recruit it. Seven months later, on the 12th of March, 1790, while on his way to attend the second session of the first Congress, he died at Dumfries, and was buried in the family vault, at Belle Air, the residence of his brother, the Rev. Spence Grayson.

In person, Col. Grayson was about six feet high and robust in proportion. He had black hair and eyes, with a florid complexion and remarkably fine teeth. He was fond of society, possessed of brilliant colloquial powers and adorned with all the graces and accomplishments of a high bred and high toned gentleman of the better days of the "old Dominion." As a thoroughly read scholar and most able lawyer, his reputation extended beyond his own State, and an evidence of this is found in the fact that he was chosen, while a member of Congress, in 1785, with Chancellor Wythe, by the agents of Massachusetts and New York, one of a select commission, to sit in the Federal Court, to hear and determine a controversy between those States respecting certain lands, commonly called the "New Hampshire Grants." There are several anecdotes of Col. Grayson, illustrative of character, which we should like to narrate here, but have only space for one or two. About the time when war with the mother country was thought to be inevitable, and residents

in the colonies were beginning to decide on which side of the strife they would stand, two young Virginians had made up their minds to run away to England and there await the issue of the struggle. Col. Grayson, being a person of influence, was asked to interest himself in the matter so far as to aid the juvenile loyalists in obtaining suitable conveyance across the water. He was written to for this purpose, and a sufficient sum enclosed to defray the expenses of the voyage. He indignantly refused to assist the young renegades in their scheme of desertion, said they might get off, if they could, without his agency, and declared that, as the revolted Province was on the eve of an arduous contest, and would require all the available means and efforts of its citizens, he had put the money sent him into a fund then being raised for the war, and would be personally responsible for it whenever the owners might see fit to reclaim it.

We have also heard, from entirely reliable authority, that while Mr. Grayson was attending Congress in New York, the British Envoy, in addressing him an invitation to a dinner party, misspelt his name. Grayson, whose name was too often in the journals of the day not to be well known to men in public life, at least, believed that the Englishman was attempting a bit of petty superciliousness in affecting ignorance of it. Accordingly, in declining the invitation, he purposely blundered in writing the address of the King's representative. The latter received this obvious rebuke kindly, renewed his request with special urgency that Col. Grayson would make one of his guests on the particular occasion, and took care this time to give his note the proper superscription. Grayson relented gracefully, and though he did not then accept the minister's hospitality, he gave him his full title and was strictly correct in the orthography.

There is another anecdote of the subject of our imperfect sketch, which has been narrated to us and with which we will close. When action was required, he was active enough; but he was otherwise fond of repose and hard to move. He was sleeping one night, at Valley Forge, during the terrible winter when the army was quartered at that place. Some of his brother officers, knowing his averseness to stir when he had once composed himself to rest, had attached a string to the bed clothes, and removing out of sight, pulled away at the cord. Presently the cold began to tell severely on Grayson's

sensibilities. He awoke and found every stitch of covering lying outside of the bed and several feet beyond his reach. He called lustily to his negro boy, Peter, but Peter was fast asleep in a corner of the hut and made no sign. The cold increased, but Grayson lay shivering, loth to budge a limb in that dire extremity, until at last, nature being capable of no further endurance, he slid from his couch, gathered up the bedding, and, with a good-natured growl, declared he would so arrange matters, that whoever made the next attempt to disturb him should find it necessary to move body, blankets, bed, and all."*

COL. GRAYSON TO GEN'L. SMALLWOOD.

PHILA'A, June 9th, 1780.

DR SIR:

Since I wrote you by post, I have had an opportunity of knowing General Washington's sentiments on part of your letter to me.

His Excellency is of opinion, that you cannot be introduced into any other line than that of your own, without giving such jealousy and uneasiness as would be likely to convulse the army; a thing he observes, which would be very impolitic at this time.

A gentleman informed me yesterday, that a body of troops were to be raised in Virginia to go to the southward and that you would be mentioned in Congress for the command. I shall be happy to do every thing in my power to serve you in any respect whatever. Should any thing happen, I will give you immediate information

This moment the Board have received a letter from General Washington advising that the enemy are in force at Springfield. It is not improbable they meditate a stroke at his baggage and artillery. In this however, I think they will be

* From the MSS. of Mr. Peter G. Washington and Mr. Fred. W. Grayson.

disappointed. In consequence of this intelligence Lee's horse are ordered to camp immediately.

The news from New York, is that Sir John Johnson at the head of five hundred Indians, Canadians and regulars is at Johnson's Hall; that Governor Clinton and Colonel Van Schaik at the head of two separate bodies of militia are in his rear; and that there is a considerable force in his front. The general expectation is that Sir John will get taken in.

The merchants and other gentlemen in this city yesterday evening made up a considerable sum of money by subscription for bounties to recruit the Pennsylvania line. Pray could not something of this sort be done in Virginia; the "big knife"* seems to be very dull at present, but I should suppose if it was whetted a little, it would still cut.

Your affect. friend

and h'ble Serv't,

WILLIAM GRAYSON.

COL. GRAYSON TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

PHILA'A, June 26th, 1780.

DEAR SIR:

Your letter of June 16th, has come safe to hand. I should have done myself the pleasure of answering it by last post, but was so pressed for time that it was out of my power.

I imagine you have received by this time information of your being again called into service by Congress. I would inclose you the resolve, but I make no doubt, but General Gates has already forwarded it to you. I am satisfied you must look upon a call at this particular crisis as a very decided testimonial of the good opinion of Congress. Your sentiments of the method which ought to be adopted to fill up the Conti-

* An allusion to the Indian name for the Virginians.

mental battalions, are in my opinion perfectly just; if the idea was pushed a little farther and the different classes were compelled to keep up their complement, I think it would still be better. Deserters would be very well attended to in that case and neither men of bad constitutions, nor foreigners without attachment to the country, be sent into the service.

The rejection of the resolution of Congress respecting finance was a fatal stab to the Independence of America. If Virginia does not rescind her determination we are all undone. Her persisting in the idea will not only deprive herself of resources, but the whole continent. This added to her Kentucky policy and her want of exertion in affording assistance to South Carolina, will place her in a very disagreeable point of view with respect to the other states.

America is full of resources if properly called forth. If we fail in the present contest it will not be for want of means, in fact we shall die of the doctor.

The news of the day is, that the enemy have got stung in the Jerseys. You will see an imperfect account in the papers; indeed no official ones have yet come to hand; Peabody, a member of Congress at camp, has represented the matter in still stronger terms for America than that which is printed.

We have accounts that the French fleet sailed the 9th of April. We have also information that a Spanish fleet consisting of 12 sail of the line, and a body of land forces, have sailed for the West Indies, and that the siege of Gibraltar is raised.

From yr. affect. friend

and hble Serv't,

WILLIAM GRAYSON.

N. B.

The enemy having detached considerably to the Northward, I think you will have leisure to arrange matters in N. C. before they visit you; perhaps you may turn the tables on them.

W. G.

J. WALKER* TO GENERAL GEORGE WEEDON.

PHILADELPHIA, 27 June, 1780.

DEAR GENERAL:

I received with great pleasure your favour of the 16th Inst. and should have been very happy to have seen you at Fredericksburg.

Before this reaches you, you will no doubt have heard of your being called into service. This I am sure will be agreeable to you, and may you render your country that service she stands in need of and that which I know you wish to do. Our affairs 'tis true are critical, but an adverse stroke is now and then necessary to rouse us to action. Our resources are undoubtedly sufficient and we want but exertions to work out our salvation. We are now roused and I hope the work will be finished before we fall into another fit of the lethargy. I think your scheme for recruiting our army an excellent one and wish with all my soul it were adopted. This and the neighbouring States are straining every nerve to bring the present campaign to a happy conclusion; let it not be said that Virginia was exceeded either in zeal or exertions by any one of them. Virginia has so distinguished herself in former times no less trying, that now the more is expected of her. The enemy have burnt Springfield, but were so roughly handled that they thought it prudent to return with a quick step to Elizabeth Town. 'Tis generally thought their next object will be West Point, but should they delay their operations a little longer, I think we shall be prepared for them at all points. Where in the name of Heaven are the Monsieurs all this time? We heard of their sailing from Brest the 9th of April.

Wherever the service of your Country may call you, I shall always rejoice to hear from you and shall not fail to answer your letters.

* Sparks' Washington, iv. 329.

I have not yet seen the packet of the day, but intend to inclose you one and to it refer you for the news. Remember me cordially to all friends and believe me to be,

My dear General,

Your's sincerely,

JN. WALKER.

GEN. GEO. WEEDON.

J. WALKER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PHILAD'A, July 11th, 1780.

DEAR GENERAL:

Your favour of the 4th instant inclosing the Virginia Gazette I received with great pleasure, and rejoice to find that you so cheerfully lay aside every consideration of domestic tranquillity &c. when your country so loudly calls for your services. May they be crowned with that success they so justly deserve.

The French fleet, we are informed by the Baltimore papers, has arrived at Martozines. I think that by forming a junction with the other French and Spanish forces in that quarter our relentless foes may be more suddenly and vitally wounded than on the continent. Their united fleets in the West Indies will not be far short of fifty sail of the line with about 30,000 troops. With such a force as this, what is to prevent their immediately possessing themselves of all the British isles in those seas? This being done, the continental business will not be difficult. On the other hand, should they come immediately here, we shall be found so shamefully unprepared to co-operate with them, that I fear it will serve only to reflect disgrace on us and render us unworthy of their notice in future. The enemy remain quiet in and about New York. They have been ravaging and laying waste the country be-

tween the North River and the Sound. In short all their movements prove that they expect a siege at New York.

By dispatches just received from Europe our affairs in that quarter wear on the general face of them a very favourable aspect; a little more time and perseverance will assuredly confirm our Independence, and unless we are greatly deficient in virtue (which by the bye I fear) will render us a happy and respectable people.

My ammunition and time are both exhausted I shall therefore bid you adieu.

I have not yet got the last paper, but mean to procure and inclose you one.

I am,

Dear General,

Your Affec't Friend

and humble Serv't,

JN. WALKER.

GENERAL GEO. WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA.

J. WALKER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PHILADELPHIA, July 25, 1780.

DEAR GENERAL:

Your favor of the 18th instant, came to hand yesterday. I thank you for your paper and send you one in exchange. Captain Gobbie I have not yet found, but shall apply at the Board of War for information respecting the most expeditious mode of forwarding his letters.

The tories in Carolina have had a gentle currying: Thank God for small mercies. I hope this is but a trifling prelude to some adagio that is to come. I speak in musical terms to a musical man. The French force at Rhode Island consists of eight ships of the line. Five thousand troops, two bomb

catches, and three frigates. General Washington to be honored and obeyed by the French army as a marshal of France: the American troops always to have the right and our officers holding commissions of equal rank and date with them to take command. These are marks of great attention. Our new levies are very tardy in their operations. Why are they not sent forward? Something important must be done this campaign or shame and disgrace will be our portion. Admiral Greaves sailed for New York a few days ago with all the naval force he could collect, amounting to about twenty sail. 'Tis said he is destined for the West Indies for the relief of Rodney's fleet which has been soundly drubbed by the Count De Guichin who has sunk one of their 74 gun ships and taken 3 more; the balance blocked up at St. Laria. All this by spies &c. from New York. Observe I tell it to you on no other authority. By some 'tis conjectured that Greaves is gone to take a peep at Admiral Tourney, if so I hope he may be made to pay for peeping.

General Wayne made an unsuccessful attempt to storm a blockhouse of the enemy's at Bergen a few days ago. The attack was made with the utmost gallantry and the place would probably have been carried, but no entrance could be found, there being no other but a subterraneous one. Our loss was sixty odd killed and wounded, in exchange for which he got some hundreds of bullocks. As much as we want beef this is but a bad exchange. This is all the news I can recollect and some of this will perhaps be more particularly related in the newspaper, which I have not yet read. When do you set out on your Southern expedition?

Success and happiness attend you when and wheresoever you go. Adieu

my dear friend,

JN. WALKER.

GEN. GEORGE WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA.

J. WALKER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 15, 1780.

DEAR GENERAL:

The French fleet and army are still blocked up at Newport by Greaves, but in perfect security. Rochambeau heard Clinton was moving that way and applied to Heath for a few militia. They began to flock in so that in a few days they amounted to 20,000. Clinton immediately returned, but the brave Yankees could scarcely be prevailed on to go home before the land was purged of those pests to society. How contrary is the conduct of Virginia? I am ashamed of my native country and almost determined to renounce it.

Would to God the second division were here and a junction with the first formed, in that case I think New York would quake. Our army is already getting very numerous and I think any number might be raised for the siege.

The derangement of our finances—the resignation of the Quarter Master General—Shippen's trial &c. &c. perplex us beyond measure, yet I hope all will be well with us. Pickering is appointed Quarter Master General and much is expected from his diligence and fidelity.

Prizes innumerable are brought in here. Yesterday was sent up the June packet, nine weeks from Falmouth with a cargo of officers and ladies. Your old friend M'Clanahan is principal owner of all the prizes, he fits out the Enemy's vessels as he takes them and in a short time will have a formidable squadron. The Packet mounted 20 guns, and he daily expects a copper bottom mounting 26 guns from the West Indies. Well done Blair.*

When do you set out for the Southern Army? I hope things will soon begin to wear a better face there. Our scheme is to

* Blair M'Clanahan, an eminent merchant of Philadelphia.

take New York with the fleet and army there before winter sets in, and then to send you sufficient succor to the south.

As soon as matters begin to draw towards a point at New York, I intend to visit my friends in camp and expect to see a glorious sight. I am greatly hurried and my paper out, therefore bid you adieu.

JN. WALKER.

GEN. GEO. WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

GEN. KNOX TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP, BERGEN COUNTY, STATE NEW JERSEY,
23 October, 1780.

DEAR GENERAL:

I take the opportunity by General Green to inquire how you sustain the fatigues and hardships of war, in a southern climate. I suppose you must find it agreeable in some degree, as it has produced you such a harvest of glory. The affair of Camden will not be more remarkable for its adverse circumstances than for the firm gallantry of the Maryland Line.

The veterans of the army here admire their conduct and ardently wished to have been in such numbers, side by side with their old companions, as to have enabled them to have gained a victory which their bravery so richly merited.

Please to present my love to General Gist and such other friends as you may think proper. A line from you now and then will be particularly pleasing to Dear Sir,

Your Affectionate,
Hu'ble Servant,

H. KNOX.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

GOV. NELSON TO GENERAL WEEDON.

WILLIAMSBURG, Oct. 30, '80.

DEAR GENERAL:

Our friend Col. Jones showed me your letter to him. I have been endeavoring to arrange matters at this place as the militia came in. We have about 450 here at present including officers. I shall be happy to see you. The enemy confine their present operations to the other side of the river, where General Muhlenburg is marching with about 1000 Regulars to put a stop to their depredations. No militia have joined him yet. What number the enemy have landed I have not been able to learn, there being little or no communication between this and the other side of James River.

I am your Most obedt.

THO. NELSON, Jr.

GEN'L WEEDON.

RICHMOND.

JOHN CADWALADER, SAMUEL CHASE, AND DAVID M. MEIHEN TO
GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS, November 1, 1780.

SIR:

The House of Delegates have directed us to request you to furnish them by the first conveyance with as accurate a return of the Troops from this State as you possibly can give; the time of their enlistment and particularly those for the War. His Excellency, General Washington, has furnished us with a return from Hillsborough dated September by which it appears that the whole number (including the remains of the Delaware Regiment) were only effective rank and file; and that 170 non-commissioned officers and rank and file for

this State were in the additional regiment of cavalry, Lee's legion, &c. You will be pleased to distinguish the troops of Delaware, from those of this State.

Any information you can give respecting our troops and the army, their situation and how furnished with provisions and other necessaries, and of our affairs in the South, will be very acceptable.

We wish you health and happiness and are with respect and esteem,

Your obedient Servants,

JOHN CADWALADER,
SAM'L. CHASE,
DAVID M. MEIHEN.

THE HONOURABLE

WILLIAM SMALLWOOD, Esquire,
Major General.

ALEXANDER MARTIN TO THE HON. MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

WAR OFFICE, HILLSBOROUGH, Nov. 7, 1780.

SIR:

Yours of the 31st ulto. by Captain Carter was last night received by the Board. The scarcity of provisions in your camp gives us real uneasiness, and we are sorry that Colonel Polk at this critical juncture declines the appointment he accepted from the State of Superintendant Commissary. He well knows, that his appointing the Commissioners is incompatible with the Act of Assembly and therefore inadmissible, but his recommending to them proper assistants and spurring them on in their general duty, together with the collecting supplies in the manner by you mentioned, might answer the valuable purposes intended. But, if there is any other person in whom confidence can be placed, the Board will by no means urge Colonel Polk into a service disagreeable to him. We

wish that a proper person be recommended from that part of the State, to undertake the necessary business.

The Superintendent Commissary's particular duty, as instructed from the Board, is to receive from the County Commissioners their supplies and have the same forwarded to the Army.

All volunteer companies are under the immediate direction of the Commander in Chief of the militia, by whom they may be ordered immediately into camp and not to depart thence without orders. Otherwise, should they plunder or be refractory to command, they are liable to be punished as felons under the act against marauding and plundering. A Proclamation from the Commander in Chief or from you as Commander of the militia, against these illicit practices might call such companies into your army, which in a great measure might prevent the evil complained of. Otherwise their leaders on disobedience might be apprehended and punished.

We sincerely feel for the situation of our Continental officers, who are much indebted to your friendly notice, but at present it is not in our power to relieve them, as General Gates has drawn out of our public stores almost every thing for the Northern Army. Five waggons will soon arrive with goods purchased by General Gates' orders from Newbern, to whom we shall make application and pray your mediation in their behalf, especially for some immediate necessaries until the State can make further provision for them.

The Board wrote some time ago to Colonel Polk relative to a shoe factory in Salisbury, but we have had no answer from him. However, Captain Gamble is impowered to contract for leather and establish one immediately at that place. The stores at Cross Creek we are daily attending to. As soon as possible the Board will remove to Salisbury or your vicinity.

On overlooking our public Store we find a few pieces of blue long ells; seventy yards of which together with some raven duck we shall send by the first opportunity, which may

serve as a temporary expedient for jackets, or breeches to the officers most in distress.

I have the honor to be with great respect,

By order, Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Serv't,

ALEX. MARTIN.

THE HON. MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

GEN. DAVIE TO GEN. SMALLWOOD.

CAMP WAXHAW, Nov. 7, 1780.

DR GEN'L;

Since my last I have received a letter from Col'l Taylor, whom I detached to Lynch's Creek. He reports, that the British had all the beef cattle drove out of that county before the first of November, and that there is no wheat at their plantations.

He mentions that Col. Nelson has embodied five hundred men on the High Hills, and that a large detachment, with two pieces of artillery and the Legion, had marched to disperse them. Whether this is altogether or in part correct I cannot say, as it is contradicted by some other accounts which seem equally well grounded.

He also says that General Harrington is on Memprou Creek, where the Mask's ferry road crosses, with six or eight hundred men, and that he expected to fall in with some of his parties on the 3rd, and that Col. Marion lay somewhere below him.

One of my parties has this moment returned from the neighbourhood of Wainsborough, and left the enemy there yesterday morning, and informs, that the Legion had been to Camden for shirts and boots and had returned; that the enemy had made no arrangement indicative of any *particular*

movement, but were busy in bringing the provisions from Broad River and ordering in their militia.

You may rest assured I shall despatch my duty here as soon as possible, but it is troublesome and tedious, as all the corn is standing in the fields.

General Morgan lay some where near the Hanging Marsh last night. I would have sent the wagon that is here but it was a day's march behind, and have therefore put it in employment here.

I am Sir, with sincere esteem,

Yr. Humble Servt,

WILLIAM R. DAVIE.

GEN. WILLIAMS TO MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

SALISBURY, 8th November, 1780.

SIR:

The brigade of Delaware Maryland and Virginia troops, and Captain Singleton's company of artillery marched from Hillsborough the second instant, and this day about five o'clock P. M. we crossed the Yadkin at Ellis' Ferry.

I left the brigade encamped on the west bank of the River, intending to look early tomorrow for a convenient post near this place, where I am to wait the arrival of General Gates which may happen in two or three days. As my orders are not positive, and as it is possible the General may not set off as soon as he intended, you may judge, Sir, whether any instructions from you to me, previous to his coming, may be necessary.

I am disappointed. The Board of War in Hillsborough induced us to believe magazines at this post were abundantly charged with provisions. The truth is not so. We scarcely shall be able to get one pound of meat per man tomorrow, and we

have received but three pounds six ounces per man since we left Hillsborough.

Col. Ford will inform you of particulars. Do me the favor to present my best compliments to the gentlemen of your family and friends in your camp.

Yr. most obed't,

H'ble Servant,

O. H. WILLIAMS.

GEN. SMALLWOOD.

WST FORD CAMP.

GEN. SUMTER TO MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP AT FISHDAMFORD, 9 Nov., 1780.

DR GEN'L:

I have just time to inform you that I was attacked about three o'clock this morning by a party of dragoons and mounted infantry, about two hundred in number, together with a large party of Tories under the command of Major Wemyss. The attack was as precipitate and violent as can be conceived. They first charged on horseback and were repulsed. The infantry immediately dismounted, formed and charged with bayonet. The cavalry at the same time charged on the right of Col. Wemyss division. The horse was again beat back in disorder. The infantry succeeded better, and made the division under Colonel Taylor give way, but not until the whole division had fired and several of the men been bayoneted upon the spot, and for want of the means of defending themselves gave way. At the same instant, so warm a fire was poured upon the enemy from Col. Lacey's and Hawthorn's divisions, that they broke and moved off some distance, where they mounted and sent off some of their wounded, who were soon after followed by the whole.

I have twenty-five prisoners, among which are Major Wemyss, wounded our Surgeon and Sergt. Major H., seven killed. A parcel of excellent horses and arms were taken. My loss was four killed; ten wounded. Officers and men generally behaved with a great deal of bravery, reserving their fire until the enemy were within ten steps of them. There was a party, who had a person acquainted with me, who brought them on through every opposition and enquired for me upon the alarm posts, and it was with the greatest difficulty that I escaped being cut to pieces before the pickets got in. I surprised a party of Tories yesterday, killed one and took eleven very bad men prisoners, among which was one Col. and some other officers. I am this instant going to cross Broad River. It appears the enemy fortified themselves strongly at Little River, 15 miles on this side Ninety-Six, but I am not yet satisfied what can be done with that post. I have pretty well cleared Sandy River and Mossley's Settlement of a numerous set of Villians, where there is considerable quantity of provisions.

My countrymen may be assured, if they will reserve their fire until the dragoons come near, that they will beat them with ease. I have the honor to be (in haste) with the greatest respect and esteem Sir, Your

most obdt. h'ble Serv't,

THOS. SUMTER.

MAJOR GEN. SMALLWOOD.

GEN. DAVIE TO MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

DR. GENERAL:

I have just had the mortification to hear of General Sumter's army surprised on Wednesday night at the Fishdam Ford on Broad River.

There are several of his men here, so there is no doubt of

the fact.* I was just moving down to forage on the creeks below, but have turned back upon this news. I shall load the waggons immediately out of the Magazine and forward them to camp, and wait your orders.

Your's Respectfully

WM. R. DAVIE.

Nov. 10, 1780, WAXHAW.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

GEN. DAVIE TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP, WAXHAW, NOV. 10, 1780.

6 o'clock in the morning.

DEAR GENERAL:

A certain Mr. Huton, a deserter from Hamilton's regiment, was brought into my camp this morning. He says that Colonel Jurthon with the Legion and part of _____ corps, also mounted, marched out of Camden on the route for the High Hills or Black River on Saturday, that they returned on Tuesday. Said they had rescued the grain, sugar and salt which Nelson† had taken, and killed a number of the party. But he says that they brought in no plunder or provisions—suggesting it to be false. He left Camden on Monday; that there were no troops there but Hamilton's, about 114 effectives and the South Carolina Volunteers about the same number. About two hundred in inoculation.

I have now forwarded all the baggage upon

(Line torn out.)

marching down the Gills', Berkley's, Limetrees, and Flat Creeks. Colonel Jurthon's being in Camden and my party being so

* A false report. See preceding letter. *Stedman*, ii. 228, attributes Sumter's success to the fact that Major Wemyss "received two dangerous wounds, from five shots only, fired from a piquet."

† A tory partisan.

weak, and so far advanced of the army, I shall be under necessity of moving with the whole and proceeding with caution. General Davidson's discharging some riflemen here who were raised for two months, has put half of my horse of opinion they ought to be discharged too—suggesting they were upon the same establishment.

The case is this. Some of the officers received their appointments before 19th, and had their men in the field perhaps, though that was not the time fixed for rendezvous by Act of Assembly. Some, I believe, took appointments by virtue of a former Act of Assembly which obliged them to serve three months—these claim the benefit of the late Act and the few days they served before the rendezvous.

This relieving of men when on detachment is both dangerous and disagreeable, this morning the company of riflemen have gone in that very moment when I need them most. The troop of horse above mentioned have made application to General Davidson. I hope they will be non-plused, as the command here will be quite reduced if they are discharged.

I have sent a party of observation to the neighbourhood of Winnsborough.

I am Sir,

with sincere esteem,

Y^rs &c.

WILL. R. DAVIE.

P. S. Your last letter to General Morgan I forwarded by a Serjt. and 4 men, who have returned without seeing him.

I will send on the deserter.

GEN. HARRINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP NEAR KIRSHAW'S FERRY, EAST SIDE PEEDEE,
12 Nov. 1780.

SIR:

Your favour of the 31st ultimo came to hand the 4th instant. I had by order from the Honorable the Board of War wrote to you per express on the 20th ultimo, and again by another express, who left me about six hours before I had the honour to receive your favour as above. Duplicates of those letters I enclose, as neither of the men who had them in charge have yet returned, together with Lord Cornwallis' letter to Col. Tinis, now a prisoner, sent to my camp by Col. Marion.

The draughts from Anson, Montgomery and Richmond counties do not come in so well as I expected. The militia of those counties keep guard at the several ferries and fords to prevent tory guards from plundering crews, from crossing and recrossing in the night, and carrying off their horses by stealth. Others of the same militia are employed in collecting cattle. One drove of near a hundred will be sent to Salisbury in a few days, any others that may be collected can be drove to where ever you shall please order.

The cattle driving has been continually interrupted on little Peedee by several parties of tories, who have now assembled and amount to seventy or eighty. I have ordered Col. Brown of Bladen County, with 150 men, to drive them in Bear Swamp and on the east side of Little Peedee, whilst Col. Kennon, of the North Carolina militia Horse, and Col. Kolb, of the South, drive the swamp of the west side of that river. This plan will be put in execution tomorrow, and next day and I flatter myself will meet with success.

I sent most of my horse to the west side of the Peedee, with orders to go through the tory settlements between the Warran and the State Line. They returned last week with a few prisoners. The tories had mostly taken to the woods, but

are now coming in daily, and many, who have not actually been in arms, I admit to serve three months in the militia on their giving security for their future good behaviour.

The following extract from Col. Marion's letter of the 9th instant will, Sir, inform you of his strength and of the enemy's proceedings and antics.

"SIR:

"On receiving General Gates' letter and yours, I immediately proceeded to Nelson's ferry with an intention of dispersing the guard there, which was defended by sixty Hessians and some militia and then to proceed to Wright's-Bluff to intercept what boats might be going down, but was one day too late. For Col. Tarlton with 100 Horse was at Gen'l Richardson's. Him I attempted to surprise; but after marching all night, I found, when I came within three miles, that he had 300 infantry one field-piece and a howitzer, and was so advantageously encamped that I could not succeed with so small a number of men as I had, which did not exceed 200, which obliged me to retreat to this place (Bembons Ferry). They have burnt General Richardson's houses, and all the houses and barns from Camden down to Santee. Last evening they were on Santee at Major Nelson's, burning all before them without distinction. How far they intend to proceed is uncertain. I shall endeavour to defend this post. The men from Black River are now coming in, and if they strengthen my hands I will endeavour to stop their progress."

I expect to hear from the west side of Santee in a few days, if the intelligence, I may then receive should be interesting, I will inform you with it per express.

I have the honor to be

Sir:

Your most Obed't Servant,

H. W. HARRINGTON, B. G.

COMMANDING ON PEEDEE.

MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

GENERAL GATES TO MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

SALISBURY, 13 November, 1780.

DEAR SIR:

Saturday night I arrived here with such of the Continental Light Dragoons as were fit to move. I left Hillsborough Monday morning and had a very dry and agreeable march hither. Inclosed, I send a copy of a letter I received last night from Goverson Jefferson and a list of the troops, the enemy are said to have now, under the command of General Leslie in Virginia. From several circumstances I am induced to believe, these to be only the advanced corps; and that as soon as Sir Harry Clinton perceives the season for campaigning is past to the northward, he will reinforce the troops in Virginia—and very probably those in South Carolina also—and most assuredly will himself join one or the other of these bodies of troops. A Board of General Officers, who sat yesterday morning at my quarters, have given it as their unanimous opinion that Colonel Polk should be immediately obliged to answer for his conduct—and that his two friends Mr. Ochiltree and Mr. Cafferty should be sent for here, under a guard, to be dealt with as they shall appear to have merited. I have not the least dependance on what General Harrington writes in respect to a fleet of our allies being upon the coast of South Carolina or Georgia. Had that been the case, Admiral Rodney would never have suffered the troops now in Virginia to have sailed from New York under a convoy of only one fifty gun ship and three frigates. Besides Lord Cornwallis, who has now been marched a month from Charlotte, would have been more expeditious in his movements; had he any cause to apprehend an attack upon the sea line of the Southern States. For these reasons, and from the advanced season of the year, I cannot believe there is either French or Spanish fleet, upon the coast. I shall be very happy to be mistaken.

As the enemy seem to have taken a fixed position at Winns-

borough and Camden, and fortified the latter, it behooves us to do the like, in the best situation for us—in doing which, our strength, magazines, resources, health and preservation of the troops are to be considered. For this purpose I could wish to see you here for a day or two; when the sense of the General Officers, may be collected upon that and other important subjects, not prudent to trust to writing by this mode of conveyance. I shall order a strong escort from the cavalry to meet you at Phifer's, to relieve those you may think it necessary to bring with you from camp. You will give your directions to General Morgan, upon whom the command will devolve in your absence, taking his opinion upon the present posture of affairs before you start. Your letter of the 31st ultimo came to my hand upon the march from Hillsborough. I am astonished at what you tell me in regard to Colonel Polk refusing to supply the continental troops with provisions—and at the very alarming distress you are reduced to, for want of that essential article. To increase your numbers must increase your wants. I must therefore repeat my desire of seeing you as soon as possible.

General Butler acquaints me, there are numbers of the militia discharged from your camp whose terms of service are unexpired; one regiment being to serve until the 25th instant and the other until the 5th of December. The General thinks they have deceived you as to the time they were to remain. You will discover the bad tendency of letting them go home before their time is out, as they will *all* in future expect the like indulgence. The badness of the weather, which appears likely to last, the badness of the roads and wretchedness of our draught horses will necessarily detain us here some time; long enough, perhaps, for us to decide upon the most eligible spot for our next station. With much regard,

I am Dear Sir,

Your affectionate h'ble Servant,

HORATIO GATES.

MAJOR GENL. SMALLWOOD.

GEN. DAVIE TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

WAXHAW, Nov. 15, 1780.

DEAR GENERAL:

I received yours by Major Moore. As I had it in my power to collect the provisions from no other quarter but the waters of Cain and Waxhaw camp, I sent the principal part of it to you, the remainder has been consumed in the support of the detachment. There is nothing but corn in this neighbourhood. The wagons were the baggage-wagons belonging to the horse, except four, which only remain to day since their discharge yesterday evening. If we had fifty or sixty wagons to make one trip down Catawba, there would be little danger of wanting afterwards. The torments of the *damned* are scarcely equal to the torture of my feelings these five or six days past, from the rage of the militia for returning home. The most of them deserted before the last evening. There remains no cavalry now but about 15 or 20 of Jurthon's regiment. So reduced, it is better to discharge them than keep them to the 20th consuming forage, which I will do if it is agreeable to you. As my command is now reduced I will wait upon you in a day or two.

I am, sir, with sincere regard,

Your h'ble Serv't,

W. R. DAVIE.

20 or 30 of the infantry marched off this morning.

THE HON. GENERAL W. SMALLWOOD,

PROVIDENCE.

GEN. GREEN TO GENERAL WEEDON.

RICHMOND, Nov. 21st, 1780.

MY DEAR GENERAL:

I was in great hopes to have had the pleasure of seeing you before I went to join the Southern army; my appointment to which I presume you have already heard of.

I lodged at your house in Fredericksburg; and was treated with great politeness by Mrs. Weedon; who I was very sorry to find exceedingly unhappy at your going into service again. I left Mrs. Green equally unhappy at my going to the Southward; and I am not certain whether she will not follow me as far as Virginia; but as her constitution is slender, and the journey long and fatiguing, I hope she will not. If she should, I have advised her to take lodging in your neighbourhood.

I shall leave Baron Steuben at this place to take command in this State, until he hears further from me from the Southward; and it is my earnest desire that you and General Muhlenburg, arrange your line of officers as soon as possible.

You may depend upon it, the enemy's changing their ground for the present will not induce them to drop their original design of conquering North Carolina, and possessing themselves of all the lower part of Virginia; and I want you to impress this idea upon the people of this State, for you may rely upon it, that there will be a much greater effort this winter to effect this business than there has been. Another detachment is making at New York for the Southward.

General Gates is pushing down with a few tattered troops in South Carolina. I wish he may not meet with a check; and a second misfortune; than which nothing could be more fatal both to him and to us.

Major Claiborne has returned to Virginia with me. If it is possible I would wish him to be introduced again into the Vir-

ginia line. His merit is great and his services have been long; and I cannot but think your officers will readily agree to it. I know your friendship for him, and I am persuaded you will do all in your power consistent with your duty to oblige him.

I am, with esteem and affection,

Your most obed't,

humble Serv't,

N. GREEN.

GENERAL WEEDON.

GEN. SMALLWOOD TO COLONEL GIBSON.

COLO. BANISTERS, Jan. 6, 1781.

DEAR SIR:

Colo. Seniff has instructions of the Baron de Steuben to carry into execution, which he will communicate to you, for the accomplishment of which he will require about twenty horsemen, properly officered. These I would recommend to be furnished immediately out of the volunteer and other corps, which may be at hand, and whom you may judge best adapted to that particular duty. As I don't propose taking command here, I shall leave it to your judgment and discretion to carry the Baron's orders into execution in that manner you may judge expedient and conducive to the service, and shall be happy in consulting and coinciding in sentiment with you and him, in every measure, to promote the public good at this alarming crisis, tho' I do not wish to interfere in the command.

I am with sincere regard,

Dear Sir,

Your most obed't H'ble Serv't,

W. SMALLWOOD.

COL. GIBSON.

BRIGADIER GEN. WEEDON TO GENERAL PHILLIPS OF THE BRITISH
ARMY.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 31, 1781.

DEAR SIR:

Lieutenant Col. Thomas Matthews will have the honor of delivering you this. He and a Mr. Marsden go with a flag to Portsmouth for the purpose of removing the Colonel's family and that of the late Maxamilian Colvert's from without the British lines. I take the liberty of introducing them to your civilities, and am with high esteem and

regard,

Your most obt. Serv't,

G. WEEDON, B. G.

TO GEN'L PHILLIPS.

GENERAL WEEDON TO MAJOR GEN. PHILLIPS.

WILLIAMSBURG, April 2d, 1781.

DR. SIR:

I have to request that the ship starting for New York with American prisoners, may be detained a few days, in which time I expect to be authorized to exchange part of them.

I am

Y'r most ob't Serv't,

G. WEEDON, B. G.

MAJOR GENL. PHILLIPS,

Or the Officer Commanding at Portsmouth.

GEN. WEEDON'S PASS TO MESSRS. ARMSTEAD AND SLAUGHTER.

By Brigadier General Weedon, commanding the troops of the Commonwealth of Virginia at the post of Williamsburg, permission is hereby granted to Mr. Moses Armstead and Mr. John Slaughter, to proceed from Hampton down to the enemy's lines near Portsmouth, for the purpose of making application to the commanding officer of the army of his Britannic Majesty at that place, for exchange of prisoners and the liberation of slaves; after which Mr. Moses Armstead and Mr. John Slaughter are ordered to repair to this post without delay.

Given under my hand at Head Quarters, in the City of Williamsburg, this 6th day of April 1781.

MAJ. GEN. PHILLIPS TO BRIG. GEN. WEEDON.

PORTSMOUTH, April 6, 1781.

SIR:

The two flags by Lieutenant Colonel Matthews and Major Cullis have been admitted into this place, and your letters received by them, and I hope you will be convinced from these gentlemen's report of my conversation with them, that I mean to pursue, during my stay in Virginia, a conduct of the strictest liberality and humanity, and I do assure you, that nothing shall turn me aside from such benevolent principles, but the rash and violent conduct I have reason to fear may be taken up by your Governor, Council and House of Delegates. I have received on my arrival here, a letter signed by Mr. Jefferson, of so barbarous, (excuse me for saying, Sir,) insolent, a nature that it would be unbecoming my rank and situation to give any answer to it. I will however declare to you, Sir, that should

any part of the savage threats, contained in that letter and the Resolution of your House of Delegates, be put in execution, I shall consider Virginia as intending to carry on a peculiar war, abstracted from the general unhappy contest, and will treat the Colony accordingly.

I enclose to you, Sir, the copy of a letter I writ some days ago to General Muhlenburg respecting an exchange of prisoners, and have received the answer that he must take the commands of Major General Steuben upon it. I will freely own to having looked upon this as an evasive answer, and had directed the prisoners to be sent to New York, but on Major Cullis delivering me your letters I immediately stopped the prosecution of the order, which, I hope, will persuade you of the respect and regard I hold for you, and how much I depend upon your honor.

I request you to understand that, by an exchange of prisoners, I mean those American prisoners of war who are actually within our lines, and such, as having been taken in arms, gave parole to Brigadier General Arnold, to be opposed in exchange against all such British and German, as may now be within the province of Virginia, prisoners of war, comprehending among others, some dragoons who were cast away on the coast, the men taken at Port St. Vicennes with Lieutenant Governor Hamilton, such of the British and German troops of Convention as may be in any of the gaols of the province, and to oppose Colonel Curles and Ellegood for an exchange against each other. Respecting the marines in your possession I will enter upon an exchange for them, but the transaction must not be esteemed a precedent to pursue hereafter, as the corps of marines belong to the Navy, and exchange must operate in future in that department.

I will moreover consent, on my part, that all officers which hereafter may be made prisoners of war, on either side, shall be reciprocally permitted to return to their friends, on parole, until exchanged.

I am to request your immediate answer to this letter, and I refer to Major Cullis to explain to you my sense of a number of civilities I have formerly received in Virginia, and from you, Sir, in particular.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient,

most humble Servant,

W. PHILLIPS.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON.

GENERAL WEEDON TO GENERAL PHILLIPS.

WILLIAMSBURG, April 6, 1781.

DEAR SIR:

I had the honor of addressing you the 2nd instant, since which have been furnished with a list of British prisoners now in Richmond, whom I would gladly exchange for any equal number of Americans, soldier for soldier, seaman for seaman, and citizen for citizen. Mr. Moses Armstead, who will deliver you this, is authorized to ratify on my part the exchange of any number of said list you may please agree to. The Executive of the State has in many instances granted great indulgences to Captains and officers of the British Army, and I would wish favours of a similar nature may be shown to such as are objects of enlargement, on parole; I mean those, who are infirm and by the fortune of war now separated from their families. I have the honor to be,

With all personal esteem and respect,

Y'r most obd't, &c.,

[G. W.]

TO GEN. PHILLIPS.

(A Copy.)

GENERAL WEEDON TO GENERAL PHILLIPS.

WILLIAMSBURG, April 12, 1781.

SIR:

I am honored with your polite letter of the 6th instant, and should have paid earlier respect to it, but from some circumstances which occasioned unavoidable delay. I am now to thank you for your particular attention to my two flags, borne by Lieutenant Col. Matthews and Major Cullis, of which I retain a grateful sense, and also approve your liberal proposals respecting exchange, and franks, and do on my part close with you so far as my authority may in any case extend; but that we may the better understand each other, I shall be explicit in what I mean as the line of my conduct while commanding here. I will, with great cheerfulness, contribute, as far as in my power, to render the circumstances of war as little afflicting as possible, more especially by encouraging exchanges on just principles; and giving franks, where exchanges are not subject to my will. With respect to officers, the right of turn in exchange I will consider as sacred, and cannot consent to any thing by which those gentlemen shall be postponed, who have been longest in captivity, but I freely agree to franking them on both sides till exchanged by regular turn. With respect to privates, I think myself right when I say, I cannot consider any prisoners of war, but such as are taken actually in arms, or are in the service of the States.

Any prisoner taken by our militia, while no continental troops are acting with them, are subject to the separate disposal of the State, until delivered over to the continental Commissary of prisoners. The numbers of these with us, I do not know. They may or may not increase. I consent cheerfully as far as they may extend, to exchange them for such of our militia as have been or shall be taken in arms. As to those who have been put into possession of the continental Commissary

of prisoners, they can only be exchanged or enlarged under continental authority, in which case the commanding officer in the State must be consulted. I will certainly do everything in my power to promote it in the fullest latitude, wherever I may have the honor to command.

You are too well informed of the profession of arms not to know, the military are by no means answerable for the resolutions of the civil authorities, and I should be sorry to see the rigors of war extended to the innocent on account of anything done by the latter, that may or may not be approved of by you. This far however I think I can venture to say, that while a liberal and just conduct is observed on your part, the authority of this State will not be wanting in similar professions.

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of personal respect and regard;

Your most h'bl. Serv't,

G. WEEDON, B. G.

To GENERAL PHILLIPS.

GENERAL PHILLIPS TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PORTSMOUTH, 12th April, 1781.

SIR:

You may depend upon it I should be happy any time to show you personal civilities, but you are very sensible, Sir, that in public correspondence and upon public transactions, the usual and necessary forms must be preserved, especially respecting flags-of-truce which are objects of a chaste nature, and the rules belonging to them ought never to be violated. In your letter of the 6th instant you inform me, Mr. Moses Armstead is authorized to treat of an exchange of prisoners. I have considered him as coming in a public character and have received him accordingly. But there has come in under the

flag-of-truce other persons, of no description whatever and not mentioned by you, Sir, in your letter to me. I will not use the hard term which might be applied to such persons, nor expatiate on the danger attending their venturing within these lines without passports or permissions. I will readily, upon your account, conceive their coming to arise from a mistake which will not happen in future to any other persons, but that all transactions relating to flags-of-truce will be governed as is usual in those cases, such as the bringing passports and credentials from some American General, or other officer of the rank of field officer commanding at a post, expressive of their reasons for desiring to be admitted, their names and occupations, as also the name of the flag-of-truce vessel, the master, the hands, and the number of them. All flag-vessels must stop at the British Commodore's ship of war, riding in Hampton Roads, and, having received permission to proceed, must stop also at the ship of war which lies as a guard ship for this post, where directions will be further given. Under this description I shall always be ready to receive flags from the American army, particularly from General Weedon.

Respecting Mr. Armstead's mission, I can only say that I cannot enter upon it under the broken manner he himself treats it, nor can I understand it from his scraps of paper and jumble of names written upon them. I take the liberty to refer you to my letter to you, Sir, of the 6th instant, wherein I propose a general exchange, and, if you will order the prisoners of war in your hands to be brought to Williamsburg or to General Muhlenberg's post, an equal number of American prisoners of war shall be sent out from here, and I am willing to suffer those taken in arms, parolled by General Arnold, to remain so, until you have prisoners of ours to exchange for them.

I am told that the British and German prisoners of war are dispersed, and it is natural for me to wish them to be collected together for the humane purpose of releasing them from captivity. Let that be done, Sir, and you shall meet with no delay

on my part in liberating the prisoners of war in our possession.

I send you some lists of names on both sides, which may prove of some use in the business of exchanges.

I cannot enter upon the matter of negroes, but in the manner admitted and proposed previous to my arrival, by Brigadier General Arnold; I have written upon this subject in report to His Excellency, Sir Henry Clinton, and should his answer occasion any alteration, I shall immediately communicate it to you.

I am Sir,

With much personal esteem and regard,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

W. PHILLIPS, M. G.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON.

P. S. I forgot to mention, in the body of my letter, that the prisoners were stopped from being sent to New York by me, purely at your request, and you must be sensible, Sir, that I cannot embarrass myself with prisoners at this Post, nor suffer them to eat for any long time the provisions on which the troops under my command have to depend. I therefore am under a necessity of limiting our agreement for a general exchange, as far as the Province of Virginia is concerned, to fourteen days; at which period, if the British and German prisoners of war in your possession are not brought on to Williamsburg or Suffolk, in order to be exchanged, I must send, as I before mentioned, the American prisoners of war to New York.

W. PHILLIPS.

PAPERS ENCLOSED IN FOREGOING LETTER OF GEN. PHILLIPS.

Return of the names of the prisoners taken in arms, on parole, Portsmouth, 12 April, 1781.

Date of Parole.	Prisoners' names.	Country.	Trade.	Age.
Jan. 16, 1781.	John King,	Isle of Wight,	Farmer,	22
"	Anthy. Hallyday,	"	"	16
"	Edmund Slakey,	"	"	30
"	Jos. Hawkins,	"	Sailor,	28
"	Peter Woodward,	"	"	19
"	Sam'l Goodwin,	"	"	33
"	John Hawkins,	"	Shoemaker,	27
"	Matw. Whitfield,	"	Carpenter,	45
"	Jno. Smalley,	"	Blacksmith,	43
"	James Pitt,	"	Sailor,	17
"	Wm. Green,	"	Farmer,	44
"	Jos. Matthews,	"	Cooper,	21
18th,	Jno. Parkinson,	"	Planter,	16
"	Hardy Cook,	"	"	18
"	Heny. Sanders,	"	"	42
"	Henry Parkinson,	"	"	21
"	John Powell,	"	"	38
"	Rich. Pope,	"	"	28
"	Jno. Halliday,	"	"	19
"	Francis Hampton,	"	"	23
"	Wm. Bolton,	"	"	38
"	Harboard Coggin,	"	"	16
"	B. Jones,	"	"	20
"	Wm. Weston,	"	"	17
"	Peter Stonor,	"	Miller,	36
"	Horatio Darby,	"	Planter,	50
"	Willis Durden,	"	"	21
"	Jos. Carbell,	"	"	33
"	Benj. Cole,	"	"	17
"	Elisha Ballard,	"	"	25
"	James Carroll,	"	"	17
"	Jno. Fulgham,	Nansimond,	"	46
"	Jos. Fulgham,	"	Shoemaker,	52

E. BRABAZON,
Major of Brigade.

Return of the names of the prisoners on board the "Robert," prison Ship, and paroled at Portsmouth and Norfolk, in Virginia, 12 April, 1781.

Prisoners' names.

William Davenport,	Wm. Pelham,
Wm. Charles,	Jno. Christian,
Stephen West,	Jno. Hadnal,
Jos. Thomson,	Epaminondas Butts,
Sam'l Butt,	Thos. Williams,
Willoughby Dondge,	Jacob Simmons,
Wm. Casey,	Jas. Saunders,
Jno. Trueman,	Edm. Hill,
Jno. Gibson,	Benj. Church,
Wm. Silman,	Jas. Bowman,
Nath'l Gray,	Wm. Mitchell,
Asa Warden,	Thos. Flint,
Sam'l Harrison,	Henry Curtis,
Jno. Peide,	Wm. Morgan,
Benj. Budd,	Jno. Walker,
Abram Mason,	Geo. Parker,
William Gladden,	Jno. Hart,
Jno. Hill Carter,	Geo. Harper,
Thos. Millard,	Joshua McKoy.
Titus } Blacks,	
Tom }	

Seamen lately taken.

Thos. Chandler, Lieutenant,	Thos. Watkins,
Jno. Cameron,	Jas. Nicols,
Jno. Case,	H. McNinal,
Wm. Wakefield,	D. Gardner,
Jno. Benner,	Thos. Nutt,
Jos. Vanger,	Wm. Haco,
Thos. White,	Thos. Brantley,
Philip Swift,	Rob't Dychy,
Jas. Mortimer,	Peter Causensaire,
David Alexander,	Jas. Miller,
Francis Tailor,	David Baker,
Jas. Goodrich,	Wm. Dychers.
	E. BRABAZON,
	Major of Brigade.

GOVERNOR LEE TO ———

[April 25, 1781.]

On the 25th, while General Green laid before Camden, the garrison of which appeared nearly as numerous as his own forces, Lord Rawdon sallied out and attacked their lines very gallantly, an event heartily desired by Gen'l Green and his army, expecting that one moment would have given him the victory and with it the town, and nothing says Colo.—(torn out) but a firm persuasion in predestination could have made any man believe to the contrary. But in one moment their golden hopes of victory were blasted. The first Maryland regiment, being in some little disorder, retreated to a small distance to gain another position. According to Colo. Gunby, their retreat was followed by the Second Maryland regiment and by the Virginia first (or second) regiment. Those movements induced an order for the Second Virginia regiment also to retire, by which means the enemy possessed themselves of the field, and recovered from the confusion they had been thrown into by the gallant behaviour of the Horse and Light Infantry, and the well directed and sustained fire of the Artillery. About 60 privates and 10 or 12 staff and other officers were taken by our troops. We retreated about 5 miles and lost upwards of 100 in killed and wounded. Col. Ford was badly wounded in the arm. Beatty was killed, Bruff shot thro' the legs and a prisoner; he and all the rest of the prisoners were well treated, except Capt. Smith who was put into close confinement. The enemy's loss was greater than ours. A Fort Watson had been taken with upwards of 100 English, by Colo. Lee and Marion. The letters are dated Camp, before Camden, 1st May.

FROM GOVERNOR LEE.

GENERAL WEEDON TO GENERAL PHILLIPS.

April 26th, 1781.

SIR:

I have only received your second favour to-day, dated 12th instant at Portsmouth, which I hope will apologize for not answering it sooner. I ever held flags-of-truce in the most sacred light, and am sorry to find any going from me in the smallest degree violated. I pledge you my honor it was not my intentions, and for your further satisfaction I enclose you a copy of Mr. Moses Armstead's credentials, so far as related to his business. All persons going into your lines, under the sanction of his mission were to blame and I totally disapprove their conduct. Care shall be taken in future to carry these delicate matters with more strict punctilio. The list of prisoners, handed by Mr. Armstead, was of such as at that time happened to be at Richmond and convenient to open a field for exchange with. I did not examine it strictly, as I should have done, but think it comprehended the exchangeable lines of soldier, sailor, and citizen, and was only considered by me as a partial beginning, not being authorized to go into it generally without the approbation of Major General Baron De Steuben, who at that time commanded in Virginia. I had the honor of addressing you the 12th instant, and then communicated the line, in which I conceived a just and equal exchange should take place; and as holding the unfortunate prisoners in captivity, who, by the chance of war, may fall into the hands of either of the contesting parties, can make no possible advantage to one side or the other, in any national dispute, was pleased to find your ideas on this head corroborate mine, and readily agreed to a reciprocal and generous usage by parolling on each side where exchanges could not be effected, till exchanged by turn. I was in hopes at that time to have been fully authorized to have fixed this matter on our part,

and made no doubt from the complexion of your professions of finding you equally attached to similar principles. Certain operations have however retarded the business, but I cannot see just cause for losing sight of this desirable object, when your prisoners with us, are equally consuming the provisions in our magazines, with those American prisoners you now support, and as all accounts of this sort are of a national nature and must at a future day be liquidated, I should presume a detention of our American prisoners of war cannot make any considerable difference, when perhaps we are burthened with more that are treated with civility. I will, the moment I am authorized, order in as many British and German prisoners as will exchange the Americans who were taken in arms, but fear this cannot be done in the time you limit, as this is the thirteenth day since the date of your letter.

I have the honor to be, with personal respect and esteem,
Y'r most obdt. Serv't,

G. WEEDON.

GENERAL WEEDON TO [COL. GRAYSON, PROBABLY].

May 22d, 1781.

DR. SIR:

Every state in the Union, except Virginia, applies its own arms to the use of its own militia; it is easy to discover, if Virginia does not adopt the same plan, that she will be eternally without arms, because when the times of her soldiers are expired (which is generally out of the territories of Virginia), the arms are received into the Continental magazines.

The policy of the New England states was very different; they sent their militia unarmed into the field, and by hook or by crook they took care of themselves, at the expense of the continent. It was a kind of common law amongst them to filch arms. Nine hundred of the Rampart muskets, in the

whole, have been sent from this, and more will go this week—their route by Noland's Ferry and the Red House. They are intended and designed for the militia of the State of Virginia, and for no other use, intent, or purpose whatever upon the face of the earth. They of right belong and appertain to the said state. Congress have trusted that state for them, and they are charged for them at the War Office. Therefore, it will be improper and contrary to the interest of the state to apply them to any other use. I hope a decent number will be retained for the defence of Portsmouth.

General Washington has ordered on ——— stand of continental arms, which now remain on the route for want of wagons to transport them—these are intended to arm the continental troops. I hope we shall shortly get them under way.

Since my last, the fleet sailed from New York (it is said with 2000 land forces), perhaps by this time you may know more about them than I do: if they are destined for Virginia, they will in all probability move up to Portsmouth.

Wayne has not yet set out, owing to a number of untoward accidents: I can tell you, his difficulties are now surmounted, and you may soon expect him, as he goes on by forced marches.

I hope the Marquis will play the Fabian Game, until we can collect a force to oppose the enemy. If his army is routed, the Lord have mercy on the Dominion.* We shall shortly send on 60 of Moylan's horse, also three hundred new recruits from Maryland and Delaware. Little ought to be risked at present. I am surprised to hear that the Portsmouth militia are ordered to James' River. I am greatly alarmed at that part of your letter which seems to hint at an action. If fighting was intended it ought to have been executed before a junction.

This letter, you perceive, is confidential.

* Referring to the popular title of Virginia.

GENERAL WEEDON TO THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE.

FREDERICKSBURG, June 1, 1781.

9 o'clock P. M.

DR. MARQUIS:

The inclosed was this moment put into my hands. I intended moving to-night with the small handful of men at this place, but not being able to remove the stores and disperse the tobacco, as mentioned to you this morning, have risked your censure for the completion of this object, well knowing that a few men added to your operating force, could have but small weight in any thing decisive, whereas, their assistance in getting out of the way of the enemy such stores and other articles as they now make an object of, might retard their movements, and prove the salvation of this town. I hope I have not displeased you, when I add that the Stafford and King George militia are assembling on the Heights at Hunter's works, no one to arrange or dispose of them, no one to direct the supplies for Genl. Wayne, no one to transact the smallest piece of business here but myself. Surrounded with calls of every nature, and under the application of every denomination, I have trusted to your candor till I hear from you again. I shall send out flour in the morning, have laid in a supply of spirits and bacon, which can be drawn occasionally for the troops; am dispersing the tobacco, and arming in the best manner the militia coming in, have sent parties to press all the horses from before the enemy's advance, and in the very great confusion occasioned by false alarms, am obliged to attend to every department. I am, however, ready at a moment's warning, and only wait the return of this express. With the most perfect esteem, I am y'r most

Ob't Serv't,

G. WEEDON.

GENERAL WEEDON TO THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE.

CAMP, HUNTER'S HEIGHTS,
June 4th, 1781.

DEAR MARQUIS:

I was honored with yours of 3rd instant, last evening. Colonel Johnston's regiment, consisting of the Caroline and Spotsylvania militia, marches to join you immediately on the receipt of your orders, those were all the men I had from the south of Rappahannoc. The King George and Stafford militia are here, amounting to 250 men. I finished the removal of all the stores from Fredericksburg yesterday, except forage and some Indian meal. It will be out of my power to take off the former for want of wagons. I have had parties out to impress, but being composed of nothing but militia, whose exertions may easily be diverted, have not been able as yet to procure any. Indeed, so distressing is the scene displayed by the inhabitants who are flying with their families, that I have in some measure risked the stores rather than add to their calamity. In consequence of the enemy's advance, I called in [the militia of] the lower counties in the Northern Neck. Inclosed is a copy of Colonel Lee's letter in answer. King George Court House, where I think they will rendezvous, is twenty-five miles from hence. These men will assemble in a day or two. Be so obliging as to give me your advice on the propriety of ordering them higher up, or holding them at that place. This will no doubt depend on your's and the enemy's movements. I had also ordered down the Prince William men, and yesterday received a letter from the Commanding officer, copy have also the honor to inclose. The men can be armed by moving down, as no doubt all the arms coming from Philadelphia will change their route and cross at Norman's Ford. Would thank you to order all that can be spared from your army, to me, to put in the hands of the unarmed men coming in. The next

brigade of wagons coming from you for flour, had better cross the river at some of the fords, and proceed to this place. I was this morning advised of the enemy's falling back.

Have the honor to be, with
 Much esteem and Reg'd,
 Y'r Ob't Serv't,
 G. WEEDON.

This will be delivered to you by Col. Willis, whom I sent back to Frederick County for Riflemen. He will inform you of the situation of the back counties, in consequence of the insurgents in Hampshire.

GENERAL WEEDON TO GENERAL LEE.

CAMP, HUNTER'S HEIGHTS,
 June 6th, 1781.

DR. SIR:

So soon as the troops from the lower counties assemble at the place of general rendezvous, they are to be consolidated and formed into regiments, battalions, and companies, agreeable to the following arrangement, viz: 1 Captain, 2 Subs., 5 Sergeants, 50 rank and file, comprising a company. Four companies to each Battalion, to be commanded by a Major. Two battalions make a Regiment, to be commanded by a Colonel. By this establishment, a regiment consists of one Colonel, two Majors, eight Captains, sixteen Subs., one to act as Adjutant to each battalion, forty Sergeants and four hundred rank and file. Any supernumerary officers, after completing this arrangement, might, if you think proper, have permission to return home. The men over and above a regiment must be completed to companies as far as this will go. After making this arrangement, you will please encamp your men, and hold them ready to move at a moment's warning, advising me

of your place of rendezvous, and operating strength. I must earnestly intreat you to lose no time in getting into condition; as perhaps you may be immediately called on.

You will please appoint an Adjutant to each battalion, who must be a commissioned officer. You will also appoint a Commissary and Quarter Master to each battalion, till further directions. I would recommend it to the troops to take as little baggage as possible; the greatest difficulty attends procuring wagons to move them.

I am, Sir, your obed't Serv't,

G. WEEDON, B. G.

P. S. Captain Joel will have the honor of delivering you this. I have sent him down to assist you in arranging the troops, and beg the liberty of introducing him to your civilities.

Endorsed,

Copy to Col. RICHARD HENRY LEE, or the officer Commanding the Militia from the lower Counties.

GENERAL WEEDON TO COLONEL MOYLAN.

CAMP, HUNTER'S HEIGHTS,

June 8, 1781.

DR. COLONEL:

I am just from the Marquis' camp, who labors under every disadvantage for want of horse. He is informed 60 of your regiment is ordered to the southward, and requested me to drop you a line, with his compliments, well knowing that a knowledge of his situation would be a sufficient inducement to hurry you on. Indeed he is to be pitied. The enemy have near 400 cavalry, he has only 40 that can be called established dragoons; this superiority of horse gives the enemy a decided

advantage, and subjects his parties to every evil. In short, if he is not speedily reinforced, they must overrun our country.

Understanding you are in Philadelphia, I refer you to my friend Grayson for news, and

am, with perfect esteem,

Y'r Obd't Serv't,

G. WEEDON.

Endorsed,

COL. MOYLAN.

GENERAL WEEDON TO COL. J. A. WASHINGTON.

CAMP, HUNTER'S HEIGHTS,

June 8th, 1781.

MY DEAR COLONEL:

I am this evening advised by letter, from Colonel Richard Henry Lee, of an hostile appearance in the Potomac. Under these considerations, I cannot think of drawing you from your own county, nor indeed any of the Colonels from below. I have, therefore, sent a regular officer (Col. William Nelson) to take command of all the troops in motion from that quarter, and must request you and the other Colonels to return to their different counties for the purpose of drawing out and arranging the other half of your armed men, should the report be of a serious nature.

I have sent down to halt the men marching to this place, till we can more clearly ascertain the truth of this account, for which purpose, I have ordered down an officer to get full information.

With perfect esteem,

Your Obd't Serv't,

G. WEEDON.

TO COL. JNO. A. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WEEDON TO COL. EDWIN CONWAY.

CAMP, HUNTER'S HEIGHTS,

June 10, 1781.

DEAR SIR:

In consequence of your favour, I have sent an express to the Marquis, describing the situation of the lower counties, and have no doubt but the troops will be countermarched. I must, however, request you to halt on the receipt of this, till you hear further from me. Inclosed I send you extract of the Marquis' orders, which first induced me to call on you. The enemy were then advancing rapidly, and this quarter was judged to be their object. Their operations pointing to another, leaves room to suppose we shall not be visited this time. You shall hear from me the moment the express arrives.

I am, with perfect esteem,

Your obd't Serv't,

G. WEEDON, B. G.

COL. EDWIN CONWAY,
LANCASTER Co.

Endorsed,

Copy of a circular letter to the County Lieutenants in the lower Co's. of the Northern Neck.

GENERAL WEEDON TO MR. JOHN RICHARDS.

June 14th, '81.

TO MR. JOHN RICHARDS,

SIR:

You will take charge of five wagons, impressed by the D. Q. M. G., and with them proceed to Fauquier Court House, where are seven hundred and fifty stand of arms, left there by

some wagons from Philadelphia contrary to orders. You will load your wagons with those arms and proceed by the nearest route to the Honorable Major General, the Marquis la Fayette's Quarters, to whom you will communicate your charge, and after delivering them agreeable to his order, you will return to this place. All Officers, civil and military, are requested to be aiding and assisting in this important business.

G. WEEDON, B. G.

GIVEN AT FREDERICKSBURG, 14th of June, 1781.

GENERAL WEEDON TO [PROBABLY GOV. NELSON.]

FREDERICKSBURG, June 15, 1781.

MY DEAR SIR:

I am honored with your gen'l report of yesterday's date, and most perfectly approve every measure you have adopted. The whole is truly military and deserves my warmest thanks.

The distresses our countrymen feel where the enemy penetrate, and the propriety of affording every opportunity of cultivating [their fields] to the more peaceable quarters, induced me to send an express to the Marquis to know his pleasure with respect to sending the troops in the Neck to their different counties. Under certain restrictions, he seems to think, that while Potomac is only threatened with plundering parties, it is better to do so. I would, therefore, request you to send the Richmond and Westmoreland troops home on furlough; writing to the Lieutenants of Northumberland and Lancaster to take the same steps with their men, keeping at the same time the best lookout, and on any appearance of a hostile nature that may be considered in force, the whole must assemble at one point, and act as occasion may require. I should think it of the greatest importance, could you establish (previous to your sending the men home) a compact Legion of Volunteers, young men, who have no families, to act as a party of observation, and afford their general assistance to any of the lower counties

that may be invaded by plundering parties; this command, both of horse and foot, given to a discreet active officer, and one of a thorough knowledge in the different counties and shores. He should be directed to change his ground often, and never to act on a local principle, but to attend to the protection of the four lower counties, while the farmers, in their exposed parts are getting in their harvest and cultivating their corn-fields. The four counties ought to send a proportion of volunteers to this corps. As the men now sent home on furlough are ready for duty on the shortest warning, they should have every indulgence from the officers commanding in the counties, and never be called on but when danger of a serious nature appears. Before you break up your camp, I beg you to thoroughly investigate the conduct of Joel's prisoners, and carry the laws in such cases into full execution. The enemy lay opposite Elk Islands; a part of their army were, on the 12th, at Byrd's Ordinary, 13 miles below the Marquis, who has thrown himself between the British and our stores, and now commands the upper counties. I wrote him for permission to join his army myself, if he approved sending the troops home. He will not agree to it, nor can I in that case agree to your leaving me. I shall be glad, however, to see you soon after arranging your military matters below.

I am, with perfect respect and esteem,

Y'r Obed't Serv't,

G. WEEDON.

I send my compliments to Joel.

GENERAL WEEDON TO COL. SKINKER.

FREDERICKSBURG, June 15, 1781.

DR. Colo:

On the enemy's pointing to James River, I wrote the Marquis on the propriety of sending the troops drawn out in the

N[orthern] Neck to their different counties, under certain restrictions, till danger might again threaten this quarter, and have this morning received his approbation. You will, therefore, be so good as to permit your five divisions to return to their fields on furlough, holding everything in perfect readiness to act on the shortest warning. I am made happy at having it in my power to grant this indulgence in a regular manner, and hope you will so arrange your defences as to give such future assistance as the calls of your Country may require. The enemy are opposite Elk Island, a part of them were at Bird's Ordinary the 12th inst., 13 miles below the Marquis, who has thrown himself between them and our stores, and now commands the upper country.

I am,

With esteem and respect,

Your Ob't Serv't,

G. WEEDON, B. G.

To COLO. SKINKER.

GENERAL WEEDON TO — PRICE.

June 16th, 1781.

COPY TO PRICE, D. Q. M. G., STATION AT NORMAN'S FORD.

SIR:

You will proceed to Noland's Ferry, and there station yourself for the purpose of forwarding supplies of arms, clothing, &c., coming from the Northward, for the use of the troops in this State. The clothing for the troops under the command of the Marquis la Fayette, must be sent to Charlottesville by the upper route, as must the supply of ammunition which is expected. The first five hundred stand of arms that arrive, you will order immediately into the Marquis' camp, unless you receive counter orders. All the rest, of every kind, must be

sent to Fauquier Court House, till further directions respecting them. You will please keep me advised of your proceedings, and continue at the Ferry till the tenth of July.

Given under my hand, 16 June, 1781.

G. WEEDON, B. G.

GENERAL WEEDON TO COL. HENDRIQUES.

FREDERICKSBURG, June 16, 1781.

DR. COLO:

Inclosed is a copy of a letter from our friend Grayson; I must request you will send one of your assistants immediately to Noland's Ferry, and order him to conform to the inclosed instructions. The enemy are falling down towards Richmond, the Marquis pressing forward with a good countenance. Be so good as to forward the letter to Col. Grayson by the chain of expresses.

I am, with much esteem and regard,

Your ob't Serv't.

G. WEEDON, B. G.

To COL. HENDRIQUES.

GENERAL WEEDON TO ———.

FREDERICKSBURG, June 17, 1781.

DEAR SIR:

The situation of the Marquis La Fayette makes it absolutely necessary he should be speedily and powerfully reinforced with cavalry. I must, therefore, request you to push forward your detachment with all possible expedition, as much depends on his being succoured with horse.

I am, Sir, your

most obd't Serv't,

G. WEEDON, B. G.

Endorsed,

To Officer commanding Horse from Maryland.

DR. MORTIMER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

[FREDERICKSBURG,] June 18th, 1781.

DEAR SIR:

I informed you last month, as commanding officer here, and a gentleman who has often expressed great uneasiness of mind at the neglect of the medical department by those who should have attended to it, that it was not in my power to give the sick assistance longer, for the following reasons: The want of medicines—my own indisposition, often and sudden, and never having any regular appointment from the State, only a requisition from Mr. Miskman, to attend them until some regular arrangement was made, and medicines provided. I have acted since last August, merely through humanity for soldiers and prisoners—and have sent off near one hundred from this place without a death—found them all my own medicines, often things from my house, and rendered them every service in my power, and make no doubt, but you will assist me when opportunity offers to get some compensation for medicines, &c. I have made frequent applications, North and South, for medicine, to no purpose—not even an answer to my letters. If a house could be got near here, and a gentleman acquainted with the practical part of surgery to attend, it would be much; for I never did practice in surgery, or operate, it being very repugnant to my disposition. There are none ill now but one diseased negro fellow. Any assistance I can give in medical advice, at any time, will do it with pleasure, gratis. I never received any emolument—hope you will do me the justice to say I faithfully discharged my duty without.

I am, with esteem, your obedient Serv't,

CHAS. MORTIMER.

GEN'L WEEDON.

GENERAL WEEDON TO MARQUIS LA FAYETTE.

FREDERICKSBURG, June 18, 1781.

DR. MARQUIS:

The want of wagons prevents my sending off the supplies so soon as mentioned to you in my last. I am flattered with the expectation of a considerable quantity of them, and to procure a still further supply, have written a circular letter to the counties as per annexed, and would have extended it to others had I a probability of conveyance.

Mr. Harvey, who will have the honor of handing you this, wishes to employ a fine brig he has in this river, as a flag, and should the executive grant him this privilege, shall esteem your friendly attention to him as a particular favor.

Colo. James Innes writes me this evening from the Bowling Green, that he will be here to-morrow morning with a fine troop of horse, raised in Gloucester; he will join you so soon as his horses are shod. His troop consist of thirty-six.

I am happy to hear, the horse from Maryland were yesterday at Georgetown, where they will meet my express and hurry them on. These two corps will, I expect, amount to near a hundred horse, and will join you immediately.

 GENERAL WEEDON'S CIRCULAR, MENTIONED IN THE FOREGOING LETTER.

FREDERICKSBURG, 18 June, 1781.

SIR:

The Marquis la Fayette's army is greatly distressed for want of bacon, salt fish, rum, whiskey or brandy, vinegar, and shoes. Any of those articles, which may be already collected under the specific tax, (except those in the hands of the County Lieutenant for the eighteen months' men), must be for-

warded as directed below; but such as are not included or raised by that tax, you will endeavour to obtain from the inhabitants by reasonable purchase, granting your certificates, but on their refusing, in the present exigency, I am compelled to desire you will procure them by military impress, without injuring individuals materially, which your own good judgment will direct.

You will, immediately after the collection, forward them on by wagons, to the Marquis' camp, by safest route under a careful conductor.

Circular letter from Gen. Weedon to Commissioners of—

Spotsylvania,	King George,
Prince William,	Westmoreland,
Stafford,	Caroline,
Fairfax,	Middlesex,
Loudon,	Counties.
Fauquier,	

GENERAL WEEDON TO DR. JULIAN.

FREDERICKSBURG, 20 June, 1781.

SIR:

Doctor Mortimer having acquainted me, that his indisposition prevents so strict an attention to the Public Hospitals as a post of that consequence requires, I am induced from that gentleman's friendly recommendation of your abilities, to appoint you Director of that department, and doubt not you will attentively superintend the sick and wounded, until the officer of the department furnishes you proper powers and medicines, or my further orders. You will please, in the first place, to procure a convenient house in the vicinity of the town to remove the sick, and to prevent any pestilential disorders

among the inhabitants, and, Sir, the patients from drunken and riotous company.

Your mo. obed. Serv't.

During your continuance in this Department, you are entitled to the pay and rations of a Director of the Hospital.

Endorsed,

Appointment of Dr. Julian to the Hospital.

GENERAL WEEDON TO MARQUIS LA FAYETTE.

FREDERICKSBURG, 26 June, 1781.

DEAR MARQUIS:

I only this moment received yours of 21st instant; have the honor of transmitting some papers that lead to a discovery of very great villany carrying on in the counties of Essex and Middlesex. The principal characters are ascertained; their conduct, with the original papers, I have reported to the Executive, in hope of rigorous measures being directed, and exemplary punishment inflicted on such notorious offenders. I should not have troubled you with the tedious perusal of the inclosed documents, but thinking you might probably take measures to intercept General Leslie's letter to Lord Cornwallis, of which Carre makes particular mention as being sent by a trusty person, as per No. 2. This Carre is the same fellow Captain McClane took up; who returned up the bay in your barge, and whom I had sent from Williamsburg to Richmond for trial. Mr. Willis' letter needs no explanation; it points to us the source from whence those rascals get supplied. Something further may perhaps transpire in your camp. Any papers falling into the hands of your parties, may be worth examination. Captain Joel, whom I had sent down to Gwin's Island, in consequence of Colonel Lee's intelligence, has, through his activity made the discovery.

I have ever been of opinion, they would finally settle in Williamsburg. The advantages of the position—the principal country from thence to Hampton, covered by a few redoubts; the advantages of navigation on both banks, added to the idea of setting up their temporary government, were reasons that led me to think they would endeavour to sit down at that place. However, if we can prevent a chain from Queen's to Colage Creeks, I think his Lordship will find us very troublesome subjects. Still I don't think our time is come to risk anything of a serious nature. Close skirmishing may be proper, but a general rout to us would be ruinous. The events of war turning on so nice a pivot, will naturally check military ardour when so much is at stake. And to frustrate those mighty champions and circumscribe their depredations is, and will be considered a victory to this country. Colonel Grayson writes me, of the 18th, dispatches were handed to the minister, announcing the arrival of a 54 gun ship, two frigates, with several transports, at Boston, having on board 1200 recruits and military stores, for the French army at Rhode Island. He further adds, that General Smallwood is almost ready to march with five hundred new levies, and Morgan will certainly set out the beginning of next week with 60 horse.

P. S. Should the enemy establish at Williamsburg, will it not be necessary to turn out the defences of Gloucester against (torn out) to prevent penetration from that place.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD TO [THE LOAN COMMISSIONERS].

21 June, 1781.

GENTLEMEN:

Impressed with the fullest confidence that you will do every thing in your power to obviate the difficulties represented in

the enclosed addresses from the officers of the Maryland Line—the removal of which, must tend to facilitate the march of the troops to join the Southern army, I have taken the liberty to submit their sentiments to the consideration of your Honorable Board.

Having experienced their alacrity, generally, in the execution of orders, I cannot but sympathize with them in their present embarrassments, and lament that their situation should be such, as to constrain them even to contemplate for a moment the necessity of a different conduct. My regard for them, and my desire to promote the service, induce me to solicit you on their behalf, and to request that you would grant them a sum of the N.* Emission, adequate to the discharge of their debts, unavoidably incurred by some whilst on duty, and by others whose want of command obliged them to remain in this State, that they may reserve the small sum of specie already advanced, and that which may be hereafter advanced, agreeably to the directions of the Assembly, to defray their expenses during the present campaign. Should you be of opinion that the Legislature, in the appropriation of the late emission, has not provided for such a contingency, you may I yet think venture to adopt the measure. The impracticability of marching the troops without such supplies, the pressing call for their immediate services in the field, and the impossibility of making up the full quantity of specie in any short time, point out the necessity of, and must justify the procedure. Viewing it to be the duty of every citizen, in emergencies, to risk censure in attempting to promote the Public Good, I frankly acknowledge, that was I in your situation, I should not hesitate for a moment as to the propriety of such measures.

Though this conduct may not be justified by the letter, it evidently comes within the spirit and intent of the law. The small supplies necessary for expediting the march of a body of 500 Infantry, cannot be considered as holding any comparison

* New.

with the services they must render in the field, nor can any money thus appropriated, be viewed by the Legislature as misapplied, or foreign to the expenses of the present campaign.

Having thus offered my sentiments on this subject, I shall submit them, together with the address, to your consideration, and am, with the highest respect and regard,

Your obt^t Serv^t,

WM. SMALLWOOD.

THEO. FITZHUGH TO MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

August 2d, 1781.

GENERAL WEEDON'S.

DR. GENERAL:

I have been some time in expectation of an answer to the letter which I wrote to you at Annapolis, as also has my father, but supposing it is for want of opportunity, that they have not been answered, we rest satisfied. I should have waited on you a second time, had it not have been for the confusions in this State, before this, and conceiving that they were nearly over, was determined to take a trip this week to Maryland, but I am again stopt by the following intelligence—the first part of which, is given by Commander Barron, and afterwards added to by Major McPherson. The following is an extract:—

“July 30, 1781.

“I have the honour to inform you, that this morning early 40 sail of the fleet weighed from Hampton Road, having on board a number of horse and troops, and 12 large barges full of men, and stood down towards the Cape, and having got into the other channel, endeavoured to stand up the Bay, but the wind and tide being ahead, have anchored near the Cape.

“From every movement, I think they are bound up the Bay,

they have left 10 sail in the Road, and two men of war. This fleet must contain near 300 men, as they were so very full. The wind has just shifted fair to go up the Bay. I shall be able to inform you by my next, what course they take. One of the transports is on ground, on Willoughby's Point, though I can't think, if they were bound to sea, they would wait for her."

To this the Major adds (who came yesterday from camp), that they are certainly making up the Bay, and that the Marquis marched yesterday morning towards this place—and indeed the Marquis informs the General, in his letter of yesterday, that he shall march across immediately.

This, Sir, is entirely from fountain head and may be depended on.

I hope you will excuse my being so voluminous in the narrative.

I shall be exceedingly glad to receive an answer from you as soon as possible—until which time, believe me to be, with respect, your

devoted Servant,

THEO. FITZHUGH.

GEN. SMALLWOOD.

GEN. DAVIE TO GENERAL GREENE.

CAMP, WAXHAW'S CREEK, NOV. 11, 1781.

DEAR GENERAL:

Before I received your favor of yesterday, I had sent up twenty-one wagons, loaded with corn, from the stores I had collected from the heads of Waxhaws and Senin creeks.

Judging at present, from the intelligence I have from Gen'l Sumter, I find that Col. Tarlton was in Camden, and took some trouble to discover my strength and business.

I have had the plantations on Berkley's and Gill's creeks examined, and find that there cannot be more than 140 bushels gathered there. This place lies about 12 or 13 miles from here. This is all standing in the fields, detached at considerable distance from each other, through a wild and almost pathless country. The body of this corn lies about 30 miles from this place. We have never been "disposed to be apprehensive that our measures will fail," without the enemy are driven below the country lying on the Wateree, Congoree, and Broad rivers, where the disaffected are wealthy and industrious. The country between us and the enemy at present, has been alternately in the possession of friends and enemies. The Tory party generally, poor indolent creatures, who adopted their principles just to change their situation. So that all the corn or cattle between this and Camden, or between this and Williamsborough, is not sufficient for the wants of the Refugee families. As the corn on Flat and Lynche's creeks is 40 miles from our main body, and the enemy's light troops are still on this side the river, as far as we know, perhaps you might not think it prudent to advance such a number of wagons, which must be dispersed and delayed, so far in front of the army, and so near the enemy, without a larger covering party.

You wish I would finish my tour. I would wish it too, but you know your orders were very extensive. It would require eight or nine days to forage the country on Lynche's creek. The provision is so scattered, so that it will interfere with those "objects which would require dispatch and an early execution." The inhabitants here were exceedingly affected at Gen'l Hayne's fate. I have, therefore, circulated extracts of your letter to rally their spirits. I wait for your orders,

and am, Sir, with sincere esteem,

Your hu'ble Serv't,

WM. R. DAVIE.

W. SMITH TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

GEORGETOWN, December 13, 1781.

DR. SIR:

I've a few of the troops remaining here, of the Third and Fourth Md. reg'ts, that you requested me to receive; they have now recovered their health, and I shall be glad of your directions what is to be done with them. Having a very pressing call for money, there being no credit giving in this nor no other place, I've enclosed my account for attending and administering medicines, to the sick of the different regiments, at yours and Col. Adams' request, to Capt. Bayly, who will hand you this. Your aiding and assisting him in getting it settled, as I really am in much distress for the money, to purchase necessaries for my family, will oblige me much.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Y'r Obed't Hu'ble Serv't,

W. SMITH.

MAJ. GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

COL. HOWARD TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21, 1781.

SIR:

I intended to have done myself the pleasure of calling on you at your house, to deliver your letters from the Southward, and know what we were to do; but Major Stoddart informed us, at Dumfries, that you were in Annapolis, where we waited several days.

I wish to remain here until my wound* is perfectly recovered, which I flatter myself will be very soon, when I shall be very happy to receive any orders from you. I am

Y'r most obed't Serv't,

J. E. HOWARD.

GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

* Received at Eutaw.

MAJ. HARDMAN TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

DR. GEN'L:

I have the mortification to present you with the enclosed list of deserters from the Fourth and Third Maryland regiments. You will best know what can be the readiest method to restore them to the Line.

I shall set out for the Southern army in a fortnight. Any commands you may favor me with, I shall with pleasure, execute.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

H. HARDMAN.

Maj. 3d Md. Reg't.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

28th December, 1781.

DR. WALLACE TO GEN. SMALLWOOD.

PRINCE GEORGE'S, 8 January, 1782.

DEAR SIR:

By Doct. Jenifer, who is going to Annapolis, to settle with Mr. Wilkinson the depreciation of back pay, I should be glad to know whether those who have resigned, were considered. Having never seen the law, and being informed that I am entitled to the same depreciation as other officers, I will esteem it a singular favor if you will please to set me right in this matter. Should business press upon you, so that you cannot answer me soon, perhaps Mr. William Wilkinson will be so obliging. My resignation was in September, 1779. I wish you this and many happy New years,

And am, your most obedient, humble Servant,

MICHAEL WALLACE.

FROM DOCTOR WALLACE.

THOMAS STONE TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

DEAR SIR:

Upon looking over the Act to procure recruits, after the session of Assembly ended, I found an error which had passed without notice in the hurry of business. I mean the time of making the second payment, for property to be sold, which stands by the Act the 10th of March. This time would have been proper enough, had the bill passed shortly after it was framed, and the notice of sale had been three or four weeks, as was originally intended; but the passage of the bill was delayed by other business a considerable time, and some gentlemen of the Senate having objections to selling the estate of Mr. Dulany,* till after the first of March, that the bill might pass on some terms, the time of notice was extended in the House of Delegates, at the instance of the Senate, from four to five weeks, and this alteration was made without attending to the after parts of the bill which was connected with it, so that the second payment, to comply literally with the Act, must be made before the first is directed to be made, which is a manifest absurdity, and cannot be supposed to have been the intention of the Legislature. The plain intention of the Act, is to sell the property for specie, one third paid within ten days—one-third shortly afterwards, and it was supposed the tenth of March would answer this intention, when the bill was first brought in—and one-third the first of September. I apprehend if two-thirds of the sum bid must be paid down, or within ten days, the property will not sell so high, as if ten or twenty days more were given for the second payment, and if upon a view of all the circumstances, you think it would answer the purposes of the recruiting service, to extend for a short time the second payment, and be more advantageous to the

* Probably Walter Dulany, Major of the Maryland Loyalists.

State, I think you would be well justified to give an intimation to the Commissioners, who, I presume, would pay attention to your advice on a subject which the Legislature have, in a particular manner, committed to your care. Our public business is so crowded together towards the close of the sessions, and then there is such impatience to be gone, that these mistakes have frequently happened, and in such cases there must be a degree of discretion exercised by those who are to execute the main ends and designs of the Legislature in the best manner for the advantage of the State, and the spirit, rather than the letter of the law, must be attended to. I spoke to Col. Ramsey on this subject, and intended to have spoken to you before I left Annapolis, but I was in a hurry to get out of town, and could not see you after I had examined the Act. I consider the filling our ranks as a subject of the first importance to secure us that freedom which we so anxiously desire, and am satisfied, if money is procured by a proper management of the property ordered to be sold, this service will be effected. Under this impression, you will excuse the freedom I have taken to communicate my sentiments, and my wish that you and the Commissioners would confer on this subject, and order for the best. I think most of the property will command specie, and sell for the full value. That which lies in this county, from what I have understood, will do so, and I presume the same desire of purchasing will prevail in other places, and occasion much industry to procure the specie. Mr. Chase thinks the circumstances I have referred to are the cause of the mistake in the Act, and will, on being spoken to, assist with his advice, as to the best mode of arranging it according to the intention of the Assembly. I have not been out of my room since I got home—the severity of the weather and roughness of the roads disordered me exceedingly—and I scarcely have strength to finish this scrawl, which you will receive as a

friendly communication of one who wishes well to the public,
and is at all times,

Your most obd't Serv't,

THOS. STONE.

CHARLES COUNTY, Jan. 29, 1782.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

FRANCIS WARE TO CALEB THOMAS.

16 March, 1782.

SIR:

I have just received a letter from General Smallwood, enclosing an abstract of an Act, passed at the last session of Assembly, by which all those men who became substitutes and those who were draughted at the several draughts of the 11th of June, and the 27th of July, 1781, and then neglected to perform their respective terms of service, are obliged by law, to perform the same the present year, either by substitute or in person. You are, therefore, to take particular notice that it is my orders that you attend General Smallwood, at Annapolis, on or before the first day of May next, in order to settle the matter with him. I am also to inform you, that should you refuse a compliance with the above orders, you will be considered as a deserter, and treated as such. I am, Sir,

Your obedient Hu'ble Serv't,

FRANCIS WARE.

MR. CALEB THOMAS.

DAVID POE* TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

BALTIMORE, 20 March, 1782.

SIR:

I received your favor, of the 17th instant, by Colo. Gunby; at present I am almost out of forage, but rather than the public

* Deputy quarter-master.

property should suffer, I shall struggle hard, as it has ever been my inclination, to endeavour by all means in my power to preserve it, and will, therefore, once more try my credit, in order to procure forage to preserve the horses from perishing.

What flour is at this post is of a middling quality. It was to Capt. Hamilton you spoke, respecting the Irish beef. Please to let me know, by a line, whether I may send such flour as is here, and I will endeavour to procure the beef. You will be so obliging as to acquaint me of the number of horses you propose sending to me.

I am,

Sir, your most obed't,

Hu'ble Serv't,

DAVID POE.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

DAN. JENIFER TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

PORTS., 31 March, 1782.

DEAR GENERAL:

I owe the State 300 bushels of corn, and had engaged a vessel to carry it round to Annapolis. But upon hearing of the enemy's being in the Bay, she refused to take it in. Perhaps, as you will be sending troops to the Southward, it would be as convenient for you to have the corn lodged at Georgetown for forage. If so, I will immediately send it up. Or, as you will want forage for your own horses when you come to Charles, I could furnish you, and make an allowance of 25 per cent., being the difference of freight. I will thank you for an answer, and with regard, am

Your very affec. and hu'ble Sev't,

DAN. JENIFER.

Is there any hopes of Davis' cloaths?

THE HONOR. MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

DR. CRAIK* TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

PHILADELPHIA, April 14, 1782.

DEAR SIR:

Agreeably to your request, I waited on General Lincoln, on my arrival here, and informed him of the necessity of sending on cloathing, when he promised to send on three hundred suits immediately, he was happy to hear of the prospect you had of getting men, and said you should be supplied with cloathing, though I find the Financier† is averse to any being sent on, and is not for the men having any until they join the army. I have had a good deal of conversation with your nephew and Mr. Leiper, and think, from what I have said to them both, that they will understand each other better for the future. Mr. Thos. Leiper seems to have the welfare of his nephew at heart, and has it in view to fix him well as soon as he finds him qualified for business, provided they do not separate. He told me he had it in contemplation to fix him immediately in New York, as soon as it was in our possession, but did not choose to make this plan known to any one for fear of some others getting before him. From what I could learn, the misunderstanding arose from some suspicions of your nephew's thinking that Mrs. Leiper thought that he stood in the way of some of her friends. I endeavored to clear up that matter with your nephew, and think that they may be very easily reconciled to one another. I mentioned to Mr. Thos. Leiper your conduct on the matter, and showed him the letter, which seemed to have a good effect. I am to dine with him to-morrow, as he informs me he wants some conversation with me. I expect it is on the same subject, and as I am to set off the next day for Head Quarters, I shall take another opportunity of informing you what was the result of it. My son, James, is on his way

* Sparks' Washington, iv, 400.

† Mr. Morris was frequently thus designated.

to Maryland, and proposes taking Annapolis in his way, I beg leave to recommend him to your friendship. He goes in the stage to Baltimore, and I am afraid will be diffculted afterwards, unless he gets a horse up from Charles by post. Money matters seem to be as disagreeable as ever here, all the departments complain grievously, and the Financier as much as any. Congress are reducing the pay of the Staff considerably, and reducing a number of the officers. Men are enlisted very slowly in this State. A great deal of party bickering still continues, which certainly must greatly retard public business and renders their lives very disagreeable. We have nothing new worth communicating, nothing lately from Europe, but are in daily expectation of hearing something interesting from Europe or the West Indies. The trade of this place seems to be entirely at a stand at present. No vessels can get in or out—the Bay is so closely watched. When I reach Head Quarters, should any thing occur, I will do myself the pleasure of writing you, and shall be very happy to hear from you occasionally. I am, with great sincerity,

Dr. Sir,

Your most affe't. humble Sev't,

JAS. CRAIK.

HON. GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

MAJOR STEWARD TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP, BACON'S BRIDGE,

14 April, 1782, S. C.

DEAR GENERAL:

I have yours, of the 16 January, now before me, and should have thanked you for it by Mr. McCay, of my regiment, but his anxiety to get away made him forget who 'twas obtained him leave to go.

I shall never wonder at the weakness of the measures

adopted by your people, whilst they are governed by a faction who will sacrifice the most important considerations of State, to secure an election, or a bargain of twice wrought iron, and who, in order to effect their purpose, impose on their blind adherents a show of cabalistic mystery, which those infatuated gulls swallow with as much avidity as devout Indians do the surreverence of the great Lama.

We quietly lie within 22 miles of the enemy, without hope of engaging them; though if they knew our true situation they would certainly have a touch at us and drive us from nakedness to eternity.

Pray tell Mrs. Sprigg that I will convince her that I am not inattentive. For ten days I have been up all night upon duty. It is now troop beat, and General St. Clair just setting off.

Adieu, dear General,

Yours sincerely,

JOHN STEWARD.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

CAPT. POE TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

BALTIMORE, 17 April, 1782.

SIR:

I acknowledge the receipt of your favors, of the 13th and 16th inst. I am sorry to inform you that it is out of my power to provide for the Continental horses, as I have neither forage, nor money to buy any with, and at present there is no pasture, the season being backward. I have received orders some time past, to break up this post, both in the Quarter Master's and Commissioner's Departments, in consequence of which, I have sent all the provisions on to Philadelphia, save a small quantity which I retained, contrary to orders, for the post until the State

would take order in the matter. The flour being of so bad a quality, I concluded none of it would answer your purpose.

No Irish beef to be had here without cash, it being private property. Neither soap, candles, nor anything in the Quarter Master's department will be purchased here, as the Finance General, I am informed, has given orders for all the posts in this and the neighbouring States to be abolished. The cloathing was received here, and immediately forwarded, as you will find by Captain Hamilton's letter, accompanying the same.

I am, with regard and esteem,

Sir,

Your most obed't,

Hu'ble Serv't,

DAVID POE.

D. Q. M.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

EDWARD DYER TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP, NEAR BACON'S BRIDGE, 23 MILES FROM CHARLES TOWN,

24 April, 1782.

SIR:

Permit me to address you on the subject of my son, Tommy, whose conduct in entering the service (the last time) in the manner I apprehend he did, I fear will operate so forcibly against him as to be thought unworthy of a commission in the continental army. And how to account for his behaviour I know not, without his eager desires of being in the service so far surpassed his reason as to blind him to the error he was committing, and on being thus determined, acted as noody young men generally do, and inconsiderately engaged himself in that way, which immediately produced the most money.

As a father, I can't be thought an impartial judge, or can I, in this case, judge at all, being without the particulars, but I

am yet in hopes this act of his may not be deemed sufficient to disqualify, or render him unworthy of holding a commission. If it does, I am far from wishing him that honour; if, on the contrary, his character stands fair, after making the common allowances for youth (from his constant desire of being in the army), there is nothing I would so ardently wish as to see him commissioned.

In the winter of '79, when a number of the sergeants was recommended to be commissioned, my son impressed me to mention him to you and General Gist. Some time after, about January, '80, both you and Gen'l Gist (separately) advised me to defer the matter, and improve him with a year's schooling, which would also be an advantage, by being another year older, and then you could with greater propriety and satisfaction, get him commissioned. This fitted my own opinion so well, that without hesitation, I adopted measures to follow it. He being apprised of this, renders his conduct the more alarming. Whether he's met with any foul play, or been deluded into it, or whether he thought himself entirely foregone, and without any known friends to remind or again recommend him to your notice, and not hearing from me on the matter since I left home, may have caused him to despond. With being predetermined to enter in the service, are reasons for his committing so rash an act, is more than I can tell, but think them (as well as the foregoing suggested reasons) probable. And as before, if he is not thought worthy and you will let him off his present engagement, on any terms you may judge equitable betwixt him and his country, I will and now do oblige myself to have it complied with, and in this suspended situation I do most sincerely intreat the favor of your interest in procuring him a commission.

After his three years' service, and now a man grown, to see him filling the common ranks will create in me very different feelings to those I entertained when a youth, in that station, which, if possible, I would avoid—and without your assistance,

I cannot expect it. I think to be in Maryland in June, in the mean time take leave, and am, Sir,

Your most ob't, humble Serv't,

EDW. DYER.*

P. S. 22 inst. A Sergeant Gosnall, of the Pennsylvania Line, was executed "For speak (torn out) tending to meeting." There are several more of that Line, and one of the Maryland, under confinement (not yet tried) on suspicion of being concerned in a devilish plot. Peters, the General's steward and his wife, are among them. It seems, though not proved, that the signal for revolting, was (after first seizing the artillery) the firing of two pieces, when those who did not join them were to be put to death, or given up to the enemy, or to be made prisoners by the revolters, who were to march with them across Pempan, a river a few miles in our rear. These were it is thought, the propositions in agitation (but not determined which to execute), when they were defeated.

All the sergeants of the army who have deserted from the British, are ordered to be sent to their respective States. Gosnall was a British deserter, and commanded a brigade when the Pennsylvanians revolted in the Jerseys, and was then broke from that command by his competitors for persisting to march them to the British army.

Their complaints are money and clothing.

E. D.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

MAJOR BROWN TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP, NEAR BACON'S BRIDGE,

25 April, '82.

SIR:

It is with reluctance I conceive myself under the necessity of troubling you again, but beg you'll consider my situation,

* There was a Capt. Edward Dyer in Gunby's regiment.

how disagreeable it must be to remain in this unsettled condition, which I have been in for upwards of twelve months past, and no probability of an alteration.

I therefore beg you will take my case into consideration, referring you to the Resolve of the Honorable Assembly of Maryland, respecting the Maryland companies of artillery, of the 31st of January, 1781, and if the said arrangement is not to be adopted in the Continental service, as requested by the Assembly, I conceive myself entitled to the rank in the State which I should have got in the Continental service. Nothing but a desire to keep the men together and giving satisfaction, keeps me out here in this deranged state which we are in at present, there being no officers, except Captain Smith and myself, at present, with the said companies, and we are acting upon an uncertainty, not knowing whether we are to be kept in service or not.

I therefore request you will be kind enough to lay my case before the Assembly, and let me know what I have to depend upon, and if we are to be kept in the field, be kind enough to order the officers whom I mentioned in my last, to repair to the Southward, and join their respective companies, as officers are much wanted.

For any further particulars, I wish to refer you to Captain McFadon, who will be the bearer of this, having some private business to settle, which obliges him to go to Maryland.

I am, Sir,

With much respect,

Your most
obedient, humble Servant,

WM. BROWN.

HON. MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD,
ANNAPOLIS.

LEVIN HANDY* TO GEN. SMALLWOOD.

April 27, 1782.

DEAR GENERAL:

I have lately preferred a petition to the Honorable Assembly of Maryland, in order to have the depreciation of my pay made up, and in consequence, must beg you will use your influence in my favor to forward the same; as I make no doubt but you are fully acquainted with the circumstances attending my resignation.

Your favour in the above request, will be ever held in esteem by, dear General, your most obedient and very humble

Servant,

LEVIN HANDY.

 CALEB THOMAS TO ———.

CHARLES COUNTY, 29 April, 1782.

HONORABLE SIR:

I received, by Mr. R. Beaven, an objection to the red money which I received of Colo. Ware, and in lieu of the red money you insist of twenty hard dollars, in this month of April, but hard money is so scarce with us in these parts, and the time allotted is almost expired, which makes me implore of your Excellency to have patience a few weeks longer, as I may by that time get the money, or if your Excellency please to take the red money, two for one, which is the exchange down here. I have sent, by the bearer, what hard money I could get with some red, and the balance, if it is agreeable to you, I will pay to Colo. Ware, but when I was with you, you then informed me that I should get off for as little money as any one else, but since then I learn by a near neighbour, who was in the same circumstance as myself, got off for six pounds, and another for

* In 1776 Levin Handy was a Lieut. in Richardson's Battalion.

forty shillings. As I was at a great deal of trouble to get a man to enlist, made me hope that your Excellency would have taken it into consideration and let me off as reasonably as the rest.

CALEB THOMAS.

JOHN BEALL TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

BLADENSBURG.

SIR:

I received your letter of the 23d March, 1782, by favor of Mr. Yost, of Georgetown, inclosing one for me from my son, Major Beall, for which I humbly thank you, and the kind offer in conveying my letters. I may occasionally write him, and, therefore, doubt not but your Excellency will forward the one handed you by Mr. John Turnbull. I should not have troubled your Excellency with so large a packet at this time, but several of my son's friends had wrote him, which I took the liberty to inclose, as no doubt they will afford him much entertainment in his leisure hours, if I may say a soldier has any such.

I am happy to find my son's conduct heretofore has merited your Excellency's attention and the public regard, and hope his future conduct will continue to deserve it. My son informs me, the want of money distresses him greatly, of which (although I am exceeding scarce at this time) I should be glad to furnish him with a small sum, if it could be done with safety, probably your Excellency in this case can advise me. I am thinking a letter of credit from you to some gentleman in the Southern departments, might be much safer in the conveyance and answer as well as the money, which I should throw into your hands, if your Excellency will please to inform me by the next opportunity. I cannot say but the soldiery of this State has been extremely ill treated, whether from inattention or its poverty, I will not undertake to say, but so it is that many of

her officers are reduced to very disagreeable situations, which obliges them to call on their friends to assist them, which, in my poor opinion, adds no credit to the conduct of our sage ministry, who seem to be more inclined to add to the civil list than to that of the military one. I have dwelt longer on this disagreeable subject than I first intended, which I beg your Excellency will excuse, and believe me to be,

With all respect, your Excellency's

Most obedient and hum. Sev't,

JOHN BEALL.

April 29, 1782.

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

Per favor of Mr. John Turnbull.

MAJOR ROXBURGH TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

SIR:

We still remain near Bacon's Bridge, in an inactive state. The enemy continue in the same situation as when I last wrote you, with this difference, that a detachment of about eleven hundred embarked three weeks ago for Jamaica.

The enemy send out frequently small parties of horse, which distress the inhabitants much. Captain Armstrong, of the Legion, fell in with a party, took 10 horse, 1 Lieu't, 1 Sergeant, and 6 men prisoners.

On the 21st instant, in Georgia, General Wayne detached Colo. White, with a few horse, and the light infantry of Colo. Posie's regiment, to surprise a large body of the enemy near Savannah. They put the whole to the route, forty were killed and wounded, and eighteen or twenty made prisoners, among which was one Lieutenant Colo. wounded.

General Lesley has made some proposals to Gen'l Green,

respecting a cessation of arms, upon a proposition that a peace was on foot to the Northward, which General Green has rejected, until the pleasure of Congress shall be known.

Our soldiers are almost naked, and numbers do duty with nothing but a bad blanket wrapped around them, though we will have them clothed in a few weeks. The provision we draw is intolerable, the beef mere carrion.

Inclosed, I send you the men's names whom I enlisted, and wrote you of before. I expect to receive the allowance for engaging them, they are all for three years, and excellent fellows. If an opportunity offers, please favor me with a line, and believe me to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

and hu'ble Serv't,

ALEX. ROXBURGH.

CAMP, AT BACON'S BRIDGE,

May 31st, 1782.

If the allowance is clever, please send it, as I am much in want of money.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

Favor of Capt. Trueman.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD TO ————.

ANNAPOLIS, July 9, 1782.

SIR:

I have enclosed you a copy of the instructions issued to such officers who have been employed on the recruiting service, which, with respect to the bounty, and in some other points, have been founded on the act for raising recruits, my private instructions on that head from the General Assembly of this

State, and two acts of Congress, dated the 18th and 19th Dec'r, 1781.

It will, therefore, be necessary to govern yourself until future orders, by these instructions, in regulating, conformable thereto, the conduct of the recruiting officers in the upper district on the Western Shore, which comprehends Washington, Frederick, and Montgomery Counties. In those parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia bordering thereon, no enlistments must be made within the limits of those States; but where the bounty may induce, or recruits may be enticed out of those States within our lines, they may be enrolled.*

The sum I delivered to you, amounting to four hundred pounds, I would wish to be distributed among the officers appointed to act in the above district, as the recruiting service may require, keeping a regular account thereof, that whenever required this money, or any other sums which you may hereafter receive for this purpose, may be accounted for, and it will be well to take and transmit receipts from the officers for the same, that their Recruiting accounts may be kept capable of a clear review at any time when a settlement thereof may be called for; and to prevent any misapplication of the moneys appropriated to the recruiting service. I must request that you would caution the officers against applying it in any other manner than in paying the bounties limited in their instructions, and an allowance of one guinea for every recruit. This has been enjoined by the General Assembly, in their private instructions to me, in the most express and positive terms; which I flatter myself will apologize for the above precaution.

Whenever more money may be wanted for the recruiting service, you will make application by some safe hand, or send an officer, by whom it may without any risk be transmitted.

I did intend to have prevailed on you to have taken a tour through the respective districts, to promote and forward the recruiting service, but this I cannot require, circumstanced as

* As to this, see the Marcy-Clarendon Correspondence.

the army is, with respect to pay and subsistence—and there is not the least prospect of obtaining from the State an allowance even of reasonable expenses upon extra tours of this nature.

I have repeatedly made application to the General Assembly and the Executive of the State, for an allowance of the officers' reasonable expenses on this duty, enforcing in the strongest terms, that it could not be prosecuted with the least prospect of success under the present difficulties and circumstances of the officers, unless their necessary expenses were paid—without provisions were laid in to supply the recruits at the different posts, which I pointed out, and without early, regular, and ample supplies of money, cloathing, and equipments, could be furnished.

These requisitions have been repeatedly and pressingly urged, and a compliance therewith as often promised, ever since the first of March, but no one part (except a partial supply of money) has ever been carried into execution.

In short, I have met with every difficulty and obstruction in the prosecution of this service, but these we have struggled with so long, that they have become familiar, and we must endeavor to surmount them in the best manner possible to promote the public good.

Therefore, trusting to your zeal and activity, in promoting this duty and exciting the officers to forward it by every exertion in their power,

I remain, with regard, Sir,

Your ob. h'ble Serv't,

W. SMALLWOOD.

LT. COL. STEWARD TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP, ON ASHLEY, S. C.,

11 July, 1782.

DEAR GENERAL:

My father writes me, that you complain that I do not answer your letters. I am never displeas'd at the unjust complaints

of my friends in such cases, as it is proof of their mindfulness of me.

I have received one letter from you and have wrote two. You know the very best excuse we have for not writing often, want of paper, without which there is no literary communication, operates with us very frequently, and as we have very few facts to relate, our correspondence must soon have a period, or suspension at least, for the vertical sun, which at this season, operates with intense ardour, has exhaled every idea we brought with us from home, and the people of this country have been so damnably harassed with the Tories that they have not one to spare us.

General Gist made an arrangement of our Line, which I frequently thought worthy[—]without committing the sin of Idolatry, for it bears not the likeness of any thing in Heaven or Earth. By this arrangement, I command Gunby's regiment, who is with you. Adams commands mine, who am here present. I wish you would correct these paradoxes, which can be done by sending the officers of the first and second, to relieve those of the other regiments, who are here, and would gladly return. Indeed, I would advise further, that the Fourth regiment be completed with the men now in the State, without regard to what corps they recruited, and engage into immediate service the officers of that regiment. We should then have three complete corps in the field, and all the disorders attending our present situation avoided. In case of another reduction, we should have only to advert to the regulations of Congress, which are plain, explicit, and will admit of no doubt, but to which Gen'l Gist had no reference or regard, when he formed the heterogeneous body in which we at present exist.

We at this time lie on the Ashley, on the south side, 16 miles from Charlestown; if the enemy have an enterprise, I think they will not submit to our present bravado. They have, for some time past, shown great disinclination to risk an undertaking. This supineness cannot be the effect of negligence.

Weakness, we have the best assurance, does not restrain them. We must—or do—however, conclude that it arises from a general derangement occasioned by the new administration (these damned words are so long), and have not yet subsided into any kind of order.

We are sickly to a degree of astonishment; not less than fifty taken within three days, of our brigade, which I at present command; the hospitals filled and filling, and no returns from them.

God send us Mahommed's paradise shortly, our sufferings deserve it. We labor under the three cardinal wants at this time in an extreme degree.

From these evils, I pray the Great Spirit always to defend you.

Tell Mrs. Sprigg that I have received one letter from her, and *that* I preserve as a precious relic, for her letters are so *rare*, that the quality alone will defend me against evil spirits.

My love always is with you, my dear General,

Adieu,

JOHN STEWARD.

MAJOR GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

MAJOR ROXBURGH TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

CAMP, ASHLEY HILL,

July 14, 1782.

DEAR GENERAL:

The enemy have evacuated Savannah, and are so distressed for shipping, that the garrison are obliged to go from Island to Island, before they can reach Charlestown. They were so reduced by desertion that 'tis thought not more than four hundred regular troops will reach town. The torys have all

joined General Wayne, and have become American soldiers for the war, by way of atonement for their joining the enemy.

We believe that nothing but the want of transports will keep the enemy in Charlestown.

Our army is now within fourteen miles of town, on the south side of Ashley river. Though the enemy are stronger than we, I believe they will not risk an action, notwithstanding our position gives them the advantage, as they can in one night march to Bacon's Bridge, gain our rear and oblige us to fight as we lie between Ashley and Stonebridge.

Our army is now become very sickly; the hospitals are crowded, and our parade very thin. Not a day passes without a number being taken ill with violent fevers, I believe owing to the intolerable heat, attended with heavy rains, and in the morning great fogs, the constant companion of this climate.

I have not had the pleasure of receiving one note from any of my acquaintance since I joined this army, tho' I write every opportunity, yet I doubt not that they wonder at my laziness in not writing them. My compliments to my acquaintances, and believe me to be, dear General,

Thine sincerely,

ALEX. ROXBURGH.

GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

ANNAPOLIS, 30 July, 1782.

DEAR SIR:

I am honored with your favor, wrote from Newburgh, without date, and should some time ago have anticipated your requisitions, by laying before you the information you require, but was first solicitous to have a detachment nearly ready for

marching, which the want of cloathing and equipment has prevented.

As you seem desirous of obtaining regular reports of the progress I have made, and a minute detail of my transactions on the recruiting service, for your more ample satisfaction in these points, I have transmitted copies of two acts of this State, and a copy of private instructions, received from the General Assembly, under which, by direction of General Green, I have superintended and prosecuted the recruiting service in the course of this spring and summer: of my transactions on this duty antecedent to this, in course of the last Summer, I then gave you a short account.

I have also inclosed a copy of the roll of men recruited since the first of February, to which is annexed a copy of instructions to recruiting officers, founded on the above acts and instructions—a list of districts, &c., and posts of intermediate rendezvous, from which you may form a comprehensive view of the train the business has been put into. I have, likewise, inclosed a detail of my transactions with the County Lieutenants, and draughts directed under the first Act. The draughts have, and will mostly compound for a sum of money, to procure a recruit, which will be more eligible than obtaining their temporary service, but the Lieutenants are tardy in executing this duty, and as yet, have rendered no returns, though I believe they have received a good deal of money, which I have given the commanding officers of Districts orders for, to be applied as the Act directs. I have been thus circumstantial in compliance with your desire, and to show you that the objects in view have not failed through inattention—but I dare say, you will not have leisure or patience to peruse the papers through.

I have met with every difficulty and obstruction, in conducting this service. When the money came, (and then but very partially) it was too late (being the 18th of February) to commence this duty, the people had mostly engaged in some

business for the year. The recruiting officers had no means of bearing the expense of want of barracks, cloathing, and necessary supplies, almost of every kind, for recruits as they were raised. The treatment, the naked and wretched situation of those in service, the abject distress and total neglect of disabled and disbanded soldiers, gave weight to just murmurs, all which became very discouraging to this duty—and the base speculation made on the officers' and soldiers' certificates for pay and depreciation, which, through mere necessity, they were obliged in many instances, to part with at a twentieth part of their value before the property pledged for their redemption could be sold—together with the injustice of the State in depriving all those whose term of service expired before it took place, has deprived us of many old soldiers, and rendered desertion very prevalent. Many under the former description have voluntarily offered their service again, provided the public would justly comply with what had been pledged.

There is another circumstance which has been a very material obstruction, indeed, I might add, that for some time it put a total stop to the recruiting service; this is, the preparations for defence of our Bay. The frequent depredations and ravages of the enemy in their barges, last spring, became so very alarming to the Legislature, that for some time it was almost the sole object of the public attention. They applied the most certain of the funds appropriated to the recruiting service, towards the equipment and manning with three hundred men, four barges and a galley. The bounty and shot required in this service, effectually suspended recruiting. But these equipments being nearly completed, it may revive again. Yet I imagine the prospect will not be flattering before the fall, when the people will become disengaged.

The duty at this station has been the most perplexing and fatiguing I ever engaged in, and you may rest assured it has been prosecuted with unabating diligence, notwithstanding our

small success, which is to be attributed to the above causes, and the great relaxation and inattention of the Departments in the Civil line, which this duty is connected with and dependent on. By the first of March I handed into the Executive a list of districts and the posts to be furnished with provisions, firewood, and barracks, for the recruits. Not one has been supplied except this place, and that in so shameful and scanty a manner, that for want of the two latter in the cold part of the spring, I was obliged to suffer such of the soldiers as could be trusted, to go home, and since they have been crowded in places not fit for hogsties, many of them having been without a hat, shirt, shoes, or even breeches, and not the least provision made to supply or bear the expenses of officers on duty, who were without pay or the means of support, I was also obliged to let them go home. But you will observe the latter Act has made some further provision, if it can be carried into execution, which has not yet been effected. If those evils could be remedied, I am still persuaded the recruiting service would flourish.

I sent Major Davidson, upwards of two months ago, to Philadelphia, for cloathing to complete a detachment of three hundred men for marching. He was detained a month and came without it at last, but he was promised it should be sent on immediately, with wagons to transport the baggage of the troops, but neither have yet arrived. As soon as they come I shall march the detachment, agreeable to General Green's orders, to join the Southern army, unless I should have your counter orders. It is fully officered, armed, and accoutred. General Lincoln, upon application, has sent me three hundred stand of arms and accoutrements, and an order on the conductor of military stores at Richmond, for two hundred stand more of the arms captured from Lord Cornwallis.

It has, and will be impossible for me to answer your expectations or Gen'l Green's, in conducting these duties unless I am better aided. Here I have been confined ever since last

December, struggling in vain to carry them into execution, but I hope circumstances may alter, as they can't well grow worse.

I have the honor to remain, with very sincere regard,

Your mo. obed't and hu'ble Servant,

WM. SMALLWOOD.

HIS EXCELLENCY GEN'L WASHINGTON.

COL. WADSWORTH TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 18, 1782.

SIR :

Just as I am setting out for Philadelphia, the bearer, Mr. Daniel Settinger, informs me he has enlisted in the Maryland line, under your Honor's command, and calls on me for a character. Having felt for his situation, and in justice to his former conduct, I can't help interesting myself for him. He deserted the British service (I believe through principle), in the year Seventy-six. I employed him to write in the Quarter Master's Department; he continued in my employ two years, and his conduct was such, as to induce me and other gentlemen to advance him a sum of money to employ in trade. He followed that business, in the town of Hartford, for some years, but proving unsuccessful, he left Hartford, and entered on board the Continental Frigate Confederacy, got taken prisoner in her, carried to New York, and the poor fellow had a narrow escape with his life from there; he informs me he has met with a good many misfortunes since. I can only say, I am really sorry for him, and from my knowledge of him, I believe him to be a good man; therefore, I beg leave to recommend him to your Honor's protection and notice. I am, Sir, with esteem and regard,

Your obed't, hu'ble Serv't,

JER. WADSWORTH.

THE HON'BLE MAJOR G. SMALLWOOD.

GENERAL SMALLWOOD TO D. MCHENRY.

ANNAPOLIS, September 26, 1782.

DEAR SIR:

The Commissioner appointed by this state, to adjust the claims of officers and soldiers for pay and depreciation, has refused to include in the settlement of their accounts, the rations allowed in instances where they could not be drawn between the first of January, 1777, and August, 1780. The Commissioner might [have considered] the particular situation of the party, the nature of the duty, or where not having had the [rations] to issue, and also the allowances for retained rations where the officers had not had an opportunity of procuring the payment pledged, which has been generally the case with those in the Southern service.

There are other instances in which officers have incurred very heavy expenses, in travelling long routes to take or join particular commands, where there could be no possibility of drawing forage or rations, for which no allowance has ever been made. This I should not have enumerated, but I know it to have been the case, both with respect to others and particularly myself, when I had a long tour in January, February, and March, 1777, after the insurgents, on the lower part of the Eastern Shore, from whence I repaired to Hanover, made a descent, with General Sullivan, on Staten Island, and was immediately ordered back to Maryland, to raise, arrange, and move forward two brigades of militia, and in the year 1780, went from Morristown to South Carolina, and from thence was ordered, in January, into Maryland again to superintend the recruiting service, for which I never had any allowance, nor even drew any pay from the first of August, 1776, to the first of July, 1782, when I obtained the advance generally made to the officers of the army, of two months' pay in notes, and four months' subsistence.

The law being founded on the resolution of Congress, which is silent on those heads, would not justify the Commissioner in accounting for claims which are not specified in either, yet they appear to be so reasonable and justly founded, that Congress certainly never adverted to them, otherwise the resolution must have comprehended them. The officers complain of this as a grievance, and wish to have the sense of Congress on the subject.

To anticipate the daily applications on these points, it becomes necessary to take some step to gratify the officers, that they may be upon a certainty of obtaining or sinking those claims. To effect this, a petition or remonstrance from them to Congress, would be most regular, but as this cannot be accomplished in a collective manner, from their remote situations in service, I have, therefore, taken the liberty of writing to you on the subject, requesting, that while you remain in Philadelphia, you would interest yourself in taking the sense of the members in such a manner, that should these objects have escaped their attention, and should the claims appear so equitable and of such importance to be brought under consideration, I make no doubt Congress will be induced to re-assume the matter, and fall upon some mode of payment, or that they will recommend to the state to empower their Commissioner to admit them. The officers are also anxious that some mode be speedily adopted to adjust their claims due from August, 1780, to January, 1782. These by a Resolution of Congress, have been put upon a footing with common soldiers in general. Persons ought to be appointed to attend the army for the respective States, for a settlement, without reducing the officers to the necessity of attending at Philadelphia, incurring a heavy expense, which neither their leisure or circumstances might admit of.

I am, with regard, &c.

WM. SMALLWOOD.

To J. McHENRY.

CAPT. WILMOT TO GEN. SMALLWOOD.

SOUTHERN ARMY, ASHLEY HILL,
Sept. 26, 1782.

DEAR SIR:

I do myself the pleasure to give you a short account of the present situation of the two armies in this quarter—with their principal manœuvres since the capture of Lord Cornwallis. Shortly after which, General Green advanced, crossing the Wateree and Santee, to Colo. Thompson's, when the General, with the light troops, made an attempt to surprise the enemy's post at Dorchester. They, being apprised of his approach, reinforced the post and sallied out about two miles, when we fell in with them and drove them to their fort, leaving a small number of their killed and wounded in our hands. Gen'l Leslie, by a rapid march from Fair Lawn, formed a junction at the Quarter House that night with those from Dorchester. General Green took post about 30 miles west of them, on a small but pleasant eminence, where he quartered the winter. Early in the spring an unsuccessful attempt was made to get on John's Island, to attack the enemy's camp—which they discovered, and left the Island in the greatest precipitation, leaving horses, cattle, provisions, &c., all which fell into our hands.

General Wayne, with Col. Baylor's regiment of cavalry, marched, January last, to Savannah, when he was shortly after joined by Col. Posey's regiment of infantry, from Virginia, which enabled him to confine the enemy to their garrison till July, at which time they evacuated that post—disposing the troops in the following manner: sending 400 to New York, 300 to C[harles] Town, and 50 to Augustine. Early in the spring, Gen'l O'Harra, with a sufficient number of empty transports from New York, came to this place and took away with him 1110 British troops for Jamaica, upon which the enemy demolished their exterior works, and contracted their lines.

Previous to which, General Green took post 10 miles from town, on the south side of the Ashley river, where he still remains.

General Marion, with a considerable body of State cavalry and some infantry, is 30 miles north-east from Charlestown.

General Gist, commanding the light infantry, covers the right flank of the army. The disorders incidental in this country rage with more violence this summer than usual, and the two armies are hourly diminished by them.

The Assembly of this State has raised near two hundred men for during the war, and their recruiting officers meet with success. North Carolina has raised 1200 eighteen months men who remain still in that State. Congress will not give credit for any troops raised for less than three years, or during the war. General Leslie has ordered all officers and other persons concerned, to be in perfect readiness to embark by the ninth of October. But I hear, from good authority, he does not expect to evacuate this post till some time in the winter, having only seventeen transports here, and fifty-seven at New York, which are not yet ordered to the southward.

A gentleman arrived in town yesterday, from York, who says that an expedition is going on against the French troops at Boston, under the command of Carleton, with twenty sail of the Line, and four thousand troops from New York. Colo. Lawrence, with forty-five men, in charging two hundred and fifty of the enemy, was shot dead with 4 of his men,—thirteen were wounded, including two officers, which are all saved. General Gist has since taken one of their galleys, mounting two nine pounders.

I am honored with the command of a party of observation, and have several capital spies in town, who furnish me, from time to time, with every interesting intelligence, accurate returns of their army, and sick in hospital, &c. The spirit of mutiny has, at two different times, made alarming appearances among our troops, but at present seems to have subsided.

Every possible preparation for an embarkation has already taken place. All their fort-artillery, stores, &c., are on board the seventeen transports that are here. We hear there is a new arrangement of the army, which it is said will shortly take place here.

Please make my compliments to Major Brooke, Clagett, Freeman, Williams, Sellman, Bruce, Denny, and all the other old officers in that quarter.

I am, Dr. Sir, with the highest sentiments of friendship and esteem,

Yours, Sincerely,

W. WILMOT.

P. S. Capt. Bird, of our line, is dead. September 30. A fleet of transports arrived yesterday, from New York, to take off the garrison. Frazer's, Brown's, and some other new corps are going to Augusta. Gen'l Gist has been very ill, but is now recovering.

GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

Note in Gen. Smallwood's writing.

The import of sending this to Annapolis, is to show that Capt. Bird is dead, as it might not be known in settling the arrangements.

LT. COL. STEWARD TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

DEAR GEN'L:

I did expect to hear from you, by Mr. Nelson, but I suppose your town and situation did not furnish much matter of information, and I know you to be an enemy to a superfluous use of paper.

I beg you will acquaint the Executive of our State, that their artillery are in a precarious situation. G—l—G—n,* [intends]

* Greene.

to form them into a corps with four companies, from Virginia, as a command for Col. Carrington, Lieut. Colo., to the Virginia regiment, which they propose (G—n G—n) to have dissolved, in order to give C—n* a command. He is G—n's first favorite, and will have every support he can lend. However, as the men are held under enlistment to the State only, it will not be in their power, without consent of the Legislature to do it. The greatest danger is that it may cause a total dissolution of these two companies, without your immediate interference should prevent it.

We shall march Northward, by the last of November at farthest. I will tell you a great deal which cannot be trusted to the frail conveyance of paper. Till then, Dr. Gen'l, I wish you all happiness possible.

JOHN STEWARD.

23 Oct., 1782, CAMP, So. CAR.

GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

ANNAPOLIS.

COL. RICHARDSON TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

DEAR GENERAL:

The Eastern Shore treasurer has been dangerously ill for some days past. Should his dissolution take place, which is very likely, I shall be very glad of your interest among your friends and acquaintances in both Houses of the Assembly, to get me the Treasury office. I know you have much interest with Mr. Chase, and if he will give me his assistance, the thing will be effected easily. If the public were governed by the rules of justice, those who have sacrificed freely time, health, and property, in defence of their Country's rights, ought to share its favors; but as this sentiment does not always prevail in public bodies, I shall not wonder if I find

* Carrington.

myself neglected, to make room for some lukewarm Whig or secret Tory, as such instances happen almost every session.

I am, with much respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

WM. RICHARDSON.

29 November, 1782.

TO MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD.
ANNAPOLIS.

MAJOR SWAN TO GENERAL WEEDON.

ASHLEY HILL, December 5, 1782.

MY DEAR GENERAL:

I have flattered myself, from time to time, with the pleasure of hearing from you. If you had been in my situation, without news to communicate, yet, the pleasure of hearing of your and Mrs. Weedon's welfare, would have been a very acceptable letter.

We have all been in the utmost state of suspense with respect to Charlestown. I believe it will not any longer admit of a doubt, and a few days will give us the wished for possession of that place. The refugees are all embarked, and the Hessians are said to have gone on board yesterday. This event will very deservedly add another plume to the General's cap. That gentleman has great merit, but from what cause I cannot find out, a majority of the army here are not so fond of him as they were eighteen months ago. Popularity, at best, is uncertain; the actions of the good will bear scrutiny, and will be esteemed by the deserving part of mankind. As such, General Green's character will ever stand high.

The late arrangement of this army you must be acquainted with. I was, from seniority, entitled to command, as well a proper principle of each regiment officering its own troops.

After a struggle, I finally determined to serve, and am arranged, from some conversation I have had with the General. It is reduced to a certainty, that I remain in this country, at least the winter. I have been unfortunate enough to lose one of my horses, with the blind staggers, and am, in consequence, nearly dismounted. You once offered me horse flesh for my certificates; at that time I was not in want. If certificates are not much depreciated, and it is agreeable to you, I will take one or two fine horses in part payment, provided they are young and well broke. I shall have no manner of doubt in this matter, and request you will act for me in the manner you think best. Although I want a fine horse exceedingly, yet I can do without him. Of course, my dear Sir, you will judge and be ruled accordingly.

Should you determine to find me one or two horses, there will be some officers and men of the regiment coming out this winter, of which Col. Baylor can inform you, and will take charge of the horses.

I do not expect an opportunity for this, until our friend, Major Burnet, sets out to the Metropolis* with the General's dispatches after the surrender, or evacuation rather. He will of course inform you of every thing, so I shall put on the (torn out) present me to Mrs. Weedon, and believe me, that I am, with real regard and esteem,

My dear General,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. SWAN.

BRIG. GEN'L WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG.

* Philadelphia.

GENERAL GREEN TO GEN. WEEDON.

HEAD QUARTERS, December 21, 1782.

MY GOOD OLD FRIEND:

I have just got your letter of November. Major Burnet is now sailing off for Philadelphia, with an account of the long expected evacuation of Charlestown. To speak in the language of Connecticut—now rejoice and be exceeding glad. Happy deliverance for an oppressed people, and pleasing repose for a wearied army. I am sorry I am not likely to have the happiness of commencing an attack upon the two gun battery of Fredericksburg. Congress has anchored me here for the winter at least. Mrs. Green is anxious to see you, but thinks you will want more than one season to recruit, so as to hold out to accomplish a dance, if you have her for a partner.

It is uncertain where we shall quarter this winter. If it should be near Charlestown, a couple of guineas extraordinary will be wanting for shoes. The people threaten to exceed Virginia, but you know that is impossible. It is pretty certain we shall do our best. What think you of a room eighty feet long and forty wide, with an arched roof and gallery for the music. Would not this tempt you to parade your [—]? I wish you and Mrs. Weedon were with us, as we cannot be with you. But you would be obliged to promise not to fail in the middle of a dance.

Mrs. Green joins me in affectionate compliments to you and Mrs. Weedon. Major Burnet will give all the little anecdotes of the campaign.

Yours, affec.

N. GREEN.

J. BURNETT TO GENERAL WEEDON.

COLO. G. BAYLOR'S, Jan. 7, 1783.

MY DEAR SIR:

Until this moment, I was fully determined to deliver the enclosed letter. However, Maj'r Edwards, who is with me, must go by the lower route, which deprives me of the pleasure of calling on you, and personally offering my congratulations on the evacuation of Charlestown. The desirable event took place on the 14 ult. Gen'l Wayne took possession of the town with four companies of light infantry, Lee's legion, and two pieces of artillery, by agreement, before their men had embarked.

They, the enemy, carried off most of the negroes in their possession, but left the place in as good order as could be expected. The British troops are sent to the West Indies—their reg'ts of Provincials to St. Augustine—the others with the Hessians to New York. A small number has sailed for Halifax. Our army, I believe, will halt on James' Island. The first regiment of cavalry will be near the Savannah river, and the legion at Georgetown. The General has with him one regiment from Pennsylvania, one from Maryland, one from N. Carolina, 150 from Virginia, and the artillery. The South Carolina and Georgia troops do not exceed 150. The enemy have upwards of 1000 men at St. Augustine, which makes a large force necessary in the Southern States. The enemy left many goods in town. Apropos, if you hear any report of a mercantile connection between Mr. G. Banks, Mr. Forsyth, and myself, in the least injurious to either, I beg you'll suspend your opinion until the affair is inquired into. Be assured there is not any part of our transactions the least improper or indelicate. On my return, which will be in a few weeks, I will explain it to you. You will excuse my haste, as I write by firelight.

With compliments to your lady, the family at Chatham, and my Fredericksburg friends,

I am,

Yours truly,

J. BURNETT.

GENERAL STEUBEN TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20, 1783.

It is a long time since I have had the satisfaction, my dear General, of hearing from you. Where are you? What are you doing? and what is your State about? I am totally ignorant of what passes in your part of the world—and should be glad to be informed.

I think I may congratulate you on the near prospect of peace. Every thing seems to be in a good train to bring about this desirable event. God grant nothing may intervene to retard it.

The news we have at present is not worth transporting to Virginia, and if it was, perhaps it would be worn out by age before it arrived, as I am uncertain by whom this will go.

What is done about locating our lands? I have heard that General Scott had the direction of this business.

Colo. Bland informed me that you had desired him to speak to me on the subject of selling a part of the land, and on some other matters, which he did not recollect.

I think, my dear General, when I was in Virginia, I gave you full power to locate for my use the 15000 acres of land which the State was pleased to give me.

If I have not already, I now request and empower you to act for me in this affair, in such manner as you shall think most conducive to my interest. I wish to keep the 15000 acres entire, but if it is necessary that a part should be given for

locating the rest, I must be content, but on no account whatever, would I have a single acre sold.

If there is any thing more, necessary for me to do, I beg you will inform me of it.

I rely entirely on your knowledge and goodness, and am, with every sentiment of esteem and regard,

My dear General,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

STEUBEN.

BRIG. GEN. WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG.

GOV. MERCER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

March 11, 1783.

MY DEAR GENERAL:

In haste, let me tell you that as yet, no official dispatches have arrived, so that you must wait another post, for peace. Nothing has transpired from the other side of the water, either at Philadelphia or New York. Here we wait with anxiety for the stage from Elizabethtown, and at New York, the shores are crowded, the evening they are to hear from Phila.

Barney has been detained a long time by Doct. Franklin, to bring the dispatches to Congress, and what can detain him I cannot imagine; however, we shall have it together soon. This much assure yourself of in private, and as to my friend in Chatham, let him keep up his tobacco. There will be peace this boat; there are no objections of weight from this side of the water. What there are may delay, but cannot prevent. Such as they were, went by De Rochambeau. The British had, by an article in the treaty, gained a kind of naturalization for their merchants in our dominions. A reciprocity of this ad-

vantage was directed to be demanded, at all events, a free trade to their West India Islands—which it is probable will be conceded. However, this is *entre nous*.

Adieu,

JOHN F. MERCER.

I have bought a *McFingal* for you, but it is too large to send by post.

Whenever the official communication arrives, I will drop you a line by an express, that will instantly set out for Virginia.

GEN. WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG.

GOV. MERCER TO WM. FITZHUGH AND GENERAL WEEDON.

March 18th, 1783.

DEAR GENTLEMEN:

I do not recollect writing you since the arrival of Capt. Barney. It was deemed proper by Congress to make the substance of the communications received by him as public as possible, as well to give equal ground to retard the acts of speculation, as to satisfy the minds of the people at large, anxiously looking for peace. A letter of Mr. Laurens, of a date posterior to those of his colleagues, conveys strong suspicions of the designs of the Court of London. He speaks of very late advices received thence, which impressed him with an idea that their plans was to disunite the belligerent powers—and he says that the spirit of the nation is high for the prosecution of the war against France. This minister's own reflections are wise, and merit great attention. He recommends ardently to adhere religiously to our engagements with France, whose views he could discover no reason to suspect, and cautions against trusting to our new and half made friends.

The newspapers enclosed, which contain parliamentary debates, discover an indecision even in the Cabinet Council of the King of Great Britain, as to the effect of the preliminaries signed with A.,* consequently we have to apprehend that the L[ord] Shelburne has not disclosed all his ultimate views, even to them—for if he had, they could not have disagreed. He who cannot trust his own friends must not expect that his enemies will trust him.

We have advices, which our official dispatches warrant the belief of, that France and England have signed. Upon the whole, if we have not peace, there has been a game played that will be the wonder of ages yet to come; however, I have great hopes and small fears.

You will observe, that altho' what I communicate to you is not under a particular injunction of secrecy, yet anything almost is expected to be secret, until publication is ordered. You will, therefore, use every caution.

With sincere esteem,

I am, Dr. Gentlemen,

Your friend,

JOHN F. MERCER.

PHILADELPHIA, March 18, 1783.

I am sorry to inform you, that an alarming confusion prevails in the army. I hope the wisdom and prudence of the General will prevent any ill effects.

Free.

WM. FITZHUGH, ESQ., at Chatham.

THE HON. BRIG. GEN. WEEDON,

FREDERICKSBURG.

* America.

GOV. MERCER TO BRIGADIER GENERAL WEEDON.

DEAR GENERAL :

The letter, which I wrote you by express, conveying to you the import of the advices received by the Ch. du Queene has no doubt relieved you from your anxiety respecting Peace and from your perplexed political lucubrations.

I hinted to you, I recollect, some time since, that it might not be impossible, that the machinations of the British Court to separate us from the French connexion would be counteracted on the part of France, by permitting or rather recommending to America the closing with a separate peace. For upon reflection, you would determine within yourself that America would not be of essential advantage in a marine war; and, as the event has proved, much to the honor of France, her whole object has been the effectuating the independence of these States; for by the peace which has taken place you find she relinquishes every advantage for herself.

On the receipt of the dispatches by the Trump't, Mr. Livingston, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, transmitted to Sir Guy Carleton and Admiral Digby the intelligence. This in the event has proved the insincerity of those protestations which they have heretofore been so liberal of, their disposition to prevent the further effusion of human blood. Their protestations appear then to have been a part of their system of political insincerity and delusion, which has disgraced the British Councils throughout this war.

They write Mr. Livingston in return, that they do not think themselves authorized to take any steps which might facilitate the suspension of hostilities. So that, as yet we remain in statu quo, waiting impatiently the arrival of official information from our ministers.

In New York they cannot yet relinquish that insolence which they have on all occasions manifested, and the security

which the articles give the Tories, I understand, will induce them all to remain, without inspiring them with those dispositions which can alone induce their countrymen to forget their transgressions.

This is a partnership affair.

I am yours with real affection,

JOHN F. MERCER.

April 1, 1783.

BRIG. GEN. WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG.

COL. BLAND TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PHILADELPHIA, April 11, 1783.

DR. SR:

I have just time to tell you, that an official confirmation of the ratification of the preliminaries between the French, Spanish, and English Courts, arrived here yesterday, and I believe a cessation of hostilities will be this day proclaimed, by order of Congress. The public prints will soon give you the rest.

Adieu,

God bless you,

THEODORICK BLAND.

BRIG. GEN'L WEEDON,
FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

GOV. MERCER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PHILADELPHIA, April 11, 1783.

DEAR GENERAL:

The papers which I enclose, announce to you the arrival of an officer from N. York, with the Proclamation of the King of Great Britain, and other particulars, not necessary to enumerate.

Yesterday the vessels arrived here from France. They left l'Orient the 4th March, and by them we have official dispatches of our ministers. Altho' not of a late date, yet they authorize a Proclamation, which will come forth to day, from "the United States, in Congress assembled," declaring and enjoining a cessation of hostilities against the subjects of his Brittanic Majesty.

We have debates in Parliament, on the subject of the preliminaries, and although parties are very violent, and although in the House of Commons there are 224 to 208 against approving the peace, yet there seems to be no dispute as to its validity, respecting the separation of America. This subject is started in the House of Lords, by Lord Loughboro', but the ministry obtained on a vote an approbation of the peace. In consequence, the address is presented, and in answer, his majesty thanks very particularly the House of Lords. He concludes with expressing his warmest approbation of the spirit of Parliament towards the Loyalists, and makes no doubt, that the power which has stipulated in their favor, will carry to the utmost latitude a fulfilment of their engagements.

Adieu. I hope we shall approve ourselves worthy of the favor Heaven has obviously bestowed on us, in the accomplishment of so great and glorious opportunity, in so short a period.

In haste, I am, yr's,

JOHN F. MERCER.

HON. BRIG. GEN. WEEDON.

GOV. MERCER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PHILADELPHIA, April 29, 1783.

DEAR GENERAL:

My indisposition has in some measure decreased, notwithstanding the perpetual routine of public business, of a nature too interesting not to agitate, has prevented my regaining per-

fect health. By the papers, which are enclosed, you have a very interesting debate in the House of Commons, which will in some measure corroborate the hints which I dropt in my last—the force of which would otherwise be diminished by Sir Guy Carleton's last letter to Mr. Livingston, desiring the appointment of Commissioners to attend in New York, to the strict observance of that article of the provisional treaty, which relates immediately to the evacuation of the British posts. By this debate, it appears most clearly, that no orders had been sent to Sir Guy to leave New York, at that period, nor can we form any probable conclusion how long they shall continue him there, as they seem to connect his stay with the affairs of the Refugees. The vote of Parliament to continue a war establishment, induces a very serious consideration, how far it will be prudent and politic, to disband our troops and leave our Country defenceless and exposed, with so formidable a force in our bosom, restrained only by the faith which is due to a *provisional treaty*, certainly revocable at any moment, until a definite one shall be realized. The moment is critical, and demands the utmost exertions of those who are vested with confidential offices. I have a reliance in the prudence of Congress, who are really composed of members, at present, who rise in my estimation in proportion as our intimacy increases. For the present, adieu, and believe me,

With much sincerity,

Dear General,

Y'rs,

JOHN F. MERCER.

HON. GENERAL WEEDON.

P. S. Upon looking for your letter, to give an extract of it to Sterret, I find it mislaid. You must excuse me, Dr. General. Indisposition and hurry have prevented your memorandum being yet complied with, but write it again, and it shall be done instantly.

LE CHEVALIER DE LA LUZERNE TO MONS. LE BARON STEUBEN.*

PHILADELPHIA, June 3d, 1783.

MONSIEUR LE BARON:

I have received, with much pleasure, the statutes of the reputable order, which, Messieurs, the Officers of the American Army, have founded. If the courage, the patience, and all the virtues which this army have often employed in the course of this war, should ever be forgotten, this monument alone would recall them.

I dare assure you, Sir, that all the officers of my rank, whom you have kindly wished to admit into your society, will be infinitely honoured thereby. I pray you to be persuaded, that I myself feel particularly the honour, which, Messieurs, the Officers of the Army, have done me, in deigning to think of me on this occasion. I expect to pay my respects to his Excellency, Gen. Washington, so soon as the definitive treaty shall have been signed; and I shall have the honour to assure them in person of my respectful gratitude. I seize with great eagerness this occasion to renew to you, the sentiments of the very perfect and very respectful attachment with which I have the honour to be,

Monsieur le Baron, your very humble,
and very obedient, servant,

LE CHEVALIER DE LA LUZERNE.

GENERAL STEUBEN TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

SIR:

The plan for the formation and institution of the Society of Cincinnati, I hope you have received, as by a resolution of the

* A translation.

Convention, Major General Heath was desired to forward, and to request your approbation of it. I have now the honor to enclose the proceedings of the Convention since that time, by which you will see that the members of the Society, who were present at the last meeting have made choice of officers to fill the different departments until the general meeting in May next.

This step, dictated by necessity, I hope will be agreeable to you, and that you will give your assistance in perfecting this infant institution, which is founded in principles the most virtuous and honorable.

With the greatest respect, I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

STEUBEN,

MAJO. GEN.

CAMP, ON THE HUDSON RIVER, JUNE, 1783.

GEN'L SMALLWOOD.

COL. BLAND TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PRINCETON, Aug., 1783.

DEAR SIR:

At the request of the Paymaster General, I take the liberty to introduce to you Mr. Dunscomb, one of the gentlemen in the department, whose business in our country is officially to forward the settlement of the accounts of our line. A service, I presume, not unacceptable to our officers and soldiers, and, therefore, I presume he will meet from you every facility in your power, as well as every necessary introduction, to render his acquaintance as useful to the public and as agreeable to himself as possible, during his stay in Virginia. Time does not at present permit me to enlarge on public affairs; indeed, there is little interesting, stirring—no definite treaty yet

arrived. We expect our great and good General here in a few days. Congress has this day rejected a motion to return to Philadelphia—six states against two—Virginia in the negative. I am told this is contrary to the sense of the State—is it so?

Adieu. Yours, affectionately,

THEO'K BLAND.

Nothing has been yet done in the land affairs.

GOV. MERCER TO GENERAL WEEDON.

PRINCETON, September 20, 1783.

DEAR GENERAL:

I have the pleasure of yours, of the 9th, but am by no means decided on the debt. I rather think you stand in arrears to me two or three very long epistles.

The last week I directed a letter to Mr. Fitzhugh, which is to be considered in a great measure a joint one, the first part I am sorry you have not yet given me occasion to consider as such.

I stated almost every article of intelligence from Europe that I can now hold myself at liberty to communicate—but would observe, that France has given us every assurance that the definitive treaty shall not be signed without us—at the same time, they hint that our own facility in running into British commerce, &c., and the little appearance of concert between the different states, has retarded the general negotiation. However, we have reason to apprehend that not only Great Britain, but all the other European powers, even our friends, will pursue the object of deriving advantages from our commerce, without allowing us reciprocity—for if one European nation does this, the others must pursue the same policy or submit to subject themselves to great disadvantages.

We are pursuing the peace arrangement, but under many discouragements, which damp our ardor. I hope, however, all difficulties may be surmounted, and all measures so necessary and salutary; may be completed. I am under the pressure of land debates, and must conclude with assuring you that any thing that shall offer which will correspond with your wishes, shall with the utmost zeal be promoted by,

Dr. General,

Your friend, and very h'ble Servant,

J. F. MERCER.

GEN. WEEDON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO [GEN. WEEDON?]

ROCKY HILL, 24 Oct., 1783.

SIR:

At the original institution of the Society of the Cincinnati, Major General Heath, who then presided, was desired to transmit a copy of the Institution, with the proceedings thereon, to the senior officer in each of the Southern states, to request them to communicate the same to the officers under their command, and take such measures necessary for expediting the establishment of the Society in their respective states.

To the letter sent on this occasion to the senior officer of your state, no answer has been received.

At a subsequent meeting of the Society, it was deemed expedient to appoint a President General, pro tem.; and the honor of the choice falling on me, it becomes a part of my duty to name the place for the General Meeting in May next, and in order to make it as central as possible for the general convenience, it is necessary I should know in which of the states the Society is established.

I must, therefore, request that you would be pleased to inform me, as soon as possible, whether the establishment has

taken place in your state—and what measures have been taken to effect it.

I am, Sir,
 Your most obedient,
 humble Servant,
 G. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

MOUNT VERNON, VIRGINIA,
 28 December, 1783.

SIR:

After taking all the various circumstances into mature consideration, I have thought proper to appoint the City of Philadelphia to be the place for the general meeting of the Society of Cincinnati, on the first Monday in May next, agreeably to the original institution.

The object of this letter is to communicate timely information thereof, that proper notice may be given to the delegates of your State Society, whose punctual attendance will be expected at the time and place before mentioned.

Having made this communication, I have only to suggest, that it may, perhaps, be preferable to give the necessary notice to your delegates by letter, rather than by a public notification.

I would, however, wish that whatever mode is adopted, measures may be taken to prevent a possibility of failure in the communication.

I have the honor to be,
 Sir,
 Your most obed. Serv't,
 G. WASHINGTON.

P. S. Please to acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

TO MAJ. GEN. SMALLWOOD,
 President of the Society of Cincinnati,
 in Maryland.

GOV. PACA TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

DR. SIR:

I am just now obliged with yours, notifying the first Monday in May next, for the meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati, and I hope I shall have the pleasure of accompanying you to Philadelphia on that business.

We have nothing new of public intelligence. As to amusements, we abound in great variety, and to increase the variety we have just got the players amongst us.

You have heard, I presume, of the affair of Sir Rob't Eden's signing clandestinely a number of patents, affixing the seal to some of them, and taking the fees. The offence is a very serious one, and for which he will certainly be prosecuted. Wagerlie, of the Land Office, got information of it, and communicated to our Board, and the Council have ordered the evidence to be put in the Attorney General's hands for enquiry and prosecution. You will see the whole of the evidence in the next issued Gazette, as the Council mean to publish it.

I was rejoiced to see your letter as it assured me you are not *dead*, for so you had been reported.

I had nearly forgot to tell you that poor Jackson killed himself with drinking at Baltimore Town.

With great regard,

Your ob't Ser't,

WM. PACA.

20 Feb. 1784.

GEN'L SMALLWOOD,

MATTAWOMAN.*

* An estate of this name.

COL. PRICE TO GENERAL SMALLWOOD.

BALTIMORE, 4 April, 1784.

MY DEAR SIR:

Not receiving an answer to my letter I wrote you from Annapolis, some time last Feb'y 7, makes me write you the second time, to request a certificate that I was continued on duty till the arrangement of our line took place, I believe it was the first of August, until which time I declare on honor that I was continued on duty, at Fredericktown. If you want a further proof, I will show you Major Hardman's certificate the next time I have the pleasure of seeing you. Mr. Carlton, who does business in the Minister-at-War's Office, acknowledges the justice of my account, and says he will give me a warrant for the money on getting yours or Gen'l Gist's certificate.

I cannot be positive as to the time of the arrangement's taking place, nor do I expect any pay after that time. If you'll send me a certificate by the first opportunity, you'll

Much oblige,

Yr. Serv't,

THOS. PRICE.

A letter directed to me and left at the Post Office in Baltimore, will meet with a quick conveyance from that place.

MAJOR GEN'L SMALLWOOD,
CHARLES COUNTY, MD.

 GENERAL SMALLWOOD TO JAMES BRICE, ESQ.

ANNAPOLIS, March 28, 1787.

SIR:

In answer to your letter dated the 26 inst., I beg leave to suggest, that the information (which you say has been received

by some members of the Council respecting the work to be carried on in the Government house) is unjust, and the measures taken thereupon have been premature. Neither they nor Mr. Clark had any just grounds to conclude that it was in contemplation at this time to have the ceiling of the saloon in the Governor's house ornamented and completely finished. This the exhausted state of the treasury will by no means admit, and the expense of carrying such a plan into execution, upon the terms proposed by the workmen, is too high, even if the public resources were more ample—especially as there is a prospect of completing it hereafter upon better terms.

After the workmen had done the cornice, I directed Mr. Clark and Mr. Thorp, ten days ago, to order them to quit the work in that room, and to finish plastering all the other parts of the house, when I intimated I should be ready to give them further directions respecting the saloon, the walls of which I wish to get plastered, and to let the ceiling remain until it can be done at a more reasonable rate, intending to communicate my views to the General Assembly, and to take their direction which method still appears to be most eligible. However, should the Board incline to take the sole direction of this business, it will be perfectly agreeable to me. I have only to request that they, in their transactions respecting my conduct and intentions, may first apply to me for information before they too hastily take for granted what they hear, and act from surmise, and the vague information of others.

I did not think proper, nor was it necessary to disclose my views to the workmen—to advance the work, which goes on very slow. I have kept them in suspense. As embellishing the ceiling is a job that is a flattering object with them, I have urged I would not give a decided answer to their applications until all the other plastering should be completed.

It may be observed, that if Major Dawson was obliged to depart, members sufficient to compose a board still remained in town, before whom the matter, if found necessary, might have

been considered. Under these circumstances, as I am almost daily in counsel, I conceive after one day's absence only, I might have been applied to for information and allowed an opportunity of attending the board before so hasty a step had been taken upon surmise and mere uncertainty.

I am, with great respect, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. SMALLWOOD.

THE HONORABLE JAMES BRICE, Esq

OFFICERS
OF THE
SEVENTY-SIX SOCIETY.

ELECTED SEPTEMBER 5, 1856.

PRESIDENT.

HENRY J. WILLIAMS.

SECRETARY.

WARDALE G. McALLISTER.

TREASURER.

WILLIAM DUANE.

COUNCIL.

LEONARD R. KOECKER, M. D.,	FERDINAND J. DREER,
JOHN JORDAN, JR.,	CHARLES F. BECK, M. D.,
THOMAS BALCH,	ALFRED L. ELWYN, M. D.,
AUBREY H. SMITH,	HENRY FLANDERS,
JOSEPH R. PAXTON,	JOSEPH LEA.

At the annual meeting of the Society, held September 5, 1856, the tenth article of the Constitution was amended so as to provide that persons joining the Society after the first year, desirous of procuring copies of works published previous to their becoming members, may obtain the same by paying the cost price of them; and all members may procure additional copies of the publications by paying the cost price thereof.

In accordance with this provision, copies of the works printed for the Society may be procured at the following prices:—

Silas Deane in France	\$1 18
Galloway's Examination	68
Massachusetts Papers	1 50

