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Poverty and Patriotism of the Neutral Grounds

POVERTY AND PATRIOTISM OF THE NEUTRAL GROUNDS

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE WESTCHESTER
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPON THE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF WHITE PLAINS

By J. C. L. HAMILTON

OCTOBER THE TWENTY-EIGHTH
EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-NINE

ELMSFORD, NEW YORK

1900

FRANKLIN & LEWIS CO.

JAN 17 1900

a. 1368-2
Jan. 15, 1900
sent to order adv.
NOV 28 1900

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Poverty and Patriotism of the Neutral Grounds.

The Neutral Grounds, comprising all of the central towns and manors of Westchester County, sustained and endured more of the real hardships and calamities incident to a long, relentless war than perhaps all other sections of similar dimensions combined. Its inhabitants, from the most reliable accounts, were nearly equally divided in their political affiliations.

Those in affluent and comfortable circumstances, to a very large degree were Tories by choice, while the poor, who had long suffered the pangs of poverty and oppression of tyranny, became Whigs of the most loyal type.

History, in a general way, has made familiar the diverging lines of loyalty to the King and liberty of the people. Only a brief reference can be made, upon an occasion commemorating the anniversary of the first real conflict at arms between the opposing forces upon the Neutral Grounds, of some of the causes that made poverty the corner-stone of patriotism.

Adrian Van Der Donck, the first historian this New Netherland "which we have christened the Empire State" ever knew, dwelt within its borders. He was the true and tried friend of the first settlers, when the mismanagement of government and the obnoxious and avaricious plans of a grasping monopoly imposed burdens that doomed to a life of serfdom those who had longed for liberty in other lands. He interceded in their behalf, and became instrumental in correcting the evils complained of.

Government was reformed. Trade was fostered. Emigration was encouraged. Children from the overcrowded almshouse of Amsterdam were sent over, and a speedy shipment of others of like import was promised, along

with some of those sturdy agriculturists, called Boers, from the Rhine frontier, who were then seeking liberty and freedom in remote lands, and whose descendants are now valiantly upholding their love of independence in the Orange Free State of South Africa.

Thus we see a glad, eager multitude of the poorest of poor wending their way to these inviting wild, western shores.

The names of some of them and their descendants who took up their abode upon these Neutral Grounds and dwelt among the original occupants of the soil have been rescued from the neglected and forgotten archives of two centuries of the past. This ancient official tax list * of the first white tillers of the soil clearly indicates that they were exceedingly economical as well as poor. The small amount of nine York pounds ($\$22\frac{5}{100}$) which these one hundred and eighteen inhabitants were required to pay upon their possessions, that comprised all of the present towns of Greenburgh, Mount Pleasant, and Ossining, toward defraying their proportion of the public and necessary charges of the county of Westchester, in accordance with the quota directed by the warrant of the supervisors for the upper part of the manor of Philipsburgh, cannot be called extravagant, no matter how generous or profligate the tax of $\$274,449\frac{1}{100}$ for the year 1898 for the same territory may appear.

The official assessors, without favoritism, executed the law, which frequently required payments to be made upon the instalment plan, evidently for the purpose of allowing the cultivator of the soil to harvest and dispose of his various products. Unfortunately for him, however propitious the seasons, seed-time and harvest could not keep up in the unequal race. Before the eighth, ninth, and tenth instalment of a certain tax could be liquidated, the fourth, fifth, and sixth, and the first, second, and third, of other taxes became payable. They were levied ostensibly for the purpose of purchasing presents for the Indians, erecting forts upon the frontiers, and for the ever in-

* See Appendix.

creasing expenses in support of government, at home and abroad, which were constantly augmented, in order to provide adequate positions with remunerative salaries to an army of itinerant seekers.

The inhabitants of the towns and manors of Westchester County, as well as the isolated white settler residing among the Indians at the close of the seventeenth century, were not overlooked, as the following receipts disclose :

Received from John Cornelius Van Tesxell by the hands of Col. Stephen Van Cortlandt, the sum of Nine Pounds, out of the four first taxes, and of such proportion of the same as becomes payable out of Westchester County and Town of Appamacpo.

I say received this 31st of July, 1694.

CHIDLEY BROOK, *Collector.*

Twenty-six days pass by, and the following becomes a matter of historic interest :

Received from John Van Tesxell by the hands of Col. Stephen Van Cortlandt, the sum of Four Pounds ten shillings out of the six thousand pound tax, and of such proportion of the same as becomes payable out of Westchester County and Town of Appamacpo.

I say received this 26th of August, 1694.

CHIDLEY BROOK, *Collector.*

No mention of the name or location of this Indian town has appeared in any history of this county yet published. The amounts forwarded to the colonial treasurer indicate that a considerable number of white people were dwelling among the native Indians, and that they were prospering at that early period.

From the most reliable information obtainable, the town of Appamacpo comprised what is now known as the town of Ossining.

John Cornelius Van Tesxell, Senior, married about the year 1630 Cephani, an Indian princess of Eider's Neck, near Huntington, Long Island.

Their son, John Cornelius Van Tesxell, Junior, was baptized in the Dutch Church within Fort Amsterdam, and afterward settled at what is now known as Sing Sing with his family, consisting of three sons and two

daughters, all of whom married in this county, and became members of the old Dutch Church at Sleepy Hollow.

In the year 1705, their father having died, they made application and received from the colonial government a grant of land at Huntington, Long Island, four miles by six, in right of their grandmother, who had received the same through her tribal relations. The names of six of her descendants appear upon the tax-roll of 1732, and forty-six others are enrolled among the patriots of the Revolution.

Colonel Stephen Van Cortlandt, lord of the adjoining manor of Cortlandt, obtained license to purchase lands from the Indians and others in the year 1677. He had secured at the date of his manor grant in 1697, 86,213 acres, but had barely time to make any permanent arrangement for the development of these vast properties before all plans were set at naught by his death, which occurred in the year 1700, when this estate reverted in entail to his children, who by the terms of his will were required to pay his just debts and funeral expenses, amounting to about \$5,000. This payment was no easy matter for them to make, as it took not only fifty-eight years, but a special act of the colonial legislature to legally accomplish it. The special act directed that sufficient property should be sold at public vendue at Kingsbridge to liquidate the debt.

John Tompkins—a resident of the manor of Philipsburgh, who had erected, in 1732, his dwelling, which is still in existence, and which was used in the summer of 1781 as the headquarters of General Rochambeau—became the purchaser.

The indenture of agreement, bearing date of January 31, 1758, between Pierre Van Cortlandt and John Tompkins, required the purchaser of real estate, in order to be able to receive a warranty deed, to be in actual possession for twelve months, for which period he was to pay, if legally demanded, one pepper-corn. The agreement describes the property purchased, which is still owned and occupied by Mr. Tompkins's descendants, the

legal title of which can, with the evidence here produced, be traced back to the original Indian proprietors.

They can also admire on the Poverty Ridge of Philipsburgh that venerable and historic headquarters erected by their ancestor upon the farm, for which the lord of the manor of Philipsburgh gave the following receipt :

Received this 3rd Feby 1737-8 of John Tomkins twelve bushels of wheat it being for a years rent due to me for the farm He lives on

FRED PHILIPSE.

Captain John Harmse, an officer in the French colonial war, kept the first general store. The history of the quaint old building, still standing, and the many interesting scenes that have transpired there, are matters the inmates of the palatial homes of the immediate vicinity know very little about. The following store account gives an accurate record of the prices and articles kept for sale at that period :

1736	Den may mant Hendrck Willse debt aen Jan harmse .	£1: 0:0
Ditto	Voor Jacobs Willse debt	2: 2:0
Ditto	aen ein par Schonne voor u Self	0: 7:0
Ditto	aen ein bossel tarwe	0: 3:6
Ditto	aen Matthis Cancklin betalt ein galling Rom . . .	0: 3:6
Ditto	aen en par half soolen	0: 0:9
Ditto	aen 4 bossel bocquyt	0: 6:0
Ditto	November aen gelt	1: 0:0
1737	aen Jan Hughsen betalt	0: 6:0
	voor ein par poms	0: 6:0
Ditto	aen 6½ lb noll	0: 9:9
Ditto	aen 1½ lb kaettoen	0: 1:9
Ditto	aen Matthis Cancklin betault voor drank	0: 2:9
Ditto	aen Noeg en ½ bossel tarwe	0: 1:9
Ditto	aen Noeg ein bossel bocquyt voor sait	0: 2:0
Ditto	aen Gelt noeg	2: 10:0
Ditto	aen Mr Gaberyel Ledelo betalt	0: 10:0
Ditto	aen noeg en Soeg gehuet voor	0: 10:0
Ditto	aen ein bossel Rocq	0: 02:6

£9: 19:3

Ditto aen noeg ein par Sehonne voor u Self 0: 7:0

YAN HARMSE

Ditto woch meer vor dranck 0: 1:10

After Captain Harmse's death the farm and store came into the possession of Colonel Jonathan Odel, who kept a noted hostelry at the old stand during the Revolutionary period. It was here the Committee of the Provincial Congress, when obliged to evacuate their quarters in the church in Harlem, remained over night and held a session of their committee October, 1776.

Captain John Buckhout was Captain Harmse's neighbor, and also a captain in the French colonial war. He was too advanced in years to take an active part in the Revolution, and continued to reside upon his farm, now occupied in part by the *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, until his death, which occurred in the year 1785, as appears by the inscription upon his tombstone in the old Sleepy Hollow city of the dead, which reads as follows :

IN MEMORY OF CAP
JOHN BUCKHOUT, WHO
DEPARTED THIS LIFE
APRIL THE 10TH 1785 AGED
103 YEARS AND LEFT BEHIND
HIM WHEN HE DIED 240 CHILD
AND GRAND CHILDREN, ALSO
MARY THE WIFE OF JOHN BUCK
DIED AUGUST 1755 AGED
73 YEARS

Joost Phauldench (Paulding), the ancestor of that noted and patriotic family who became heroes in the cause of liberty, was a merchant of New York City. He became a tenant upon Philip's manor about the year 1700, and was for a short period a member and officer of the Dutch Church, which he was obliged to relinquish on account of his business in New York. His son Joseph taking the farm, Mr. Paulding, having accumulated a considerable fortune in his various business relations, composed one of the syndicate of the twenty-four grantees of that large section which Judge Walters and Colonel Caleb Heathcoat obtained from the crown, situated in the northeast portion of the county and known as the Walters patent.

The celebrated Flour Bolters' Trust having been re-

pealed by the legislature, permission to legalize and equip privateers to prey upon the commerce of the common enemy gave renewed impetus for the investment of capital. Mr. Paulding, in connection with Captain Abraham Van Laer, a noted son of Neptune, residing in New York, fitted out a privateer sloop.

Mr. Paulding's interest, by the terms of the written agreement, were to be represented by his special supercargo, and required all captures and treasure trove to be taken to the nearest port and sold, the proceeds to be remitted immediately.

The name given to this piratical rover of the seas was

“THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE.”

Time and space forbid a further review of those early pioneers whose descendants were about to usher in a new era of existence, the dormant energy of whose brawn and muscle could no longer endure the burdens and suffering that were imposed by unwise and vicious legislation that had overcrowded the gaols of the colony with insolvent debtors, many of whom, their families could no longer support, being destitute even of the common necessaries of life.

When voluntary subscriptions from the charitable became inadequate to pay the fines imposed upon those confined for considerable amounts, a portion of the money so obtained was used to procure them wood to keep them from freezing.

To such a fearful extent had this imprisonment for debt proceeded that the county officials took the precaution to employ a special guard around the court-house of thirteen men to prevent the public from making a threatened general gaol delivery.

The legislature, finding the Insolvent Debtor Act passed in 1766 inadequate, passed an act on March 8, 1773, requiring creditors who would not consent to discharge the debtor to pay to each prisoner so confined at their instance three shillings and sixpence per week, pay-

able to the prisoner, every Monday, so long as he, or she, shall continue in prison.

This pittance of six cents per day must have been very generally paid by the creditor, as the legislators, instead of amending their slow starvation legislation, found it necessary to pass, during the following two years, fourteen similar acts of so-called relief.

Thus we can begin to realize that poverty, pure and simple, was the impelling force that organized the Sons of Liberty, who, in 1766, were the first to demand, with their lives, the liberation of their countrymen.

They were inured to privations and hardship, and were ripe for a rebellion that gave promise in the dim future of liberty and independence. Conventions were called, delegates were elected, resolutions were passed, and regiments and companies of armed men were recruited, as if by magic. The inmates of the patriot homes and fire-sides, scattered all over this beautiful county, scarcely realized that a war, such as they had never dreamed of, had already commenced.

They had counted and nourished the legacy years of toil and poverty had bequeathed, and were determined, come what may, to cast their all in one grand effort to accomplish and conquer, while the lessons they had been taught by the light of the burning faggots in the great chimneys of their ancestors had prepared and qualified them for the supreme effort.

The knell of liberty's bell had scarcely sounded the call to arms before the Mohawks, in their native disguise, cast the forbidden tea to the waters of an unfriendly port, and armed men everywhere stood ready to obey the mandates of the chosen leaders. This Empire State furnished upwards of 52,000 defenders. This county was divided into four districts, and the colonel of the regiment in each district was given almost unlimited jurisdiction in military matters. All male persons of from sixteen to sixty years of age were enrolled, who were required to serve when warned, under penalty of fine and imprisonment; those incapacitated had to con-

tribute toward furnishing and equipping others in their stead with musket, blanket, powder-horn, flint, and frequently a tomahawk if required. They were called out when wanted, kept as long as wanted, and the soldiers then sent to their homes.

Sometimes a regiment, or part of a regiment, would be ordered out half a dozen times in the course of a year, and for a few days or weeks at a time, as they were needed, while officers and men served indiscriminately in different organizations, as the urgency of the occasion demanded. The rapid organization of the troops into regiments and companies, which were armed and uniformed with whatever could be obtained, and commanded by officers with very little or no experience, gave at the commencement of hostilities little, if any, promise of success. The want of drill and discipline, that the officers and men alike were deficient in, caused the militia to be looked upon as unreliable, especially as they had upon several occasions made precipitate retreats.

General Washington, who had personally conducted the retreat from Long Island, witnessed their stampede through New York, and again upon the southern boundary of these soon to be Neutral Grounds. Upon this latter occasion he is said to have thrown his hat upon the ground and exclaimed: "Am I to fight the battles of my country with such men as those?" When they were again marshalled in battle array this historic county seat was the scene upon which the opposing forces met; and upon this 123d anniversary of that event I present to you for the first time a complete record of Captain Alexander Hamilton's battery of artillery,* that is said to have done efficient service upon yonder Chatterton Hill, and although the militia broke and ran away, the stubborn resistance of those engaged caused the British general to delay his plan of attack until the arrival of other troops, which delay gave General Washington opportunity to execute one of those strategic movements the successful execution of which placed him among the great generals of the age.

* See Appendix.

It also caused the Parliament of Great Britain to appoint a committee to investigate the conduct of General Howe and Lord Cornwallis for their failure to capture General Washington and his army, and thus terminate the rebellion of the colonies.

This investigating committee, although conducted by that staunch friend of the colonies, Isaac Barré, the former adjutant-general of General Wolfe, who had, on account of his distinguished services and wounds received upon the Plains of Abraham, been elected to a seat in Parliament, was unable, after the most searching examination, which lasted several days, to ascertain the real cause of their failure. General Howe, General Lord Cornwallis, and the chief engineer of the British forces all many times reiterated that they had excellent reasons, which would, if made known, be satisfactory to the British public, but which each of them repeatedly declared he was not at liberty to disclose.

Therefore, while future anniversary gatherings will continue to study and admire the strategy displayed by the American commander-in-chief, they must be content with surmises and speculation for the unexplained reasons of his opponents.

It must, however, have been very aggravating for the rank and file of the American army to have witnessed the pride of the British forces, in all their bright military array, form in battle upon the plain, and then quietly seat themselves upon the ground, while they observed the progress of the action upon the adjoining hill.

It was, no doubt, equally exasperating for the victors, elated by their previous successes, to learn that their commander had abandoned his plan of attack and was about to retrace his steps, leaving these intervening valleys and hills to become the Neutral Grounds, where tragic scenes of almost numberless combats made desolation everywhere the order by day, while the nights were illumined by the conflagrations of patriot and Tory homes.

A guerrilla war, the like of which has never been fully understood, made heroes of those early defenders. They



THE FARCUS HOTT.

who first ran upon the discharge of their own flintlocks now became the chosen guides and leaders of the most hazardous expeditions.

Tories, emboldened by the successes of the British forces and encouraged by the promise of liberal pay, bounties, and reward, organized a troop of light horse, which was commanded by Colonel James DeLancy, former sheriff of the county. This troop, on account of their intimate knowledge of the highways and the location of the patriots, soon became a troublesome as well as formidable adversary. Their propensity to carry off everything portable, especially cattle, gave them the familiar name of "Cowboys," on account of which Governor Tryon, commanding the king's advanced outpost, encouraged this command, composed of the élite of the county, for their spirited behavior by offering one guinea for each deserter brought in, and for every acting committeeman he was willing to pay twenty silver dollars.

On the night of Monday, November 17, 1777, Captains Emmerrick and Barnes, of the Queen's Rangers of Governor Tryon's command, captured Lieutenant Cornelius Van Tassel and his kinsman, Peter Van Tassel, a member of the county committee, at their homes in the Neperan Valley. Upon this occasion they removed Mrs. Cornelius Van Tassel with her infant daughter, scantily clothed, and left them upon the frozen ground to care for themselves in the frigid cold as best they could.

Cornelius Van Tassel, Jr., a noted marksman, had upon the first alarm taken refuge in the attic, but when the smoke and flames began to envelop him, he deliberately assumed the roll of a marauder, by throwing a blanket over his head and seizing some household plunder, with which he marched in the midst of his enemies, and at the first opportunity made a sudden dash toward the Sawmill River, eluding his pursuers by breaking a passage through the ice and rapidly proceeding to The Farcus Hott,* the patriots' place of retreat. The enemy, having collected all the Van Tassels' horses

* See illustration.

and cattle, tied their hands to their horses' tails, and in this ignominious manner compelled them to drive their own cattle to the British camp at Kingsbridge, from which they were conveyed to prison, where they remained eleven months. Mrs. Van Tassel and her infant daughter, Leah, took refuge in a dirt cellar, it being the only place not destroyed. On the night of November 25th, Abraham Martling, a continental soldier residing upon a portion of Lieutenant Van Tassel's farm, with a number of his neighbors, proceeded to Bloomingdale, within the British lines, and totally destroyed Governor DeLancy's residence in retaliation.

So frequent and daring had the Cowboys become that bands of deserters and others composed of the worst characters of both armies set up an organized band to prey upon friends and foes alike, that were called "Skinners," and between these hostile forces the patriots soon had but little of worldly goods they could call their own.

The latch-string of welcome had disappeared from their midst, while poverty at home, in the fields, camps, and everywhere almost quenched the flickering spark of liberty.

This sad portrayal of privation, apparent in every portion of this neutral territory, gave the chief commissary, with the aid of the military authority to assist him, no end of trouble to secure barely enough subsistence to last from day to day, as appears by the following orders :

MR EBENEZER BOYD

Sir I would have you go out in the country immediately, and secure all the salt provisions you hear of Press teams and send it down here Joshua Inmann has some beef in barrels, which you will order down immediately

It must be down to day as we are out of provisions, and the stores at Danbury destroyed

WILLIAM PAULDING

PEEKSKILL, *April 27, 1777*

MR. BOYD

Sir You must send by the bearer the Five Barrels of Pork at your House

I am sir yours,

WILLIAM PAULDING

PEEKSKILL, *April 27, 1777*

MR. BOYD

Sir Please send by the bearer a load of Pork or Beef.

WILLIAM PAULDING, C.

PEEKSKILL, *April* 30th 1777

PEEKSKILL, *May* 5th 1777

Received from Major Strang by the hands of Conrad Miller Seven Barrels of Pork and Beef.

WILLIAM PAULDING, C.

Received from Ebenezer Boyd

One *Skail Beam*

Two Weights Each 56 lbs

Said to be the property of the Continent, taken from the estate of Nathaniel Merritt, for the use of William Pauldings Commissary Store.

per PETER GARSON, D. C.

PEEKSKILL, 22 *December*, 1776.

But what did the patriot soldiers of the Neutral Grounds, who had become inured to hunger and privation of almost every nature, care for a scarcity of pork and beef? They were minutemen, unwilling to relinquish one particle of their territory, who, when the charred remains of their former homes offered no shelter, sought the caves and rocks, from which, at a moment's notice, they sallied forth to engage in mortal combat, frequently with superior and well-equipped numbers. Many skirmishes, seldom officially reported, occurred that would have been classed genuine actions, and passed into history with equal prominence with others of less import occurring at the present time.

There was at no period a cessation of hostilities upon these scarred battle-fields. The enemy was alert and frequently successful in destroying and capturing the magazines of stores and supplies secured at such great sacrifice by the patriots.

Mr. Joseph Young, a prominent patriot, who resided on and occupied the farm adjoining that of Col. James Hammond, of the First Regiment, now belonging to the estate

of Mr. Robert Bonner, was early in 1776 appointed by the Provincial Congress one of the three commissioners to secure and remove all the hay, straw, cattle, and provisions in the lower portion of the county to Wright's Mills, the rendezvous selected at the north side of the present Kensico Lake. The inhabitants were permitted to retain a small supply for immediate consumption, and were given receipts for all other articles taken, which they could secure again from time to time as required.

Upon the withdrawal of the American army at White Plains to the high grounds, General Lee, commanding the right wing, made his headquarters at Mr. Young's house, and it was from his division that Colonel Austin's Massachusetts troops made their midnight raid, and burned the court-house, Presbyterian church, and a few other buildings situated between the former entrenched lines, and upon their return to camp plundered the houses of Mr. Martine and Pugsley of a large number of articles, the discovery of which in their possession caused the arrest and dismissal of the guilty parties, in obedience to a general order issued by General Washington, who confirmed the verdict of the court-martial held at Peekskill, of which General Pierre Van Courtlant was president.

Mr. Young's location at the Four Corners, upon the lower cross roads, continued throughout the Revolution to be a very important military outpost upon the border of the Neutral Grounds and was the scene of a number of desperate encounters. During the winter of 1777 the dwelling was burned by the British in one of their raids. In 1778 Colonel Aaron Burr, who commanded on the lines, had his quarters here; also, during the same year, General Thaddeus Kosciuszko. It was near these headquarters where General Gates and Colonel Wilkins, on September 6, 1778, settled their affair of honor after exchanging two shots without bloodshed; and it was also here, on February 3, 1780, that Colonel Norton, with a considerable number of infantry and Colonel DeLancy's mounted Cowboys and refugees, after an all night's toilsome march through the snow, which was so deep that they were

obliged to abandon their improvised sleighs and artillery, succeeded in surprising Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, commanding the post, before he could concentrate his small force of five companies, composed principally of Massachusetts troops, for effectual resistance. The American loss in this action was eighty-nine privates and seven officers taken prisoners, fourteen killed, and seventeen wounded, several of whom died, and were buried in the adjoining field, opposite the ruins of the burned headquarters. Their final resting place does not even boast of a simple tablet to designate a desperate and sanguinary battle fought when the Neutral Grounds were buried under a deep mantle of snow.

During the fall of 1780 General Stark gathered all the wagons that could be obtained in North Castle and surrounding country at the depot of supplies (Wright's Mills) for the purpose of making a grand forage, which was very successful, some of the mounted troops penetrating as low down as East Chester, returning with a large quantity of corn, hay, cattle, etc.

The enemy were, however, bent upon the same errand. On February 17, 1781, they made an extended excursion within the American lines toward Bedford, capturing Lieutenants Carpenter, Wright, and Peacock, with five other inhabitants, burned five dwellings, stripped several others of their belongings, and returned without mishap. Their excursions, as they were called, were, by the systems of communication in use by the patriots, frequently rapidly communicated to the various patrols and guards. Abraham Odell, one of the most active and useful of the Westchester scouts and guides, during the daytime kept himself employed in his blacksmith shop, situated opposite his father's house on Broadway, a short distance below Irvington. He, being a personal acquaintance of Colonel DeLancy, had no difficulty in securing immunity from arrest by the British, especially as they made his shop a regular place for shoeing their horses, which gave him an excellent opportunity to ascertain from the private soldiers the intended destination of many of their raids.

By this means these excursions, as they were called, were frequently interrupted, while others became very sanguinary affairs. Jacob Acker, a noted marksman living in the Sawmill Valley, appears to have been seldom off duty. On the 17th of December, 1779, he was severely wounded in the chin, gullet, and right shoulder, and on May 1, 1780, less than five months, was again wounded. At the action which occurred at Storm's Bridge (Elmsford), where he was, as usual, upon picket duty, by his unerring aim two of the enemy, that were returning with a large quantity of cattle and plunder, were killed. The balance of the command, twenty-four in number, under Lieutenant Baremore, were taken prisoners, after a desperate hand-to-hand struggle in the open fields directly east of the present Reform Church, by the patriot company of that locality.

The Neutral Grounds, above all others, could be relied upon to furnish patriots, with or without provision, and without pay or promise of reward, for instant action.

In the fall of 1780 there appears to be very little, except poverty and love of home and country, that sustained the soldiers of the republic. The terms of enlistment of a large number were rapidly expiring. Continental money had depreciated from 40 to 75, and finally it required \$128 of the old to equal one of new emission. During the month of July five companies of the South Battalion, under command of Major Jonathan Paulding Horton, returned from a year's active service with the main army.

While waiting at home for the State to procure the bounty of ten bushels of wheat for ninety days' service and one and one-half bushels per month for a longer period, in the absence of money, which would keep their families from absolute want, some of them voluntarily spent their brief vacation patrolling and guarding the highways, which resulted in the capture of Major John André, and gave these Neutral Grounds the proud distinction of producing the first medal of honor presented to soldiers of the republic. Three alone out of the seven

which composed this small band of patriots were awarded a medal inscribed "Fidelity":

JOHN PAULDING,
ISAAC VAN WART,
DAVID WILLIAMS,
ISAAC SEE,
JAMES ROMER,
JOHN YERKS,
JOHN DEAN, Sergeant.

NOTE.—These captors, in accordance with an agreement, sold the watch, horse, saddle, and bridle taken from Major André and made equal division of the proceeds between the seven, after which they all contributed an equal amount toward defraying the expenses of one of their number to Philadelphia in order to lay the importance of the service rendered before Congress, with the expectation that all of them would be suitably rewarded. The member entrusted with this mission, after arrival in Philadelphia, came in contact with a member of Congress from the State of New Jersey, said to be not very friendly to the cause of independence, who, learning the particulars of the capture, advised that no mention of the four additional members should be made, for fear that Congress would refuse to grant any reward.

The foregoing explains the bitter resentment and ill feeling toward three of the captors that existed throughout the county during their remaining days.

The patriotism of the army and the inhabitants all over the colonies at this trying period, when their finances and resources had become reduced to the lowest scale of poverty, quickly came to the rescue. The clouds that obscured their standard by united effort began to gradually disappear, and once more the faint outlines of the rainbow of hope infused new life and energy among all classes.

The organized efforts of the ladies and private individuals were supplemented by renewed energy in the halls of Congress. The legislature of the Empire State, in lieu of money, gave wheat and vacant lands, and directed a tax of 2,400 pairs of good woollen stockings and 2,000 pairs of strong leather shoes to be levied for the use of its needy soldiery. The supervisors of Westchester County were directed to meet at the house of

John Furman in Bedford (lieutenant in Colonel Louis Dubois' Fifth Regiment of the line), and there apportion the quota among the towns of Poundridge, Salem, Bedford, North Castle, and the manor of Cortlandt. The balance of the county comprised the Neutral Grounds, where it was impossible for the civil authorities to exercise control. The assessors were directed to designate and apportion the quantities among those of the inhabitants who, in their judgment, could best spare or procure the same, allowing for each pair of shoes furnished sixteen shillings, and for every pair of stockings fourteen shillings. A forfeit of \$10 per pair, to be recovered in a summary manner before any justice of the peace, was provided for a refusal to furnish within thirty days after demand made by the various collectors.

The apportionment to town of Poundridge, 6 pair shoes, 7 pair stockings.

The apportionment to town of Salem, 9 pair shoes, 10 pair stockings.

The apportionment to town of North Castle, 27 pair shoes, 33 pair stockings.

The apportionment to town of Bedford, 23 pair shoes, 27 pair stockings.

The apportionment to manor of Cortlandt, 39 pair shoes, 48 pair stockings.

These timely efforts by the Empire State to provide and strengthen its military forces were the all-important subjects under consideration by the various governors and legislatures of the confederation, who were urgently importuned and notified of the desperate situation.

General Glover, on the 11th of December, 1780, informed the Massachusetts authorities that four days had expired since their line of the army had even one mouthful of bread. "We have no money, nor will anybody trust us. The best of wheat is at this moment selling in the State of New York at three-fourths of a dollar per bushel, and your army is starving for want.

"On the 1st of January something will turn up, if not speedily prevented, which your officers cannot be held responsible for."

The 1st of January, the New Year's Day of 1781, came, but brought no glad sound of joy, good cheer, or gladness to the starving soldier in the desolate camp. Its morning, noon, and evening came and departed much the same as others—taps sound, lights are extinguished, while the lonely sentinel continues to plod through the deep snow, keeping vigilant watch the same as other days and nights of the past. Suddenly, however, that something predicted disturbs and alarms the entire camp at Morristown, New Jersey, as if caused by an earthquake. The rumbling noise of "mutiny in the American army" awakens the lethargy of Congress and the legislatures, grieves the commander-in-chief, encourages and delights the opponents of liberty, and becomes the all-absorbing topic in the camps, by the fireside of the patriots, and the closet of prayer.

The Pennsylvania line, on account of the intolerable sufferings of the army, the want of pay—of which eleven months were due—the want of clothing—many of the troops being almost naked—the want of provisions, and the majority being held beyond the terms of their enlistment, mutinied, and, under the lead of their non-commissioned officers, carried off the horses of their general, and with six field-pieces and their muskets proceeded to demand redress from Congress. The British authorities, learning their intentions, despatched troops to Staten Island and sent forward envoys, who offered, upon condition that they come within their lines, to give them all arrearages of pay due and exemption from further military duty.

These Pennsylvanians, however, though poor, ragged, and hungry, disdain to barter their longed-for liberty, but arrest, try, condemn, and hang without delay the envoys as spies, and proceed on their journey. President Reed, learning of the situation, soon arrived and quickly remedied the complaints, while troops were despatched over the mountains and through the deep snow from West Point, which quieted the disaffected New Jersey troops, while General Putnam quelled a similar disturbance in the Connecticut line by appealing in a powerful address to

their manhood and patriotism and for their wives and children in their desolate homes.

Through all these thrilling scenes and sufferings the poverty and patriotism of the defenders of the Neutral Grounds continued without murmur or hesitation to remain at the post of duty.

The following muster roll of a company of the First Westchester County Regiment, which was originally commanded by Captain Gilbert Deane, was ordered on active duty in Colonel Louis Dubois' Fifth Regiment of the line, under command of Captain Gabriel Requa. Its former headquarters was at Captain Requa's residence, which still remains at Pocantico Hills. The three justices of the peace who attached their signatures to the document declared it to be a true enrollment of Captain Gabriel Requa's company, composed of Whigs and Tories, the sick, lame, lazy, and distressed of sixteen years of age and upward.

General Putnam reported that Colonel Dubois' regiment, to which this company was attached, was unfit to be ordered on duty, "there being not one blanket in the regiment; very few have either a shoe or a shirt and most of them have neither stockings, breeches, nor overalls." *

General Lafayette wrote that it takes citizens to support hunger, nakedness, toil, and the total want of pay, which constitutes the condition of our soldiers—the hardiest and most patient that are to be found in the world.

A general officer wrote that the army wants, above all, the true meaning of the words liberty, independence, etc., that the child may not make use of them against his father or the soldier against his officer. Notwithstanding this long array of trials and difficulties, active efforts were made for the approaching campaign of 1781, although it gave little promise of success, as scarcely one-eighth of the quota of troops promised had been furnished up to June 1st. General Washington and staff, however, at a meeting with General Rochambeau at Weathersfield, on the 21st

* See Appendix.

of May, arranged for the concentration of the allied armies upon the Neutral Grounds. This arrangement was made possible by the contribution of continental money contributed by the private soldiers to defray the general's expenses. At the hotel in Hartford, where he and staff were sumptuously entertained over night, he was agreeably surprised to learn that Governor Trumbull had directed all bills for his entertainment while in the State of Connecticut to be forwarded to him.

Relief, however, soon appears and shattered hope revives, when the long-expected French allies set foot upon our shores, and orders were issued for the American army to meet and greet them upon the plateau of Philipsburgh. General William Heath, who arrived upon this Poverty Ridge of the Neutral Grounds on July 27th to take command of the right wing of the American army, states that he found the position the American army now occupied was between the lines of the preceding campaigns at Philipsburgh.

Consequently the roads and commons, as well as fields and pastures, were covered with grass, while the many desolate houses and ruined fences depicted the horrid desolations of war. He reports that upon August 6th the army continued in the same position—the right wing commanded by himself; the left, by Major-General Lord Sterling. The advance of the American forces, under Colonel Scannel, on a height a little advanced of Dobb's Ferry, and Sheldon's dragoons near that village. The French army on one line on the left of the Americans, with their legion under the Duke de Luzun at White Plains, and General Waterbury with the militia toward New Rochelle. Here we find the *unreliable militia* of 1776, the *recognized veterans*, occupying the posts of honor and danger, while the commander-in-chief quietly consummates his plans for the future campaign, and gave opportunity to become acquainted and make the best of the desolate surroundings, which were not entirely devoid of the little courtesies of life, although the poverty of the continent was so complete that General Washington was

obliged to obtain a loan of money from the French commander to pay his troops.

While the American officers were powerless from the same causes to reciprocate the many compliments and feasts extended to them by their French allies, that patriot, General Baron Steuben, upon one occasion, it is stated, actually sold a portion of his camp equipage in order to provide an entertainment for the officers of the French army, declaring that he would give one grand dinner, should he eat his soup with a wooden spoon forever after. These were pleasant days for the rank and file of the allied armies. No more appropriate camp could have been selected within these Neutral Grounds than the Poverty Ridge of Philipsburgh, centrally situated, with commanding views in all directions; it gave the commander-in-chief opportunity to consummate one of those famous strategic plans that made him first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen. These movements required that his adversary should speedily learn that the American forces proposed to remain and become the aggressors in this Empire State. Consequently redoubts were constructed and batteries placed in conspicuous places, while deceptive letters were written and forwarded by his trusted carriers and guides, to be purposely captured by the enemy. Five brick ovens were erected far in advance of the French camp instead of their rear, showing full well that their construction would be speedily communicated, by the system of wireless telegraphy then in vogue, to the British commander. General Washington, having completed his works which had deceived and prevented his adversary from leaving New York, communicated in confidence, on August 17th, his plans to his trusted general, Heath; and upon the 19th gave him minute written orders, entrusting the command of the main army to his watchful care, specifying the various regiments that were to remain, with explicit directions to dismantle and demolish the redoubt upon the east side of Dobb's Ferry, and transporting the platforms up the river. The block-house on

the other side, which, with the water guards, etc., that had been under the special command of Captain Pray, was to be retained or destroyed as he may think proper.

NOTE.—Dobb's Ferry of the Revolution was a very important military post, consisting of some half-dozen dwellings. It contained one redoubt, mounted with two eighteen-pounders, and two small batteries, in addition to the redoubt upon the east side directed to be dismantled, the precise location of which has not been ascertained. It was named in the year 1723, by the lord of the manor, "New Wales," and was occupied by Thomas Hughson (alias the Earl of Warwick). Only a portion of one of the original dwellings now remains; this was occupied previous to 1697 by Jan Heyert; his daughter Rebecca being the first child baptized in the old Dutch Church at Sleepy Hollow, on April 21, 1697. He was living at the same place in 1732, and upon his death it was occupied by Richard Dusenbury, who continued to reside there until 1785, when the property was sold by the Commissioners of Forfeiture, since which it has had various owners. It is now owned by Dr. Joseph Hasbrouck.

It is now the hour of noon. The commander and staff leave their headquarters to the care of its former occupant, Lieutenant Joseph Appleby, and proceed to the camps, now all astir with bustle and activity, preparing to take up their line of march toward the ferries. The secret of their ultimate destination was unknown among them when their general delivers his final orders and sets his face once more toward his native State. Rapidly crossing New Jersey, the army made a brief rest near the identical locality where the commander had discovered a large herd of emaciated cattle, interspersed with a goodly number of yearlings and calves. Upon learning from the contractors that they were destined to be converted into beef for the use of his army by the chief commissary, orders were issued upon the spot, directing that officer to kill only the largest and fattest of the herd, and turn the others out, as it was a shame to waste salt and barrels in trying to preserve the meat, which was already so tough his soldiers could not eat it.

There were no political influences in that capital City of Brotherly Love, where Congress held sway. Who dare question the complete authority it had given the chief of the army, who, by his clear judgment, his silence under

difficulties, his heroic endurance, his calmness in the hour of danger or defeat, and, above all, his lofty and serene sense of duty that never swerved from its task through resentment or jealousy, that knew no aim, save that of guarding the freedom of his fellow countrymen, caused not only loyal Americans to cling to him with a trust and faith such as no other patriot has won, but gave to him that irresistible aid and love of the loyal American daughters of liberty, whose sentiments, labors, and achievements throughout the confederation of States, herewith published, brought joy and hope to these benighted Neutral Grounds and materially hastened the dawn of that preliminary peace that soon acknowledged without reserve the

INDEPENDENCE OF AMERICA.

THE SENTIMENTS OF AN AMERICAN WOMAN.

On the commencement of actual war the women of America manifested a firm resolution to contribute as much as could be expected of them to the deliverance of their country. Animated by the purest patriotism, they are sensible of sorrow at this day in not offering more than barren wishes for the success of so glorious a revolution. They aspire to render themselves more really useful; and this sentiment is universal from the north to the south of the thirteen United States. Our ambition is kindled by the fame of those heroines of antiquity who have rendered their sex illustrious, and have proved to the universe, that, if the weakness of our constitution, if opinion and manners did not forbid us to march to glory by the same paths as the men, we should at least equal, and sometimes surpass, them in our love for the public good. I glory in all that which my sex has done great and commendable. I call to mind with enthusiasm and with admiration all those acts of courage, of constancy and patriotism, which history has transmitted to

us; the people favored by heaven, preserved from destruction by the virtues, the zeal, and resolution of Deborah, of Judith, of Esther; the fortitude of the mother of the Maccabees in giving up her sons to die before her eyes; Rome saved from the fury of a victorious enemy by the efforts of Volumnia and other Roman ladies—so many famous sieges where the women have been seen forgetting the weakness of their sex; building new walls; digging trenches with their feeble hands; furnishing arms to their defenders, they themselves darting the missile weapons on the enemy; resigning the ornaments of their apparel, and their fortune, to fill the public treasury, and to hasten the deliverance of their country; burying themselves under its ruins; throwing themselves into the flames, rather than submit to disgrace or humiliation before a proud enemy.

Born for liberty, disdaining to bear the irons of a tyrannic government, we associate ourselves to the grandeur of those sovereigns, cherished and revered, who have held with so much splendor the sceptre of the greatest States; the Batildas, the Elizabeths, the Maries, the Catharines, who have extended the empire of liberty, and contented to reign by sweetness and justice, and broken the chains of slavery forged by tyrants in the times of ignorance and barbarity. The Spanish women, do they not make, at this moment, the most patriotic sacrifices to increase the means of victory in the hands of their sovereign? He is a friend to the French nation. They are our allies. We call to mind, doubly interested, that it was a French maid who kindled amongst her fellow-citizens the flame of patriotism, buried under long misfortunes. It was the Maid of Orleans who drove from the kingdom of France the ancestors of those same British whose odious yoke we have just shaken off; and whom it is necessary that we drive from this continent.

But I must limit myself to the recollection of this small number of achievements. Who knows if persons disposed to censure, and sometimes too severely with regard to us, may not disapprove our appearing acquainted even

with the actions of which our sex boasts? We are at least certain that he cannot be a good citizen who will not applaud our efforts for the relief of the armies which defend our lives, our possessions, our liberty. The situation of our soldiery has been represented to me; the evils inseparable from war, and the firm and generous spirit which has enabled them to support these. But it has been said that they may apprehend that, in the course of a long war, the view of their distresses may be lost, and their services be forgotten. Forgotten! Never! I can answer in the name of all my sex. Brave Americans, your disinterestedness, your courage, and your constancy will always be dear to America as long as she shall preserve her virtue.

We know that, at a distance from the theatre of war, if we enjoy any tranquillity, it is the fruit of your watching, your labors, your dangers. If I live happy in the midst of my family; if my husband cultivates his field, and reaps his harvest in peace; if, surrounded with my children, I myself nourish the youngest, and press it to my bosom, without being afraid of seeing myself separated from it by a ferocious enemy; if the house in which we dwell, if our barns, our orchards are safe at the present time from the hands of those incendiaries, it is to you that we owe it. And shall we hesitate to evidence to you our gratitude? Shall we hesitate to wear a clothing more simple, hair-dresses less elegant, while at the price of this small privation we shall deserve your benedictions? Who amongst us will not renounce with the highest pleasure those vain ornaments, when she shall consider that the valiant defenders of America will be able to draw some advantage from the money which she may have laid out in these; that they will be better defended from the rigors of the seasons; that after their painful toils they will receive some extraordinary and unexpected relief; that these presents will perhaps be valued by them at a greater price when they will have it in their power to say: *This is the offering of the Ladies?* The time is arrived to display the same sentiments which

animated us at the beginning of the Revolution, when we renounced the use of teas, however agreeable to our taste, rather than receive them from our persecutors; when we made it appear to them that we placed former necessities in the rank of superfluities when our liberty was interested; when our republican and laborious hands spun the flax, prepared the linen intended for the use of our soldiers; when, exiles and fugitives, we supported with courage all the evils which are the concomitants of war. Let us not lose a moment; let us be engaged to offer the homage of our gratitude at the altar of military valor; and you, our brave deliverers, while mercenary slaves combat to cause you to share with them the irons with which they are loaded, receive with a free hand our offering, the purest which can be presented to your virtue.

AN AMERICAN WOMAN.

IDEAS RELATIVE TO THE MANNER OF FORWARDING TO THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS THE PRESENTS OF THE AMERICAN WOMEN.

All plans are eligible when doing good is the object; there is, however, one more preferable; and when the operation is extensive, we can not give it too much uniformity. On the other side, the wants of our army do not permit the slowness of an ordinary pace. It is not in one month, nor in eight days, that we would relieve our soldiery. It is immediately; and our impatience does not permit us to proceed by the long circuitry of collectors, receivers, and treasurers. As my ideas in regard to this have been approved by some ladies of my friends, I will explain them here; every other person will not be less at liberty to propose and to adopt a different plan.

1st. All women and girls will be received, without exception, to present their patriotic offering; and, as it is absolutely voluntary, every one will regulate it according

to her ability and her disposition. The shilling offered by the widow or the young girl will be received as well as the most considerable sums presented by the women who have the happiness to join to their patriotism greater means to be useful.

2d. A lady chosen by the others in each county shall be the Treasures; and to render her task more simple, and more easy, she will not receive but determinate sums, in a round number, from twenty hard dollars to any greater sum. The exchange forty dollars in paper for one dollar in specie.

It is hoped that there will not be one woman who will not with pleasure charge herself with the embarrassment which will attend so honorable an operation.

3d. The women who shall not be in a condition to send twenty dollars in specie, or above, will join in as great a number as will be necessary to make this or any greater sum, and one amongst them will carry it, or cause it to be sent, to the Treasures.

4th. The Treasures of the county will receive the money, and will keep a register, writing the sums in her book, and causing it to be signed at the side of the whole by the person who has presented it.

5th. When several women shall join together to make a total sum of twenty dollars or more, she amongst them who shall have the charge to carry it to the Treasures will make mention of all their names on the register, if her associates shall have so directed her; those whose choice it shall be will have the liberty to remain unknown.

6th. As soon as the Treasures of the county shall judge that the sums which she shall have received deserve to be sent to their destination, she will cause them to be presented, with the lists, to the wife of the Governor or President of the State, who will be the Treasures-General of the State; and she will cause it to be set down in her register, and have it sent to Mistress Washington. If the Governor or President is unmarried, all will address themselves to the wife of the Vice-President, if there is one, or of the Chief-Justice, etc.

7th. Women settled in the distant parts of the country, and not choosing for any particular reason, as for the sake of greater expedition, to remit their capital to the Treasurer, may send it directly to the wife of the Governor, or President, etc., or to Mistress Washington, who, if she shall judge necessary, will in a short answer to the sender acquaint her with the reception of it.

8th. As Mrs. Washington may be absent from the camp when the greater part of the banks shall be sent there, the American women, considering that General Washington is the father and friend of the soldiery; that he is himself the first soldier of the Republic, and that their offering will be received at its destination as soon as it shall have come to his hands, they will pray him to take charge of receiving it, in the absence of Mrs. Washington.

9th. General Washington will dispose of this sum in the manner that he shall judge most advantageous to the soldiery. The American women desire only that it may not be considered as to be employed to procure to the army the objects of subsistence, arms, or clothing, which are due to them by the continent. It is an extraordinary bounty, intended to render the condition of the soldier more pleasant, and not to hold place of the things which they ought to receive from the Congress, or from the States.

10th. If the General judges necessary, he will publish at the end of a certain time an account of that which shall have been received from each particular State.

11th. The women who shall send their offerings will have in their choice to conceal or to give their names; and if it shall be thought proper, on a fit occasion, to publish one day the lists, they only who shall consent shall be named; when with regard to the sums sent, there will be no mention made if they so desire it.

The American Daughters of Liberty were organized at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 22, 1780, in consequence of the publication of the "Sentiments of an American Woman."

The Philadelphia branch appointed committees to make a house-to-house canvass in every ward of that city to solicit contributions, with which they purchased materials and made 2,030 shirts. The society in New Jersey made 70 shirts and knit 380 pairs of stockings, all of which first contribution was delivered to a special officer sent by General Washington to receive them, and who delivered General Washington's letter of thanks to the ladies, dated December 26, 1780.

APPENDIX.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY,
STATE OF NEW YORK.

Permit the bearers hereof ABRAHAM ACKER & JOHN BUCKHOUT, to pass to their homes at or near Tarrytown on Phillips Manor. The above Abraham Acker I recommend to be a rail frind to the Independence of America likewise by the best accounts the aforesaid Buckhout.

Given under my hand this sixth day of Febuary, 1783, at Peekskill per me

JOHN VAN TASSEL,
Justice of the Peace.

PAY BOOK
OF
THE STATE COMPANY OF ARTILLERY,
COMMANDED BY ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON, Captain.
JAMES MOORE, Captain Lieutenant.
JAMES GILLILAND, First Lieutenant.
JOHN BANE, Second Lieutenant.
THOMAS THOMPSON, Third Lieutenant.
SAMUEL SMITH, Sergeant.
RICHARD TAYLOR, Sergeant.
JAMES DEASY, Sergeant.
ROBERT BARBER, Corporal.
JAMES STAKES, Corporal.
MARTIN JOHNSON, Corporal.
THOMAS LEWIS, Bombardier.

LAWRENCE BARRY, Bombardier.
ISAAC SAYERS, Bombardier.
MARTIN LAULER, Bombardier.
JOSEPH PEACH, Bombardier.
SAMUEL THURSTON, Bombardier.
THOMAS TAYLOR, Gunner.
JOSEPH HAIGHT, Gunner.
ARIS REMSEN, Gunner.
JACOB KING, Drummer.
ADAM KING, Drummer.
CHRISTOPHER PUTT, Fifer.
JAMES GALLOWAY, Fifer.
ROBERT BURRAGE, Motross.*
MICHAEL BOWERS, Motross.
JOHN BURNSIDE, Motross.
URIAH CRAWFORD, Motross.
THOMAS RYAN, Motross.
JOHN MARTIN, Motross.
MATTHEW O'HARRO, Motross.
JAMES FORBES, Motross.
DAVID MILLER, Motross.
AARON ROBINS, Motross.
WILLIAM VAN LILE, Motross.
WILLIAM HACKETT, Motross.
JAMES BRADLEY, Motross.
ELISHA SHELL, Motross.
HUGH CAMERON, Barber.
WILLIAM HIGGINS, Motross.
DAVID JOHNSON, Motross.
JAMES MOOTRY, Motross.
JOHN HEYER, Motross.
JOHN DAVIS, Motross.
JAMES MCGEERS, Motross.
JAMES MCGEE, Motross.
THOMAS DELANOY, Motross.
JAMES SWAN, Motross.
JOHN HERVEY, Motross.
JOHN WOOD, Motross.
HENRY DELY, Motross.
JOHN PELING, Motross.
GEORGE GARLAND, Motross.
JOHN GRIFFITHS, Motross.
THOMAS HARWOOD, Motross.
ISAAC JOHNSON, Motross.

* Assistant to a gunner.

WILLIAM LOCKHART, Motross.
JOHN HAMMOND, Motross.
JOSEPH MASON, Motross.
STEPHEN MORRIS, Motross.
THOMAS STRATFORD, Motross.
GILBERT WOOD, Motross.
CHRISTOPHER BRANGEN, Motross.
ROBERT HIGGINS, Motross.
ANDREW WESTERFIELD, Motross.
BERNARD HUDSON, Motross.
ROBERT GRAHAM, Motross.
HENRY MCDERMOT, Motross.
WILLIAM SCOTT, Motross.
ROBERT CUNNINGHAM, Motross.
MICHAEL FORTISQUE HIGGINSON, Motross.
JOHN MAYS, Motross.
PATRICK KELLY, Motross.
JOHN COCKRAN, Motross.
JOSEPH BOICE, Motross.
ELIJAH SHERWOOD, Motross.
FARREL SOMMERS, Motross.
DONALD MCLEAN, Motross.
JOHN KELLY, Motross.
JOHN LILLY, Motross.
RICHARD KITCHEN, Motross.
WILLIAM SHARPE, Motross.
ALEXANDER MATTHEY, Motross.
JOSEPH COMPTON, Motross.
PETER CAVALIER, Motross.
CORNELIUS QUACKENBOS, Motross.
DANIEL HALSTEAD, Motross.
JOHN BROWN, Motross.
MORINUS VAN WINKLE, Motross.
THOMAS DUNN, Motross.
SAMUEL SEALY, Motross.
HUGH MCEUN, Motross.
JOHN STANTON, Motross.
ROBERT BROWN, Motross.
JAMES WATSON, Motross.
JAMES HIGGINS, Motross.

NEW YORK, *August 31st, 1776.*

ENROLLMENT OF CAPTAIN GABRIEL RE-
QUAW'S COMPANY OF THE SOUTH
BATTALION OF THE FIRST REGIMENT
OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY MILITIA.

JAMES HAMMOND, Colonel.
JONATHAN P. HORTON, Major.
GABRIEL REQUAW, Captain.
WILLIAM VEAL, Lieutenant.
JOHN DEAN, Sergeant.
JOHN HELKER, Sergeant.

JOSEPH REQUAW.
BENJ. OAKLEY.
ELIJA LEGGETT.
WILLIAM FOSHA, SEN.
JAMES FOSHA.
PETER FOSHA.
NICOLAS COOPER.
SIMON SHARPANAT.
DANIEL REQUAW.
ABRAHAM REQUAW.
JOHN REQUAW.
ABM. VAN TASSEL.
WILLIAM DAVIDS.
JACOB VAN WART.
ABRAHAM DELANOY.
CORNELIUS JOONS.
ABM DEVOE.
JOHN DEVOE.
NED BUGBEE.
RAM VANFORE.
HARMA WILLIAMS.
ISAAC HAMMON.
UNDREL LYNCH.
JONOTHAN LYNCH.
THOMAS UPHRA.
JAMES HAMMON.
JOHN ACKERMAN.
TUNIS CUSSER, SEN.

TUNIS CUSSER, JUN.
DAN DARBESSHEE.
WILHAM WATERMAN.
WILLIAM TOMKINS.
HENDRICK BANKER.
ABOSOLOM MEROT.
JOHN WILLIAMS.
NEREMIAH BAKER.
JEREMIAH BAKER.
JONOTHAN BAKER.
ISAAC SEE.
DAVID FOWLER.
HENRY CRAWFORD.
MATHEW BROWER.
LEWIS APOINE.
JOSH HATFUL.
JAMES SEE.
PETER SEE.
JOHN SEE.
JOHN SIFER.
JOHN FORSHA.
ABRAHAM SEE.
MILES OAKLEY.
JONOTHAN CLARK.
SAMUEL PURDY.
JOSEPH MAYBEE.
JOHN HALL.
MYERS HALL.

GOES STORMS.
LEWIS SNIFFIN.
ANDREW CHAMPENOIS.
THOMAS POLDEN.
JOHN STOORMS.
DAVID DAVIS.
GILBERT HORTON.
CALEB HORTON.
JOHN HORTON.
GABRIEL MACFARDEN.
JAMES MACFARDEN.
AARON BISE.
WILLIAM FIELDS.
ASA READ.
JOHN HAMMON, SEN.
STEPHEN WILLIAMS.
JACOB STIMETS.
THOMAS CHAMPENOIS.

SAMUEL FISHER.
JOOATHAN POLDEN, SEN.
JOHN YERKS, SEN.
WILLIAM YERKS.
JOHN YERKS.
JAMES YERKS.
ABRAHAM SIFER.
JACOB BROWER.
JOHN BRITT.
WILLIAM BRITT.
CALEB OAKLEY, SEN.
JOSEPH CONKLIN.
RICHARD PEACOCK.
THOMAS DEAN,
 one of the Justices of the Peace.
JAMES REQUA,
 one of the Justices of the Peace.

A true Return of Capt. Requa's Company, Wigs, Torys, Sick,
Lame, Lasy and Detrest from the age of sixteen and upwards.

And Broueth over.....	£760	10	£03	06	06	10	06	10	3	And Brouet over	£1226	00	£05	06	10	3
Evert Aertse.....	15	00	00	01	03	00	00	00	05	Aertrye bus	05	00	00	00	05	3
Jacop Gaerdenier.....	17	00	00	01	03	00	00	00	05	Gezoyong Williams.....	05	00	00	00	05	1
Cornelias Vantesssel.....	20	00	00	01	04	00	00	00	14	Johannis Clemmens.....	14	00	00	01	02	1
Mr Davids Storm	50	10	00	04	09	00	00	00	03	William Bret.....	03	10	00	00	03	3
frans jr.....	07	00	00	06	07	00	00	00	18	Rynderdt house.....	18	00	00	01	07	0
Harmen Yurkse	21	00	00	01	10	00	00	00	15	Jurndt Meelbye.....	15	00	00	01	04	1
pieter foesner.....	05	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	06	Jacobs Artois.....	06	10	00	00	07	0
Harmans Gardener.....	13	00	00	01	01	00	00	00	07	Samwel Harton.....	07	00	00	00	07	2
William hamand	18	00	00	01	07	00	00	00	06	David Duyser.....	06	00	00	00	06	1
Jacobs Ziee.....	23	10	00	02	06	00	00	00	11	Jan bornee.....	11	00	00	00	11	2
pouhas Aynkeinpach.....	06	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	12	Israel Snyffen.....	12	00	00	01	00	3
David Aukerman.....	13	00	00	01	01	00	00	00	08	William Snyffen.....	08	10	00	00	09	0
Abraham Van Wert.....	01	10	00	00	07	00	00	00	10	Lewis beryot.....	10	00	00	00	10	7
Staat Storm	14	00	00	01	02	00	00	00	14	Roebben Aretois.....	14	10	00	01	03	1
Klaas Storm	16	10	00	01	05	00	00	00	13	Neuten Chement.....	13	00	00	01	01	3
Derek Vantesssel.....	10	10	00	00	11	00	00	00	07	Jacob geadeyen.....	07	00	00	00	07	2
Johannis Vantesssel.....	14	00	00	01	02	00	00	00	06	Jacobs Miller.....	06	00	00	00	06	1
Hendreck Bancker.....	09	00	00	00	09	00	00	00	12	Gerret Van Wert Suner.....	12	00	00	01	00	2
Zybout Ecker.....	13	00	00	01	01	00	00	00	21	Jacop Willse.....	21	00	00	01	10	1
Marta Krankhuyt.....	08	10	00	00	08	00	00	00	05	Hendreck Willse.....	05	00	00	00	05	1
Wellim luesen.....	10	00	00	00	10	00	00	00	20	Emas Levynis.....	20	10	00	01	09	2
Jan luesen.....	06	00	00	00	06	00	00	00	18	Jan Cancklyn Suner.....	18	00	00	01	07	0
Thomas Myer.....	07	00	00	00	07	00	00	00	17	Jan beyerd.....	17	00	00	01	05	3
Jan Merdi.....	11	00	00	00	11	00	00	00	23	Jan Doebis.....	23	10	00	02	00	2
Barent Duyser.....	31	00	00	02	08	00	00	00	11	Joseph Canckly.....	11	00	00	00	11	2
Johannis Duyser.....	13	00	00	01	01	00	00	00	23	William Doebs.....	23	10	00	02	00	2
Jacop Droon.....	04	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	36	Tomas luesen.....	36	00	00	03	02	0
Cornelius Laurence Sen.....	07	00	00	00	07	00	00	00	43	Tomas Storm.....	43	00	00	03	09	3
Dreck Storm.....	12	10	00	01	01	00	00	00	21	Jan Van Wert.....	21	00	00	01	10	0
Hendreck Vantesssel.....	07	00	00	00	07	00	00	00	15	Harek Krankhigt.....	15	00	00	01	03	3
Johannis Syfyer.....	07	00	00	00	06	00	00	00	04	Jogs Cuhann.....	04	00	00	00	04	1
fransie Cryyer.....	06	10	00	00	06	00	00	00	31	Jan harnasse.....	31	00	00	00	09	0
Bylye Anderson.....	06	00	00	00	06	00	00	00	00							
Deirens Canckly Sur.....	17	00	00	01	05	00	00	00								
Martynis my.....	18	10	00	01	07	00	00	00								
Carried further.....	£1226	00	£05	06	10	06	10	03	£1090		00	£07	07	07	3	

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