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The redoubt was in the moment enveloped and carried on every part. The enemy are entitled to the acknowledgment of an honourable defence. Permit me to have the satisfaction of expressing my obligations to colonel Armand, captain Seange, the chevalier de Fontivieux, and captain Jackson, officers of his corps, who, acting upon this occasion as volunteers, proceeded at the head of the right column, and entering the redoubt among the first, by their gallant example contributed to the success of the enterprise. Our killed and wounded you will perceive by the enclosed return. I sensibly felt, at a critical period, the loss of the assistance of lieutenant-colonel Gimat, who received a musket ball in his foot, which obliged him to retire from the field. Captain Bets of Laurens's corps, captain Hunt and lieutenant Mansfield, of Gimat's, were wounded with the bayonet, in gallantly entering the work. Captain-lieutenant Kirkpatrick, of the corps of sappers and miners, received a wound in the ditch, which is a return of the prisoners. The killed and wounded of the enemy did not exceed eight. Scarcely of imitating examples of barbarity, and forgetting recent provocations, the soldiery spared every man who ceased to resist. I have the honour to be, with the warmest esteem and attachment, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,
A. HAMILTON, lieut. col. com.
The marquis de la Fayette.
Camp before York-town, Oct. 15, 1781.

RETURN of the killed and wounded of the French troops since the beginning of the siege of York. From the 6th to the 7th of October. In making the first parallel. Main attack, 1 wounded. Attack up the river at the left, 7 wounded. One officer of the artillery wounded. From the 7th to the 8th. In making the batteries upon the 1st parallel. Main attack, 6 wounded. From the 8th to the 9th. Continuation of the batteries. Main attack, 1 killed, 1 wounded. From the 9th to the 10th. Continuation of the batteries, 2 wounded. Attack up the river, 3 wounded. From the 10th to the 11th. The batteries firing. Main attack, 1 killed, 1 wounded. From the 11th to the 12th. Opening the 2d parallel. Main attack, 4 wounded. Attack up the river, 3 wounded. From the 12th to the 13th. Commencing of the batteries on the 2d parallel. 6 killed, 11 wounded. Two officers wounded. From the 13th to the 14th. Continuation of the batteries. 1 killed, 28 wounded. Attack up the river, 3 wounded. From the 14th to the 15th. Attack of the two redoubts of the enemy down the river, 41 killed, 57 wounded. Six officers wounded. Total, 50 killed, 127 wounded. Nine officers wounded, 2 of them since dead.

Return of the killed and wounded of the American army, from the 28th of September, 1781, the day of the investiture of York, to the storm of the enemy's redoubts, on the night of the 14th of October following, inclusive. From the investiture of York to the opening of the 1st parallel on the evening of the 6th of October exclusive. Continentals, killed, 1 sergeant, 3 rank and file; wounded, 1 colonel, 2 rank and file. Militia, killed, 1 rank and file; wounded, 6 rank and file. From the opening of the 1st parallel, to that of the 2d on the evening of the 11th of October exclusive. Continentals, killed, 2 rank and file; wd. 3 rank and file. Militia, wd. 3 rank and file. From the opening of the 2d parallel to the 14th of October inclusive. Continentals, killed, 1 captain, 3 rank and file; wounded, 1 captain, 7 rank and file. Militia, killed, 3 rank and file; wounded, 7 rank and file. At the storm on the evening of the 14th of October. Continentals, killed, 8 rank and file; wounded, 1 colonel, 2 lieutenant-colonels, 1 major, 3 captains, 1 captain-lieutenant, 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant, 28 rank and file. Total. Continentals, killed, 1 captain, 1 sergeant, 16 rank and file; wounded, 1 colonel, 2 lieutenant colonels, 1 major, 3 captains, 1 captain-lieutenant, 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant, 40 rank and file. Militia, killed, 4 rank and file; wounded 16 rank and file.

Killed at the opening of the 2d parallel, captain White, of colonel Voie's battalion of infantry. Wounded at ditto, captain Gosselen, of general Hazen's regiment. Officers wounded at the storm, lieutenant-colonels Barber and Gimat; major-Barber, inspector to the light infantry division; captains Olney and Hunt, of colonel Gimat's battalion of infantry; captain-lieutenant Kirkpatrick, corps of sappers and miners; lieutenant Mansfield, of colonel Gimat's battalion of infantry. Colonel Scammel, since dead. EDWARD HAND, A. G.

Head-quarters, near York, Oct. 19, 1781. SIR, I HAVE the honour to inform congress, that a reduction of the British army under the command of lord Cornwallis is most happily effected. The unremitting ardour which actuated every officer and soldier in the combined army, on this occasion, has principally led to this important event, at an earlier period than my most sanguine hopes had induced me to expect.

The singular spirit of emulation, which animated the whole army, from the first commencement of our operations, has filled my mind with the highest pleasure and satisfaction, and had given me the happiest presages of success. On the 17th inst. a letter was received from lord Cornwallis, proposing a meeting of commissioners, to consult on terms for the surrender of the posts of York and Gloucester. This letter (the first which had passed between us) opened a correspondence: a copy of which I do myself the honour to enclose; that correspondence was followed by the definitive capitulation, which was agreed to, and signed on the 19th: copy of which is also herewith transmitted, and which I hope will meet the approbation of congress.

I should be wanting in the feelings of gratitude, did I not mention on this occasion, with the warmest sense of acknowledgments, the very cheerful and able assistance which I have received in the course of our operations, from his excellency count de Rochambeau, and all his officers of every rank, in their respective capacities. Nothing could equal this zeal of our allies, but the emulating spirit of the American officers, whose ardour would not suffer their exertions to be exceeded.

The very uncommon degree of duty and fatigue which the nature of the service required from the officers of engineers and artillery of both armies, obliges me particularly to mention the obligations I am under to the commanding and other officers of those corps.

I wish it was in my power to express to congress, how much I feel myself indebted to the count de Grasse, and the officers of the fleet under his command, for the distinguished aid and support which has been afforded by them, between whom and the army the most happy concurrence of sentiments and views have subsisted, and from whom every possible co-operation has been experienced, which the most harmonious intercourse could afford.

Returns of the prisoners, military stores, ordnance, shipping, and other matters, I shall do myself the honour to transmit to congress as soon as they can be collected by the heads of departments to which they belong.

Colonel Laurens and the viscount de Noailles, on the part of the combined army, were the gentlemen who acted as commissioners for forming and settling the terms of capitulation and surrender herewith transmitted; to whom I am particularly obliged for their readiness and attention exhibited on the occasion.

Colonel Tilghman, one of my aids de camp, will have the honour to deliver these dispatches to your Excellency; he will be able to inform you of every minute circumstance which is not particularly mentioned in my letter; his merits, which are too well known to need any observations at this time, have gained my particular attention, and I could wish that they may be honoured by the notice of your Excellency and Congress.

Your Excellency and Congress will be pleased to accept my congratulations on this happy event, and believe me to be, with the highest respect and esteem, Sir, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,
G. WASHINGTON.

His Excellency the president of congress. P. S. Though I am not possessed of the particular returns, yet I have reason to suppose that the number of prisoners will be between five and six thousand, exclusive of seamen and others.

(No. 1.) SIR, York, Virginia, October 17, 1781. I PROPOSE a cessation of hostilities for 24 hours, and that two officers may be appointed by each side, to meet at Mr. Moore's house, to settle terms for the surrender of the posts of York and Gloucester. I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,
CORNWALLIS.

To his Excellency general Washington, commanding the combined forces of France and America.

(No. 2.) Camp before York, October 17, 1781. My lord, I HAVE had the honour of receiving your lordship's letter of this date. An ardent desire to spare the farther effusion of blood, will readily incline me to listen to such terms for the surrender of your posts of York and Gloucester, as are admissible. I wish, previous to the meeting of commissioners, that your lordship's proposals, in writing, may be sent to the American lines; for which purpose a suspension of hostilities, during two hours from the delivery of this letter, will be granted. I have the

honour to be, my lord, your lordship's most obedient, and most humble servant.

G. WASHINGTON. His excellency lieutenant-general earl Cornwallis, commanding his Britannic majesty's forces in York and Gloucester.

(No. 3.) York, Virginia, October 17, 1781. Half past 4, p. m.

SIR, I HAVE this moment been honoured with your excellency's letter, dated this day. The time limited for sending my answer, will not admit of entering into the detail of articles; but the basis of my proposals will be, that the garrisons of York and Gloucester shall be prisoners of war with the customary honours; and for the convenience of the individuals which I have the honour to command, that the British shall be sent to Britain, and the Germans to Germany, under engagement not to serve against France, America, or their allies, until released or regularly exchanged. That all arms and public stores shall be delivered up to you, but that the usual indulgence of side arms to officers, and of retaining private property, shall be granted to officers and soldiers; and that the interests of several individuals, in civil capacities, and connected with us, shall be attended to. If your excellency thinks that a continuance of the suspension of hostilities will be necessary, to transmit your answer, I shall have no objections to the hour that you propose. I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant.

CORNWALLIS. His Excellency gen. Washington, commander, &c. (No. 4.)

Head quarters, before York, Oct. 18, 1781. My lord,

To avoid unnecessary discussions and delays, I shall at once, in answer to your lordship's letter of yesterday, declare the general basis, upon which a definitive treaty of capitulation must take place. The garrisons of York and Gloucester, including the seamen, as you propose, will be received prisoners of war. The condition annexed, of sending the British and German troops to the parts of Europe, to which they respectively belong, is inadmissible; instead of this they will be marched to such parts of the country as can most conveniently provide for their subsistence; and the benevolent treatment of prisoners, which is invariably observed by the Americans, will be extended to them. The same honours will be granted to the surrendering army, as were granted to the garrison of Charlestown. The shipping and boats in the two harbours, with all their guns, stores, tackling, furniture and apparel, shall be delivered in their present state to an officer of the navy appointed to take possession of them. The artillery, arms, accoutrements, military chest, and public stores of every denomination, shall be delivered, unimpaired, to the heads of the departments to which they respectively belong. The officers will be indulged in retaining their side arms, and the officers and soldiers may preserve their baggage and effects; with this reserve, that property taken in the country will be reclaimed. With regard to the individuals in civil capacities, whose interests your lordship wishes may be attended to, until they are more particularly determined, nothing definitive can be settled. I have to add, that I expect the sick and wounded will be supplied with their own hospital stores, and be attended by British surgeons, particularly charged with the care of them. Your lordship will be pleased to signify your determination either to accept or reject the proposals now offered, in the course of two hours from the delivery of this letter, that commissioners may be appointed to digest the articles of capitulation, or a renewal of hostilities may take place. I have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's most obedient servant,

G. WASHINGTON. To lieut. gen. earl Cornwallis, commanding, &c. (No. 5.)

York, in Virginia, Oct. 18, 1781. SIR,

I AGREE to open a treaty of capitulation upon the basis of the garrisons at York and Gloucester, including seamen, being prisoners of war, without annexing the condition of their being sent to Europe; but I expect to receive a compensation in arranging the articles of capitulation for the surrender of York-town in its present state of defence. I shall in particular desire that the Bonetta sloop of war may be left entirely at my disposal from the hour the capitulation is signed, to receive an aid de camp to carry my dispatches to Sir Henry Clinton, and such soldiers as I may think proper to send as passengers in her, to be manned with 50 men of her own crew; and to be permitted to fall without examination, when my dispatches are ready; engaging on my part that the ship shall be brought back and delivered to you, if she escapes the danger of the sea; that the crew and soldiers sent as passengers shall be accounted for in future exchanges as prisoners; that she shall carry off no officer without your consent, nor public property of any kind. And I shall likewise desire that the traders and in-