

From the VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

The following plan of major Lee's attack on Pow-ers-Hook having fallen into the enemy's hands, when they made prisoner of Mr. Meade, of Virginia, (a volunteer in that expedition) it cannot be improper to publish it, as to them, and to ourselves, it may be of real utility, as a model in many respects for future officers, and must give a very high and just idea of the discipline of our troops, and the talents of this gallant young officer.

Hackinsack, New Bridge, August 13, 1779.

Order of MARCH and disposition of BATTLE. Watch-word—Stoney-Point.

THE troops to move from their present position by the right, having crossed the Hackinsack river at the New Bridge, they will file off to the left, taking the direct road to Fort Lee; after reaching the centre of the mountain they move to the right, passing down in the bottom of the highlands; front, rear guard and flanking parties, composed of troops of known fidelity, and directed by officers of vigilance, to take such position and preserve such distance on the march, as the commanding officer may from time to time require. Platoons of cavalry and flying parties of infantry to scour the country on the left flank, in front and in rear, previous to the troops turning into the mountain, and to continue this duty until even at night, so as to mask completely the rout of the troops. All persons, who may during the march fall in view, are to be seized and committed to the quarter-guard, without respect to age, sex or character; nor is any solicitation to be made, on any pretence whatever, in behalf of the prisoner or prisoners, to the commanding officer. They will be released at a proper moment.

The guides are to be put in charge of an officer's guard, and such particular ones as may be pointed out are to be pinioned; a trusty file to be placed on their right and left for the purpose of putting them to immediate death if necessary. This order requiring a momentary execution, the soldiers entrusted are to be chosen men, and stand prepared.

The officers commanding divisions will be responsible to the commanding officer, for the due obedience and execution of orders; they are therefore to number the several platoons in their respective divisions, taking a memorandum of the names of the officers commanding platoons, and should any breach be committed, the offender may be easily ascertained. No officer or soldier to quit his line of march; proper haits will be made, when the soldiers are to refresh under the eye of their officer.

On the van's reaching a given point, they will halt and form three columns, in the following order, as they come up.

A detachment of one hundred, from general Woodford's brigade, under the command of major Clarke, to compose the right. Two companies of Marylanders to form the centre, headed by captain Handy. A detachment of one hundred from general Mullenberg's, with captain McCrane's dismounted dragoons, to compose the left, under major Lee. The forlorn of the right to be led on by lieutenant Venduval, of the first Virginia regiment. The forlorn of the centre by lieutenant Read, of the fifth Maryland. The forlorn of the left by lieutenant Armstrong, of the dragoons. The remainder of the troops to form the reserve, commanded by captain Reed, of the tenth Virginia.

Necessary refreshment being taken, the detachment will move on the word march, as before; the right column furnishing the front guard, the left the rear, and the centre the flanking parties. At a signal hereafter concerted, these parties will rejoin; the whole then to advance in one solid body.

On the van's reaching the point No. 1, a second halt to take place, and the troops again refreshed. At this ground the canteens to be taken off and given in charge of a party appointed for that purpose. The officer will receive particular instructions.

At the hour of eleven the troops to move, taking up their former line of march. They will pass the creek in front of the point 2, and having advanced to 3, the point of separation, the several columns will take their respective routs. The right column filing to their right, will pass the morass in front of the left flank of the fort, cross the canal at the point 3, and pursue the rout 3. The left column will file to the left, ford the canal at the point 4, push through the abbatis in the river, making their way good to the main work on the rout 4. The centre column will take the rout 5, lay the bridge 5, break

through the gate, possess the centre block-house, and force a passage into the fort near the embasures 5. The different columns to be preceded by a band of desperadoes, led by officers of distinguished integrity.

The right column, on passing the canal, will detach a subaltern to seize the left block-house. The left column to make two detachments on their forcing the abbatis. A captain to take the rout 6, muster the officers and troops quartered at the house 6, and put a proper guard over the boats at the wharf. A subaltern will possess the right block-house. The three columns to rush forward, breaking through all obstructions, and forcing their way into the main work 7.

Detachments to be then made for the collection of prisoners, as circumstances may direct and time furnish. The reserve will take post at the point of defence 8; they are to direct their attention towards the shore of the North river, from Weck-Hook to Powies-Hook. Should any troops make good a landing, they are to harass them on their advance, and dispute obstinately every inch of ground, though opposed to legions. The night will favour their resistance and a resolute pointed opposition must not only retard the progress of the enemy, but will advise them to wait for day-light before they dare to make a forward movement of consequence. The commanding officer pledges his honour to support the reserve, and to secure their retreat or share their fate.

The conquering troops, as they meet with victory, are to echo the watch-word, no huzza to follow; on the contrary, a profound silence is expected.

The idea of plunder to be banished from the ranks, and the same strict order to be preserved within the lines as on the march. Any soldier leaving his platoon to be put to death instantly. The officers are to bear in remembrance, that although victorious, still the chief difficulty is to be encountered; the retreat is to be made good, and the commanding officer is determined on an universal sacrifice rather than fail; he hopes the love the gentlemen possess for their soldiers, will be an additional inducement, among the many that must occur, to ensure their pointed attention.

The right column (the moment that victory has crowned the enterprise) are to move; they will pass the bridge on the main road leading to Bergen, and possess the heights on the right of the town. They are to assume a position, which encourages the most daring enterprise.

The left column will form an effort for the prisoners and follow in the rout of the right. On entering the town of Bergen, they will take the road to, leading to Dow's ferry, where a number of flat bottom boats will be found in waiting. The embarkation is to be performed in perfect order; after landing, the boats to return, and the effort to push on to Acquakeneuc bridge, where they will cross the Passack river and wait further orders.

The centre column will compose the guard for the artillery, public stores, &c. &c. They will pursue the same rout and attend to the same regulations. On reaching the point of transportation, two light sixes, with a proper guard, are to be pointed on the late shore, in such direction as to cover the retreat of the rear; the rest to be pushed on to Acquakeneuc, and to be planted on the ground commanding the bridge. The rear guard, composed of the right column and reserve, with the commanding officer in person, will occupy the heights of Bergen, and other strong positions on the rout, so as to secure the left and centre columns with the prisoners and artillery.

One squadron of cavalry, under the command of lieutenant Eggleston, will take post in the vicinity of Fort Lee and Bull's ferry. They are to observe the movements in the opposite camps.

Should any troops land, report to be made to lord Stirling, at the New Bridge. They are to harass the enemy's left flank on their advance, a small party playing in front to notify their approach. The remainder of the partisan cavalry to move down at the given hour to the point of embarkation; they will mind the road leading to Acquakeneuc bridge, and join the escort of the prisoners.

Previous to the troops being put in motion on the second halt, a badge of distinction then distributed, to be fixed on each man's hat, liquor to be served out, and the troops acquainted with their object.

The officers commanding the different columns will communicate in the most lively terms the certainty of success, and impress on the minds of the officers and soldiers, the absolute necessity for profound silence and perfect order.

The columns are to move with muskets loaded, fixed bayonets, pans open, and cocks fallen. No soldier, on pain of immediate death, to take his musket from his shoulder until ordered, the bayonet to be the only appeal. After passing the point 9, heads to be uncovered, hats in the right hand, close to the right thigh; the troops to throw on their hats as they pass the canal.

The columns, on commencing the retreat, are to prime and stand tully prepared for field action. The commanding officer declares that the enterprise is founded on the best intelligence, that the approaches have been ascertained by himself in person, that the guides are intimately acquainted with their business, and that the retreat is certain if timely.

The simplicity with which the disposition of march and order of battle is drawn up, assures him, that there is no possibility of mistake for want of correctly understanding them. The high confidence which he reposes in the ability and intrepidity of his officers, and his certain knowledge of the veteran ship of the soldiers he has the honour to command, joined to his perfect acquaintance with the strength and situation of the post, afford him just ground for pronouncing, that complete success must and will attend the enterprise. He pledges his honour to the soldiers that they shall receive full share or every article that may be taken; at the same time repeats his former declaration, that instant death shall be the fate of that man, who may be so lost to sense of honour and duty, as to presume to leave his platoon or encumber himself with any part of the plunder of the enemy's camp. The love he has uniformly possessed for arms, the hearty satisfaction he feels in observing military merit, joined to his duty, are sufficient to guarantee that he will, in his report to the commander in chief, do ample justice to those characters, who may be most conspicuous on the occasion. He heartily wishes a happy morning to the assailants, and begs them to recollect and emulate the glorious example exhibited at Stoney-Point, on the 15th of July.

(Copy) HENRY LEE, maj. com.

October 2, 1779.

WHEREAS the late Joseph Milburn Simms, late of Charles county, deceased, did by deed, about the year of our Lord 1744, for a valuable consideration, then in hand paid, bargain and sell unto the late Edward Goodrick, late of the same county, deceased, and his heirs, in fee simple, twenty-five acres of land, called Lyne's Delight, who was immediately put in and enjoyed the quiet possession of the same till his death; which after descended to the subscriber, as his heir at law, who hath ever since, and now has, peaceable and quiet possession of the same; but the said lands, by the neglect of the parties, were never properly acknowledged according to law, though the said Joseph Milburn Simms desired it should be on his death-bed, for the benefit of the lawful heirs of the said Edward Goodrick. In consequence of such omission, the subscriber, on coming to the possession of the said lands, applied by letter to Joseph Simms, then in France, who sent over a proper deed and power annexed, attended with necessary affidavits, taken before the right honourable William Beckford, Esq; then lord-mayor of the city of London, under the great seal of that city, which were brought over and delivered to the subscriber by captain John Montgomery and James Campbell, who soon after sailed, before making the proper affidavit the laws of this province in such cases require, as the subscriber is here informed.

I therefore give this public notice, that I intend to petition our general assembly, at their next session, for their interposition and authority to establish and perpetuate my right and title to the said land and premises.

W^{ch} CHARLES GOODRICK.

TWENTY thousand pounds of crop tobacco, annually, will be given as a salary to any clergyman of the Church of England, of a fair character, and who can give satisfaction as a preacher, for the term of four years, by the vestry of Durham parish, which parish, best of glebe that rents for two hogheads of crop tobacco per annum.

By order of the vestry, JOHN ELGIN, register.

ALMANACK'S, for the year of our Lord 1780, to be sold at the Printing Office.